

NEWS OF INTEREST

Pennies From Heaven: the monies collected help send children to the camp of their choice (mostly Seneca Hills). Your donations are appreciated and well spent. Other charities are often contributed to as worthy causes from Pennies From Heaven also.

PRAISES AND PRAYER

Please pray for God's guidance in the future of our church. Please pray for the peace of the world. Pray for the leaders of our country as they earnestly seek peaceful solutions to the problems and crises around the globe. Please pray for our military and police forces and their safety throughout each day. Pray for our public school system. Pray for the mental health of people everywhere. Pray for our mission to Ghana. Pray for all the Christian's who are being persecuted in the world.

Would you like to know what our church has been up to? On the bulletin board in the entryway are the minutes and financial ledgers for each month. Please feel free to copy them and if you have a question, ask any session member or the pastor. We think this is the best way to keep everyone informed.

REMEMBER TO PRAY **FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS AT HOME or HOSPITALS**

Jen & Marty Gilliland, Dottie Dillin, Bonnie, Pam Bottomley, Pat & John Karns, Skip & Nancy Davison, Elliot Crawford, Mary Lou Buckley, Pat Feltenberger, June Mawhinney, Dennis Dingle, Lisa's cousin Bonnie, Rudy Liebann, Janet Heister, Jerry Baum, Pat Stewart, Dan Smayda, Mason Martin, Jim Dickson, Family of Ethel Eckleberger, Ronda McCartney, Brenda Sensenbaugh

Polk Presbyterian Church
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polkpresbyterianchurch.com

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Pastor Larry Myers **412-417-5737**
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SESSION MEMBERS:

Jeff Karns	814-428-2754
Scott Heffern	814-673-8667
Pam Bottomley	814-671-4998
Judy Krizon	814-432-4189
Alan Wood	814-671-0873
John Vickers	814-227-8562

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE **PLEASE CONTACT:**

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Scott Heffern **814-673-8667**
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SECRETARY:

Pam Bottomley **814-671-4998**
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CLERK OF SESSION:

Cindy Swendson **814-671-6100**

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3005 Lyden House
Youngstown, OH 44504

Jen & Marty Gilliland
238 W. Washington St.
Harrisville, PA 16038

Trevor Wood
609 Lincoln St, Apt J-102
Kent, OH 44240

Upcoming dates & activities:

1/ 1/24 New Years Day
1/3 Bible Study 6:30 pm Ruth
1/7 Communion
1/9 Making Blankets 10 am – 12 pm
1/14 Annual Reports due to Secretary
1/20 Officer Training Event 10:00 am -- 4:00 pm
1/21 Session Meeting 11:00 am - -1:00 pm
1/28 Annual Congregational Meeting 10:30-11:00 am
1/28 Linger Longer Luncheon 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
2/4 Communion
2/11 Super Bowl of Caring Offering
2/13 Making Blankets 10 am – 12 pm
2/14 Valentine's Day



Polk Presbyterian Church

Calendar of Events

December 2023

Sunday School at 8:30am

Children Sunday School at 8:30am

Bible Study on Wednesdays at 6:30pm : at the church & via Zoom

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/559705244> Meeting ID: 559 705 244 The passcode is 202020

Tuesdays: Prayer Blankets will be made on the 2nd Tuesday of each month downstairs in our Friendship Hall.

Dec. – Collecting Food for the Salvation Army.

Church of the Covenant will be hosting an Overnight Shelter for Erie's homeless during the winter months. Their cupboards are running low on supplies. Items can be dropped off at First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Erie, PA.

Feed-A-Family – Lakeview Area Helping Hands Center, Inc.

Care Giver needed for a 92 year old male near Wesley.

Lake Erie Presbytery Youth Overnight. Saturday, Jan 13th. Sat. 5:30 to Sun. 12. For 6th – 12th graders. Covenant Presbyterian Church. Get permission forms and RSVP by Jan. 9th to britney.knight@firstcovenanterie.org

Worship, games, fellowship and discovering the heights of God's love.

Read the Bible in a year. For more information contact Pam Bottomley or Pastor Myers.

Lay Reader: We are in search of another Lay Reader. Would like to have 3 in the rotation. If you are interested please contact Pastor.



**Polk Presbyterian Church,
December 31, 2023
First Sunday of Christmas**

The Introit *"You Are My All in All" #1 (Praise Book)

*You are my strength when I am weak, You are the treasure that
I seek. You are my all in all. Seeking You a precious jewel.
Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool. You are my all in all.*

*Jesus, Lamb of God. Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God. Worthy is your name.*

Time for meditation and reflection.

Call to Worship Psalm 48: 1-2, 13-14

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

P: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

P: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him.

All: Praise the Lord!

Praise Hymn *Freely, Freely #517 (Hymnal)

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and compassionate God, forgive our arrogant, stubborn, and foolish pride that leads to our certain death. Instill within our hearts and minds the knowledge that Christ Jesus is the true wisdom of God, and our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. Help us to understand that God chose the foolish in the world to shame the wise and God chose what is low in the world so none could boast in the presence of the Lord. Forgive our sinfulness as we pray in the name of the Jesus the risen Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Galatians 4:4-7

L: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

P: In order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

L: And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

P: So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. Amen

***Gloria Patri**

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CHILDREN'S CHAT

MOMENTS FOR MISSION:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Joys and concerns

BIRTHDAYS: Anna Aumiller, Gary Chisholm

ANNIVERSARIES: Denny & Debbie Adams, Dave & Debbie Perry

Presbytery Prayers: Spouses of Lake Erie Pastors; All those needing prayers into the New Year.

THE LORDS PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus #454 (Hymnal)*

RETURNING THANKS TO GOD

***THE DOXOLOGY**

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***THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Matthew 5:1-12

(P) Thanks be to God

SERMON “Faith Walk”

Affirmation of Faith The Apostles’ Creed 2.1-3

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence
he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the
body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN** *Take My Life and Let It Be #449 (Hymnal)*

***THE BENEDICTION**

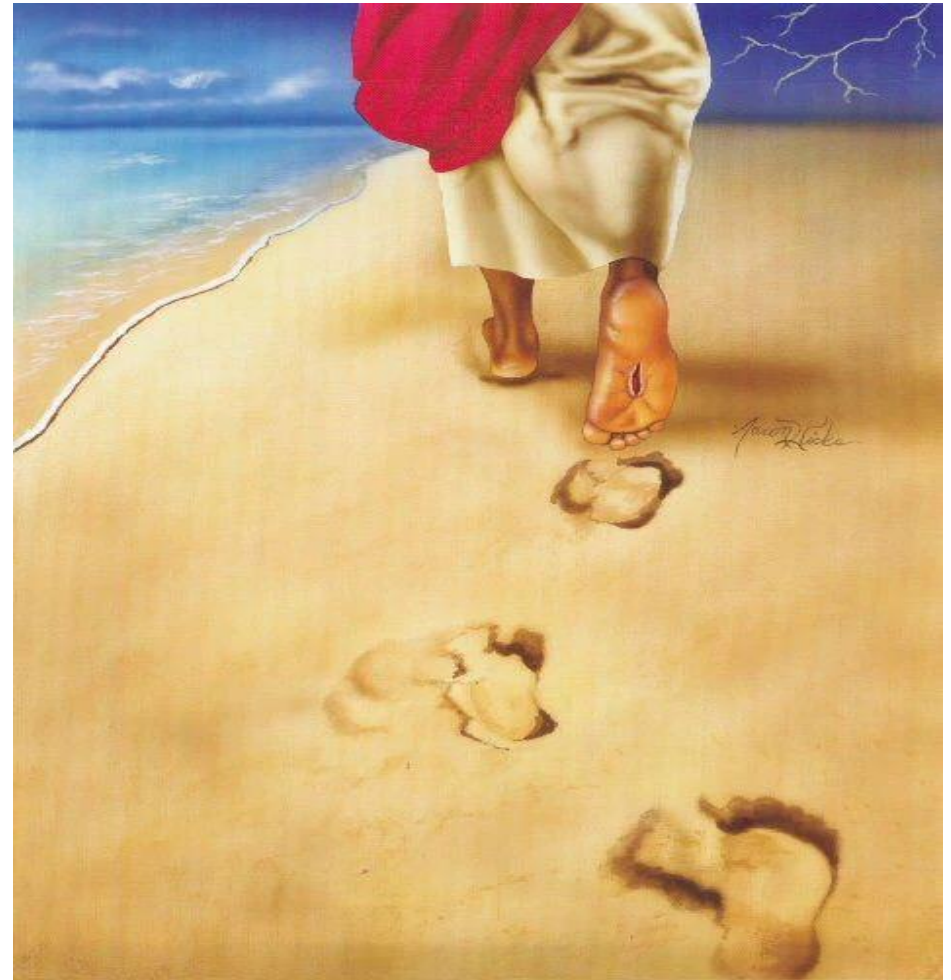
***Our Response** “*Lord, We Praise You*” Vs 1 #22 (Praise Book)

Lord we praise You.

Lord we praise You.

Lord we praise You.

We praise You, Lord.



Guest Speaker: John Reisinger

Lay Reader: Shawnee Wood

Music: Valerie Zahuranec