THE POKE RUN RANGER

OCTOBER 2018



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October is Pastor Appreciation Month



Since we have been talking about the church on Sunday mornings I thought I would continue reflecting on the church in this article. To do this I will return to the early creeds of the church and extract from them a basic tenant of our belief. Karl Barth calls this particular belief *credo*, or "I believe ... " or "I believe in one church." One church, is there only one? Drive through any small town and you will see two or four or eight or a dozen or more different church buildings. Examine them further and you will see that they are not only different on the outside, larger and small and more and less decorated, but they are even more different on the inside. Spend a little time with each group calling themselves the church and you will discover even more differences. At the risk of overusing the word, you will see that they believe different things about different things and that they even believe different things about the same things. We have the Lord's Supper, Communion, Eucharist, and sometimes only blessed bread, or in a few cases no celebration of the last meal of Christ and his disciples at all. We dip, dunk, submerge, sprinkle and so on for baptism. We expect different results from each of these namings. How is a person to figure out what goes on in "the one church?"

More to the point it is clear that we have a divided church. Since it is also God's clear intention that there be only one church, after all, there is one Christ and one Scripture which is actually quite plain on a number of points, if we will read it simply and well. That itself leads to problems of interpretation for we are all limited and sinful people.

We are divided and that means that we present a fragmented witness to the world, a witness that we can hardly expect them to believe. We cannot expect people to believe in the many contradictions that the fragmented church presents. So what is the divided church to do? One possibility is to insist that everyone believe as we do. Some churches take this view. There is their system of belief and everyone else is heretical and in great danger of spending eternity as a burning coal. The problem with a view like this one is that it ignores the sinfulness and error that comes from every human invention, and every church to one degree or another, two thousand years after the fact of the resurrection is a mixture of truth and error, of human invention.

Shall we give in to everyone, just to make them happy? Some assemblies calling themselves church take just this position. Their stance is so soft that anyone can believe almost anything. They tend to lean towards theological debating parties with no boundaries, nice people with no rules. Rules are mean and restrictive and judgmental. For them there are no Christian distinctives; we are all just one happy family, except of course those fundamentalists over there who would have us believe as they do. The problem here is that truth is sacrificed for unity and we are not forming the church of Jesus Christ. "What is demanded is the unity of the Church of Jesus Christ, not the externally satisfying co-existence and co-operation of different religious societies." (Barth)

We're not quite done here. Some people withdraw from the religious body calling itself the church. They believe in their own private interpretation. This is never the answer. What is?

Suppose that we begin to discover our central nature in Christ each in our own unique expression. Admittedly we are imperfect. Admittedly we have made and will make mistakes and take wrong turns and go down dead end rabbit trails. Yet, It seems quite real to me to think that God has given each of us our own unique vision of Christ that is true as only God can give Truth. However we can search our history and find the great truths revealed and developed there. Calvin got many things correct, as did Barth and many others of the great Christian thinkers of our past. We can learn and pray together. We can begin to piece our truths together like a great patchwork quilt, like the ones our grandmothers made. Together we can begin to see the pattern laid out before us in Scripture. Together we can begin to at least approach the one church. There will be no sacrifice of truth. Rather we will discover Christ among us perhaps in new ways and I suspect, surprising ways. The way to one church is to be the local church God calls us to be, to find where Christ is, and share our life with others.

Thank You **Thank you to our September Greeters:** Bob & Iris Kiebler, Sandy Ballas, Laurie Powers, Walt & Becky Lange, Ron & Carole Bowman, Bob & Jan Fitzgerald,

Thank you to our September Lectors: Nikki McQuaide, Shyrl Stagne, Eleanor Zerbini, Val Hansen, and Cindy McQuaide







Pastor Pete and Karen would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, meals and concerns during this difficult time of diagnosis and recovery for Karen. Healing continues.

Walt and Becky Lange would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, visits and cards during this difficult time, of Walt's brother Bill's illness and passing. Thanks too, from the Hileman family, Patty Lange, Lee Lange and the Pfeffer family.



For our prayers:

Scott Ankney, baby Noah, Carol Bartachellei, Renee Bates, Matt Beacom, Ronda Bertelle, Lil Bowman, Max Brooks, Ralph Brown, Nancy Bruner, Carolyn Buckley, William Caldwell, Nora Jane Caporali, Dave Carroll, Irene Clark, Collin, Kelly Daugherty Farley, Jim Dunmire, Sara Dyer, Shirley Elwood, Terry Fairbanks, Elmer Foley, Laurel Frey, Lee & Linda Gardener, Nancy Gearhard, Karen Goetschius, Meghan Goodiski, Marnee Gormley, Helen Grayem,

Allison Grundy, Trevor Hawk, Janine Hayle, Betty Henry, Don Henry, Brenda Hughes, Bob Irwin & family, Leland & Berenice Jones, Marjorie Kaiser, Rob Kemerer, Kim, Joann Kole, Steve Kosinski, Joel Ladik and wife Katie, Rhett LaRue and family, Dana, Allison Lengauer Jordan, Pat Lengauer, Cliff Lightner, Norm Linhart, Heather Lynn, John Mango, the McCutcheon family, Irma McDivitt, Mary Lou McKay, Amy McQuaide, Conrad McQuaide, JoAnn Miller, June & Roy Moorhead, Steve Morcheid, Sam Musmanno, Sandy Nemetz, Leanne O'Connor, Thad Overly, Sandy Pajak, Sarah Parrish, Evelyn Pfeffer, Randy Pfeffer, Winifred Powers, Reno, Rafael Rincon, Steve Roman, Mary Ellen Ross, Bob Scott, Debbie & Larry Seighman, Valerie Shondelmyer, Joanne Smith, Dorothy Sottoriva, Carol Soule, Mary Jane Staite, Dinah Staymates, Jennifer Steiner, Mildred Striner, Arlene Switzer, Bev & Mario Tagliati, Amy Teele, Craig Thompson, Jim Thompson, Jill Tocco, Sue Washburn, Adam Weaver, Linda Wengert, June Wiester, Terry Wiester, Clay Wilabee, Bruce Wise, Kate Wolford, Those gripped by addictions and Those who serve in the military, Pray for Our country, and Our world.

Please keep Mary Ellen Ross in prayer. She had hip replacement surgery. She is recovering at her daughter Rosemary's House,9401 Pembroke Circle, North Huntingdon, PA 15642.

Please keep Debbie Seighman and her family in your prayers. Debbie's brother Michael Campbell died this past week.

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.

The Community of Poke Run Presbyterian Church is a community that knows and lives the POWER OF PRAYER. If you are in need of prayer—contact the church office. Occasionally prayer requests come into the office as an immediate need—and we call on our prayer warriors by email. If you would like to be included in this Prayer Team ministry, call or email the office to add your contact information.

FROM THE Poke Run Presbyterian Church Session meeting of June 10, 2018

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

The stated meeting of the Session met in the Sunday school rooms. A quorum was present.

Session Members present: Rev. Peter Goetschius -Moderator, Connie Cauvel – Clerk, Sandy Chappell, Bob Wilson, Brett Stevenson, Laurie Martin, Caileigh Chappell Excused: Nikki McQuaide, Tom Kimble

Absent: It is with great sadness that we are dealing with the death of Chad McCutcheon, our Assistant Clerk of Session. Prayers for his Family, Friends and our Poke Run Family

MSC: To approve the Session Minutes of: May 8, 2018 MSC: To accept the Deacon Minutes of: May 1, 2018 MSC: To accept the Trustee minutes of: April 26, 2018

MSC: To: accept Treasurer's Report – 5/31/18 (Amy Wilkinson)

Correspondence - Card from COM extending their prayers

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed & Youth: Sandy Chappell -16 Camperships. July 22 will be Pine Springs Sunday.

Mission and Stewardship: Bob Wilson – did not meet. **Personnel**: Laurie Martin – working on Job Descriptions

Congregational Life: Connie Cauvel - Committee presented the following Books to our Graduates - Let the Journey Begin

by Max Lucado and Jesus Calling. Refreshments were served after the Remedy Concert. **Nominating:** Sandy Chappell & Brett Stevenson-Committee has been meeting regularly.

Technology: Brett Stevenson volunteered to work with Pete and fill Chads vacancy as best as possible.

Ad Hoc Committees

Kitchen - Sandy Chappell, Laurie Martin, Bob Wilson - Ron and Tim and Bob will meet with contractors. We need to purchase a stove 11,000 before VBS and also evaluating seek the floor, MC: Purchase a new Stove for \$12,000 Presbytery COM Liaison Report – Connie Cauvel - Vandergrift came to the Presbytery meeting and they were dismissed. COM will be praying for Pastor Pete this month. Committee was very saddened to learn of Chad McCutcheon's passing and will keep his family in their prayers

Old Business:

Pastor Pete's Vacation Dates and Session responsibilities. No Session Meetings in July and August unless necessary

New Business: In Loving Memory of Chad Alan McCutcheon October 8, 1981 – June 4, 2018 Chad served on Session: 10 yrs., 2yr term 2005, 3yrs 2007, 3 years 2013, 2 years 2016

Session will review the Cemetery Administration and Rules and Regulations policy as proposed by the Trustees and be prepared to vote on said policy at the September meeting.

Review of Poke Run Insurance Policies - Doug Ross

Cemetery discussion about grave options for non Poke Run Members - Doug Ross and Trustees **MSC** to sell cemetery plot(s) to Eric Hartman

MC July 22 will be Pine Springs Sunday at the 11:00 Service

MC To approve the letter that will be sent to each of the 16 Pine Springs Families

MC Purchase a new stove for \$12,000

Laurie reported that a Landscaping Committee is needed. Karen has done the majority of the weeding of it this year. We need to be more organized - church set a date for mulching --- Laurie will talk to the Trustees.

MSC: To order ladies cut t Shirts **MSC:** To appoint Amy as Scout Liaison

Close with prayer: Brett Stevenson Respectfully Submitted:

Adjourn: 8:45 PM Approved: September 11, 2018

Connie Cauvel (Clerk of Session)





Communion is shared during the 8:30am Early Worship service <u>every Sunday morning</u>. Additionally, Communion will be celebrated during the following Worship services in 2018.

September 9th(11am) December 2nd—1st Sunday of Advent(11am)
October 7th(11am) December 24th—Christmas Eve (5pm & 7:30pm)

Sunday, October 7, 2018

World Communion Sunday connects thousands of churches together.



There will be one worship service at 10am on Sunday, October 21st – 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 2019 Boards and the Budget & Finance Committee will present the 2019 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." as Poke Run continues to " Bring God's Word wo all people in this place and time."

Reformation Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

This year, Reformation Sunday will be marked on October 28th.



All Saints' Day in the Reformed tradition, is a time to give thanks for the lives of the *whole* people of God. Rather than putting saints on pedestals as holy people set apart in glory, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

Poke Run members who have passed since the last commemoration, will be remembered on Sunday, November 4th .

Information provided above is from the website of:



The Women's Bible Study All are welcome, the group meets weekly on Tuesdays at 10am in the upstairs "Fellowship Area."

Holy Bible

Sunday evening Bible Study with Pastor Pete. 7pm

Is this YOUR year to join in the celebration of praising God through Music? There are so many ways to do this at Poke Run.

The **Poke Run Chancel Choir** meets Wednesdays at 7pm—come when you can and join them on Sunday mornings when you can. If you can only donate time for the holidays, watch for those opportunities.

Poke Run has started a small "Praise Team" to occasionally help lead Sunday Worship music. They practice on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 6pm.—see Sean or "show-up" and join the fun.

Do you play a musical instrument and can occasionally support Worship music with that talent? See **Sean or Pastor Pete**—it would be GLORIOUS to have you!

Handbell Choir!!!! This group will begin practices on September 12th. Regular rehearsal will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 6:30pm.

Be a part of Poke Run's Musical Ministry – no musical training required! You DO NOT need to know how to read music—just come with an enthusiasm for praise!



The Poke Run Deacons - Our Deacons spend time caring for our Poke Run Community and beyond. Please keep the Board of Deacons in your prayers as they minister God's love. If you are aware of someone who Deacon Ministry might benefit from the care of our Deacons, or a visit or call from Pastor Pete, do not hesitate to contact the Church Office.

Thank you Deacons for all that you do.

Deacon Meeting Minutes: May 7, 2018

Present: Deb Ross, Nancy Kimble, Nancy Dombroske, Shyrl Stange, Sandy Ballas, Barbi Findley, Ruth O'Connor and Diane Scott Absent: Shelly Chappell-Vaia, Tammy Kelly and Debbie Seighman

Diane opened with prayer.

MSC—minutes from April meeting.

MSC—Treasurer's Report—Balance: \$3,071.19. OLD BUSINESS: Strawberry Festival June 2, 2018

NEW BUSINESS: Completed Strawberry Festival planning.

Closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth O'Connor, moderator



Poke Run is an active supporter of the Kiski Area Youth Network—KAYN



CIRCLE 2 CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH 8AM TO NOON
NEW THIS YEAR—FRIDAY NIGHT EARLY BIRD SHOPPING!
FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 19TH— 6-8PM, \$5 ADMISSION



Donations for the Rummage Sale will be received Monday through Friday, October 15-19, 2-4pm and 6-8pm. – if you cannot make these hours, call the office. 724-327-5563

NO LARGE APPLIANCES, LARGE EXERCISE EQUIPMENT, COMPUTERS, other electronics OR TELEVISIONS PLEASE—these do not sale and we are unable to get rid of them without a cost. THANK YOU

If you need help for a large item for donation, contact a Circle 2 member or the Church Office.



WOMEN

Poke Run Presbyterian Women PW

Circle 2: will meet on October 18th - 7pm—the hostess will be Amy Wilkinson and the leader will be Linda Chicka.

ALL ARE WELCOME—COME AND BRING A FRIEND!



Buccaneer Boutique – recognizing a need - Burrell High School has started a program to provide students with hygiene products, school supplies and clothing(all seasons, new & gently used, all sizes). Nicole Goodiski who recently took a teaching position with the District is coordinating a collection of these items. If you care to donate, there is a collection box located in the Narthex. Thank you!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

"Soup for the Soul" resumes on October 10th. "Vegetable Beef" If you are able to come and help, or to donate a dessert—contact the office. Soup is every second Wednesday of the month, October through

May—plan to come and certainly plan to bring a friend!

November 14th January 9th April 10th December 12th February 13th May 8th

March 13th





From the Poke Run Office

Office Hours at the Church 9:30am—2:30pm most days.

Never hesitate to contact Pastor Pete 724-454-2278.

Next Ranger Deadline: October 24th

A Directory update is Happening! I PROMISE—wanting to be as accurate and inclusive as possible.- Check with the office to verify and update your information.

724-327-5563 or email your information to <u>pokerun@graced.comcastbiz.net</u> Hoping to publish soon. Thank you.



Church

Secretary

The "FIRST FRUITS" offering is Poke Run's commitment to the larger church. Please consider an offering beyond your local giving, of \$35 per member. We have collected about 70% to date.

Legacy Giving: Did you know you can help take care of your church after you die? Remember to give to Poke Run Presbyterian Church in your estate planning.





THE POKE RUN TRUSTEES

Thank you to everyone who came out for the September "Work Day" - truly ... many hands make light work.!

Watch for more opportunities to help out the Trustees.



Put Saturday November 3rd on your calendar!

Plans are underway for an :

Ice Cream Social to benefit the <u>Poke Run Campership Fund</u>
WATCH FOR DETAILS!







"Trunk or Treat" at Poke Run Church Saturday, October 27th 10:30am—noon (Rainday, Monday October 29th 6:30-8pm)

What is "Trunk or Treat"?

"Trunk-or-Treat" is a safe Halloween alternative, where trick-or-treating is done from decorated parked car to parked car in one location.

So, we're planning: "Trunk-or-Treating" at Poke Run Church

Refreshments and Craft— in Fellowship Hall

Fall Themed Photo spot

How can you be involved?

Bring a Decorated Car! We'd love to have at least 10 cars—Register "your car" using the attached form (drop it in the offering plate or put it in the office—you can also call Amy in the office to register 724-327-5563.) Decorate your car, dress up, pass out candy—it's that simple. See some photos on the next page for ideas—or Google it on the internet. Set up at 10am. **There will be a prize for best decorated.!**

Bring some candy! We're not sure how many children will come, but we're hoping it's a great success. If you would care to donate candy to pass out—drop it off in the church office or bring it that day. (NO HOMEMADE TREATS—unfortunately we will not be able to distribute homemade treats because of health restrictions.)

Volunteer in Fellowship Hall –coffee, cider/juice, cookies—is this you? Maybe you would like to help set this up? maybe you would like to run a craft table? Maybe you can bring a couple dozen cookies?

Fall Themed Photo spot—we won't be "taking" the pictures, but we'd like to set up a place where folks can take a nice picture of their "Trick-or-Treaters." Maybe working on this is YOU?

Traffic Control—Do you have access to traffic cones? Would you be available to help direct traffic, parking and whomever God brings to Poke Run for the day?

INVITE!!!!! Most importantly invite your family, friends and neighbors. God is calling us to witness "... in this time and place!" Let people see the Poke Run Community! All children MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Have Questions or More Ideas? - Call Amy in the Church Office—724-327--5563

Call the office and let Amy kno	w how you want to help!			
I plan to have a car!	I can direct traffic	I can help make a photo spot		
I can donate candy	I have traffic cones	I can set up Fellowship Hall		
I can donate cookies	This is what I can do:_			
I want to run a craft				
I can help in Fellowship Hall				
I will pray for the day! I will	pray for all who find thei	ir way to Poke Run!		



Do it with a friend! Make it as simple as you want. The point is to host a safe and fun "Trunk or Treat" for our community. They will see a congregation that enjoys Christian community













Poke Run Sunday School!!

Classes meet each Sunday at 10am.

FOR THE KIDS Children's Class!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Meeting in the

West Wayside room (on the left at the end of the hall) - using the David C. Cook series titled "God's World and God's People"

Join in the fellowship area for refreshment and conversation between the early service and Sunday School.

FREE—in the Narthex: copies of the two publications,

The Upper Room - daily devotional, and Today's Christian Living - magazine



HAPPENING IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Oct 5-6 Pine Springs—Women in the Woods

Oct 13 PW Fall Gathering, First Presbyterian Irwin

Oct 19-21 Pine Springs Camp—"The BIG ONE" grades 6-12

Oct 26—Open mic Gospel Night—Delmont Presbyterian



Friendship Dinner—2nd Wed of every month 5-6pm, United Presb. New Kensington

HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Weekends through October 21—Autumnfest at Seven Springs!

Oct. 4 Alle-Kiski Job Fair, Penn State New Kensington

Oct 6-7 Delmont "Apple Fest"

Oct 12-14—Ligonier Highland Days

Oct 31—Washington Twp Trick-or-Treating 6-8pm

Farmer's Markets:

Tuesdays—3-6pm, Greensburg—Lynch Field April—November

Wednesday 3-5:30pm & Saturdays 9-noon, Indiana—Church St June—October

Thursdays—3-6:30pm, Vandergrift—Columbia Avenue June—October

Saturdays—9-noon, Monroeville—Community Park March—November

Saturdays—8-noon, Ligonier May—October

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Congratulations to

Jack & Eleanor Zerbini on the
birth of ANOTHER new greatgrandson Levi Jack Zerbini.
Proud parents are
Steve & Samantha Zerbini,
proud grandparents
Ed & Mardi Zerbini.



Gearhard Farms presents:
The 19th annual Corn Maze
This year's Corn Maze is open
through the last weekend of
October.

Www.gearhardfarms.com for more information.





If you have appropriate News to share in the Ranger—please submit it to the office. The next Ranger deadline is October 24th. The Office can use emailed photos from cameras or cell phones. We'd love to include more pictures from church functions.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7pm Deacons	2 7pm Budget & Finance	3 6:pm Praise Team 7pm Choir 7pm Mission & Stewardship	4	5	6 Wedding
7World Communion 8:30 & 11am Worship 10am SunSch 7pm Bible Study	8	9 7pm Session	10 noon "Soup for the Soul" 6:30pm Bells 7pm Choir		12	13
14 8:30 & 11am Worship 10am SunSch 7pm Bible Study	15 RUMMAGE SALE PREP	16 RUMMAGE SALE PREP	17 RUMMAGE SALE PREP 6pm Praise Team 7pm Choir	18 RUMMAGE SALE PREP Circle	19 RUMMAGE SALE - Early Bird 6-8pm	20 RUMMAGE SALE 8am- noon Wedding
21 <u>Congregation</u> <u>Meeting</u> 10am Worship 7pm Bible Study	22	23	24 6:30pm Bells 7pm Choir	25 7pm Trustees	26	27 Trunk or Treat!!
28 8:30 & 11am Worship 10am SunSch 7pm Bible Study	29 Trunk or Treat (rainday)	30	31 7pm Choir		Co Co	300

Poke Run Presbyterian Church

1091 Poke Run Church Road

Apollo, PA 15613 Phone: 724-327-5563

E-mail: pokerun@graced.comcastbiz.net



Sundays: 8:30am Worship Service,

11am Worship Service

Sunday School at 10am

Bible Study: Sunday 7pm Tuesday/Women 10am

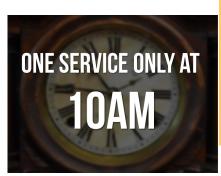
WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS—9:30am-2:30pm

Poke Run Annual Congregational Meeting—Sunday, October 21st.



ONE 10am service.

Luncheon following the meeting! - All are welcome to lunch!



Rev. Peter M. Goetschius **Pastor**

Amy Wilkinson
Secretary/Treasurer
Shyrl Stange
Financial Administrator
Sean O'Neil
Choir & Musical Director
Linda Moorhead
Early Service Musical Director
Tom Kimble
Cemetery Administrator
Doug Ross
Poke Run Board of Trustees, President

Connie Cauvel

Clerk Of Session