

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, Skip & Nancy Davison,
Lisa's cousin Bonnie, Rudy Liebmann, Mary Vickers,
David Shearer, Cindy Sweetapple,
Alberta Swendsen, Pat Karns, Joe Karns, Cindy Swendsen,
Lisa Heffern, Tye Karns, Gail Rowland, Brian Hudson, Travis Nelson,
Jane Timblin

Polk Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1027
Polk, PA 16342
polkpresbyterianchurch.com

CHURCH OFFICE: **814-437-3153**

Pastor Larry Myers 412-417-5737
flyfisher@windstream.net

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
scottheffern@yahoo.com

SECRETARY:

Pam Bottomley 814-671-4998
psbtweety@yahoo.com

CLERK OF SESSION:

Cindy Swendsen 814-671-6100
swendsen1@verizon.net

Upcoming dates & activities:

12/12 Blanket Ministry 9 am

12/12 Session Mtg 6:30 pm

12/24 Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

12/25 Christmas Day



Polk Presbyterian Church
Calendar of Events
December 2024

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 Veterans 559 705 244 The passcode is 202020

Prayer Blankets will be done on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:00 am

Missions: Fruit Baskets, Emmaus Haven, Mustard Seed Ministries

Collecting the following items for Emmaus Haven: Spray Cleaner (ex. 409 no bleach added), towels, wash clothes, snacks and homema cookies. Items need to be at the church by Saturday, Dec. 21st. Delivery will be on Dec. 22nd.

Lynn Harriger from Nazarene church in Franklin is collecting grocery bags to make Mercy Mats. Amy Zemanski will see that Lynn gets any donations.

Save your Poptabs for a hospital in Pittsburgh. There is a container in the Narthex.

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



**Polk Presbyterian Church,
December 8, 2024
Second Sunday of Advent**

***The Introit** *“Bless His Holy Name” #155 (Praise Book)*

Time for meditation and reflection.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Luke 1:68-74

L: “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

P: He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,

L: As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

P: Thus, he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, that we might serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.”

***PRAISE HYMN:** *“Soon Very Soon” #27 vv. 1,4 (repeat v. 1)
(Praise Book)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of hosts, have mercy upon us when we fail to observe Your acts of perfect love that are designed to draw us to Your bosom. Forgive us when apathy, indifference, and sloth contaminate our faithful service to our Lord. Show us compassion when we fail to recognize the messengers You send to show us the true path of righteousness. Help us to return to service as faithful disciples of our Lord. Purge us of all impurities that distract us from the narrow way and allow us to know perfect peace. Wash away our sinfulness that blinds us to our true calling to the Kingdom of God. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: John 3:16-19

L: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

P: Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

L: Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

P: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.” Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE: Gail Banks & Colleen Scurry

Watch and wait for Christ’s coming! We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. We light this candle for peace. (Light the first two purple candles)

“By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” Luke 1:78-79

God of hope, God of peace, you speak peace into the world through the way of the Christ-child. Help us to live as peacemakers that we may be called the children of God.

A: God of promise, God of peace, into our darkness come.

MOMENTS FOR MISSION:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Joys and concerns

BIRTHDAYS: Rich Mahood (10th), Debora Perry (11th), Yvonne Doyle (12th), Patrick Scurry (14th)

PRESBYTERY PRAYERS: Meadville First, Rv. Dan Corll, Inrterim; Rev. Gary Larson (HR), Rev. Jim Rimmer (HR)

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 *"Peace Like a River" #345*
(Hymnal)

RETURNING THANKS TO GOD

*THE DOXOLOGY

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*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4 (P) Amen

Luke 3:1-6 (P) Thanks Be to God

SERMON: "Messengers of Repentance and Peace"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Second Helvetic Confession 5.108
IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS. For Christ took upon himself and bore the sins of the world, and satisfied divine justice. Therefore, solely on account of Christ's sufferings and resurrection, God is propitious with respect to our sins and does not impute them to us, but imputes Christ's righteousness to us as our own, so that now we are not only cleansed and purged from sins or are holy, but also, granted the righteousness of Christ, and so absolved from sin, death, and condemnation, are at last righteous and heirs of eternal life. Properly speaking, therefore, God alone justifies us, and justifies only on account of Christ, not imputing sins to us but imputing his righteousness to us. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" #176 (Hymnal)*

*THE BENEDICTION

*OUR RESPONSE *"Let Us Adore Him " #49 (Praise Book)*



Pastor: Larry Myers
Lay Reader: Shawnee Wood
Music: Deb Myers