

THE NEXUS

OCTOBER 2019

Presbyterian Church
570-421-5821

55 Smith Street
epresbyterian@gmail.com

E. Stroudsburg, PA 18301
epresbyterian.com

Nicki's News

2 Corinthians 9:7(NRSV)

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

October is when the greens give way to beautiful oranges, reds, yellows and all shades of fall colors. It is also the time of year when we begin our annual stewardship campaign. There has been much planning going on for the upcoming year. In planning, Allan Erbe reminded me that this coming year is 2020 and that 2020 is also something we think of when speaking about clear vision. This pledge season, we will be hearing about several ministries of our church that are planned for 2020 that seek to fulfill this church's vision and mission. Twenty-Two brings us many opportunities because it will be my first full year as your pastor. I feel blessed, joy-filled and energized about this coming year. I believe this church can be the beacon on a hill, giving glory to God for all that has been given to us. I say this often because I truly believe in what 2 Corinthians 9:7 says. God has blessed us greatly and that should fill us with joy and a spirit of gratefulness that should move us to faithful stewardship and abundant giving of our time, talents and treasures. Over the stewardship season, you will be hearing, not only about these great ministries, but what the Bible says about stewardship. I pray that God moves in our spirits to give with a pure and right heart, a heart that is full of thankfulness for all that God has blessed us. I am challenging myself and this congregation to step out in faith and give just a little more of our time, talents and treasures this year.

Blessings,
Pastor Nicki



Operation Christmas Child

During the month of October, the Church's youth will be collecting shoe boxes filled with gifts for children all over the world for **Operation Christmas Child**. Please join us in bringing the good news of Christmas to a child in need of hope, through shoe boxes filled with surprises! Here are some of the ways you can be a part of OCC:

1. Pack a shoe box of gifts at home and bring it to the church by November 3rd. Please note the cost of shipping and processing each box is \$9.00.
2. Add gift items to our collection box in the Narthex. We will have an information table set up each Sunday with lists if needed items and their quantities.
3. Provide a donation to help with shipping costs. If you choose to write a check, please make it payable to **ESPC** only and note **O.C.C.** in the memo line.
4. Pray for the children who will be receiving our gifts.

Anniversaries

Celebrating an anniversary in **October** are:

Rick and Rebecca Sanker

Felix and Margie Staffaroni

Mike and Norene Rosso

Jim and Carol Hall

Horace and Sonya Cole

Bob and Lisa Elliott

Kyle and Daisha Kintz



Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in **October** are:

**Rich Laverdure, Charlotte Currie, Horace Cole,
Janice Delaney, Rylee Mehringer,
Sienna Mehringer and Philip Lawrence**

Adult Bible Study Class

Join teacher Tim Swanson as we continue to study the Bible in historical context. We will again use a series from “Focus on the Family”, created by Ray Vanderbilt Laan, which uses a DVD of the areas being discussed and a study guide.

This series is entitled “Walk as Jesus Walked”, and will be taught in 10 meetings, beginning September 29th until Advent. We will meet each Sunday morning at 9:00 in the Senior High room of our church. OLDER YOUTH and all ADULTS are invited. There will be 5 topics in the study. They are:

1. Run!—The Passion of Elijah
2. Learning to Walk Like Jesus—Paul’s Journey to Rome
3. An Unlikely Disciple
4. Why Christians Suffer—The Weight of Gethsemane
5. Don’t Forget Us

Please join Tim and the class at 9:00 am each Sunday for these stimulating and informative sessions.



Peace & Global Witness Offering

The Peace & Global Witness Offering (September 22 through October 6) begins the worldwide focus of churches, helping to end suffering and violence, both here in our community, and around the world. The theme this year is *A Season For Peace*. It's a time for encouragement, challenge, inspiration and education. We, as individuals, may feel that we can't make a difference in the world, but collectively we can achieve great things. On October 6, World Communion Day, we will receive the congregation's offering. Special offering envelopes are in the pews. This offering allows our church to keep 25% of the money collected, which will be used locally. The Mission Committee would like to thank you for your support for this annual offering.

© Randy Glasbergen
www.glasbergen.com



**“If I send my prayer as a text message,
will I get a faster reply?”**



Trunk or Treat!!!

A trunk or treat is where members of the church dress up their car trunks and hand out candy. It can be anything from a few simple dollar store Halloween decorations, to a big theme-based trunk. In the past, I've seen one trunk decorated like cookie monster from sesame street, a fun game of life-size candy land leading up to the trunk, a big spinning wheel with different little prizes, etc. The members of the car hand out candy to the children who go from trunk to trunk, trick or treating. Members handing out the candy, feel free to get dressed up! It's a cute way to have children enjoy trick or treating, while parents feel a little more comfortable than trick or treating house to house. We see this as an opportunity get to know those in our community and build relationships with them.

So, please join us on Sunday, October 27th at 2:00 p.m. This will take place in our lower parking lot, down back. Bring some candy and treats and be ready to have out those goodies to all the little children who come out. Also, please feel free to take a poster and hang them or hand them out where you might be able to. Most of all, encourage anyone you know to come and either participate, or come trick or treating!!

~Emily Cecchini

Nexus Sponsor

This issue of the Nexus is being sponsored anonymously. 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.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class is for students in 7th – 8th grade. This year's confirmation classes will be different than years past. The great news is we will be holding a joint confirmation class with our sister church, Stroudsburg Presbyterian. Classes have begun and will run until December 15th. They are held every Sunday after church from 11:30 - 1:00. We will be meeting at ESPC in September and November and at First Stroudsburg in October and December. Lunch will be provided.

Is God calling you? Volunteers needed for confirmation class:

Love to support the Youth...well here is an easy way to do so. This year's confirmation class is meeting on Sundays and will need lunch provided on the weeks they meet here at ESPC. Additionally, we are looking for people interested in being adult leaders in the class. If you can help or are interested in helping, but want to know more, please contact Jen or Pastor Nicki in the office.

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the November issue is Monday, **October 28th**.

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle group will meet on **Tuesday, October 8th** at noon in the Lounge. We will be doing lesson 4 in our study guide, 'God's Promise'. All women are welcome to attend. Please bring your lunch.



Community Opportunities

Church Women United

Church Women United of Monroe County will be having a 60th Anniversary Luncheon on Friday, October 18th at Stroudsmoor Country Inn at 12:00 noon. The cost is \$25 per person. All women of the church are invited to the Celebration.

Women's Resources Candlelight Vigil

There will be two opportunities to honor victims and survivors of Domestic Violence. Thursday, October 3rd and Tuesday, October 22nd, both at 6:00 p.m.

Pound the Pavement Purple

Join us for a 5K Race/Walk on Sunday, October 26th. Registration is at 7:00 a.m. and the race begins at 8:00 a.m.

Project One Step

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.

A Huge Thank You!

I want to thank the Session, and the entire congregation here at ESPC, for celebrating my 20th year anniversary as secretary for your church. I was overwhelmed with the generosity of your gifts and the wonderful lunch I was treated to. It was greatly appreciated. I have truly enjoyed my years here and consider it a real pleasure to work with and for, all of you.

~Thank you, Jen

Treasurer and Stewardship Report Through August 31, 2019

Income:	\$161,695.00
Expenses:	\$158,983.00

Net \$ 2,712.00

Year-to-Date Giving:

Pledge Giving: \$ 87,925.00

Non-Pledge Giving: \$ 5,080.00

Tractor for Sale

The Church is selling their old riding John Deere mower. If you are interested in purchasing it, please contact Jen, in the church office at 570-421-5821.



What Is a Support Group?

Because of our changing times, many 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.

Starting in October, our very own Bobbie Long will be leading a support group for those suffering with chronic disease 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

Monday October 7th from 10:30-12:00pm in conference room 3. (How often it will meet will be determined by group).

CARING CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Begins October 8th from 10:00-11:30am and will meet every second Tuesday of the month 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.

Nexus Staff

Pastor: Nicole Vogel

Editor: Jen Carmella

Contributing Editors:

Ellie Buff, Emily Cecchini, Allan Erbe, Elda McCoy Erbe, Bobbie Long, Sandy Rydell, Lisa Swanson, Tim Swanson

October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Worship Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Adult Ed. Classes, 9:00</p>		1	2	3	4	5
<p>6</p> <p>World Communion Sunday</p> <p>Peace & Global Witness Offering</p> <p>Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class, 11:30-1:00</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Chronic Illness support Group, 10:30-noon</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Caring Cancer Support Group, 10:00-11:30</p> <p>Women's Circle, noon</p>	9	10	11	12
<p>13</p> <p>Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Deacon's meeting, 11:15 am</p> <p>Session Meeting, 11:15 am</p> <p>Confirmation Class, 11:30-1:00</p>	14	15	16	17	<p>18</p> <p>CWU 60th Anniversary Luncheon</p>	19
<p>20</p> <p>Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class, 11:30-1:00</p>	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>27</p> <p>Trunk or Treat! 2:00 pm</p> <p>Confirmation Class, 11:30-1:00</p> <p>Deacon's Coffee Hour</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Nexus Deadline</p>	29	30	<p>31</p> <p>Happy Halloween!</p>		