There are many benefits to growing older. One is that you slow down a bit and, sometimes, think things through. Seneca, the Roman statesman and philosopher, whose thought, by the way, is making a comeback, claimed that he was, in his sixties, glad to be free from the passions of his youth. He could now have more fulfilling relationships with a greater range of people. A degree of wisdom comes with age, and along with it a strong sense of self and greater self-confidence. As we age we may not be able to work as much, or run as fast or think as quickly. What we can do, and this is supported by research, is think more broadly, more deeply, and more freely.

I would like to expand upon this idea of thinking more broadly, deeply, and freely by challenging one of the pinch points of what is sometimes known as "High Calvinism" and that is "double predestination." First I will quote from J.I. Packer's Knowing God. Packer claims, that, "(God) shows his freedom and lordship by discriminating between sinners, causing some to hear the gospel while others do not hear it ... " that is, God elects some to eternal life and some to eternal damnation. That is the pernicious idea behind double predestination. Now, I will challenge Packer and others who hold this view.

To begin let's note that this is a minority view, even among Calvinist and Reformed theologians. I do not think that Calvin himself held to it for in his commentaries he says repeatedly that all who come to Christ will be saved. The Eastern Orthodox Church, the oldest of all our

churches holds that this view is not only non-biblical but heretical. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church claimed that if this view of double predestination were right he wanted nothing to do with the "god" behind it.

Our own church, The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, makes this claim in its commentary on and revision of the Westminster Confession.

... the doctrine of God's eternal decree is held in harmony with the doctrine of his love to all (human) kind, his gift of his son to be the propitiation for the sins of the whole world, and his readiness to bestow his grace on all who seek it ... has provided in Christ a salvation sufficient for all ... and freely offered in the gospel for all ... and that (God's) decree hinders no (one) from freely accepting that offer." (The Book of Confessions, p. 164)

So now, let's think a little more about this. Love is most fully love when it is not forced, when it is not coerced, when it is not demanded. Love is truly love when one loves another person solely for who they are, as they are and in the case of other human beings, often in spite of who they are. We cannot love God best, or at all, when we are threatened with eternal punishment if we do not love and obey God. God loves us, as we are. God loves us enough to sacrifice his life for ours. This is simply an act of grace, no one deserves it.

Now, our response to God's love given in the sacrifice of Jesus can be and should be completely free and uncompelled. We do not come to God out of fear, but out of gratitude. We love God for who God is and for no other reason.

The earliest church, those first few followers of Jesus Way, put their thoughts down in a little book called The Didache. Every few years I get out my copy of this book and read the first few lines. The book begins, in loose translation, "There are two ways, one way leads to life, and one way leads to death." Life, again loosely translated, means eternal life of joy and happiness, a way of life that leads us ever into closer relationship with God. Death, is just the opposite, "death" is a life that leads us away from God. These two choices are the choices we have before us.

And now, thinking broadly, deeply, and freely about our Christian lives we see that we are free to love others as Christ has loved us. In loving others we learn more of the love of God for us. When we love those who love us, we have begun the journey. When we love those who hate us, and love them enough to sacrifice our lives for them, then we have begun to learn something of the love of God. It is not double predestination or about heaven and hell, but about life and death.

There are two ways, think deeply, choose wisely.

by Pastor Pete



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ASCENSION OF THE LORD Forty days after the Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday), we remember and celebrate the Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ into heaven. (See Luke 24:50-53 and Acts 1:1-11; see also Mark 16:19-20.) On this day, the church gives thanks for Christ's sovereign rule over all the earth, as well as his priestly intercession for us at the throne of mercy (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Ascension of the Lord is remembered on May 5th.



<u>PENTECOST</u> On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.)

Pentecost is celebrated on Sunday, May 15th.



TRINITY SUNDAY Unlike other festivals in the church's liturgical calendar, Trinity Sunday centers on a *doctrine* of the church, rather than an *event*. It celebrates the unfathomable mystery of God's being as Holy Trinity. It is a day of adoration and praise of the one, eternal, incomprehensible God. On Trinity Sunday we proclaim the mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One. The celebration of Trinity Sunday began among Western Christians in the 10th century and developed slowly until it was formally established on the Sunday after Pentecost.

Trinity Sunday, May 22nd.

Information provided here is from the website of:



## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

May 5, 2016—an annual day of observance held on the first Thursday of May, designated by the <u>United States Congress</u>, when people are asked "to turn to God in <u>prayer</u> and <u>meditation</u>".

Each year since its inception, the <u>president</u> has signed a proclamation, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day.



#### PAGE 3

**Thank you to our April Greeters:** Larry & Debbie Seighman, Margaret McBride and Sherry Masisak, Andy & Eva Bantroch, and Ron & Carole Bowman

**Thank you to our April Lectors:** Shyrl Stange, Summer Mazur, Ruth O'Connor, and Connor Martin

For our prayers: Ed Bahney, Renee Bates, Renee Beck, Bill Bert, Bob Bierer, Lil Bowman, Max Brooks, Ralph Brown, Carolyn Buckley, Roxy Chickar, Irene Clark, Jim Dunmire, Elvira, Lee & Linda Gardener, Marnee Gormley, Helen Grayem, Allison Grundy, Caleb Hall, Leonard Hartman, Janine Hayle, Rachel Hill, Joyce Hodges, Tiffany Jensen, Leland & Berenice Jones, Marjorie Kaiser, Pat Lengauer, Cliff Lightner, Norm Linhart, the family of Merle Lowman, Samantha McCutcheon, Irma McDivitt, Conrad McQuaide, Amy McQuaide, JoAnn Miller, June Moorhead, Steve Morcheid, Sandy Nemetz, Sean O'Neil, Thad Overly, the family of Miriam Painter, Sarah Parrish, Wanda Petrilla, James & Winifred Powers, Rafael Rincon, Steve Roman, Ed & Betty Schmidt, Callie Spaulding, Dave Speer, Dinah Staymates, John Steele, JD Strait, Terry Wiester, Clay Wilabee, Peter Yurtin, those gripped by addictions, and those who serve in the military.

"Please keep the family of Poke Run member Miriam Painter in your prayers. Miriam passed away on April 10<sup>th</sup>. She was a member of Poke Run Church for over 50 years, served on many committees, and blessed the congregation as a part of the Poke Run Choir."





"Please keep the family of Irene Long in your prayers, Irene was a member of Poke Run Church serving as a Deacon and a member of the PW. Irene passed away on February 26,2016 in Edinboro, PA."

Occasionally names are removed from the prayer list when the office has not been updated, if you see one removed that should remain, please contact the office.

It is a privilege to lift up those we care about in continued prayer and Poke Run Church rejoices that many of those included on our "Prayer List" are healing and strengthening. If you placed names on our "Prayer List," please contact the office to update us.

### Thank you

"Thank you so much for preparing & serving the meal for our mother's funeral. This church & the choir meant the world to her. This service that you do is one of the best things this church does. Thank you & God bless,

Love, the Miriam Painter Family"



#### FROM THE Poke Run Presbyterian Church Session meeting of March 8, 2016

## NOTE: Session meetings are open to all members of the church. Complete Session Minutes are available in the office for Church member review.

The scheduled meeting of the Session met @ 7:00 pm. A quorum was present and, Rev. Peter Goetschius, Moderator opened the meeting with prayer and devotions.

**Session Members present**: Rev. Peter Goetschius -Moderator, Connie Cauvel – Clerk, Chad McCutcheon – Assist. Clerk, Sandy Chappell, Ron Hileman, Cindy McQuaide, Linda Chicka, Tim Martin, Meri Slaugenhaupt, Linda Moorhead, Jeffrey Wilkinson

MSC: To approve the Session Minutes of January 27, 2016

MSC: To accept the Deacon Minutes of January 4 & February 1 2016

MSC: To accept Trustee Minutes January 28, 2016 and February 25

MSC: To: accept Treasurer's Report -

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Budget & Finance**: Tim Martin - Tim reported that the year started off well and giving is strong. First Fruits is at 38%. They have put money aside for work the Trustees will be doing over the next couple of months.

**Christian Ed** - Sandy Chappell - Sunday School class with Karen Goetschius is going wonderfully well. Several young people have also joined Choir. We will not be doing TGIF this year.

Mission and Stewardship: Linda Chicka, Meri Slaugenhaupt -Did not meet - did pretzel decoration with the Adelphoi kids for the Deacons

Personnel: Linda Moorhead - did not meet

**Congregational Life** - Connie Cauvel - Committee is asking for names of our 2016 graduates. Graduation Sunday is May 8 - on Mother's Day. Committee is planning a brunch for Music Appreciation Sunday on May 15.

Technology - Chad McCutcheon - did not meet

**Nominating -** Pete will meet with the Committee after Easter.

New Members: MSC: to welcome the following new members to Poke Run (if the way be clear) Bill and Nancy Craig - letter of transfer, Dolly and Ken George, Brett and Mandy Stevenson, Debbie Miller. Evan Hileman and Logan McGarry. Session will meet Palm Sunday March at 10:30 to approve new members, and hear Statements of Faith.

#### **Old Business:**

Reviewed updated Communion and Offering Schedule

Connie will send a thank you letter to Bill and Andy Caldwell

#### **New Business:**

Discussion about dishwasher MSC:To accept the Dishwasher from the First Presbyterian Church in Murrysville if the way be clear.

Session minute Review was February 24

Policy to Safeguard Children. (first read) - Personnel Committee: Doug Ross & Linda Chicka Session will review and give input - voting to take place @ April Session Meeting Doug Ross presented and discussed the policy. Session suggests that the policy is reviewed annually. If an incident occurs for example at Bible School - someone must report first to Linda who is the Chair person also Clerk of Session and Pastor. Secretary can be in charge of handling the information, but person in charge will need to implement. If a parent comes with their child they must stay with their child. This document is meant to enhance our ministry not to inhibit our ministry.

**MSC:** To accept the Giving Process presented by Budget & Finance Committee with the proposed revisions.

MSC: Use Fellowship Hall on Saturday April 23, for a Shriner dinner event.

MSC: Session will be in charge of clean up after Palm Sunday Dinner

Close with prayer: Sandy Chappell Adjourn: 8:20 PM
Respectfully Submitted: Approved: April 12, 2016

Connie Cauvel (Clerk of Session)

#### POKE RUN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Boards, Committees and Officers 2016

(\* indicates second consecutive term)

#### SESSION

Connie Cauvel (18) Clerk
Sandy Chappell (18)\*
Ron Hileman (18)\*
Tim Martin (17)\*
Meri Slaugenhaupt (17)\*
Linda Moorhead (17)
Linda Chicka (16)\*
Chad McCutcheon (16)
Cindy McQuaide (16)\*
Jeffrey Wilkinson (16-Youth)

#### BUDGET & FINANCE

Session(Tim Martin) Ch Deacons (Nancy Kimble) Trustees (Bob Fitzgerald) Linda Chicka Valerie Hansen Doug Ross Amy Wilkinson (staff)

#### CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Session (Connie Cauvel)
Freda Bowman
Edyth Elwood
Walt Lange
Debbie Miller
Shyrl Stange
Karen Staymates
Bob Wilson
Eleanor Zerbini
Jack Zerbini

#### <u>PERSONNEL</u>

Session(Linda Moorhead) Session (Connie Cauvel) Doug Ross

Laurie Martin

Linda Chicka (Clearances)

#### SEXTON (volunteers)

Jim Moorhead Bob Wilson Walt Lange

#### DEACONS

Debora Ross (18)\* Treasurer
Nancy Dombroske (18)
Ruth O'Connor (18) Co-moderator
Deb Seighman (18) Secretary
Bev Tagliati (17)
Nancy Kimble (17)
Diane Scott (17) Co-moderator
Carol Thompson (17)
Jan Fitzgerald (16)\* Co-moderator
Tammy Kelley (16) Correspond
Mario Tagliati (16)
Sheree Wagner (16)\* Treasurer
Corey Kelley (16-Youth)

#### NOMINATING

Session ( )
Deacons (Nancy Dombroske)
Trustees ( )
Bob Thompson
Heidi Hileman
Nikki McQuaide
Logan Hileman
Calvin McCutcheon

#### CHRISTIAN ED

Session (Sandy Chappell)
Linda Chicka
Karen Goetschius
Laurie Martin
Ruth O'Connor
Brett Stevenson
Bob Wilson

#### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Session (Chad McCutcheon) Connie Cauvel Linda Chicka Rev. Pete Goetschius Laurie Martin Amy Wilkinson Bob Wilson

#### TRUSTEES

Al Moorhead (18)
Barry Kelley (18) Vice President
Mike Goetschius (18)
Walt Lange (17)\*
Andy Bantroch (17)
Bill Fazi (17)
Robert Fitzgerald (16)\*
Jim Moorhead (16)\*
Rick Slaugenhaupt (16) President
Session (Ron Hileman)
Jacob Slaugenhaupt (16-Youth)

#### SCOUT COORDINATOR

Cal McCutcheon

#### MISSION & STEWARDSHIP

Session (Linda Chicka) Session (Meri Slaugenhaupt) Walt Lange Mario Tagliati Robert Wilson

#### AUDITORS

Bob Scott (19) Heidi Hileman (18) Jan Fitzgerald (17) Rick Slaugenhaupt (16)

#### P.W. OFFICERS

Cindy McQuaide Moderator Amy Wilkinson Vice Moderator Laurie Martin Secretary Linda Chicka Treasurer

#### TREASURER

Amy Wilkinson

#### FINANCIAL ADMIN.

Shyrl Stange

Please notify the Poke Run Office of any corrections or additions.

February 8, 2016

As always, thank you for the support that you give all of Poke Run's Boards and Committees.

Please keep these men and women in your prayers, and consider where YOU can help fulfill the mission of our church.

BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING

April 4, 2016

Present: Carol Thompson, Nancy Kimble, Sheree Wagner, Mario Tagliati, Bev Tagliati, Debora Ross, Diane Scott, Ruth O'Conner, Jan Fitzgerald, and Debbie Seighman

Absent: Nancy Dombroske, Cory Kelley, and Tammy Kelley

Ruth opened the meeting with prayer, followed by inspirational readings by Ruth and Diane.

Agenda: Minutes from March 7, 2016 were MSC

Treasure's report was MSC

3/17/16 Balance \$2753.51

Credits \$550.00 Memorials for Irene Long 100.00 Donation from Carolyn Buckley

132.00 Easter Flowers

Debits 98.91 Bibles for new members

120.00 Memorials to Westmoreland Co. Food Bank for

our Poke Run Friends that passed away.

4/4/16 Balance \$3316.60

Old Business-The Palm Sunday New Member Luncheon went well and 8 new members were received into the church. Bibles were given to each new member.

The planning for food for the dinner was more than adequate, with leftover ham and cake.

Updates were given on several of our Poke Run Friends.

New Business-Flyers will be printed for the Strawberry Festival, which is May 21. Cost will be \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 3-10, and under 3 are free. Nancy Dombroske is heading up the planning, and Sheree will put ads in the local papers. Tammy will send 2 tickets to each Poke Run Friend.

Study/care boxes were packed for the college students.

Respectfully,

Secretary, Debbie Seighman

POKE RUN CHURCH DEACON'S ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL Saturday, MAY 21, 2016 3-6pm "All-you-can-eat!"

Ham BBQ, Hot Dogs, a variety of salads, and of course......Strawberry Desserts!!!!!!

Adults \$8.00 Children \$4.00
Tickets at the Door













#### Poke Run Graduation Sunday, May 8, 2016

**Jacob Slaugenhaupt**—son of Rick & Meri Slaugenhaupt, grandson of Karen Staymates, is graduating with honors from Kiski Area High School. Jacob will be attending Penn State at the New Kensington campus to study Engineering. Jacob has been awarded the Blue & White Scholarship.

**Sean Gibbon**—Grandson of Karen Staymates is graduating from Westminster College with a double major in Accounting and Business Administration. Sean has accepted a position with JFS Wealth Advisers in Hermitage, PA.

**Jesse Bierer**—son of Scott & Cathy Bierer, grandson of Bob Bierer, graduated from West Virginia University with a degree in Engineering.

**Sean O'Neil**—Poke Run's organist and music director received a Master in Music Education degree from Boston University.



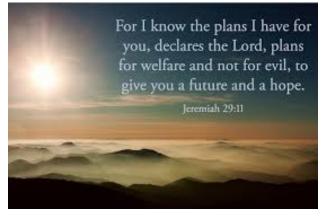
#### **Sunday School at Poke Run Church**

Classes meet each Sunday at 10am.

**FOR THE KIDS** The Children's Class is an engaging time of song and music, crafts and games, and a Bible message. Appropriate for all school aged children. Spread the word—bring kids—invite kids.

ADULTS We have two adult Sunday School classes. The class meeting in the West Wayside room (on the left at the end of the hall) is using the David C. Cook series. The class meeting in the Session Room (on the right at the end of the hall) is working through a study guide from Max Lucado's Life Lessons series. "Galatians, Free in Christ"

JOIN FOR FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENT BETWEEN EARLY SERVICE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL (Fellowship Kitchen area near the Church Office)







#### Poke Run Mission Team Returns to Marion, Virginia

Applications are now available for anyone interested in attending the mission trip to the Marion Virginia area on the week of June 19 through 23, 2016. If you are interested in traveling with the team this year, please pick up an application from the back of the Narthex, or from the church office

Throughout this year, the Mission and Stewardship committee will highlight the ministries that receive our benevolence giving. Today's



local mission highlight is the Redstone Highlands Benevolent Care Fund. The money received for this ministry helps to ensure that residents who have depleted their personal financial resources will still have a caring place to call home for the rest of their lives. As persons live longer and are faced with the economic challenges of recent years, the need for Benevolent Care support has grown. Our gifts will help to meet this year's need for 2.5 million in free care. Poke Run has many congregational members who have spent their last days in one of the Redstone Highlands Communities. This fund is there to support any one of them who may be in need of this financial support. Learn more about Redstone Highlands at <a href="http://www.redstonehighlands.org">http://www.redstonehighlands.org</a>



bulletin board in the education hallway.

Another one of the local organizations which Poke Run supports through our benevolent giving is the Westmoreland County Food Bank located in Delmont. Not only do we provide financial support,

but Poke Run also actively supports their mission through donated hours and food supplies.

Over the past ten years, Poke Run members have volunteered in the CSFP Senior Food Box Packing at the Delmont warehouse. This program is designed to furnish a boxful of nutritional food once a month to low income, elderly individuals over the age of 60. Each month, usually on the third Saturday, nearly 1500 boxes are packed in a 2 hour time span by 50 to 60 volunteers. These boxes are then distributed throughout the county at local food banks to those seniors in need. Poke Run volunteers 3 times each year. Our next church opportunity will be on August 20, but individuals can volunteer on their own any month between the hours of 9 and 11a.m. The other dates are May 21, June 18, July 16, Sep. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17.

Kiski Area Youth Network (KAYN) is a group of parents, churches, organizations and teens committed to connecting Kiski Area students to Christ, Church and Community. They help youth to discover a relationship with Christ and His Church. KAYN began in 2013 and has hired an Exec. Director, raised funds, developed a network of support and bought a building to use as a youth center. Poke Run supported KAYN in 2014 and in 2015 added this program to our local mission giving. KAYN is always looking for individuals who are willing to donate time, prayers and finances to their efforts. We receive their monthly newsletter and it is posted on the

## Poke Run Presbyterian Women PW

**Circle 2:** will meet on May 19th - 7pm—at the church —Bring a potluck item to share—the leader will be Valerie Hansen.

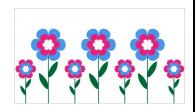
ALL ARE WELCOME—COME AND BRING A FRIEND!



#### 2016 Redstone Presbyterian Women's Spring Retreat

will be held at Pine Spring Camp on Tuesday, May 24th from 9AM -2:30PM. The cost is \$16. This year's theme is:

"Exploring Storytelling as a legacy and a gift of faith to our children." with Susan Blank M. Div.



A REMINDER: When using the Poke Run Kitchen facilities, please do not leave any food items on the counter or in the refrigerators. It is kind to think that someone else might use it -but it is SAFER and MORE CONSIDERATE to take it with you.



#### **EXCITING OPPORTUNITY**

The Poke Run PW got the ball rolling on an exciting opportunity! An area church was getting rid of a commercial dishwasher that they no longer used. The Pw purchased it at a price that could not be beat and now the Trustees are working on its installation. Food has certainly become an important outreach at Poke Run. This purchase will help tremendously!

## **Recognizing our Service Men and Women**

Our congregation has many men and women who have served in the military. Linda Chicka has posted a list of those who given service to our country, living or deceased and posted it in the Church narthex. Please take time to review it let us know of any corrections or additions. Call or email the office with this information, or Linda Chicka at 724-422-3688 or lgchicka@gmail.com.



## In Memory of Our Veterans

On Thursday, May 26 members from the Poke Run Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops, the Board of



Trustees, and congregation members will be planting flowers on the graves of the veterans who are buried in Poke Run Cemetery. A single red geranium will be placed to recognize the sacrifice and service these veterans gave to help our country stay free.

If you would like to assist in planting, please arrive in the upper cemetery area by 6:00p.m. on May 26.

## Stories of Redstone

## Christ at work in our midst

WE WILL NEVER CHANGE THE WORLD BY GOING TO CHURCH CHANGE THE WORLD BY BEING THE CHURCH.

Last summer a young man stopped by the church asking if we have a choir because he wanted to join and sing praises to Jesus. He was told yes and invited to come worship with us on Sunday. Not only did he come; he found out where the choir was warming up and joined them.

This friendly young man soon worked his way into our hearts and us into his. Eugene worshiped with us for nearly 6 months, sharing his love for singing and Scripture. Eugene was open about his troubled past and the way the Lord had worked in his life.

heartbroken to learn that he had been arrested for robbing a local Family Dollar. One of the active elders went to his preliminary hearing to show him that his church had not turned our back on him. Eugene was visibly overwhelmed to see her. Eugene and members of the congregation frequently correspond with each other while he awaits trial in May. This is being church. Jesus has given us the privilege of visiting the prisoner, even if we can only visit by letter. We have all received, grace upon

---First Presbyterian Church, Iohnstown



**Spiritual** Formation \* 2016 PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL

March 16-19, 2016 Conflict Resolution as Spiritual Practice: Following the Path of Meister Eckhart to Turn Challenge into Opportunity **Deidre Combs and Gail Ransom** 

May 1-4, 2016 Immersion Experience: An Invitation to a Deeper Spiritual Life Mary Lynn Callahan

June 26-29, 2016 **Invitation to Simplicity** Mark Scandrette

September 14-17, 2016 The Desert Abbas and Ammas Roberta C. Bondi

November 1-13, 2016 Desert Spiritual Traditions of the Southwest: A Pilgrimage Wayne Mell, Debra Weir, and Helen Blier

Communicate the Word...Carry on the Work...Change the World Together!



In preparation for the 2016 Directory, **Information Needed!** Please notify the church office if you have had any name changes, address changes, a change in your phone number or a change in your email address. You may call the office at 724-327-5563 or email your information to pokerun@windstream.net

SEMINAR'

An updated Directory will be available at the end of the month. Please communicate any changes by May 15th. Thank you.

HELP NEEDED: With the good weather comes the growing green of "weeds." If you have any spare time, feel free to ATTACK a flower bed around the church. And watch for opportunities to join others – Thank you in advance for all your help. (If you have any questions, see Laurie Martin.)



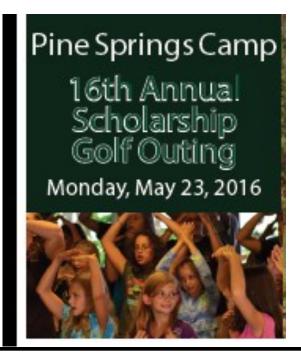


MAKE SUMMER MEANINGFUL and FUN



Pine Springs Camp "Summer 2016" Information pamphlets are available in the church office. Poke Run continues its pledge to send all campers to Pine Springs at no cost—call the office if you are interested.

We already have 5 campers signed up!!!



Latrobe Country Club, brochures available in the Narthex or got to the Pine Springs Camp website. Www.pinesprings.org





Come help Pine Springs Camp get ready for the summer and have a great time of fun and work. Projects range from clearing trails and raking leaves to more skilled jobs. So whatever your ability is...come and join us! This annual event is a great blessing to Pine Springs Camp! A cookout lunch will be provided. Each group should bring a pot-luck item and tools such as rakes, shovels, leaf blowers, and power tools (if the group is doing a skilled project). Please RSVP by May 7, 2016. For more information, please call us at (814) 629-9834. Free overnight accommodations are available if needed.

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#### HAPPENING IN OUR PRESBYTERY

May 14—Redd-Up Day—PSC Work Day (see ad in Ranger—p.11)

May 17—6-9pm Presbytery Meeting—First Presbyterian, Jeannette

May 22—7pm Alabaster Theatre—Delmont Presbyterian Church

May 23—Pine Springs Camp Scholarship Golf Outing (see ad in Ranger—p.11)

May 24—Redstone PW Spring Retreat at Pine Springs Camp

#### **HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY**

May 7—7am-5pm—Annual "Spring Dumpster Day" at the Washington Twp maintenance bldg. on Rt. 66 - restrictions apply.

May 14—9am—Wildflower Hike with the Murrysville Trail Alliance—Duff Park pavillion

Blood Pressure Clinic for Seniors— Monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at the Wash. Twp. Firehall 11:30am—noon Bring your table service and a covered dish.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE POKE RUN AND REDSTONE PRESBYTERY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 30TH.





#### Congratulations to Poke Run's friend Eileen Riston—5 Star Volunteer Award!

"Eileen Riston has been a volunteer at Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point since 2013 and has already accumulated a total of 774 volunteer hours. Eileen works at the hospital's wound care office and is a member of the volunteer arts and crafts committee. She also volunteers on many special projects. "She works on our craft projects for our patients at home and is always willing to help when needed and is cheerful and efficient," said Donna Owen. Eileen has established herself as a necessary part of the wound care team and has a reputation for going out of her way to greet patients with her pleasant demeanor. She is regarded as a major asset to the volunteer department and organization. "

Share your good news—
contact the church office!

JUNE RANGER DEADLINE—May 23

PICTURES—can be texted to the church email address!







## May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:30-11 Worship 10am Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	2 10am Cong Life 6pm Tech Comm. 7pm Deacons	3 7pm Budget & Finance	4 7pm Mission &Stewardship	<b>5</b> 6:45 pm Bells 7pm Choir	6	7
8:30-11 Worship 10am Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	9	10 7pm Session	11 Noon—Soup 6:45 pm Bells 7pm Choir	12	13	14
8:30-11 Worship 10am Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	16	17	18	19	20	21 3-6pm Strawberry Festival
8:30-11 Worship 10am Sunday School 7pm Bible Study	23	24	25	26 6pm— Cemetery Planting	27	28
8:30-11 Worship 10am Sunday School 7pm Bible Study		31 RIAL DAY un and Redstone				

## Music Appreciation Sunday! Sunday, May 15th

So many Poke Run members are generous with their time and musical talents—we are truly blessed by their gifts.



POKE RUN CHURCH DEACON'S
ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
Saturday, MAY 21, 2016 3-6pm
"All-you-can-eat!"
Ham BBQ, Hot Dogs, a variety of salads,
and of course......Strawberry Desserts!!!!!!
Adults \$8.00 Children \$4.00
Tickets at the Door



# "Soup for the Soul" will be Wednesday, May 11th.

Stuffed Pepper Soup – doors open at 11:30am, soup is served at noon. Come and bring a friend, help extend a Christian welcome and presence to those God brings to Poke Run!

If you care to contribute a dessert—please call Amy in the office.



Poke Run Presbyterian Church 1091 Poke Run Church Road Apollo, PA 15613 724-327-5563 pokerun@windstream.net