



Among Friends

FEBRUARY, 2023



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Greetings;

Have you ever wondered what your purpose in life is? I mean, why were you created? Why were you born? Some would say to be a husband or wife. Sadly, someday your spouse will die (unless you die first) and then what is your purpose? Others would say that it is being a father or a mother. But our children grow up and even though they need us, it just isn't the same. Other people might say that their career is their purpose, however, no matter how dedicated we are to our career, someday we will retire (at least that's the plan). If you would have asked my mother what her purpose in life was, she would tell you that it was keeping her house spotless (that didn't seem to be genetical). While all of these are noble goals, they just shouldn't be our purpose in life...at least not for a child of God. So, as God's holy children, what is our purpose? The answer is found in God's Holy Word.

*"We are to live to praise God's glorious grace."
Ephesians 1:6*

*"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of God."
I Corinthians 10:31*

*"Let your light shine before men that they may see
your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven."
Matthew 5:16*

Although there are many worthy causes in each of our lives, there is but one main purpose as children of God. It is to **BRING GLORY TO GOD!** Knowing your purpose should help you to get through life when you have a difficult decision to make. Before make this choice, ask yourself, "Will this bring glory to God?" If it doesn't bring Him

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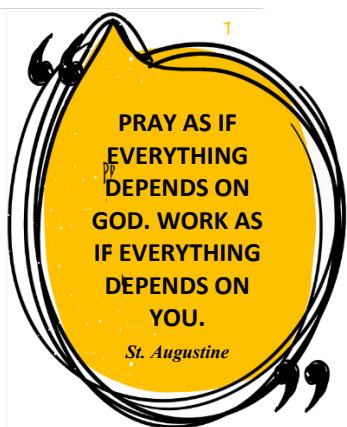
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MARCH
Newsletter
Deadline

February 24

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Contributed by Wendi Vukson

Deadline for
MARCH
submission of
information is
FEBRUARY 24

Submit to:
Sue Datt via
"Snail Mail"
324 S. Main St.
Harrisville, PA 16038

E-mail:
suedatt70@gmail.com

Phone:
724-991-5863

From Our Pastor's Desk (continued)

glory then make another choice. If it does, then go for it!

I challenge you; whatever you do, wherever you go; do it all for the glory of God. When you do you will be fulfilling your God-given purpose in life.

In His love and service,
Diane

Whatever you do,
DO IT ALL FOR THE
Glory of God

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

UPCOMING EVENTS AND SPECIAL DATES

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| FEBRUARY | African-American History Month |
| February 5 | Communion and Worship Service,
11:00 a.m., Sunday school at 9:45 a.m.,
Worship Center |
| February 12 | Worship Service, 11:00 a.m., Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., Worship Center, Dr. Donald Rumbaugh will lead the service. |
| February 14 | Valentine's Day |
| February 19 | Transfiguration Sunday |
| | Worship Service, 11:00 a.m., Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., Worship Center |
| February 20 | President's Day |
| February 22 | ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, 7:00 p.m.,
Worship Center. Join us as we begin our
Journey through Lent. |
| February 26 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Worship Service, 11:00 a.m., Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., Worship Center |

MISSIONS

ACROSS THE STREET
AND AROUND THE WORLD



Beaver-Butler Presbytery
Serving God...Serving You



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET DRIVE:

Looking for the perfect valentine gift?? Share the gift of warmth and shelter when you donate \$5 toward the purchase of a wool blanket through Church World Service.

When difficult times happen, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. That's why the CWS Blankets program was created—to give a kind, loving and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time, reminding them that they are not alone.

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 months of February and March.



SALVATION ARMY: Doris Allison reports that a total of \$10,213.85 was donated to the Slippery Rock Salvation Army during the 2022 Bell Ringing Season. Thank you to those who volunteered to man the kettle on December 23. Unfortunately the weather was too bad for us to ring the bell that day but it seemed that we had larger donations on the 22nd than normal...all those people who shopped a day early because of the impending weather.



Thank you, Doris, for your work in scheduling us for our time slots and for your work as the treasurer for the SR Salvation Army. Doris also is responsible for the counting of the money along with her assistant, Ruth Keith.



FPC PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: The women met in December and made favors for Meals on Wheels patrons and enjoyed some Christmas fun. The group donated \$100 each to the Salvation Army and the New Castle City Rescue Mission. PW will resume meeting in March.

As the new year begins, it is time to think about the purposeful work of our Per Capita contributions. Which leads to the question **“WHAT IS PER CAPITA?”**

Per Capita is an annual per member apportionment (**\$43.77 for 2023**) that funds presbytery, synod, and general assembly efforts.

\$31.52 annual contribution to support Presbytery infrastructure necessary for mission in Beaver and Butler Counties

\$2.40 annual contribution to the Synod, which consists of 16 Presbyteries across Pennsylvania and parts of West Virginia and Ohio

\$9.85 annual contribution to the Office of General Assembly, which supports our Synods, Presbyteries, and over 10,000 congregations.

Please place your Per Capita Apportionment in the offering plate or mail in (877 Franklin Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057) by February 28.

Give your share.
Stronger together. Beaver-Butler congregations.

For more information about Per Capita and how it is assessed and allocated in Beaver-Butler Presbytery call 724-452-7515 or visit beaverbutler.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The Adult Sunday School will explore God's call to his followers with lessons from 1 Corinthians, 2 Timothy, James and 1 Peter. The theme is that we are to live as chosen, royal, holy people, called out of darkness into God's light. The class meets at 9:45 each Sunday morning for Bible study and discussion.

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The young adults Sunday school class will be learning different teachings from Jesus' ministry. The students will learn how to connect with Jesus' teachings about God's love, their faith, and treatment of others, enabling them to live out these teachings in their lives. The class meets each week at 9:45 a.m.

I GO TO SING

By Lindy Thompson

I might be exhausted and the children might be cranky, but I will be going to church on Sunday.

Don't know who is preaching, doesn't matter – the sermon may be helpful or not, holds my attention or doesn't – it's the singing.

I go to sing.

I get up, get clean, get dressed, possibly get mad (at not-ready kids, at empty coffee pot, at traffic), get going, get there, get seated, get comfortable, get focused, and when the music starts, get saved. It's the singing.

I go to sing.

It's the willingness to stand if you are able, the common agreement on page number, the voluntary sharing of songbooks with people on your row, even ones you rode there with – but most of all, it's the collective in-breath before the first sound is made, the collective drawing upon the grace of God, the collective, if inadvertent, admission that we are all human, all fragile, all in need of the sustaining air, freely dispensed, all in need of each other to get the key right and not sound discordant – it's the hidden life-celebration in the act of making a joyful noise, all together. We don't even have to sound that good. Singing together still brings home the "we-ness" of worship, the "not-alone-ness" of life in God, the best of all we have to offer each other.

When we are singing, I think that I might actually be able to forgive you for being so terribly human, and you might be able to forgive me for being so terribly not there yet, and we might be able to find peace now, not postpone it for some heavenly hereafter, but live and breathe it today, drawing in the grace of God, voicing out our need and hope and gratitude and longing.

When we are singing, I can feel the better world coming, and if I get to be a part of it, you do too . . .so sing with me, and we'll make our way down that blessed road together, collectively better than we ever thought possible.

LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATIVE EVENT

PRESENTED BY
BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY

Sunday, March 19, 2-5 p.m.
Registration—1:45 p.m.

Cost: \$5 per person

Registration to open soon!

More Information to Follow



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*



John 3:16

Anne D.
April and Todd Bentley
Bonnie of Georgia
Christy Francine
The Alben Family
Leslie Alford
The Allison Family
Jane Allison
Carly Atkisson
Zachary Barto
Jan Bloom
Candy Boulanger
Kayla Brundige
Tyler Burson
Joanne Campbell
Martie Cooper
Phyllis Cooper
Louise Corbett
Jeff & Cindy Cross
Heather Datt
William Datt
Jim Dickey
Mark Doerr
Blanche English
Jennifer Gilliland
Donna Grossman
Chris Hogg

Timothy James
Rev. & Mrs. William Jamieson
Jesse Kelley
Graham Larimore
Landry Lawson
Ed Lind
Joe Lowers
Amber Matteo
Will McCoy
Mary Messer
Kevin Michael
The Family of Richard Montgomery
Willard Morse
Randy Morgan
David Parker
Bernie Rihel
Bill & Chris Schroeder
Cindy Solman's Mother & Sister
George Sonnet & Family
Joe Vivelo
Seth Vogan
Donna Walker
Joan West
Michelle Whitehouse
Woman from Michigan
Our military at home & abroad

Persecuted Christians around the world
Alpha Omega Center
Feed My Sheep Food Cupboard
Beaver Butler Presbytery
Cooperstown Church Family
Friendship Church Family
S. R. Community Nursery School
Trevor Wood's Ministry

All those who have been Impacted by COVID19.

All those impacted by mass shootings in the United States.

The people of Ukraine and Russia, their leaders, the world leaders and the world's people.



DON'T WANT CHURCH TO FEEL LIKE A ROUTINE?

- Pray before you go there. Ask God to speak to you.
- Listen to worship music on the way.
- Take a Bible with you, instead of relying on the screens.
- Don't run late.
- Sing loudly like you mean it.
- Take notes.
- Expect God to move.



BIRTHDAYS

Fred Barron, 2/1
Bernie Rihel, 2/5
Don Bickel, 2/10
Evelyn Vargo, 2/21
Daniel Sybert, 2/27
Paul Yanosy, 2/29

ANNIVERSARY

Bill & Gail Kreuzer,
2/15



And now these three remain:



but the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

From a Facebook post.
Submitted by Ruth Keith

On the Road Again



JUNE 8-9, 2023
2 Days - 1 Night



Live on Stage at:



Tour Cost: \$370 per person double occupancy
\$360 per person triple occupancy (two beds)
\$350 per person quad occupancy (two beds)
\$425 per person single occupancy

Tour Includes: Roundtrip motorcoach transportation
One night accommodations Country Inn & Suites
One Breakfast - Day 2, Country Inn & Suites
Lunch - Day 2, Shady Maple Smorgasbord (Awesome!)
Dinner—Day 1, Amish Home Family-Style
Sight and Sound Theatre – **MOSES**
Bird-In-Hand Bakery (Goodies)
New Holland Agriculture Tour / Harrisburg Capitol Tour
All taxes, meal gratuities.

Deposit Due: \$50.00 per person to guarantee your reservation

Balance Due: Friday, May 5, 2023

Checks Payable: Jeff Cross

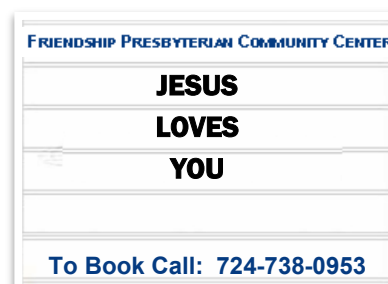
Forward to: Jeff Cross
328 South Main Street
Harrisville, PA 16038

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

LOOK FOR THE SIGN!

Submitted by Evelyn Vargo

When driving past the Community Center don't forget to watch for the signs of humor and encouragement.



JUST FOR FUN

Children of the LIGHT

This craft celebrates that now we are light in the Lord (see Ephesians 5:8).

What you need:

- A gallon zip-top plastic bag
- Permanent markers (dark colors)
- Black construction paper
- White cardstock
- Scissors

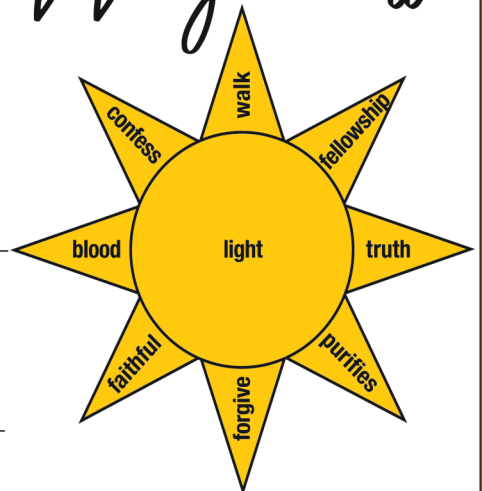
What you do:

1. Draw a self-portrait on the outside of the bag. Add details.
2. Insert the black paper and set the bag flat on a table. It should be tough to see your picture now.
3. On the white cardstock, draw a picture of a flashlight with a long beam of light coming out. Color the flashlight but leave the beam white.
4. Cut out the flashlight and light beam. Place them in the bag, over the black paper. When the white beam covers the black background under your picture, you can see your self-portrait clearly.



The light of forgiveness

The Lord is full of mercy and light. What happens when we confess our sins to God?



Directions:

Use the coded shapes to fill in the blanks and complete 1 John 1:7-9, NIV.

But if we _____ in the _____, as he is in the _____,
 we have _____ with one another, and the _____
 of Jesus, his Son, _____ us from all sin. If we claim to be
 without sin, we deceive ourselves and the _____ is not in us.
 If we _____ our sins, he is _____ and just and will
 _____ us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

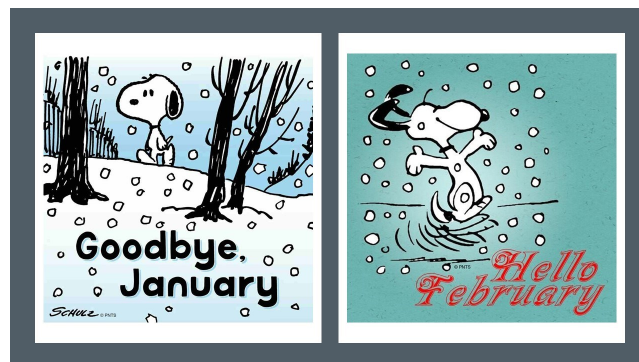
1 JOHN 1:7-9, NIV

Answer: walk, light, light, fellowship, blood, purifies, truth, confess, faithful, forgive





FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
877 Franklin Road
Slippery Rock, PA 16057



**SUBMITTED BY
HEATHER DATT**