

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; and the Session - to bring wisdom and understanding in our transition as we prepare for our new chapter in Grove Church.

Grove Presbyterian Church News

www.GrovePres.org

February 26, 2017

Blanket Sunday - Today: A special offering in support of Blanket Sunday will be held today. Contributions to CWS' (Church World Service's) Blanket drive helps families around the world recover from disasters and displacement, and build viable, sustainable lives and communities. Here in the U.S., CWS Blankets provide comfort in many communities also hit by disaster, and in shelters or agencies assisting those experiencing hard times.

Calendar of Church Events

- Sun. Feb. 26:** *Blanket Sunday Special Offering*
Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday
 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Church School & Confirmands
 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 10:15 AM Worship – *Adult Bells*
 11:15 AM Meet the Bells
 6:00 PM Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House
- Mon. Feb. 27:** 8:30 – 10 AM Tutoring - *GR*
- Tues. Feb. 28:** 9:00 AM Spiritual Growth Group – *GR*
 9:45 AM Office Staff Meeting - *KH*
 5:30 PM Adult Bell Choir
 7:00 PM Presentation on Armenia – The First Christian Nation - *FH*
- Wed. Mar. 1:** *Ash Wednesday*
 4:00 PM Walk into Spring
 5:00 PM Kindermusik A / 5:45 Kindermusik B
 5:30 PM Brownie Troop
 6:30 PM Taize Service
 7:30 PM Kerygma
- Thurs. Mar. 2:** 6:30 PM BSA Troop 39 Committee Mtg. – *GR*
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 39 - *FH*
- Fri. Mar. 3:** *World Day of Prayer*
 8:30 AM Tutoring Class – *GR*
 2:30 PM - 7 PM Viola/Violin Lessons – *GR*
- Sun. Mar. 5:** *Communion / Ingathering Offerings / 1st Sunday in Lent*
 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Church School & Confirmands
 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 10:15 AM Worship
 11:15 AM BSA Troop 39 Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser
 11:15 AM Worship and Music Committee



2017 CHURCH DATA

MONTH TO DATE	AMT.	YEAR TO DATE	AMT.
Feb. Budget Needed	\$ 27,627.00	2017 Budget	\$320,000.00
Feb. Offerings Received	\$ 14,480.00	2017 Offerings	\$ 30,583.57
Feb. Balance Needed =	(\$ 13,147.00)	2017 Balance =	(\$289,416.43)

Attendance February 19: 10:15 AM = 75

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 honor of Eli Henning's birthday, given by Bill & Jen Henning.

Deacons for the month of February are Russ Cotner and Cindy Stamey. Large print bulletins and bulletins for children are available from the ushers.

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 which is accessible through the door to the right of the pulpit, then left down the hall. Feel free to ask any usher/greeter for assistance. 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.



Coffee Fellowship: Please join us for coffee fellowship following the service. We thank Mary Ellen Doll for hosting today. Help us continue to enjoy simple coffee hour fellowship after worship each Sunday by signing up to host. A sign-up sheet can be found hanging on the wall outside the church kitchen. Coffee hour will not take place on the days the sign-up sheet remains vacant. Please remember, **no nut products** due to allergies. Thank you.

Come Walk Into Spring: All are welcome to join in for a nice walk each Wednesday. We gather in the church parking lot at 4:00 pm; feel free to bring along a friend or family member! You can call Mary Ellen Doll if you have any questions, 570-854-1286.

Presbyterian Women's Circle: Will meet on **Thursday, March 9** at 9 AM at Muffin Man to discuss the topic of *Being Satisfied with Self* from Cynthia Heald's book, *Becoming a Woman Whose God is Enough*. We'll examine how we view ourselves in today's culture. Please join the discussion.

Food Bank: Next Sunday will be our Food Bank Ingathering. Each month we ask members to bring a donation of food to help stock the area Food Bank. We specifically need **Canned Fruit** at this time. The Food Bank is in great need of your support. Last year you helped the Food Bank supply 1,425 family units, 846 single units, consisting of 5,190 individuals in the Danville/Riverside area. This could not happen without the help of volunteers who come each month to sort donations, fill bags, and help with the giveaway as well as the monetary donations received. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. Contact Sue Pierce 570-275-2142 for more information or to volunteer.

Today - Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House: Grove will be providing dinner for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House today, **Sunday, February 26th** at 6pm. Sign-up sheets are posted in fellowship hall. Help with cooking and set-up is appreciated. Please contact Amanda Leicht at 570-284-4144 or amandaleicht@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

This Tuesday - Presentation on Armenia - The First Christian Nation: This Tuesday February 28th @ 7 pm. Please come and learn about a recent mission and touring trip to Armenia by the Zakarian's. This will be an overview of the history of this ancient nation and how it has survived in more recent years since its independence from the U.S.S.R. We will also discuss how Young Life has been active in Armenia and several other former Soviet Union nations. Lots of pictures and information for those curious about this part of the world where Noah's Ark landed on Mt. Ararat.

This Wednesday - Taize Ash Wednesday Service: Please join us this **Wed., March 1** at 6:30 PM for an ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service. This service, patterned after prayer from the Taize community in France, is a wonderful way to experience inner stillness and peace in the midst of our busy, hectic lives. Let us quiet our hearts before God with prayer, singing, scripture, and silence.

Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser



Next Sunday - Scout Troop 39 Hosts Spaghetti Fundraiser! On **Sunday, March 5th** Boy Scouts from Troop 39 will be hosting a spaghetti lunch immediately following worship. Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, and desserts will be served. Take outs available. Donations will be accepted to help fund the Scouts' trip

to Philmont Scout Ranch in July 2018. Philmont Scout Ranch challenges Scouts with more than 214 square miles of rugged northern New Mexico wilderness. Backpacking treks, horseback cavalcades, and training and service programs offer young people many ways to experience this legendary country.

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 upcoming dates - which are: **Apr. 16 & 30.**

Session Reminder: The next Committees of Session, Board of Deacons, and Session Elders will meet **Monday, March 6th**, starting at 6:00 PM.

Columbia County Christian School: will be presenting a College Planning Strategies Workshop tomorrow, **Monday, February 27**, for parents of 9th – 12th graders. Contact Richard Keller 571-582-6114 or see the FH bulletin board for more information. On Tuesday, Feb 28th, at 6:00 PM the school will host a Kindergarten Open House. See the FH bulletin board for open house flyer.

2017 Per Capita: The per capita apportionment for 2017 for churches in our Presbytery is **\$34.10** per member (including confirmands). Year ending 2016, Grove had a deficit amount of \$6,373.08 which = 189 unpaid members. Please send your per capita payment in to the church office or place in the offering plate. We hope to have all 2017 per capita payments in by July 1st.

Snacks Needed: Young life is looking for snacks for the Hackey House. Non-perishable snacks are needed for the group to enjoy. A donation bin has been provided in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Beth Holmes with questions, 570-764-4062.

Electronic Giving Program: Grove Church offers an easy and convenient way for you to make your weekly or monthly offerings. Direct Payment Authorization Forms can be found on the table in the back of the sanctuary and on the church website. Please attach a voided check with your signed authorization form. You can sign up at any time. Questions may be directed to any member of Session.

Young Life: As Young Life prepares to move into the Hackey House, there are a few things they are in need of to create the welcoming space they are envisioning. Curtains, TV mount, water bottles/drinks, candy, frozen food (pizza, bagel bites, chicken nuggets), large Young Life print photos, cool pictures or signs for walls, computer, space heater and board games. If you have any of these items around your home or would like to donate the funds to purchase something on this list – please contact Mike Hamme at 302-222-6674.

PW Women's Retreat – June 15-17: The Presbyterian Women's Retreat, Sponsored by PW of the Synod of the Trinity – is scheduled for June 15-17 at the Marriott Courtyard Convention Center in Altoona, PA. The theme is **“Created to Shine”**. Come feel the warmth of God's love and wonder. More information and Registration Forms can be found on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and in the church office. For questions, please contact Laura Smith at gonhpn@aol.com or Patty Beggs at pattymac924@comcast.net.

Rock the Camp 2017: Registration for Camp Krislund's Rock the Camp 2017, a service retreat for youth, opened Feb 1st. Come out for a time of worship, fun & games, and serving the Lord. The retreat will be held from 7 PM April 13th to 10 AM April 15th. Cost is \$40. Registration is due by April 6th.

April Spire Articles: Are due in the church office on Monday, March 13th, in order to make the daily item print deadline.

Born For This: Experience the journey of Jesus to the cross as never before; visually, musically, spiritually, an event for the whole family. Grove Presbyterian Church will host *Born For This*, a musical presentation of the Passion of Jesus on **Sun., March 19 in the Church at 6 PM.** *Born For This* not only follows Jesus on His journey of love, but draws you into the journey and makes you a part of it. The performance includes overwhelmingly beautiful music written by Mike Stanley and Joann Boyce interwoven with dramatic and moving prose from Jude Martin. Lift Your Spirits Performing Arts, with its full band, chorus and actors, is the only group performing *Born For This* in the United States. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Youth under the age of 16 are free when accompanied by an adult. *Born For This* is a prayerful way to prepare for Holy Week and Easter and is perfect for families. Youth groups are welcome and encouraged to attend. All are invited for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following the performance. Tickets/info available: church office (570-275-0692) or Joy Christian (570-847-8659).

Shoe Drive: Donate your shoes to the Danville High School through Elizabeth Henning. Help them raise funds for a July 2017 trip to Costa Rica by donating your gently used or new shoes (usable shoes). Any shoe type and any size are needed. Collected shoes are then shipped to countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe. Local small business entrepreneurs (i.e. micro-entrepreneurs) around the world purchase the shoes for pennies on the dollar. They are then sold to retail customers for a fraction of their original price in North America. A donation box will be in the fellowship hall until the end of March. Please see Elizabeth Henning should you have any questions. Thank you for your support.

EASTER LILY

Due to allergy issues, the sanctuary will not be decorated with live lilies this year. However, it is still possible to order a lily for yourself, for a loved one, or as a gift for a homebound friend. Please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate, or send it to the church office with your check. **Cost is \$12.50 per lily.** Checks should be made out to Grove Presbyterian Church with 'Easter Lily' written in the memo. Please return no later than **April 2nd**. Lilies will be delivered to the fellowship hall on April 8th. Please check a box below to indicate what you would like to be done with your Lily order. Thank you.

- I will pick up my lily
 I would like the lily to go to a homebound friend



In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

of lilies you wish to order: _____ X \$12.50 = \$ _____

Meet the Bells

While handbells have been traced back as far as the 5th century in China, the handbells we know are descendants of the tower bells in England, where ringing a set of 5 to 12 bells in complicated and intricate numerical patterns (called "change ringing") started in the 16th century. When hours of pulling on heavy ropes in cold bell towers got tiresome and the loud noise irritated the villagers, sets of small practice bells were developed. This kind of ringing eventually became an art in itself.

English handbells were brought to the US in the 1830s, where hundreds of ringing groups quickly sprang up to do change ringing, particularly on special occasions such as Christmas. However, since the size of the bells makes it possible to play songs, "tune ringing" began to surface after WWII.

Grove has three octaves of handbells and 3 octaves of handchimes. The bells and handchimes are assigned to individuals who play their bells each time their bell note(s) appears in the music. Ringers are very committed: if a ringer misses a practice or performance, an entire tonal section of the music is missing.

The smaller bells are the high tones, and large bells have lower bass tones, as well as a longer, drawn-out quality. Each bell is marked with the musical note on the handle. The bells are swung out, back or up, tapped, malletted, shaken, rubbed with a dowel...to create a wide variety of tones and effects.

Making music has been shown to be excellent for keeping your brain sharp, and ringing is one of the few musical activities that is open to people with no musical background! The music is color-coded, you simply need to be able to count and tell colors. Our ringing group has been working hard to learn new music and techniques to support the worship service; it's a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and service, and we'd love to have YOU join us!

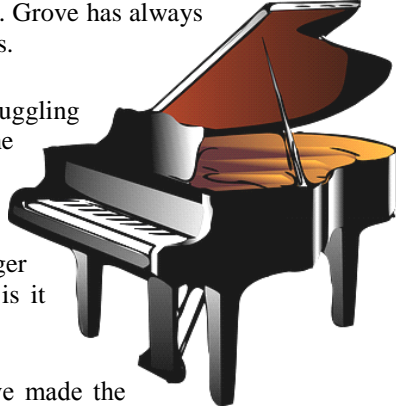


We also have color coded Table Top bells and Boomwhackers for our youngsters!

AN EXCITING DEVELOPMENT FOR OUR MUSIC PROGRAM

Music has been an important part of Grove's ministry for many years, going back to the early 1900s when the pipe organ was installed. Grove has always valued a wide variety of music styles and offerings.

Some of you may be aware that we have been struggling with the sanctuary piano for some time: the condition of the piano has deteriorated to the point where it is requiring frequent tunings, which do not last. Professionals who have looked at the piano have advised that it is no longer a good use of our monies to continue this, nor is it worth spending significant repair dollars.



So...we've been looking at what to do, and have made the determination that it's the right time to move up to an instrument that is more fitting for our sanctuary, and will serve the congregation and the ministry for many, many years. After much research, we found a very reputable piano dealer with many years of experience serving churches, Menchey Music, and with their assistance as well as an independent local consultant, have selected a new Yamaha baby grand. After an onsite visit from Menchey's Piano Gallery Manager and a trip to the Menchey Studio, the piano was selected based on the size and conditions of our sanctuary (for example, we don't have air conditioning so our windows are open in summer so we have outside noise as well as high humidity; we also have padded seats and carpeting all of which soak up sound). The piano we have chosen has a clear, crisp tone, deep rich bass notes, and very pleasing high notes.

We believe this is the right next move for our church, and we are excited to let you know that this is a giving opportunity. Menchey has proposed an incredible price to us – a \$20,000 (34%) reduction from the retail price of \$58,000. We're buying the floor model for an additional \$2,000 discount. Our total price is \$38,000, which includes a 10-year warranty for parts/ labor, matching double padded bench, delivery and set up, first on-site tuning, fitted quilted nylon piano cover, House of Troy floor lamp, and installation of the humidity control system. **Delivery date Feb 27, 2017!**

We have monies in a fund that was seeded by Ann Carol Malcolm's generous donation of her choir director's salary for many years. In addition, Dave Sanders has designated his sexton's salary for a piano. However, this is still a significant investment, and perhaps an opportunity for a legacy gift to commemorate a loved one, or even a children's giving project. Each gift is important - no gift is too small!

If you feel led to support this wonderful, exciting opportunity in any way, we have placed envelopes in the rear of the sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall for your use. If you have questions about the piano or giving opportunities, please see Cathy Sanders or Joy Christian.



Ash Wednesday (March 1, 2017) marks the first day of the forty days of Lent, the season of the church when we prepare our hearts and minds for celebration of Christ's death, burial, and then the joyful Easter celebration of his resurrection.

While many people are familiar with the tradition of "giving something up for Lent", Presbyterians and others of Reformed faiths place more emphasis on spiritual reflection and growth.

Grove will again observe Ash Wednesday with an ecumenical service in the tradition of Taizé:

Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 6:30 PM

Please join with us in a candlelit service of prayer, singing, Scripture and silence, a time of quieting our hearts before God as instructed in Psalm 131.

The imposition of Ashes will be offered for those who wish.

Childcare provided.