

**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).

# Grove Presbyterian Church News

www.GrovePresbyterianChurch.org


December 18, 2016

**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!


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.

 Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Tom Stayer, Kessey Kieselhorst's father.

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.


 **Coffee Fellowship:** Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after the service today. We thank The Cotner Family 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.

 **Today – Joyce's Caroling Tour & Pot Luck Supper:** Join us today, Sunday, **December 18th**, for 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.

**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.**

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.

## Calendar of Church Events

**Sun. Dec. 18:**  **4<sup>th</sup> 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 & Pot Luck Supper

**Mon. Dec. 19:** 8:30 AM Tutoring Class - GR  
 7:00 PM Community Singers Christmas Concert – St. Peters, Riverside

**Tues. Dec. 20:** 9:00 AM Spiritual Growth - GR  
 6:00 PM Adult Bells


**Wed. Dec. 21:** **First day of Winter**  
 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 Rehearsal  
 7:30 PM Kerygma

**Thurs. Dec. 22:** 1:30 PM Emmanuel  
 2:30 PM Maria Joseph  
 7:00 PM Danville Community Band – Trinity Methodist  
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 39 – FH

**Fri. Dec. 23:** **DASD Closed**  
 8:30 AM Tutoring Class – GR  
 2:30 PM - 7 PM Viola/Violin Lessons – GR

**Sat. Dec. 24:** **Christmas Eve Services at 7 PM & 10 PM**

**Sun. Dec. 25:** **Christmas Day / No Church School**  
 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
 10:15 AM Worship

 4TH SUNDAY OF Advent

## 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	\$ 25,927.00	2016 Offerings	\$250,005.10
Dec. Balance Needed =	(\$ 68,994.90)	2016 Balance =	(\$ 68,994.90)

Attendance December 11: 10:15 AM = 118

**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.

**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.

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

**Christmas Eve Services:** Will be held at 7 PM and 10 PM this **Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**. 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. 25<sup>th</sup>**.



**Kindermusik:** The second semester of Kindermusik starts **Wed., Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>**. 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.

**PW Meeting:** "Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts." I John 5:21. On Thursday, January 5, the Presbyterian Women's Group will discuss *Seeking Satisfaction in Idols* at 9 AM in Muffin Man's Fireplace Room. Newcomers are welcome. There will be no meeting in February.

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

**Thursday - The Danville Community Band:** Will hold their annual holiday concert this **Thursday, December 22**, 7 PM at Trinity Methodist Church, 306 Lombard Ave., Danville. (Please note change in location from past years.)

**2017 Flower Chart:** The Flower Chart for 2017 is located on the wall leading to the church kitchen. Please remember to put whom the flowers are in Memory of or in Honor of and by whom the flowers are given. 2017 pricing increased to **\$27.00 an arrangement** per florist. In order to ensure beautiful flowers each Sunday, *please help by filling in January first*. Immediate dates untaken are: **Jan. 24 & Jan. 31**.

**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 help with filling in January and February first.

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

**Session Reminder – Date Change:** Committees of Session, Board of Deacons, and Session Elders *will meet a week later in January* due to the holiday season – meetings will take place **Monday, Jan. 9**, starting at 6:00 PM.

**Thank You:** The Fellowship Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to all who participated in the Advent Family Evening, November 30th. Your attendance and support of this event is evident in how beautiful our church looks as we are now decorated for the Advent Season. A wonderful evening of fellowship and fun was shared by all ages. Many thanks also to those who provided pizza, homemade soup, and delicious Christmas treats. You make Grove beautiful in all seasons!

**Book Club:** The selection for January is "*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*", by Annie Barrows and Mary Ann Shaffer. We will gather on **Sunday, January 8** at 7 Location, TBA. All are welcome!

**No Sunday School:** No Sunday School held on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. Families are invited to join in the 10:15am worship service. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, the service will be café communion and reflection on "Taking Christ into the New Year". Sunday School resumes on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.

**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.