



Pine Grove Presbyterian Church

March 2016

Pine Grove Presbyterian Church, 150 W. Pine Grove Road, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868

pinegrovepresbyterian@gmail.com

Pastors Ponderings

Reverend Carl Campbell

We are well into the Lenten Season. Easter is a few weeks away. This is the most holy, important time of the year for the Christian Faith. The events of Holy Week from the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday through the Last Supper and Jesus' arrest, beating, and crucifixion are the most critical to understanding all that Jesus did for us.

Easter Sunday when we celebrate the resurrection of the one who died for our sins is the event that has changed history. The victory over sin and death accomplished in Jesus, the Son of God, gives each of us hope for today as we live in God's grace, and for eternal life lived in the presence of God.

During Holy Week I would encourage you to read the story of what happened from the Gospel of John, chapters 18-20. In our Lord Jesus' life, death, and resurrection we have been given a great gift of love and forgiveness.

Let us share the story this year that others might find the peace and love that we have found in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Carl Campbell

Bible Study

Come join us for Bible Study every Thursday at 12pm. If you have a question about something and want to know what the Bible has to say about it, write it down and bring it and we will learn together.

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Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday (March 20):

- 9:00am – Sunday school
- 10:15am – Worship

Maundy Thursday (March 24):

- 6:30pm – “Meal in the Upper Room”
worship and communion

Good Friday (March 25):

- 7pm – St. Paul Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday (March 27):

- 6:30am – Sunrise service at top of Pine Grove mountain
- 9:00am – Sunday school
- 10:15 – Easter Worship Service
 - Easter egg hunt after worship

Sunday School

Please join us for Sunday school every Sunday at 9am. We have classes available for both youth and adults. All are welcome!

Session Update

Beth Raney, Clerk of Session

For 2016, the Session of Pine Grove Presbyterian Church of Pine Grove Mills, PA includes the moderator, the Rev. Carl Campbell, and nine ruling elders.

Property and Budget: Ken Kephart, Doug Schaufler, and Jeff Sechler

Program and Worship: Ellen DeAntonio, Joan Henney, and Edna Miller

Stewardship and Mission: Ken Barto, Marie Marshall, and Beth Raney, clerk.

- In December, the session met with John Lloyd of Lloyd's Signs regarding a new sign for in front of the church. At the January 17 congregational meeting, the church membership voted to have this new sign built by Mr. Lloyd and installed. This is to take approximately 3–4 months. The Horner family graciously offered to donate funds for the sign, installation and lighting in memory of John and in honor of Betts Horner. See last page of newsletter for image of new sign.
- The children and youth of the church presented a program on December 20, "The 1st Ever Pine Grove Mills Presbyterian Church Spelling Bee" which used each letter of the word Christmas in a sentence (Bible verse) and in a Christmas Carol!
- The traditional turkey dinners will be held the last Saturdays of January (served 110) and February, and on March 19 (before Easter weekend). Proceeds will go to support the State College Food Bank. Friends and family of the church are encouraged to help, attend and invite others to support the dinners.
- An audit of the church financial records was held on January 21 and found the books to be in order. Session accepted the audit report as presented.
- Scout Sunday was celebrated on February 7th with local Scouts serving during our worship service as Greeters and Ushers.
- Congregational activities included a community Christmas carol sing on December 13 and a game night on February 19 that were enjoyed by all who participated! A soup & sandwich lunch following worship is planned for April 24.
- Communion was served on January 10, 2016. The next communion will be served on Maundy Thursday, March 24, along with our "Meal in the Upper Room" service. Additional communion dates for the year will be June 5, August 7, October 2 and November 20.
- During January and early February, our special mission for donations was the "Out of the Cold" program in the Centre region. During Lent, donations are being accepted toward One Great Hour of Sharing. In April, we will collect items for the Phillipsburg Angel Sent Soap Pantry.

Presbyterian Women

Sue Harpster

Thank you from St. Paul's Shoe Bank

The St. Paul Shoe Bank would like to thank everyone for their generous donation of hats, mittens and socks at Christmas time. In total, we donated five hat and mitten sets and 104 pairs of socks – enough socks to last them most of the year.

Maundy Thursday Meal

The Presbyterian Women will provide the Maundy Thursday Meal in the Upper Room on March 24 at 6:30 PM. Volunteers are needed to supply the following items – beef stew, apple cake, pickled beets and eggs and fruit salad. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Please bring food stuffs by 4 PM. Set up and clean up is also requested.

Women's Retreat

A Women's Retreat will be held at Camp Krislund, May 13 – 14. If you haven't seen all the improvements and developments, here's your chance to do so.

Presbyterian Angel Sent Soap Pantry

The Philipsburg Presbyterian Church offers 2 grocery bags of the following products to

registered Food Bank recipients once every three months and is looking for donations. Starting in April, we will be collecting the following items:

Kitchen – dish detergent, dishwasher tablets, sink/bath cleanser, floor cleaner

Personal – shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, mouthwash, toothbrush, tooth paste, disposal razors

Bath – toilet paper, tissues, bar soap, shower gel

Laundry – laundry detergent, dryer sheets, stain remover (Shout, Resolve, Oxiclean)

Spring Gathering

The Spring Gathering of the district's Presbyterian Women's Associations will be held SATURDAY, April 23, beginning at 9:30 at Windy Hill, Philipsburg. Rev. Helen Kester will speak about her recent trip to the Holy Land. At this time PGM representatives will deliver the items our whole church has donated.

All are welcome at meetings

Please attend any of the Presbyterian Women's meetings – third Sunday of the month from 9 AM – 10 AM if you have a particular cause you'd like this group to support.

Cub Scout Corner

Jeff Sechler, Committee Chair, Pack 44



Cub Scout Pack 44 is starting to wind down our year but that doesn't mean we haven't been busy! In January, we participated in the annual Klondike Derby—an outdoor skills

competition for the 4th and 5th grade scouts held at the Seven Mountains Scout Camp. Our boys did very well and won 5th place out of 24 teams.

In February we held our annual Blue and Gold banquet, where the 5th grade scouts leave Pack 44 and cross over from Cub Scouts to their chosen Boy Scout troops to continue on with their scouting journey.

We are always looking for new members. If you know of any boys in grades 1–5 who may be interested, contact Jeff Sechler or direct them to the Pack 44 page on our website:

<http://pinegrovepresbyterian.org/cub-scout-pack-44>

Church Announcements

Holy Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion on Thursday, March 24 during the Maundy Thursday service.

Remaining communion dates for 2016:
June 5, August 7, October 2, November 20

Per Capita

Per Capita for 2016 is \$33 per active member. These funds are used to cover administrative costs at Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. The church is required to pay the per capita each year. Please use the special envelope provided in your offering envelope box.

Labels / Box Top Collection

Spread some TLC by clipping from various grocery items, any Labels for Education, Box Tops for education and snapping off the tabs from metal food or beverage cans. These benefit Ronald McDonald house, Ferguson Elementary Store and VFW National Children's Home. Drop off is conveniently located on the bulletin board in the downstairs.

Camp Scholarships

Did you know our church provides scholarships to youth interested in attending summer camp? If you know of a youth at the church who is interested in attending a summer camp at Krislund Camp (<http://krislund.org/>) please see a Session member to learn how to receive scholarship funds.

Mailed Bulletins

We send out our announcements by email each week. For folks who you know who do not use email, we are seeking to mail a copy of the bulletin to keep those who cannot attend informed. If you, a family member, or friend would like to get the bulletin mailed please let Carl or a session member know.

Food Bank Collection

This month we will be collecting **Soup**. There is also a need for **pet food in cans or small bags**. Thanks for your help!

Church Fellowship

If you are willing to set up refreshments for after church fellowship times please sign up on the list on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Thank you to those who help and/or provide refreshments!

Newsletter Articles

We are always looking for articles to include in our quarterly newsletter. If you have something to share, please email your article or idea to pinegrovepresbyterian@gmail.com. We plan to compile the next newsletter in early June. Please have articles submitted by May 29.

Spring Cleanup

We will be holding our Spring Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 16 beginning at 9am. Please join us if you are willing and able to come help clean up the outside of the church.

Church Announcements continued

CVIM – Give Kids a Smile

The Centre Volunteers in Medicine is holding a free event on April 15 called “Give Kids a Smile” which allows children who do not have dental or vision insurance to receive free services for the day. Please call 231-4043 for more information.

Turkey Supper

Come join us on Saturday, March 19 at 6pm, for our last all-you-can-eat Turkey Supper. Tickets are required and can be purchased for \$9 in advance by calling Jan Kocher at 238-8801. Come enjoy a great meal and socialize with family and friends. Take-out is available.

Choir Practice

Interested in sharing your musical talents with the church? Join our church choir! Practice is every Wednesday at 6:45pm at the church. All are welcome to join.

One Great Hour of Sharing

We will be collecting donations for the One Great Hour of Sharing during lent. These funds enable the church to share God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

Soup and Sandwich

Please join us for a Soup and Sandwich meal after worship on Sunday, April 24.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Deacons will be providing eggs for an Easter egg hunt after the 10:15am Easter Sunday worship service. All children are welcome to come and join in on the fun. We typically have two groups – younger kids in the front of the church, older kids in the back.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

The Ferguson Township Lions Club is holding a community Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 26 at 12pm. Come enjoy this FREE event and take part in the egg hunt and enjoy some pizza and refreshments.

Daylight Savings – March 13

Don’t forget to move your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday March 12! The official change is at 2am on Sunday, March 13, but changing before you go to bed is always a good idea.

Church website

Don’t forget to check out the church website for all of the upcoming events and church announcements. It is in the process of being redesigned to better suit the needs of the church, so stay tuned!

www.pinegrovepresbyterian.org

Election Day – April 26

Election Day is Tuesday, April 26. Please take the time to go cast your ballot for both local officials and the presidential primary candidates. Every vote counts!

News from Krislund

Jim Purdum

Thanks to our very creative and energetic Executive Director, Gene Joiner, a great staff, amazing volunteers and the ongoing support from congregations across the 3 Presbyteries (Carlisle, Huntingdon and Northumberland) served by Krislund, this multi-generational, year round ministry is growing once again. Despite declining numbers in traditional summer youth camp participants, the development of traveling day camps, weekend retreats, educational and enriching adult programming have turned this overall negative trend into a vibrant and ever expanding Christian resource. Bed spaces are being added, the new adult cabins are being booked months in advance and volunteers now have a nearly unending list of things to build, fix or modify to meet the growing needs of the programs as they evolve.

Now more than ever, your engagement, whether it's through financial support (camperships), volunteering, participating or referring others that may not know about all the programs available, is needed. As a Krislund advocate, my job is to not only keep our congregation informed about all that's happening at Krislund, but to also get your feedback on what's working, what might work and what we might need to fix or change to make sure Krislund is relevant to you (not just to your kids or grandkids!).

There's so much happening right now, I encourage you to take some time and visit Krislund's recently updated web site; Krislund.org and see what's out there that may be of interest to you. Here are some highlights from the calendar of events:

- Summer Camp Registration is NOW OPEN
- Traveling Day Camps start up in June (volunteers needed!)
- "Rock the Camp" (weekend retreat for youth), March 24 – 26
- Krusin' at Krislund (ages 55 and up): "In the Kitchen" March 22, 23; "Dancing with the Stars" April 19, 20; "Back to the 80's" May 17, 18; "Nature Study (hikes/photography)" June 11, 12 and "Candles and Candlesticks" July 9, 10.
- Kids to Krislund Fundraising Dinner and Auction, Sunday May 1st starting at 3PM
- Spring Work Day is Saturday May 7th starting at 9AM – hope to see you there!
- Christian Hope with Presenter Lee Barrett, May 9,10

In addition to these exciting programs, Krislund's new Fellowship of the Carpenter is gaining traction and everyone is always welcome to join the Thursday volunteers – every Thursday starting at 8AM at Krislund!

New Columbarium

The Pine Grove Mills Union Cemetery is located between the Pine Grove Presbyterian Church and St. Alban's Episcopal Church. The first burial in the historic cemetery was in 1832; the final interment was made in 1914.

In 2012, the cemetery board was asked to consider placing a columbarium on the grounds. After a lot of consideration, the board gave its approval for an 18-niche granite structure in 2015. In working with Mayes Memorials, the columbarium will be put in place near the patio at the back of the cemetery in April. Half of the niches have been sold, and half are available to interested parties. Each niche will hold the cremains of one or two individuals.

If you have questions about the structure or are interested in purchasing a niche, please contact Carol Zeigler, who will provide further information. Carol's phone number is 814-238-2213; her e-mail address is bzncz@comcast.net.

New Church Sign

Session has been working on designing and purchasing a new sign for the church. The congregation approved the sign design (below) and we are in the process of having the sign built by Lloyd Signs out of Tyrone. We anticipate the sign to be completed sometime in March/April with installation to be complete by mid-April (tentative). This new sign will be a great resource for displaying information about our church, upcoming events, and welcoming new guests to visit us.

