

THE LISTENING POST

JUNE 2026



Pastor Niki's Ponderings

What does God want? It's a simple question, yet we tend to overcomplicate it with confusing rules or impossible expectations. Again and again, God calls people into relationship, faithfulness, truth, and courage. That's us. So what will we be looking at in the month of June? **In Hosea**, God speaks to people who have wandered away and forgotten what matters most. Through the prophet comes this memorable line: "I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice." God is not looking for empty religious performance. God wants hearts shaped by mercy, love, and genuine relationship. **In Exodus**, the people gather at Mount Sinai after being rescued from slavery. Before God gives commandments, God reminds them: "I carried you on eagles wings and brought you to myself." The relationship comes first. God's people are invited to respond with trust and faithfulness—not to earn love, but because they have already received it. Then, **in Jeremiah**, we encounter two very different moments. In one passage, Jeremiah struggles honestly with the difficulty of speaking God's truth. He is exhausted, frustrated, and even angry, yet he cannot remain

silent. God wants people willing to speak with courage, even when the truth is uncomfortable. In the second passage, Jeremiah confronts false hope and easy promises. While others tell the people only what they want to hear, Jeremiah insists on truthfulness. God does not ask us to ignore hardship or pretend everything is fine. God calls us to live honestly and faithfully, trusting that truth matters. Taken together, these scriptures paint a fuller picture of what God wants: steadfast love, faithful commitment, courageous truth-telling, and hearts that genuinely seek God rather than appearances. That question—What does God want?—is not only for prophets or ancient people. It is a question for the church today. In our relationships, our community life, our worship, and our daily choices, we continue learning what it means to love mercy, keep our promises, speak truth, and follow God with sincerity. The good news is that God continues to call, guide, forgive, and walk with us as we seek the answer together.

Pastor Niki <><



6. Patty Pavetti
7. Brenna Knox
18. Zach Bush
21. Helena Snedecor
22. Derek Hilty
24. Vivian Bush
27. Glenna Hall
30. Mary Ellen Hollabaugh

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Sunday School will resume on Sept. 20 with RALLY-DAY kicking off the 2026-2027 Sunday School year! Stay tuned .

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THERE ARE MANY SESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER! IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN-UP!



Summer Church Camp is right around the corner . .

Check out our Kid's table in the vestibule for information on Camp(s) Lambec, Pine Springs, and Lutherlyn. You may also check any of the camp's websites on-line. Many camps are now offering an "Early Bird Registration" discount. Ask about AUPC's contribution to campers!

MISSION



- ✓ Remember to pass along the message while you DO the mission. Meals-on-Wheels (412-400-0975) – drivers, cooks, prep people daily on M – W – F. St. Vincent de Paul (724-478-1113) M-Sat

Food bank opportunities:

- June 1 (Fri) Westmoreland County Food Bank – 7:45 AM – St. James Catholic Church Activity Center (behind the Church)
- June 15 (Mon), Apollo-Ridge Food Bank (packaging) – 8:00 AM – Glenn Bush Ford, right side, around back
- June 17 (Wed), Apollo-Ridge Food Bank (distribution) volunteers at 7:30 – 8:00 AM - public at 8:00 AM – Glenn Bush Ford (see above)

COMMUNITY COMPASSION



AUPC Emergency Fund

**End of April 2026 Assistance Totals:
3 Families helped with food.**

Have a new neighbor or new baby in the neighborhood

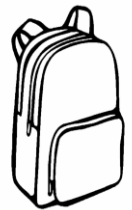


The Mission Ministry Team would like to extend its community outreach by offering "Welcome" and "New Baby" baskets to residents new to the area and to those with an addition to their family. Although still in the early stages, we are asking for your help in identifying families that might fit these categories. Please message/contact Pam McMunn at 724-664-8303



We had our last packing day for the 2025-26 school year on Wednesday, May 20. The last day of school for Apollo-Ridge is May 29.

In September, we are hoping to enter into our 10th year of the program with the approval of the Apollo-Ridge Administration. Any and all volunteers and/or donations would be greatly appreciated. We will continue to accept food items with expiration dates that will be current through this September and October. Your summer donations will bolster our September start-up supply. We'll be advertising our 2026-27 beginning date in late summer.



Hope to see you all next year,
Candy

Recently, Mike and Jerri Mollick accompanied other local volunteers on a Mission trip to North Carolina. Funded by AUPC's Mission Discretionary fund and supported by the AUPC Session, Mike and

Jerri joined up with volunteer work crews who helped North Carolina residents reclaim and/or rebuild their properties after devastating fires.

Mike & Jerrilyn Mollick attended a mission trip with our siblings in Christ from Cross Roads Community Presbyterian Church May 3-9.

MISSION TO CANTON, NC



“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ...” Galatians 6:2



MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH



Don't forget . . . You may purchase/sponsor a bulletin, at any time during the year , to remember/honor a loved one. Donations of \$20 per bulletin are requested. Your donation will be used to defray copying costs of our weekly bulletin.



Bulletins

Free Community Program - Everyone Welcome



We're taking a summer break and will be returning in the Fall!
The new schedule will be posted in the July/August newsletter

WORSHIP AND MUSIC



SUNDAYS 11:00 AM
Join us in person or live stream on YouTube

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**PW Quarterly Meeting –
Saturday, June 13 @ 9:30 AM
Regular Meeting**



If you're looking for unique cards for any occasion, please check out the variety available in the vestibule made by our own Craft Ladies. Cost is 3 for \$2 or \$.75 each.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

**WHERE WE STAND at the END
of APRIL 2026**



April Income: \$12,262.38
April Expenses: \$12,480.24
April Income to Expenses: -\$237.86
YTD Income: \$42,867.68
YTD Expenses: \$51,873.13
YTD Income to Expenses: -\$9005.45

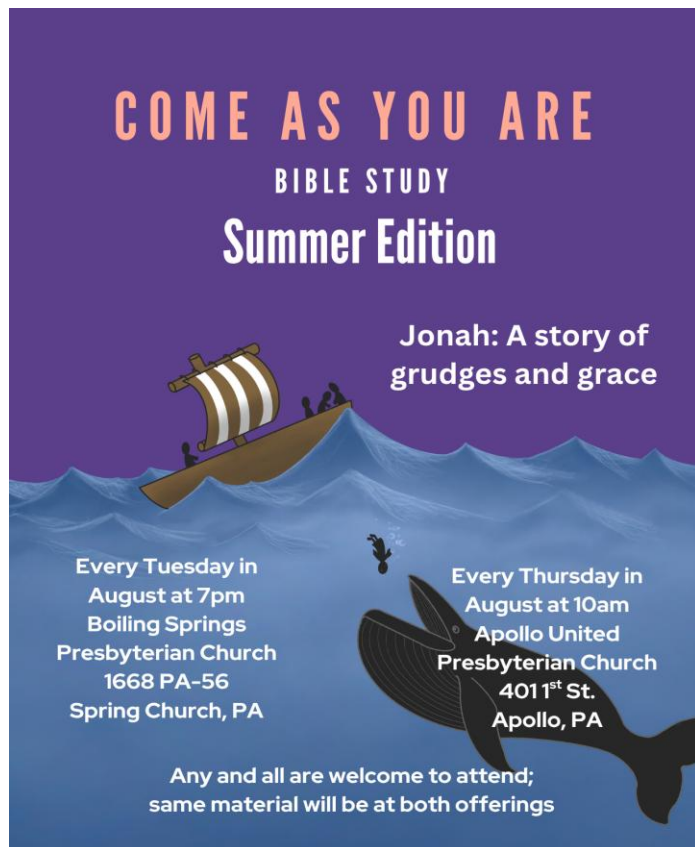
COME AS YOU ARE
BIBLE STUDY
Summer Edition

**Jonah: A story of
grudges and grace**

Every Tuesday in
August at 7pm
Boiling Springs
Presbyterian Church
1668 PA-56
Spring Church, PA

Every Thursday in
August at 10am
Apollo United
Presbyterian Church
4011st St.
Apollo, PA

Any and all are welcome to attend;
same material will be at both offerings



SERMON SERIES

WHAT DOES *God* WANT?

JUNE 7: HOSEA 5:15-6:6

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

JUNE 14: EXODUS 19:2-8A

...if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples.

JUNE 21: JEREMIAH 20:7-13

For whenever I speak, I must cry out...

JUNE 28: JEREMIAH 28:5-9

As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.



Coming in September

Friday 25th & Saturday 26th
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Clean, useable items will be accepted through Sunday, Sept. 20. All items must be taken downstairs and neatly arranged behind the curtain on the stage. On Wednesdays, during the months of June and August, from 4 to 6 PM, Bill Speer will be at the church and available to assist with large items or help if you are unable to negotiate the stairs. If those dates and times aren't convenient, an appointment may be made. (no assistance will be available in July) All other donations not requiring assistance may be brought to the church Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM up to the Sept. 20 deadline.

AUPC Acolytes

There will be no schedule for the summer months.



CHANGING of the GUARD

Many thanks to Peggy Landon for her years of Bell Choir leadership. Peggy will continue to ring with the Bell Choir but the roll of leader/conductor has been turned over to Mike Mollick.

Mike has played for numerous years with the Bell Choir and beginning this June, he will be leading the group. While change is happening, it is the perfect time for new and returning members to pull on their gloves and ring-a-ling with Mike.

Look for an upcoming organizational meeting where ringers will have input concerning practices, music, number of performances, etc.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Zach Bush

Nathan Daugherty

*Derek Hilty

Mathew Hilty

Franklin Mullooly

Luke Snedecor

We will be honoring the above High School and College Graduates, during worship, on Sunday, June 14. Everyone is invited to celebrate these (*mostly) young achievers and wish them future success. Cake reception will follow.

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

“DINNER AND A BAND”

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
401 1ST ST, APOLLO

DINNER anytime between
5PM & 7PM

Sandwiches, Salads, Chips & Snacks,
Desserts & Beverages
Sold Separately or Save With Our
“FULL-MEAL-DEAL”

THE KISKI VALLEY COMMUNITY BAND

at 7:00 PM



*Free-will Offering for the BAND!
Dinner Proceeds Will Support
AUPC's General Fund.*

Prayer List! How it works: Please list prayer concerns on the back of the attendance card found in your bulletin. We will place these names on our “Immediate” prayer list for three weeks. The *newest names will appear in italics*. On the third week we will **‘bold’ the name**. The prayers of concern will then move to the “Continuing” list and will remain there three more weeks and then rotate off, unless otherwise requested. If you don’t see a name that had previously been there and that person still requires prayer, please list the name again. Also, please list spelling corrections, if needed.

IMMEDIATE *Joyce Mollick, Bethany, Anthony grad from Anapolis, Melissa, Mac McMunn, Candy George, Kim Liska, Joyce Mollick ☺, Joey 1st Holy Communion, Lois Learn, NC lung cancer victim, Carol Kopnicky and the family of Holly Austin, Scott Hubbard, Quinn, Ron George, Barry Hall, Erica & Melanie, Carol says thanks, Marlene Black & family death of brother, Traveling mercies for Jeff Bush, Kim.*

CONTINUING *Mary Lou Kowalski, Sean engaged ☺, Aubrey, Zach Bush congrats ☺, Laura Antonelli & family, Grant & Garrett Gizler recipients of hockey scholarships, Sam Mulooly in National Honor Society, Carol Kopnicky, Christine, Diane Bradshaw family, Chris, Cindy McDermott, Ronan, Butch. Mary Kaufmann, Lydia, Steve ☺, Shelly ☺, Pat, Butch, Viviana’s birth Derek & Shelly’s new granddaughter, Missy & Buddy traveling mercies, Eric, sympathy to Kathleen Fouse on loss of her son, Jeff, Jeff R., Chris,.*

ONGOING Shannan, Nora, Eric Ribar, Missy, Katie, Eddie, Donnie Riddle, 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



