

The PRESbyterian

"Learning, Loving, Giving--Christ Alive in the Believer"
July 2026 Volume LV, Issue 7

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
Ginny Stephenson, Schoenbrunn Health Center, Rm 112, 2594 E. High Ave, New Phila



Tables of Eight

Join us **Saturday, July 18th** in the fellowship hall—RSVP required, \$10 per person, all are welcome! The meal will be hamburger or hot dog, potato salad, tomatoes, cucumber and onion salad, potato chips, and dessert. Please specify your choice of hamburger or hot dog when you sign up. **RSVP to Carolyn or in the office by July 13th!**



Summer Mission

Summer is upon us and schools are out, but we prepare and anticipate students needing help before too long! We will be raising funds to help the Dress-A-Child campaign, providing clothes and school supplies to low-income families. Donation envelopes are available on the sanctuary mission table for contributions! Our final collection will be on **July 12th.**

Greatest Hits

Our organist, Diane Troendly, is requesting music requests and ideas for summer worship! If you have a favorite hymn, song, or arrangement you would like to hear during worship let her know on Sunday!

* * Construction Parking * *

Construction on our new parking lot will take place **July 5th - 15th**. We will update members on its progress as construction proceeds. Temporary parking will be on the grassy lot next to the church (marked by sign) and street parking along E. High Ave.

Pastor's Corner

For the last several weeks in service we have been learning and reflecting on the meaning of discipleship, what it means to be one who imitates and exemplifies Jesus Christ and his teachings. In ancient times a disciple did more than just parrot what the teacher and master said, they strived to become him in all matters so others could not see the difference between them. That is more than just intellectually accepting what is taught, it implies a relationship between the two parties first which shows this is a trustworthy relationship I can base all others on. Discipleship then becomes more than what we do, but what we unknowingly do that sets others up to discover the good news of Jesus' teachings. How we set up others to view and approach the LORD so they might rediscover what has been forgotten or set aside in the pursuit of distraction.

I reflect on this idea of discipleship as we live in a nation preparing to celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding. An extraordinary accomplishment based on the shelf life of previous kinds of republics, and criticisms that the "American Experiment" would not last. But it has lasted for a whole host of reasons, principally because America has strived (and struggled) in pursuing truth and honest service for the good of its fellow citizens. Patriotism is about serving the nation and its people, seeking how we can create a better place than we found it, and better the people who depend on democratic government to have more opportunities for prosperity in life. There have been learning and growing pains in this, painful realizations about how to open the door for opportunity to those who are different from us. Many want to castigate and have everyone live in that guilt as a sort of penance and see our nation as not worth celebrating that much. But those lessons, those obstacles, those struggles are how we have learned and gotten to where we are today. Celebrating the nation does not mean glossing over what was wrong, but also not overlooking what we have become because we faced such confrontations. People have listened, they have grown, they have obeyed, and ultimately trusted that the LORD of the nations has had a plan for America in fostering the environment where all might learn and discover together. Service is about learning as well as doing, and our places in the "American Experiment" allow us to be the disciples necessary for such a time in which we live.

We do not worship the nation or think the world cannot go on without America. But we also realize that life is not just about one form of government, one leader, but is another area in which our discipleship takes form and informs what the LORD is asking next. Our ultimate loyalty is to the LORD and no one else, and our service benefits the land which we call home. Not for praise, not to allow the nation to have superpower status in the eyes of the world, but because our participation shows that what we have was never earned by one human's efforts. But listening, understanding, living, and accepting what the LORD would have us know and become so the world of healing and purpose can continue unencumbered! **-Rev. Joe**



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 **July 5th** 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 **July 12** 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.

July 2026

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	2	3 Office Closed	4
5 Communion All-Church Brunch	6	7	8 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	9	10 Office Closed	11
12 6pm-FoH Meal	13	14	15 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	16	17 Office Closed	18 6:00pm- Tables of Eight Meal- All are welcome! Please RSVP
19	20	21 7pm- Session Mtg	22 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	23	24 Office Closed	25
26	27	28 7pm Finance Mtg	29 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	30	31 Office Closed	

July Birthdays: 3rd- Carolyn Berry; 6th- Ruth Joyce Zimmerly; 15th- Barbara Deramo; 17th- Robert McEwan; 26th- Hank Majewski, Stefani Marshall

No July 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!