

The PRESbyterian

"Learning, Loving, Giving--Christ Alive in the Believer"
February 2026 Volume LV, Issue 2

Prayer Concerns

Mary Ellen Beans, Park Village Southside, 1019 Oldtown Valley Rd SE, Rm 26F, New Phila
Jane McEwan, 2594 E High Ave, Rm #110, New Phila
Marlene Singhaus, Park Village Care Center, Rm 409, 1525 N. Crater Ave, Dover
Ginny Stephenson, Schoenbrunn Health Center, Rm 112, 2594 E. High Ave, New Phila

COMMUNITY ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 18 @ 7PM
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
122 3RD ST NW
NEW PHILADELPHIA, OH 44663

Join us for a Lenten ecumenical worship experience, to discover where God is leading his one Church in this season!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: EMMANUEL LUTHERAN, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN, SCHOENBRUNN MORAVIAN, AND TRINITY EPISCOPAL.



Clerk of Session Needed

The Session is in need of a clerk to serve this current year. Responsibilities include maintaining meeting minutes of Session and Congregational meetings, updating church rosters, and being a point of contact along with the pastor for Presbytery events. The clerk does not need to be an active officer. If interested, please see Rev. Joe or a member of Session.

Tables of Eight

The Tables of Eight meal will be held on Saturday, February 21st at 6pm in the fellowship hall. The meal will include: Lasagna, French bread, salad; assorted desserts.
Dinner is \$10 per person. All are welcome but reservations are needed. Please contact the church office or Carolyn Berry to reserve your spot!

Church Closure Policy

The Session has set a new policy for service cancelation due to inclement weather. The church will close if the anticipated Sunday predicts more than 50% chance of precipitation **and** a temperature less than 15 degrees. Phone calls, email, and social media will be used to communicate notices for all members.

"Souper Bowl"

In honor of February's legendary football game, we will be holding our "Souper Bowl" offering to benefit the Dover-New Phila Food Pantry. Please consider donating to this monetary collection to help ease food insecurity in our community! Donation envelopes are available on the sanctuary mission table.



Pastor's Corner

When the world around us seems to get more chaotic, demanding, confusing, and dangerous it always makes us go back to what we know to be safe. When leaders and 'visionaries' give their views and interpretations that do not seem to match what is going on, we lean on what has proven capable for our lives. Our faith, the gospel of Jesus Christ, is a truth which anchors our lives in what is real and provides countless avenues by which to live it out. It is limitless and timeless, meant for everyone and anyone, but is also for us as individuals to consider whenever we encounter uncertainty. It is not an instant fix to our problems, but a sustaining provision so problems cannot consume us.

One of my favorite parts of the gospels is the "Sermon on the Mount", when Jesus gives the "Beatitudes" and delves into what the covenant of the LORD, the holy instruction of the divine, means when lived out in daily life. It may seem like an endless list of rules and orders when first read, and there is a certain amount of needed order within human life. But when truly considered, Jesus spells out what being on the side of the LORD means when living within the world. He clarifies what it means to have 'right' speech and thoughts, relationships, use of money, and attitude in worship and prayer. It all comes together to form a coherent teaching on what you allow to form you within life, what voice you will listen to, and what you will eventually become. The teachings of the gospel, of the Beatitudes that we will read and learn through in the coming weeks, prepares and challenges us about what is more worthy to pursue and who we want to be.

Jesus has come to provide freedom and liberation from the corroding influences within the world, and to teach about what life truly is and how it is to be lived. We are created not accidentally or coincidentally, but with purpose and meaning to achieve a goal and carry out a long-term and long-ranging task: to care for and heal the creation the LORD has called "good". The coming Lent is also such a time to consider what the LORD is saving us from, what led Jesus to embrace the way of the cross, and what many believers across the millennia have given their lives for in the face of worldly success and security. This is a time to step away from the noise around us, go back to what is waiting for us, and see what lies within that can ease the anxious heart and give us purpose even as the powers-that-be struggle to answer and clarify that very question. **-Rev. Joe**

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 22nd following the church service. There will also be a pot luck luncheon. All committee reports should be submitted to Mandy no later than Sunday, February 15th and can be emailed to office@newphilapc.org or left on her desk.

Please plan on attending!

Jack's House of Hope Capital Campaign Project

Our church will be accepting donations toward the "Jack's House of Hope Capital Campaign"- the county homeless shelter renovation. We have already raised \$3585.00 toward their effort! Any who wish to contribute may mail their donations to the church office, give them during the Sunday offering, or visit the Friends of the Homeless website to donate online (<https://fohtusc.org/hoh/>).



Construction Parking

As the construction of Jack's House of Hope takes place, we thank you for your patience in terms of parking at the church. Parking is available on the gravel lot along the fence and side alley, and on the street along East High Ave. The inner section closest to the door is reserved for handicap/limited mobility parking and drop off. Thank you for keeping the entrance to this clear (marked by cones)!

Anticipated repaving and expansion of the parking lot is estimated to begin this coming spring.

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 **February 1st** as we celebrate Holy Communion during service and Church Brunch following service. Come and enjoy the fellowship of the saints!

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 dinner will be held on **February 8th** at 6pm. While we are fully funded for the monthly meals, please consider donating toward the FOTH General Operations or the Jack’s House of Hope Project.

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.

February 2026

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

1 Communion All Church Brunch	2	3	4 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	5	6 Office Closed	7
8 6pm- FoH Meal	9	10 6pm- Jack's House of Hope Committee Mtg	11 NO Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	12	13 Office Closed	14
15 Committee Reports due	16 Presidents' Day Offices Closed	17 7pm- Session Mtg	18 10am- Bible Study 7pm- Ash Wednesday Service @ Trinity Episcopal 8pm- AA Mtg	19	20 Office Closed	21 6pm- Table of Eight Meal, All welcome, RSVP, \$10pp
22 Annual Congregational Meeting and Pot Luck	23 6pm- Friends of the Homeless Board Mtg	24 7pm Finance Mtg	25 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	26	27 Office Closed	28

EVERY SUNDAY
9:15am- Sunday Study Group

10:30am- Worship Service followed by coffee and cookies in the fellowship hall

February Birthdays: 9th: Kylie Smith, Kevin Smith; 14th: Peg McIntire; 19th: Will McEwan

No February 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!