The PRESbyterian

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

October 2026 **Volume LV, Issue 10**

Prayer Concerns

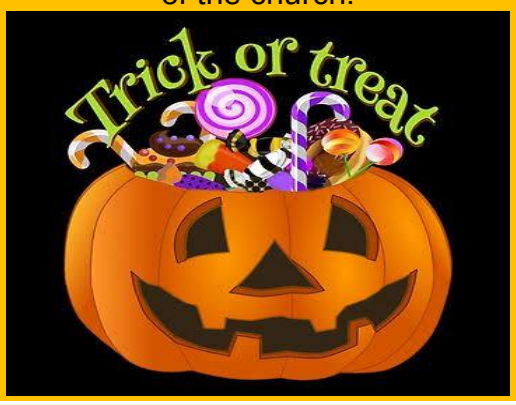
Mary Ellen Beans, Park Village Southside, 1019 Oldtown Valley Rd SE, Rm 26F, New Phila
Barbara Deramo, 621 Ridge Ave, New Phila
Jane McEwan. 2594 E High Ave. Rm #110. New Phila

Special Offerings

The final Sunday for collecting the special offerings for World Communion Sunday is **October 4.** These offerings are meant to benefit peacemaking efforts in the world and our community. You can contribute to the PCUSA's World Communion Offering, Noah's Hope (the county child advocacy agency), and Beneath the Shade (a community drug-recovery program). All offering to Noah's Hope and Beneath the Shade will be matched by our mission budget. Envelops to contribute will be available on the back mission table in the sanctuary.

Trick-or-Treat at Church

During the month of October we will be collecting candy for New Philadelphia's public trick or treating. Then join us **October 31 from 6-8pm** as we hand out candy and hot chocolate in front of the church!



Annual Congregational Meeting

Our fall congregational meeting will take place on **October 25** following service. At this meeting the congregation will be nominating and electing new church officers and deciding on the Pastor's Terms of Call for 2027. Be sure to attend to let your voice be heard!

Tables of Eight

Tables of Eight will be taking a break through the end of the year! We will begin meeting again for dinner once again in January of 2027!

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 starting **October 11**!

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 starting **October 11**!

Pastor's Corner

On October 4 we will be gathering to celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is not a holy day in the traditional term but is a day to remember the wider Christian community and what unites us all together. Sometimes we allow the small details of our different traditions and denominations to hog the dialogue we have with one another. We debate on different points of view, what is the best reaction to a current event, the stipulations and regulations which separate us, and some capitalize on this to debate what/who is 'good' and 'evil'. But in John 10:16 Jesus reminds his disciples that he has sheep who are part of other folds that his message and work would bring in. He speaks in that time about Gentiles and Jews, that soon they would be one under the common salvation of the LORD. Jesus still has believers and disciples who are part of other folds, who we sometimes hold at an arm's distance because they do things 'differently'. They do the same with us, but we all harbor and live the message of Jesus Christ and experience the same salvation of the LORD. Perhaps we are in different churches because there are so many works and callings that need Christian's in different areas of the world and our community, but we do not have to be separated when we do so.

World Communion Sunday was created as an ecumenical effort to bring together the various denominations to celebrate what all have in common. To focus on the absolute essentials of living for the LORD and being disciples of Jesus wherever we are. Holy Communion, the Eucharist, is a practice and rite that all churches have been given and share in. There are various ways of practicing and understanding it but serves the purpose of reminding of Christ's Presence in our work. We do not come to worship because we want to, we do not gather for common projects and efforts because we want to, but because we are attracted first to the divine presence in our lives and the one who shows it the most clearly in this world. When we read about, hear about, and imitate Jesus we are inviting his character, his example, his presence into all we do to make us better. We know that he offers something of much greater value and wisdom, and that connects us to others in the church who come for the same reason. We are all made into a fellowship from this mutual pursuit and invitation and constantly enforced by the idea that together we are stronger to represent the best of God.

No matter the tradition, the denomination, the ideas or opinions, that common search for and learning from Jesus unites us all. We only make ourselves enemies, when all that the LORD gives reminds and reinforces who we truly are and being made into by each willful choice. Each fellowship serves in a different area according to God's will but are still one with us because of the common drive to serve and represent. World Communion Sunday is a reminder that there is more uniting us than separating us, and we are blessed when we discover the mutual yearning for peace in our world by various efforts. One day we will be made one in body when the Kingdom of God comes in its fullness on earth, but now we are one in practice by seeing each fellowship's worth and effort as worthy of cheering on even from a distance. **-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 **October 4th 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 **October 11th** 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.

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	1	2 Office Closed	3
4 Communion All-Church Brunch	5	6	7 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	8	9 Office Closed	10
11 6pm-FoH Meal	12	13	14 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	15	16 Office Closed	17
18	19	20 7pm- Session Mtg	21 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	22	23 Office Closed	24
25 Congregational Meeting	26	27 7pm Finance Mtg	28 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Mtg	29	30 Office Closed	31 6-8pm- Trick or Treat

October Birthdays: 5th: Gene Zimmerly; 18th: Ethelyn Ann Eichel; 21st: Linda Corpman; 28th: Joe Erwin; 29th: John Stutz; 31st: Kevin Marshall.

October Anniversaries: 5th: Bonnie & Hank Majewski; 6th: Mandy & Brian Stewart

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!