



The Ranger

Poke Run Presbyterian Church 2014

A Message from Pastor Pete

I spent some time this summer chasing ghosts and casting out demons. Not literally of course for I don't believe in ghosts and feel that most demons are creations and/or figments of our own imaginations. The origin of these critters is real; their existence is not. But that takes us into philosophical realms and that is not where I am going. It is during our youth and through our families that we are at least partially formed and it is in the memories and shadows of our early years that ghosts and demons form up and haunt us throughout our lives. Whispers of childhood never leave us. The best we can do is come to an uneasy peace, interrupted at times with sudden whims and insights that can either ease or unsettle us.

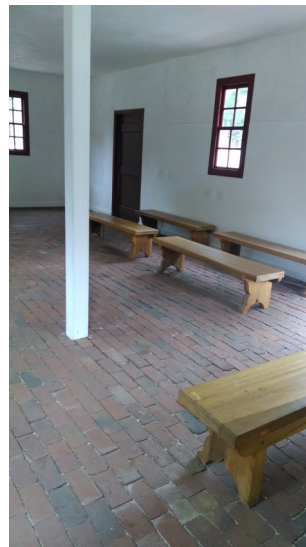
I spent some time with my brothers. We looked at pictures. My youngest brother, Mark, had found and kept an old photo album discovered when cleaning out our parent's house. The pictures began when Dad met Mom, late WW II era, and continued on through the first few years of their marriage. Some of this was the renewal of a lost history for us. For me it brought back fragments of early memories, strengthening some, reforming others.

From here Karen and I traveled to Williamsburg, VA. At our entry point to the "old" city, Colonial

Williamsburg, sits the Presbyterian meetinghouse, a small plain square building. Inside is just as plain. A few backless benches, not even pews, no padding, certainly not theatre seats, a simple pulpit, and little else adorn the interior. I tried to imagine the early people worshipping here, men, women and children compressed onto these benches and praising God. It was difficult. At the same time it is comforting to think that we share with them the same faith and hopefully the same fervor for the glory of God. This is a kind of ghost, a flimsy mental image of our ancestors in faith huddled together in a new land continuing to worship. Theirs was a new/old worship with roots in the antiquity of the Church.

We spent some time at Jamestown where the ruins of one of America's oldest churches are slowly being reconstructed. From there we traveled to the little town of Belle Haven, VA where I spent a few years of my early life. The Church is still there; the manse is still there. Things are pretty much as I remember them.

(continued on next page)



Inside this issue:

Thank You/Prayers 2

Poke Run PW/
Community Dinner 3

2014 PICNIC 4-5

Session/ 6

Nominating/
Office

Information /Soup 7

Happenings 8

Information 9

KAYN 10

Calendar 11



(continued from front)

This rather long and rambling biographical rant is to introduce the idea of memories as imaginary realities that haunt us. We all have them and we all fall under their spell from time to time. The same is true for our faith as the same is true for the church. Most of you reading this will have either grown up in the church surrounded by church people. You have these memories of church and faith and family. Today not everyone does.

In the ancient world up until the time of Williamsburg everyone had faith. Granted there were occasional exceptions but for the overwhelming majority of folks there was no option. There was this world and there was the world of "spirit." There was no possibility of not being religious in some form and there was no possibility of being an atheist. These thoughts simply did not exist. Today that world is gone. It is perfectly acceptable to be an atheist and in some places like our great universities, impossible not to be an atheist. And, most polltakers would agree, among today's younger generation it is fair to say that 4 out of 5 of them have no church affiliation. But, the ghosts of religion and faith are still there. Young mothers who have never been part of a church community still want their babies baptized. Young men have questions about faith and God that their modern education cannot answer. We are still haunted by memories of God even if we have no idea who God is or even might be.

And so it seems to me that the church has a challenge before it and it seems to me to be threefold. First of all we are not to lose our first love, to come together and glorify God in worship. After all, that is what worship is really about. We gather together, not for ourselves, but to glorify God. Second, our worship forms us into persons who carry about them the image of Christ. This leads to lives lived in our communities, lives that bring glory to God. Third, we must speak to this generation that carries about it the fragmented and often wrong memories of transcendence, of God, of Jesus, and of church. This is to step into their lives for a time so that they can see and know the transforming power of the gospel and be called into the kingdom with us.

Soli deo Gloria – to God alone be the glory.

**Thank
You**

Thank you to our August Greeters: Bev & Mario Tagliati, Laurie & Tim Martin, Meri, Jacob and Jessica Slaugenhaupt, Jan & Bob Fitzgerald and Larry & Debbie Seighman
Thank you to our August Lectors: Patrick Wilkinson, Eileen Riston, Linda Chicka, Bob Fitzgerald and Barbi Findley



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, Thad Overly, The Weaver Family, SSG James Bishop (Poke Run's "adopt a soldier") and others who serve in the military.



PW News

Remember: Tuesday, September 2nd is the next Quarterly Presbyterian Women's meeting. Freda Bowman will share her reflections of this year's mission trip to Saltville, VA. Circle 4 will lead devotions and provide refreshments. We welcome all women (and men) of the church to join in this mission and fellowship.

Circle 2 will meet on Thursday September 18th. Linda Moorhead will host and Valerie Hansen will be the leader.

Circle 4 will meet on Thursday September 11th. Frieda Mahen will be the leader.

PW is joining the Redstone Presbytery Mission Coordinator and other area PW groups in an effort to raise \$10,000 to host a "STOP HUNGER NOW" event in October. This will purchase 40,000 meals for programs at schools to encourage children to attend because it might be the only meal they have that day! Keep collecting Shoes, gently used textiles for "Pack the Pod" (boxes located in the Narthex.) Make a monetary donation to "Stop Hunger Now." Help pack the meals in October!

Call the office for more details about all of these opportunities.



POKE RUN COMMUNITY DINNER
OCTOBER 4, 2014 4 TO 7 PM
ADULTS \$12.00 CHILDREN \$3.00
TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 724-396-3227 OR 724-327-5563

Check the weekly bulletins for opportunities to volunteer at this very special event.

Also, The Poke Run Presbyterian Women will serve a roast beef dinner to the Masons on Saturday, September 20. All proceeds of the dinner will be given to Poke Run's Road Fund. Please plan to help by donating pies, preparing the food, serving or helping with cleanup.

And remember that Circle 2 will be holding their annual "Rummage Sale" on October 18th—don't throw anything GOOD away! :)



Over 100 people gathered together for a picnic lunch following the 11am Worship service on Sunday, August 17th. Pittsburgh Shriner's Hillbilly clan #53 provided the meat (cooked by our Linda Moorhead) and desserts, our Presbyterian Women provided the sides. It was a great time of fun, food and fellowship. If you were not able to make it, don't miss it next year!



The "Hillbilly's" were created as an appendant organization to the Shriners. The Hillbilly's support the Shriner's Childrens Hospitals.



Poke Run Picnic 2014



Thanks to Linda Moorhead and Laurie Martin for coordinating Poke Run's part of the annual PICNIC. Great Job ladies!!!!



From the Poke Run Session

Below is a short summary from our last Session meeting. The minutes will not be approved until our meeting on September 9, so I wanted to include a brief update.

Session met on June 10, and as in previous years we voted to only meet in July and August as needed. Poke Run has been asked to serve as the Polling place for Mamont. They plan to eliminate Mamont School because of security reasons, and we are an excellent option. Session voted to approve this request. The Trustees have been contacted and Bob Wilson has agreed to serve as the liaison. The first election will take place on November 4, 2014.

The Technology Committee met in May with Chad McCutcheon. The Website and Facebook pages were discussed. Many thanks to Amy Wilkinson for maintaining our Website, and to Laurie Martin for posting our Daily Verse on Facebook. If you do not wish to have your picture included on either the website or Facebook, please contact our office.

The Nominating committee met several times over the summer to plan our new slate of officers for 2015. Election of officers will take place on October 19 at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Erin Bruce continued Sunday School over the summer to the delight of all the Children in her class. Please consider joining one of our Sunday School Classes this year - in fact if you come a little early, you can join us for Breakfast in our new Fellowship area upstairs!

Our next Session Meeting will be held September 9 at 7:00 PM in the large Sunday School rooms -
- Session Meetings are open and everyone is invited. Please join us!

Blessings, Connie Cauvel - Clerk of Session

Nominating Committee

Please keep Poke Run and the Nominating Committee in your prayers as they contact members to serve God and our Church, on Session, the Deacons and Trustees. Thank you, **The Next meeting of the Nominating Committee will be Sunday Septemebr 21, immediately after the 11am Worship Service.**

From the Church Office:

Please continue to keep church secretary Lillian Bowman in your prayers. Amy Wilkinson will continue to work in the office most days from 9am—2pm. It is still suggested that you give the office a call before coming up to the church to make sure someone is there for you.

Redstone Presbytery and the church office will be closed on Labor Day, September 1st. If there is an emergency please call Pastor Pete at 724-454-2278.



Boy Scouts **STILL** Selling Mulch -
now for your fall gardening



SUPPORT BSA TROOP 552 POKE RUN, PA

2ND ANNUAL MULCH SALE

HIGH QUALITY HARDWOOD MULCH

RED, OR BLACK DYED - 2 CUBIC FOOT BAG - \$4.00 or 10 bags for \$35

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

Contact Jeff Wilkinson at 724-335-0710 Thank you for your Support!



**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



"Soup for the Soul" will resume in October. 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.

HAPPENING IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Sept 9th—"Presbytery FUN Day" , 11am-4pm Pine Springs Camp

Sept 13th—"End of Summer Festival" at Puckety Church, Lower Burrell, PA. 10am-7pm

Sept 20—Ham Loaf Dinner—Community Presbyterian—New Alexandria

Sept 20-21—Pine Springs Camp—"Fall Fusion Retreat " 4th—6th grade retreat

Sept 26-27—Pine Springs Camp—"Women in the Woods" - women's retreat

Coming in October—

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

HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Aug 31—Sept 1—Labor United Celebration at Northmoreland Park, 11am-7pm FREE

Sept. 13&14—Annual "Fort Hand Festival" at Kunkle Park in Washington Twp.

Saturday FIREWORKS FREE

Sept 28th—Vandergrift Arts Festival

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

2nd Wednesday of the month at the Wash. Twp. Firehall

—11:30—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.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Foodbank last month. **PLEASE NOTE: The Mission & Stewardship Committee will now meet on the first Wednesday of each month.**



Heh History Buffs—the September 1973 and 1974 "Rangers" have been added to the Poke Run Website—Check them out!



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.

People are funny; they want the FRONT of the bus, the MIDDLE of the road and the BACK of the church!



Best wishes to the Fultz family. Jamie and Jeb and their kids have been attending Poke Run Sunday School faithfully for the last year or so—and will be moving from the area. Please keep them in your prayers.



The McQuaide's and Freda Bowman have gone cell phone!! No more landline!
Cindy 412-559-0372
Jim 724-771-5137
Nikki 724-787-6028
Freda 724-699-0943

Wayne & Donna Blaser have a new address!
6219 Christian Kemp Dr. North
Frederick, MD 21703



THE DEACONS are collecting names and address of our college students, service men and women, and others who are far from us at this time. Please contact a Deacon or the church office with your information.





Who will GUIDE them?

But how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it?

— Romans 10:14 (MSG)

KAYN

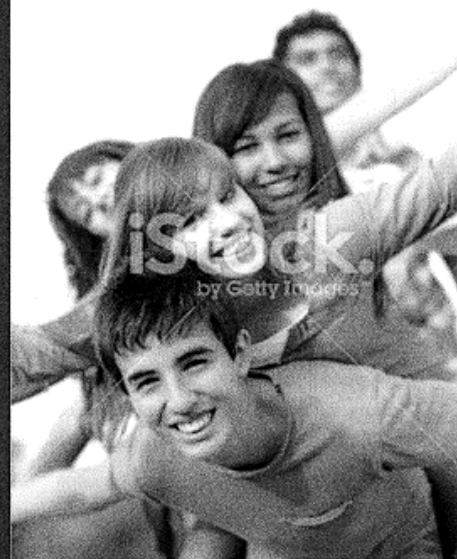
Kiski Area Youth Network

www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth

www.kiskiareayouthconnect.org

KiskiAreaYouth@gmail.org

Who will REACH them?



KAYN

Kiski Area Youth Network

Kiski Area Youth Network (KAYN)
is a group of concerned people
and area churches who seek to

reach out
to area
high school students
with the
gospel of
Jesus Christ.



Why Kiski?

Kiski Area School district encompasses many rural communities that have many small parishes and churches. There is no one person or church able to focus on Kiski High School exclusively in an effective way.

What's Kiski Area Youth Network Mission?

To establish an independent outreach ministry to un-churched students at Kiski Area High School; to introduce students to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ through challenging and encouraging Christian discipleship and youth programs. Once funded, we will hire a well-trained professional youth worker to spearhead this effort and change the lives of many young people forever.



How YOU can Support KAYN.

PRAYER TEAM – Commit to faithfully pray as we develop this ministry and seek the right youth director. Pray for the Christian students of the High School as they seek to follow Christ and tell their friends about Jesus. Pray for those who do not know who Jesus is, that they will begin to seek God.

VOLUNTEER – Helping KAYN Leadership team establish and support this ministry. Helping our youth director with the many programs and events he will be running for the students once this person is hired.

FINANCIAL – Consider making a monthly pledge, or a one-time gift

KAYN's Budget for 2014

We are raising \$64K to cover first year's expenses

Donations can be made to:

Kiski Area Loving Ministries
PO Box 67, Vandergrift, PA 15690
Write: KAYN in memo line

KAYN

Kiski Area Youth Network

www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth

www.kiskiareayouthconnect.org

KiskiAreaYouth@gmail.org



September 2014

Communion:

Meri and Jacob Slaughaupt (Sept 7)

Offering: Trustees



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

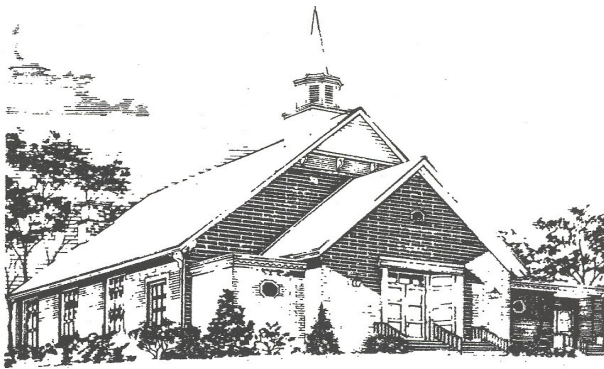
Sat

	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2 7pm PW Mtg	3 6:15pm Bells 7pm Choir 7pm Mission & Stewardship	4 6:30pm Scouts	5	6
7 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study 6:30pm Scouts	8 7pm Deacons	9 7pm Session	10 6:15pm Bells 7pm Choir	11 <i>Circle 4</i> 6:30pm Scouts	12 6:30pm Scouts	13
14 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	15 Congregational Life 10am	16	17 6:15pm Bells 7pm Choir	18 <i>Circle 2</i> 6:30pm Scouts	19	20 PW Mason Dinner
21 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School Nominating Mtg 7:00 Bible Study 6:30pm Scouts	22	23	24 6:15pm Bells 7pm Choir	25 6:30pm Scouts 7pm Trustees	26 6:30pm Scouts	27
28 8:30 & 11 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 7:00 Bible Study	29	30				

If you have appropriate News to share in the Ranger—please submit it to the office. The next Ranger deadline is September 23rd.

The Poke Run Office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 1. In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Pete at 724-454-2278.

Amy will be out of the office Sept. 8-11, but will be checking phone messages and emails.



Our Mission

Poke Run Presbyterian Church is a family oriented church which has had a long and rich heritage. God has called us to be a people of prayer who are deeply committed to serving Jesus Christ. Our mission is to call the people of Washington Township and surrounding communities to respond to the Good News of God's saving love in Jesus Christ. We seek to fulfill this mission by providing programs of worship, Christian education, family nurture and support, and community outreach which help people to grow spiritually and to express their faith with confidence. We also seek, through our programs, to provide people with practical assistance in Jesus' name. Our mission is extended beyond our local region through our support and participation in the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and ecumenical mission agencies.

Adopted by Session October 5, 1993

Poke Run Presbytrian

1091 Poke Run Church Rd.
Apollo, PA 15613

Phone: 724-327-5563

E-mail: pokerun@windstream.net

