

# HONEY BROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## NOVEMBER 2025



PO Box 276, Honey Brook, PA 19344

610-273-2848 or 717-205-6943

[www.honeybrookpres.org](http://www.honeybrookpres.org)



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 a.m. So, turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, November 1, or you will be very early for church on Sunday morning. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



**Early Christmas Alert** In order to spread our mission focuses throughout the year, the Hat and Mitten Tree **donations will be collected during the month of November**. Items donated will be distributed at the Food Pantry in early December. LETS FILL THE TREE with donations of **hats, mittens, socks, pajamas**, etc. for children in the Honey Brook area. The tree and a collection box will be in the Fellowship Hall foyer.



## Christmas Tea

The Women's Christmas gathering this year will be a tea. Babara McDonald is graciously hosting us on **December 9th at 1PM**. You are asked to bring your own tea cup and if there is a story behind it, you can share it with the group. This is always a nice time and we hope you can join us. For planning purposes, if you know you will be attending let Barbara or Eileen know. If you won't know until the last minute, please come anyway.



## Sustainability Tips:

With Thanksgiving approaching, consider the following ideas—

- Decorate using natural and biodegradable items such as pumpkins, gourds, leaves, etc., and compost them after use.
- Store leftovers in reusable containers instead of using plastic wrap or foil. Ask guests to bring their own containers to take food home.
- Buy local and seasonal produce to reduce the carbon footprint of transportation.

## DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

It's hard to believe we are just thinking about celebrating Thanksgiving, and Advent starts the following Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>! In preparation, the church will need to be decorated **after the service on November 23**, the Sunday BEFORE Thanksgiving. Those who have helped to decorate in past years have their usual assignments, but there is lots more to be done. The more helping hands, the quicker and easier the job. Please see Norma Mantz on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to find out how you can help.



## LECTIONARY READINGS (week of . . .)

November 2	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 30
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	Haggai 1:15b-2:9	Isaiah 65:17-25	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalms 119:137-144	Psalms 145:1-5, 18-22	Canticle 9	Canticle 16	Romans 13:11-14
2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	2 Thessalonians 2:1-17	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Colossians 1:11-20	Matthew 24:36-44
Luke 19:1-10	Luke 20:27-38	Luke 21:5-19	Luke 23:33-43	Psalms 122

### Liturgists

Lynn Klumpp	November 2
Beth Ventrone	November 9
Sue Welsh	November 16
Carolyn Tate	November 23
Karen DeAscentiis	November 30

### Greeters

Bill Klumpp and Marty Ruser	November 2
Linda Jackaway and Logan Emery	November 9
Bob and Ruth Snader	November 16
Helmut	November 23
Ruthann Kistler and Naomi Miller	November 30

*Thank You...*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all of the cards, phone calls, food, visits, and prayers that we received during Pat's illness and passing. You meant so very much to Pat and she missed all of you when she was not able to come to church. We also appreciate all that you did to assist with the Celebration of Life Service and the luncheon that followed. Your kindness to her and our family has not gone unnoticed. You have blessed us in so many ways. Thank you!

In Christ's love,

Peg, for the Hartz and Ford Family



### OPEN MIC NIGHT—"The Back Door"

October's Open Mic Night had to be cancelled since the Honey Brook Halloween Parade was occurring at the same time. The next Open Mic Night will be November 17 (3rd Monday) from 7-9:30 p.m. Signups are 6:30 for those who will be playing. Please come out and enjoy the fun! Light refreshments are available. For more information, contact Lynn Klumpp at 610-761-2606.

## SHEPHERD'S KITCHEN



October's Shepherd Kitchen had lower attendance than the last 2 months, even though we had beautiful weather. This led volunteers to believe that the low count might be due to the New Holland Fair. Along with those served during the evening, five meals were delivered to shut-ins. Four church members volunteered and two came to mingle with the guests.

November 6 is our big Turkey dinner. **We can use pie donation and small sized turkeys to give away.** Come out and join us! 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.



## BELL CHOIR



**Bell Choir is looking for substitutes** to fill in during practice when a member is not able to attend. Playing bells is a great way to express yourself through music. It also provides a great way to socialize as you interact with fellow bell ringers. You do not need any experience, just a willingness to learn and have fun. Bell practice is held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 in the sanctuary. Please reach out to Aurora Cannon at 484-571-9158. We welcome all who are interested.

## ONLINE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Using the directory on Realm gives us contact information on our church family so we can also encourage them through cards, calls, and email.



If you have a valid email address in Realm and a mobile device/PC, you can access the online directory, **if** you have a Realm login. See **Karen DeAscentiis** on how to do this using an app or web browser. She is more than happy to assist you with this helpful tool. New information is continually being added to Realm as new people are coming to church. So, keep checking Realm for these updates.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL—"They Walked With God"

Thank you so much to all who helped to make the washcloth teddy bears and pack all of the Operation Christmas Child boxes to be shipped to children for Christmas. You have blessed 25 children in a very special way. This month, we will continue with our lessons from "They Walked With God: 40 Bible Characters Who Inspire Us." Sunday School is from 9-10 a.m. each Sunday! Light refreshments are served. All children are welcome to come and take part in our Children's Sunday School Class taught by Ruthann Kistler.

**November 2**—Mephibosheth

**November 9**—Moses

**November 16**—Nicodemus

**November 23**—Noah

**November 30**—Paralyzed Man



*Pictures of the Sunday School Class making cards, packing shoe boxes, and showing some of the teddy bears made for the Operation Christmas Child Boxes.*

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD IS "ALL WRAPPED UP"

In the month of October, thanks to the giving generosity of our congregation, a total of 25 boxes were packed up for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Special thank you to the Sunday School class that made washcloth teddy bears and the team of packers who helped to get a lot of items into a shoe box.

Boxes included items such as notebooks, coloring books, crayons, markers, colored pencils, erasers, pencils, books, dolls, trucks, balls, combs, brushes, toothbrushes, sunglasses, flip flops, bandanas, games, jump ropes, balls, yoyos, and the teddy bear washcloth, to name a few. We also collected enough money for the shipping of the boxes.

The boxes will now go to a local collections site and make the journey to Samaritan's Purse's processing center to be prepped for the shipping to the final destination. Thank you for helping to send gift filled boxes to children in need around the world and sending the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Merry Christmas to you and your families!





## *From the Pastor's Desk...*

Every year only two teams make it all the way to the World Series of baseball, but only one can emerge as world champs. Several batters will step up to the plate but which one will get the key hit that seals victory for their team? And many pitchers will step up onto the mound but which one will shut down the other team in the key game? Part of the fun of watching the series, even if your team isn't in it, is finding the answers to those questions.



I have had occasions to look around the church when I've been here and notice the many things that make this church beautiful and functional. They are here because of the generosity of those Honey Brook Presbyterians who came before us. Some items are big, some are small. Some have the name of the person responsible, and some don't. Some go way back in our history and some are more recent.

I can't even imagine how many things we can't see and aren't aware of that have allowed this church to be here for us today. I think it's important to look back and appreciate all of the folks who have stepped up when the church needed them to; when God needed them to.

We are coming to the time of year when we need to look ahead as well. We have an amazing foundation to build upon and an outstanding group of people who are the real church, but there are a lot of questions facing our church and many challenges, as well. Many of you outstanding people do step up to meet the needs of our building and our ministry, but the challenges we are facing will require all of you to step up.

Now is not the time to pull back. God needs the church and the church needs you, so God needs you.

We will be asking you soon to consider your financial support of the church as well as the time and talents you can commit to God. This church is worth keeping and worth growing but it will be up to you to make that happen. Please prayerfully consider how you might step up to the plate, and help us win.

Your Pastor,  
Ed

## **How will you step up to the plate?**



## COMMON CENTS (AND DOLLARS) FINANCIAL REPORT

**2025 per capita is \$38**

**Per capita through October 21, 2025**

- income - \$687
- paid out - \$1875

If you are able, please consider paying your per capita. Thank you!

Honey Brook Presbyterian Church

### 2025 Statement of Activities

Date Range: Sep 1st 2025 - Sep 30th 2025

Accounts	Actual Sep 01, 2025 - Sep 30, 2025	Budget Sep 01, 2025 - Sep 30, 2025	Budget Over/Under Sep 01, 2025 - Sep 30, 2025	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
<b>Revenues</b>							
Unrestricted	13,109.90	10,944.17	2,165.73	96,599.79	98,497.53	( 1,897.74 )	131,330.00
Designated Funds	0.00	225.00	( 225.00 )	1,590.00	2,025.00	( 435.00 )	2,700.00
Donor Restricted	75.00	125.00	( 50.00 )	4,520.00	1,125.00	3,395.00	1,500.00
Pass Thru	38.00	108.34	( 70.34 )	20,732.00	975.06	19,756.94	1,300.00
Interest, Dividend, Cap Gains,	0.00	1,834.16	( 1,834.16 )	17,673.16	16,507.44	1,165.72	22,010.00
Redemptions	0.00	5,550.00	( 5,550.00 )	0.00	16,962.00	( 16,962.00 )	33,612.00
Building Lease	3,130.00	3,950.00	( 820.00 )	20,880.00	23,700.00	( 2,820.00 )	39,500.00
Miscellaneous	370.00	216.67	153.33	2,000.00	1,950.03	49.97	2,600.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 16,722.90</b>	<b>\$ 22,953.34</b>	<b>( \$ 6,230.44 )</b>	<b>\$ 163,994.95</b>	<b>\$ 161,742.06</b>	<b>\$ 2,252.89</b>	<b>\$ 234,552.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Senior Pastor	291.30	11,782.99	11,491.69	22,621.74	67,550.91	44,929.17	102,900.00
Staff Salaries	( 6,187.34 )	812.66	7,000.00	8,063.94	20,313.94	12,250.00	22,752.00
Employer Expenses	62.17	175.00	112.83	559.53	1,575.00	1,015.47	2,100.00
Administrative Expense	1,107.65	1,000.00	( 107.65 )	6,876.65	9,000.00	2,123.35	12,000.00
Designated Funds	( 34.76 )	125.00	159.76	1,327.91	1,125.00	( 202.91 )	1,500.00
Worship	1,500.74	816.67	( 684.07 )	8,232.74	7,350.03	( 882.71 )	9,800.00
Christian Education	0.00	312.50	312.50	360.00	712.50	352.50	750.00
Church & Community	0.00	83.34	83.34	385.66	750.06	364.40	1,000.00
Building & Grounds	4,054.64	5,541.67	1,487.03	90,263.96	51,175.03	( 39,088.93 )	68,600.00
Pastor Search (PNC)	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	129.06	9,000.00	8,870.94	12,000.00
Pass Thru	325.00	0.00	( 325.00 )	715.00	0.00	( 715.00 )	0.00
Reserve	0.00	95.83	95.83	0.00	862.47	862.47	1,150.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,119.40</b>	<b>\$ 21,745.66</b>	<b>\$ 20,626.26</b>	<b>\$ 139,536.19</b>	<b>\$ 169,414.94</b>	<b>\$ 29,878.75</b>	<b>\$ 234,552.00</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$ 15,603.50</b>	<b>\$ 1,207.68</b>	<b>\$ 14,395.82</b>	<b>\$ 24,458.76</b>	<b>( \$ 7,672.88 )</b>	<b>\$ 32,131.64</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

### FINANCIAL REPORT EXPLANATIONS:

- Actual Income YTD is greater than Budgeted Income YTD
- Actual Income YTD is \$24K greater than Actual Expense YTD

### Session

The session is in the process of finding a replacement solution for the income lost due to the departure of Little Mates by the end of 2025. We are actively looking at leads. Other ideas and prayers are still appreciated.

### CHARITY FUND

The Charity Fund is designed for donors to give to congregationally-connected families in need of assistance. Some are known to you, some are not. If you wish to give to this fund, over and above your regular giving, please make sure that your check is made out to the church but the notation is for Charity Fund. Opportunities for assistance and questions may be directed to Tom Richards or Peg Dombach.



### November Birthdays:

November 10—Marie Sole  
November 13—Flynn Newlin  
November 13—Meredith Sweatlock  
November 13—Ruth Snader  
November 23—John McDonald  
November 26—Susann Welsh  
November 27—Anna Newlin  
November 30—Lauren Cleaver



### November Anniversaries:

November 1—Chuck and Debbie Bachman (2003)

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

*Please send to Peg Dombach ([pdombach@ptd.net](mailto:pdombach@ptd.net)) any joys, achievements, milestones, etc. for anyone in your family, and we will include them in the monthly newsletters.*

# Congratulations!

**Naomi Miller** turned 90 years old on October 19. What a special milestone for Naomi! Her children threw her a wonderful party with lots of surprises to celebrate this special occasion. I even heard that Elvis showed up to serenade her. If you have not already done so, please congratulate Naomi.



Naomi and children: David, Ruthann, Dot & Audrey



Have you always wanted to see the Northern Lights? Well, **Jacob Bachman** has a front row seat for this beautiful natural light display. Jacob is now serving at the Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks, Alaska, a little over 100 miles south of the Arctic Circle. Please keep Jacob

in your prayers as he serves our country in the United States Air Force.

**Lauren Cleaver** recently presented to the CAT Human Resources leaders in Dallas, TX regarding the HR Development Program, in which she participated since graduation from PSU. Congratulations to Lauren for nailing her presentation. She now awaits the location of her final placement with the Caterpillar Company.

**Annabel and Sidney Masterson** have a lot to celebrate! They just recently attended the Homecoming Dance at Twin Valley High School, the first for Annabel and the third for Sidney. They have also been very successful on the field and on the court. Sidney's soccer team has made semi-finals for Districts and will play the top team, Cocalico, who is undefeated. Annabel's volleyball team made it to Counties but lost in County Semi-finals to the top team, Wilson. Please congratulate the girls on their celebrations on and off the field.



## A PSALM FOR THANKSGIVING

### Psalm 100

*A psalm. For giving grateful praise.*

- <sup>1</sup> Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.
- <sup>2</sup> Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.
- <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD is God.  
It is he who made us, and we are his<sup>1</sup>;   
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
- <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.
- <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.



## WELCOMING NEW RESIDENTS

In an attempt to reach out to new families in our community, and tell them about our church, we are sending brochures to new home owners in the area. Please help by keeping your eyes open for any "For Sale" signs that are marked as "Sold". You can pass the address, or even area, onto Linda Jackaway, or Norma Mantz. Linda can find the name of the person to personalize the mailing.



Prayer shawls are available for anyone to give to someone outside the church who is going through a difficult time. It does not have to be illness. Please see Norma Mantz if you know of someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl.

## DO I NEED A WILL?

A will is a powerful tool for ensuring your final wishes are honored and that your loved ones are protected during a difficult time. It allows you to make charitable donations, support causes you care about, and ensure your values are reflected in the distribution of your estate.

Many people want to leave a positive impact on the world after they pass. And a great way to do this is to support the charities or causes you love most. When you write a will, you can preserve your legacy by leaving a part of your estate to a charitable organization.

In Pennsylvania, if you die without a will, your property will be distributed according to state "intestacy" laws. Pennsylvania's intestacy law gives your property to your closest relatives, beginning with your spouse and children. If you have neither a spouse nor children, your grandchildren or your parents will get your property. This list continues with increasingly distant relatives, including siblings, grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. If the court exhausts this list to find that you have no living relatives by blood or marriage, the state will take your property.




In Pennsylvania, in addition to a will, there are other important estate planning documents to consider:

- **Power of Attorney.** A power of attorney allows you to appoint an agent to handle your financial matters, such as paying bills, handling real estate transactions, or managing bank accounts if you are unable. Your agent has a fiduciary duty to act in your best interest.
- **Health Care Directive.** A health care directive or living will allows you to leave instructions for your end-of-life care. It also lets you name someone to get your health information and make medical decisions on your behalf when you can't, for example, if you are injured and can't speak or are in a coma.

These documents can help you and your loved ones during your lifetime, while a will helps your family and loved ones when you pass.

If you want a say, don't delay! Start planning now. We are never guaranteed tomorrow.

## Schedule of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
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 Wednesday	Bell Choir Practice—Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.
November 1	All Saints' Day 	
November 2	Communion during Worship	10:30 a.m.
November 4	Election Day <b>VOTE</b> 	
November 6	Shepherd's Kitchen—Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	4:30-6:30 p.m.
November 8	Private Shower—Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	12:00—4:00 pm
November 9	Session Meeting—Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	12 noon
November 11	Veterans Day 	
November 12	Honey Brook Women's Club—Eppihimer Fell. Hall	6:30 p.m.
November 17	Open Mic Night—Old Fellowship Hall	6:30 pm—9:30 pm
November 27	Thanksgiving Day 	

## ALL SAINTS DAY

In the Reformed tradition, on All Saints' Day we remember and give thanks, not only for the lives of particular saints of ages past, but also for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks for the members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm. *(excerpted from the PCUSA website)*

Let us not forget those saints from our congregation who served God faithfully here and have passed on this year to eternity with their Lord and Savior, Jesus. Well done good and faithful servants!



**Want to know who is in charge of what when you can't reach Pastor Ed? Contact the following officer for each area:**

Clerk of Session—Gwynne Sweatlock

- (gsweatlock@gmail.com)

Building and Grounds—Bill Klumpp

- (honeybrookhandyman@gmail.com)
- (for emergencies text 610-463-4144)

Caring and Fellowship Ministry—Lynn Klumpp

- (lynnklumpp@yahoo.com)

Education and Spiritual Formation—Chris Masterson

- (masterson.chris@gmail.com)

Mission and Community Relations—Keith and Peg Dombach

- (pdombach@ptd.net, kdombach@yahoo.com)

Personnel and Administration—Paul Sweatlock

- (psweatlock@gmail.com)

Worship and Welcome—Norma Mantz

- (mantznorma@yahoo.com)

Comptroller, Realm Admin and General Inquiries —Karen DeAscentiis

- (kdeascentiis@verizon.net)