



THE LAMPLIGHTER NEWSLETTER

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOKENDAUQUA

610-264-9693

OCTOBER

EMAIL: HOKEYPRES@GMAIL.COM

2019

WEBSITE: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOKENDAUQUA

Elders Class of 2019

- Sally Heffner
- Eileen Tremblay
- Barry Keck
- Carol Snyder

Elders Class of 2020

- Kevin Justice
- Tammy Seidick
- Dave Sentiwany
- Joyce Wheeler

Elders Class of 2021

- Sue Butchinski
- MaryAnn Miller
- Melody Faisetty
- John Faisetty

Deacons Class of 2019

- Gail Rhinehart
- Louise Juretus
- Carol Clancy

Deacons Class of 2020

- Janet Keck
- Archie Myes

Deacons Class of 2021

- Donna Pontician
- Samara Mebane
- Karen Sentiwany
- Carol Steigerwalt

*****WE ARE NOW ON FACEBOOK*****

As I was toying with different ideas for this month's letter from me, I kept coming back to something I'm struggling with, and I decided this would be the perfect opportunity for me to share that with all of you. Since I came to Hokey four months ago, I have been focusing my sermons on Jesus. Obviously Jesus is at the center of our worship all the time, but I have been feeling particularly nudged by the Holy Spirit to help us delve more deeply into the teachings of Jesus: what he told us is important, what he told us to do, and how he told us to minister to the world after he was taken up to heaven. At first blush, this sounds sweet and simple: follow Jesus. But the truth is, it is all much more complex than we sometimes realize. Our first sermon series, Jesus the Superhero, focused on the miracles found in the Gospel of Mark. Our second series, which we recently wrapped up, focused on the Parables. And we are starting a new series for the fall that focuses on the Sermon on the Mount. In each of these sermons, there have been moments that felt a bit political. There is really no other way to put it. Jesus was living and teaching during a tumultuous time in the Middle East, when his homeland of Israel was under oppressive Roman rule. The Jewish people – including Jesus, don't forget – often struggled with the realities of living their faith while being ruled by a government that believed in multiple gods (polytheism). For Jesus and the Jews, of course, there was only one God. There are many reasons, far too many to go into here, why the Roman oppression was difficult for the Jewish people in Jesus' time, but understanding that helps us to get a better grip on the political nuances in much of what Jesus says. I struggle with the worry that sometimes my sermons may sound as though I am being "too political," but the fact is, much of what Jesus said and taught was based on dealing with the political situation in his world. Beyond that, Jesus' teachings are rooted in the Old Testament. Every time he says "It is written that..." you can find it in the Old Testament, usually Deuteronomy, Leviticus, or Isaiah. Jesus really loved Isaiah. But sometimes that is followed by "But I say that..." and that's when Jesus turns everything on its ear. That's Jesus for you – always challenging his listeners to revisit what they think, to ask the hard questions, and to make sure they are always actively living their faith. When I preach about something Jesus said that feels like I'm being political, it's because I am. But that is not me pointing my finger from the pulpit at anybody, or me taking a Republican or Democrat stance. When I preach what Jesus taught about loving our neighbors, or helping the needy, or it's not a Republican or Democrat issue. It's a Christian issue. It's a Jesus issue. It's an issue that the church needs to take to heart if we are to be effective disciples in a world that desperately needs effective disciples. I hope you enjoy the fall series as we explore the Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus is at his straight-talking, no-holds-barred best. And please remember that my door is always open if you'd like to talk about any of this at any time. Hugs and coffee are always included.

Love, Pastor Christy

OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9 AM. Every first and third Sunday.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: 8:30 AM in the chapel.

BOOK CLUB: Every Monday at 9:30 AM

CHOIR REHERSAL: Every Wednesday at 7PM

REGULAR CHURCH HOURS Church will begin at 10 a.m.

Session will meet Thursday, October 17 at 7 PM.



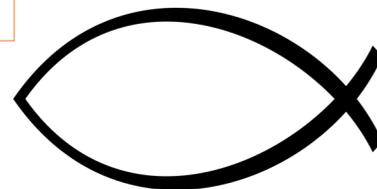
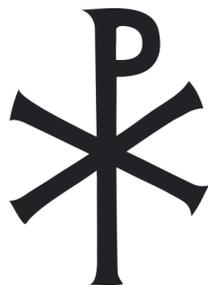
Rev. Christy's

Hours: You may find her in her office Tuesday through Friday from 10 AM until 2 PM.

It might be a good idea to let her know ahead of time if you need to speak with her, you may call the church at 610-264-9693 or by emailing her at revchristyk@gmail.com

On Tuesday October 15, 2019 our church is hosting the Community Dinner. If you would like to be involved please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

On October 20 our church and choir will hold a service at Westminster.



CHURCH FINANCES FOR August 2019 From Sue Butchinski, Church Treasurer

<u>Giving</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>
Income	\$ 7430.37	\$ 7778.53	\$348.16 over
Expenses	\$ 8629.17	\$ 8541.54	\$ 87.63 under
YTD			
Income	\$56863.90	\$74781.25	\$17917.35 over
Expenses	\$55103.72	\$54463.83	\$ -639.89 under

Presbyterian Women Going Strong!

The seeds we cast locally are germinated nationally. Presbyterian Women celebrated 30 years and have started planning for the next 30 years! PW gained official status at the United Nations, thus strengthening their global witness. Through offerings PW awarded nearly one million dollars in grants for mission and ministry (five international and sixteen domestic ministries)! Forty-seven PWs rolled up their sleeves and became Presbyterian Disaster Assistance trainers. These are just a few of the things PW has done in 2018. Local and regional work impacts national work, and vice versa! If you have questions about PW please email them to Sharon.gillies@pcusa.org or go to their Facebook page.



What a treat to see all the eager faces returning for another year of Sunday School! Carol and Gail are also back teaching. We accept children from 4 years old and above. Bible lessons, crafts, and snacks "O MY" and a lot of fun. Our classes are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 9:00 am until 9:45 am. All teachers have PA Criminal and Child Abuse clearances. For more information on how to enroll your child, please call the Church office, at 610-264-9693 or email hokeypres@gmail.com



From the Nominating Committee:

We are now in an exciting time here at church. Rev. Christy has arrived along with her energy, enthusiasm, genuine caring, wonderful ideas, and meaningful sermons each Sunday morning!

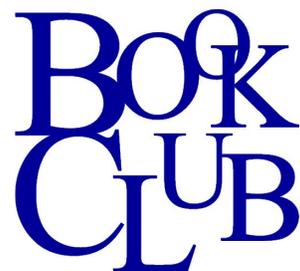
Please prayerfully consider becoming a Deacon or Elder when asked this fall. Rev. Christy's energy is contagious! Join in the fun!

One of our church goals is to GROW, both spiritually and numerically. Your saying "YES" and sharing your ideas will help reach that goal.

Thanks in advance.



Fall has officially begun! Our Monday Morning Book Club has also begun. Currently we are using the Presbyterian Women's 2019/2020 Horizons Bible Study titled *Love Carved in Stone*, a fresh look at the Ten Commandments. Our lively group meets on, yes you guessed it, Monday mornings from 9:30 until 11:00. Refreshments and coffee are an extra enticement. So please come and join us, we take our Bible seriously but not ourselves.



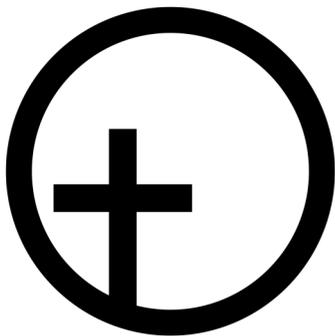
October Birthdays

- Oct. 4: Malia Corsino
- Oct. 9: Melody Faisetty
Emily Joan Ducko
- Oct. 15: James Shedlauskas
- Oct. 16: Margie Arehart
- Oct. 23: Bruce Linton
Janelle Sentiwany



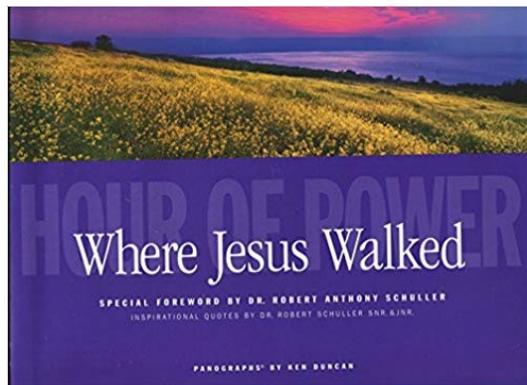
Rev. Kim with our Sunday School children .

Our Church has received a thank you for all we do for the Whitehall Food Pantry. You may see this letter on our bulletin board.



OUR PAUL DYER MEMORIAL HEALTH

LIBRARY: This month we feature “Where Jesus Walked” an Hour of Power book by Dr. Robert Anthony Schuller. This book is much more than a modern travel story. It traces the footprints of a man like no other—Jesus Christ. This is a beautiful book filled with photos of the Holy Lands.



Free Community Meals: Sunday, October 6, 2019 Muslim Association of the Lehigh Valley, Shadt Ave. Tuesday, October 15, First Presbyterian of Hokendauqua, 3005 Front Street Whitehall.

Open/Drop-In Grief Support Groups: Coping with the Holidays: Allentown: Thursday, October 24, 6 to 8 PM at St. Luke's Allentown Campus. Dimmig Education Center.

Gentle Yoga for Grief, Stress and Life Transitions is offered by Wendy Littner Thompson, M.Ed., LPC, RYT. Please contact her at 610-730-1992 or visit her website at www.givinggriefavoice.com

Snack Pack Pals: We continue to help the students of Whitehall-Coplay Schools by accepting items for Snack Pack Pals. How you can help...Monetary Donations can be made payable and sent to Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative, 1080 Schadt Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052, or you may donate food, coupons and personal and toiletry items. Drop off points are the Coplay Public Library, Re/Max Unlimited Real Estate, Whitehall Public Library. For more information contact Leah Saliby at saliby@whitehallcoplay.org.

Special Request for Baby and Toddler Supplies by the Lehigh Conference of Churches. Contact Rowe@lehighchurches.org for more information or see the notice on our bulletin board.

Would you like to be a part of the helping Hands Care Team? Please contact Robin at the Lehigh Presbytery if you are interested. 610-391-9020 or email office@lehighpresbytery.org.

Basket Social: Presbyterian Church of Catasauqua. Friday, October 4 from 4 PM to 7 PM and Saturday, October 5, from 9 AM to 12 PM.

Hunger Walk: October 13, 2019, see information on the bulletin board.

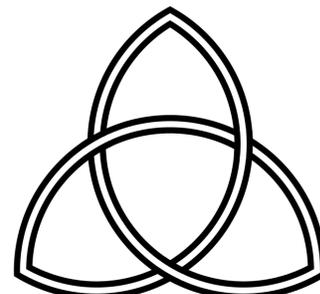
Mosque Open House: Saturday 26th October, 11 AM to 2 PM. Muslim Association of Lehigh Valley, Schadt Avenue, Whitehall.

The 7th Annual Luminaria Lighting, Saturday, November 9, 2019, 4PM to 6PM, St. Luke's Center, 1110 St. Luke's Way, Allentown. All proceeds go to St. Luke's Hospice Program. Registration is required, see notice on bulletin board.

IT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENCE EXPERIENCE! Have you ever taken the time to look at our church website? Our church newsletter is there and it is a whole different experience reading it on line—it's in **color** and the photos are **crystal clear**. You might even like it better than the paper version—by switching to the on line version you would be saving the church the cost of a stamp, paper, copier toner etc. Let the office know your preference.

Remember to save your Redner Tapes and you soda can tabs, and Box Tops for Education. See the collection jars in Fellowship Hall.

PLEASE VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: The more engagement our church Facebook page receives, the more Facebook will make our page visible to followers and friends. So, take a minute to visit our page at www.facebook.com/HokeyPres and make sure you "like" the page, "follow" and "turn on" your notifications.



Please drop a card or note to our members who, because of health or transportation problems, find it difficult to worship with us Sunday morning.



Mrs. Jane Periera	5575 Green Pond Road, Easton, PA 18045
Mrs. James DeWalt	Cedarbrook, 350 S. Cedarbrook Rd., Room 322, Allentown, PA 18104
Dolly Kramlich	Above & Beyond at the Knights, 1545 Greenleaf St., #206 Allentown, PA 18102
Dorothy Kromer	3107 S. Third Street, Whitehall, PA 18052
Mrs. Lila Bowman	3422 Thomas St., Whitehall, PA 18052
Dorothy Somers	Fellowship Manor, Unit 273, 3010 Fellowship Drive, Whitehall, PA 18052
Jean Krall	Sacred Heart By the Creek, 602 E. 21st St., Room 218, Northampton, PA 18067
Edith Scheirer	Atria Asst. Liv, 1745 W. Macada Rd., Rm. 291, Bethlehem, PA 18017
Mae Hart	Devon House, 1930 Bevin Drive, Allentown, PA 18103

Deborah Altorfer
Abruzzi Family
Stephen Arehart
Stephanie Baily
Karen Becker
Cory Borger
Bonnie Brandmeir
Lila Bowman
Jonah Brown
Susan Chandler
Elizabeth Connors
Kathy Cutter
Esther DeWalt
Michael Dobry
Lib Dorwart
Dolly Dougherty

Brenda Feiller
Peter Gilbert
Rebekah Gilbert
Raina Gomez
Maria Gontkosky
Charlie Grim
Glenn Harris
Pamela Henckel
Nicky Hudack
Joe "B"
Joe Kanusky
Klepeiss Family
Jean Krall
Linda Kramaranko
Rosemary Kravenko
Judy Kresley

Ivy Lynch
McKnight Family
Kathy Micio
Mary Ellen Oroskey
Jane Periera
People in the Military
Angie Pontician
Jacob Rivera
Linda Schlosser
Cynthia Schwenk
Becky Shreck
Joshua Scoble
Jim Shedlauskas
Joanne Sienkiewicz
Donna Walck
Carol Walker

Dave Weikel
Matthew Yudt
Children at the Mission of the Good Shepherd,
People suffering from depression.

