

The Presby Post



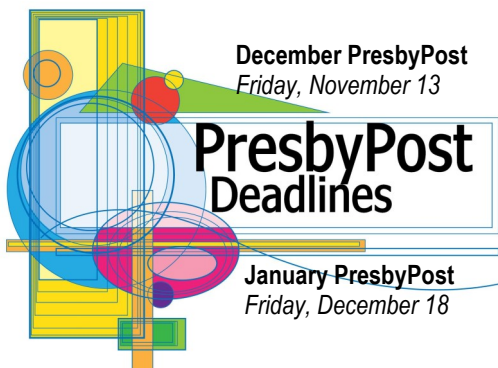
A PUBLICATION OF THE STATE COLLEGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENNSYLVANIA



NOVEMBER 2020

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worship in the sanctuary

Since the first week in July, we have been fortunate to be able to hold worship outside each Sunday morning. Now that the weather is rapidly cooling, we are making plans to come indoors. Upon the recommendation of our Medical Advisory Team, the Session has approved the start of worship in the Sanctuary beginning on All Saints Day, November 1. Of course, we must deal with the reality of the pandemic, so particular restrictions will be observed.

Worshippers will need to send an RSVP, either by email to offices-cpc@gmail.com or leave a voice mail at the church office (238-2422), preferably by Thursday prior to service. The reason for this is that if we have more worshippers than can be accommodated at a single service, we will have to make special arrangements.

Up to thirty worshippers will be widely spaced in the downstairs area of the sanctuary and an overflow of five additional worshippers in the balcony. We ask that anyone with a temperature or any suspicious symptoms not attend and that everyone wear a mask and maintain proper distance from others. As with our outdoor service, the worship will last for thirty minutes. The heat will be on in the sanctuary but also there will be outside air ventilation, so dress accordingly.



Still Here!

Stewardship Emphasis

Because of the many uncertainties that surround us these days, it's sometimes hard to make plans even a few days ahead much less months or more from now. Yet, that is what we must do in the church! We are still here, serving our community and offering our witness to the love and grace of Jesus Christ, and this important work must continue. That is why we need you to think ahead with us and help the Session plan for the coming year by making a financial pledge to support the ongoing ministries of our church in 2021. Stewardship materials have been sent out to all members and friends, and we are hoping to hear back from you by Sunday, November 8. Please mail your pledge form back to the church office or you may send an email to Michelle Fortin, our financial administrator finadmsepc@gmail.com.



Sunday, November 1st!!!



Sunday, November 1 - All Saints' Day Communion
Forgiven (Luke 7:36-50)
Dean Lindsey, preaching

Sunday, November 8
Don't Waste the Crumbs (Mark 7:24-30)
Dean Lindsey, preaching

Sunday, November 15
Freedom (Galatians 5:13-14)
Dean Lindsey, preaching

Sunday, November 22
The Hope to Which He Has Called Us
(Ephesians 1:15-20)
Dean Lindsey, preaching

Sunday, November 29 - First Sunday of Advent
Awaken to Hope (Matthew 25:1-13)
Michael Ozaki, preaching

From Financial Affairs Ministry Unit



As we head into the final quarter of the year, the Finance team would like to thank everyone for their contributions during these difficult times. Contribution statements through September 2020 have all been sent out, either electronically or via the regular mail. If anyone has any questions/did not receive their statement, needs an update or would like to request electronic statements in the future, please contact Anne (annescpc@gmail.com) or Michelle (finadmscpc@gmail.com) or

238-2422 x207 and leave a message). Final year-end contribution statements will go out in January 2021.

Just a reminder that all of our giving options are outlined on the main page of the SCPC website (scpresby.org) under the "Support Us" section. As you consider your stewardship pledge for 2021, please remember, if you are using online giving, that it may be necessary for you to log in to the system and make changes to your scheduled giving. In addition, if you have submitted a form for our ACH/direct debit option, that will continue into the new year at your current level/schedule.

Happy fall...and thank you!

Jason Stimmel, Finance Chair,
Michelle Fortin, Financial Administrator

Advent 2020 - Awaken to Joy!

Advent Begins Sunday, November 29

Advent is a very important time in the church year, as we prepare our hearts for the coming of our savior, born in Bethlehem long ago and promised to return to us in glory. This year, our celebration of Advent and Christmas will be different from years past, but already plans are well underway to lift up the joy of the season and encourage all to welcome Christ into our lives and world.

Our theme for Advent this year will be "Awaken to Joy!" as Christ summons us to awaken to joy, hope, peace, and love. The Apostle Paul writes, "You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near." We have been through many days of darkness, but the light of our savior shines for us. He is coming near!



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Advent Devotionals

Awaken "Speak Lord, your servant is listening."
1 Samuel 3:10

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

Dr. Donald Curtis, September 29, 2020

Alice Burns, September 30, 2020

Lynn Sebulsky, October 1, 2020

Jane Becker, October 8, 2020

Bob McCarty, October 26, 2020

Congratulations of the congregation on the marriage of:
Hobie Kistler and Meagan Gatti, October 3, 2020 in
Annapolis, MD

Chelsea Igo and Dylan Ishler, October 10, 2020

Advent is a time of anticipation, but so often we are not quite sure how God will show up. So we must be ready for anything! We hope to be as Samuel, hearing God calling to us in the night, responding with ears open to how God is leading each of us. To ready ourselves to hear God's nudgings we can reflect together on the noticings of God we have experienced before. We will share stories of Aha! moments and new beginnings as well as processing feelings of dread or being held back. We invite you to participate in our daily Advent devotional reflections this season, starting November 29th. You can do so in different ways, as a contributor, writing a reflection to share with others, or receiving and connecting through reading the reflections of others. Please email Allison (allisonscpc@gmail.com) to make sure you're on the list or if you have any questions.

Thank You

I want to say my sincere and heartfelt thanks to so many of you from our congregation who reached out to me and my family on the death of my mom, Eleanor Haney. She and my Dad loved this church and so many of you have such sweet stories and memories you have shared of them through the years.

Your cards and kindness mean so much to me right now. My mother was truly loved by many and shall be greatly missed.

Thank you again for lifting me up!

Deannine Haney Shipman

Another Thank You

Many thanks for making my 90th birthday so special. I received 91 beautiful cards and such nice notes to read. It was the best birthday I ever had. I had several days of opening them. I am sorry to be very late in thanking all of you. I seem to miss the PresbyPost date every month. Many thanks again for remembering me.

May God bless everyone. You are all so special to me.

Love, Janice Johnson

Election Season Prayers

Evenings at 9:00 PM, October 27 - November 9, join our virtual time of reflection with Pastor Dean, Pastor Mike, and Allison. These virtual gatherings will be brief moments of prayer, Scripture, peace, and reflections from the pastoral staff at SCPC to help us find thoughtful peace during this election season. Links will be provided via email to come, on our Facebook page, or find us on our YouTube channel @ State College Presbyterian.

Election Day Prayer Vigil

On November 3, 2020, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM, State College Presbyterian Church will be hosting a prayer vigil inviting everyone to take a posture of prayer throughout the day. This will happen in two ways, in person and virtually. We will have limited space in our sanctuary if you want to spend a short time praying there. Space will be limited, and masks and distancing will be required. There will also be a livestream option if you would like to virtually pray in the sanctuary. Link to this will be sent out via email or find it on our YouTube channel @ State College Presbyterian.

If you are available to be a host at the in-person please let Allison know via email allisonscpc@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Give online at <https://pda.pcusa.org/>



By mail

Presbyterian Church (USA)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

By telephone

Call (800) 872-3283
to give by credit card.

Text to give

Text "PDA" to 20222
to give \$25 to our General Relief account



Interfaith Human Services

The Social Justice and Mission Team met recently with the Director of Interfaith Human Services (IHS) to learn more about the services it provides and how volunteers can help provide those services. IHS helps clients with housing related issues such as security deposits, free furniture and appliances and heating bills. While IHS does offer help in emergency and crisis situations, it emphasizes helping clients get on a sustainable course by offering case management services. For example, in order to receive funds for fuel, a household member is required to attend a class on how to save energy. Clients are also offered help with money management and bill paying. IHS is supported by 22 faith communities including SCPC.

So far, the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted IHS by causing cancellation of fundraisers. At the same time, it is expected that as the CARES Act money runs out, there will be a surge in financial need by clients.

The most pressing need for volunteers at this time is for Bell Ringers for the WISHING WELL CAMPAIGN which takes place between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Other volunteer opportunities for church members include financial support, board membership, furniture pickup and office help.

Find out more at: <https://www.interfaithhumanservices.org/>



Angel Tree

As we all know, 2020 and the Covid-19 virus have brought many changes in the ways we as a church community do things. That includes the annual Angel Tree gifting. The program is being adapted to new requirements and considerations to enable all of us to be as safe and healthy as possible. As always, our gifts will support several different social service agencies in the community and county, including the Youth Service Bureau, Centre Safe, Windy Hill, Office of Aging, Centre Volunteers in Medicine, Park Forest Preschool and more. Under current plans, there will be two major ways to support the Angel Tree program. First – making a financial contribution, either by check payable to the church, with a note in the memo line “Angel Tree” or on-line, also noting the gift is for the “Angel Tree” and second – purchasing a personal gift. With a financial contribution, either gift cards or specific requested items will be purchased by the committee and delivered to the agencies. In the second option, items may also be purchased by the giver and delivered to the church for distribution. Gift suggestions are being requested from the agencies on behalf of those people for whom they provide care.

More information will become available on the Thursday email updates, the church bulletin and the December PresbyPost. Thank you for your participation and support of this important program at SCPC which benefits so many. Please contact either Carrie Miller (carriemiller@lkbbs.com or 814-441-5577) or Sharon Manno (scfaulk@comcast.net or 814-466-6098) with your questions.

Christmas Musical Plans

Plans continue to develop for our virtual Christmas Musical for children and youth from first through eighth grade. While LOGOS Geckos and Chrysalis will get information through the program, we are encouraging ALL families with first through eighth graders to join us. Our goals are to 1. tell the Christmas story, 2. involve lots of our children and youth in the project, 3. bring our congregation closer together by showing the faces and talents of our children and youth. We suggest that this be a family project because there will be a little technology involved, but also because it is a wonderful opening for families to talk about different parts of the Christmas story. Here are some of the ways to get involved.

- ♦ **Readers:** The readings are mostly scripture. Plan on practicing reading your part, then reading it while being recorded.
- ♦ **Singers:** There are numerous solos, many are Christmas carols. Ned will provide an accompaniment track for you to use for rehearsal, and when ready, use as the accompaniment to make a video. You will need one device to play the track, one device to record you, and headphones.
- ♦ **Artists:** The prophecy section of our musical will use verses of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” which include some great imagery. We will provide the verse and a matching scripture to each artist and ask them to prepare a bold and colorful picture interpreting the verses - Emmanuel, Root of Jesse, and Dayspring (dawn or sunrise).
- ♦ **Video scenes:** There are a number of scenes that we would like on video. Each scene will get its action from a scripture passage. We'll provide some directions and suggestions, but each family will have some creative latitude to create their video. Costuming is up to the creators. We request minimum costuming, but would not reject lavish designs.
- ♦ **Final Chorus Piece:** Ned has written a new song to be used as the closing. We hope that everyone will send in their recording (process described above) which will be combined into a virtual choir.

We hope you'll consider joining us on this adventure. As with many other projects in our lives right now, this is new territory. We are excited by the possibilities and the opportunity.

Questions? Contact Ned Wetherald, Director of Music Ministry (814-308-3415 or nedscpc@gmail.com).



Adult Education in November

Title: Those who Came Before: Roman, Early Christian and Medieval Tombs.

Date of Class: November 1, 2020

Location: Zoom

Description: In the Reformed tradition, All Saints' Day is a time to reflect on the faithful who have passed away. Join **Heather Bruhn** on this All Saints' Day for a (virtual) exploration of Christian tombs and graves.



Title: Living Up to Ideals - Everybody Belongs, Everybody Serves

Date of Class: November 8, 2020

Location: Zoom

Description: **Judy Vander Wilt** is on the Friendship Ministries Board, which is dedicated to including people with disabilities as equal members of the congregation. Come join Judy and her daughter, Jenny Van Hook, for a discussion and Q&A about how our church family can capitalize on everyone's gifts and break down existing barriers to doing so.



Title: Living with Autism – A Family Perspective

Date of Class: November 15, 2020

Location: Zoom

Description: 1 in 54 children in the United States are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder each year. Boys are four times more likely than girls to be diagnosed. But what does the diagnosis really mean? How does a family with Autism work? How successful are the interventions for the young ones on the spectrum and what happens to adults on the spectrum when the social services run out? Join **Laura Robinson** and her daughter **Emily**, a young woman on the spectrum, to discuss the facts, fallacies, and realities of living day to day with Autism. Parents, youth, and grandparents are all encouraged to zoom in and hear how they can help a person with Autism in their family, church family, or in their community.



Title: Targeting Religious Minorities: The Failed Promises of Religious Freedoms across the Globe

Date of Class: November 22, 2020

Location: Zoom

Description: More than 90 percent of all countries offer constitutional promises of religious freedom. Yet, the level and severity of the restrictions on religion have consistently increased for the past twenty-five years. Come join Penn State's **Roger Finke** as he discusses religious freedoms and religious minorities in America and throughout the globe.



Faith Formation at Home

From the Sunday School Department

To all parents of 3's and 4's and K-5 Grades on our church rolls:

We have been, and will continue to be, emailing all of you the Bible story for the week along with coloring pages and sometimes a video. Our hope is that you enjoy these as a family in your own time. We know that it is hard to carve out that time, but for those of you who are able, we think you will enjoy these, and in many cases, your child can read through the information on their own. Or you can gather around the table after a meal to talk through the story! It is a privilege to be able to provide stories and activities for faith formation at home!

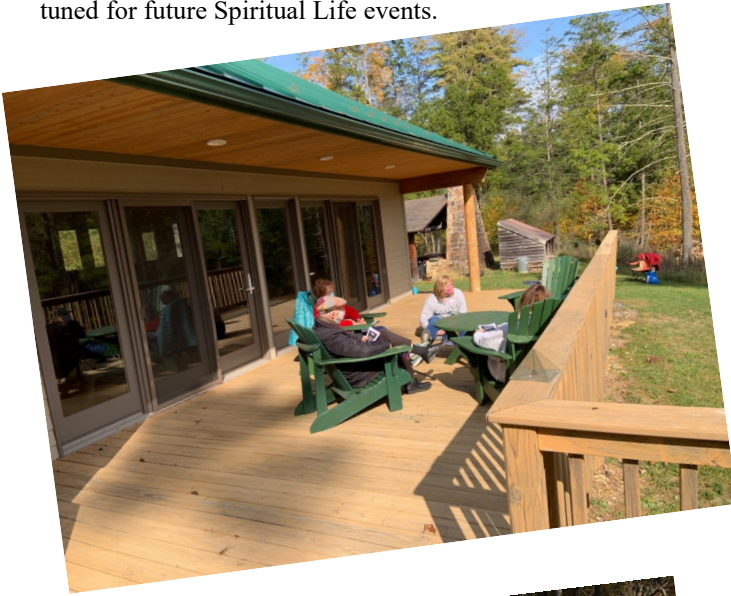
At the Time of an Election

Under your law we live, great God,
and by your will we govern ourselves.
Help us as good citizens to respect
neighbors whose views differ from ours,
so that without partisan anger,
we may work out issues that divide us,
and elect candidates to serve
the common welfare;
through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.



Jubilee Retreat

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Jubilee Retreat on October 4 at Krislund Camp. It was a lovely time of connection with new and old friends, and reflection on forgiveness and letting go. We're so glad you joined us and invite everyone to stay tuned for future Spiritual Life events.



Stay and Play Check-in

Stay and Play continues to operate and flourish in our play and learning. Parents of the children attending continue to express their joy in what we offer their children each day, as well as their confidence in our practices during this Covid pandemic. Even through all the hand washing and mask wearing, the bonds the teachers and children are building are beautiful. You can see the love and joy in the children's eyes and actions. The children have had great opportunities to practice kindness and caring for each other and other classes - sharing of materials and supplies, giving up things they enjoy to make others happy, offering kind words to cheer one another, etc. It's so wonderful to have these opportunities to work together again to practice and build our social emotional skills. Thank you, SCPC, for all your prayers and support!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion 10:00 Worship 11:00 Adult Education 12:30 Deacons Z 9:00 Prayers for our Nation 	2 12:15 Stay and Play Conferences 7:00 Centering Prayer Z 7:30 Scouts 8:00 POLO Bible Study Z 9:00 Prayers for our Nation	3 7:00 Prayer Vigil 12:00 Cong. Prayer Z 12:15 S&P Conferences 5:30 LOGOS Curbside Meal 6:30 Chrysalis 7:30 Handbell Choir	4 12:15 Stay and Play Conferences 12:30 Wednesday in The Word Z 6:30 FISH 7:00 Racial Reconciliation Z 9:00 Prayers for our Nation	5 12:15 Stay and Play Conferences 7:00 Chancel Choir (By RSVP) 9:00 Prayers for our Nation	6 9:00 Prayers for our Nation	7 9:00 Prayers for our Nation
8 10:00 Worship 11:00 Congregational Meeting Z 11:00 Adult Education 7:00 Session Z 9:00 Prayers for our Nation	9 6:00 Stay and Play Advisory Team 7:00 Centering Prayer Z 7:30 Scouts 8:00 POLO Bible Study Z 9:00 Prayers for our Nation	10 12:00 Cong. Prayer Z 12:30 S&P Staff Mtg 6:30 LOGOS Bible/Worship 6:30 Chrysalis 7:30 Handbell Choir	11 12:30 Wednesday in The Word Z 6:30 FISH	12 7:00 Chancel Choir (By RSVP)	13 PresbyPost Deadline	14
15 10:00 Worship 11:00 Adult Education	16 7:00 Centering Prayer Z 7:30 Scouts 8:00 POLO Bible Study Z	17 8:00 Building & Prop 12:00 Cong. Prayer Z 5:30 LOGOS Curbside Meal 6:30 Chrysalis 7:30 Handbell Choir	18 12:30 Wednesday in The Word Z 6:30 FISH 7:00 Racial Reconciliation Z	19 7:00 Chancel Choir (By RSVP)	20	21
22 10:00 Worship 11:00 Adult Education 	23 7:00 Centering Prayer Z 7:30 Scouts 8:00 POLO Bible Study Z	24 12:00 Cong. Prayer Z 6:30 LOGOS Bible/Worship 6:30 Chrysalis 7:30 Handbell Choir	25 Stay & Play Closed 12:30 Wednesday in The Word Z 6:30 FISH	26 	27 Church Building Closed	28
29 10:00 Worship 11:00 Adult Education 	30 7:00 Centering Prayer Z 7:30 Scouts 8:00 POLO Bible Study Z	Events followed by Z are held online via Zoom				

November





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Vol. LVIII

Number 7

Board of Deacons

Deacons are elected officers who serve three year terms.
Their responsibilities are divided into three ministry units: Service, Caregiving, Mission
Moderator - Rick Bryant

Clase of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Rick Bryant	Jamie Bachman	Scott Banfield
Tammy Colwell	Sharon Manno	Jennifer Creighton
Carol Graham	Linda McClimans	Miguel Cruden
John Marsden	Karen Neff	Mike Gordon
Tracy Massaglia	Jeff Rounsville	Julianne Mortimer
Carrie Miller	Michelle Yarwood	Vivian Noll
Rhett McLaren		Dominic Veconi
Rick Spangler		
Heather Steel		
Linda Steffee		
Brian Stone		
Lynne Verity		
DeeAnn Wylie		

Class of 2020 Youth
Jack Erickson
Marcus Wheeler

