



November 24 Through November 30, 2024

Beloveds,

My dad would have been 89 on November 21st. He passed away unexpectedly March of 2017. He's been on my mind a lot these days, as I've moved home to an area he would have likely been familiar with. It has made me wonder about the stories I didn't have the chance to hear - more stories of how he worked as an electrician with his brother-in-law in the Beaver/Butler/Allegheny area for some time, or how when he was single in the 1980s, he lived just around the corner from his sister and he would visit often and spend time with my cousins.

I came along when he was fifty-four years old - I was only around for the last third of his life. There's so much I don't know about him. But sometimes I get a glimpse into who he was before I was born and my own memories shed light on who he was while I knew him. I get that glimpse when I speak with people who knew him. I get that chance when I convince one of my siblings to write down their stories about him, or record them as they talk about traveling across the country with him. I write the stories down that I know so that I can share them with my children. In these stories and in the memories I have of him, I can see a bit of who he was, how he was when I knew him, and I can guess at who he'd be now if he were still living. I knew that I could rely on my dad to be exactly who he was, and there aren't many stories I've heard that have left me saying "no, not dad." Usually I'm saying, "well, as shocking as that is, I'm not surprised."

It is like this with God. We have the books of the Bible, many of them initially oral in their telling, written down so that people who were not present can hear God's story with God's beloved people. We can read through the Scriptures and see a God who is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. We can see who God was in the past, and we can rely on our own experience and that of those around us to see who God is in the here and now. And, from those, we can guess who God will be in the future.

God, who is outside of our human limits of time and even comprehension. God, who has been, will be, and currently is present in our human joy and suffering and everything in between. We don't know all of the stories. We can catch a small glimpse of God here and there as we read Scripture and hear from others of their experience with God. We know God through our own encounters. And like my dad's character was something I knew to be pretty consistent, so too is God. And just as my dad changed how he did things over time, so too, has God.

God is at the beginning of all things. God is at the ending of all things. God is present in the between parts too. Creation is loved so deeply by God that no logical choice but to become mortal, to dwell among us was possible. God came down as a babe, in order to experience daily life as we experience it - the pain, the joy, the laughter, the confusion. All of it. And that hasn't changed in all these 2000 and some odd years since. The Word of God is living, breathing, and moving among us today, in the here and now. And some day, when we suffer no more, when we step out of our earthly bodies, we will be fully reconciled to a God who loves us so deeply that nothing in heaven or on earth can separate us from the love of God.

For God is the kind, loving, gracious king over all. May it be so.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Kalyn





Worship

- We gather for worship Sundays at 10am
- 107 in Worship on November 17
- Choir rehearsal is on Tuesday, November 26 at 7pm
- Hand bells perform “We Gather Together” on November 24. Their next rehearsal is December 9 at 7pm for the December 15 performance of “ Away in a Manger”

Congregational Care

- The annual Women’s Dinner will be held at Vesuvios Restaurant in Monaca on Tuesday, December 3 at 6:00. If you would like to attend please call or text Corinna Petrella at 724-622-5312
- **NO STORY TIME ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**
- **SAVE THE DATE–COOKIE BAZAAR IS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 from 9am–11am.**
SEE INSERT IN SUNDAY’S BULLETIN FOR WAYS YOU CAN HELP MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS
- Sign up your college student to receive a care package in December. See insert in Bulletin.

Missions

- We are spreading Christmas cheer at Beaver Rehabilitation Center (Elder Care) on Monday December 2 @6p We will be handing out presents (handmade blankets) and singing Christmas carols. It is a great evening for all ages. Any questions call Gina Arzberger at 724-809-3215.
- The Wish Tree is up in the front of the sanctuary. Please consider taking a tag to help local children have a blessed Christmas. Please return unwrapped gift with the tag attached by the due date. Any questions call or text Gina at 724-809-3215

Operations

- October YTD Expenses–\$175,114 & YTD Receipts–\$170,360
- Per capita Expenses YTD – \$6,630 & Per Capita Receipts YTD–\$2,410

The Nominating Committee is looking to fill open positions on the Board of Session for the Class of 2027. If you have any interest or have questions, contact Chris Otto at 412-722-5325 or cco107@hotmail.com



November



<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Tom & Terri Owczarzak 11/12	Liz Cagnon 11/01	Trudy Boggs 11/21	Morgan Lewis 11/26
Rich & Christina Palmer 11/14	Dorothy Elko 11/11	Barbara Corsi 11/22	Gina Arzberger 11/27
Alli & Nick Feszko 11/16	Michele Riddle 11/12	Amy Muslin 11/23	Cherryl Lachowicz 11/30
Eric & Kristen Nan 11/20	Casey Atwell 11/14	Sarah Jane Shaffer 11/24	
Marcy & Edward Zombeck 11/24	Bev Abate 11/19	Elizabeth Repman 11/25	

Ohio UP Church at Back to Barney's For the Steeler Game





“Chris-Myth Busters” Practices

Friday, November 22: 4-4:45pm

Saturday, November 23: 10-11am

Sunday, November 24: 9-9:45am

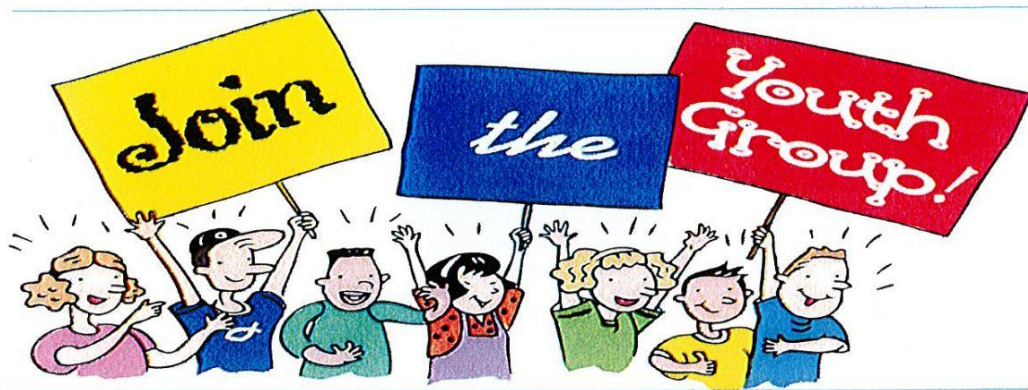
Thanksgiving Week

Wednesday, November 27: 3-3:45pm

Saturday, November 30: 10-11am

Sunday, December 1: 9-9:45am

Please have your kids practice the songs with the CD especially



November 18 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

November 23 – Hopewell “Beauty and the Beast”
either 2:00 or 7:00

November 24 - 7:00 - 8:30 (**Sunday**)

December 2 – 5:30 – 7:30 We will be traveling to Elder
Care where we will pass out presents and sing carols. Church Van
leaves at 5:30. Families Welcome

December 9 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

December 14 – Church Cookie Bazaar – Help
with setup, clean up, etc. 9:00

December 15 – Jacobs Angels – Help wrap gifts for
kids in need. Arrive 9:30 lunch incl.

December 16 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Happy Holidays No YG Till January 6, 2025



- Bev Abate–Mentors a girl through Aliquippa Impact; encourages us to get involved. She just attended her Baby Shower. It is such a rewarding experience.
- Peggy Franzese–Pool table was sold! \$500 for the church thanks to Scott Neville. Thanks to Jeff Barth for the the foosball table. She attended the Sight and Sound Theater to see “Daniel”--Highly recommend!
- Andrew Honess–Brenlee Knox is in “Oliver” at Lincoln Park; Hopewell is doing “Beauty and the Beast” next weekend and some of our kids are involved
- Diane Gennaro–Trudy Boggs will be 90 this week. Her address is in the directory.
- Pastor Kalyn–Thanks for friends who were present and able to participate in the installation service: Mom, Adrianna and Rev. Leigh
- Chris Mathias–Prayers for co-worker, Angel, who had a stroke.
- Pastor Kalyn’s mother–Her friend Shannon had a stroke and will be in the hospital for next 2 weeks.
- Jen Davis–Thanks to family and friends who have been driving her around.
- Megan and Simon had baby Grace Suzanna on November 11 via C-section after an induced 16 hour labor. Baby was 6 lbs and all are well and home.

ATTENTION

Church members may purchase gift cards for the McCowin family while baby Eva remains in the hospital for the next several weeks. Gas cards and restaurant cards will be greatly appreciated. They can be given to Bonnie, Rayna, or Alli to be delivered each week.