

# *SONSHINE NEWSLETTER*

*December 2018*

*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: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

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



## **FROM THE SESSION**

### **ACTIONS OF SESSION – November 12, 2018:**

1. Approved the Session minutes for October, 2018.
2. Approved the financial reports for October, 2018.
3. Approved the request of the Boy Scouts to install a display case for their troop awards at a place and in a case approved by the Trustees.
4. Approved a request from Grace Learning Center to install a shed measuring 15' by 25' by 15' on a concrete pad on Church property at a location approved by the Trustees.
5. Approved a Church key transfer to Nancy J. Klingensmith for Sweet Adelines.
6. Approved a request from Raymond A. Aikins to remove his name from the active roll. His name will be placed on the Friends of the Church Roll. He is not requesting to transfer his membership to another congregation.
7. Approved a request from IU6 to install two vegetable gardens near the fence dividing the Church property from the school property for vegetable gardens to be tended by the student in the Life Skills class of Rocky Grove High School during March, April and May, 2019.
8. Approved the proposed budget for 2019.
9. Ratified the phone vote to issue Church key #39 to Elissa Stuttler.
10. Approved the use of Moorhead Hall for a baby shower on November 17, 2018.

## **December Birthdays**



6 Rhonda Rust	25 Joshua Wendt
21 Pastor Rachel Johns	29 Mike Burkhardt



## **Servants for DECEMBER**

**Hospital Visits:** Doris Feather & Diane Whitman

**Greeters:**

2	Brad & Joyce Wetjen
9	Scott & Nancy Donaldson
16	Dorie Feather
23	John & Mary Jo Dumbleton
24	Rhonda Rust & family
30	

**Worship Leaders:**

2	Lois Pierce
9	Rhonda Rust
16	Diane Whitman
23	None
24	None
30	Lois Pierce

**Counters:**

2	Linda Hartman & Joyce Wetjen
9	Lois Pierce & another elder
16	Joyce Wetjen & Linda Zeller
23	Linda Hartman & another elder
24	Linda Hartman & Linda Zeller
30	Linda Hartman & Joyce Wetjen

## **CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

**DOWN:** SHEPHERDS, ANGEL, WORSHIP, PRINCE, MARY, MANGER, FIELD  
**ACROSS:** STAR, JOSEPH, ROOM, MYRRH, INN, PEACE

**Congregation/Corporation  
Meetings and Brunch held  
on November 18, 2018**



The Annual Meetings of the Congregation & Corporation were held Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary. Rev. Rachel Johns opened the meetings with prayer. Thirteen members were in attendance and represented a quorum. **Elders** elected for 2018 are: **Linda Hartman** (5<sup>th</sup> year), **Lois Pierce** (7<sup>th</sup> year), **Diane Whitman** (5<sup>th</sup> year) and **Linda Zeller** (5<sup>th</sup> year) for another 1-year term. There are 3 vacancies of 3-year term and 1 vacancy of 2-year term. **Deacons** elected are: **Betty Cornmesser** (3-year terms) as well as **Doris Feather** (7<sup>th</sup> year), **Grace Gibbons** (4<sup>th</sup> year) and **Phyllis Vogan** (6<sup>th</sup> year) remaining for 1-year terms. There are 2 vacancies for 3-year term and 1 for 2-year term. **Trustees** elected for 1-year additional term are: **Arnie Bish** (8<sup>th</sup> year), **John Dumbleton** (4<sup>th</sup> year), **Kevin Songer** (5<sup>th</sup> year) and **Brad Wetjen** (4<sup>th</sup> year). There are 5 vacancies – 2 for 2-year term and 3 for 3-year term. **Linda Hartman** was elected **Auditor** for a 3-year term. The 2019 budget as approved by Session on November 12<sup>th</sup> was presented. There were no nominations from the floor and no questions asked. The congregation meeting was closed and the corporation meeting opened with prayer by Rev. Johns. John Dumbleton, moderator of Trustees, gave a report of work performed in the past year which included repaving of the upper parking lot, installation of outside electrical outlets and water faucet and what is planned for 2018. He thanked **Scott Donaldson** and **Rhonda Rust** for their service as volunteer trustees.

The meeting was followed by a brunch of breakfast casseroles, muffins, fruit, orange juice and coffee. Thanks to all who assisted in putting on such a delicious spread. No one went home hungry that's for sure.

**END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS** – Any contributions you wish to make to the church and have credited for the 2018 fiscal year should be made by Sunday, December 30, 2018. If you have not already done so, it's not too late to pay the **2018 per capita** amount which is **\$30.50** per RGAPC member. Be sure to clearly mark your check or envelope as "2018 PER CAPITA." Please do not pay 2019 per capita until after January 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.

~~~~~  
**2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES** – 2019 offering envelopes will be available for pickup beginning December 17<sup>th</sup>. **Please do not use them until January 1, 2019.** Any contributions received in 2018 will be credited to 2018 even if in a 2019 envelope! As well, any contribution received in 2019 will be credited to 2019 even if it is in a 2018 envelope!

~~~~~  
Christ United Methodist Church, 1135 Buffalo Street, Franklin, will present **A Christmas Cantata** for the community on **Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** A freewill offering will be taken and refreshments will be available after each performance.



*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.*



If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship, please contact Judy Ream (673-6492). You will want to advise Judy 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.

~~~~~

### **Keeping in touch with Grace Learning Center:**

Each school day the students are delivered to Grace Learning Center. They get off the van or bus full of laughter and energy. It is a delight to see their enthusiasm. After hanging up coats and washing their hands, they gather around the activity centers – arts & crafts, the piano, games or the reading area. Those with homework take their backpacks and head to the classrooms. Completion of homework is the first priority.

Some of you may remember how hectic it was/is when your own children came home from school. Often you were just getting home from work and everyone wanted and needed your attention. You had to fix supper, supervise homework, start the laundry and a dozen other things.

Grace Learning Center offers to make sure homework is complete and the children have been given a healthy snack. The staff is familiar with each school and is willing and able to make sure the homework is complete. The parents tell us this program gives them the opportunity to have more quality time with their family and takes away some of the burdens of their hectic schedules.

As a church, we are blessed to have this program in our building. May the Lord bless and keep us as we do mission and ministry together.

### **MISSIONS CORNER:**

As Christmas approaches, so does a cherished tradition that has been around since the 1930s. The Christmas Joy Offering helps with educational, medical and special needs of current, up coming and retired pastors, missionaries and church workers.

The money that is collected is divided equally between two parts of the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides help for retired and current leaders and their families. It also helps those who wish to attend ethnic schools and colleges, but would otherwise not be able to afford this opportunity.

Many church leaders have had a profound impact on people's lives. They are gifts to us, just as Jesus Christ was God's greatest gift to us all. The Christmas Joy Offering provides us with a way to offer a gift in response.

Please give generously to this worthy cause. You will find special envelopes in the pews. If you are writing a check, please write "Christmas Joy" on the memo line.

Your Missions & Outreach Ministry Team



~~~~~

### **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

Do you enjoy seeing performances at the Barrow-Civic Theater here in Franklin? Well, if you do and find it a hardship to afford tickets, here is what you can do! Contact Gary Barton at the theater (432-5196) between 10 am and 4 pm most days. He will give you information on volunteering; thus, you get to see all the performances at which you volunteer as a reward!

~~~~~

The Caring Place Auxiliary is seeking volunteers for the "Sunflower Shoppe" which is the gift shop; it is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Each shift is three (3) hours. If you or someone you know may be interested, contact Marie Leyda (437-3291) or Angela Prather (814-388-9482). Volunteering is a very rewarding experience.

~~~~~

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC**

#### **Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – Youthful Spirits**

Men and women gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. Join in the fun at Karma Coffee @ 237 Seneca Street, Oil City. Make your reservation with this month's hostess, Dorie Feather, at 437-5236 by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. All are welcome!!

#### **Women's Prayer Breakfast**

The group of women of RGAPC which meets for breakfast the second Saturday of the month at Linda Lou's Restaurant, 1572 Mercer Road at 8:30 a.m. is taking a few months hiatus. Gatherings will resume *March 9<sup>th</sup>*.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 6:00 p.m.** - Invite your friends and relatives! (*Please note the change in time of service.*)

**Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am** ~ *"Unhanging of the Greens"*

~~ MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

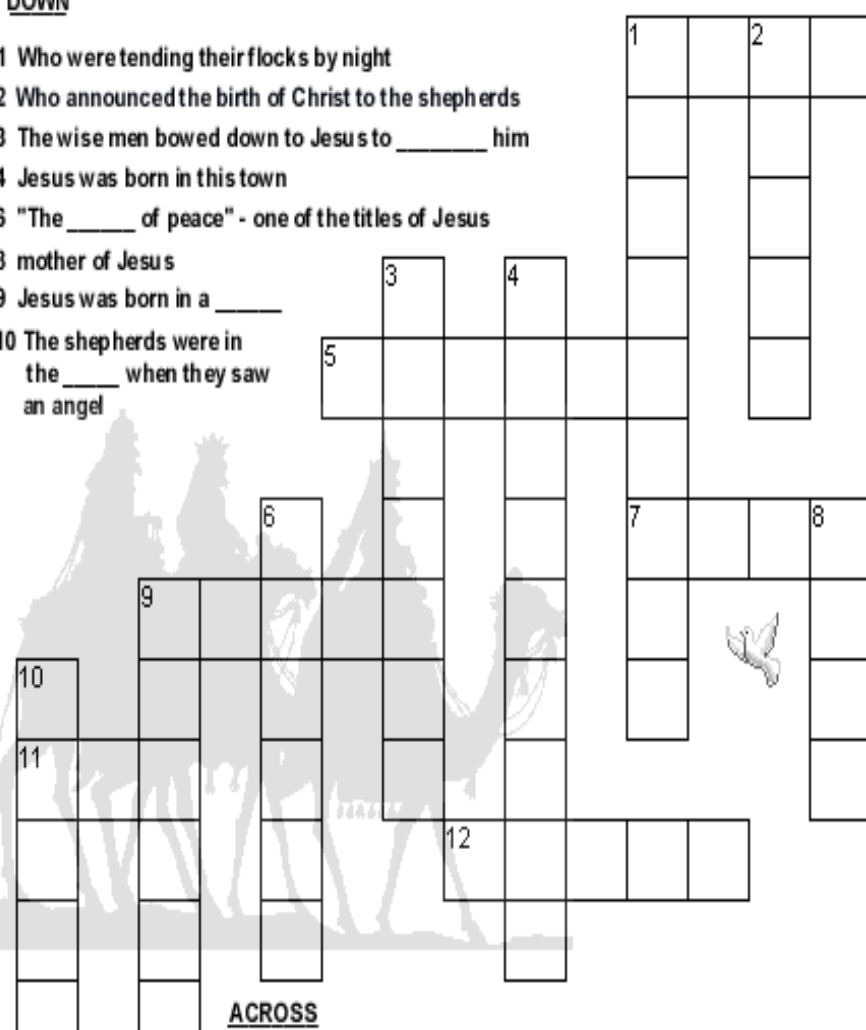
**Birth of Christ**

**DOWN**

- Who were tending their flocks by night
- Who announced the birth of Christ to the shepherds
- The wise men bowed down to Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_ him
- Jesus was born in this town
- "The \_\_\_\_\_ of peace" - one of the titles of Jesus
- mother of Jesus
- Jesus was born in a \_\_\_\_\_
- The shepherds were in the \_\_\_\_\_ when they saw an angel

**ACROSS**

- The wise men followed a \_\_\_\_\_ that led them to Jesus
- human father of Jesus
- There was no \_\_\_\_\_ at the inn for Jesus
- one of the gifts of the three wise men
- Jesus could not stay at the \_\_\_\_\_ because it was full
- and on earth \_\_\_\_\_, goodwill toward men (Luke 2:14)





Copyright 2001 - Bill Walters Publications - All rights reserved





# DECEMBER 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> 9:30 O A 10:00 Hanging of Greens 6:00 <i>Christmas Dinner</i> ~ Moorhead Hall
<b>2</b> 9:00 Worship <i>(First Sunday for Christmas Joy Offering)</i> 5:30 Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 2:00 CLAW 7:00 Trustees	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> NOON - YOUTHFUL SPIRITS <i>at Karma Coffee Co.</i> <i>(237 Seneca Street, OC)</i> 6:30 Boy Scouts Merit Badge training	<b>6</b> <i>Office closed</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>9</b> 9:00 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 6:15 Session	<b>11</b> 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice	<b>12</b> 6:30 Scout Leaders meet	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>16</b> 9:00 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts ~ <i>Christmas party</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 Boy Scouts Merit Badge training	<b>20</b> <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>23</b> 9:00 Worship <i>(Final collection for Christmas Joy Offering)</i>	<b>24</b> <i>6:00 Christmas Eve            Candlelight Service</i> 	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <i>January            Sonshine Newsletter            available:  <a href="http://www.rockygrovepres.org">www.rockygrovepres.org</a></i>	<b>29</b> 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>30</b> 9:00 Worship	<b>31</b>	