

SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

December 2020

A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church



“Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus’ Name”

Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church

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.

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 1:00 p.m.

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



~~~~~

## December Birthdays



6 Rhonda Rust                      21 Pastor Rachel Johns  
10 Duncan Hickey                29 Mike Burkhardt

~~~~~



Servants for DECEMBER

Counters: Lois Pierce & Joyce Wetjen

Worship Leaders: 6 Pastor Rachel Johns
 13 Lois Pierce
 20 Rhonda Rust
 27 Pastor Rachel Johns

~~~~~



If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship, please contact the church office (432-4162). You will want to advise the office 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.

## Lake Erie Presbytery Prayer List for for December

### Week of December 6<sup>th</sup>

First Presbyterian Church, Meadville  
*Rev. Brian Jensen*, Pastor  
*Rev. Dan Corll*, Pastor of Visitation

29 Congregations of Yendi District,  
Upper Northern Presbytery (Ghana)

### Week of December 13<sup>th</sup>

Conneaut Lake Presbyterian Church  
*Sam Heagy*, Preaching

*Rev. Jim McCormack* (Honorably Retired)

### Week of December 20<sup>th</sup>

First Presbyterian Church, Bradford  
*Rev. Katherine Randall & Rev. Rob Kluow*, Co-Pastors

*Rev. Christopher Fujii* (Honorably Retired)

### Week of December 27<sup>th</sup>

Coudersport Presbyterian Church  
*Rev. Warren Cederholm & Elder Don Caskey*, Pastor

Missionaries of the PC(USA) throughout the world

~~~~~

*“May your hearth be warm, your holidays grand,
and your heart held gently in the good Lord’s hand.”*
— Unknown

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her King.”

FROM THE SESSION

Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting was held Sunday, October 11th during the morning worship service. Rev. Rachel Johns opened the meeting with prayer. Nineteen members were in attendance and represented a quorum. The purpose of the meeting was to approve the minutes of the last Congregational Meeting and ordain and install Janet Bish as Elder. There were no nominations from the floor and no questions asked. The congregation meeting was closed.

MISSIONS CORNER:

A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). By giving to the Christ Joy Offering, we honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

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

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

SPECIAL SESSION MEETING – November 10, 2020:

The issue of filing for a claim under the Boy Scouts of America class action suit was explained by Elissa Stuttler, Esq. We are not suing the BSA, but we are filing a claim to preserve any indemnification to which the Church may be entitled under BSA's insurance coverage in the event a claim is made against our Church for providing a location for the Troop's activities. No funds are anticipated, and there is no activity which would give rise to a liability claim of which we are aware.

ACTIONS OF SESSION – October 12, 2020

1. New Elder Janet Bish was welcomed.
2. Approved the Session minutes for August 17, 2020.
3. Approved the financial reports for August & September 2020.
4. Reviewed the minutes of the Trustees' Meeting October 5, 2020 and Congregational Life & Worship Committee meeting September 28, 2020.
5. Upon their individual request, Jane Beach's transfer of membership to Cooperstown Presbyterian Church and Diane Whitman Kimber's removal from membership were approved.
6. Removed from membership rolls of the Church Marie Wendt due to death on August 1, 2020, and Norma Aiken due to death September 7, 2020.
7. Approved the use of the church for a wedding June 12, 2021, of non-members and ordained Presbyterian minister other than our minister.
8. Approved authorization of Treasurer to transfer up to \$5000 per month from the funds held at Edward Jones to cover monthly expenses without further approval of the Session.
9. Approved proposed future compensation plan for part-time employees upon resignation of current employees.
10. Approved the cancellation of Christmas Eve service for this year only due to the corona virus pandemic.
11. Approved Communion to be held January 10, 2021. The remainder of 2021 dates will be set at a future meeting.
12. Agreed to change the Session meetings to the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. with the exception of next meeting January 12, 2021.





December 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	4	5 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
6 9:00 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts	7 7:00 Trustees	8	9	10	11	12 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
13 9:00 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts ~ <i>Christmas Court of Honor</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>January NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	18	19 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
20 9:00 Worship	21	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 	25 	26 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
27 9:00 Worship	28	29	30	31	January Sonshine Newsletter available: www.rockygrovepres.org	

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