

# THE LISTENING POST

OCTOBER 2024

Pastor Niki's Ponderings



*The ponderings of our Pastor are private this month as she tends to her critically ill father in New Hampshire.*

*On September 11 or 12 Pastor Niki received a message from family that her dad was taken to the hospital where he was admitted to the ICU. Shortly thereafter, Pastor Niki began her non-stop car trip to her father's side. I'm not sure how many hours it took her to drive there, or how she stayed awake and focused but thankfully she did.*

*Her father has made some progress as of today, September 23, bringing hope of recovery.*

*As Pastor Niki and I spoke she outlined the ifs and whens she and the doctors had discussed. She sounded tired and sad with a bunch of hopeful thrown in as she explained future plans.*

*The one thing I'd like everyone to know is she kept talking about her two churches. She expressed how grateful she is for how wonderful all have been to her family. She's thankful for the prayers and messages. She stated that she misses her daughter, her husband, and her work!*

*Mid-week, Pastor Niki may begin her return trip. Please keep her in your prayers for a safe journey home and accompanied by the same "passenger" who safely took her there.*

*Linda*



3. Kayla Austin, Pat Kipp
5. Rod Crawford
6. Gretchen Kepple
13. Ron Hreha
14. Gabby Beard
15. Annette Lopovsik
17. Marty Fulton, Harry Goughenour
20. Jon Smoyer
22. Drew Hreha
23. Carole Kennedy
25. Robert Altmire
28. Chris Hannigan
30. Zachary Hreha

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Nursery is available to parents. Young children may attend during worship.



Sunday School is back! Two classes will be available, upstairs, each Sunday during worship. The nursery is available to parents, if

needed, and the Playground will be open for little ones or those needing a break from the pew.



*We're Back . . .  
If you want to  
ring, call the church office!*



**YOUTH GROUP**  
Returning in  
November!!

## MISSION



A penny for our thoughts? You can be sure that when you add to our collection of pennies you will be lovingly in our thoughts. We're trying to accumulate "a mile of pennies" with the proceeds going to HAVIN. Thanks ~ every cent helps!

## Local Mission Happenings...



- ✓ 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:

- October 4 (Fri) Westmoreland County Food Bank – 7:45 AM – St. James Catholic Church Activity Center (behind the Church)
- October 14(Mon), Apollo-Ridge Food Bank (packaging) – 8:00 AM – Glenn Bush Ford, right side, around back
- October 16 (Wed), Apollo-Ridge Food Bank (distribution) volunteers at 7:30 – 8:00 AM - public at 8:00 AM – Glenn Bush Ford (see above)



**Food 4 Kids**  
A Community Sponsored Program

So far, we have 71 kids enrolled in the Food 4 Kids program--surprisingly less than last year. Our first packing day is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 25 at 3:00 p.m. Our shelves are being replenished with the necessary food items to meet the number of kids enrolled. Both food and monetary donations continue to come in to keep this program alive. Once again, many thanks for your support. God is good!

Candy

## COMMUNITY COMPASSION

September (as of 9/21): Food - 0

Financial - 3 families; \$497.50 rent;  
\$200 electric = \$697.50



## CLEAN ~ UP BUCKETS

These much needed buckets, that will remain local, will be "filled" by the month.

Each month 2 items will be requested for the buckets. Everyone donating will be

buying the same 2 items. The next month two more items on the list will be selected, and so on, until by November, the bucket(s) will be full. Local tragedies occur with no schedule and no warning. Our schedule will have assistance ready for the unexpected. We will be providing a small gesture that will make an enormous impact to those trying to recover from the unexpected.

**October Items: 1 6-9 oz bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent** (Pump spray bottles must have protective covers.) **Packs of 10-20 insect repellent wipes also acceptable.**



Fellowship reception,  
October 13.

**KIDS KRAFTS  
HAS RETURNED!**

All kids welcome, so bring



**TRUNK OR TREAT**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
**SAT. OCT. 26**  
**3PM-5PM**  
**PARKING LOT OF APOLL**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**401 1ST ST., APOLLO**

To volunteer to give out treats,

some friends!

2<sup>ND</sup> Friday, Sept - Jun



### Annual Crop Hunger Walk~Roaring Run Trail

in Apollo, Sunday, October 6 ~ 1:00 p.m.

- \*mark "crop walk" in your check memo
- \*give in envelope and note "cropwalk"
- \*give online and note "cropwalk"

Additional Details in October Newsletter.

### MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH



### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



All Christmas Tea Helpers:  
There will be a special  
Christmas Tea Meeting on  
Saturday, Oct. 12 @ 9:30 AM

PW Quarterly Meeting –  
Saturday, December 14 @ 9 AM

## Regular Meeting



### HIGHLIGHTS FROM AUPC'S PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

\*Held our Fall meeting on September 7 with 15 members in attendance

\*Held a successful Salad Bar Luncheon on September 13—grossed \$768

\*In place of the usual Christmas Cookie sale, we are going to be asking for donations of baked cookies to sell as assorted cookie plates—sale date December 7.

More information forthcoming.

\*Voted to approve the following donations to local charities:

Alle-Kiski Hope Center \$1,500  
Apollo Meals on Wheels \$2,000  
AUPC Emergency Fund \$2,500  
Apollo Crop Walk \$1,000  
Havin \$1,500  
Christmas gifts for families in need \$2,500  
**\$11,000**

\*Donated \$100 to Apollo Area Lions Club

\*Donated \$100 to Presbytery Thank Offering

\*In the process of organizing for the Annual Christmas Tea – Nov. 22-23

**Come join us in serving our community!**



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

Presbyterian Women, Inc., is the women's organization in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We are a community of more than 200,000 women who participate in Presbyterian Women (PW) and align our ministry and hearts around a shared purpose, the PW Purpose.

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

## STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

### WHERE WE STAND at the END of AUGUST 2024



August Income: \$14,223.93  
August Expenses: \$8,801.32  
August Income to Expenses: \$6,142.81

YTD Income: \$87,751.74  
YTD Expenses: \$89,765.67

YTD Income to Expenses: -\$2,013.93

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC



**SUNDAYS 11:00 AM**

Join us in person or live on YouTube.



**Schedule: Sunday, October 6**

Are you (or your kid) in 7th grade or older? Ready to start figuring out this faith for your own life?

## Seekers

Join us on Sunday, September 29 at 1pm at Boiling Springs Presbyterian Church to learn more about Confirmation, what it's all about, and what a member of the church means for you.

<https://forms.gle/dK5V4n9MEBJomKUg8>

**REGISTER HERE**

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



**“The concept (World Communion Sunday) spread very slowly at the start. People did not give it a whole lot of thought. It was during the Second World War that the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together. World Wide Communion symbolized the effort to hold things together, in a spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” - Rev. Dr. Donald Kerr**

**Join us to break bread together on World Communion Sunday at 11:00 a.m. as we rely on the Spirit of God in "holding things together."**



### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

We will be remembering our Saints who have returned home since last November.

During worship, we will be remembering Church Member Saints who have entered the Church Triumphant since last November. *(Their names will be in the bulletin)* If one of our current members has a relative or loved one or someone who was a regular attendee here and they have died since last November, please call the office with their information and their name will be read aloud with the member saints. *(Date of death will be needed.)*

We will also be celebrating our long-term members. Commemorative certificates are

given at membership year 50, 60, 70 and each year following.

**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. **IF WANTING TO ADD NAMES TO THE BELOW LIST DURING THE WEEK, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

**IMMEDIATE** *Pastor Nicki's father Dave and her family, Traveling mercies for Kiski Band, Nick ☺, Patty, Butch Schrecengost, Jess Carwile, Robert Altmire, Dave finished chemo!, Lynn Frain, Jim, Linda, Kate, Barb, Matt & Franklin safety during football season, Lisa Bittner knee replacement.*

**CONTINUING** *Caelin, Christine ☺, Will at Pitt ☺, Mary Ann, Noreen & Kelcey home fire, Ron & Candy 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ☺, Laura, Nancy Campitella, Pastor Niki's Step-father Dave, Sierra Kane ☺, Aunt Jane, Grace Simpson family, Jim healing, Linda healing, 17 yr. old Josh, Cathy heart issues.*

**ONGOING** *Bob Reed, Donnie Riggle, Gary Harkcom, Donna Fry, Bill & Linda Crabtree, Frank Kovak, Josh Hanus, Shannon Pruss, LaRue Mumaw, 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 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 Joe Biden, 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.*





