THE RANGER

OCTOBER 2014

POKE RUN Presbyterian



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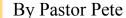
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A question pestering us today is, "Why are so few persons in church on Sunday morning?" Many reasons have been offered. Here is another one. The reason that so few persons are in church on Sunday morning is that nothing in Wal-Mart is beautiful. Of course this is one reason among many. However I believe it is one of the deeper reasons behind all the others. Let me explain. We live in a time when much of our lives and much of our culture have been reduced to only what is simple, practical, and useful, like this potato peeler.



What is missing today in America, and all the world which America influences, is beauty. I speak of beauty for the sake of beauty, and nothing else. There is nothing wrong with the pictured potato peeler; in fact it is rather cute, even whimsical. I am sure that it works. And there is nothing wrong with Wal-Mart, which practices a particular way of doing business. This way of doing business works very well. It supplies us exactly what we ask for in an efficient manner. I do not think that we would ever say that this particular potato peeler is beautiful.

One of the great gifts in my life was a trip to Rome. While there Karen and I visited the common tourist sites, wandered through the ruins of ancient Roman buildings, massive in size and intent, and we visited the Sistine Chapel. We anticipated viewing the ceiling of the chapel, on which are painted Michelangelo's great works. For us, these were dwarfed by paintings of Raphael that adorn the hallways and foyers preceding the chapel. Here is one of them.



Compare the two images. Potato peelers like this can be stamped out at high speeds, likely hundreds per hour, and sold cheaply. They add a touch of gaiety, work well, and when they break we throw them out and buy another. We as a culture value this. Speed, efficiency, and function create value. Tattoos and street art have replaced the old masterpieces. It takes years to create a painting like those of the high Renaissance. Once they are in place, they do nothing. Other than the beauty they evoke in the human soul, of what good are they. Or, compare a church built in the last ten or twenty years with a cathedral built in the Middle Ages of Europe. The first is functional with chairs and sound systems and Starbucks. The other is beautiful and awe inspiring. This is what we have lost and this is why we cannot worship.

We don't come to church like we used to because we can no longer worship well. We have lost our appreciation for the true, the good, and the beautiful. This is another way of saying that we have no time for the transcendent, that which is beyond all that we can see and sense and is the source of beauty. Worship, in the words of Marva Dawn, is, "a royal waste of time." It is our time that we do not want to give.

I would like to add that we here at Poke Run PC are running upstream. Our church is beautiful. This is one of the compliments that I hear from nearly every visitor. We should treasure this as we sit before our God each Sunday morning. This is something we can share with others who are starved, even if they do not know it, for beauty. Beauty is a need of the soul and we can share ours so that others will be enriched.



For our prayers:

Thelma McCutcheon, Conrad McQuaide, Clifford & Karen Lightner, Irene Clark, Irma McDivitt, James and Winifred Powers, Carolyn Buckley, Steve Morcheid, Robin and Aaron, Grace Young, Amy McQuaide, Bob Bierer, Lil Bowman, Pat Lengauer, Norm Linhart, Joanne Fitzsimmons, Jim Thompson, Leland & Berenice Jones, Jean Campbell, Helen Grayem, Sandy Nemetz, Anna Mae Chicka, Lee & Linda Gardener, Terry Wiester, Bill Bert, Brian Orlic, Skip Elwood, Melissa Goetschius, Tim Ballas, Donna Blaser, Glenn Ross, Wanda Petrilla, The Church, Jane Blair, Renee Beck, Amy Kroner, Elvira, Rita Heinlen, Thad Overly, the Weaver family, Max Brooks, Ethel Brewer, Bob McBride, Leonard Hartman, SSG James Bishop (Poke Run's "adopt a soldier") and others who serve in the military.

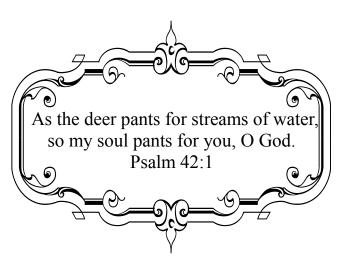


Thank You

Thank you to our October Greeters: Cindy Brooks, Irma McDivitt, and Ruth O'Connor, Jack & Eleanor Zerbini, Debbie Seighman and Tim Martin, Lillian, Kelly & Christina Linsenbigler Thank you to our October Lectors: Laurie Martin, Chad McCutcheon, Cheyenne Fazi, and Tom Kimble



As seen from the Church Office window.



Poke Run Presbyterian Church - Presbyterian Women "PW"

<u>Circle 2</u> will meet on Thursday October 9th. Heidi Hileman will host and Cindy McQuaide will be the leader.

Circle 4 will meet on Thursday October 9th. Freda Bowman will be the hostess.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW is joining the Redstone Presbytery Mission Coordinator and other area PW groups in hosting a "STOP HUNGER NOW" event! Saturday, October 18th at Community United Presbyterian Church in New Alexandria. 9AM-2PM = Individuals, families, and groups. Lots of volunteers are needed—Call the Poke Run Office for more details.



Thank you to everyone who helped the Poke Run Presbyterian Women with the Mason dinner in September. Proceeds of the dinner were given to Poke Run's "Road Fund." Your help in any way was greatly appreciated.

POKE RUN COMMUNITY DINNER

OCTOBER 4, 2013

4 TO 7 PM

ADULTS \$12.00 CHILDREN \$3.00 TAKE OUT'S AVAILABLE FOR RESERVATIONS CALL 724-396-3227

OR

724-327-5563

Volunteers are still needed please contact Laurie Powers

If you are able, please come on Thursday, October 2 at 6pm to help prepare the Dining Room.



CIRCLE 2 CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014

8ам то 1рм "BAG SALE" AT NOON



Donations accepted during the week before, call the church for times: 724-327-5563

NO LARGE APPLIANCES. COMPUTERS OR TELEVISIONS PLEASE If help is needed for a large item for donation please contact a Circle 2 member or the Church Office.

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Dan Spaulding, husband of Callie Martin Spaulding and son-in-law of Tim & Laurie Martin, finished in 5th place out of over 10,000 runners at the 2014 Pittsburgh Great Race!!!! Congratulations Dan!





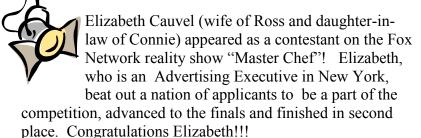
#boa2014 #boanextlevel

The Kiski Area marching band—featuring Poke Run's Abbey Ballas (captain of the colorguard) placed first in the Bands of America competition held at Gateway HS.



Freda Bowman celebrating summer and her 81st birthday at West Branch State Park in Ohio.

Congratulations to Poke Run's "Cheyenne Fazi" who was part of the Kiski Area Homecoming Court 2014!





If you have appropriate News to share in the Ranger—please submit it to the office. The next Ranger deadline is October 28th.

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The Poke Run Deacons will be having their annual "Watkins" sale during the month of October. All orders will be back in time for your holiday baking. See a Poke Run Deacon for a catalog and to place your order.

Jan Fitzgerald Sheree Wagner Karen Staymantes Erin Bruce Tammy Kelley Nikki McQuaide Cindy Brooks Jacob Slaugenhaupt Mario Tagliati Debora Ross Debbie Seighman

Order Forms for the first order Due Sunday October 12th.

Payment due with Order Forms (Make Checks out to "Poke Run")
Any profit from the Tee Shirts will go toward the "Poke Run Mission Trip."
Any Questions: See Bob Wilson
724-727-7581



Poke Run T-Shirts!



PHOTOS WANTED!!!! The Office can use emailed photos from cameras or cell phones. We'd love to include more pics from church functions.



Use what talents you possess.
The woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.

Choir practice is in session. Wednesdays: Bell Choir at 6:15pm and Chancel Choir at 7pm. Please give this ministry your consideration – we've lost a few choir members lately and we could really use your support! No musical training required – even if you can only help occasionally or seasonally, we'd love to have you! See Sean or a choir member for more information

You can now find Poke Run Presbyterian Church on Facebook! - featuring the "Daily Verse"

Poke Run's email address: <u>pokerun@windstream.net</u> Poke Run web site is <u>www.pokerunchurch.com</u>



Annual Congregational Meeting

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Annual Poke Run Presbyterian Church "Congregational Meeting" is scheduled for Sunday, October, 19, 2014. On this Sunday there will be only one worship service at 10am with the meeting beginning immediately after the service followed by a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Please make every effort to attend this meeting of the church. The Nominating Committee will present a slate for the 2015 Boards and the Budget & Finance Committee will present the 2015 budget as approved by Session. Great things are happening at Poke Run and through Poke Run, be a part of the mission "...to call the people of ... surrounding communities to respond to the Good News of God's saving love in Jesus Christ."

October is "Pastor Appreciation Month!" The luncheon following the Congregational Meeting will be in appreciation for Pastor Pete and all that he means to the Poke Run congregation. Please plan on attending.



The Church celebrates **Reformation Sunday** on the last Sunday of October, commemorating a significant event in the history of the Reformed tradition. It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg. **Reformation** Reformation Sunday October 26, 2014

The local polling place located at Mamont Elementary School has changed to Poke Run Presbyterian Church. Fellowship Hall will be a polling place for the November 4, 2014 General Election.





Sunday

World Communion Sunday is a celebration observed by Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October, that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. This year it will be celebrated on Sunday, October 5th. The tradition originated in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, PA in 1933, was adopted throughout the US Presbyterian Church in 1936, and subsequently spread to other denominations. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches), endorsed World Communion Sunday and began to promote it to Christian churches worldwide.

HAPPENING IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Oct 1—Gathering of Youth Leaders at Barnes & Noble 10am, Greensburg

Oct 2—and Thursdays in October, "TWOgether Pittsburgh Marriage Enrichment for Couples with kids—Newlonsburg Presbyterian, Murrysville

Oct 3-5 Pine Springs Camp—The Big One" - youth retreat

Oct 8—presentation by Presbyterians at work—Rev. Madut Ngor, Sudan Presbyterian Church, Derry Presbyterian

Oct 11—Turkey Dinner—Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria PA

Oct 18—PW Meal Packaging event—see PW News on Page 2

Oct 19—Fall Gospel Sing, at Delmont Presbyterian 7pm

Oct. 25—PW Fall Gathering at Middle Presbyterian Church, Mount Pleasant

Oct. 25—"How to pray for hurting people Part 1: Healing", New Hope Presbyterian, North Huntingdon



HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Oct 4-5 Delmont "Apple Fest"

Oct . 11—Chicken 'n Biscuit Dinner, Spring Church Lutheran Church

Oct 11—"Pugtoberfest" - 11am-4pm, Kunkle Park, Wash. Twp.

Oct. 18 Lion's Club Halloween Parade and Party—Kunkle Park, Wash. Twp. 5pm

Coming in November—"Christian Art Show" Nov 15-16—Calvary Lutheran Church, Murrysville—more info in office. Registration due Oct 31st.

Tuesdays 4-7pm Export Farmer's Market—located near Kennedy Ave.

Monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at the Wash. Twp. Firehall

—11:30am—noon Blood Pressure Clinic for Seniors—Bring your table service and a covered dish.

Thursdays 3-5:30pm Vandergrift Farmer's Market—located along Columbia Ave.

"Soup for the Soul" will resume on Wednesday, October 8th. (Vegetable Soup!!!!)

11:30am—doors open, Noon—"Soup's On"

Mark your calendars for the second Wednesday of the month October through May. If you would like flyers to distribute, please contact the Church office.

Remember to invite a friend.

If you are able to volunteer a dessert or your time, please contact the Poke Run Office.











Poke Run Church October 2014

 $October\ is\ Pastor\ Appreciation\ Month$

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
World Communion Oct 5th			1 6:15pm Bells 7pm Choir 7pm Mission & Stewardship	2 6pm— Dinner Prep— Help! 6:30pm Scouts	3 6:30pm Scouts	4 Community Dinner 4-7pm
5 World Communion 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	6 10am Cong. Life 7pm Deacons	7	8 11:30am Soup for the Soul 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir	9 Circle 4 6:30pm Scouts Circle 2	10	11
12 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	13	14 7pm Session	15 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir	16 6:30pm Scouts	17 6:30pm Scouts	18 Circle 2 Rummage Sale 8am-1pm
19 9am Sunday school 10am Worship Cong. Meeting Luncheon 7pm Bible Study	20	21 7pm Budget & Finance	22 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir	23 6:30pm Scouts 7pm Trustees	24	25
26 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	27	28	29 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir	30 6:30pm Scouts	31	

Amy will be out of the office Oct 13-14, but will be checking phone messages and emails. In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Pete at 724-454-2278.



There will be only one 10am worship service Sunday school will be a 9am

The Congregational Meeting will immediately follow the worship service.

Following the meeting, everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall for a church luncheon in honor of "Pastor Appreciation Month". Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.



1091 Poke Run Church Rd. Apollo, PA 15613