October 2026

NEWSLETTER

HONEY BROOK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4331 HORSESHOE PIKE

PO Box 276, Honey Brook, PA 19344 - 610.273.2848 or 717.994.4614 - www.honeybrookpres.org

WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

World Communion Sunday is **October 4.** This year marks the first time congregations across the PCUSA are invited to receive the World Communion offering . Through this new offering, we join with other congregations across the globe in God's mission of welcome, justice, and hope. We step beyond the boundaries of our neighborhood and into the life of the worldwide church, learning to see God's image more clearly in one another.



Offering envelopes will be placed in the bulletins on10/4. We will be collecting the offering on **October 4**. Prayerfully consider your participation.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year, we have the incredible opportunity to bless children around the world through Operation Christmas Child. By packing a simple shoebox with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items, you can help share the hope of Jesus with a child who may never have received a gift before. Supplies have been provided to pack 25 boxes during Sunday School on October 25.

We will be asking for assistance in collecting shipping of $10 per box for 25 boxes for a total of $250. Please join us in packing and/or donating and help spread the Christmas cheer and the love of Jesus with the children. If you have any questions, please reach out to Chris Martin.

CELEBRATING FRANK NEWLIN

Frank Newlin will be honored for his decades of dedicated service as our church organist at a covered dish dinner on Saturday, October 10 at 5:00 p.m. Meatball sandwiches and a cake will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share.

Frank and Pat came to our church in 1984 and richly blessed our congregation with their music ministry. We hope that all will be able to come celebrate Frank and thank him for his 40+ years of service to our church.



"Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary... Praise him with the strings and pipe... Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord." *(Psalm 150)*

From the Pastor's Desk...



2026 Stewardship Campaign

There Our Hearts Will Be is the theme for our 2026 Stewardship Campaign and during the next month, we will be invited into a season of deep spiritual alignment – an honest, hopeful exploration of how our practices, priorities, and resources reveal what truly claims our hearts. Rooted in teachings from Matthew 6, this theme reframes giving not as performance or obligation, but as quiet, courageous work of placing our hearts in God's care. Turning to the breadth of our sacred scripture, we'll examine what we love, whom we trust, and how we live out our faith.

Ultimately, *There Our Hearts Will Be* is an invitation to:

- **Re-center our lives** on God's quiet, faithful presence.
- **Let our giving reflect** our deepest values and commitments.
- **Align our actions** with our confession of Christ.
- **Allow God to transform, heal, and renew** our hearts.
- **Practice a generosity** that is not performative, but rooted, joyful, and Spirit-led.

Through this journey, we will discover again that faithful stewardship is not primarily about money – it is about placing our hearts in God's hands, trusting that where our hearts go, our lives, choices, and resources will follow.

Together, as a community shaped by grace, we will ask: "Where is our treasure? How can our hearts more fully align with God's?"

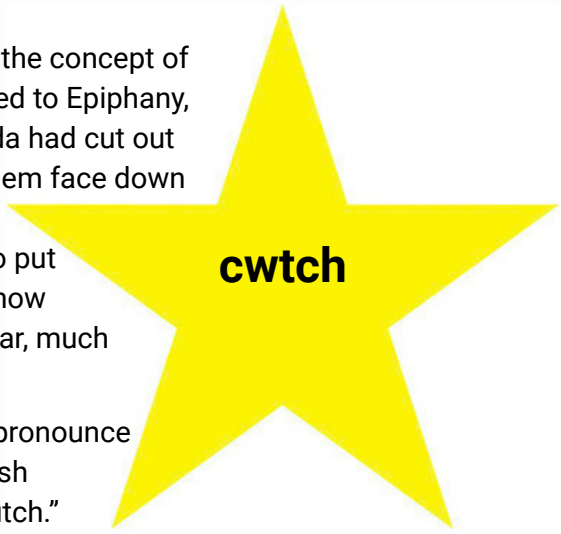
In this season of stewardship, we commit to making our answer clear.

There our hearts will be.

Pastors Bruce and Narda

Pastors Bruce and Narda will be on vacation the week of October 4 and the week of October 25. Pastor Ed Baugh will be preaching the two Sundays that Bruce and Narda will be out of town. We thank Pastor Ed for leading worship in their absence.

STAR WORDS



On Epiphany Sunday, January 4, 2026, Pastor Narda introduced us to the concept of "Star Words." Star words are a prayer and reflection practice connected to Epiphany, the Christian celebration marking the visit of the Magi to Jesus. Narda had cut out many yellow stars, each with one word written on them and placed them face down on the communion table. Each of us was invited to go forward and choose a star, not knowing which word we were picking. We were to put the word we chose in a prominent place and seek God's guidance in how that word could encourage, inspire, or challenge us for the coming year, much like the Magi were guided by a star to find Jesus.

When I picked my star, I turned it over and did not even know how to pronounce the word. It was cwtch. When I looked it up, I found out that it is Welsh and the "w" is like a "u" in our alphabet. So, the word rhymes with "butch." Cwtch means a warm, loving hug or a safe, comforting place. More than just wrapping your arms around someone, a cwtch is an emotionally secure embrace that makes the other person feel safe, protected, and deeply cared for.

My star hangs on my refrigerator, so I reflect on the word often. I have always been a hugger but my star reminds me that I need to make sure that I'm not just extending physical touch but also an emotional connection with the person I'm hugging. I want to make sure that those who are hugged truly feel cared for.

What is your star word and how have you been reflecting on it these past months? Email your reflections to Peg at pdombach72@gmail.com. We want to share your star words over these next couple of months.

TREES REMOVED

The strong winds from the storms we had this summer necessitated the removal of two of our large maple trees. A large portion of the tree in the northwest corner of the field had snapped as was leaning into our neighbor's evergreen trees. The tree located near Walnut Street at the end of our parking areas was dropping large branches after each storm. Martin's tree removal came and removed both of the trees in a timely manner. We will miss the shade but the safety of all was important.







LECTIONARY READINGS (week of . . .)

October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Exodus 20:1-20	Exodus 32:1-14	Exodus 33:12-23	Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 19	Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Psalm 99	Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 4:1-9	I Thessalonians 1:1-10	I Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 21:33-46	Matthew 22:1-14	Matthew 22:15-22	Matthew 22:34-46

Liturgists		Greeters	
Tom Richards	October 4	Barb Spirko	October 4
Sue Welsh	October 11	John McDonald	October 11
Bruce and Narda Druckenmiller	October 18	Pat Longabaugh	October 18
Lynn Klumpp	October 25	Naomi Miller	October 25

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We invite the congregation to continue praying that God will grant wisdom and discernment to the PNC and connect our church with the right pastor.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Dates to Remember:

- October 17 - Fall Resource Day at Wayside Presbyterian Church, Landisville. See Carolyn Tate for Registration Information.
- October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is a nonprofit organization that serves victims/survivors of domestic violence in Chester County, Pennsylvania. The women have supported this organization in the past, and each year remind us to pray for those who suffer from domestic violence.
    - The Hot Line information will be placed on the Electronic Sign for the month of October. During worship on October 11th, we will remember Victims of Domestic Violence. The Dave Mantz CD will be featured. Dave wrote a song recalling a real-life victim of domestic violence. A special note of thanks to the Mantz family for sharing his contribution to the cause of awareness!
        - If you or someone you know is in need of help, please contact someone immediately using one of their 24/7 Hotline Numbers: Local (610) 431-1430 or Toll-Free (888) 711-6270.
- Yes, Christmas is coming 🎄! Donations for the Hat and Mitten Tree will be collected in late fall and early November for distribution through the Honey Brook Pantry. There will be a collection area by the Eppihimer Fellowship Hall. Items donated after that can be placed on the Christmas tree for later distribution. Mittens, scarves, knit hats, and children's PJ's are suggested.

Environmental and Sustainability Tips for Winter Months:

- **Seal drafts:** Check windows, doors and any other sources of cold winter air entering your home. Use draft stoppers under doors and apply weather stripping around windows to keep warm air inside.
- **Service your heating system:** Maintain your furnace or clean your heat pump filters regularly to ensure it runs at peak efficiency.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



All are welcome to join us each Sunday morning from 9-10 for Sunday School and light refreshments. The Adult Sunday School class is using **The Wired Word**, where we discuss a current event in the news and analyze it in a Biblical context.

Ruthann Kistler teaches the children's class. They have been studying Ruth and as part of the lesson they wove baskets and gleaned wheat. The girls are proudly displaying their creations. We are excited to welcome Paisley, the newest member of the children's class.

All are encouraged to join us for Sunday School each week.

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SHEPHERD'S KITCHEN

What started out as a slow September Shepherd's Kitchen gradually grew into a busy night with many tables filled. Diners enjoyed sloppy joes, salad, coleslaw, watermelon, and yummy desserts!

Our guests enjoy a night out for a homemade dinner and appreciate everyone who help to make it possible! Please join us on October 1 for a fun and rewarding night! We will be serving chili and vegetable chili! We serve from 4:30-6:30 but can always use volunteers to prepare and serve. Contact Lynn Klumpp (610-761-2606), if you are able to assist.

OPEN MIC NIGHT



On September 21, we had 16 people arrive with 7 performers including 2 new observers! Marty treated us to some yummy pies too! Our night ended with a tribute to Dolly Parton -as we sang along to her songs!

The next Open Mic will be October 19 from 7:00-9:30. Signups are 6:30 for those who will be playing. Please come out to hear our amazing performers and enjoy the fun! Light refreshments are available. For more information, contact Lynn Klumpp at 610-761-2606.

Thank You...

Dear Honey Brook Presbyterian,

Thank you so much for being wonderful hosts for our camp and for your generous financial and spiritual support of our work. We are very blessed to have you all as partners in our work.

With sincere gratitude,
Kim Minor

FYI - This year we are going to decorate the church for Christmas after church on **December 6th**. So, mark your calendars now. We will remind you again in next month's newsletter.

COMMON CENTS (AND DOLLARS) FINANCIAL REPORT

2026 per capita is $39.00

- General Assembly—$9.35 per member
- Synod of the Trinity—$2.40 per member
- Donegal Presbytery—$27.25

If you are able, please consider paying your per capita. Through the end of August we have received $710 towards our 2026 commitment of $2300 per capita. Thank you for your offering towards this obligation.

Honey Brook Presbyterian Church
2026 Statement of Activities

Date Range: Aug 1st 2026 - Aug 31st 2026

Accounts	Actual Aug 01, 2026 - Aug 31, 2026	Budget Aug 01, 2026 - Aug 31, 2026	Budget Over/Under Aug 01, 2026 - Aug 31, 2026	Actual This Year Year to Date	Budget This Year Year to Date	Budget Over/Under This Year Year to Date	Annual Budget This Year Year
Revenues							
Unrestricted	12,282.19	9,166.67	3,115.52	88,701.62	73,333.36	15,368.26	110,000.00
Designated Funds	196.00	225.00	(29.00)	1,470.60	1,800.00	(329.40)	2,700.00
Donor Restricted	410.00	0.00	410.00	860.00	0.00	860.00	1,600.00
Pass Thru	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	37,949.73	666.64	37,283.09	27,000.00
Interest, Dividend, Cap Gains,	0.17	4,250.83	(4,250.66)	14,251.17	18,674.14	(4,422.97)	23,500.00
Redemptions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,000.00
Building Lease	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	11,260.00	6,000.00	5,260.00	14,000.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	216.67	(216.67)	1,600.00	1,733.36	(133.36)	2,600.00
Total Revenues	**$ 14,888.36**	**$ 15,942.50**	**($ 1,054.14)**	**$ 156,093.12**	**$ 102,207.50**	**$ 53,885.62**	**$ 199,400.00**
Expenses							
Senior Pastor	4,338.57	7,916.67	3,578.10	37,135.27	63,333.36	26,198.09	95,000.00
Staff Salaries	1,685.99	1,895.99	210.00	14,125.92	15,167.92	1,042.00	22,752.00
Employer Expenses	128.98	132.67	3.69	1,080.67	1,061.36	(19.31)	1,592.00
Administrative Expense	633.14	750.00	116.86	6,096.57	6,000.00	(96.57)	9,000.00
Designated Funds	0.00	125.00	125.00	459.49	1,000.00	540.51	1,500.00
Worship	750.00	791.67	41.67	4,884.38	6,333.36	1,448.98	9,500.00
Christian Education	0.00	62.50	62.50	0.00	500.00	500.00	750.00
Church & Community	0.00	75.00	75.00	536.35	600.00	63.65	900.00
Building & Grounds	4,420.91	4,333.33	(87.58)	26,124.38	34,666.64	8,542.26	52,000.00
Pastor Search (PNC)	0.00	416.67	416.67	887.68	3,333.36	2,445.68	5,000.00
Pass Thru	0.00	66.67	66.67	11,115.00	533.36	(10,581.64)	800.00
Reserve	0.00	50.50	50.50	0.00	404.00	404.00	606.00
Total Expenses	**$ 11,957.59**	**$ 16,616.67**	**$ 4,659.08**	**$ 102,445.71**	**$ 132,933.36**	**$ 30,487.65**	**$ 199,400.00**
Net Total	**$ 2,930.77**	**($ 674.17)**	**$ 3,604.94**	**$ 53,647.41**	**($ 30,725.86)**	**$ 84,373.27**	**$ 0.00**

FINANCIAL REPORT EXPLANATIONS

- YTD Income remains above the budgeted amount and YTD expense is still well under the budget.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Pastors Bruce and Narda are in Honey Brook on Tuesday afternoons. You are welcome to connect with them during this time. Call ahead to confirm their schedule for the day. Narda's phone number is 717-994-4614 and Bruce's phone number is 717-830-2515.

FELLOWSHIP HALL CALENDAR

Please add all events (with times and rooms) to the Fellowship Hall calendar. This central hub prevents double-booking and ensures your event is included in the newsletter. Other organizations use our facility, so it is important to note all events on this calendar.

"Are You Smarter Than a Sunday School 5th Grader" Bible Quiz Challenge

Questions:

1. How many books are in the entire Bible?
    a. 40
    b. 66
    c. 100
    d. 150
2. Who built the ark to save his family and the animals from the great flood?
    a. Moses
    b. Abraham
    c. Noah
    d. Adam
3. Which four books in the New Testament tell the story of Jesus' life on Earth?
    a. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers
    b. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
    c. Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians
    d. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel
4. Who defeated the giant Goliath using a sling and a stone?
    a. Samson
    b. David
    c. Saul
    d. Solomon
5. Where did God give Moses the Ten Commandments?
    a. Mount Sinai
    b. Mount Carmel
    c. The Garden of Eden
    d. Nineveh
6. Which of the following was NOT one of the plagues that God sent upon Pharaoh and Egypt?
    a. snakes
    b. gnats
    c. locusts
    d. hail

Answers:

1. *b. 66 (39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament)*
2. *c. Noah (Found in the book of Genesis)*
3. *b. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John (Known as the Gospels)*
4. *b. David (Found in 1 Samuel)*
5. *a. Mount Sinai (Found in the book of Exodus)*
6. *a. snakes (Found in the book of Exodus)*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Event	Time
Every Sunday	Sunday School for all ages	9:00-10:00 a.m.
Every Sunday	Worship of God in Sanctuary	10:30 a.m.
Every Sunday	Coffee Hour in Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	Following worship
Every Tuesday as needed	PNC meets — Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	6:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday	AA Meeting — Old Fellowship Hall	6:00-9:00 p.m.
Every Tuesday	Bell Choir Practice — Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.
October 1	Shepherd's Kitchen — Epp. Fell. Hall	4:30-6:30 p.m.
October 4	World Communion Sunday	10:30 a.m.
October 11	Bell Choir Plays During Worship	10:30 a.m.
October 14	Honey Brook Women's Club — Epp. Fell. Hall	6:30-8:00 p.m.
October 19	Open Mic Night — Old Fellowship Hall	6:30-9:30 p.m.
November 22	Session Meeting — Epp. Fell. Hall	12 noon

October Birthdays:

October 13	Beth Ventrone
October 14	Gail Kohler
October 19	Naomi Miller
October 20	Marilyn Vertigan
October 21	Jacob Bachman
October 25	Frederick Newlin
October 25	Libbie Means



October Anniversaries:

October 1	DJ and Ruthann Kistler (1994)
October 7	Dave and Patty Hackett (1978)
October 10	Jim and Stephanie Kohler (1998)

Please contact Karen DeAscentiis (kdeascentiis@verizon.net) with your relevant dates and other information.

LEADERSHIP

For concerns, contact the appropriate member to assist you.

Clerk of Session — Gwynne Sweatlock (gsweatlock@gmail.com)
Worship and Welcome — Norma Mantz (mantznorma@yahoo.com
Caring and Fellowship Ministry — Lynn Klumpp (lynnklumpp@yahoo.com)
Education and Spiritual Formation — Ruthann Kistler (rhkistler@yahoo.com)
Mission and Community Relations — Keith and Peg Dombach (pdombach72@gmail.com
Building and Grounds — Bill Klumpp (honeybrookhandyman@gmail.com) (for emergencies, text 610-463-4144)
Liason for Personnel and Administration — Paul Sweatlock (psweatlock@gmail.com)
Liaison for Chester Co. Children's Foundation — Chris Masterson (masterson.chris@gmail.com)
Comptroller, Realm Admin — Karen DeAscentiis (kdeascentiis@verizon.net)