

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!


December 11, 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.


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 memory of my mother, Joan Deeter; given by Eric Deeter.

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.

 **Coffee Fellowship:** Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after the service today. We thank Joy & Gary Christian and Beth Christian & Eric Deeter for hosting. 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.

Next Sunday – Joyce's Caroling Tour & Pot Luck Supper: Join us next Sunday, **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.

 **Christmas Friends Angel Tree – Due Today:** Today is the final day to return gifts for the Christmas Friends Angel Tree. Thanks for your participation in this project again this year; Grove members have always been generous with their giving. If you have any questions call Wendy Adelsberger: (570)764-1229 or (570)437-3867.

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.**

Calendar of Church Events



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- Sun. Dec. 11:** **3rd Sunday of Advent / Angel Tree Gifts Due**
- 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, Youth - Grove
 - 3:00 PM SVC Candlelight Christmas Concert – Zion Church, Sunbury
 - 6:00 PM Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House
 - 7:00 PM Community Christmas Concert, Adult Performances - Grove
 - 7:00 PM Book Club – Smith-Cooney Home
- Mon. Dec. 12:** **Jan. / Feb. Combined Spire Articles Due**
- 8:30 AM Tutoring Class - GR.
- Tues. Dec. 13:** **Youth Group - Bake Cookies for Caroling**
- 9:00 AM Spiritual Growth - GR
 - 6:00 PM Adult Bells
- Wed. Dec. 14:** 5:00 PM Kindermusik A / 5:45 PM Kindermusik B
- 5:30 PM Brownie Troop
 - 6:30 PM Jr. & Youth Choirs
 - 6:30 PM Cherub Choir
 - 6:30 PM Adult Choir
 - 7:30 PM Kerygma
- Thurs. Dec. 15:** 8:30 AM Breakfast Group – Ric Mar
- 7:00 PM BSA Troop 39 – FH
- Fri. Dec. 16:** 8:30 AM Tutoring Class – GR
- 2:30 PM - 7 PM Viola/Violin Lessons – GR
- Sat. Dec. 17:** 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Scouts Cookie Bake – Kit & FH
- Sun. Dec. 18:** **4th Sunday of Advent / Christmas Joy Special Offering**
- 9:00 AM **Mission Sunday - FH**
 - 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Church School – Kit & FH
 - 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 - 10:15 AM Worship
 - 4:00 PM Joyce's Caroling Tour and Pot Luck Supper

2016 CHURCH DATA

MONTH TO DATE	AMT.	YEAR TO DATE	AMT.
Dec. Budget Needed	\$ 94,921.90	2016 Budget	\$319,000.00
Dec. Offerings Received	\$ 3,871.00	2016 Offerings	\$227,949.10
Dec. Balance Needed =	(\$ 91,050.90)	2016 Balance =	(\$ 91,050.90)

Attendance December 4: 10:15 AM = 113

Grove Elders are asking each of our parishioners to please include in your prayers in the days ahead the following: the Pastor Nominating Committee - for help, guidance, and direction; our Pastor, Bob Andrews - for strength and direction as he prepares for his new role in his retirement; and the Session - to bring wisdom and understanding in our transformation as we prepare for our new chapter in Grove Church.

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

Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House – Today: Grove will be providing dinner for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House today, **Sunday – Dec. 11th** at 6 pm. Please contact Amanda Leicht at 570-284-4144 or amandaleicht@hotmail.com to help with this local ministry.

Today - Grove Book Club: The selection for today, **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.

Today - Susquehanna Valley Chorale: Come see the Susquehanna Valley Chorale for its ever-popular holiday performance, *A Candlelight Christmas*, today - 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.

Community Christmas Concert - Today: This year's Christmas concert, featuring many local musicians, takes place today - **Sunday, December 11th**. The youth of Zing will perform from **2:00 – 5:30 PM** at Grove. Adults will perform later that evening at **7:00 PM**, also at Grove. 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.

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

Attention Committee Chairs’ – 2016 Annual Reports: Members of the congregation have asked we revert back to a full annual report which will include reports from all committees. It was asked the reports be available a week prior to the congregational meeting which will be held on Sunday, January 22nd. As it is asked that your reports be sent in by Wednesday, January 4th. A special **Thank You** to those whom send in their reports earlier as it is a great help to me during a very busy time of year.

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.)

Grove’s 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, Dec. 26th, to Jan. 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.

Snow Policy: There will always be worship service at Grove Church. When the snow and bad weather arrive, Church School will be canceled by a joint decision of the Director of Children’s Ministry and the pastor. An announcement will be made over the radio and TV, if possible. Teachers will be informed of the cancellation by the phone chain. All efforts will be made to have the sidewalks and parking areas plowed and cleaned as soon as possible. **During the week, in the event that the Danville Schools are closed due to bad weather, Grove’s Church Office will also be closed, and all activities scheduled for that day will be canceled.** If the schools open one or two hours later, the office will be open and the activities will be held as scheduled.

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, 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, wcgodfrey1@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.

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.

Get In The Grove: Free WiFi is now available throughout the church building. To access the wifi, choose **GroveConnect**, then enter password **GetInTheGrove**. Thank you to Grove's new IT team for their hard work in making this possible.

Office Staff Schedule – Starting in January, Kristin will be here Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 AM – 4 PM. Bulletins will now be printed Thursday mornings. News articles will still be needed each Tuesday. The office will be open Mon. through Thurs. 8 AM – 4 PM as always. Although the office is not advertised as open on Fridays, Clare is always here – but uses that day to run errands and such.

Music Librarian Needed: We are in need of a volunteer music librarian to help take care of Choir and Bell Choir music – this would involve sending some time getting organized, then approximately an hour/week. Please consider if might be an opportunity for you. – contact Joy Christian if interested - joy@evenlink.com

Sign-Up Sheets: The sign-up sheets to purchase the Sunday Flowers, host coffee hour, or run the sound system during worship, is located on the wall to the church kitchen. Please start with filling in January and February first.

Office Closed: Please note – in observance of the holidays, the office will be closed Monday, Dec. 26th and Monday, Jan. 2nd.