

# COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MT. BETHEL AND PORTLAND MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Rev. John H. Heinsohn  
Minister of Visitation

I have several points I want to mention this month.

1. The Annual meeting was held on Sunday 1/28 with 20 people present. After pizza, the 2018 budget was presented, officers were elected and the financial report from 2017 was received. There are extra 2017 Annual Reports available for any who might want one.

2. This Saturday, (2/3) at the church, I will be meeting with session, deacons and anyone else who might be interested for a workshop on "Boundaries." I attended such a presentation last fall and thought that there were many good things to share with the leaders and people of our congregation. We will gather at 9 with some coffee and begin the session shortly after that. It will end around noon. All are welcome to come and deal with this timely topic

3. I am scheduled for hip replacement surgery on 2/6 in Allentown. If all goes as well as my first hip replacement five years ago, the recovery time should be at a minimum. Please pray that the surgeon and team have a good rest the night before and that the Lord is gracious with healing mercies. Thank you!

4. Lent begins on Wednesday, 2/14, but there will be no formal service that night. However the sanctuary will be open, lit and heated from 6-8 pm for personal prayer and meditation. I expect to be present during that time and can offer individual prayers with people, as well as anoint with ashes to those requesting. I personally find that times of personal meditation in a space designed to be quiet and worshipful are most refreshing. I invite you to try it if you have not done so before.

5. The Soup and Study for Lent will be held on the four Wednesdays of March. The topic will be, "The Issues Raised by the Protestant Reformation that Are Still Relevant Today". We will gather for lunch starting at 12 noon and concluding by 1:30. The Study is open to all.



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## **Worship Service:**

10:30 a.m.

Sept. 10, 2017– June 10, 2018

9:30 a.m. June 17<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 2, 2018

## **Holy Communion:**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month

## **Sunday School:**

9:15 a.m.—September through May

## **Session Members:**

Jonathan Rush – Clerk  
Bonnie Pearce, Lillian Williams,  
Laura Bocko, Kevin Correll,  
Suzy Armstrong, Mike Feeney

# Church DEACONS

February's deacon of the month is Heather Delp



- February 3 – Nancy Seas
- February 5 – Mackenzie Silvius
- February 6 – Sonia Thiel,  
Allyse Kavanaugh
- February 11 – Ashley Potter
- February 13 – Laura Bocko
- February 21 – Joshua Seas
- February 22 – Esther Nichols,  
Karen Kennedy

**February 12 - Anniversary of Paul and Gloria Raesly**



Please remember to bring your donation of a non-perishable food item for **PUMP** the first Sunday of each month. The next collection date is February 4th.



The Women of Community Presbyterian have decided not to meet in, February and March due to the winter weather, and instead will meet during the summer months. Our next Bible study and business meeting will be Tuesday, April 3rd.

# BOUNDARY

Boundary Workshop led by John Heinsohn will be held on Saturday morning February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. *Boundaries* material will be presented from the gathering he attended in October. Coffee will be available at 9:00 and class will start at 9:30.

These will also fulfill the every-four-year requirement for Lehigh Presbytery Teaching Elders, and be good education for others in your congregation.



On February 18th, The Worship Committee will host a sweetheart luncheon for all to enjoy, in Fellowship Hall following the worship service.



Recently, Blanket Sunday was held in our Sanctuary. Members demonstrated how the funds collected will help purchase blankets that aid people recovering from disasters.

If worship is to be canceled due to inclement weather, please tune to WFMZ (Channel 69) Storm Center that can be accessed on line. You may also sign up for text alerts to your cell phone. If unsure, please call Jonathan Rush, Mike Feeney or Heather Delp.



Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting, is the first day of Lent in Western Christianity. It occurs 46 days before Easter and can fall as early as February 4 or as late as March 10. Ash Wednesday is observed by many Western Christians, including Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Roman Catholics, and some Baptists.

The **ashes used** on **Ash Wednesday** are from the burned palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. Since the palms are consecrated it is not proper to dispose of them in the garbage as Palm Sunday comes around again, so the proper disposition is to burn them and **use** them in a liturgical function.

Groundhog Day, is a popular tradition celebrated in the United States and Canada on February 2. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerging from its burrow on this



day sees a shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will persist for six more weeks, and if he does not, due to cloudiness, spring season will arrive early.

Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called

"Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers.

While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present.—The History Channel





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# MONTH of February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 	3
4 Rev. Nichols Worship 10:30 Sunday School 9:15 am PUMP Food Collection	5  AA 8:00 p.m.	6  AA 8:00 p.m.	7	8	9	10
11 Rev. Nichols Worship 10:30 Sunday School 9:15 am	12  AA 8:00 p.m.	13  AA 8:00 p.m.	14 Ash Wednesday   Sanctuary open 6-8 pm	15	16	17
18 Rev. Heinsohn Worship 10:30 Sunday School 9:15 am 11:30 Sweetheart Luncheon	19 President's Day   AA 8:00 p.m.	20  AA 8:00 p.m.	21	22	23	24
25 Rev. Nichols Worship 10:30 Sunday School 9:15 am Annual Meeting	26  AA 8:00 p.m.	27  AA 8:00 p.m.	28			