

Saved by grace alone, through Christ alone, we love God, love others, and share the Gospel.

THE CHURCH CHIMES

Peters Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church • 608 E. McMurray Road, Suite 102 • McMurray, PA 15317

November/December 2019



**REFORMATION
Sunday**

October 27, 2019



50 year plus members
attending on
Reformation Sunday
(standing)

Bagpiper: Dan Reese is a student of the Balmoral School of Piping and Drumming under George Balderose and most recently, Dan was awarded 'Piper of the Day' at the 2019 Ligonier Highland Games.

The DeWoodys
father and sons.



50 Year Members



Tom McNary	69 years	Howard Philips	60 years
Doris McNary	68 years	Reid Lowe	59 years
Audrey Hast	67 years	Shirley Lowe	59 years
Mary Froebe	66 years	Corinne Murdoch	58 years
Rose Marie Forbes	66 years	Tom McMurray	57 years
Audrey May	65 years	Judith Donaldson	56 Years
William Tomey Jr.	64 years	Kenneth Lash	56 Years
Evelyn "Bunny" Hinch	64 years	William Jones	56 Years
Sara Lou Richardson	64 years	Marjorie Fassett	54 years
Ted Taylor	64 years	Shirley Semko	54 years
Ruth Bramer	63 years	Richard Donaldson	51 years
Dorothy McMurray	63 years	Carol Coffield	50 years
Patricia Barnitz	63 years	Norma Wenzel	50 years



Prepare your hearts for Christmas

“We Have Beheld His Glory” Sermon Series by Rick Wolling

December 1st	Jesus: The Glory of the Eternal God (John 1:1-2)
December 8th	Jesus: The Glory of the Creator of the Universe (John 1:3)
December 15th	Jesus: The Glory of the Light of Life (John 1:4, 9-13)
December 22nd	Jesus: The Glory of the Word Made Flesh (John 1:14)



Once again Deacons are offering beautiful **Bebout** grown poinsettias for Christmas. The price is **\$7.25**. You may use the envelopes in the sign in folders to order or you may put a check in the offering plate with a note that it is for poinsettias and the number of plants you want. The last day to order poinsettias is December 15th.

Christmas Potluck Dinner and 2nd Annual Talent Show



Our Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a salad or vegetable to share. Ham, cheesy potatoes, macaroni and cheese, dessert and beverages will be provided.

After dinner we will have our 2nd annual talent show and traditional Christmas Carol Sing—Along. Bring the whole family out for a night of Christmas fun with your church family!

Please sign up at the Information Table to give us an idea of how many to prepare for.

Peters Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve Services

905 E. McMurray Road • Venetia, PA 15367
(Location: St. David's Episcopal Church Sanctuary)
www.peterscreekchurch.org



5:30 p.m.

Join us for a special family service “His Name is Jesus”

9:30 p.m.

Traditional Candlelight Service featuring a Brass Quartet



Children's Ministry News

November 2019

It's been an incredible few weeks... **THANK YOU**, Church Family, for your patience with your Children's Minister...!!

A few days after a lovely visit with our two L.A.-based sons out West, my husband's and your pastor's hospitalization took us all by surprise. **THANKS BE TO GOD** for Doug's wonderful doctors, for his successful surgery, and for his apparently well progressing recovery!!! Here's to a **THOUGHTFUL** and **THANKFUL** **THANKSGIVING**- and **ADVENT** SEASON for us all...!!!



On Sundays:

We are blessed with Alli, Tori, and Julia on our **Nursery** Caregiver Team. We are looking for a fourth team member, only because these wonderful ladies have such heavy extracurricular schedules that we sometimes need an extra person! **THANK YOU** to our faithful subs, Melissa Maronde, Barb Mullen, and Celine Rothaar (and, lately, also Nancy Maronde) for filling in!

NEWS: We have halted offering Nursery Care during the Sunday School hour as of late, simply because all of our Nursery age kids are currently old enough to participate in the Preschool Sunday School class. When this will change, we'll obviously expand our Nursery services again!

Sunday School has been going great, with Lynn Hutchison and Scott Maronde teaching the Preschool Class; Sandy McMurray, Nancy Maronde, and myself teaching the younger elementary age class; and Dianne Keller and myself teaching the older elementary age group. Susan Prosser, Sally Jeswilkowski, and Jane Long have been so kind as to be on call as well-experienced substitute teachers.

Children's Church, where we are working through a wonderful book from Gospel Light about the Fruit of the Spirit, is always a lot of fun, and both children and teachers learn more each Sunday. I am grateful for the substitute teachers Lorraine Glass, Laura Moran, and Susan Prosser, who have been helping to make sure that there was no Sunday without Children's Church, even when I was not available to teach.

Special Events:

As a Reformed Church, we acknowledge the authority of Scripture, and of Scripture alone.

**"That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
thru' Him who with us sideth."** (A Mighty Fortress;
Martin Luther)





We demonstrate our dependence on the Word, and our gratitude for it, when we give **age-appropriate versions of Scripture to the young ones** in our midst... to children, who, from an early age on, are being trained up in the reading and the enjoyment of God's Word.

This year, instead of giving out Bibles in the framework of Reformation Sunday, we passed out Bibles to children during the worship service on **October 20**, since I was out of town on October 27 (visiting two of my own children).

The following children are receiving Bibles this year:

Maiya Maronde, having joined the Preschool Class, received a Preschool Bible (Story Book).

Andrew Caesar, having joined the Older Elementary Sunday School Class, received the **2:52 Boys Bible: The Ultimate Manual** (referring to Luke 2:52). **Benny Fowler and Alex Nguyen**, also new to the Older Elementary School Class, could not be there on the 20th, and will yet receive their Bibles.

COMING UP NEXT:



1.) In right about a week, it'll be Thanksgiving... And right after **Thanksgiving**, it'll be time to celebrate **AVENT!**

The First Sunday in Advent is Sunday, **December 1st!**

If your family would like to be readers of an **Advent Devotion and lighters of Advent Candles**, would you please let me know... along with which Sunday(s) in Advent would suit you best...?!

The dates are **December 1, 8, 15, 22**. We are also looking for a family to light the Advent Wreath at 5:30 pm on **Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24**.

A devotion will be sent to you the week prior to the Sunday you sign up! We'd love to have many of you participate in this deLIGHTful ceremony, reminding us all of the Coming of Jesus, LIGHT of the world!!



2.) Thanks to the tireless work of Choir Director Eric Beeko, we are also looking forward to welcoming the **Children's Choir** back this December!

Stay tuned for an extra special Christmas celebration with the help of the children this year...!



3.) Marion and I are excited to announce we will offer a **NEW CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**, to be shown to the congregation during the **5:30 pm Family Worship Service on Christmas Eve, December 24!**

The title of this play is, "HIS NAME IS JESUS!" It's easy to read, to speak, and to understand, and it focuses our attention on what Christmas is all about - on Him Who came to save us!

We will have two practices for this pageant, which the Children's Choir song will fit right into, as well. Practice times will be worked out in cooperation with participating families.

If you didn't do so already, please let me know asap which of your children will be able to participate--either with a speaking part or costume.



4.) Our **Second Annual Talent Show** will be held during our upcoming **Christmas Potluck Dinner, Sunday, December 8, beginning at 5 pm!!**

Have you and your children started planning **your act(s)??** Let's have some more dancing, singing, dribbling, and hoola-hooping, like last year -- what fun that was!!! Maybe there will be some joke-telling or a juggling act this time? Or.... ??

....Can't wait to see many of our church family in action!!

(Note: If you plan on using music, let's plan on using a CD player or the actual keyboard-- the Wifi is unfortunately unreliable in the Parish Hall!!)

5.) We will be having another Family Worship Service on Sunday, December 29th. The children will be participating in the service that day and they will also be singing their Christmas Eve song for the congregation.



...THANK YOU, Church Family, for all your support of this Children's Ministry!!

Please keep praying for all the children and families in our congregation; and please let me know if you have any comments, questions, or suggestions...!

Yours, in Him,

Katie Brandt



After a several month hiatus, we are excited to announce our youth ministry program will kick-off at the beginning of December. In several discussions with parents and youth, it was determined that to start off our ministry, we will meet Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour. This will be a time of learning and fellowship. On Wednesday evenings, we will gather at the new church office for a time of study, prayer and food. Wednesday evenings will begin Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00pm. Any questions, please e-mail or call Marion Maentz, Youth Ministry Director. E-mail: marion@peterscreekchurch.org or Phone: 412.208.5825

December Men's Breakfast



All men are invited to join us for breakfast on the second Saturday of each month at the Bob Evans in Peters at 9:00 a.m. Our next Men's Breakfast is **Saturday, December 14th**. We hope you will join us!

NOVEMBER

MOM

Mission of the Month
Angel Tree



"J" is an 18 year old who lives in the South Hills. His dad died in the past year and his mom is a drug addict. He is homeless and is living with a friend's family temporarily. This family can not afford to buy Christmas gifts for him. "J" owns one sweatshirt and 2 pair of jeans. He would greatly appreciate some more clothes.

Last Christmas our church gave Christmas gifts to a family with 5 boys. The boys wear these winter clothes all of the time, even in the summer! Their father was extremely grateful last year and was thrilled that his boys might receive gifts this Christmas too.

We will also be giving some gifts to abused and neglected children served by Washington County Children and Youth Services. These children need to feel loved. "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16

You can share the love of God with these little ones. The date that the gift is due back will be on each tag. **Please bring them back unwrapped by December 8th.**



**Communion
Sunday,
December 1st**



**Remember
Food Pantry
Sunday, December 1st**

Church Staff

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Publication Deadlines

Articles for the Church Chimes and announcements for the bulletin should be submitted in electronic format.

Submissions for the Chimes are due no later than noon on the 15th of each month for the following month's edition.

Sunday Bulletin Submissions are due no later than noon each Wednesday.

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