

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

3rd Sunday after Epiphany
January 25, 2026 11:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

PRELUDE "When Morning Gilds the Skies" L. Smith

WORDS of WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS and BIRTHDAYS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Look forward in faith, for God's word will light the path.

All: God's promise is trustworthy and true!

One: Look forward in hope, for God is always doing a new thing.

All: God's steadfast love will lead the way.

One: Look forward in faith, for God's glory will shine in the darkness.

All: God's grace is alive, and draws us onward.

*** HYMN #86 "The People Who Walked in Darkness" vs.1, 2, 5**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Linda Gould

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)***

Gracious God, when despair and suffering overwhelm us, we cry out for you and feel abandoned. We doubt your presence and your promises. We believe you have turned away from us in anger. We ask why you have forsaken us. In these moments, strengthen us in faith and fill our hearts with courage. We believe, God. Help our unbelief.

*** DECLARATION OF PARDON**

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

We Listen to God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 CEB NT p. 166

MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER

PROPHETIC LESSON Isaiah 9:1-4 CEB OT p. 638

PREACHING OF THE WORD "Good News = Increasing Joy"

We Respond to God's Word

*** HYMN #314 "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness vs. 1,2,5**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

One: In life and in death we belong to God.

All: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one true God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

One: Jesus Christ is God with us.

All: He proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and showing God's love. By his suffering and death, he made known the cost of forgiveness. By his resurrection, he overcame death, opening the way to eternal life.

One: In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage...

All: to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

“Light of Day”

C. Mathew

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Gratitude for God’s Abundance

Holy God, we present our gifts, material and immaterial, to you in faith. We trust that you will bless and use these gifts so that we may further Christ’s ministry and serve those in need. May these gifts bless those we know who are suffering and those known only to you. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve

* HYMN #377 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

* CHARGE & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Postlude in G”

K.A. Moriconi

- *Please stand in body or spirit*

Wrapping our community in God’s love, one person at a time.

We believe that we are all ministers supported by:

Rev. Niki Atkinson – Office Hours Tues. & Wed. 9:30-4:00

Please call for appointments.

E-mail pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

Jerrilyn Mollick, Custodian

Church Address: 401 First Street, Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613

Church Phone: 724-478-4807 Fax: 724-478-2708

Website: www.apollopresby.org E-mail office@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Today’s Acolyte ~ *Knox Kanish*



“Interior of the Church of the Light”

by Tadao Ando

Taken in 1999

Ibaraki Kasugaoka Church in Ibaraki, Japan

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Household: Joan Orr
Rich and Marcie Painter

Faith Friend: Sara Kerr

Our Church: Mission Team
The Churches of the Kiskiminetas Presbytery

Presbytery: Genesee (Synod of Northeast)

Denomination: Episcopal Church in the USA

Nation: Armenia - Yerevan

IMMEDIATE Jeff Kirkman, Diane Chavara, Nancy Reynolds 90 years young!, Dorothy, Carol, Dave, Sue Ellen & Nick, Kathy Wilson, Shannan, Sara Burke, Jim, Carol, Niki's Dave, Ben & Ashley, Dommy, Missy ☺, Joyce Wildi's Marshall ☺, **Doris Patterson family, Thunder Robinson, Kind family who lost baby, Aiden Miller family,.**

CONTINUING Mark & Kasey Gizzler & family, Mary, Kristen, family of Sandy, family of Jim Dunmire, Gene Griffith, Debbie, Dave Highfield, Ron in church ☺, Dolores, beautiful sanctuary at Christmas, Ken Bowman, Jess's grandfather, Christmas Tea JOY!, Melinda here ☺, Family of Frank Lombardi, mary, KVCB ☺, Ronan, Ashley, Dan Pepler, Wendy, **Ashley, Patty Pavetti, Janelle, Danny, Doris Patterson, Perona family.**

ONGOING

Nora, Eric Ribar, Missy, Katie, Eddie, Donnie Riggles, Gary Harkcom, Bill & Linda Crabtree, Frank Kovak, Josh Hanus, Shannon Pruss, Chris Hilker, Carol Gallagher, Linda Gould, Snedecor family, Alan Shockey, Bonnie Machak, Lani Knox, Nick Arnoldy, Benjamin Mumaw, Sean George.

MINISTRY All those affected by the Coronavirus, flu, and RSV and those working in the health care field, first responders, research, and government. Food 4 Kids, AUPC Deacon's Emergency Fund, Support for our church, EPR Mugombwa; Victims of violence and natural disasters; President Donald Trump, our country, other world leaders, our church and its leaders, the war & military personnel, wounded military at home and in hospitals, terrorist victims, Kiskiminetas' Rwanda Partnership

**HELP THE NEXT FAMILY ENJOY OUR
PRAYGROUND! PLEASE TIDY-UP AFTER
YOUR CHILDREN ATTEND THAT AREA.
THANK YOU!**

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| <u>SUNDAY</u> | Sunday School | 10:00 AM |
| | Worship | 11:00 AM |
| <u>WEDNESDAY</u> | F4K Packing Day | 3:00 PM |
| <u>SUNDAY</u> | Sunday School | 10:00 AM |
| | Worship | 11:00 AM |
| | Seekers Confirmation Class @AUPC | 1:00 PM |

PER CAPITA: THERE WAS AN ERROR IN INFORMING MEMBERS OF THE AMOUNT FOR 2026 PER CAPITA. 2026 PER CAPITA is \$40.66, NOT \$39.24 AS WAS PREVIOUSLY STATED.

Through January and February, AUPC encourages you to pay your per capita. Part of a member's responsibility is to pay their per capita yearly.

We encourage the first two months so that two-month total may be deducted from the total AUPC is responsible for to pay the Kiskiminetas Presbytery. This year, based on prior year membership, AUPC is required to pay Presbytery \$4,187.98. We are permitted to make monthly payments, therefore, when the amount we collect in January and February is deducted from the above total due, that gives us a new balance which is divided by the 10 remaining months, hopefully giving AUPC a smaller monthly payment that does not increase the stress on the General Fund.

Please be aware that AUPC is responsible for the entire amount whether a member pays their fair share or not. January and February are suggested as per capita payment months for the reasons listed above. However, we accept per capita all year long.

January 25, 2026 CHURCH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Each year, AUPC participates in the **SOUPER BOWL of CARING**. This year we are collecting cans of soup through **Sunday, February 8**. Donated items will be split between the **AUPC Emergency Food Pantry** and the **Apollo-Ridge Area Food Bank**. There is a collection box in the vestibule and also one at the rear entrance of the Christian Ed building. **Thank you for your donations!**

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AUPC's Mission Team is looking to welcome those moving into our community and also welcoming new additions to local families. The Mission Team is looking for candidates to receive **WELCOME/NEW BABY BASKETS** based on the **Welcome Wagon** concept. If you are aware of families in either of these categories, please pass their info along to **Pam McMunn at 724.664.8303**.

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MISSION TEAM MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 @ 6:00 PM
LOCATION: AUPC Conference Room

(old Sunday school room off of chapel)
(Enter doors leading to downstairs)

2026 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation will be held **Sunday, February 8 at 12:00 PM** for the purpose of

Congregation: receiving the Annual Report, electing candidates to the nominating committee,

Corporation: election of Financial Review Representative Class of 2026, election of Treasurer, receive Financial Review Team Report, receive Financial Reports.

Please plan to be present as most of the above business requires a quorum. See you there!

SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS & CLOSERS

January 25 ~ Amy Shupe & Glenna Kanish

February 1 ~ Glenna Kanish & Jess Carwile

February 8 ~ Laura Uncapher & Nancy Russo

February 15 ~ Carl Zukas & Amy Shupe

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Consider volunteering on an AUPC Committee . . .
.Here's why:

"Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help." *Heather French Henry*

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. " *Sherry Anderson*

“Volunteers do not have more time --they just have more heart.”

Anonymous

You don't need to be in charge ~ Just lend a hand! See Pastor Niki or call the office!