

THE NEXUS

NOVEMBER 2019

Presbyterian Church
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Nicki's News

Romans 12:15 (ESV) Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn

I sit here to write this just shortly after a meeting with my CPE supervisor, discussing the events of the past few weeks. During this conversation and reflection time, I expressed how God has been involved in the process of me coming to serve here at ESPC from the very beginning. Now I could make a list, but it would be too long to fit in this short newsletter article. However, I will highlight some things that came to me recently. God knew that I needed to be here for my grandparents and that it would have been very difficult for me to have moved away. God also knew that I would need a church family that was healthy, loving, and supportive which, of course, describes this church family. A church family that followed what Romans 12:15 says. This church has been a blessing to me in many ways and God is very active here. As we finish up this year's stewardship campaign, I can't wait to see what God can do in 2020 with this amazing church family's time, talents, and treasures.

Blessings,
Pastor Nicki

Nexus Sponsor

This issue of the Nexus is being sponsored by Ron and Connie Powell. If you are interested in sponsoring a future Nexus issue, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex (next to the flower sign-up sheet). The cost is \$35.00.

Thank You

I can't express enough how grateful and thankful I am for this church family's support during my and my family's time of grief. I really appreciated all the cards, flowers, notes, phone calls and words of support. You truly are an amazing church family. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for sharing in my grief and holding me up in both prayer and deeds during these past few weeks. My grandmother also expresses her sincere gratefulness, as you not only support me, but also lifted her up during this time. She thanks you for the flowers, cards, phone calls, gifts of remembrance and prayers, that continue to support her through this very difficult time.

Pastor Nicki

I thank everyone for concerns and prayers for my mother, Arlene. Hospice stopped her medications, and she improved. She was discharged from hospice in October.

Thanks be to God!

~ Jenny Collins

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle group will meet on **Tuesday, November 12th** at noon in the Lounge. All women are welcome to attend. Please bring your lunch.



Operation Christmas Child

If you have packed a shoebox, or purchased items for a shoebox, they must be turned in by Sunday, **November 3rd**.

Anniversaries

Celebrating an anniversary in **November** are:

Bob and Diane Huffman

David and Barbara Braithwaite

Greg and Lisa Menio



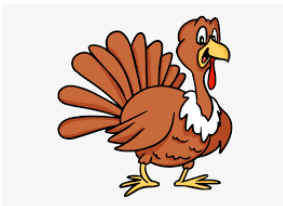
Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in **November** are:

**Chris Vogel, Lisa Finelli, Stacey Mattern,
Tim Swanson, Kathy Kauderer, Allan Erbe,
Sandy Gordon, Christy Pedersen,
Donald Hopkins and Linda Schaller.**

Turkeys Wanted!

If you have earned a free turkey from your local grocery store, and don't need it, please consider donating it. The Deacons will be collecting turkeys to give to families in need before Thanksgiving. Either contact Linda Schaller at 570-856-4155, or just drop it off at the church during regular office hours.



Congratulations.....

Recently Joel Lawrence was honored with induction into the East Stroudsburg High School South Music Hall of Fame. Joel is the son of Phil and Theresa Lawrence and a 1997 graduate of East Stroudsburg High School South. He began playing alto sax in 3rd grade at J.M. Hill Elementary. In high school, Joel participated in Chorale, Chorus and 4 years of musicals and theatre productions. Joel earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Visual and Media Arts from Emerson College in 2001. He served as the Environmental Design Producer for the Crown Point Festival in New York City in 2007 and as a Music and Arts Educator and Site Director for the Arts and Literacy After School Program, NYC. Joel is the co-host and performer for a long running Karaoke show that has traveled to music festivals and performance venues across the United States, cruises and as far away as Iceland. Joel also serves as a DJ for weddings, events and clubs. During the week you will find him working as a Music Producer and as co-leader of his daughter's Girl Scout Troop. He resides in New Jersey with his wife Elizabeth and Daughter, Charlotte.

Mission Committee - Yard Sale Donations

We thought you might like to know where the yard sale fundraiser monies have been distributed to date. The yard sale this year raised \$5419.00 and, with the approval of Session, the following charities/organizations have received the following donations:

Camp Kirkwood--\$500; the ESPC Youth Fund--\$1500; Alice Visionary Foundation Project-Kenya--\$500; Angel's Closet--\$250; the Garden of Giving--\$100; and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)--\$500.

Advertising expenses--Pocono Record--\$85.00.

The balance of the money will be donated to our church for children's activities/trips.



Brighter Christmas

As Tim Swanson pointed out one Sunday, we all “take many things for granted”. In the upcoming months, we frequently may say or hear the greeting, “Merry Christmas”. Most of us have fond memories of this holiday season. Unfortunately, what most of us take for granted at Christmas time is not a possibility for many of our local families with young children.

Brighter Christmas has been a part of this church for many years. Looking back over previous years shows that we have supported over 40 families. That translates into over 120 local children having a Brighter Christmas, thanks to your generosity.

In the next few weeks, we will have the opportunity to extend this mission to additional local families and their children. We plan to have the sign-up sheets available Sunday, November 24, 2019. Please consider signing up to purchase a gift for a local child so that they may have a Brighter Christmas.

The Mission Committee thanks you for your past and future support. We look forward to continuing this wonderful Outreach Mission and helping more children have a Brighter Christmas.

The Mission Committee

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the December issue is Monday, **November 25th**.



Community Opportunities

Project One Step

The Time Is Now!! **Church Women United** will be celebrating World Community Day on Saturday, November 2nd at 2:00 p.m. This event will take place at St. John’s Lutheran Church on 9th Street in Stroudsburg. Their theme is “Resolve to Love”.

There will be a benefit concert, benefitting **Fill A Glass With Hope** on Sunday, November 17th at 2:30 p.m. at Stroudsburg High School. Special guest, Pepper Choplin will be there.

Please note that all these Community Opportunities are posted on our bulletin boards in the Narthex. Please check there for more information on each one.

Treasurer and Stewardship Report through September 2019

Income:	\$176,159.00
Expenses:	\$175,138.00
Net	\$ 1,021.00
Year-to-Date Giving:	
Pledge Giving:	\$ 11,250.00
Non-Pledge Giving:	\$ 1,168.00

What Is a Support Group?

Because of our changing times, many people going through difficulties are in need of nurturing, encouragement, intimacy and consolation. Some may be lucky enough to receive support from family and friends, but sometimes they cannot quite understand what it is like to be in our situation. Support and self-help groups involve regular meetings, where people experiencing similar problems or life transitions, come together to offer each other support and encouragement. In the last 25 years, there has been an increase in the number of support and self-help groups, which display the need for them in our communities.



Opportunities for Support at ESPC

We have two opportunities for support that are open to not only to this church, but also to any in our community. If you know someone who might be interested, please share the information with them.

Bobbie Long will be leading a support group for those suffering with Chronic Illness and their families. We also have the Caring Cancer Support group that is open to patients and family members of those affected by cancer.

CHRONIC ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP

Will meet the first Monday of every month. November's meeting will be **November 4th** from 10:30-12:00 p.m. in conference room 3.

CARING CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Will meet the second Tuesday of every month. November's meeting will be **November 12th** from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in conference room 3.

Vision Statement

With GOD'S amazing grace and the Holy Spirit present with us, we, the congregation of the East Stroudsburg Presbyterian Church, are becoming a transformed people by GOD's love through Jesus.

We are called to bear witness to GOD's love in our words and actions. We strive to welcome, recognize and seek out all as children of GOD. We are inspired through song and the Word. We joyfully praise GOD.

With GOD'S amazing grace and the Holy Spirit present with us, we, the congregation of the East Stroudsburg Presbyterian Church, are becoming a transformed people by GOD's love through Jesus.

We commit our hearts, time and varied talents to our church's mission. We strive to share and to give thanks for our bountiful gifts. We seek to reflect GOD'S love by first loving ourselves as GOD loves us, thus enabling us to love all others.

With GOD'S amazing grace and the Holy Spirit present with us, we, the congregation of the East Stroudsburg Presbyterian Church, are becoming a transformed people by GOD's love through Jesus.

We strive to be humble servants of GOD. Through GOD'S presence in our lives we have a shared purpose for discipleship. Through continual service, we seek to become the voice and hands of GOD in our community and in our world.

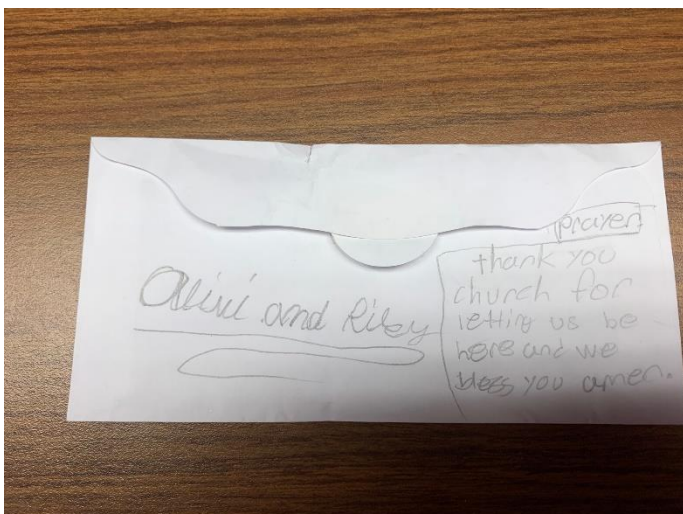
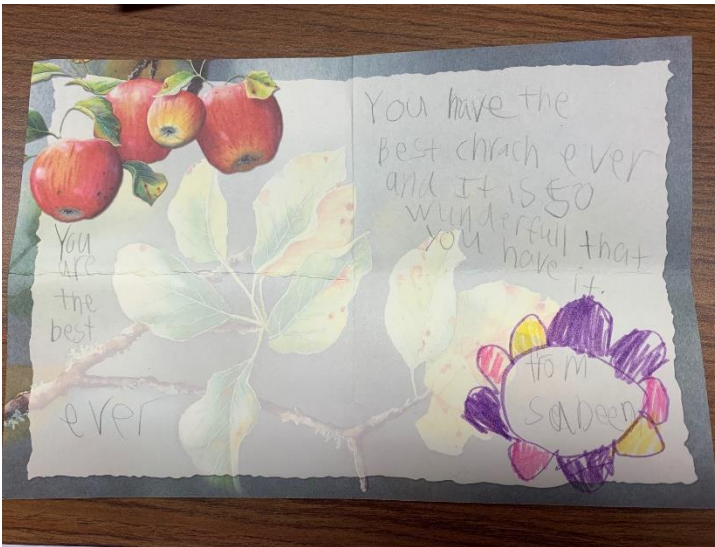
With GOD'S amazing grace and the Holy Spirit present with us, we, the congregation of the East Stroudsburg Presbyterian Church, are joyfully striving to become that beacon set upon a hill that Christ Jesus instructed us to be and so glorify GOD.

Confirmation Class

Thank you all who have volunteered to support our Confirmation Class with food and supervision. The class has been going great. I wanted to share with you some things regarding this year's confirmation class. This year's class is working hard on their *statement of faith* in which they will share with the church in early January. They are to be confirmed on January 12th and I hope that you mark your calendars for this joyous day when we welcome our two newest members to the church.

But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Luke 18:16

It is wonderful to share with you all the blessings that come from children who love and appreciate this church. Here are some of the most recent blessings that children have shared with me and I want to share with you.



Nexus Staff

Pastor: Nicole Vogel

Editor: Jen Carmella

Contributing Editors:

Ellie Buff, Jenny Collins, Theresa Lawrence, Bobbie Long, Elda McCoy Erbe, Sandy Rydell, Linda Schaller, Judy Schreck, Lisa Swanson, Children from the Church!

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Ed. Every Sunday @9:00 am Worship, every Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion Sunday Fellowship Hour, 11:00 Confirmation Class. 11:00 Deacon's Mtg., 11:15	Chronic Illness Support, 10:30- noon					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Pledge Sunday Fellowship Hour, 11:00 Session Mtg. 11:15		CCC Support Group, 10:00-11:30 Women's Circle, noon				Fellowship Movie Night!
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Confirmation Class. 11:00 Fellowship Hour, 11:00 Congregational Meeting, 11:15 Mission Comm. Mtg., 11:15						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Confirmation Class Deacon's Coffee Hour, 11:00	Nexus Deadline			Happy Thanksgiving! Church Closed	Church Closed	

