



# The Highlander

The Presbyterian Church of Punxsutawney  
106 East Union St., Punxsutawney PA 15767  
www.punxsypc.net punxsychurch@comcast.net  
(814) 938-5560

January 2020

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Welcome to January!
- 2 Worship Schedule
- 3 Finance & Generosity
- 4 Membership & PCOP Updates
- 5 Session & The Board of Deacons
- 6 Mission & Outreach
- 7 Fellowship
- 8 Rev. Doriani Update
- 9 Who Do I Contact?
- 10 Calendar



*We look forward to seeing all of you throughout our 2020 journey!*

---

*Please stop in, call or email the office **by TUESDAY JANUARY 28<sup>th</sup>** with any information, announcements, updates, etc. that you would like to see in February's newsletter!*

---

As we enter 2020 and the typically harshest months of winter, please contact the office and/or Property Committee if you notice any issues with the heat, water pipes, etc. so they may be repaired promptly.  
Thank you!

## **THANK YOU to all our WORSHIP volunteers!**

Have a question, or would you like to volunteer to help with some part of worship?  
Contact either Chairperson Roberta Dinsmore or the office!

*The Choir Dinner will be held at the Anchor Inn  
on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM  
Regular rehearsals will begin on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>*

DATE	JANUARY 5	JANUARY 12 Baptism of the Lord with the Celebration of the Lord's Supper
PASTOR/LEADER	Rev. Dr. Clair Lundberg	Rev. Dr. Clair Lundberg
LITURGIST*	Dana Hartman	Holly Hartman
NURSERY	Dee Blose	
FLOWERS		Debra Dinsmore
USHERS	R. Barrett, W. Divelbiss, D. Forsythe, J. Hughes	J. Haire, T. Fezell, C. Haire, P. Young
DATE	JANUARY 19	JANUARY 26
PASTOR/LEADER	Terry Fye	Jef Dinsmore
LITURGIST*	Pam Hogan	Donna Kengersky
NURSERY		
FLOWERS		Carole Haire
USHERS	R. Dinsmore, R. Fetterman, R. Dinsmore, B. Burkett	K. Hughes, R. Lettie, D. Hartman, L. Lettie

\*Liturgists will be scheduled on a month-to-month basis until otherwise noted

*If you have a hymn that you would like to sing  
in church or at a hymn sing, please let Nancy know.  
You can email her at [npearce@hotmail.com](mailto:npearce@hotmail.com)  
or write the name and give it to her at church.*

## FINANCE & GENEROSITY

Thank you for donating funds, time, and energy to PCOP!

Date	Attendance in worship	Weekly offering	% to General Fund
December 1	40	\$3,394.00	94.11%
December 8	63	\$2,996.00	95.46%
December 15	54	\$3,055.30	98.03%
December 22	103	\$16,870.31	35.86%
December 24	94	\$3,917.25	94.33%
December 29	40		
NOVEMBER 2019 FINANCIAL HEALTH			
	Current	Year to Date	2019 Total Budget
Receipts	\$10,588.24	\$147,339.10	\$163,003.00
Expenses	\$6,612.82	\$112,033.82	
Excess or [Deficient]	\$3,975.42	\$35,305.28	
DECEMBER 2019 FINANCIAL HEALTH			
	Current	Year to Date	2019 Total Budget
Receipts	\$30,559.07	\$177,938.17	\$163,003.00
Expenses	\$18,389.94	\$130,423.76	
Excess or [Deficient]	\$12,209.13	\$47,514.41	

The **floral arrangements** that regularly grace our sanctuary on Sunday mornings are purchased by church members in honor or in memory of their loved ones. A schedule announcing open dates is published weekly in the bulletin. Flowers are purchased by the Board of Deacons from Steve's Florist and Greenhouse of Punxsy for **\$25**.

The Deacons in turn "charge" those who choose to order the same \$25 amount. As the math indicates, the Deacons makes no additional money in the exchange. (In fact, we sometimes lose money if well-meaning members forget to pay.)

Those who participate are encouraged to take their flowers home following Sunday worship. Flowers left behind are delivered to homebound members or local nursing homes by Deacons.

*If you would like to honor or remember someone, consider purchasing flowers in the urns or on the communion table. There are plenty of open dates available at any time of year! Contact Keri in the church office for more details. Please also call to check when you already have flowers scheduled!*

---

**Monthly Giving  
Spotlight:  
Board of Deacons  
Flower Fund**

---

# MEMBERSHIP & PCOP UPDATES

Birthdays, prayer requests, moving and more!

*Please remember to contact the office if you have any changes in mailing address, email address, or phone number to ensure you are still receiving PCOP updates!*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
TO . . .



## Those Needing Our Prayers

Karina Blose	Betty Brumbaugh	Duane & Pam Carr
Betty Cessna	Jane Crawford	Gillen Geary
The Graham Family	Martha Irvin	Dorothy Jenks
Kathy Kopp	The Ward Family	The Kevin Young Family

January 5	Janice Hodgson
January 20	Doug Chambers
January 21	William Deeley
January 30	Keri Isenberg
January 31	George West

*Please contact the office to add a name to the newsletter/bulletin "Needing Our Prayers" list. Please contact **Rex Lettie** at [pcop.prayer.chain@gmail.com](mailto:pcop.prayer.chain@gmail.com) to join or to add a name to the PCOP Prayer Chain.*



2020 Calendars, Membership Directory, and Offering Envelopes are available in the hallway outside the Memorial Parlor until January 19.

**Please be sure to pick up your materials!**



# SESSION & THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Keeping up with the committees and officers of PCOP!



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The next meeting of the Board of Deacons will be:  
**SUNDAY JANUARY 26<sup>th</sup>**  
9:30 a.m.  
Memorial Parlor

The next meeting of Session (Unicameral Board)  
will be:  
**MONDAY JANUARY 27<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00 p.m.  
Lester Seminar Room

### ***“Thank You!” to the outgoing Class of 2019:***

**Elders:**

**Roberta Dinsmore  
Janey London  
Rick Nesbitt**

**Deacons:**

**Pam Hogan  
Kay Nesbitt**

### ***And “Welcome!” to the Class of 2022:***

**Elders:**

**Roberta Dinsmore  
David Divelbiss  
Richard Fetterman**

**Deacons:**

**Richard Cessna  
Barbara Endress  
Donna Grabany (Class of 2021)  
Pam Hogan**



*Beautifully the sanctuary with flowers*

Write “Deacons Flowers” in check memo line (\$25) and call the office to place your order. Available dates:

January 5, 12, 19  
February 2, 9, 16, 23



## MISSION & OUTREACH

A “Choose Your Own Adventure” to get more involved at PCOP!

### “Thank You!” to our 12/22/19 Children’s Christmas Service Participants:

#### Youth Group

Benjamin Fezell, Jackson Fezell,  
Madilyn Fye, Holly Hartman

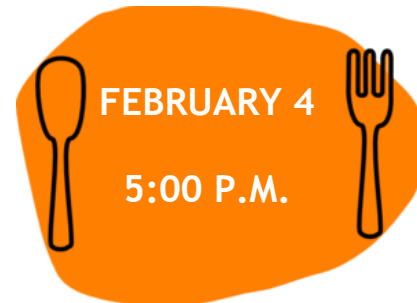
#### Stage Crew

Riley Doverspike & Emily McMahan

#### Sunday School students

Ethan Biesinger, Alex Brothers,  
Kaitlyn Cessna, Kellan Cessna,  
Stevie Doverspike, Olivia Isenberg,  
Gracyn London, Max Roberts,  
Alyssa Stewart, Peyton Stewart,  
Gabriella Suntheimer

*Volunteers are always  
welcome to help at the next  
First Tuesday  
Community Meal!*



#### *“Souper Tuesday”:*

*Chicken/Turkey & Rice Soup*

*Stuffed Pepper Soup*

*Crackers and Bread & Butter*

*Strawberry Pretzel Dessert*

*\*Recipes and sign-up sheets for food,  
kitchen help, serving, and clean-up  
are located on the bulletin board  
outside the Memorial Parlor\**

**Crosstown Ministries Food Pantry  
Woodland Avenue United Methodist Church  
203 Woodland Ave.  
January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 P.M.**

Volunteers are always needed throughout the month to:  
donate food, unload the food truck, prepare boxes for the distribution,  
and distribute the boxes to those who need them

*Please contact Pastor Clint Phillips @ (814) 938-8160 for more information*

# FELLOWSHIP

Have fun and spend time with your PCOP family!



**Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>  
@ 8 A.M.**

Questions? Ask Keith Hughes or Rex Lettie  
Men's Breakfast meets 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month!  
*(unless otherwise noted)*

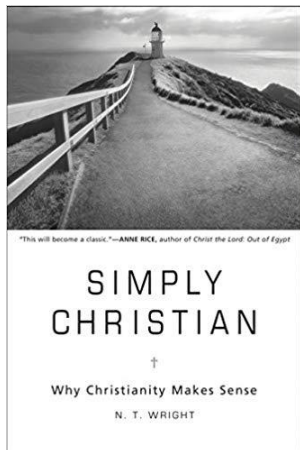
## MEN'S BREAKFAST

### *Saturday Friends Out*

**Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>  
@ 11:45 A.M.**

**Join us @ Gimmick's Restaurant  
(no reservations!)**

Questions? Ask Ann Mumper  
Saturday Friends Out meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month!



**Adult Sunday School  
Lester Seminar Room @ 9:45 A.M.**

**The Adult Sunday School Class is continuing the video series study entitled "Simply Christian" by N.T. Wright. All are welcome.**

## Rev. Paul Doriani Update

Email received December 23, 2019

Dear Punxsutawney Presbyterian Church Members and Friends,

As we all begin the New Year of 2020 I pray with you that our Triune God will richly bless all of us in working together for his honor and glory in Punxsy and its surrounding area, which is our particular field of ministry and mission.

What a joy it was early this year when I was contacted by the PNC of the Presbyterian Church from my hometown, of which I have always been very proud! As that contact turned to several truly delightful meetings with your PNC, and then being able to candidate and receive a Call from you, my excitement only grew. Presbyterians know that our Lord has a plan in everything—even if it does not appear that way to us at times.

Then, early this last October, while driving to pick up groceries and supplies on I-80, just east of Williamsport, a doe deer decided to commit suicide on my vehicle—passenger side, front corner. I've hit deer before and not much happened. The problem this time was that it set off all of the airbags in my Subaru Forester.

The driver's side airbag hit me in the left temple hard enough to spray blood all over the front, and may have given me a mild concussion. My left ear was purple and 4 times its proper size for nearly two weeks. The airbags hit below the dash gave me bone bruises on both shins. I inhaled enough of the powder and smoke from the airbags that I needed breathing treatments at the hospital emergency room.

Meanwhile, I also had a left inguinal hernia, which needed to be repaired before moving and starting a new ministry. Then on the morning after Thanksgiving, aka Black Friday, I awoke with an eye ailment called superficial punctal keratitis. It refers to an irritated area on the cornea. It makes vision very disturbingly smudgy. I started treating it with eye drops immediately and figured it should be gone in 3 days max. A week later it was worse. An eye appointment revealed that the root cause this time was a fast-growing cataract, which causes eyestrain, which helps bring on the punctal keratitis. Clearly, I also need cataract surgery very soon.

My hernia repair is now scheduled for January 9. On January 14 I have my next eye appointment with a cataract surgeon. In all probability, I will be scheduled for cataract surgeries in February. Those are done one eye at a time, as most of you likely know. After that, I should, Lord willing, be able to begin my ministry in Punxsutawney!

This is the set of quite unexpected circumstances which have, much to my dismay, delayed my ability to begin my ministry with you. I understand why you could possibly wonder if I am truly interested in being your pastor. I very, very much am! I absolutely assure you of that!

Please join together in praying for my upcoming medical procedures and for my overall return to robust health so that I can soon join you and be physically equipped for a fruitful ministry for our Lord. It would be silly to deny that there have been a few times when I have wondered "Is the Holy Spirit trying to tell me that I am too old for this?" I truly believe that is not the case. I have not, however, had any doubts that your most friendly, flexible, cooperative and welcoming congregation is the place where I desire to be engaged in the service of pastoral ministry for our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Hope all had a Merry Christmas! Happy New Year and see you soon!

Paul



# WHO DO I CONTACT?

“I have a question about . . .”

Schedules, quarterly financial statement, newsletter, ordering flowers, bulletin information, ordering church supplies, using church facilities, etc. <i>And anything else!</i>	Keri in PCOP office
Hospitalizations, Emergencies, Member Care	Keri in PCOP Office Board of Deacons
PCOP Property & Grounds, maintenance requests	Property Committee Co-Chairs Dana Hartman & William Cooper
Worship information, pulpit supply	Worship Committee Chair Roberta Dinsmore
Baptisms & Weddings	Clerk of Session Doug Chambers
Funerals & Memorial Services	Keri in PCOP Office Funeral Director
Mission & Fellowship Opportunities	Mission & Outreach Chair—Rex Lettie Fellowship Chair—Barbara Burkett
Youth Group & Children’s Sunday School	Youth Group—Dana Hartman Christian Education Chair—
Finances & Giving	Finance/Stewardship Chair Nick Suntheimer
New Members (Joining PCOP)	Clerk of Session Doug Chambers
Choir & Music	Music Director Nancy Pearce
First Tuesday Community Meal	Donna Anderson
Current Members of Session	William Cooper, Dana Hartman, Rex Lettie, Barbara Burkett, Deborah Elder, Nick Suntheimer, Roberta Dinsmore, David Divelbiss, Richard Fetterman
Current Board of Deacons	Lee Blose, Kathi Cessna, Jean Hughes, Debra Dinsmore, Carole Haire, Richard Cessna, Barbara Endress, Donna Grabany, Pam Hogan

# JANUARY 2020 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Be sure to check the bulletin board for coffee hour sign-ups! Everyone loves cookies and coffee!</i></p>			1 Office is CLOSED — New Year's Day	2 Office is CLOSED	3	4
5 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas	6 Epiphany of the Lord	7 5 P.M. Community Meal	8	9 6 P.M. Choir Dinner @ Anchor Inn	10	11
12 Baptism of the Lord with the Celebration of the Lord's Supper	13	14	15	16	17	18 11:45 A.M. Saturday Friends Out @ Gimmick's
19 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  9:30 A.M. Board of Deacons meeting	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day  5:30 P.M. Crosstown Food Pantry	21	22	23	24	25 8 A.M. Men's Breakfast
26 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  9:30 A.M. Board of Deacons Meeting	27 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting	28 February newsletter info deadline	29	30	31	

## ~ Sunday Morning Schedule ~

9:45 A.M. Adult Sunday School in Lester Seminar Room

11:00 A.M. Worship in Sanctuary

During worship: A Time for Young Worshippers

Fellowship Coffee Hour following Worship



106 East Union Street  
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Office hours: 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.  
Monday thru Friday

Office phone: (814) 938-5560

Email: [punxsychurch@comcast.net](mailto:punxsychurch@comcast.net)

Visit online at [www.punxsypc.net](http://www.punxsypc.net)



The office has found an Army National Guard Total Victory Team medal and pin in a black case among various church items. These medals are awarded to post-9/11 deployed National Guard troops and/or their civilian employers.

If you have any information about this medal and where and/or who it came from, please contact the office so it can be returned or archived properly!