

The PRESBY POST



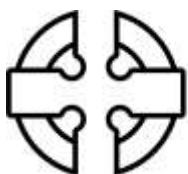
A PUBLICATION OF THE STATE COLLEGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA



JANUARY 2024

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STATE COLLEGE
**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

A New Year 2024!

We Welcome Heike Burghart Rice to our Staff!

As we enter a new year we are blessed to welcome our new Director of Music Ministry, **Heike Burghart Rice**. She holds both a Master of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts in organ performance. Heike comes to us from past positions in a variety of denominations, working with adults and children as singers and instrumentalists. She believes “that a church can use music to convey truths about God, to set the scene for the narrative, as a vehicle of our expressions towards God and each other, as a means of catharsis, as a teaching tool for young and old, for comfort and joy, or just for fun.”

Heike is no stranger to us as she has been our guest pianist/organist for worship (most recently for this past August), special services and has been a guest organist for our Advent organ recitals. You may have also heard her lovely voice as she plays — she sang the anthem one Sunday in August.

Heike and Sarah Gen, with their three children have lived in State College since 2020.

Please join us in the Social Hall following worship on

January 14 for a reception to welcome Heike.



Thank you to Austin Norrid and Aaron King!

We are so grateful for the leadership of Austin Norrid (Interim Choir Director) and Aaron King (LOGOS Worship Skills). Their leadership this fall enabled us to search seamlessly for a new permanent Director of Music Ministry. Thank you!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



- Sunday, January 7, 2024** — 9:00 am
Baptism of the Lord ~ Communion
Rev. John Porter, preaching
- Sunday, January 14, 2024** — 9:00 am
Rev. John Porter, preaching
- Sunday, January 21, 2024** — 9:00 am
Rev. Allison Maus, preaching
- Sunday, January 28, 2024** — 9:00 am
John Porter, preaching
- Annual Congregational Meeting**—10:00 am

**SCPC Hosts the Presbytery of
Huntingdon Meeting on
Saturday, January 27**

PNC Update



Since starting on April 10th, our PNC fellowship has met more than thirty times in our search process. We are grateful for the prayers and support of the congregation, and support from our staff over these past eight months or so. We believe with your continued patience and God's grace and guidance our discernment and our effort will bring the right pastor to our church.

We started receiving candidates' information in June and since then we have reviewed 75 PDPs (Pastor Discernment Profiles). We started interviewing candidates in August and have had first and second round pastor meetings through November. We are finalizing our next steps as the field of nominees narrows. We will continue to evaluate PDPs as they come in so that we miss no potential leader for our congregation.

We will keep the congregation updated through these monthly reports and during worship. We appreciate the continued support and prayers of Session and the congregation.

Finally, I'm thankful for the diligent, open, and thoughtful work of our PNC members. – Bob Igo, Chair

PNC members: Jamie Bauman, Bob Igo, Rob Leicht, Laura Millard, Jerry Sawyer, Katie Stone, and Steve Van Hook

*if you are in the hospital
or know of someone in the
hospital who would
appreciate a visit, please let
the church office know -
814-238-2422.*



In the Hospital

State College Presbyterian Church Staff

- Interim Senior Pastor**—Rev. John Porter
pastorjohnporterscpc@gmail.com Ext. 204
 - Associate Pastor in Campus & Young Adult Ministries**—
Rev. Allison Maus
allisonscpc@gmail.com Ext. 209
 - Director of Education & Program**—Deannine Shipman
deanninescpc@gmail.com Ext. 213
 - Director of Music Ministry**—Heike Burghart Rice
musicministryscpc@gmail.com Ext. 208
 - Director of Youth Ministry**—Reed Dressler
youthministryscpc@gmail.com Ext. 206
 - Membership & Program Associate**—Martha Trout
marthascpc@gmail.com Ext. 202
 - Mission Associate**—Cricket Hunter
missionatscpc@gmail.com Ext. 205
 - Church Secretary**—Laura Green
officescpc@gmail.com Ext. 201
 - Financial Administrator**—Michelle Fortin
finadmsscpc@gmail.com Ext. 207
 - Assistant Financial Administrator**—Anne Thomas
annespc@gmail.com Ext. 207
 - Chrysalis Coordinator (middle school)**—Laura Essinger-Hileman
scpcchrysalis@gmail.com
 - Technology Coordinator**—Michael McGillian
 - Stay & Play Preschool Director**—Laura Seeley
stayandplayscpc@gmail.com Ext. 221
 - Stay & Play Preschool Administrative Assistant**—Dianna Danko
stayandplayassistant@gmail.com Ext. 221
 - Kitchen Coordinators**—Mike and Amy Gordon
 - Building Manager**—Todd Hockenberry
bldgmgrscpc@gmail.com Ext. 210
 - Assistant Custodian**—Chelsea Hockenberry
asstcustodianscpc@gmail.com
- _____
- Phone (814) 238-2422 Fax (814) 238-3524
Website - www.scpresby.org

All in the Family

Sympathy of the congregation to family and friends on the death of:

- Nancy Harlow, November 21, 2023

Follow Joel Blunk's health challenge progress at <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/thehikewithjoelblunk>



New Member

Iouri Soukhov joins us by Confession of Faith and will be baptized in February. Iouri is of Russian origin and was educated in the former USSR. He studied and did research in Mathematics at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. He is a fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and has joined the research faculty in the Department of Mathematics at Penn State. He has been influenced by the Russian Orthodox church, and worshiped in the Anglican church while in England. Iouri has experienced pivotal changes in our world from a unique perspective and has many fascinating stories from that experience. He has been worshipping at State College Presbyterian Church since September of 2023. Iouri has been led to confirm his belief in God as revealed in



Iouri "Yuri" Soukhov
601 Vairo Blvd., Apt. 824A
State College, PA 16803

Christ formally seeking baptism and membership.

Family Fellowship Lunch

You are invited to join us on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 11:15 am-12:15 pm in the Social Hall for a Family Fellowship Lunch. The goal of these lunches is to create opportunities for families at all stages of life to gather, connect, and share a meal together.

January 14th | February 11th |
March 10th | April 14th

Pizza and beverages will be provided. A jar will be available if you'd like to make a donation to help cover costs. (Feel free to contact us or bring your own food if you have dietary restrictions).



Please RSVP by the Thursday before each date by texting Danielle Rhubarb (315-408-8637).

Explore 2024

State College Presbyterian Church's faith enrichment and confirmation program **Explore** is back in 2024. All High School Youth are invited to take this faith journey.



Our Youth will be paired with dedicated mentors and will have opportunities to learn from our staff members. We will have an informational meeting on **January 14th**. On **January 19-21**, there will be a retreat at Krislund. After the retreat, **our Explore team will meet at the church during lunch for the next five Sundays** to learn, discuss, and have fun. Our Youth are invited to participate and grow regardless of whether they ultimately decide to become members. If you know a High Schooler who could benefit from a time of spiritual growth and connection, let their family know they can contact the church's Director of Youth Ministry, Reed Dressler, at youthministryscpc@gmail.com to learn more about the Explore program.

January 28th @6pm
Fireside Room
Enjoy a great movie with even better discussion!

WATCH PARTY

THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL

A Wes Anderson film filled with humor, capers, fascism. You won't want to miss it!

yo pros
young professionals @ SCPC

A group for grad students and other young professionals

January 8th- Theology unTapped
7-9pm @McLanahan's

January 10th- Game Night
6-9pm @SCPC
Fireside Room

Invitation
to join the Church
On the
"Second Sunday"



Anyone interested in joining our congregation is invited to join the church on the second Sunday of each month.
Come to Pastor John's Office on Sunday, January 14 at 10:15 am
Questions? Contact Martha Trout, Membership & Program Associate

marthascpc@gmail.com or 814-238-2422



Krislund is in search of some volunteers that may be interested in getting involved at Krislund! There are a few committees that they are trying to fill some spots on. These committees meet in a hybrid format with access to Zoom or in person. Please see the list below. If you are interested or would like more information contact the office 814-422-8878 option 5 or send an email to campdirector@krislund.org.

Grant Task Force - This group is looking for people with connections in the community and a willingness to help research grant opportunities. (No grant experience necessary.)

Program Committee - This committee will be discussing and helping develop programming in partnership with churches to help further address needs in our churches. It can be a session or elders retreat, confirmation retreat and other opportunities to be a resource for our churches. This committee works closely with the Krislund staff.

Individuals - Individuals that have the following experience/careers to be on committees and potential future board members:

- Marketing
- Engineering/Construction
- Non Profit Legal
- Fundraising

Thank you!

JANUARY

Birthdays

January 1	Cyril Fubin Kumachang			
January 3	Don Gross Danielle Rhubarb			
January 4	Amy Elliott Kent Matsueda			
January 5	Donna Heebner Grace Manno			
January 7	Greg Elliott David Klementik Esther Olson			
January 8	Bruce Grinder Lou Klindienst Cam Richardson			
January 9	Debbie Anderson Peggy Moyer Beth Musser Kirstie Yerka			
January 10	Jill Anderson Carolyn Cole Jeri Elder DeeAnn Wylie Laura Robinson			
January 12	Diana Malcom			
January 13	Greg Tothoro			
January 14	Rob Ceres Maureen Garthwaite			
January 15	Bill Nichol			
January 16	Dave Atkins Barbara Huffard			
January 17	Mac Heebner			
January 18	Dennis Calvin Mark Maughmer			
January 19	Ron Haring Blair Malcom Kristin Nasal Linda Steffee			
January 21	Bill Hanson Emma McLaughlin			
January 23	Katie Blume Marilyn Jenkins Ed Keller			
January 24	Jill Curley			
January 25	Jim Thies			
January 27	Ginny Rainey			
January 28	Paul Freije Louise Tukey			
January 29	Ben Tolton Jenny Van Hook		January 30	Dan Shoffner
			January 31	Ellen Rom



With opportunities to **pray**, to **donate**, and to **act**, there are ways for every one of us to contribute to the work of responding to needs in our community and our world.

God, in the freshness of the new year, may my words and deeds serve as prayers. Help me walk toward the full, beloved community of Your kin-dom.

Out of the Cold ~ From January 29 - February 4,

State College Presbyterian Church is committed to provide hot dinners, warm conversations, and drop-off-ahead breakfasts for our neighbors at Out of the Cold in their new location at 318 S. Atherton St., just a few blocks from the church.

The Social Justice and Mission team will provide dinner and visiting the first night, and we're looking for individuals and small groups to cover other nights.

We know the location is new, and we're committed to helping everyone get oriented. We'll have a directions video for you before we start, and SJMT will have one person on hand at the beginning of every evening.

[Click here](#) to volunteer for meals, serving and visiting, or get the information you need to organize your small group. Dinner for 25, served at 7:00 pm, visiting until 9:00 pm.



The Juniper Village Block Party needs YOU!

We are looking for:

- **PARTICIPANTS of all ages**, on the first Sunday afternoons of February, April, June, August, October, and December (the even-numbered months). Plan to join the crew at Juniper Village on Sunday, February 4th, 2:45-4:00 for the first block party of 2024. Participants are always welcome to join early for the 1:45 viewing of the morning's service, just before the party.
- **A TEAM LEADER for each month to:**
 - Check in with Juniper staff a week or two ahead of time
 - Choose a theme and recruit a few others to help with:
 - Snack
 - Drinks
 - An optional shared activity
 - A little music to share (live or karaoke style)

Bizz Maser has created a guide that makes it all easy. [Reach out to Cricket](#) as soon as you sign up. [VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

Adult Ed Resources

Nearly all of us will need **support navigating difficult health issues** ourselves, or want to support someone else who is doing so.

On Sunday, December 10, Adult Ed hosted Dr. Chris Calkins, who [shared three handouts](#) — his recent Centre Daily Times article, a page of questions to ask before surgery, and a double-sided page of ways to support loved ones who are navigating major health challenges (and the health care system). Chris has kindly given us permission to share with the congregation. [You can find and download all three PDFs here.](#)





**Adult Explorations
for January
Meets at 10:15 am
Following Worship**

January 7 ~ “The Epiphany in Art”, led by Heather Bruhn, in Westminster Hall

The word “epiphany” signifies “the sudden realization or comprehension of the (larger) essence or meaning of something”. In Christianity, Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Christ to the Magi, and ultimately, the gentile world. Art historian Heather Bruhn leads us through an exploration of how the Epiphany of Christ has been represented in art.

January 14 ~ “The Bible Project” led by Bob Igo in Westminster Hall

Many people have misunderstood the Bible as a collection of inspirational quotes or a divine instruction manual. Most of us gravitate toward sections we enjoy while avoiding parts that are confusing or even disturbing.

“The Bible Project” is an organization devoted to helping people experience the Bible in a way that is approachable, engaging, and transformative by showcasing the literary art of the Scriptures and tracing biblical themes from beginning to end. Bob Igo will share about this resource and how it can be used by small groups.

January 21 ~ “Hope”, led by Paul Mortimore, in Westminster Hall

Paul Mortimore will lead us in a Bible study and reflection on the topic of hope. What do you think when you think about tomorrow? Next week? Next month? Next year? Do you look at the future with positive expectation? Or not? Let's talk about 'Hope' this week.

January 7, 14, 21 ~ “Connect” ~ led by Zack Maser, Jamie Bauman, and Laura Millard in Room 10

Connect is an invitation to deepen your relationship with others and with God by contemplating scripture, lyrics, writing, poetry, and other topics of interest through small group discussions. This is meant to be a time to sit with questions without needing the answers, speak from the heart, pray, meditate, reflect, and be changed by the stories and sharing of others. Anyone with a desire to Connect more deeply, whether you are a believer or unsure what you believe, is invited to join us. Come as you are to listen, share, grow, and be!

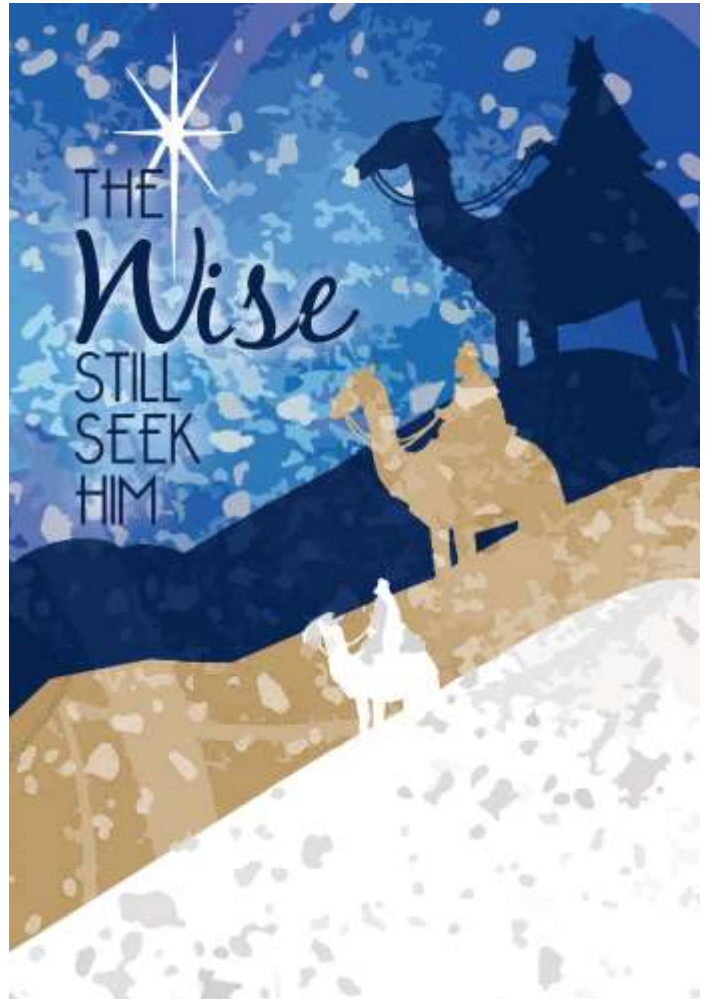
January 28~ NO Adult Ed—Annual Congregational Meeting

**Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 10:00 am**

We will:

- Receive annual reports of staff, ministry units, and church groups
- Receive the annual budget and financial reports

Congregational Meeting






Updating our Membership Directory

We are still in need of many updated photos for our new Online Membership Directory.

Additional photo opportunities may be added but you are welcome to submit a photo. We want a family photo AND individual photos of folks. When taking a family photo, please be sure to have everyone as close together as possible (using two levels if more than 2 in the photo) as the space for a photo in our database is quite small. We'll be letting you know how to access the Membership Directory in the new year.

Send your photo to marthascpc@gmail.com.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 7 Communion 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Exploration Hour 10:15 am YoPro Bible-TR 11:00 am Deacons-MR	1 Church Building Closed  8 5:00 pm Worship Ministry 6:00 pm Scouts-WH 6:30 pm SJMT-Z 7:00 pm Men's Bible-FR 7:00 pm Scouts Den-10&11 7:00 pm Centering Prayer-Z 7:00 pm Theology un Tapped-McClanahans 7:00 pm Youth Ministry Advisory Committee-Z	2 10:00 am Staff Meeting 9 10:00 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Cong. Prayer-Z 4:00 pm LOGOS Geckos 4:30 pm Membership-MR 5:15 pm LOGOS Chrysalis 7:00 pm Personnel-MR 7:30 pm Handbell Choir	3 12:30 pm Wednesday in the Word-Zoom/FR 6:00 pm FISH Leaders 6:00 pm PNC Rm 10 8:00 pm Women's Fellowship —Federal Taphouse	4 7:00 pm Men's Covenant Group-MR 7:00 pm Chancel Choir 11 6:00 pm PSF-FR 7:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm Adult Ed-Z 7:00 pm Finance-Z	5 12 11:30 am-GIFT Book Club-FR 19 Explore Retreat PresbyPost Deadline	6 20 Explore Retreat 6:00 pm YoPro Game Night-FR 27 9:00 am Huntingdon Presbytery Meeting at SCPC
14 Explore Info Meeting 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Exploration Hour 10:15 Invitation to Join-Pastor John's Office 10:15 am YoPro Bible-TR 11:15 am Family Fellowship Lunch—SH 11:30 am Session-MR	15 7:00 pm Centering Prayer-Z 22 7:00 pm Scout Den-10 & 11 7:00 pm Scouts-WH 7:00 pm Centering Prayer-Z 7:00 pm Men's Bible-FR 7:00 pm EMU-Z	16 8:00 am B&P-Rm 10 9:00 am SMART Work Day 10:00 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Cong. Prayer-Z 4:00 pm LOGOS Geckos 5:15 pm LOGOS Chrysalis 7:30 pm Handbell Choir	17 12:30 pm Wednesday in the Word-Zoom/FR 6:00 pm FISH 6:00 pm PNC Rm 10 8:00 pm Women's Fellowship —Federal Taphouse	18 6:00 pm PSF-FR 7:00 pm Men's Covenant Group-MR 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	26 FR= Fireside Rm MR= Martin Rm WH= Westminster Hall SH= Social Hall TR= Tower Rm Z= Zoom	
21 Explore Retreat 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Exploration Hour 10:15 am YoPro Bible-TR	29 Host OOTC @ OOTC 7:00 pm Scout Pack-SH 7:00 pm Scouts-WH 7:00 pm Centering Prayer-Z 28 Annual Meeting Explore Sunday Meeting 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Cong. Meeting 10:00 am Exploration Hour 10:15 am YoPro Bible-TR 6:00 pm Watch Party-FR	23 10:00 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Cong. Prayer-Z 4:00 pm LOGOS Geckos 4:30 pm Presbytery Visioning-MR 5:15 pm LOGOS Chrysalis 7:30 pm Handbell Choir	24 12:30 pm Wednesday in the Word-Zoom/FR 6:00 pm FISH 6:00 pm PNC Rm 10 8:00 pm Women's Bible Study-MR	25 6:00 pm PSF-FR 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Exploration Hour: Coffee Hour Pathways, Oasis Adult Opportunities	26 31 Host OOTC @ OOTC 12:30 pm Wednesday in the Word-Zoom/FR 6:00 pm FISH 6:00 pm PNC Rm 10	

STATE COLLEGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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Ministry Assignments of Session Members - thru January 2024

Clerk of Session - Ginny Rainey

Building and Property

Scott Sesler, Chair
Carolyn Bryant
Tom Wheeler

Membership

John Marsden, Chair
Jim DeWolfe
Tom Wheeler

Personnel

Barbara Cox, Chair
Dick Bundy
Laura Robinson
Scott Sesler

Worship

Anne Layng, Chair
Dick Bundy

Financial Affairs

Jason Stimmel, Chair
Bob Igo
Meg Moose

Spiritual Life

Rob Huffard, Chair
Linda Edvar
Diana Malcom

Christian Education

Mary D'Ambrosia, Chair
Bob Igo
Amy Frank
Scott Cole

Adult Education

Jenny Van Hook, Chair

Stewardship

Carolyn Bryant
Amy Frank

Youth Ministry Advisory Committee

Diana Malcom, Chair
Scott Cole

Social Justice & Mission Team

Kim Phillips, Chair
Jim DeWolfe
Bizz Maser

Nominating

Anne Layng
Jenny Van Hook

College Age and Young Adult Ministries (CAYAM)

Laura Robinson, Chair
Barbara Cox
Jamey Perry



February PresbyPost

Friday, January 19, 2024

March PresbyPost

Friday, February 16, 2024