



# Among Friends

FEBRUARY, 2020

## From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings!

It's hard to believe that in a few short weeks we will begin Lent. During this time there are couple of things that we should be doing. First, we should repent from our sins, but that's what we should always be doing. Second, it should be a time to identify as Christians, but again isn't that what we should always be doing?

So just what is Lent? One definition I found on the internet was this; Lent is the period of 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays. During that time Christians should give up something they enjoy. (This must be true; it was on the internet!!)

Giving up something we enjoy. I enjoy pizza, should I give up pizza? I'm not really sure that would make me a better Christian. I enjoy watching "The Young and the Restless." Is that what I should give up for Lent? Again, I'm not sure that would make me closer to God. I enjoy shopping. Should I give up shopping? Frank probably would say 'yes!' The fact is this; I could give up all of those things, but I don't see how the Kingdom of God would profit from me giving those things up. There has to be more...doesn't there?

***Rend your heart and not your garments.***

***Return to the Lord your God.***

***Joel 2:13a***

There it is! God doesn't want us to give up stuff, he wants us to give up our hearts to Him. To completely surrender all to Him. Of all the things that we could give to God, He wants our love most of all! So, I can still eat pizza. I can still watch

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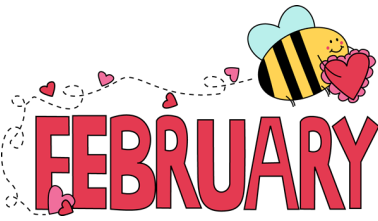


**MARCH**

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

**February 25**

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## SPECIAL DATES IN FEBRUARY

- African-American History Month
- Valentine's Day, 2/14
- Presidents Day, 2/17
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, 2/23
- Ash Wednesday, 2/26
- Leap Day, 2/29



Deadline for submission of MARCH newsletter information is FEBRUARY 25.

Submit to:

Sue Datt via

"Snail Mail"  
324 S. Main St.  
Harrisville, PA 16038

E-mail:  
[ratsbatuti@  
zoominternet.net](mailto:ratsbatuti@zoominternet.net)

Phone:  
724-991-5863

## From the Pastor's Desk (continued)

"The Young and the Restless." I can still go shopping (sorry Frank). Those aren't the things that God wants... God wants me! And God wants you!

This Lenten season, show God how much you love Him by spending time with Him through prayer, through scripture, through meditation, through devotions, through service, and through worship and praise. This is what God really wants. He just wants us to spend time with Him. He just wants to be closer to us. He wants to be loved by us. This Lenten season let's give God our love.

In His service,  
Diane



## On the Road Again



This summer (June 18 and 19) we will be traveling to Kentucky's "Creation Museum" and "Ark Encounter" and the "National Underground Railroad Freedom Center" in Cincinnati, Ohio. Not only will travelers join in exploring state-of-the-art Biblical encounters and experience the story of the Underground Railroad, the trip will provide opportunities for enjoying the fellowship of a motor coach filled with interesting, fun-loving and faith-filled passengers.

Please call Jeff Cross to save your place! (724) 498-5957

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE



### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Continuing our lessons about how to honor God, we move from the Old Testament to lessons from Matthew studying what Jesus taught about living God-honoring lives. Join us at 10:00 a.m. for a time of Bible study, discussion and sharing. All are welcome.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The Children's Sunday school class continues to study the different parts of the Bible, the books in each section, and the major events in each book.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



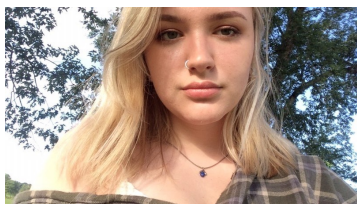
- February 2**      **COMMUNION AND WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
- SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** - homemade soup luncheon immediately following worship, Highland Presbyterian Church.
- February 8**      **Second Saturday Concert**, Community Center, featuring the music of Miranda Brandon. Refreshments begin at 6:30 p.m., the concert will follow at 7:00 p.m.
- February 9**      **WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
- February 12**      **FPC Presbyterian Women**, Worship Center, 1:00 p.m. Donna Walker will be hostess for the afternoon. PLEASE NOTE TIME AND LOCATION CHANGE.
- February 16**      **WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Rev. Willard Morse will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
- February 23**      **WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m..
- February 26**      **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**, Community Center. Pot luck dinner, 6:00 p.m., worship service will follow at 7:00 p.m.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FPC?

# THE SATURDAY CONCERT

This month's **Second Saturday Concert (February 8)** features **Miranda Brandon**, a 17 year old Slippery Rock resident who is pursuing a career in music. Miranda has been singing from the age of 2. She has been doing open mics and various other "gigs" in the area.

The concert will be held at the **Community Center** located at 886 New Castle Road, Slippery Rock. Come for dessert at 6:30 p.m. and settle in for the 7:00 p.m. concert on Saturday, February 8.



## PRESBYTERY / SYNOD OF THE TRINITY / GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020 PER CAPITA

Here is the per capita information from the Beaver - Butler Presbytery for 2020. It is broken into parts so that you may choose your support. Please mail in (877 Franklin Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057 ) or place in the offering plate by March 8.

General Assembly	\$ 8.95
Synod of the Trinity	\$ 2.40
Beaver-Butler Presbytery	<u>\$29.44</u>
Total	\$40.79

**2020 PER CAPITA**

Name:	
General Assembly	
Synod of the Trinity	
BB Presbytery	
Total Enclosed	

## SERVING THIS MONTH



### PREACHING

2/2	Pastor Diane Whitman
2/9	Pastor Diane Whitman
2/16	Rev. Willard Morse
2/23	Pastor Diane Whitman



### LITURGISTS

2/2	Michele Lagnese
2/9	Ruth Keith
2/16	Bill Kreuzer
2/23	Michele Lagnese



### GREETERS

2/2	Dave and Donna Walker
2/9	Heather Datt
2/16	Joanne Campbell
2/23	Evelyn Vargo



### PROJECTIONISTS

2/2	Benjamin Vukson
2/9	Jeremy Whitehouse
2/16	Benjamin Vukson
2/23	Jeremy Whitehouse

# MISSIONS

across the street & around the world



## DONATIONS FOR 2019 / GIANT EAGLE

11/17	\$952	All Saints Lutheran
12/3	\$311	Gateway Community Presbyterian
12/4	\$1,241	Gateway Community Presbyterian
12/6	\$255	Abba Christian Center
12/7	\$332	Center Presbyterian
12/11	\$450	The Grange
12/12	\$662	Forestville Methodist
12/13	\$563	Zion Baptist
12/14	\$684	St. Peter's Catholic
12/17	\$515	American Legion Ladies Auxiliary
12/18	\$539	Slippery Rock Alliance
12/19	\$489	The Rotary
12/20	\$631	Highland Presbyterian
12/21	\$743	Slippery Rock Methodist
12/23	\$1,223	Friendship Presbyterian
12/24	\$1,036	Lion's Club

**TOTAL COLLECTED: \$12,042**

### ANNUAL TOTALS

1999	\$,4696	2010	\$11,941
2000	\$5,518	2011	\$12,618
2001	\$5,956	2012	\$18,239
2002	\$6,592	2013	\$15,903
2003	\$7,680	2014	\$17,719
2004	\$8,643	2015	\$18,737
2005	\$7,828	2016	\$12,766
2006	\$9,130	2017	\$12,642
2007	\$7,653	2018	\$7,836
2008	\$8,683	2019	\$12,041
2009	\$9,298		

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The December Joy offering totaled \$124.00. Thank you for your generosity.

## FOOD CUPBOARD

The Food Cupboard "wish list" for February: Chunky Soups and Individual Kids Meals

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

**Kid's Club** is collecting items for a shoe box packing party this November for **Operation Christmas Child**. We are planning a different collection theme each month but please feel free to bring in any items at any time during the year. We are collecting **small stuffed animals** for the month of February.

## CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET DRIVE

**THE PERFECT VALENTINE'S GIFT.** Share the gift of warmth and shelter when you donate \$5 toward the purchase of a wool blanket for Church World Service. This is a perfect way to give thanks for the warmth in our hearts, our homes and our church by helping to provide blankets for those in need.

In 2019, congregational gifts provided over 118,000 CWS Blankets and Kits to families impacted by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and other crises (including homelessness and poverty.)

When you donate \$5, a red heart will be added to the blanket hung in the sanctuary. Let's fill the blanket again this year!

Donation envelopes will be available in the vestibule. Our CWS Blanket Drive will run through the month of February.



# Prayer List

*“Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.”  
James 5:16*

Anne D. (Missionary to India)  
Sally Alben  
Jane Allison  
Carly Atkisson  
Zachary Barto  
Candy Boulanger  
Kayla Brundige  
Martie Cooper  
Ruth Cooper  
The Cooperstown  
Congregation  
Kay Curtis  
Bessie Datt  
Heather Datt  
Winnie Davis  
Jim Dickey  
Mark Doerr  
Bertha Durnell  
Randy Durnell  
Blanche, English  
Jennifer Gilliland

Harry and Janny Graham  
Donna Grossman  
Rick Grossman  
David Hall  
John Hines  
Nancy Huntington  
Timothy James  
Jennie Jamieson  
Rev. William Jamieson  
Graham Larimore  
Lisa Leach and Family  
Ed Lind  
Joe Lowers  
Kevin Michael  
Randy Morgan  
Jessie Myers  
David Parker  
Karen Piper  
Bill and Chris Schroeder  
Micheal Scott  
Rodney Stewart

Helen Taggart  
The Family of Bonnie  
Trowbridge  
Joe Vivelo  
Seth Vogan  
Donna Walker  
Jeremy (God will know  
which one).  
Our military at home and  
abroad  
Persecuted Christians  
around the world,  
Alpha Omega (SR)  
Pregnancy Center  
Feed My Sheep Food  
Cupboard  
Friendship Presbyterian  
Church  
Beaver Butler Presbytery  
The PCUSA  
The Church of Jesus  
Christ

## BURDEN BEARERS

“Bear one another’s burdens,” the Bible says. It is a lesson about pain that we all can agree on. Some of us will not see pain as a gift; some will always accuse God of being unfair for allowing it.

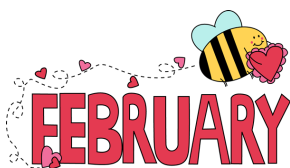
But, the fact is, pain and suffering are here among us, and we need to respond in some way. The response Jesus showed was to bear the burdens of those he touched. To live in the world as [Jesus’] body, his emotional incarnation, we must follow his example.

The image of the body accurately portrays how God is working in the world. ... We announce his message, work for justice, pray for mercy ... and suffer with the sufferers.

—Philip Yancey, *Where Is God When It Hurts?*



## REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS IN NURSING HOMES & SENIOR LIVING



### BIRTHDAYS

Fred Barron, 2/1  
Bernie Rihel, 2/5  
Don Bickel, 2/10  
Chuck Musulin, 2/12  
Jessie Myers, 2/17  
Evelyn Vargo, 2/21  
Daniel Sybert, 2/27  
Paul Yanosy, 2/29

### ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Gail Kreuzer, 2/15  
Jen and Dan Bickel, 2/16

Bessie Datt  
Orchard Manor  
20 Orchard Dr.  
Grove City, PA 16127

Bertha Durnell  
Lowrie Place  
100 Stirling Village Drive  
Butler, PA 16001

Jessie Myers  
Grove Manor  
435 North Broad Street  
Grove City, PA 16127

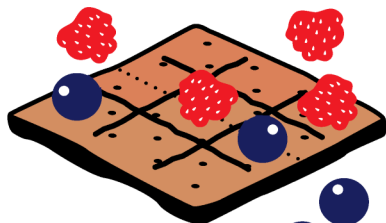
Helen Taggart  
Orchard Manor  
20 Orchard Dr.  
Grove City, PA 16127



**JUST FOR FUN**

# Friendship Squares

This tasty treat doubles as a game to play with a buddy.



**What you need:**

- Graham crackers
- Chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Raspberries
- Blueberries

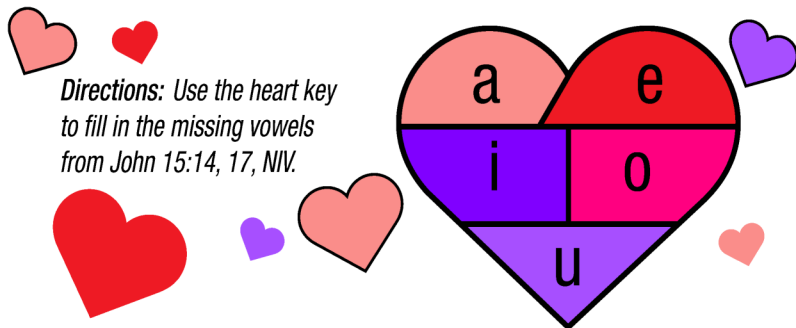
**What you do:**

1. Gently break cracker sheets in half to form squares.
2. Heat chocolate chips in microwave for 30 seconds. Stir, then continue heating for 30 seconds at a time until melted.
3. Spoon melted chocolate into baggie and snip a small triangle from one bottom corner.
4. On each cracker, squeeze chocolate lines to form a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Let cool.
5. Using the fruit as X's and O's, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. The winner gets to eat the treat!



# A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.



*Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.*

“Y \_ \_ \_ r \_ my fr \_ \_ nds \_ f

y \_ \_ d \_ wh \_ t \_ c \_ mm \_ nd. ...

Th \_ s \_ s my c \_ mm \_ nd:

L \_ v \_ \_ \_ ch \_ th \_ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV





FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
877 Franklin Road  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057



SUBMITTED BY  
HEATHER DATT