

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



## SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

November 2017

*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](http://www.rockygrovepres.org)

Email Address: [rgapc @ verizon.net](mailto:rgapc@verizon.net)

**Worship – 9:00 a.m.**

#### **Church Staff**

Rev. Rachel J. Johns, Pastor

Rhonda Rust, Secretary

Mike Burkhardt, Organist

Janet Bish, Assistant Organist

Scott Donaldson, Custodian

#### **Church Office Hours**

*Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

## **FROM THE SESSION**

### **ACTIONS OF SESSION – *October 9, 2017***

1. Approved the minutes of the September 11, 2017 Session meeting.
2. Approved the Financial Secretary's Report ending September 30, 2017, and the checking account summary and Treasurer's Report for September, 2017.
3. Granted letters of transfer to three members.
4. Denied a request of an inactive member of more than two years to extend active status until October, 2018 and denied request to meet with Session.
5. Terminated a member who has been inactive for more than two years, denied request to keep active status for an additional six months, offered a letter of transfer if requested to another church, and referred to the Presbytery office to inquire about putting letter in escrow until another church selected.
6. Transferred seven members to inactive status at their request and voted to send them letters stating this.
7. Voted to place a small listing in the worship section of the Oil Region Alliance booklet.
8. Voted to hold the Annual Congregational and Annual Corporation Meetings on November 19, 2017 following morning worship.
9. Voted to charge Grace Learning Center \$550 per month rent in the event they move into the church building.



For our year-round Operation Christmas Child project, we collected enough donations to fill thirty-six (36) shoeboxes. At nine dollars (\$9) per box for shipping, \$324 is necessary. Giving has been such that we already have more than enough; the extra will be given to Samaritan's Purse as a donation.

### **ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 7, 2017**

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



**Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour  
Saturday night, November 4th!**



## ***November Birthdays***

1	Ellen Gierlach	22	Edith Richards
9	Gene Sheffer	23	Oliver Feather (2011)
10	Margaret Wielandt	23	Arika Songer
11	Joan Partridge	26	Todd Wetjen
		27	Joyce Wetjen



### **Servants for NOVEMBER**

<b><u>Hospital Visits:</u></b>	Kennedy & Linda Hartman
<b><u>Greeters:</u></b>	5 Betty Cornmesser & Lois Pierce 12 Judy Ream 19 Kevin Songer Family 26 Jim & Flo Albright
<b><u>Offering Recorders:</u></b>	5 Jane Beach & Linda Hartman 12 Diane Whitman & Linda Zeller 19 Linda Hartman & Joyce Wetjen 26 Diane Whitman & Linda Zeller
<b><u>Worship Leaders:</u></b>	5 Diane Whitman 12 Rhonda Rust 19 Diane Whitman 26 Lois Pierce



If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship, please contact Margie Sheffer (432-3456). You will want to advise Margie as to whether you will order your own flowers, how you want it listed in the bulletin and if you will be removing them after the service.

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### **HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY**

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, World War I ended. This day became known as "Armistice Day." In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Similarly, unknown soldiers had been buried in England at Westminster Abbey and in France at the Arc de Triomphe. All of these memorials took place on November 11th to commemorate the end of the "war to end all wars."

In 1926, Congress resolved to officially call November 11<sup>th</sup> Armistice Day. Then in 1938, the day was named a national holiday. Soon afterwards war broke out in Europe, and World War II began.

Soon after the end of World War II, a veteran of that war named Raymond Weeks organized "National Veterans Day" with a parade and festivities to honor all veterans. He chose to hold this on Armistice Day; thus began annual observances of a day to honor all veterans not just the end of World War I. In 1954, Congress officially passed and President Dwight Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11<sup>th</sup> as Veteran's Day.

***Newsletter articles are due in the church office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month or risk being omitted from next month's issue.***

### **UPCOMING EVENTS at RGAPC**

#### **Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> – Youthful Spirits**

Men and women gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. Join in the fun at Primo Barone's @ 1564 Airport Road. Make your reservation with this month's host, Rhonda Rust, at 437-2831 by October 30<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome!! Watch for information on the next gathering set for December 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Women's Prayer Breakfast**

A small group of women of RGAPC meet for breakfast the second Saturday of the month at Linda Lou's Restaurant, 1572 Mercer Road at 8:30 a.m. Devotions are followed by good food and fellowship. Please join in as the group would like to grow!!!

#### **Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> - *Hangin' 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 2<sup>nd</sup> – *Church Family Christmas Party***

This year's event will again be at 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 12th**. You don't want to miss out; so make your reservation early. A reservation form can be found in this newsletter.

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#### **Congregation/Corporation Meeting - November 19, 2017**

The Session has set November 19<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Congregation & Corporation meeting. The minutes of the last congregational meeting will be presented for approval, the 2018 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.



## Christmas Dinner



December 2, 2017

**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 12, 2017**

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 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 26, 2017.**

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 10<sup>th</sup>.**

☐ 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*



# Giving Thanks Word Search



See how many of these newspaper related words you can find in the puzzle.  
The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

Created by Ken Lindvall  
Grand Forks Herald 1992

- |                 |              |                |              |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. GIVING       | 5. GRATEFUL  | 9. FAMILY      | 13. RESPECT  |
| 2. THANKS       | 6. GRATITUDE | 10. FRIENDS    | 14. THANKFUL |
| 3. THANKSGIVING | 7. KINDNESS  | 11. HEALTH     | 15. POLITE   |
| 4. HOLIDAY      | 8. CARING    | 12. APPRECIATE | 16. MANNERS  |

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to gather with family and friends and reflect on the blessings of the last year. Many of us experience renewed hope and faith during the Thanksgiving holiday because we turn our eyes onto what is most important. What if we spent time each day in giving thanks and prayer? How could God grow out faith and trust if we lived a life of thanks through all seasons and not just Thanksgiving time? When your heart is filled with gratitude, there is little room to worry or complain. We are encouraged to offer thanksgiving to God daily to find greater hope and joy! Start living out the promises of God that Jesus came "that they may have life, and have it to the full." *John 10:10.*

## A Daily Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

- Debbie McDaniel, Crosswalk.com

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*We extend Christian sympathy to the family of Don Fox, who was called home on Sunday, October 22, 2017. Don had been a member of RGAPC since April 14, 1960, and had served six terms on Trustees over the years.*



# NOVEMBER 2017



| SUNDAY                                                                                             | MONDAY                                       | TUESDAY                                                               | WEDNESDAY                                                                          | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                                    | FRIDAY                                                                                                              | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                    |                                              |                                                                       | <b>1</b><br>NOON -<br>YOUTHFUL SPIRITS<br>at Primo-Barone's<br>(1564 Airport Road) | <b>2</b>                                                                                                                                                    | <b>3</b>                                                                                                            | <b>4</b><br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous                                                                                                          |
| <b>5</b><br><i>Standard Time returns</i><br>9:00 Worship<br>5:30 Boy Scouts                        | <b>6</b><br>6:00 CLAW<br>7:00 Trustees       | <b>7</b><br><b>ELECTION DAY</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice | <b>8</b>                                                                           | <b>9</b>                                                                                                                                                    | <b>10</b><br>7-9:00 Sweet A's<br>Coaching Session                                                                   | <b>11</b> <i>Veterans Day</i><br>8:30 Women's Breakfast<br>@ Linda Lou's<br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous<br>10-3:00 Sweet A's<br>Coaching Session |
| <b>12</b><br>9:00 Worship                                                                          | <b>13</b><br>6:15 Session –<br>Ladies Parlor | <b>14</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice                       | <b>15</b><br>6:30 Missions &<br>Outreach                                           | <b>16</b>                                                                                                                                                   | <b>17</b>                                                                                                           | <b>18</b><br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous<br>10:00 <i>Presbytery</i><br>meeting at 1 <sup>st</sup> Church<br>of Covenant Erie                     |
| <b>19</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:00 <i>Corporation/<br/>Congregational meeting<br/>&amp; BRUNCH</i> | <b>20</b><br><b>NEWSLETTER<br/>DEADLINE</b>  | <b>21</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice                       | <b>22</b><br>1:30 Deacons<br>Meeting                                               | <b>23</b><br><br><b>Happy<br/>Thanksgiving</b><br><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> | <b>24</b>                                                                                                           | <b>25</b><br>9:30 Overeaters<br>Anonymous                                                                                                         |
| <b>26</b><br><i>Christ the King Sunday</i><br>9:00 Worship –<br>Communion<br>5:30 Boy Scouts       | <b>27</b>                                    | <b>28</b><br>6:30 Sweet<br>Adelines<br>Practice                       | <b>29</b>                                                                          | <b>30</b>                                                                                                                                                   | December<br>Sonshine Newsletter<br>available:<br><a href="http://www.rockygrovepres.org">www.rockygrovepres.org</a> |                                                                                                                                                   |