

THE RANGER

NOVEMBER
2014

POKE RUN PRESBYTERIAN

INSIDE:

Prayers /	2
Thanks /PW	
PW	2-3
Session/Soup	4
Deacons	5
News	6-7
Christmas	8
New Boards	9
Dinner Pics	10
Happenings	11
Trustees/ Announcements	12
Calendar	13

By Pastor Pete

How do we know if what we are doing or what we intend to do is in God's will? Another way to ask this question is to ask, "How do we know if what we are about is Biblical?" Even more simply, "Are we on the right track or not, will this be good for us?" Behind these questions is the thought that God intends good for us; God's will is that we lead healthy and wholesome lives, and that the Bible reflects this in its thought and stories.

We can reflect upon this through two different texts in the Bible, one at the beginning of the Old Testament and one at the beginning of the New Testament. The first is a story that I use a lot because I think that it tells us a lot about God and God's intentions for humanity. It is the creation story. I hope that I do not bore you with this. I think it is important. It sets up the entire message of Scripture. God creates from nothing. God creates everything that is, the billions of stars in the billions of galaxies. God creates the earth and every living being on the earth. God creates humanity. Humanity is a more complex and beautiful creation than the entire universe combined. This is important. You singly, are more beautiful and complex than the entire universe!

When creation is complete, God, so to speak, looks around. Everything is very good. God places humanity in a garden that will supply all human needs. God says, "You may eat of every tree of the garden," save one. The point here is not that God prohibits women and men from the one tree. The point is that God supplies everything necessary for human thriving, and more. The intention of the early writer of Genesis is to show that God intends good for us. He, or she, shows also that when we seek for what God does not give to us, it damages us.

Now jump forward through 4000 years of Biblical history. We begin now with the Gospel of Mark. Mark, although second in the New Testament is the first gospel to be written. The opening of Mark is interesting; "Beginning the gospel – or announcement of good news – of Jesus Christ." What, we might ask, is this gospel? Jesus himself clarifies this for us by "proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Jesus defines the gospel, "the kingdom of God is at hand." The kingdom of God is easy to define. The kingdom of God is where God's will is done, something we pray for every time we pray the Lord's Prayer.

How does a person enter the kingdom of God? One repents. To repent here means to turn away from all that is not God's will. It means not to seek after anything that God does not freely give us. It means to leave behind anger, hate, fear, insecurity, guilt, and jealousy. It means to forgive and get on with our lives. These negative things imprison us. They make us servants to them. They control us. If we dwell on all the negative incidents of our past they will keep us captive. We will never be the free and happy individuals God created us to be. We will have bought into the lie that "the serpent" can give us something better than God has already given us if we will just wakeup and listen to Jesus' message.

Jesus says turn away from these negatives that imprison you in an unhappy past. Jesus says that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Paul says that it is very near you, in your heart. It is where you live and where your most precious being, your very self, resides. You enter the Kingdom when you accept the wonderful life that God has already given to you.



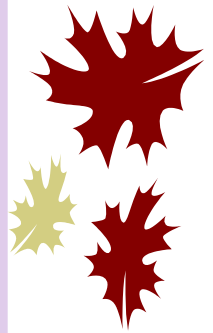
Tuesday
November 25th
7pm

Congratulations to Pastor Pete—he has accepted the nomination to be Assistant Moderator for the Redstone Presbytery, 2015; followed by Moderator for 2016.

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, 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, Wanda Petrilla, The Church, Jane Blair, Renee Beck, Amy Kroner, Elvira, Rita Heinlen, Thad Overly, Max Brooks, Ethel Brewer, Bob McBride, Leonard Hartman, Marjorie Kaiser, those gripped by addictions, all those soldiers receiving "Poke Run Holiday Cookies" and others who serve in the military.

Please keep Margaret McBride and her family in your prayers, Margaret's mother, Ethel M. Swank passed away on October 4th. Margaret would like to "thank everyone for their cards and concerns."



Thank You

Thank you to our October Greeters: Bob & Darleen Thompson, Jeff & Amy Wilkinson, Ron & Carole Bowman, and Doug & Debora Ross

Thank you to our October Lectors: Nikki McQuaide, Deb Seuighman, Connie Cauvel and Bob Fitzgerald

Poke Run Presbyterian Church - Presbyterian Women "PW"

Circle 2 will meet on Thursday November 13th. Val Hansen will host and Linda Chicka will be the leader.



Circle 4 will meet on Monday November 24th. To decorate the church for Christmas. Mark your calendar for 9am, Monday November 24th and join in decorating—all help is appreciated.



Thank you to everyone who helped with, attended and prayed for the Poke Run Community Dinner. And a very special thank you to Laurie Powers for chairing this wonderful Poke Run tradition. See pictures on p.10



Thank you to everyone who donated to and shopped at the Circle 2 rummage sale. It was a great success.





Poke Run Presbyterian Women

“Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds.” Hebrews 10:24

Thank Offering

The *Thank Offering* of the Poke Run PW will be presented and dedicated on **Sunday, November 16th**. The *Thank Offering* funds mission projects that strengthen the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witness to the promise of God’s kingdom. Throughout the year, women of our church give money to this important mission opportunity. We invite you to help us in supporting this ministry.

All of us have been richly blessed with God’s gifts. We are entrusted to be good stewards of those gifts – time, talent, and treasure, and spur others to “love and good deeds.” The *Thank Offering* is a special way for us to share our gifts and help to provide others with food, education, safe housing, clean water and health care. For the next few weeks, *Thank Offering* envelopes will be available for your donation. Please prayerfully consider giving to this offering of thankfulness.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – a ministry of “Samaritan’s Purse” headed by Franklin Graham. Through this mission, shoeboxes are sent to children in need throughout the world. Along with the shoebox comes the message of love and salvation through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Shoebox gifts enable us to reach children worldwide with the good news of God’s love and the true meaning of Christmas.

Brochures describing *Operation Christmas Child* are available. Please pick up the information and prayerfully consider how you can participate in this vital ministry of “Samaritan’s Purse.” You may also pick up information and boxes at your local Chick-fil-A restaurants on November 4.

Completed shoeboxes may be returned to Poke Run between November 16 and 24th. A \$7 donation – either online or by check (payable to “Samaritan’s Purse”) will offset processing and shipping costs is appreciated but not required. PW will take care of the delivery to a local collection center.



The Poke Run congregation has been supporting the Redstone PW’s efforts to raise money (over \$13,000) for the STOP HUNGER NOW mission. For instance, Poke Run recycled 100’s of pounds of old shoes! Over 40,000 meals were packed in October at Congruity Church. What a testimony to how all our efforts, big and small can grow into a huge impact.

\$1.00 Spaghetti Dinner

Be a winner, come to our “Dollar Dinner!” Everyone is invited to a Spaghetti dinner on Saturday, November 22, from 4:00 to 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall at Poke Run Church. The charge is only \$1. The dinner is for everyone and will be prepared by Circle 2. Tell friends, tell everyone; Come and share the love of our Lord.



From the Session Minutes of September 9, 2014

A quorum was present and, Rev. Peter Goetschius, Moderator opened the meeting with prayer and devotions.

Elders present: Rev. Peter Goetschius -Moderator, Chad McCutcheon Assist. Clerk, Sandy Chappell, Ron Hileman,
Elders excused: Connie Cauvel – Clerk, Cindy McQuaide, Linda Chicka, Bob Thompson, Tim Martin, Meri Slaugenhaupt, Josh Porterfield

Guests: Bob Wilson - Trustee

MSC: To approve the Session -June 10, 2014.

MSC: To accept the Trustee Minutes-June 26, 2014

MSC: To accept Treasurer Report of July 31, 2014

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed - Sandy Chappell

We need to focus on finding someone to replace Erin running Sunday School. VBS was done well over the Summer.

Mission and Stewardship: Linda Chicka

The committee looked at their budget for the next year to determine the amount they want to give the Kiski Area Youth Network and are also considering a partnership with this group in the future.

Technology – Chad McCutcheon

The committee met and is considering option to update the church website, sound system and other forms of technology.

Old Business:

Bob Wilson met with Session to discuss Poke Run T-shirts that he is having made. How much do we want to charge for them? Where should the money go? The shirts cost \$11.00 each.

MSC: To charge \$15 and put all profits to the Mission & Stewardship Committee.

New Business:

MSC: To allow Amy Wilkinson to print the Kiski Area Boys Soccer Team programs on the Poke Run office copier.

The team will provide the paper and there will a “Thank you” to Poke Run in each program, Jacob Slaugenhaupt and Jeff Wilkinson are on the team.

MSC: Andy Caldwell to use the church/Fellowship Hall for a breakfast gathering on Saturday October 11 and Saturday November 8, they would be gone by 1pm.

Closed with prayer: Sandy Chappell

Respectfully Submitted:

Adjourn: 8:16 P.M.

Approved: 10/14/14

Chad A. McCutcheon (Assistant Clerk of Session)

The next “Soup for the Soul” will be Wednesday, November 12th.
(Chicken Noodle 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.



Deacon Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2014

Present: Pete Goetschius, Karen Staymates, Sherry Wagner, Debbie Seighman, Cindy Brooks, Mario Tagliati, Debora Ross and Jan Fitzgerald.

Absent: Nikki McQuaide, Jacob Slaughaupt, Erin Bruce.

Opening by Jan F, she read a devotional at 7:00 P.M.

No minutes available from May 2014 meeting. Short meeting, confirmed Strawberry Festival set up and event day.

Treasurers Report by Sherry W.

Balance May 5, 2014 \$814.83

Deposit from Strawberry Festival \$1,373.00

Debits – buns, meat for ham barbeques, flowers,

Food Bank \$316.20

Balance \$1,871.63

Decided to donate toward:

Relay for Life \$200.00 and Project Seed \$108.00 (to feed one elementary student)

Went over mail received during the summer months, Thank you cards, and possible charities to donate to.

Jan F picked up Bible's for our new members: Chuck Blair and Gary Brewer, will be presented.

Went over Strawberry Festival menu, may delete some dishes and add others this coming year. It was suggested to purchase a fruit basket for Bernice Jones, a thank you for donating the strawberries. Mario T. volunteered to take care of this.

Upcoming:

The Watkins Sale, Cindy B. will have the information in the Ranger, booklets available from any Deacon. Orders due mid-October, should be delivered before the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Jan asked Cindy to make an outline how the Watkins Sale is handled, to make the transition for the next person easier.

Cookies for Troops, Tammy K. will organize again this year, our goal is 200 dozen!

Thanksgiving Baskets in November.

Closed in prayer by Pete G. at 7:45 P.M.



The Poke Run Deacons would like to thank everyone who participated in their annual "Watkins" sale during the month of October. All orders will be back in time for your holiday baking.

The Poke Run Deacons would like to thank everyone who baked for the "Cookies for the Troops." 175 DOZEN!!



Sunday, Nov. 16—is the deadline to order **Thanksgiving Food Baskets**. If you know of someone who would benefit by receiving a basket, please contact a Deacon or call the Poke Run Office. **Saturday, Nov. 22**—Thanksgiving Basket pick-up. 9-10:30 am.



Welcome Monroe June Wright, daughter of Jamie (McQuaide) and Will Wright. Granddaughter of Jim & Cindy McQuaide and great-granddaughter of Freda Bowman. Monroe was born on September 22, 2014.

PAGE 6

Congratulations to Cheyenne Fazi who was recently inducted to the National Honor Society at Kiski Area High School.



Recently Featured on the FARM & DAIRY website:

“Nearly 250 years of family ancestry, local legend, historical records and funny anecdotes tell a story of a family’s love for their land.

Herb and Nancy Gearhard, the current operators of the family-owned farm in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, have enjoyed exploring the heritage of their ancestors’ farm.”



THE OFFICIAL SITE OF THE THIEL COLLEGE TOMCATS

TOMCAT ATHLETICS

MEN'S SPORTS WOMEN'S SPORTS INSIDE ATHLETICS BLUE-GOLD CLUB ACADEMICS THIELEDU Search Athletics

Athletes Of The Week

Elizabeth Wilkinson
Women's Soccer
9/29/2014
[Link to Full Bio](#)

Sophomore midfielder Elizabeth Wilkinson scored a goal and two assists in two games last week for the Tomcats.

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



You can now find Poke Run Presbyterian Church on Facebook! - featuring the "Daily Verse"
Poke Run's email address: pokerun@windstream.net
Poke Run web site is www.pokerunchurch.com



Added to the Poke Run Website this month: the November 1972 RANGER.





comn

Poke Run was included in the Fall 2014 REDSTONE RECORD.

An article was included about Poke Run's "Soup for the Soul" program. Copies are available in the Narthex or contact the office.

If you have appropriate News to share in the Ranger—please submit it to the office. The next Ranger deadline is November 24th.

THE GRAND AND GLORIOUS ORDER OF THE HILLBILLY DEGREE

CLAN NO. 53
Andy Caldwell, Raban



Please join us for
BREAKFAST

on

Saturday, November 8, 2014

From 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.



At Poke Run Presbyterian Church
1091 Poke Run Church Road, Apollo, PA 15613

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs & Sausage

Special First of the Season Price: \$4.00 per person

Next Breakfast will be in January

Remember this event raises money for the kids so
come out and help us!!!

Chamber Events Gallery



Last month, the Chamber's Small Business Roundtable focused on Businesses Utilizing PA Tax Credits to Support Local Education. Dr. D. Merle Skinner, executive director of the Christian Family & Children's Center, seen here with Kathy Gustovich, school

administrator for Christian Fellowship and Doug Ross of 50 Marketing, led the session, which included an overview of EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credit) and OSTC (Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit).

Poke Run's Doug Ross appearing in a recent issue of the Tribune Review.





The Deacon's Giving Tree will soon be set up in the Narthex with the gifts due back to the church by Sunday, December 14th. As you begin your holiday shopping, keep an eye out for good deals and then please stop by and pick up a name or a couple of name tags to help needy families have a wonderful Christmas.

Santa's Coming For Breakfast

The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring their annual "Breakfast With Santa" on Saturday, December 6, from 8:30 am. to 11:30 am.

Get a great breakfast at a great price and get that special picture on Santa's knee.

Tickets are available at the door. Adults and children ages 11 and over: \$5.00
children ages 3 to 10: \$3.00, and children ages 2 and under eat free!



Breakfast includes pancakes and syrup, sausages, and your choice of beverages.

Each digital photo with Santa costs only \$1.00 and is mounted for you in a specially designed card by one of Santa's elves. Picture processing takes about 30 minutes so plan to get your pictures taken with Santa prior to eating or shopping at Santa's Store. You'll find some great Christmas decorating ideas and gift giving items at this year's store.

Calling All Elves!



Santa is in need of lots of helpers for his breakfast at Poke Run on Saturday, December 7. If you can help him, contact Linda Chicka at lgchicka@gmail.com, or at 724-422-3688, or call the church office. Watch for volunteer cards in the bulletins.

Set up/Decorating Night, Friday, December 5, beginning at 6:00pm. We start with a meal so bring a covered dish or dessert!



Christmas Poinsettia The Poke Run Deacons will be taking orders for Christmas poinsettias and Foodbank Donations—watch the bulletin for details or contact the office.



The Poke Run Choirs would love to have some extra voices and "ringers" for the holidays. If you would like to participate, please talk to a choir member or Director, Sean O'Neil.

Practices are Wednesdays, 6:15pm for handbells and 7pm for Chancel Choir. In addition, anyone who would like to contribute to the music of our Advent and Christmas celebration with voice and musical instruments—please let us know!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Congregational Meeting—Pastor Pete’s “Terms of Call” were approved as were the following :

Elders Serving on Session

Tim Martin	(renew)
Meri Slaughaupt	(renew)
Connor Martin	(youth – 1 year term)
Linda Moorhead	(new)

Deacons

Nancy Kimble	(new)
Diane Scott	(new)
Carol Thompson	(new)
Logan Hileman	(youth – 1 year term)

Trustees

Walt Lange	(renew)
Andy Batroch	(new)
Bill Fazi	(new)

2015 Nominating Committee

Albert Moorhead
Miriam Painter
Doug Ross
Deb Seighman
Jeff Wilkinson

Auditor

Heidi Hileman	
Tammy Kelley	(1 year term)

Thank you for the hard work of the 2014 Nominating Committee and thank you to all who have been led to serve here at Poke Run Church.

A special thank you to the Congregational Life Committee for the luncheon served after the meeting.

Please keep all Poke Run Boards, Committees and Volunteers in your prayers.

Ordination Sunday

November 16th at the
11am Worship Service

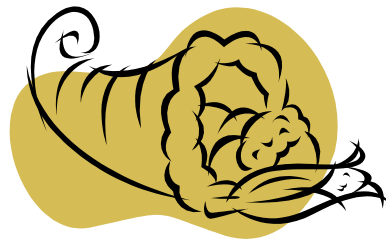
*Please plan on being
at this Worship Service
as we express our con-
fidence in and support
of all Poke Run Boards
and Committees.*



Glenn Ross would like “to thank everyone for all the cards send to me during my recent illness. They were so much appreciated and helped to keep my spirits uplifted. It is great to know I have so many friends and well-wishers at Poke Run. I am especially thankful for all the prayers offered up in my name to our Lord. My heart was healed and I am back in good health with everything in good order Praise be to GOD. Thanks to all of you.



This fall's **Community Dinner** brought new friends and old friends together for a time of food and fellowship as we prepared, served and ate with each other. Proceeds benefitted the Poke Run Road Fund.



HAPPENING IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Nov. 8—Auction 6pm—Congruity Presbyterian Church
 Nov 9—Organ/Piano Concert—7pm—Delmont Presbyterian Church
 Nov. 13,14 & 15—”Arts & Crafts Festival “ Pine Run Presbyterian Church
 Nov. 15—Spaghetti Dinner, 4-6:30pm Congruity Presbyterian Church
 Nov. 23—Pine Springs “2013 Friends Dinner” - Ligonier PA –more info in the office



Poke Run & Redstone Offices will be closed on Nov. 27th & 28th for the holiday.

COMING UP AT POKE RUN CHURCH IN DECEMBER

Dec. 2 - Quarterly PW Meeting
 Dec. 6 - Christian Ed - Annual “Santa’s
 Dec. 9 - Joint meeting of all Poke Run Boards
 Dec. 10 - “Soup for the Soul” - 11:30am.
 Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service

Breakfast”



HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

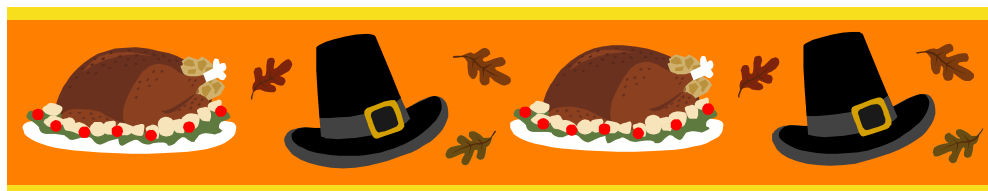
Nov 15-16 “Christian Art Show” Nov 15-16—Calvary Lutheran Church, Murrys ville
 Nov 15—”Vendor Bash” 10am—3pm Kiski Area School District Upper Elementary School

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.

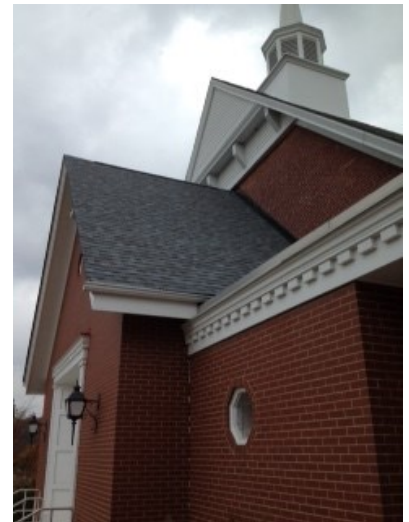
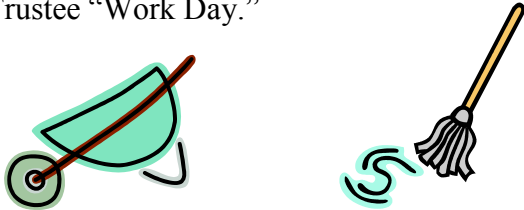
The local polling place located at Mamont Elementary School (Oakland Crossroads) has changed to Poke Run Presbyterian Church. Fellowship Hall will be a polling place for the November 4, 2014 General Election.



THANK YOU POKE RUN TRUSTEES FOR TAKING CARE OF “ALL THINGS POKE RUN!”

Recent projects included new Storage Room lighting, new roves over the Narthex and both back entrances, and more.

These Poke Run people diligently plan and study all Poke Run projects. Please consider donating some of your time and talents to them on the next Trustee “Work Day.”



**Young
Presbyterian
Scholars Program**

**\$74,000 scholarship per student
at Westminster College.**

**Pastor Nominations due:
Dec. 1**

**Student Applications due:
Dec 15**

**CONTACT
THE OFFICE FOR
MORE
INFORMATION.**

**WESTMINSTER
COLLEGE**



Mark your Calendar for 2015—the
annual Poke Run Mission trip will
take place during the week of
June 21, 2015—
Sunday thru Friday.



Dish: _____

Recipe

Serves: _____

STUFFED MUSHROOMS
from the kitchen of Carole Bowman

1/2 lb lg. mushrooms	1/2 C butter
1/2 C minced onion	2 minced garlic cloves
2 T chopped parsley	3/4 tsp salt
1/4 tsp oregano	1/2 C bread crumbs
1/4 C grated Parmesan	

Remove stems from mushroom. Finely chop stems, reserve caps. In 2quart saucepan over medium heat, melt butter. Cook mushroom stems, onion, garlic, parsley, salt and oregano until onion is tender (about 5 minutes) stirring occasionally. Stir in bread crumbs and cheese. Spoon mixture into mushroom caps. Place caps, stuffed side up on rack in broiler pan. Broil 8 minutes (in preheated broiler) or until mushrooms are tender.

From the Poke Run Cookbook 1985

Orders are still being taken for Poke Run
T-shirts See Bob Wilson 724-727-7581





Poke Run Church November 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Communion Christ the King November 23	1st Sunday of Advent November 30					1 Cookies for the Troops
2 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	3 7pm Deacons	4 7pm Budget & Finance Election Day	5 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir 7pm Mission & Stewardship	6 6:30pm Scouts	7	8 Hillbilly Breakfast
9 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	10	11 7pm Session	12 11:30am Soup for the Soul 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir	13 6:30pm Scouts Circle 2	14 6:30pm Scouts	15
16 ORDINATION SUNDAY 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	17	18	19 6:15pm Bell Choir 7pm Choir	20 6:30pm Scouts 7pm Trustees	21	22 Deacon Food Basket Pick-up 9-10:30am \$1.00 Spaghetti Dinner 4-6pm
23 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	24 9am Decorate Church with Circle 4	25 7:30pm Thanksgiving Service	26	27 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	28	29
30 1st Sunday of Advent 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>PLEASE NOTE:</p> <p>The Redstone Presbytery and Poke Run Offices will be closed on November 27th & 28th.</p> <p>Contact Pastor Pete in case of an emergency: 724-454-2278</p> </div> </div>					

Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, November 25th,
7:30pm

***Mark your calendar and plan to
attend this service. Bring a friend!***

What are you thankful for?



Poke Run Presbyterian Church

1091 Poke Run Church Rd.
Apollo, PA 15613