

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MT. BETHEL AND PORTLAND

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Rev. John H. Heinsohn
Minister of Visitation

February 2026
Volume 13, Issue 2

I have always been fascinated with conversion stories that resulted in transformed lives. The history of Christianity is full of such stories and they are especially interesting because no two of them are the same. I believe one of the reasons our friends from more conservative churches are doing better than most mainline protestant churches is because they place great emphasis on conversions. If we believe there is a spiritual force that uses us to facilitate conversions than we will seek such a force in our life and in the lives of others, especially in those lives who seem lost to addictions and alienation.

During three Wednesdays in lent, (3/11, 3/18, 3/25) the Soup and Study series will focus on some conversions that have been quite consequential using several resources but especially a book by Ruth Graham entitled, *'Prodigals and Those who love them: Words of Encouragement for those Who Wait'*. One of the person's life story she highlights is that of Fyodor Dostoevsky, the famous Russian author. His conversion is so profound that it permeates all his writings.

For those of you who are great readers, I encourage you to become familiar with some of his writings. Here are a few of the better-known works: *Crime and Punishment*, *The Brothers Karamazov*, *The Grand Inquisitor*, *The Idiot*, *Poor Folk and Other Stories*. In one of my sermons in March, I will try to include references to Dostoevsky's life story.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18th. We will not be having a service here that night but it is good to mark the day that begins the journey with Jesus as he 'turns his face' toward Jerusalem resulting in the events of Holy Week (3/29- 4/4).

I have been sponsoring a Men's Breakfast about every other month. The attendance has grown and there is a desire to try monthly meetings. So, we will meet again this month on Saturday, February 21 at 8:30. We have been having several visitors attending. Guests are most welcome.



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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



Below is the link for our Zoom Worship each Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8336293018?pwd=TmJoNnF1Zy8ranRjT3RMc0l5c3RiZz09>

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 and David Horn, Henry Deibel, Michelle Dinnen, Betty Meixsell, Marcia Pensack, Phyllis Boisselle, Troy Brodt, Carol Farleigh's family, Bonnie Pearce and Laura Bocko.



February 3—Nancy Seas

February 6—Sonya Thiel

Allysse Kavanaugh

February 11—Ashley Kelton

February 13—Laura Bocko

February 21—Joshua Seas

February 22—Karen Kennedy



The Organ Management Team—
I-r, Heather Delp, Sharon Potter, and Laura Bocko.



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 1st, following worship.

Our deacons will host a luncheon following worship.

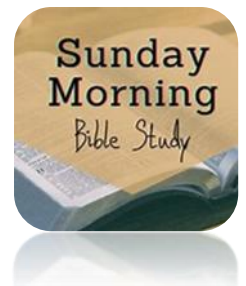
Session will meet on Wednesday, February 11th at 7:00PM, via Zoom.



All men are invited—Saturday, February 21st at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

All men and guests are invited to attend.

The Sunday morning Bible study continues at 9:15 am, studying the Gospel of Luke. The zoom account will also be used so that others who are unable to come to Mt. Bethel can join in. The study will be zoomed each week by Rev. John.





Our Per Capita Commitment for 2026 to the Lehigh Presbytery is \$50.00 per member or a total of \$1,950.00. Your check can be made payable to Community Presbyterian and placed in the offering plate. Please mark for "Per Capita"

The Women of Community Presbyterian Church is now in winter recess and will not meet until April.



February 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|
| 1 9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship 11:30 Congregation- al Meeting 11:30 Luncheon | 2 AA 8:00 pm  <i>Groundhog Day</i> | 3 AA 8:00 pm | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship | 9 AA 8:00 pm | 10 AA 8:00 pm | 11 7:00 Session | 12 | 13 | 14  |
| 15 9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship | 16  <i>Presidents' Day</i> AA 8:00 pm | 17 AA 8:00 pm | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 <i>Men's Break- fast</i> 8:30 am |
| 22 9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship | 23 AA 8:00 pm | 24 AA 8:00 pm | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |