



Pine Grove Presbyterian Church

March 2017

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

pinegrovepresbyterian@gmail.com

Pastor's Ponderings

Reverend Carl Campbell

Warm weather and nice rain have been happening once in a while in February and since Lent just began it seems that spring might be in the air. As I write this it is only the 1st of March. I imagine there will be some winter left to come but Spring is coming.

Each year this time of Lent before Easter is a time for us prepare to celebrate the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord. Like Spring, Easter is not

here yet but it is coming. We are called to use this time of Lent for self-examination and reflection; for getting ready to once again rejoice in our Lord who died and was raised so we could have life eternal.

Many of us feel like it has been winter too long. Maybe we feel like it has been winter in our hearts and souls along with the weather. Some of us find ourselves struggling with relationships, with family and marriages, with jobs and the hard questions of life. Often we are feeling broken and lost. The season of Lent is a great time to address those issues in our lives; to confess that we have failed and seek God's forgiveness and guidance. I encourage you to set aside time daily for prayer if you are struggling. If you are not struggling I bet you have that time as part of your lives already. Get your Bibles and spend time seeking God's guidance for your lives as you deal with the difficult situations you face.

I encourage you to turn to Psalm 51:1-12. Let it be your prayer as you go through Lent. It is a time for renewal, not only for the world in Spring but also for us as we move toward Easter. "Create in me a clean heart, O God and put a new and right spirit within me" Psalm 51:10.

Carl Campbell

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Ponderings	1
Sunday School / Bible Study	1
Session Update	2
Presbyterian Women	3
Cub Scout Corner	3
Church announcements	4
News from Krislund	6

Sunday School

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

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.

Session Update

Doug Schaufler, Clerk of Session

For 2017, 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: Doug Schaufler (clerk), Johnny Martin, and Jeff Sechler

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

Stewardship and Mission: Ken Barto, Marie Marshall, and Bill McVicker.

- The traditional turkey dinners were held the last Saturdays of January and February, with another coming up on March 25. 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 in January and found the books to be in order. Session accepted the audit report as presented.
- Scout Sunday was celebrated on February 5th with local Scouts serving during our worship service as Greeters and Ushers.
- Congregational activities included a community Christmas carol sing on December 11, 2016.
- Communion was served on January 15, 2017. The next communion will be served on Maundy Thursday, April 13. Additional communion dates for the year will be June 4, August 6, October 1 and November 26.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday (April 9):

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

Maundy Thursday (April 13):

- 6:30pm – Worship and communion

Good Friday (April 14):

- 7pm – St. Paul Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday (April 16):

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

Holy Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion on Thursday, April 13 during the Maundy Thursday service.

Remaining communion dates for 2017:
June 4, August 6, October 1, November 26

Per Capita

Per Capita for 2017 is \$34.25 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.

Presbyterian Women

Sue Harpster

The Presbyterian Women have voted on the following pledges: annual mission, operational fund for national and presbytery, synod special mission, birthday and thanks offerings, least coin and Krislund camperships.

Locally they have supported each of the following agencies with \$200:

- Youth Service Bureau
- Women's Resource Center
- Habitat for Humanity
- Housing Transitions
- Bridge of Hope

Health and Hygiene Kits

Here is what is needed for each kit:

- One hand towel measuring approx. 15" X 28" to 16" X 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or microfiber)
- One wash cloth
- One wide-tooth comb removed from package
- Nail clippers - HAVE ENOUGH
- One bath-size bar of soap in wrapper
- One toothbrush in the package
- Ten standard size Band-Aids

The items go in one gallon plastic zipper closure bags. We have enough bags from the last time we helped with the kits.

There is a processing kit of \$2.00 per kit. That money needs to be sent with the kits. If you want to help out with this cost please write a check to the church or give money designated for this purpose.

Ten Commandments Discussion

Sue Harpster will lead a discussion on the Ten Commandments and their applications and interpretations in our 2017 everyday living.

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.

Our next meeting: Sunday, March 19 at 9:00am.

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.

In February we held our Pinewood Derby race, went ice skating, and 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.

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

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.

Food Bank Collection

This month we will be collecting **Pasta/Noodles**. 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 31.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Below are the upcoming birthdays and anniversaries of those in our church family that we are aware of. If you'd like to provide your birthday or anniversary, please email Beth Raney: bnraney@gmail.com.

Birthdays:

March:

- Donna Ellenberger (3/3)
- Dale Rupert (3/7)
- Mary Dunkle (3/15)
- Beth Raney (3/26)
- Marissa Fix (3/31)

April:

- Aiden Rupert (4/8)
- Tony Schaufler (4/8)
- Shelby Corl (4/10)
- Sandra Talley (4/13)
- Katie Rupert (4/14)
- Abby Sechler (4/21)

May:

- Jeff Sechler (5/1)
- Ruth Crawford (5/1)
- Edna Miller (5/12)
- Dot Lauck (5/18)
- Brenda Schaufler (5/22)

Anniversaries:

March:

- Doug and Janet Schaufler (3/25)

April

- Ron and Edna Shuey (4/28)

May

- Jeff and Tacee Sechler (5/22)

Church Announcements continued

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.

Turkey Supper

Come join us on Saturday, March 25 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. For the children who receive the fish banks, please return them on Easter Sunday. These funds enable the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by.

Disciple Makers

Guests from Disciple Makers will be visiting our church on Sunday, April 30 to share with us their story and their mission, This will take place during the sermon for that day. Their website is: <https://www.dm.org/>.

A soup and sandwich lunch will be served after the 10:15am worship service.

Church website

Don't forget to check out the church website for all of the upcoming events and church announcements.

www.pinegrovepresbyterian.org

Online giving now available!

We are pleased to announce the ability to tithe to our church via an online system. This online giving option is not intended to replace our regular plate offering, but rather give an alternative method for giving to those who would prefer to give in this manner.

Giving options include making a one-time donation; set up a recurring payment; pay with either a credit or debit card; or use a direct debit from your bank account.

How to give:

- Go online to pinegrovepresbyterian.org/give
- Click the "Give Now" button (you will be taken to a page hosted by the Presbyterian Mission Exchange)
- Fill in the form with the appropriate information
- Click the "Give Now" button to submit your donation to the church.

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

Spring Cleanup

We will be holding our Spring Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 22 beginning at 9am. Please join us if you are willing and able to come help clean up the outside of the church.

News from Krislund

Jim Purdum

As previously reported, Krislund served just over 1,900 young people in 2016 through the traditional summer camp season using some very non-traditional outreach and programs. The other good news story about this multi-generational ministry is that use of the camp and conference center through the other 9 months of the year continues to expand. In fact, last year, Krislund hosted nearly 3,200 individuals that attended overnight retreats, day meetings, Amish gatherings or adventure experiences. This lesser known aspect of Krislund's activity is essential to the mission and economic well-being of the ministry. As we are part of a connectional church, it's helpful to think of and promote Krislund to others as more than a summer camp for young people. The facilities are comfortable and very conducive to all sorts of uses on a year-round basis so next time you have the opportunity, think of Krislund for your next family gathering, meeting or retreat!

Please note that registration is currently underway for the 2017 summer camp season. This year's theme is "Star Wars at Camp Krislund" and promises to be a great experience for all! Please help us recruit for summer by promoting the opportunity to young people whether they attend our church or any church for that matter. More information on this exciting new program is available via Krislund's web site; <http://krislund.org>.

Additionally, the Presbytery of Donegal recently voted to engage Krislund to provide summer programming to Camp Donegal. Beginning this summer, Camp Donegal and Krislund Camp and Conference Center will enter a partnership for shared summer camp ministry. Krislund will provide the staff and program for a four-week summer camp season that will leverage the energy, creativity and vision that Gene Joiner and his team provide to a camp that has tremendous promise for the future.

Lastly, please consider supporting Krislund in any way you can. Volunteers are always welcome and "Camperships" remain a tremendous need as we seek to serve more and more families regardless of their ability to pay. The "Kids to Krislund" annual fundraising dinner and auction is scheduled for Sunday April 30th at 3PM and I hope to see you there!

With gratitude,

Jim

Election Day – May 16

Election Day is Tuesday, May 16. Please take the time to go cast your ballot for our elected officials. Every vote counts!

Wheelchair Available

A wheelchair has been donated to the church and is available upstairs in the small room by the lift for anyone who may need it while in the church. If used, please return it to where you found it.