

Grove Book Club: The selection for **Sunday, December 10** is *“The Rosie Project”* a Novel by Graeme Simsion, 7 PM, at the home of Amanda Leicht (931 Red Lane, Danville). All are welcome.

Session Reminder: The next Committees of Session, Board of Deacons, and Session Elders will meet tomorrow - **Monday, Dec. 4**, starting at 6:00 PM.

Next Breakfast Group: Will meet **Thursday, Dec. 21st** at 8:30 AM at Ric-Mar Restaurant. Please contact **Bill & Betty Godfrey at 570-284-4248**, to make your reservation.

Calendar of Church Events

Sun. Dec. 3: First Sunday in Advent / Communion / Ingathering Offerings

- 9:00 AM Mission Sunday – FH & Kitchen
- 9:00AM - 10:00 AM Church School
- 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM Worship, Rev. Sally Dries
- 11:15 AM Worship & Music committee Meeting
- 6:00 PM Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House

Mon. Dec. 4: 6 PM Committees of Session

- 6:45 PM Board of Deacons – KH
- 6:45 PM Session Elders - GR

Tues. Dec. 5: 9:00 AM Spiritual Growth - GR

- 6:00 PM Adult Bells

Wed. Dec. 6: 11 AM DRAMA

- 5:00 PM Kindermusik A / 5:45 Kindermusik B
- 5:30 PM Brownie Troop
- 6:00 PM Family Meal Time
- 6:30 PM Cherub, Youth, Jr., and Adult Choir Rehearsals
- 6:30 PM Fellowship & Study Time
- 7:45 PM Kerygma

Thurs. Dec. 7: 9:00 AM PW – Muffin Man

- 3PM - 5PM After School Counseling – GR & Nursery
- 6:30 PM BSA Troop 39 Committee Mtg. - GR
- 7:00 PM BSA Troop 39 – FH

Fri. Dec. 8: 3:00 PM – 7:30 PM Viola/Violin Lessons – GR

Sat. Dec. 9: 7:30 PM SVC Christmas Concert – Zion Lutheran Church

Sun. Dec. 10: Second Sunday in Advent / Ordination & Installation of Officers

- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Church School
- 9:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM Worship, Rev. Sally Dries – Bells Play
- 3:00 PM SVC Christmas Concert – Zion Lutheran Church
- 6:00 PM Community Christmas Concert at Grove
- 7:00 PM Book Club – Home of Amanda Leicht



Figures as of Wednesday – Nov. 29)

YEAR TO DATE REVENUES VS. EXPENSES	
Revenues	\$219,266.73
Expenses	\$202,264.73
2017 Balance =	\$ 17,002.00

Attendance Nov. 26 = 78

Grove Presbyterian Church News

www.GrovePres.org

December 3, 2017

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 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 my father, Tom Stayer, given by Kessey Kieselhorst.

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 immediately following the service. We thank Dave & Cathy Sanders, and Kessey Kieselhorst for hosting today. 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.

Grove’s 2018 Stewardship Campaign: You should have received a stewardship packet in the mail by now. If not – please contact the church office. Additional pledge cards can be found on the back tables of the sanctuary.

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 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.

Opportunity Knocks! Grove has a fun and rewarding Wednesday evening ministry: Kindermusik, Choirs, Bible Study, and Kerygma. This year we have added a Family Meal at 6 pm to help with people's busy schedules and provide a short time of fellowship. We need someone to coordinate the light meal that is provided: arrange setup/cleanup (very easy), and schedule menu items (order pizza, etc). The kinks are worked out, it's now ready for someone to take over. Your efforts would go far toward making our Wednesday evening program a success. Please consider this opportunity to minister – thank you!

Grove Child Care Provider Wanted: Child Care volunteers needed to allow us to offer Child Care during Sunday School, Worship and Wednesday evening activities. Grove is committed to Safe Church, which requires two adults with child clearances to teach and care for our children. Please consider volunteering in Child Care in the coming weeks as we seek a permanent person for that position. Unfortunately we will not be able to provide Child Care during any event when we are unable to have two cleared adults for supervision. If you know of anyone interested in our Child Care staff position please speak to Lynne Pabst or any member of the Nurture committee. (Beth Holmes, Beth Christian, Cassie Weaver)

Grove Accompanist Wanted: We are looking for an accompanist for our Jr/Youth Choir to assist with Wednesday evening rehearsals as well as accompany the Choir when they sing one Sunday each month and special services as planned. This is a wonderful opportunity for a young person to gain keyboarding / accompaniment skills in a supportive and fun environment, or for a "gently-used" individual to stay in touch with young people. If you know of someone, ask them to contact Joy Christian (570.847.8659) for information about this salaried position. Please get the word out—we have exciting things planned, and we need an accompanist to help make it all happen!

Foodbank Rep. from Grove Needed: With much gratitude to Sue Pierce for being Grove's food bank representative all these years, she will be stepping down in the hopes another member from Grove will now step up. The meetings are at 9 am the 4th Thursday of each month. Please contact Marysue Christian (570-275-5403 or 570-380-0275) if you are interested in this very important local mission as a Grove representative. Thank you

2018 Offering Envelopes: The 2018 envelopes can be found in alphabetical order on the table just outside the church kitchen in the fellowship hall. Please notify the church office if you wish to not use envelopes.

Danville Community Band: The Danville Community Band will perform their annual Christmas concert on Thursday, Dec. 21st at 7:00 at the Trinity Methodist Church (306 Lombard Ave., Danville).

The Susquehanna Valley Chorale: Will once again continue its popular holiday performance, *Candlelight Christmas*, this coming **Saturday Dec. 9** at 7:30 p.m. and **Sunday, Dec. 10** at 3 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Sunbury. Glorious voices, harp, brass and candlelight highlight this traditional holiday concert. The Susquehanna Valley Youth Chorale will join the SVC for this special performance. For more information, go to <http://svcmusic.org/>

Presbyterian Women: The Presbyterian Women's Circle will meet at Muffin Man this Thursday, December 7, from 9 to 10:30 AM. In the Before we begin a new study book in January called *Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*, in December, we'll have an informal discussion of "Who is the Holy Spirit? How have you encountered the Spirit? We welcome your thoughts.



Joyce's Caroling Tour & Pot Luck Supper: Join us December 17th, 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. 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.

Address Changes: As the new addresses change, please remember to phone in or email (GroveChurch@aol.com) your new address to the church office. As well as any other changes (name, family status, address, home phones, college addresses, cell phones, email addresses, ect.) Hopefully all will be complete for the new 2018 in-house directory. The new church address is 358 Bloom Street and the Office address for all correspondence is 376 Bloom Street. Hacky House is now 314 Bloom Street.

Children's Clothes Needed: The Good Samaritan Mission Center is in need of children's clothes, both boys and girls, sizes 3-12. If you don't have any children's sizes, could you please check with your neighbors or friends? The mission is open 9-4:30 Tuesday-Friday and 10-12-Saturday. Please drop them off at the mission. Thank you so much for your helping these children.

Grove Serves Ronald McDonald House: Grove will be providing dinner for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House this evening **Sunday – Dec. 3rd** 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.

Community Christmas Concert at Grove: This year's Community Christmas concert featuring many local musicians will be held **6:00 p.m. next Sunday December 10th**. Many local artists will be performing some traditional music as well as a number of originally composed Holiday numbers. The concert is open to the public and free, although there will be an "at will offering" to benefit our Gate House Shelter. We hope to see you all there.

Danville Community Singers – Annual Christmas Concert: Will be held on Monday, Dec. 18th at 7:00 PM at St. Peters Methodist Church, located on Sunbury Rd., in Riverside. The concert is free. There will be a free will offering taken. We hope to see you all there.

Advent Candle Lighting Litany



Sunday, December 3, 2017
First Sunday in Advent
Lighting the purple Candle of Wisdom
Wreath object: Dove

Leader: We light the candle of Wisdom remembering Isaiah's prophecy of the one to come: "The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord." Isaiah 11:2-3.

Lighting of the First Candle

Leader: We place the dove to remind us that this spirit of wisdom leads to a peaceful kingdom when "The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid. Isaiah 11:6.

Placing of the Dove

Cantor: O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from one end to the other, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.

Response: *Sung by the choir, then by the congregation*
Tune: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

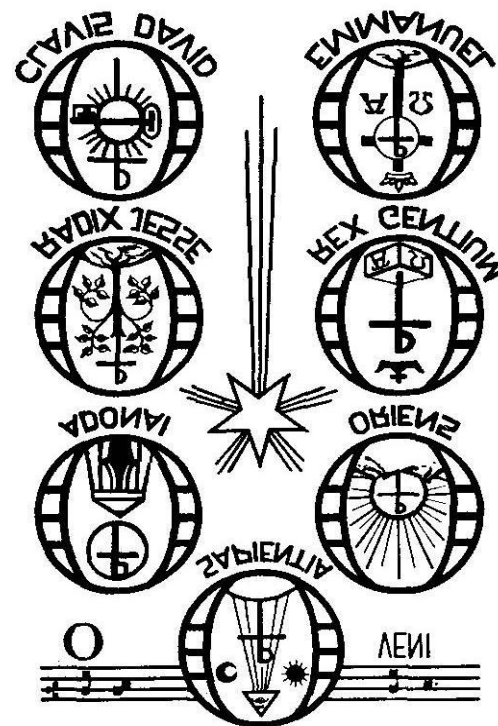
***O Come, O Wisdom, from on high
Who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in its ways to go.
Rejoice, Rejoice,
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

Advent and the "O Antiphons"

Our Advent candle lighting litanies this year will use the Biblical imagery of prophetic Scriptures, we will sing "O Come Emmanuel", the children have made ornaments with special symbols to decorate the tree - here's why:

The Jews who waited for the Messiah were told about him in Old Testament prophecies. He was given seven names in Isaiah: Wisdom, Leader of the House of Israel, King of Nations, Root of Jesse's Stem, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, Emmanuel (God with us). The scriptures repeatedly use the imperative "Come!" to embody the intense longing for the Messiah's appearance.

Benedictine monks were singing these Old Testament scriptures antiphonally (alternating parts) probably as early as the fourth century. As each Scripture leads off with "O" as in "O come, Emmanuel", they are called the "O Antiphons".



The monks arranged the music in an order with a definite purpose. The first letters of each title, placed in reverse order – Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia – form the Latin words "ero cras" which means "tomorrow I come". The Roman Catholic Church sings the antiphons each year on the seven evenings before Christmas.

Today, the first Sunday of Advent in the season of anticipation and preparation for Christ's coming, the candle is purple for Wisdom, and a Dove is placed on the wreath to symbolize the peace that comes from following the way of Wisdom.