The PRESbyterian

"Learning, Loving, Giving--Christ Alive in the Believer"

November 2026 **Volume LV, Issue 11**

Prayer Concerns

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It's Christmas Time Again!

It is time to be thinking about Christmas as we participate again in Operation Christmas Child, the global program of packing a gift box with toys for at-need children in other countries. Boxes and packing guides will be available on the sanctuary mission table and should be returned no later than **November 22**!

We will also be taking up a special offering for Share-a-Christmas, which helps provide local low-income families with vouchers for children's gifts. Envelopes for that collection will also be available on the sanctuary mission table and will end on **November 22**.

Peacemaking Special Offering

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Peacemaking Special Offering in September! We were able to benefit Noah's Hope ($500), Beneath the Shade ($500), and the PCUSA ($93.39) from your generosity and our mission budget!



All Saints Sunday

On **November 1** we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday by remembering those in our lives who have since passed and gone to be with the LORD. If there is someone you wish to have remembered during service, please call the church office to offer their name.



Church Officer Installment

On **November 22** (Christ the King Sunday) we will be installing our nominated officers Gail Hedges (Ruling Elder) and Jackie Stutz (Deacon) into formal service. Join us as we pray for the wisdom of God to rule our church.

November Special Offerings

During the month of November, we will have special offerings to benefit the Church World Service (who has a ministry of distributing blankets to the homeless and refugees across the world) and the Friends of the Homeless of Tuscarawas County. Donation envelopes will be available on the sanctuary mission table.

CWS
Church World Service

Pastor's Corner

During this time of the year, when the leaves are turning and the air is cooling, I often find myself experiencing feelings of intense nostalgia. This deep, thick, almost honey-like ache in my chest when I think about my work and those in my life who have brought me here. My mother, my grandmother, other grandparents, friends, colleagues, and mentors who all may or may not be here still. For some this feeling can be painful and elicit feelings of grief and sadness- feelings we are told to pack away and stay away from. But for me, these feelings are that of profound comfort, understanding, and resolve of what I want to do and how I will do it. If there is a word I can attach to this, one that connects us to matters of faith, it would be *remembrance*.

To remember is an invitation the LORD invites us to in worship, is how he bases the work meant for us, and helps us look at our lives by a different angle. Many times in the divine story, in the urging of the prophets, the LORD's people are called to remember their ancestors and what has been done through them. To remember Abraham and his journey into the unknown on the basis of faith and a promise, to remember how the LORD guided Israel from Egypt and through the wilderness, to remember the correction often needed by Israel to keep them faithful, to remember the promise of reconstruction and restoration of Israel after profound sin and self-destruction, and to remember who holds the world and life itself secure for our benefit. In our worship week after week we remember the words, teachings, and actions of Jesus Christ. We imitate the command to love and be committed to each other just like him so we might be correctly guided through every aspect of life. To understand what we have been doing, what we want to do, and how possible it is to get there. Remembrance is an act of worship, a powerful feeling, which gives a depth to life by showing who brought us to this point.

On all Saints Sunday (November 1) in worship we will act together in common remembrance of those we have known, who had real and intense faith, and rest eternal with the Creator. We honor those saints not because there was something special or superhuman about them, we do not venerate them in a stereotypical fashion like they stand between us and the LORD. For there is only one mediator between God and man: Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 2:5). But we profess by their lives, actions, and impact how the Spirit of the LORD worked through them to bring about great change in our lives. How they have demonstrated faith, challenged us in our presumptions, and aided our understanding to bring us where we are. Death does not end that relationship, distance and time do not stop the continuing impact. Because our God is the god of the living, not the dead (Matthew 22:32). We can grieve the fact they are no longer here the way we want them to be but acknowledge they are performing a greater work for us that we can rejoice in together again.

Embracing remembrance, experiencing melancholy, may be seen by the world as a strange use of our time and efforts. But those things keep us true to ourselves, in line with the lessons given to us, and guide us on to a certain future where death and pain will pass and everything will be renewed. And is being renewed every day by the one enthroned by the LORD to reign and keep watch forever, and whom no power can ever remove or cover over. **-Rev. Joe**



Time Change

Remember that on November 1 our clocks will "fall back" by an hour! So be sure to set them so you don't miss church!

Sunday Study Group

Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:15am for our study group! Anyone, and everyone, is welcome to join! Details are available through Rev. Joe!



"First Celebration" Sunday

Join us on **November 1st as** we celebrate Holy Communion during service, and brunch afterward. All are welcome!

Cookies for Sundays!

What's your favorite cookie? Do you have a recipe you just love to make? Every Sunday (except for the first Sunday of the month) we have cookies and coffee in the fellowship hall following the service. Would you like to bring cookies to share? They can be home baked, purchased from a bakery, store bought—it doesn't matter! Sign up in the church office!





Friends of the Homeless Meal

Our monthly Friends of the Homeless Meal will be on **November 8th** at 6pm. Volunteers can sign up through the church office. While meal funds are good, if you wish to contribute please mark your donation as "Homeless Shelter Meals".

Greeters and Ushers

We need volunteers for liturgists, worship stewards, greeters/ushers, and cookies each Sunday. A sign-up sheet is available in the office to volunteer, or you may call the church office to sign up.

ONLINE MINISTRY

All online worship content (including pastor's messages, bulletins, and newsletters) are available on the church website (www.newphilapc.org). Mailings of weekly services are available upon request to the church office.

Session Members:

Class of 2026: Ethelyn Ann Eichel, Gail Hedges
Class of 2027: Doug McIntire, Sally Walker
Class of 2028: Pat Laporte, Craig Stewart

Deacon Members:

Class of 2026: Jackie Stutz
Class of 2027: Bonnie Majewski
Class of 2028: Ruth Joyce Zimmerly

Office Hours:

8:00am-3:00pm Monday - Thursday
Closed: Friday

Church Email and Phone:

office@newphilapc.org
330-343-7114

Our Church:

Sunday School: 9:15am
Worship Service: 10:30am
Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00am in the pastor's office

Do you have something to add to the newsletter? Please call or email the church office by the 20th of the month for placement in the following newsletter.

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints' Day Communion All-Church Brunch	2	3	4 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	5	6 Office Closed	7
8 6pm-FoH Meal	9 Varied Office Hours	10 Varied Office Hours	11 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg Varied Office Hours	12 Varied Office Hours	13 Office Closed	14
15	16 Varied Office Hours	17 7pm- Session Mtg Varied Office Hours	18 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg Varied Office Hours	19 Varied Office Hours	20 Office Closed	21
22 Christ the King Sunday (Installation Sunday)	23 Varied Office Hours	24 7pm Finance Mtg Varied Office Hours	25 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg Varied Office Hours	26 Happy Thanksgiving! Offices Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29	30					

November Birthdays: 11th- Sarah Miller, Ryian Phillips; 15th- Patty Holder; 19th- Richard McEwan; 29th- Jan Isaac; 30th- Allison Marshall

No November Anniversaries.

We'd like to announce your birthday and wedding anniversary in the newsletter! Please help us to make sure we have your special day by calling the church office to let us know!