

The Rolling Stone

March 2017



Deacon News:

Save the date for the Family Reunion Pot Luck Lunch: March 26 after Worship Service.

Following is a letter from one of the Deacons which has an inspiring message for our congregation:

Doug, the kids and I are so grateful to have such a wonderful church family and community to share our lives with.

We truly feel that you are all family to us. We have been blessed with you all since 2003. Doug and I were married in this church. Our kids have been baptized here too. I'm truly happy to be a Deacon and help in any way I can.

Feel free to read or not, for I have something weighing on my mind.

I pray that we can all unite together and make a serious drive to keep our church flourishing. These times are hard and we are struggling. Pastor Scott has done a great job keeping our church together thus far.

We need to pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee, for their task to find a suitable replacement is not an easy thing.

We all need to keep an open mind and open hearts for what I consider a new generation of Sampson's Mills.

Most people are used to tradition, as am I.

I grew up in a Presbyterian Church very similar. My mother was a secretary and my father was on session and did numerous jobs around the church. There was a Women's Federation over 75 holding lunches, dinners and hosting a strawberry festival. I remember washing the "good china" labeled in gold VPS. Those days I will never forget.

I am set in my ways with this, but as I grow older, I see the shift of the times. We need to expand and entice a younger generation to grow our congregation. As the years go on, the Christian Faith is declining in the sense of "Sunday church". People still have faith and belief of Jesus, but time, family, jobs, sports, drama, etc. stands in the way. It is my hope and prayer that we can rebuild our church. I also feel that we can utilize our property for the church/community benefit. We have space ... let's use it.

We all need to reach out to the community. We are all diverse beings in the times that come. I feel that our church can continue with its original tradition and bring a new twist without pushing away what is known to us.

A very smart member said to me a year or so ago and I will never forget: "is next generation will be the next to fill the pews. Let's give them a reason to.

Prayers and blessings beyond,
Heather Butker



If you have any photos, movies or anything regarding our Church's history please bring to the luncheon for all to enjoy.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

Just to keep everyone up-to-date with the Church finances:

First, we still owe \$1,400 to Presbytery for per capita from 2016.

Second, we have only collected \$900 for per capita for 2017, and that bill will be due shortly.

Third, for the month of January we are already behind in collections by \$1,500.

Fourth, in order to just make payroll, we need to collect \$2,981.00 each week.

To cover payroll and building and grounds we need to collect \$3,873 each week.

Finally, to cover all the church expenses we need to collect \$4,345 each week.

You can find the weekly collection from the prior Sunday on the back cover of the weekly bulletin.

I think we all need to encourage those folks that do not attend regularly to please do so. Tell them we miss them, and need them. Ask them if they are okay? What can we do for them? Whatever you can think of that will move someone to come to church.

In addition, any ideas for fund raisers would be helpful. We have coming up; the Flea Market in May, June is the Strawberry Festival, and the Mystery Dinner in October.

Respectfully submitted,

Yours serving Christ, Jesus
Leonard (Butch) Andrews
Chair of Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Fellowship Ministry Team raised \$148.00 with the Valentine' Day Candy Sale and the basket and wreath raffle. Liz Jones won the basket and Patti Macey won the wreath made by Nancy Swanson. Thanks to all who helped by buying candy and raffle tickets.

Bob Levkus is going to make new arrangements for the sides of the Altar table with the proceeds.

We are going to have another candy sale for St. Patrick's Day. There is an order sheet on the Narthex table for Luscious Lime St. Patrick's Day Popcorn, Lime Swirl Fudge and Mint Chocolate Fudge. Orders will be ready for pickup on Sunday, March 12.

FOODBANK NEWS

I bet you thought that you wouldn't hear from me again!! But Jolene is lying on the beach in Florida. The big thing to announce is that *Tips for Cops* is coming up at Twin Oaks Restaurant on Monday, February 27. Many of you have already generously contributed auction baskets for this evening. This is our #1 fund-raiser for the year. Please come out and join us and have a good meal and support the Food Bank.



Blessings, Kathy



TWO LITER DIME CHALLENGE

Here is a challenge! We'll call it *#The Two Liter Dime Challenge*. There is a two liter bottle in the Narthex. Let's fill it up with dimes. By the time it is filled we should have around \$500. Let's get our Boiler Campaign off to a great start! (Would anyone be interested in making a matching donation of the amount of dimes collected? If so, please see Butch Andrews or Pastor Scott).

LADIES BREAKFAST CLUB ... Please join the Ladies Breakfast Club on the first Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Denny's in North Versailles.

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP ... Please join the Men's Breakfast Fellowship on the first Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at King's Restaurant on Route 30. All are welcome.

THE MILLER'S DAUGHTERS BOOK CLUB ... The Miller's Daughters Book Club meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.. Call Linda Lawrence for more information.

CHURCH CALENDAR ... The church calendar can be viewed at any time on the church website at <http://sampsomsmills.org>.

	Open	Close	Offering Counters	Greeters
March 5	B. Rhodes	S. Lawrence	R. Peters, K. Tomko, F. Gilchrist	J. Harrison, J. VanMeter, T. Hillmar, J. Butker
March 12	L. Jones	C. Rost	R. Peters, K. Tomko, F. Gilchrist	"
March 19	D. Tomko	C. Graham	B. James, S. Lawrence	"
March 26	G. Lepsch	B. Andrews	J. Williamson, S. Lawrence	"



We have a lot going on in March!!



Sundays from 1:00 - 2:30

March 5 - Working our way through Mark

March 10/11 - Rescheduled Lock-in! See Bekah for details.

March 12 - NO YOUTH GROUP

March 19 - Mark!

March 26 - We Love Mark!!



June 18 - 24, 2017

We are going to help Peniel Bible Camp in Lake Luzerne, NY.
See Bekah or grab a Mission trip packet under the big calendar!

Wednesdays from 5:00 - 7:00

March 1 - NO YOUTH CLUB - Ash Wednesday

March 8 - Taco Bar

March 15 - PB and J Bar

March 22 - Corn Dogs and salad

March 29 - Pizza



Some poems by the 2nd and 3rd graders of Youth Club

Me and God are alike
We both give smiles to everyone we meet.
He and me both have kind hearts
He takes care of me and I repay with love.
I love Him and He loves me
I'm happy that He brought me here.

Pray to God and he also takes care of us.
Also he gives us food and water.
He lets us go to school and learn.
God made us who we are.

God is good, God is great
God we glorify you!
God you give us food and water.
You are the best ever.
Cha, Cha, Cha.



crestfield Women's Retreat: April 21-23

Rev. Caitlin Werth, from Foundation of H.O.P.E, a prison ministry, will lead us as we explore what it looks like to say "no" and how to take care of ourselves in our busy world. This year we look forward to doing all our favorite free time activities and some new ones as well, guided painting, zip lining, pottery (which we can fire and glaze) and more!

See Bekah because spaces fill quickly!



This year we are trying to get together an adult mission trip. Whoever goes will be going up to a YoungLife camp for an experience you won't soon forget. If you have a heart for Jesus, Babies, and helping teens meet Christ then this is the trip for you! August 4-9 come help teen moms hear about Jesus in a way they haven't before. While they do that (and other fun things), we will be caring for their children (ages 2 months-4 years). We will have worship, delicious food, and an amazing view for a week. See Bekah for more info!



Vacation Bible School—July 10—14, 2017.

Keep a look out for more information.



Lent is almost here. We have 2 different series happening.

Pastor Scott will be doing a Lent Sunday School (Beginning March 5) at 9:30 about the Psalms.

Also Wednesday's Starting March 8th we will be having multi-generation activities:

March 8 - 7:15- Food of the Bible - Come eat food Jesus would have eaten and hear all about them!
Mr Jules Simon will be regaling us with his knowledge!

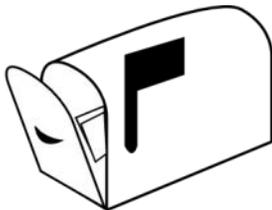
March 15 - Reflect, Renew, Refresh - Come to the sanctuary anytime between 7:15 and 9:00. Come be refreshed while listening to some quiet music, renew your soul with either a suggested thought or scripture. This is your time with Jesus.

March 22- Prayer labyrinth - A labyrinth is not a maze. In a labyrinth there is a clear path in and out. The labyrinth will assist people in Christian meditation and prayer. In the Middle Ages the labyrinths were used as a way for people to participate in a pilgrimage without the expense or time required in actually going to another place. Labyrinths were created on the floors of cathedrals to help draw people into meditation. There will be age appropriate "meditations".

March 29 - Reflect, Renew, Refresh- 7:15-9:00

April 5 - A Seder meal. (Or as we might know it the Passover meal) The purpose of a Seder meal is to give us the opportunity to recall the dramatic and miraculous events which led to the exodus from Egypt. There are ways for all ages to participate.

April 12- 7:00-9:00 - Reflect, Refresh, Renew - Begin to prepare our hearts for things to come.



NOTE!
ADDRESS CHANGE

Barbara Kiser
2053 Naomi Avenue
Glassport, PA 15045

Doris Mundorf
ManorCare Health Services
505 Weyman Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236



Sampson's Mills Presbyterian Church

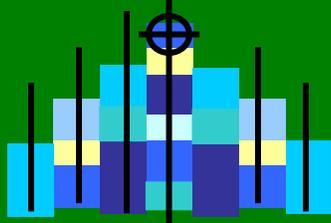
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Worship Sunday at 11:00 am
The Reverend Scott E. Dennis



Mission Statement

Continuing the mission of Jesus Christ,
Through the Holy Spirit,
We seek to cause God joy
By connecting people to Christ and to each other
in ways which display the Kingdom and give honor to God