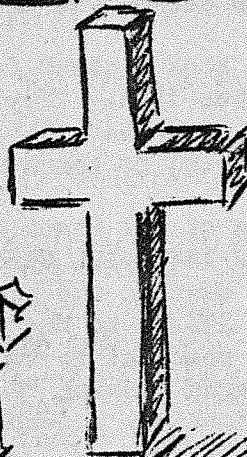


Joy
to the
world



for the
wonders
of His
Love

POKE RUN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
R. D. 1, Apollo, PA
(Junction of Routes 66 & 366)

Matthew 28:17-20

The Acts 1:8

Volume X

December, 1981

Number 2

Dear Friends,

Early on Christmas Eve, 1968, the Apollo 8 went into orbit around the Moon. On the third orbit Colonel Frank Borman radioed this prayer from space:

"Give us, O God, the vision which can see Thy love in the world in spite of human failure. Give us the faith to trust thy goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness. Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts, and show us what each one of us can do to set forward the day of universal peace. Amen." May this be our prayer as we embark on the Year of our Lord, 1982.

The celebration of Christmas 1981 began at Poke Run Church on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29, 1981, with the Traditional Candlelighting and Advent Wreath ceremony by these young people: Barbara Thompson, Sandra Thompson, Amy Gebrosky, Lori Moneymaker, and Nancy Painter. The Reverend Karen Palmer spoke on "Preparing The Way" and the choir sang A Cappella "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming." In addition to the lighted Christmas Tree, evergreens and white candles, Circle 4 had provided another

lovely decoration -- four large wreaths on the front and side walls of the sanctuary. On December 6, 1981, the Donald Lengauer family were the Candlelighters. The choir sang the anthem "O Come Emmanuel" and Moderator William R. Johnston, D. D. spoke on "Living our Faith." On the Third Sunday of Advent, December 13, 1981, the Reverend Warren K. Martin from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary had "And By Comparison" as his sermonic thought. Nadine Dunmire, Laurie Powers, Ruth Ryman, Donald Henry and John Wigle conducted the Advent Wreath ceremony. "The Gift of Love" was sung by the choir. The cantata, "Down From His Glory" by John W. Peterson, was the highlight of the December 20th, 11 o'clock service. The Reverend Warren K. Martin spoke on "The Last Word" and the Robert J. Matteo family performed the Candlelighting. The Church School Christmas program was held in the sanctuary at 7:30 that evening. Willie and Evelyn Shaeffer and their infant son Jonathan played the parts of Mary and Joseph and The Baby Jesus in the Manger Scene Tableau. A Christmas Fellowship and Treat followed in Fellowship Hall. The annual Candlelight Service took place on Christmas Eve with Moderator William R. Johnston D. D. in the pulpit, assisted by the Board of Deacons. Music was provided by both adult and children's choirs with Jane Zimmerman at the organ and Amy Gebrosky playing the piano. On Sunday, December 29, 1981, Rev. Milt Sage presided in the pulpit. His sermon was entitled "Response to Christmas".

Our Youth Fellowship took a check for \$900.00 to Pittsburgh for Childrens Hospital on the morning of December 19th. They went Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 13th and Friday evening, December 18th. They had a very successful Ice Cream Festival on November 21st. They wish to thank all who contributed in any way.

The Christmas meeting of the Women's Association was held in Fellowship Hall on Tuesday evening, December 1st, with Circle 1 as hostesses and also in charge of the program. In the business meeting the group voted to give \$50.00 to the Youth Group for Childrens Hospital and \$50.00 to the Avonmore Cerebral Palsy Clinic. A brief service was conducted as a memorial to two deceased members, Florence Clawson and Myrtle Pfeffer, with June Penrod singing "Face to Face". The new officers installed were: Emma Dunmire to continue a second term as president, and Kathy Moneymaker as secretary.

The marriage of Valerie E. McCutcheon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Olen S. McCutcheon of Allegheny Township, to Robert A. Dulude of South Attleboro, Massachusetts took place on October 10, 1981, in a garden wedding at Charlton, Massachusetts.

We have had several rosebuds on the communion table since the last Ranger, honoring these new arrivals in our congregation. Born to William and Carol Lynn (Thompson) Billeck on September 8, 1981, a son, Michael Paul. Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Thompson are the maternal grandparents. Born to Jeffrey L. and Anita (Aleman) Endlich on September 17, 1981, a daughter, Cynthia Lynn. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William C. Endlich. On October 7, 1981, a son, Chad Michael, was born to Douglas Jay and Kimberly (McDivitt) Painter. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harry McDivitt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Painter and great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Clair McDivitt and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Painter. A son Jeremiah James, was born on October 18, 1981, to Donald J. and Terri N. (Miller) Altman. Mrs. Deemer (Carol) Harkelroad is the maternal grandmother. On October 20, 1981, a son, Nathaniel Kyle, was born to Gary and Jocelyn (Miller) Laber at the Burlington, Vermont Medical Center. Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Miller are the maternal grandparents. A daughter, Kara Jo, was born on November 6, 1981, to Timothy and Karen L. (Gesario) Bowman. Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Bowman are the paternal grandparents. Congratulations and best wishes to all these new parents and grandparents. Congratulations also to former member Ted and Sherry Kuckuck of R. D. 2, Saltsburg, who announce the adoption of a daughter, Allison Noel, born June 26, 1981, in Seoul Korea. The happy parents met their little girl at Kennedy International Airport in New York on November 12, 1981. Mrs. Grace Kuckuck is the proud grandmother.

The following deaths have occurred recently: Mrs. Florence Edna (Irwin) Walker (Mrs. Robert T.) in Greensburg, Pa., on November 4, 1981. Mrs. Walker united with Poke Run Church on July 1, 1923. Mrs. G. Irene Miller Rugh (Mrs. Dewitt) in Natrona Heights on November 4, 1981. Mrs. Rugh united with Poke Run Church on January 30, 1907. Arthur Leslie Moorhead in Apollo, Pa., on November 25, 1981. Mr. Moorhead united with Poke Run Church on April 20, 1919, and was ordained as a Deacon on January 6, 1957. C. McKee Speer in Apollo, Pa., on December 21, 1981. Mr. Speer united with Poke Run Church on September 5, 1926, and was ordained as an Elder on January 1, 1956.

Pastor Emeritus Roy S. Brice came back to officiate at the funerals of all the above.

Mrs. Lucille N. Martin, mother of member Timothy Martin, died on December 17, 1981, at New Bethlehem, Pa., following an automobile accident. We were deeply saddened to learn of the untimely death of Dr. Elden Rawlings of Norman, Oklahoma. He died of a massive heart attack on December 25, 1981. Elden was married to Sallie Smith Rawlings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wenroy Smith and granddaughter of the late Mrs. Irene Rugh. Our sympathy goes out to all who mourn.

Mrs. Grace Kuckuck wishes to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, kind words, prayers and messages of encouragement during her recent hospitalization. The Gearhards wish to express their appreciation to all who have extended thoughtfulness to John and family during his recent hospitalization and to the Deacons for the lovely poinsettia.

At the recent commencement at the Pennsylvania State University, Thomas J. Metzgar, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Metzgar, received a Bachelor of Science Degree. Jodee McQuaide, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Bernard McQuaide, received a Bachelor of Science Degree in dairy production. Congratulations.

A large portrait of Pastor Emeritus Roy S. Brice has been presented to Poke Run Church by Thomas R. Thompson, owner of Shaffer Studio. The portrait was done by Thomas Thompson and is on display in the corridor of Fellowship Hall until a permanent place is decided upon. Much appreciation to both Mr. Brice and Tom for this handsome gift!

The choir and congregation wish to express appreciation to Pat Kistler for presiding at the organ through November and December. And a special thanks to Jane Zimmerman who has so graciously been available as organist when needed. Kathy Money maker would like to acknowledge with warm thanks the help given her by Amy Gebrosky in the library in the past months. She has been Kathy's "right hand".

Harvest Home was observed Sunday, September 27, 1981 at the Presbyterian Home, 787 Goucher Street, Johnstown, PA. Different vegetables, flour, sugar, canned goods, jelly and numerous other useful items were on display on a table in the Narthex of the Church before being delivered to the Home. A total of \$130.00 also was given to the Home. Our W. A. representative to the Johnstown Home is Louise Hall.

Eighty-five Christmas stockings were delivered to Torrance State Hospital on December 4th by Louise Hall. Thank you, Louise, for your faithfulness in a job well done.

Mrs. Helen Silvis, Church School Superintendent, wishes to express special thanks to all who helped to make the Church School Christmas Program on December 20th at 7:30 P. M. a success and lovely evening of fellowship. It was a worship service which included a play, entitled "A Certain Small Shepherd" with special music by the children and adults Mr. Donald Lengauer, Mrs. Roma Ryman and Mrs. June Penrod. Following the service a Christmas Treat was given by "Santa".

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And now a Report we have all been waiting for -- from the Pulpit Committee.

The Pulpit Nominating Committee is happy to report that they have found a minister they would like to present to the Congregation. He is the Reverend Wayne G. Blaser of Portsmouth, Ohio. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, has served as an assistant minister for two years and has had his own congregation at Portsmouth for four years. The next step will be for the Redstone Presbytery's Ministerial Relations Committee to meet with Mr. Blaser and give their approval of him. The Session can then invite him to meet our Congregation, perform a church service and be approved by vote of the Congregation. The first week in January the Session will be sending a letter to all members with more information about the Reverend Blaser and about the procedure for his approval.

The Committee on Property Maintenance and Improvements finished up a busy year by insulating the Sanctuary and the Manse. The following volunteers helped with the project: Harry Penrod, (who organized the effort) Elmer Long, Jack Zerbini, Jim Dunmire, Arthur McDivitt, Nelson Thompson, Mario Tagliati, Raymond Brewer, Don and Kyle Lengauer and Marvin Moneymaker. The Youth Group served a free lunch to the volunteers.

In November plaster repairs were made to a bedroom ceiling in the Manse and to a corner of the ceiling in Fellowship Hall.

We regret to say the Sanctuary storm windows project is temporarily stalled, but the Committee hopes to move ahead on it by next Fall.

The big improvement undertaking for the Congregation in the first quarter of 1982 will be the renovation of the Manse. A few members of the Committee, the Session, the Trustees and the Pulpit Committee cleaned out the manse and tidied the yard. The Ministerial Relations Committee from Presbytery then inspected the house and made recommendations to us. The Session and Trustees have already met to discuss the project and are now investigating costs for: new wiring, baseboard heating, laundry and powder room facilities, carpeting and painting. The manse is a beautiful house and structurally sound however, we need to update it as we have our Sanctuary and Educational facilities. A good financial response is needed from all members for the project to move ahead and to have the Manse ready for occupancy in March of 1982.

Many thanks to Eleanor Zerbini for her up-to-date reports on the accomplishments of the joint bodies and committees.

Grace Kuckuck graciously submitted an item from "Revelations", the news publication from Leban Presbyterian Church, where the Kuckucks formerly worshiped. Since they are also in the process of locating a new minister, we have something in common -- including a sense of humor!!

THE PERFECT MINISTER...

Results of a national survey indicate that the perfect minister preaches exactly fifteen minutes. He condemns sins, but never upsets anyone. He works from 8 a.m. until midnight and is also a janitor. He makes \$60 a week, wears good clothing, buys good books, drives a good car, and gives about \$50 weekly to the poor.

He is 28 years old but has been preaching for 30 years. He is wonderfully gentle and handsome. He has a burning desire to work with teens and spends all his time with senior citizens. He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him dedicated to his work. He makes 15 calls daily on families, shutins, and the hospitalized; and is always in the office when needed.

___ Author Unknown

Along the line of Social Activities -- a baby shower was held on November 14th in Fellowship Hall honoring Evelyn Shaeffer who recently became a new mother. Jonathan Paul, son of Evelyn (Hughes) and William Shaeffer was born September 26, 1981. Emma Dunmire was the hostess, assisted by Circle 1, and guests included members of the Academy Building Adult Sunday School Class and Circle 4. A delicious lunch was served and Jonathan received many beautiful gifts. On the afternoon of Saturday, December 19th, Mrs. Ruth Kistler was honored at a tea in the Lounge with members of the Rugh Circle and the Women's Sunday School class as hostesses. Ruth has sold her home in this area and is moving to Versailles Boro where she will be near her son Donald.

Ruth Kistler's new address will be Crown Plaza Apts., 516D, 276 Ringold Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205. Mrs. Mildred George and her daughter, Ellen Smith, have also moved to a new location. Their new address is 1037 Sir Timothy Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452. Laurie and Tim Martin will be moving into their new home near North Washington by the first of the year. Their address will be R. D. #1, Apollo, PA. 15613. Geniene and Jim Ciuca have moved into their new home on their property at RD 2, Export, PA. Larry and Kim Ross Klobuka have moved to Indianapolis, Indiana where Larry has procured a job upon his graduation from Penn State University. God bless you all -- and your new homes.

The Maynard Millers spent Thanksgiving in Newport, Vermont, visiting their daughter and son-in-law, Jocelyn and Gary Laber, and their new grandson, Nathaniel Kyle. The Bernard McQuaide's were delighted to have home for the holiday their son Curtis, who was temporarily stationed in the Mediterranean with the Navy, he has now returned to Grouton, Connecticut for new orders. Several members of Circle 4 and their husbands went to Nashville, Tennessee on a weekend bus tour in October. The travelers were: Joe and Freda Bowman, Leonard and Grace Hartman, Bernard and Jean McQuaide, Chuck and Mary Louise Moore, Glenn and Alta Jean Ross, John and Mildred Striner and Jack and Eleanor Zerbin. They enjoyed a day at Opryland Park and a tour of the beautiful city of Nashville. Saturday evening they attended the Grand Old Opry. The trip was a great opportunity for fellowship for the group, and was a very enjoyable experience for all. Leonard and Grace Hartman traveled to Florida the first part of December. They were accompanied to Ft. Myers by Joe and Freda Bowman who they left at Freda's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hartman while they toured and enjoyed the sights of Ft. Myers, Disney World at Orlando, and many other sightseeing things. When they were ready for the return trip they picked up Joe and Freda and traveled to Ft. Stewart, Georgia where they visited their son Michael, who is stationed there with the U. S. Army. They spent the day with him and he showed them around the army base and neighboring town Savannah, Georgia. Upon returning home a few days later they were surprised to hear that Michael would have leave for Christmas and he flew home for the weekend. Jeffery and Amy and children Shilo and Justin also visited over Christmas with the Hartman's and the Glenn Ross's. Grace wishes to thank those who helped with the clerical secretary duties in her absence.

These Poke Run members have been hospitalized recently: Kelly Lightner and Arthur McDivitt in Westmoreland Hospital in Greensburg, Grace Kuckuck in Latrobe Hospital, Latrobe; John Gearhard and Vera McDivitt in East Suburban Medical Center, Monroeville. Also Mamont residents, who attend Poke Run, Marge Bazella and little daughter in Citizens General Hospital in New Kensington.

The Board of Deacons is requesting information of any member that is ill or been hospitalized. This information will be announced weekly from the pulpit or in the bulletin (space providing) so we as a congregation can offer our prayers. The Family is responsible for getting this information to the church office for this to be possible. Telephone 327-5563, 327-2143 or 327-5443.

THE STORY OF THE QUILT

By Karen Heinlein and Kathy Moneymaker

Circle 2 was asked to tell how the quilt for Reverend Brice originated and how we went about making it.

The thought of a quilt was first brought up while we were making our hoagies last spring. Laurie Martin had said how much her sister and brother-in-law loved the quilt they received from their congregation when they left Saltsburg Presbyterian Church.

At our April Circle meeting the idea was brought up again. We decided to send patches to the congregation and to people who receive the "Ranger". If we missed you we are sorry.

We sent the letters out on May 7, 1981 with much appreciated help from Mrs. Grace Hartman. We waited about two weeks and then the patches started coming in. They came in slowly at first but really picked up going into June. We decided to have a special Poke Run Church patch in the center of the quilt. Pat Lengauer graciously consented to design it and Laurie Martin did a beautiful job embroidering it.

Laurie Martin and Marguerite Flotta began piecing the quilt in mid-June. By then the response of patches was so great that we couldn't fit them all in one quilt. A pillow sham was suggested and turned out to be a beautiful bonus to our project.

We wanted the quilt to be a complete surprize so we asked the help of Union Presbyterian Church. Rev. Compton and his congregation kindly gave us permission to set up the quilt in their church. Then we borrowed a quilting frame from Jim and Emma Dunmire and got started.

We had much help from the quilters in our congregation and we would like to thank them all: Marguerite Flotta, Jane Zimmerman, Ruth Kistler, Ruth Gebrosky, Mollie Waltenbaugh, Mrs. J. Kistler, Betty Thompson, Lori Moneymaker and also Libby George and Mrs. Williams. We asked Pat Christy to do the binding and she did a beautiful job, much thanks to Pat.

So as you see many hands went into our gift of love to Rev. Brice. When he was presented with the quilt at the Open House in his honor on July 26th his first words were in appreciation of how much time and thought it had taken to make such a project. It was our aim, with the quilt, for Reverend Brice to take a little of each of us with him and we feel we succeeded. Just a final note of thanks to all who helped by sending their patches, notes of encouragement and donations to our project.

We also presented Rev. Brice with a memory book which contains all the correspondence that came with the patches as well as pictures and an index of the patches as they appear on the pillow sham and quilt.

Thank you Karen and Kathy for a very complete report. We feel sure that the Ranger readers who were not able to get to Poke Run to see the quilt will be delighted to read "The Story of The Quilt".

Members of Circle 2 are Sandy Chappell, Geniene Ciuca, Karen Heinlein, Beverly Matteo, Jeannie Moorhead, Kathy Moneymaker, Laurie Martin, Beverly Tagliati, Carol Thompson, Barbie Weyel and Debbie Zerbini and we wish to thank all of them for their many hours of work on this labor of love.

Assistant Typist -- The Session is accepting applications from church members interested in the position of Assistant Typist at minimum wage. If interested please reply in written form to the clerk of session, Glenn T. Ross, R. D. 1, Box 212, Apollo, PA 15613 before January 10th.

Following the Worship Service on Sunday, November 29, 1981, the congregational meeting was held to launch the Every Member Canvass and adopt the budget for 1982. The total budget for 1982 is \$80,170.00; \$66,737.00 for Home Needs and \$13,433.00 for our Benevolence share.

THE SPIRIT OF THE EVERY MEMBER CANVAAS

"The Spirit of The Every Member Canvaas is that Spirit which leads all the members of a congregation to regard themselves as valuable and responsible stewards in a total sense (time, talents, possessions, and influence) on a year-round and life-time basis, thereby giving evidence of the acceptance of the cause of God in Christ through the Church as having the first claim upon Christians." Roy S. Brice

CAPSULE REPORT -- As of December 26, 1981:

Balance in Bank, November 30, 1981	\$ 5,400.15
Deposits -- December 2, 7, 14, 22	5,132.02
Total receipts	\$ 10,532.17
Total disbursements	\$ 3,116.29
*Balance in Bank, December 26, 1981	\$ 7,415.88

*-- These facts should be noted relating to this balance of \$7,415.88:

1. The sum of \$140.00 includes therein was given as Memorials for Mrs. Irene Rugh and is being held in reserve until further notice from her family.
2. The sum of \$1,065.68 included therein was given by the Women's Association and is being held in reserve for Sanctuary Improvements (storm windows).
3. The sum of \$1,464.00 is needed to pay for the insulation that was put in the church and manse plus other end of the month obligations.

Edgar L. Brewer, Treasurer

To quote from the letter sent out by the Session on December 7, 1981 -- We need to ask ourselves the question, "Did I do my part during 1981 in giving my share, or did I depend on the other members of the congregation to carry the load?" The very fact that our names appear on the Church Roll indicates we all have agreed to support the life and work of the church. Our per capita for 1982 is \$5.70. This means that every member is responsible for at least this amount.

Our Benevolent giving needs more generous support than we have been doing in the past. Let us meet our mission allotment this coming year. Our 1982 budget can be met through prayer and conscientious support by all of us.

Poke Run Church History Books -- Beginning January 1, 1982 a contribution of \$15.00 or more entitles the contributor to a first copy of "Poke Run Presbyterian Church 1785-1977"; and accordingly qualifying contributions in over and above sums entitle contributors to one or more additional copies. (If by mail, handling and shipping costs are \$3.50 per volume.) Anyone interested in getting a History, please contact Mrs. Ruth K. Christy. Address: R. D. 1, Box 45, Apollo, PA 15613.

Flower chairpersons for January are Mrs. W. Blair Kiebler (727-2425) and Mrs. Fred Heinlein (327-3048).

On Sunday, December 6, 1981, the Congregational meeting to elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees for the year 1982 was held immediately following the 11 o'clock service, with Dr. William Johnston as Moderator.

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

The following have been elected to serve on the Session:

Mr. Robert E. Kiebler
Mr. J. Marvin McKown
Mrs. Richard E. (Ronna) Ryman
Mr. G. Edward Sharer

The following have been elected to serve on the Board of Deacons:

Mrs. Carl (Eleanor) Fitzsimmons
Mrs. Timothy (Laurie) Martin
Mrs. Marvin (Kathy) Moneymaker

The following have been elected to serve on the Board of Trustees:

Mr. Harry C. Penrod
Mr. Richard E. Ryman, Sr.

Mrs. James P. (Carol) Thompson has been elected to serve on the 1982 Nominating Committee.

A Prayer for January --

Almighty Lord: Earth time is marked so fittingly
With your holy name, Anno Domini,
Let me be fit for this gift from You --
The Twelve new months ahead.
Let me live in Your ways
All the days of Your year -- 1982.

From Guideposts

PROSPECTUS FOR 1982

Sunday, January 3rd, at 11:00 A. M. -- Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders and Deacons, and Installation and Public Recognition of Trustees.

Sunday, January 10th:

10:00 A. M. -- Church School, with classes for all

11:00 A. M. -- Worship Service

2:30 to 4:30 P. M. -- Meetings: Session, Board of Trustees, and Board of Deacons

4:30 P. M. -- Service in Preparation for HOLY COMMUNION (Followed by a Fellowship Supper, served by the Deacons.)

Monday, January 11th -- Stated January Congregational Meeting at 8:00 P. M.-- preceded by a covered dish dinner at 6:30 P. M.

THE SACRAMENTS:

11:00 A. M. -- Sunday, January 17th -- THE LORD'S SUPPER

11:00 A. M. -- Sunday, January 24th -- THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

ANNUAL AUDIT --

Saturday, January 9th, beginning at 9 A. M. in the Church Office.
All treasurers plan to report.

POKE RUN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
R. D. 1 -- Box 221,
Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613

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