

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MT. BETHEL AND PORTLAND

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Rev. John H. Heinsohn
Minister of Visitation

April 2026
Volume 13, Issue 4

Most mainline churches today struggle with the competing secular culture which offers so many tantalizing options to Christian worship and church activities. Our younger generations increasingly are not being raised in Sunday school, which results in a great deal of ignorance regarding the Christian life and what the Bible says. Our congregations are increasingly older members who are puzzled as to how to reach the younger folks.

Jesus words about new wine not being compatible with old wine skins comes to mind. The old wine skins in our context would be the church programs that worked in the 1950's but don't seem to fit in 2026. The new wine could be represented by the younger generations raised on screens, loud fast-paced music, and high tech. What are churches such as ours to do?

In spite of all the new stuff we are surrounded with, people of all ages still have common needs. We are becoming aware that there is widespread loneliness. As the old structures of society (churches, volunteer groups, etc.) are diminishing, the social needs often go unmet. Extended families are scattered all over the country creating separation. Many younger people suffer from addictions of various sorts.

One church growth expert years ago advised churches to "Find a need and fill it". That may be part of the answer today. There are many unmet needs, but can we see them and find ways to help meet them?

At the recent men's breakfasts, some of the newer younger men expressed the need for men to gather and do things together. Fostering male friendships might be one facet of the needed new wine. I don't have many answers in how to find and encourage newer ministries, but I am committed to trying and I hope the congregation is open and willing as well.

Please note the remaining Holy events this week as highlighted in this newsletter.

Blessings to us all in this Easter season.



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Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study: 9:15 am

Holy Communion:

1st Sunday of the Month

Session Members:

Deb Llewellyn

Laura Bocko

Mike Feeney

Lillian Williams

Jonathan Rush—Clerk of Session



Holy Week and Easter Sunday Services

Mundy Thursday- communion will be held on 4/2 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary

Easter Sunrise Service will be at **6:30** am at the Heinsohn Farm
301 Heinsohn Hill, Rd, Bangor, PA.

Easter Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 am. Rev. Heinsohn

All denominations are welcome to attend these services.



Below is the link for our Zoom Worship each Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8336293018?pwd=TmJoNnF1Zy8ranRjT3RMc0I5c3RiZz09>

Meeting ID: 833 629 3018 Passcode: 074935



Prayer requests are to be made to Laura Bocko, Prayer Chain leader. If you would like to participate in the prayer chain, please contact Laura.

Laura's contact info is: (610) 452-2620 or laurabocko24@gmail.com

Remembering Congregation Members in prayer: Jane Horn and family, Henry Deibel, Betty Meixsell, Marcia Pensack, Michelle Dinnen, Phyllis Boisselle, Wanda Farrell, and John Pearce.

*In
Loving
Memory
of*

We have learned of the passing of Lisa Sandt on March 29th.

For those who do not know Lisa, she was our organist a few years back.

Please keep her and her family in prayer.



Bible Study – Each Sunday morning at 9:15 am. All are welcome in person or on Zoom.

Please note Bible Study will not be held on Easter Sunday or April 12th and will resume on April 19th.



Maundy Thursday- communion will be held on 4/2 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunrise Service will be at 6:30 am at the Heinsohn Farm, 301 Heinsohn Hill Rd, Bangor, PA.

Easter Sunday Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 am., Rev. Heinsohn

Session will meet on Wednesday, April 8th at 7:00 PM via Zoom



The Worship Committee will not be hosting the Spring Tea Party this year.



Coffee Hour, Sunday, April 26th, after worship.



All men are invited—Saturday, April 18th at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.



4/10 — Lillian Williams
Allen Llewellyn
4/11— Jonathan Rush
4/15— Shirley Rush

April 12th - Anniversary
Allen & Deb Llewellyn

Our Family Photo Album

Each Wednesday in March (11, 18, 25), Pastor John held a Soup and Study on the Prodigals of the Bible. Below are picture of the attendees.



Our Family Photo Album

Lite/Light Luncheon held on March 8th in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Worship Committee.



The yummy comestibles that were enjoyed by all who attended



April 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 <i>Maundy Thursday with Communion</i>	3 	4
5  6:30 Service Rev. Heinsohn 10:30—Worship Rev. Heinsohn	6 AA 8:00 pm	7 10:00 Women of CPC AA 8:00 pm	8 7:00 Session	9	10	11
12 Rev. Heinsohn 10:30—Worship	13 AA 8:00 pm	14 AA 8:00 pm	15	16	17	18 8:30 Men's Breakfast
19 9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship	20 AA 8:00 pm	21 AA 8:00 pm	22	23	24	25
26 9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship 11:30 Coffee Hour	27	28	29	30		