

STAFF

Rev. Dick LaFountain
Pastor

Janelle Wegrzynek
Secretary

SESSION MEMBERS

Paul Bengs
Jo Coulter
Connie Jewell, Clerk
Joyce Steele
Jean Walter

DEACONS

Brenda Bengs
Amanda Duncan-chair
Charlene Root
Mary Ryan
Marcie Treese

TRUSTEES

Phil Coulter
Scott Duncan
Noel Ryan
Dave Steele
Pete Treese

Ebenezer Presbyterian Church

2426 Scrubgrass Rd
Grove City PA 16127

Phone: 814-786-7411

Email:

ebenezerpresbyterian
churchGC@gmail.com

February articles are due:
January 23

Thinking About Yesterday



"Return with us now to the thrilling days of yesteryear, as the Lone Ranger rides again! Hi Ho Silver, away!"

There is a danger of viewing our best days as behind us. Too often we romanticize our memories of how things were in the far off past. We have selective memories and imagine that things were better than they really were. We tend to erase a lot of the bad memories and cling to what we

perceived as good times. In actuality yesterday had its good times and its bad times.

In these days of Covid-19 and so much hype about vaccines, masks and social distancing it is easy to lose our perspective on our tomorrows. Tomorrow gets tainted by today. Yet, one day Covid-19 will be a far off memory.

"HOPE" is the excited expectation of a better tomorrow. Hope is living in the present with a confident expectation that our tomorrows are in the hands of God and He has great things in store for us. To think otherwise is to become "hopeless."



This is true on a personal level as well as on a corporate level in the church. As church members we can dwell on the "good ole days" when the church was packed with people and families of all ages, when we had picnics, parties, choirs, Sunday School programs, and Vacation Bible School with 90 kids. Yes, this church has seen better days, but it's not over till the fat lady sings. There will be ups and downs that are as natural as breathing in and breathing out. There are good times and bad times. But let's believe God for the good times that are coming. Let us not give up hope. Let us believe in

hope. Let us begin to dream of a great tomorrow that is even better than the past. It is possible. Dreaming is good. Dreaming is putting on the eyeglasses of faith and embracing the promise of God that **HE CAN DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN WE ASK OR IMAGINE. (Ephesians 3:20)**

Philippians 3:13-14

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 43:18-19

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

To "fight the good fight of faith" means to cling to that which is good. It means we embrace by faith that God's plans are good and not evil. It means we tenaciously "cling to the positive, eliminate the negative.

*You've got to accentuate the positive
Eliminate the negative
And latch on to the affirmative
Don't mess with Mister In-Between*

That means we latch on to the Word of God and His promise and not hold on to the negativity of the world around us. In the 60's our culture was really leaning heavily toward the negative. Songs like *The Sound of Silence*, "Hello darkness my old friend." And let us refuse to buy into the pessimism of the Beatles 1965 song, *Yesterday*.

*Yesterday,
All my troubles seemed so far away
Now it looks as though they're here to stay
Oh, I believe in yesterday*

*Suddenly,
I'm not half the man I used to be
There's a shadow hangin' over me*

Oh, yesterday came suddenly

*Why she (it) had to go,
I don't know, she (it) wouldn't say
I said (did) something wrong,
now I long for yesterday*

*Yesterday
Love (Life) was such an easy game to play
Now I need a place to hide away
Oh, I believe in yesterday*

*Why she (it) had to go,
I don't know, she (it) wouldn't say
I said (did) something wrong,
now I long for yesterday*

I've got a better one to sing, it's called, "Yesterday, Today, Forever" by the old time Presbyterian, Albert Benjamin Simpson, (number 335 in our hymnbook)

*Oh, how sweet the glorious message simple faith may claim:
Yesterday, today, forever, Jesus is the same;
Still He loves to save the sinful, heal the sick and lame,
Cheer the mourner, still the tempest—glory to His name!*

Refrain:

*Yesterday, today, forever, Jesus is the same,
All may change, but Jesus never—glory to His name!
Glory to His name! Glory to His name!
All may change, but Jesus never—glory to His name!*

Clerk's Corners—Session Reports from December 13, 2021

Greeter List for January - March has been posted. New group of Ushers will be chosen for January. Pastor Dick will be on vacation from December 26 to January 1, 2022.

New Committee Chairperson as follows:

Clerk..... Connie Jewell
 Worship.....Paul Bengs and Connie Jewell
 Mission.....Joyce Steele
 Fellowship.....Jo Coulter
 Personnel.....Jean Walter and Jo Coulter

The Per Capita for each member will be \$36.38 - 2022.

Installation of New

Officer.....January 9th

Annual Congregational

Meeting..... January 16th

Best Wishes for a

wonderful New Year.

—Jean Walter, Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2021

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$22,517.12
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RECEIPTS	\$6454.85
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BEGINNING BALANCE PLUS RECEIPTS	\$28,971.97
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EXPENSES	\$6683.68
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Balance 10-31-2021	\$22,288.29
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TRUSTEE FUND	\$440.45
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MISSION FUND	\$1325.73
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GOOD NEWS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS	\$369.49
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MISSIONS:

DESIGNATED:

LOCAL	\$240.00
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GARDNERS	\$140.00
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AVAILABLE FUND FOR GENERAL USE 11-30-2021	\$19,772.62
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Joan Coulter, Treasurer

Joys and Concerns

Shut-ins and those in Adult Care Homes: Eleanor Sigut

Prayer List: Dick Bicehouse, Phil Coulter, Shirley Jenkins, Pastor Dick, Joe Locktosh, George & Patti Parker, Noel Ryan

Upcoming Events

January 9

Installation of church officers

During the 11am Worship
service

Newsletters articles for February
are due January 23.



ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 16

Please attend the Annual Meeting
where you can learn all the activities
and projects your Church Leaders have
done in the past year.



Out With the Old . . . In With the New

To the Members of Ebenezer Church,

It has been a pleasure to serve as your secretary. I always felt right at home here, and will miss you all very much. It is wonderful to see that the church is growing. Unfortunately, the distance of where I now live prevents me from serving on a 3-days a week in-office basis. I was blessed though to be able to work from home for the past year. Mary Ryan (and sometimes Noel) came in faithfully week after week to print out the bulletins. Without her help my work-from-home job would not have been possible. Thank you Mary and Noel for your help to me and your volunteer service to the church.

Your new secretary, Janelle Wegrzynek, is a great asset to the job with her skills and great personality. I believe she is a good fit for the church and you will enjoy working with her.

I wish you all well. I know you have a good spiritual leader to guide you and I hope for continued growth and maturity in Christ over the upcoming years.

Terry



We would like to introduce our new church secretary, Janelle Wegrzynek, who will start on January 3. She will be in the office three days per week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to 12 noon.

Janelle Wegrzynek is married to Michael Wegrzynek. They have two children, Peyton and Hunter. They live in Sandy Lake. She graduated from Grove city high school. They love the outdoors. Janelle loves to do crafts that include making custom cup, shirts.



January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 11am: Worship service	3	4	5 Victoria Staph	6	7 Addison Lewis Gay Griffin	8
9 Mary & Noel Ryan 11am: Worship service Installation of officers	10 Eleanor Sigut (102 Years) 1pm: Session Meeting	11	12	13 Kendra McGhee	14	15
16 11am: Worship service ANNUAL MEETING	17	18	19	20 7pm: Trustees Meeting	21	22
23 Cathy Donaldson 11am: Worship service Newsletter Due	24	25	26	27 Dave Steele	28	29 Mary Beatty
30 11am: Worship service	31					



We support the Grove City Food Bank & Helping Hands Food Donations for January (we alternate the recipient each month): Canned meat, mayonnaise/Miracle Whip, peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, spaghetti & sauce, facial tissue, deodorant, dish soap, bathroom tissue, bar soap, disposable razors, shaving cream

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2426 Scrubgrass Rd
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Sundays

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Rev. Dick LaFountain

CONTACT US

Email: ebenezerpresbyterianchurchGC@gmail.com

Web: www.ebenezerpresbyterianchurchGC.com

Facebook: Ebenezer Presbyterian Church GC

Pastor Email: pastordicklaf@gmail.com

Church Phone: 814-786-7411

Office Hours: M, W, F 9-12