

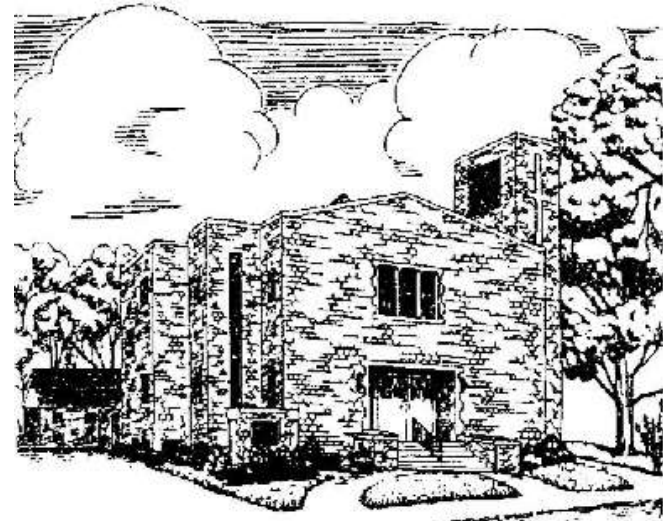
Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
321 Rocky Grove Avenue
Franklin, PA 16323



SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

November 2016

A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church



“Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus’ Name”

321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323

Church Phone: 814-432-4162

Website: www.rockygrovepres.org

Email Address: rgapc@verizon.net

Worship – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.

Rev. Rachel Johns, Pastor

Rhonda Rust, Secretary

Mike Burkhardt, Organist

Janet Bish, Assistant Organist

Scott Donaldson, Custodian

Church Office Hours: Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

FROM THE SESSION

ACTIONS OF SESSION – October 17, 2016:

1. Approved the Session minutes for September, 2016.
2. Approved the hiring of a part-time minister.
3. Approved moving the meeting of Session to the second Monday of each month at 6:15 p.m.
4. Approved request from Bob Orner to officiate the complete service on October 30, 2016.



November Birthdays

1	Ellen Gierlach	15	Dennis McGinnis
5	Carson Whitling (2005)	16	Jim Sandok
6	Sam Alden	16	George Wielandt
9	Jean Weller	20	Jesse Harvey
9	Gene Sheffer	22	Edith Richards
10	Don Yount	23	Oliver Feather (2011)
10	Margaret Wielandt	23	Arika Songer
11	Joan Partridge	26	Todd Wetjen
13	Emily DeLong (2013)	27	Joyce Wetjen

ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 8, 2016

Don't forget to vote. Your vote does count!



Hopefully, you don't forget to set your clocks back one hour Saturday night, November 5th!



Christmas Dinner



December 3, 2016

Linda Lou's Restaurant, 1572 Mercer Road, Franklin
Dinner includes beverage, coleslaw, meat, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable medley and pie.

Price: \$ **13.50 per person** (includes gratuity)

Please make checks payable to:
Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
with "Christmas Dinner" on the memo line.
Reservations & payment must be submitted
no later than Sunday, November 13, 2016.

6:00 p.m. – Social Time
6:30 p.m. – Meal

*Let us celebrate the season of our Lord's birth
by breaking bread together and having a fun evening
with members of our church family!*

Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church Christmas Dinner

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Number Attending: _____

Meat choices:

Stuffed Chicken Breast: _____

Braised Steak: _____

Total payment enclosed: \$ _____

(Minimum of 25 attendees is needed.)



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS



If you desire to place a memorial poinsettias in the church for Christmas, please place this form with payment in the offering plate or send to the church office:

Rocky Grove Presbyterian Church
321 Rocky Grove Avenue
Franklin, PA 16323

Deadline to order is Sunday, November 27, 2016.

Attached is my check for \$_____ (\$7.50 each) payable to:

“Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church Deacons’ Fund.”

Please mark color preferred: _____Red _____White _____Pink

(Please print clearly.)

NAME(S) OF DONOR:

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

Poinsettias will be displayed in the church beginning December 11th.

☐ Please check if you would like your flower(s) to go to a shut-in.

***If at all possible, please do not pick up your flowers until
AFTER our Christmas Eve worship service.***

ABOUT THE PASTOR:

As previously reported in this newsletter, the Session has hired a part-time pastor for our congregation. It was announced at the Town Hall meeting on October 23, 2016, after worship that the **Reverend Mrs. Rachel Johns** will be starting employment with RGAPC on November 1, 2016. Thus, her first Sunday to preach will be November 6th. Our worship time will begin at 9:00 a.m. The following is information that the pastor submitted to help us get to know about her as she looks forward to getting to know all of us:

“God called me to the Seminary in 1991. I retired from my position as a Social Studies teacher at Meadville Sr. High and began classes in the fall of 1991. At that time, I was an elder, Sunday School teacher and Youth Group leader at Watson Run Presbyterian Church. My husband, Dick Norr, and I had five children still attending public school. So, I traveled back and forth to Pittsburgh Seminary three or four days per week. It was 101 miles one way from my driveway to the seminary parking lot. I finished in three years and passed all of my ords (PCUSA ordination examinations) on the first try. The Presbytery sent me to Cooperstown in 1993 to act as their student pastor and to lead their children’s after-school program. I fell in love with them. I was ordained there and served them until 2005, when I went to Hartstown. While at Cooperstown I served as the C.E. director at First Pres(byterian) Franklin. Then I served the Utica church from 1995 until going to Hartstown. Shortly after taking on Hartstown, I accepted a part-time position with the Redeemer Church (in Meadville). Now I’m in my third year at Linesville.

continued on next page...

...continued from previous page - **ABOUT THE PASTOR**

During our 41 years of marriage, we have opened our hearts and home to 28 foster children. A dozen years ago, we gave up fostering to care for special needs adults. We now have only one adult sharing our home.

In addition to Rocky Grove and Linesville, I also have two special needs congregations. We have worship in Meadville on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. We are in our fifth year and average 85-95 people each Wednesday. We also have a Friday morning worship at the Linesville church. That service started in October, and it's also a blessing.

I love the Lord and I love serving the church. I look forward to serving the Rocky Grove congregation.

Rachel



SERVANTS FOR NOVEMBER

Hospital Visits: Rhonda Rust & Grace Gibbons

Greeters: 6 Scott Donaldson
13 Gene & Margie Sheffer
20 The Songers
27 Kennedy & Konner Hartman

Recorders of offering: 6 Diane Whitman & another elder
13 Linda Hartman & Linda Zeller
20 Joyce Wetjen & another elder
27 Joyce Wetjen & Linda Zeller

Thanksgiving & Turkey Trivia

There are four places in the United States named Turkey. Louisiana's Turkey Creek is the most populous, with a whopping 435 residents. There's also Turkey, Texas; Turkey, North Carolina; and Turkey Creek, Arizona. Oh, let's not forget the two townships in Pennsylvania: the creatively named Upper Turkeyfoot and Lower Turkeyfoot!

Only male turkeys, called toms, gobble. Females, called hens, cackle.

Don't blame the bird: You stuffed yourself, and now you're feeling sleepy, very sleepy. But it's not the tryptophan in the turkey. In fact, chickens have more tryptophan. You're groggy because you overate. And digesting all that grub takes a lot of energy.

TV dinners have Thanksgiving to thank. In 1953, someone at Swanson misjudged the number of frozen turkeys it would sell that Thanksgiving -- by 26 TONS! Some industrious soul came up with a brilliant plan: Why not slice up the meat and repackage with some trimmings on the side? Thus, the first TV dinner was born!

MISSIONS CORNER:

A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because Advent and Christmas shine a light not only on our world's greatest hope but also on our world's greatest need, the PCUSA provides this timely opportunity for congregations to support causes specifically designed to bring *good news of great joy* to the poor in circumstance or spirit. Alongside the message of promise and fulfillment in Luke's Gospel, we hear the clear call to God's people to respond in faith as Christ calls us: "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48).

Undesignated gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Special Christmas Joy Offering envelopes will be in the December newsletter as well as the pews during Advent. If you are writing a check, **please mark "Christmas Joy" on the memo line.**

Thank you for your consideration and we pray everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Your Missions & Outreach Team

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Used cell phones (working or not) are still being collected by Missions & Outreach Ministry Team for donation to **Cell Phones for Soldiers**. Please help with this worthy cause any time you get a new phone. A box for collection is located in the narthex.  
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For our year-round Operation Christmas Child project, during **NOVEMBER**, we are collecting monetary donations. Seven dollars (\$7) per box will be needed for shipping. Please give your donation directly to a Missions member or clearly mark for "shoebox postage" and place in the offering plate.



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC

### Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Youthful Spirits

Men and women gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. Join in the fun at **Northside Eatery, 219 Seneca Street, Oil City**. Make your reservation with hostess, Dorie Feather, at 437-5236 by October 31<sup>st</sup>. All are welcome!! The next gathering will be on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> - Women's Prayer Breakfast

Join the women of RGAPC for breakfast the second Saturday of the month at Linda Lou's Restaurant, 1572 Mercer Road at 8:30 a.m. Devotions, prayer and fellowship as well as the meal are shared.

### Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> - Hanging of the Greens

Join in the fun of decorating the church for Advent and Christmas. It all starts at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Be there, or not (if you dare)!

### Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> - Christmas Party

This year's event will again be a Linda Lou's Restaurant, 1572 Mercer Road. Social time will begin at 6:00 *p.m.* with dinner being served at 6:30 *p.m.* Deadline for reservations is November 13<sup>th</sup>. You don't want to miss out; so make your reservation early. A reservation form can be found in the back of this newsletter.

### Quips & Quotes:

Treasures in heaven are laid up only as treasures on earth are laid down.  
It's a pity more people can't travel the straight and narrow path without becoming straight-laced and narrow-minded.

Happy are they who do not want the things they can't get.

Temper is what gets most of us in trouble. Pride is what keeps us there.



# NOVEMBER 2016



| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                  | MONDAY                                                                      | TUESDAY                                                               | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                       | THURSDAY                                                                                                                   | FRIDAY                                                                                                                                   | SATURDAY                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                             | <b>1</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice                        | <b>2</b><br>NOON -<br><i>YOUTHFUL SPIRITS</i><br><i>at Northside Eatery</i><br>(219 Seneca Street,<br>Oil City) | <b>3</b>                                                                                                                   | <b>4</b>                                                                                                                                 | <b>5</b><br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous                                                               |
| <b>6</b> <i>DAYLIGHT</i><br><i>SAVINGS TIME ENDS</i><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>5:30 Boy Scouts                                          | <b>7</b><br>6:00 CLAW<br>7:00 Trustees                                      | <b>8</b><br><i>ELECTION DAY</i><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice | <b>9</b>                                                                                                        | <b>10</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>11</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>12</b><br>8:30 Women's Breakfast<br>@ Linda Lou's<br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous                   |
| <b>13</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School                                                                                                        | <b>14</b><br>6:15 Session –<br><i>Ladies Parlor</i>                         | <b>15</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice                       | <b>16</b><br>1:00 Deacons<br>Meeting                                                                            | <b>17</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>18</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>19</b><br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous<br>10:00 <i>Presbytery</i><br><i>meeting at Warren First</i> |
| <b>20</b><br>9:00 Worship –<br><i>Communion</i><br>10:00 <i>Corporation/</i><br><i>Congregational meeting</i><br><i>&amp; BRUNCH</i><br>5:30 Boy Scouts | <b>21</b><br>6:30 Christian Ed.<br><br><i>NEWSLETTER</i><br><i>DEADLINE</i> | <b>22</b>                                                             | <b>23</b>                                                                                                       | <b>24</b><br><br><i>OFFICE CLOSED</i> | <b>25</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>26</b><br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous<br>10:00 <i>"Hanging of</i><br><i>the Greens"</i>            |
| <b>27</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday School                                                                                                        | <b>28</b>                                                                   | <b>29</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice                       | <b>30</b><br>6:30 Missions &<br>Outreach                                                                        |                                                                                                                            | <i>December</i><br><i>Sonshine Newsletter</i><br><i>available:</i><br><a href="http://www.rockygrovepres.org">www.rockygrovepres.org</a> |                                                                                                        |

## **ADDENDUM**

### **Congregation/Corporation Meeting - November 20, 2016**

The Session has set November 20<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Congregation & Corporation meeting. The minutes of the last congregational meeting will be presented for approval, the 2017 budget approved by Session and the slate of officer nominations will be presented; additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. Afterwards, we will enjoy a **brunch** in Moorhead Hall.