



Church-Wide Caroling & Pot Luck Supper: Join us **December 18th**, when we will go caroling from 4 – 6 PM. At 6:00 to 6:30, we will return to the church and have a potluck meal. Rev. Andrews will read a good Christmas story. Please let the church office (275-0692) know how many, so we can ensure enough buses are scheduled, and what you would like to bring.

Calendar of Church Events

Sun. Dec. 4: Communion & Ingathering Offering / 2nd Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Church School & Confirmands
- 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM Worship
- 11:15 AM Worship & Music Committee

Mon. Dec. 5: 8:30 AM Tutoring Class - GR

- 6:00 PM Committees
- 6:45 PM Session Elders
- 6:45 PM Deacons – KH

Tues. Dec. 6: 9:00 AM Spiritual Growth - GR

- 6:00 PM Adult Bells

Wed. Dec. 7: 11:00 AM DRAMA

- 5:00 PM Kindermusik A / 5:45 PM Kindermusik B
- 6:30 PM Jr. & Youth Choirs
- 6:30 PM Cherub Choir
- 6:30 PM Adult Choir
- 7:30 PM Kerygma

Thurs. Dec. 8: 7:00 PM BSA Troop 39 – FH

Fri. Dec. 9: 8:30 AM Tutoring Class – GR
2:30 PM - 7 PM Viola/Violin Lessons – GR

Sat. Dec. 10: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM Comm. Christmas Concert Rehearsal

- 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM Eagle Scout Ceremony – Kit., FH, Sanct.
- 7:30 PM SVC Candlelight Christmas Concert – Zion Church, Sunbury

Sun. Dec. 11: 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Church School & Confirmands
- 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM Worship – All Choirs Sing
- 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM Community Christmas Concert - Grove
- 3:00 PM SVC Candlelight Christmas Concert – Zion Church, Sunbury
- 6:00 PM Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House
- 7:00 PM Book Club – Smith-Cooney Home



Grove Presbyterian Church News

www.GrovePresbyterianChurch.org

December 4, 2016

We welcome guests to complete a Pew Card and place it in the offering plate.

If you are new in the area or are looking for a new place of worship and fellowship, we extend to you a warm welcome. For our first time guests we want you to have a special gift. On the windowsills you will find a mug. Please take one with our compliments. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee on us.

Fully handicapped accessible bathrooms, for both men and women, are located in the foyer of the courtyard entrance, which can be reached through the fellowship hall. The door to the fellowship hall is to the right of the pulpit. See ushers if you need assistance.

All persons are welcome to yield themselves to the Communion of the Lord's Supper, professing faith in Christ Jesus as Lord, devoting their lives to Christian discipleship, removing from their hearts any improper affection or lack of love towards their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Children are welcome to the table, provided they come with parental permission and an appreciation for the meaning of the Sacrament. Adults who are interested in Baptism and church membership are invited to talk with the pastor or any of the Elders. The communion elements consist of cubed bread, gluten free wafers, and regular grape juice.

Communion Elders scheduled for today are Cathy L. Sanders, Amanda E. Leicht, Mary Ellen M. Doll & Paul W. Kettlewell.

Deacons for the month of December are Spring Taylor-Santos, Gary Christian, and Scott Romberger. Large print bulletins and bulletins for children are available from the ushers.



Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Doug Crowl, given by his wife Jan, children Nancy and Charlie, and grandchildren Drew, Chris, and Samantha.

Thank you for your gifts for today's Food Bank Ingathering. The food bank is sponsored by all area churches and is an emergency supply of food for families in Riverside and Montour County.



Special Coffee Fellowship!: The youth are hosting a special coffee fellowship today in honor of Natalie Kupas and in gratitude for her 10 years of service to Grove's youth. Help us continue to enjoy simple coffee hour fellowship after worship each Sunday by signing up. Coffee hour will not take place on the days the sign-up sheet remains vacant. A sign-up sheet can be found hanging on the wall outside the church kitchen. Please, no nut products due to allergies.

2016 CHURCH DATA

MONTH TO DATE	AMT.	YEAR TO DATE	AMT.
Nov. Budget Needed	\$ 56,656.45	2016 Budget	\$319,000.00
Nov. Offerings Received	\$ 18,391.00	2016 Offerings	\$224,078.10
Nov. Balance Needed =	(\$ 38,265.45)	2016 Balance =	(\$ 94,921.90)

Attendance November 27: 10:15 AM = 93
December Budget Needed = 94,921.90

Session Reminder - Tomorrow: Committees of Session, Board of Deacons, and Session Elders will meet tomorrow, **Monday, Dec. 5**, starting at 6:00 PM.



Christmas Friends Angel Tree – Due Next Sunday: The Christmas Friends Angel Tree is once again in the fellowship hall. This is a community based project run by the Danville Area School District to help those families in need within the district. We provide clothing and a toy item for each child. When you take an Angel from the tree you can shop for that child then return the wrapped gift with the angel attached by next **Sunday, December 11**. Thanks for your participation in this project again this year. As in the past, Grove members have always been generous with their giving. If you have any questions call Wendy Adelsberger: (570)764-1229 or (570)437-3867.

Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House – Next Sunday: Grove will be providing dinner for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House on **Sunday – Dec. 11th** at 6 pm. A sign-up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall for those willing to help with providing food/dishes, and or clean up. Please contact Amanda Leicht at 570-284-4144 or amandaleicht@hotmail.com to help with this local ministry.

Grove Book Club: The selection for **Sunday, December 11**, is – “*Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living*” by Krista Tippett. We will gather at 7:00 PM in the home of Stephanie Smith-Cooney – 56 Overlook Drive, Danville. Newcomers are always welcome.

Community Christmas Concert: This year's Christmas concert, featuring many local musicians, will be from **2:00 – 5:30 PM Sunday, December 11th**. Many local artists will be performing traditional music as well as originally composed Holiday numbers. The concert is open to the public and free, although there will be an "at will offering" to benefit the Gate House Shelter. We hope to see you all there.

Child Care During Worship: Children are always welcome in worship, but we know sometimes other options are needed. Professional child care is provided by Sandy Lewis and Chelsey Stamey for children birth through age five starting at 9AM in the Infant/Toddler Room. Worship bags are located on the giraffe coat rack in the front of the sanctuary and are available for children's use during the service and returned to the giraffe after the service.

Alternative Gift Catalog: It is easy to get lost in the hustle and bustle of Advent. This year, we are once again offering the Alternative Gift Catalog to provide an opportunity to share Christ's love within our church, community, and world. This catalog features local programs such as Camp Victory and the Gate House Shelter, national programs including the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and international programs like Heifer International. Copies are available in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall, and church office. Additional gift cards are available if needed. You can make checks payable to Grove Presbyterian Church.

Next Breakfast Group: Will meet **Thursday, Dec. 15th** at 8:30 AM at Ric-Mar Restaurant. Please contact **Greg Bitler: 484-332-4874** for your reservation.

Jan. / Feb. Spire Articles: Are due no later than **Monday, Dec. 12th** in order to make the Daily Item deadline for printing.

The Community Christmas Tree: Is in much need of monetary donations to purchase Food for the holiday season. They have plenty of clothes and toys thanks to generous donations. They are looking to cover approximately 400 families this Christmas. If you can help, please contact the church office at 570-275-0692.

Susquehanna Valley Chorale: Come see the Susquehanna Valley Chorale for its ever-popular holiday performance, *A Candlelight Christmas*, on Saturday, **December 10 at 7:30 PM** and Sunday, **December 11 at 3 PM** at Zion Lutheran Church in Sunbury. The performance will feature readings of the Nine Lessons, the singing of popular carols, Randol Bass's Gloria and Dan Forrest's Festival First Nowell. The SVC will be joined by the Zion Handbell Choir to ring in the holiday season, Commonwealth Brass Ensemble, harpist Elizabeth Asmus, flutist Amy Kenny and organist David Cover. Tickets for A Candlelight Christmas can be purchased online at www.svcmusic.org or by calling 570-547-0455.

The Community Singers` Christmas Concert: Will be presented Monday **December 19th**, 7 PM at St. Peter's United Methodist Church, 240 Sunbury Road, Riverside. There is also a mini concert by "Touch of Class" an instrumental group. Refreshments will be served in the social hall after the performance.

The Danville Community Band: Will hold their annual holiday concert **Thursday December 22**, 7 PM at Trinity METHODIST Church, 306 Lombard Ave., Danville. (Please not change in location from past years.)

Café Communion Service: January 1st there will be a member led service at Grove. The worship committee decided to make this another Café Communion Service held in the fellowship hall. All who attend are to bring a covered dish, brunch style, to share. There will be Christmas Carols sung, food enjoyed, communion served at the individual tables led by Scott Lawvere, and, in lieu of a sermon, all those attending will be asked to share their Christ Centered New Year's Resolution. Perhaps this will be a small intimate service, but what a better way to celebrate the New Year!

2017 Offering Envelopes: Are now available in the Fellowship Hall on the table by the kitchen. If you are visiting a member who cannot make it to church, please lend a hand and bring them their envelopes. If you prefer to not use envelopes, please contact the office and let us know so that number can be removed from the system. - **Please do not use the new envelopes until 2017.**

Holiday Services: Christmas Eve Services will be held at 7 PM and 10 PM on **Saturday, December 24th**. At 7 PM we will have a family service with candlelight and plenty of special music. The 10 PM service will be a time of quiet contemplation with lessons and carols. We look forward to seeing you at the service of your choice, or at both if you are so inspired! Please be reminded that there will be no church school before the 10:15 service on **Sunday, Dec. 25th**.

Please Note: The books will be closed from Monday, December 26th, to January 6th. Checks cannot be written until January 9th, 2017. If you anticipate a check needed during that time, please request it **no later than December 19th**. This would include any purchases (receipts) that you chose to donate to the church rather than be reimbursed. Offerings received December 26th will be credited for 2016, but all donations received **any day after December 26th** will be credited for 2017. Thank you.

Securing Your Property: 'Tis the season – with the holidays upon us and the weather getting colder, staff has been encountering transients. Some are out of town transients simply passing through the area, and some are locals in need of financial assistance or housing. We remind you to please check all doors if you are the last to leave. Unlocked doors can put our members and property at risk. So, please remember to double check when exiting (push and pull to make sure doors latched correctly). Many have been found locked, but not latched. You can also help by keeping an eye out on the church when passing for any suspicious activities. If you notice non-members congregating, groups of skateboarders, etc., you can call the Danville police non-emergency line (275-2101) to have them investigate. We thank you all for your assistance in securing the property.

Kindermusik: The second semester of Kindermusik starts **Wed., Feb. 1st**. Classes will be held on Wednesdays in the preschool room and are offered to two different age groups. Children aged 16 months – three years will meet at 5:00 PM. Children ages three to four years will meet at 5:45 PM. Since materials need to be ordered, completed registration forms and the materials' fee are due in the church office no later than **Sunday, Jan. 22**. Registration forms can be found on the tables in the back of the sanctuary, by the mailboxes outside the fellowship hall, on the church website, and in the December Spire.

Member Information: In anticipation of the 2017 in-house member directory, we would like to ask that you please let the office know should you have any changes (name, family status, address, home phones, cell phones, email addresses, etc.) Email your changes to GroveChurch@aol.com or phone the church office (275 - 0692).

Robert Burns Supper: All are invited to attend the Annual Burns Supper on **Saturday, January 28th**, 6:30 PM at Rolling Pines Country Club in Berwick, to celebrate the birthday of Scotland's Immortal Bard, Robert Burns. Come and display your Tartan and enjoy an evening of Authentic Scottish food, Bagpipes, Poetry and Singing. There will be many toasts (cash bar) and of course, the HAGGIS will be addressed. The cost of the evening is \$30.00 and attendance is not limited. Contact Bill Godfrey (570-284-4248, wsgodfrey1@gmail.com) or Greg Bitler (484-332-4874, gbitler@ptd.net) for reservations and payment.

The "Pirlie Pig": The Scottish name for the pottery money-box with a slot for the insertion of money is a "pirlie-pig". Donations continue to fund the progress of Krislund Camp. November donations totaled \$29.00.