

# The Hanger

*Jesus  
The light of the world*

POKE RUN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
R.D. 1, Apollo, PA 15613  
(Junction of Routes 66 & 366)

Telephones:

Church Office -- 327-5563

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Wayne C. Blaser, Pastor

Matthew 28:17-20

The Acts 1:8

Volume XI

December, 1982

Number 2

Dear Friends,

A Guide For The New Year

And I said to the man who  
stood at the gate of the year:  
Give me a light that I may  
Tread safely into the unknown!  
And he replied: Go out into the darkness  
and put thine hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to thee better than light  
and safer than a known way.

From Guidewords: An Anthology

Christmas at Poke Run --

Christmas has come and is nearing its end, but the spirit and the hope will live on in our hearts. The Advent Season was a blessed experience. Here are some of the highlights. Members of the Confirmation Class lighting The Advent Wreath each Sunday and emphasizing that this was a Time of Preparation for the Coming of the Christ Child -- the lovely choir music -- the caroling for the shut-ins -- the many projects to help the unfortunate -- Wayne's sermons and his continuing story for the children which will reach a dramatic climax on the last Sunday of Christmas, January 2, and all the children processing down the aisle on the fourth Sunday carrying hay for the manger in front of the Lord's Table. Then came the Christmas Eve Worship Celebration, combining our traditional Candlelight Service with The Sacrament of Holy Communion for a very inspiring and meaningful experience. Let us remember Christmas in our hearts all through the coming year as we wish everyone a Blessed and Peaceful New Year.

From The Pastor's Desk

Needed: Your Suggestions

Many of you may not be aware of it, but most of the changes around Poke Run since my arrival have occurred because of suggestions, insights and initiatives of members of our congregation, particularly members of our Boards. It is my conviction that church program should be designed to meet the needs of a congregation's membership. With a large congregation like ours I would imagine that there should be a great deal of diversity in our program offerings to meet the wide variety of interests individual members may have. Please help our officers to develop a stronger church program by telling me or a church officer what you would like to see begin to happen at Poke Run. (You could also jot a note on an "I Wish" folder and place it in the offering plate.) Every suggestion submitted to me or one of the boards will receive careful consideration, and persons making suggestions will be informed of the results. Also, you are welcome (as are all members of the congregation) to sit-in on any board or committee meetings, and may present any requests or concerns you may have to these governing bodies.

Questions And Answers

1.) Why don't we sing the hymns we know?

According to the Book of Order the selecting of hymns is the Pastor's responsibility. In choosing hymns I attempt to select ones that relate to the season of the church year and to the scripture texts for the day. I also try to choose hymns that I have had a long association with and are widely used throughout the church, hoping they will be familiar to most members of our congregation. Also when I have received requests for a certain hymn, (provided it is in our Hymnbook) I try to utilize them on the first occasion that they would be appropriate which is usually within a few weeks. So the best way to be sure to sing your favorite hymns is to request them.

2.) Why are only some new members given the red stoles?

The stoles are a symbolic memento of a person's confirmation or commissioning as a christian disciple. They symbolize the yoke of Christ which the christian is called to take upon himself or herself and are normally given to people making their first public, adult declaration of their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Normally those who have made previous public declarations of their faith such as people transferring from other congregations, would not be re-confirmed, unless they specifically requested to be. Any person, including active members of our congregation, who feels a special leading by the Spirit to rededicate his or her life to Christ and his church may, after consultation with me and approved by Session, re-affirm his or her faith publicly and be re-commissioned by the

Note: The Childrens Messages during Advent and Christmas were the retelling of G. S. Lewis' THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE, the first of a seven book series, The Chronicles of Narnia, which can be found in our Church Library and is available at most bookstores.

Births

- A son, William Paul, on October 4, 1982, to Paul and Becky Knepshield Ferguson. Maternal grandparents are Bill and Betty Knepshield.
- A daughter, Kara Danielle, on August 31, 1982, to Timothy and Carol (Schmidt) Elwood. Paul and Edyth Elwood are the paternal grandparents.
- A daughter, Lyndsay Jane, on October 10, 1982, to Dwayne and Karen (Lach) Smith. Paternal grandparents are Fred and Miriam Smith.
- A son, Jared James, on October 19, 1982, to James and Renee (McQuaide) Bates. Bernard and Jean McQuaide are the maternal grandparents.
- Twins, a son Benjamin John, and a daughter Patricia Ann, on October 25, 1982, to John and Linda Gearhard Chicka. Maternal grandparents are John and Jane Gearhard.

Congratulations!

Baptisms

- The Sacrament of Baptism was administered to the following children on All Saints Day, November 7, 1982:
- Matthew Allen Ciuca, born September 24, 1982 at Pittsburgh, PA son of James Allen and Geniene (Hurlbut) Ciuca.
- Kara Danielle Elwood, born August 31, 1982 at Latrobe, PA daughter of Timothy Scott and Carol Irene (Schmidt) Elwood.
- Sarah Miriam Hastie, born June 29, 1980 at Greensburg, PA daughter of Donald Allen Hastie and Dorothy Miriam (Smith) Hastie.
- Sara Grace Martin, born March 2, 1982 at Natrona Heights, PA daughter of Joseph Samuel Martin, Jr. and Robin Ellen (Simpson) Martin.
- Nicole Lynn McQuaide, born August 9, 1982 at Latrobe, PA daughter of James Robert McQuaide and Cynthia Lynn (Bowman) McQuaide.
- Brad Douglas Painter, born September 22, 1982 at New Kensington, PA son of Douglas Jay Painter and Kimberly Ann (McDivitt) Painter.
- Brenda Lee Staymates, born January 6, 1973 at Jeannette, PA daughter of Elton Decker Staymates and Karen Lynn (Roscosky) Staymates.
- William Russell Weyel, III, born July 19, 1982 at New Kensington, PA son of William Russell Weyel, Jr. and Barbara Arlene (Painter) Weyel.
- Jared Matthew Zerbini, born April 10, 1982 at Greensburg, PA son of Alan Wayne Zerbini and Debora Lucille (Iapalucci) Zerbini.
- Patricia Elaine Fullerton, born March 17, 1979 at Somerset, PA daughter of Jayne Ann (Welsh/Fullerton) Wiester and Gary King Wiester.

These two children were baptized on Sunday, November 14, 1982 (because they were involved in an auto accident on November 7.)

- Bryan William Billeck, born December 12, 1979 at New Kensington son of William Earl Billeck and Carol Lynn (Thompson) Billeck.
- Michael Paul Billeck, born September 8, 1981 at Jeannette, PA son of William Earl Billeck and Carol Lynn (Thompson) Billeck.

Also receiving the Sacrament upon the profession of faith:

- Dorothy Miriam (Smith) Hastie (Mrs. Donald), born July 28, 1954 at Youngstown, Ohio daughter of Fred Smith and Miriam Ina (Wilkenson) Smith.

- Sponsors for Bryan and Michael Billeck were Timothy and Cindy George.
- Sponsors for Matthew Ciuca was John and Krystal Musala.
- Sponsors for Kara Elwood was Mary and Deane Elwood and Paul and Edyth Elwood.
- Sponsor for Sara Hastie was Joyce Hodges.
- Sponsor for Sara Martin was Karen Simpson.

Weddings

John Herbert Gearhard, III and Nancy Lynn Rubright were married in the Sanctuary on Saturday, October 30, 1982 at 4:30 p.m. Officiating ministers were The Rev. Wayne C. Blaser and The Rev. Ray H. Pierson (pastor of Cross Roads Presbyterian Church). Parents of the bride are Lawrence and Mary Jo Rubright and parents of the groom are John and Jane Gearhard.

Anniversaries

Congratulations to Ed and Thelma Sharer who celebrated their fortieth Wedding anniversary on October 24, 1982, and to Blair and Betty Kiebler, who had a forty-fifth Wedding Anniversary on Thanksgiving Day.

New Members

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Balbach and son Pete Penrose from the Episcopal Church of Monroeville, PA.

Ms. Sharen Mahen from the Pine Run United Presbyterian Church of R.D. 5 Apollo, PA.

Mrs. Miriam (Fred) Smith by reaffirmation of faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Martin, Jr. by reaffirmation of faith.

Mr. Donald Hastie by reaffirmation of faith.

Mrs. Dorothy (Donald) Hastie by profession of faith.

Transfers

To the Vandergrift First Presbyterian Church, Robert W and Henrietta Wilson.

Thirty-five members of the congregation have been placed on the Inactive Roll by the Session after being mailed a letter.

Deaths

Mr. John Alexander Miller on December 12, 1982. Mr. Miller united with Poke Run Church on March 29, 1956.

Mrs. Jessie Christy (Wm.) Remaley, on December 17, 1982. Mrs. Remaley united with Poke Run Church on July 27, 1924.

Our sympathy goes out to all who mourn -- and also to families of the following who were known at Poke Run.

Mrs. Florence Heckman, mother of Mrs. Esther (Eugene) Kiebler, who died on October 25, 1982, in Natrona Heights. Mr. and Mrs. Chalmer Heckman were former caretakers at Poke Run.

Mr. Albert Switzer, a former member, died on October 16, 1982, in Brookville, PA.

Rev. Francis E. Stetler, pastor of Glade Run Presbyterian Church, died as the result of an accident on November 8, 1982, in the Dayton area as he was cutting firewood with a chain-saw. Rev. Roy S. Brice assisted with the service on November 10, 1982. Glade Run Church is close to Rev. Brice's home and is the church he attends when not conducting services elsewhere.

Mrs. Helen V. Martens, wife of Rev. D. Alan Martens, D. D., tenth pastor of Poke Run Church, died on November 21, 1982. Mrs. Martens was a graduate of Grove City and Baldwin-Wallace and had been an organizer at the Covenant Church in Ligonier for twenty-five years.

Mr. Robert O'Brien, husband of Jean Elwood O'Brien, died as a result of an automobile accident on December 2, 1982. He was a son-in-law of Mrs. Dorothy Elwood.

Appreciation

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the Women's Association for their financial support of The Sanctuary storm windows.

Harry C. Penrod, President

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REMEMBRANCES And GREETINGS -- DECEMBER, 1982

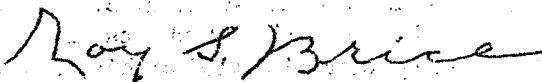
I still chuckle to myself when it comes to mind. During my senior year in seminary I was the student supply of the Bethesda Church in the then Presbytery of Steubenville, the church to which at graduation I was called to my first pastorate. In membership this was a small congregation, with less than 100 family units. Having zeal linked with little insight, I procured from someone a list of the families with their addresses; and, with the valuable assistance of Isabel, a Christmas Greeting was sent from us to each home. By mistake, one of the greetings was addressed to Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_. As soon as the single Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ received this greeting at the small town United States Post Office the joyous spirit of the festive season started to spread and reverberate throughout the congregation and community. The next year the young pastor and his wife tried to do better, yet -- perhaps due to some mystical or even providential psychological influence -- added more grist for seasonal merriment, by addressing the greeting to Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ and Family. This really ushered in enough of jolly good cheer to permeate all of those spots in small communities where people congregat , even leaking through the walls to the occupants of the Manse.

Do you remember those days -- the days when many towns the size of Mamont had a United States Post Office in combination with a General Country Store? In those days potbellied stoves had not come back; they were already there, and had not as yet gone away. Crackers and many other staples were weighed out by the pound from wooden barrels; and wooden boxes made good seats and served well in many other ways, before the days of supermarket push carts.

Getting back to the subject and to make a long story short, Roy S. Brice decided to amend his ways. The Brices never again sent out family unit greetings to entire congregations, due to several reasons which to them appeared valid. Instead, they started the practice of providing a special Service Bulletin for congregational use at Christmas time. Selecting this Christmas style folder each year from several samples proved to be an interesting annual project. A small space was reserved on the inside of the folders for conveying greetings and best wishes to the congregation and to relatives and friends of the congregation. Perhaps some of the Bethesda families, some of the Claysville families, and some of the Poke Run families still have one or more of these colorful Christmas bulletins.

Retirement from a regular pastorate brings with it both losses and gains. Hearing from and keeping in timely touch with persons in places of previous service is one of the residual gains -- a gain very much in keeping with the spirit of Christianity. Thanks for the many thoughtful remembrances! I am deeply grateful for THE RANGER, an effective and valuable medium for conveying communications. Very likely the December issue will not be mailed until right after Christmas. Even so, I am using it to greet you and to let all of you know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. May the Blaser Family, all the families of Poke Run Church, and all THE RANGER readers have a Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

With love in Christ,



Roy S. Brice, Pastor Emeritus of Poke Run Church

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Wayne Blaser -- Marathon Runner

On Saturday, December 18, 1982, our pastor displayed another of his many talents by completing a 26 mile run from Poke Run Church to downtown Pittsburgh for Children's Hospital. Members of the congregation as well as many non-members pledged donations based on the number of miles completed. Four representatives of the Fellowship which sponsored the run -- Donald Lengauer, John Wigle, Lewis Elwood and Carol Thompson, nurse, traveled together in a car and met with the runners at various prearranged check points to provide water and medical attention if needed. Wayne was accompanied by another area marathon runner, Tom Daugherty, a senior at Kiski Area High School. As they jogged up in front of Horne's Department Store they were greeted and cheered by a group of the Fellowship who had driven in for the occasion. They were all interviewed on the Jim Herrington Show on K. D. K. A. radio. Wayne and his buddy were also on television that day. The run started at 5:15 that morning at Poke Run Church and at approximately 8:45 a.m. they had reached their destination. Elsewhere in the Ranger you will see that around \$1650.00 was presented to Children's Hospital through the Marathon and other Fellowship Projects. Congratulations To All!

The Fellowship

One of the newest groups at Poke Run is the Fellowship Group. Formerly the Youth Fellowship, the group now includes members of all ages -- everyone is welcome!

Our evenings start with singing and planning together. Then we separate into groups: children up through 6th grade with their leaders Pat Lengauer and Donna Elwood; Junior High and their leaders Ronna Ryman and Donna Blaser; Senior High and their leaders Kathy Money maker and Don Lengauer; and the adult group which is led by Rick Learn. Each group has its own discussions and projects, which are sometimes coordinated into one large project. The evening ends with the groups joining each other again for more singing and refreshments.

Fellowship has already had several large projects since our beginning this Fall. One was the annual Halloween Party, which included a tremendous Haunted House and plenty of food and games for the children. Another was the making of Advent Wreaths together for use in our homes.

Our Children's Hospital campaign projects included a Soup And Sandwich Supper, Christmas Caroling to over twenty homes in the area, and the Marathon Run to Pittsburgh made by Reverend Wayne for which the group solicited pledges per mile. With these events, the Fellowship Group earned over \$1650.00 for Children's Hospital!

We feel that we've accomplished a lot in a short time, and intend to do a lot more. Everyone at Poke Run is invited to come join us in Fellowship!

by Carole Bowman

Sunday School

The Church School Christmas program was held at 7:00 p.m., Sunday evening, December 19th. It was an Advent Worship Service, planned by Rev. Blaser and the Church School staff, with all the students and congregation participating. It was followed by a Fellowship Hour in Fellowship Hall, with Santa delivering the Christmas Treat to the children.

Brenda and Meri Staymates received perfect attendance awards for the 1981-1982 Church School year. It is hoped more students will make perfect attendance their goal for the 1982-1983 year.

by Helen Silvis  
(Church School Superintendent)

Women's Association

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Women's Association was held in Fellowship Hall, Tuesday evening, December 7, 1982, with the girls of Circle 1 providing the program and the refreshments. Rev. Wayne Blaser had been invited to explain the tradition and symbolism of The Advent Wreath, after which everyone participated in a Candlelight Service. Wayne then sang a solo, a Christmas song he had written in Seminary, and led the group in Christmas carols while he accompanied on his guitar. In the business meeting presided over by Emma Dunmire, a motion was made to serve another Community Dinner the first Saturday in October, 1983, to replenish the Building Fund. The treasurer reported sending a check for \$1,202.50 (profit from this October Community Dinner) to help pay for the Sanctuary storm windows. (In 1981, W. A. gave \$1,025.68 to the same project). It was announced that Rev. Roy S. Brice had sent a generous donation in memory of Isabel M. Brice. A portion of it was added to the Thank Offering, making a grand total of \$304.00 for that fund. The Sewing Committee had a lovely display of 75 Christmas Stockings which were to be delivered at Torrance State Hospital the next day by Louise Hall. Mabel Kiebler reported that supplies valued at approximately \$900.00 had been given to various Mission projects in 1982. This included three complete baby layettes, \$200.00 to Church World Service for blankets, first aid kits, many boxes of good used clothing for Helping Hand in Apollo and the Christmas Stockings. This is over and above the \$1500.00 cash pledge to Presbyterial Missions and \$250.00 cash donations to The Greensburg and Johnstown Homes. This is really amazing when you consider that there are only sixty-four active members in the Women's Association. Isn't there someone out there who would like to join us? The Women's Association would love to welcome you! We do appreciate very much the help extended to us through the year by non-members. Thank you!

Circle 1

This group of Junior and Senior High girls has been active this past year. They served two wedding showers this spring and a 50th wedding anniversary in June. They held a Mother-Daughter banquet with Rev. Wayne Blaser as guest entertainer, the girls doing all the preparing and serving. They even did all the cleaning up afterwards---which the Mothers enjoyed! They had a Graduation Party for the high school graduates -- a trip to Pizza Hut -- golfing -- ice-cream treats. They sent candy to the Greensburg Home for their Spring Fling, and some of the girls helped serve Amy and Rick Learn's wedding reception in July. On November 6th the girls had a Spoon Supper and at their November 16th meeting they brought cookies to be sent to the service men and women in our congregation. In December they had the program and served the lunch for the Women's Association meeting.

Academy Sunday School Class Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party of the Academy Building Adult Sunday School Class was held in Fellowship Hall, Friday, December 17th with fifty-six in attendance. A delicious covered dish dinner, including a large ham prepared and donated by Mollie Waltenbaugh was enjoyed by all. The tables were decorated by Pat and Don Lengauer featuring white birch candle holder centerpieces which were taken home by lucky winners. The final count of the baskets prepared and delivered to needy families was six. The following program was enjoyed by all: Anna Hughes, reading; Rev. Wayne Blaser played the guitar and sang a song which he composed, then accompanied the children while they sang "Do Lord", "Pass It On" and "Away In The Manger". Santa Claus then put in an appearance! Everyone got a chance to sit on his knee and he gave out candy canes, plus gifts to the children. A game - Who Has The Bell - was played and enjoyed by all after which a selection of Carols was sung followed by a friendship circle and prayer by Wayne. Many thanks to all the committees who worked hard to make it a truly enjoyable evening. Those attending were: Peter and Joy Balbach, Wayne, Donna, Keith and Staci Blaser, Sky and Ethel Brewer, Doug Bruce, Tom Daugherty,

Jim, Emma and Nadene Dunmire; Lewis, Donna, Dawn and Debbie Elwood; John, Anna and Margaret Hughes; Robert G. and Iris Kiebler; Julia Kistler; Elwood and Mary Krusey; Don and Pat Lengauer; Harry and June Penrod; Pete Penrose; Ronna and Rich Ryman; Willie, Evelyn and Jonathan Shaeffer; Donald, Emma, Donnie and Rebecca Shirey; Ruth Speer; Mario, Bev., Mike and Kim Tagliati; Jim Tell; Nelson, Betty, Sandy and Jodi Thompson; Jim, Carol, Heather and Andy Thompson; Harold Tomer; Mollie Waltenbaugh and John Wigle.

### Personal Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hartman of Fort Myers Florida, were Christmas visitors at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Freda and Joe Bowman. Ruth Speer spent the holidays with her son Jack and family at Chalfont, Pa. Mary and Elwood Krusey welcomed their daughters, Ms. Janis Heros of Baltimore, Md., and Ms. Paula Oliver of Maple Shade, N.J., over the Christmas week-end. The Tom Fitzsimmons entertained a houseful of guests, Joanne's brother Eric Weston, wife and daughter from Wisconsin, and her sister and family, the Dr. Gary Bradleys from Escanaba, Michigan. Barbara Buckley, daughter of the Bill Buckleys has moved from Philadelphia to Woodbury, New Jersey.

Navy Aviation Electronics Technician Airman Apprentice Valerie J. Striner, daughter of John and Mildred Striner, was promoted to her present rank and has reported for duty with Fleet Composite Squadron One, Naval Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii. Valerie was married to Brett Crump on November 16, 1982 at San Jose, California. Her husband Brett is also in the Navy and his home state is New Mexico.

### Items of Interest

Betty Fife, wife of the late John McMillan Fife (a former pastor), sends her love and best wishes to all her Poke Run friends. She expressed deep appreciation for the recognition given her son Jack (John M. Fife, II) in recent issues of The Ranger. Jack, whose church in Tucson, Arizona, is well-known for its ministry to Salvadorian refugees, just returned from a three-week fact-finding mission in Central America.

Congratulations to Boyd Speer, who has been awarded a first prize in a recent Alcoa News cover photo contest. Nearly 200 entries from Alcoas in U. S., Brazil and Japan competed in six categories: Scenic, Animals, People, Still Life, Humorous and Black and White. Boyd, an Alcoa retiree, won in the Animal category with a beautiful picture of two ducks along a quiet stream, taken near the Speer home in Clearwater, Florida. We hope someone will provide us with a copy of the Alcoa News when it appears on the cover so we can post it on the bulletin board.

Amy Gebrosky, daughter of Mrs. Ruth Gebrosky, a junior at Franklin Area High School, and John Wigle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Wigle, Sr., a Senior at Kiski Area, were honored recently by being chosen to sing in the Westmoreland County Chorus at Valley High School on November 19, 1982. Both young people are involved with Music Groups in their schools, and Amy is also an assistant organist at the Apollo United Presbyterian Church. Congratulations to Amy and John and their parents!

Many thanks to Rick Learn and the choir for the beautiful Christmas music. We welcome our new organist, Paul Fantaski. Paul is a student at Kiski Area High School where he is an accompanist for many of the vocal Chorus Groups.

Bill Knepshild should be commended for helping with getting Poke Run involved in a project which toys and gifts were collected and wrapped for children of the unemployed in the Apollo area. Many thanks to Circle 3, Circle 4 and members of the congregation who helped with this worthy cause.

Congratulations also to our basketball star, Nancy Painter, who as a member of the Kiski High School Girls Basketball team, broke the school record while playing Burrell in an Exhibition Game recently, by scoring 37 points to win. Nancy is the daughter of Rich and Mignon Painter.



Hospitals

Susan Long, Joanne Fitzsimmons, Calvin Beatty, Ed Loughner, Ruth Ryman and Merle McCutcheon in Citizens General, New Kensington, PA. Merle McCutcheon is now in West Haven Convalescent Home.

Jessi Lynn Bates, Bobbie Thompson, Cindy Branthoover and Joe Bowman in Westmoreland Hospital, Greensburg, Pa.

Helen Walker, Don Hastie and Robert E. Kiebler in West Penn Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA.

Connie Alwine and Joshua Noble in East Suburban Medical Center, Monroeville, PA.

Ruth Christy in Eye and Ear Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA.

David K. Allen, D. D., ninth pastor of Poke Run Church, has been hospitalized recently in Florida but is now home and improving.

The Continuous Committee on Property Maintenance and Improvements

The C.C.P.M.I (which the committee has named itself) has had a busy year. Its first project as you well know was the planning for and supervision of the Manse Renovation. By referring to the March Ranger you will find the detailed plans for and the estimated cost for this project. Our quarterly financial statements (Current and Building Fund) show the amounts of money given by the various church organizations and by individuals as well as the transfers of moneys from special funds of our church -- all this to meet the goal of \$22,000 set by the committee and passed by the Session for the renovation. After using all the available funds from all sources for the renovation our Major Building Fund was able to make up the balance.

The following figures show the major additional costs which were not listed in the March Ranger:

Exterior painting, house and roof repair -	\$1,485.00
Fireplace doors	130.00
Approximate landscaping-seed and cement(labor and equipment donated)	240.00
Vanities and installation donated	
Miscellaneous materials	154.00
Additional tile work (labor donated)	175.00
Water conditioning	860.00

The total cost of Manse Renovation was \$19,932.89. It is impossible to even estimate in dollars and cents the amount of money that was saved by donated items, materials and labor -- this would be well up into the thousands of dollars.

Those who attended the Blaser's Open House of the Manse in August saw the results of this project. We the contributing members have made it "The House" but the Blaser family has surely made it "The Home".

The Committee is constantly on the alert for the ever rising maintenance problems. Anyone noting such problems or having suggestions for improvements please contact the Committee, all is gratefully accepted.

The very perplexing problem of water coming through the wall of the Academy Building has finally been corrected after the discovery of the reason -- unknown to past and present Trustees the water from the Educational Unit roof was drained into the area along the Academy Building. After the discovery of this fact our Trustees and other concerned members have taken care of this problem.

The Office Storage Space Project has been postponed until funds are available.

The Ramp Project will resume in the Spring.

Our last project was the installation of storm windows for the Sanctuary. This was expensive but we believe it will be well worth it in the conservation of heat and hopefully reducing our fuel bills. The funds for this project have come

from two Women's Association dinners, other church groups, contributions from members, the current yearly interest from the Isabel M. Brice Memorial Fund for Sanctuary Maintenance and Repair and the balance is to be paid from the Major Building Fund. Members of the committee, Richard Painter and James Thompson, did the preparatory work in getting the windows and framework ready for the installation of the windows by the storm window company. The total cost will be approximately \$5,100.00.

Our Major Building Expansion and Improvements Fund has come to our rescue twice in paying the balance of our big projects -- an approximate total of \$7,000.00. We are grateful that we could avoid taking out loans at high interest rates to cover these projects.

Thanks to all who have contributed time in planning, materials, money and countless hours of labor for these projects.

G.C.P.M.I. will reorganize in January. In addition to the ever rising need of repairs, plans are channeled now to the preparation of our church for the approaching 200th anniversary in 1985.

As we start the New Year let us seriously and prayerfully consider our priorities and include -- in our commitment of time and talents to the work of our church, a portion to the Major Building Fund for the future improvements of our church. (James H. Metzgar, Treasurer -- Address: R. D. 2, Box 224, Export, PA 15632)

#### Congregational (Ecclesiastical) Meeting

At the Congregational Meeting following the service for the Lord's Day at 11 a.m. on December 5, 1982, the following were elected:

Ruling Elders -- Ronald Bowman  
William D. Buckley  
James W. Dunmire  
Elwood V. Krusey

Deacons -- Iris Kiebler  
Mary Krusey  
Mollie Waltenbaugh

Trustees -- Lewis B. Elwood  
M. Timothy Martin

#### Capsule Report as of December 27, 1982

Balance in Bank, November 30, 1982 .....	\$ 3,471.20
Deposits thru December 19, 1982 .....	<u>6,512.24</u>
Total Receipts .....	\$ 9,983.44
Disbursements thru December 27, 1982 .....	<u>- 5,862.41</u>
*Balance in Bank December 27, 1982 .....	\$ 4,121.03
Monies being held in reserve for storm windows	2,228.18
Working balance, December 27, 1982 .....	<u>\$ 1,892.85</u>

Edgar L. Brewer,  
Local Fund Treasurer

Contributions are Payable To Mrs. Mary Louise Moore, Financial Secretary

Address: R. D. #2, Box 200,  
Export, Pennsylvania 15632

(Telephone 327-2143)

PoemsThat's My Gram

That mass of a woman hoeing in her garden,  
 Or canning pickled beets, or baking fresh homemade buns,  
 Mixing and kneading the ingredients into light fluffy dough.  
 How she could bake it to a sun-kissed golden brown and  
 brush each one with fresh melted butter  
 Carefully placing them in a large tin can for later or  
 devouring some hot right out of the oven  
 Or sending them to church for the Ladies Circle Meeting,  
 Or taking them to the Bowman family reunion,  
 Or presenting some to a sick friend,  
 Or bringing them to our family Christmas dinner,  
 Or just having them there for lunch on Sunday  
 when we go to visit.

Written by Christa Lightner  
 for an English assignment at Pitt University.  
 Christa is the daughter of Karen and Clifford  
 Lightner and granddaughter of Edgar and Marie  
 Brewer.

"H E A V E N ' S G R O C E R Y S T O R E "

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago  
 One day I saw a sign that read "HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE."  
 As I got a little closer the door came open wide,  
 And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.  
 I saw a host of Angels -- they were standing everywhere  
 One handed me a basket and said, "My child shop with care."

Everything a Christian needed was in that Grocery Store  
 And all you couldn't carry, you could come back the next day for more.  
 First I got some PATIENCE-- LOVE was in the same row  
 Further down was UNDERSTANDING: you need that wherever you go.  
 I got a box or two of WISDOM: then a bag or two of FAITH  
 I just couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST -- for it was all over the place.

I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help me run this race  
 By then my basket was getting full but I remembered I needed some GRACE.  
 I didn't forget SALVATION for SALVATION that was free  
 So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill,  
 For I thought I had everything to do my Master's will.  
 As I went up the aisle I saw PRAYER and I just had to put that in  
 For I knew when I stepped outside I would run right into sin.

PEACE and JOY were plentiful -- they were on the last shelf,  
 SONG and PRAISES were hanging near so I just helped myself.  
 Then I asked the Angel, "Now how much do I owe?"  
 He just smiled and answered, "Just take them everywhere you go!"  
 Again I smiled at him and asked, "How much do I really owe?"  
 He smiled again and said, "MY CHILD, JESUS PAID YOUR BILL A LONG TIME AGO." (T)

Submitted by Anna Hughes  
 (brought in by one of the members of  
 Christ's Lutheran Church of Murrysville,  
 Pa.)

THANKS to Mrs. Pat Lengauer for the frontis drawing on this issue of THE RANGER.

## Special Observances

Baptismal Dates (The Lord's Supper will also be celebrated on these dates)

January 9, 1983 (The Baptism Of The Lord)  
 February 27, 1983 (The Transfiguration Of The Lord)  
 April 3, 1983 (Easter)  
 May 22, 1983 (Pentecost)

Other Special Days --

Epiphany -- Thursday, January 6, 1983 -- Agape (Love) Feast  
 6 p.m. - Caroling and Devotions  
 6:30 p.m. - Covered Dish Supper  
 7 p.m. - Presentation by Ray and Claire Teeuwissen, Redstone  
 Presbytery Missionaries in Residence.  
 (Ray and Claire have served as fraternal workers since  
 1946 when Ray was assigned to work with the French  
 Reformed Church in its postwar re-development process.  
 He later guided the Presbyterian Church of The Cameroon  
 in its transition from mission church to be coming a self  
 governing national church. The Teeuwissens are currently  
 providing ministry at Brussel's Airport to the large  
 number of immigrants and refugees seeking a new home in  
 Western Europe.)

Plans will be forth coming for the following days:

Ash Wednesday -- February 16, 1983  
 Passion/Palm Sunday -- March 27, 1983  
 Holy Week -- Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Paschal Vigil

Other Dates To Remember --

January 2, 1983 -- Second Sunday of Christmas -- 11 a. m. Service For The Lord's  
 Day with Installation of New Officers.

January 3, 1983 -- BOARD MEETINGS -- Session - 8 P. M. in West Wayside,  
 Deacons - 7 P. M. in the Lounge,  
 Trustees - 7:30 P. M. in the Church Office.

January 16, 1983 -- Second Sunday after Epiphany - Service For The Lord's Day  
 at 11 a. m. The Congregational Meeting will be immediately  
 following the service.  
 Proposed Amendment To The By-Laws -- Only one person from  
 any family may be elected to the Nominating Committee.

January 17, 1983 -- 7:30 p. m. Grange Meeting in Fellowship Hall.

January 14, 1983 -- 12:00 p. m. Rugh Circle 3 in Fellowship Hall.

January 12, 1983 -- 8 p. m. at the home of Freda Bowman, Circle 4 with Alta  
 Jean Ross as leader.

January 18, 1983 -- 7:30 p.m. Circle 1

January 19, 1983 -- 7:30 p. m. Circle 2

Aerobic Dancing Program at Poke Run Church-- Starting Date: Tuesday, January 11, 1983  
 Programs: Every Tuesday and Thursday. Mornings -- 9:30 to 10:30 a. m. with babysitting  
 by Becky Lange at \$1.00 per child (providing 35 sign up);

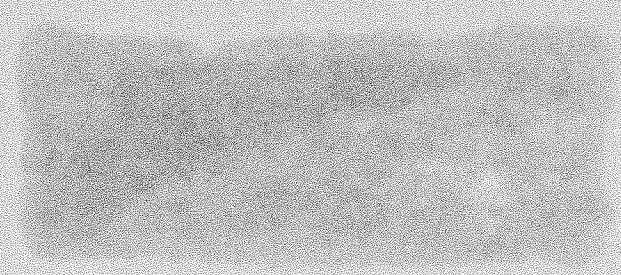
Evenings -- 7 to 8 p. m.

(Ten (one hour) classes for \$18.00. To register call: Donna (327-6055); Sherry  
 (468-6018) or Linda (327-3042) (aerobic instructors).

Clerical Secretary -- Mrs. Grace E. Hartman  
 Assistant Clerical Secretary -- Mrs. Kathy Moneymaker  
 Choir Director -- Rick Learn  
 Building Caretaker -- Ruth Gebrosky (327-5009)  
 Grounds Caretaker -- Larry Baker (327-8197)

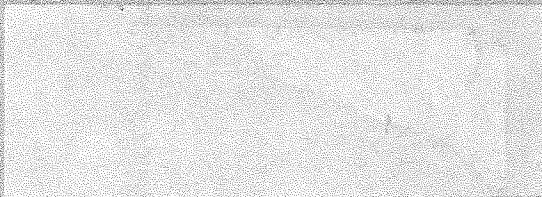
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