

Weekly Update for December 2, 2025

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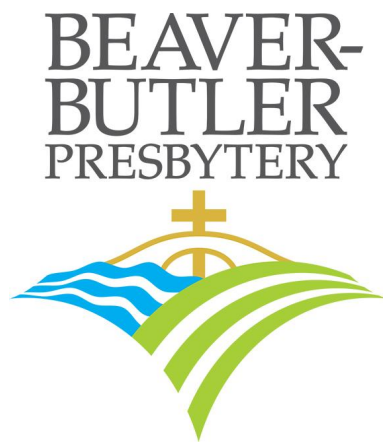
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*A shoot shall come out
from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow
out of his roots...*



Presbytery Meeting Hosts

Thank you to all the churches who have agreed to host presbytery meetings in 2026.

We are looking to fill two remaining dates. Consider joining forces with a neighboring church to share the responsibility. If your church would like to serve in this way, please let the presbytery office know.

Open Dates

Tuesday, March 24, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, November 17, 6 p.m.



Christmas Joy Special Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church and Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color through the Christmas Joy Special Offering.

50% supports the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides critical financial assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need.

50% supports Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color to provide education and leadership development.

Many resources are available to promote and find meaning in the Christmas Joy offering including bulletin inserts, videos, liturgy and worship aids, curriculum, slides, social media images and more.

[Access resources...](#)

Most congregations receive this offering on the Sunday before Christmas Eve, while many receive it throughout Advent. Churches should remit their offerings to the Presbytery Office.

[Download remittance form...](#)



Christmas Cookie Sale

Old Union Church
200 Union Church Road, Mars

Unique homemade Christmas cookies from our church cooks!

\$28—Tray of four dozen

\$14—Box of two dozen

Pick-up times:

Saturday, December 13, 9:30-11 a.m.

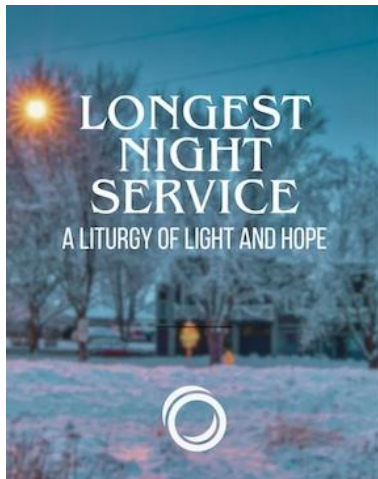
Sunday, December 14, 12 a.m.-1 p.m.

Order by **Sunday, December 7** by emailing oldunionchurch@gmail.com or calling 724-538-8672.

When ordering, please provide:

- name
- phone number
- what you'd like to order
- Saturday or Sunday pick-up

[Download and post flyer...](#)



When Christmas Feels Heavy

For many, Advent and Christmas are seasons of joy—family gatherings, celebrations, carols, and feasting. But for those experiencing grief, illness, loneliness, anxiety, or major life transitions, this time of year can stir up feelings that don't fit the season's script.

Presbyterian Outlook offers the *Longest Night Service: A Liturgy of Light and Hope*, a gentle, contemplative service for those carrying grief, weariness, or longing this season.

Your congregation may choose to observe the *Longest Night* on December 21 or as a Blue Christmas service at another time.

Suggested price is \$10.00 or you can name your price.

[Learn more and purchase...](#)



Association of Partners in Christian Education (APCE) Event

Wednesday-Saturday, January 21-24, 2026

Wyndham Grand Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh, PA

In person and online

With the theme, *Bridging the Gap*, each day of the conference we will address a different topic of love—how to love God, how to love self,

and how to love neighbor.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery is a sponsor for the event.

What's included in full in-person registration fee?

- All worship sessions
- All plenary sessions
- Up to five workshops
- Corporation meeting
- Three meals
- Marketplace
- Networking opportunities
- Recordings of plenary and worship sessions, and 20 workshops
- And much, much more!

Registration is open. On Time registration expires on January 5 and Just in Time Registration expires on January 14. Onsite registration will open on Tuesday, January 20.

[Learn more and register...](#)



The PC(USA) Church Growth Network

The PC(USA) Church Growth Network (PCGN) officially launched in June 2025 with a bold vision: to encourage and equip PC(USA) congregations and new faith communities to grow in size, vitality, and mission impact. Rooted in Acts 16:5, the PCGN exists to support leaders who value and believe local congregations and new faith communities are called and created to be “strengthened in faith and increase in numbers.”

The PCGN is a national learning community for leaders across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) who are committed to faithful and healthy church growth. Through fostering relationships, celebrating progress, and providing practical learning opportunities, the network seeks to empower pastors, elders, and innovators to lead dynamic and impactful ministries.

[Learn more...](#)



Office Hours

Regular office hours have resumed for the Presbytery Office. Thank you for your patience during the past summer and fall months.

CHURCH EVENTS

Support and promote worship, fellowship, and fundraising events by congregations in our presbytery.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

Old Union Church—200 Union Church Road, Mars

Pick-up times:

Saturday, December 13, 9:30-11 a.m.

Sunday, December 14, 12 a.m.-1 p.m.

Download and post flyer...

Send event information to chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org. Attach flyers and brochures as PDF documents and slides as PowerPoint documents.

PRESBYTERY EVENTS

Click here for additional information...

RACIAL RECONCILIATION AWARENESS BOOK CLUB

***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson**

Zoom at 7 p.m. on November 6, December 5, January 8, and February 6.

RACIAL RECONCILIATION AWARENESS BOOK CLUB

Supercommunicators: How to Unlock the Secret Language of Connection

by Charles Duhigg

Zoom Group 1

7 p.m. on Wednesdays, October 29, November 19, January 28, February 25, March 25, April 29, and May 27.

Zoom Group 2

7 p.m. on Thursdays, October 30, November 20, January 29, February 26, March 26, April 30, and May 28.

ASSOCIATION OF PARTNERS IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ANNUAL EVENT

Wednesday-Saturday, January 21-24, 2026

Wyndham Grand Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh, PA

ELATE (Equipping Leaders Annual Training Event)

Sunday, March 15, 2026, 2–5 p.m.

Cranberry Community United Church—

2662 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township

Mark your calendar now for this annual training event for leaders in our congregations.

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY EVENTS

Click here for information...

PRESBYTERY NEWS

[Click here for news you may have missed...](#)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[Click here for position descriptions and contact information...](#)

Church Organist/Pianist

First Church, Beaver Falls

Church Administrative Coordinator

Vanport Church, Vanport

Administrative Assistant

Jefferson Center Church, Saxonburg

THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE

Regular Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
or by appointment.

Often the office is staffed later than 1 p.m., but please call ahead before visiting the Center after hours.

2025 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day...January 1
Martin Luther King Day...January 20
President's Day...February 17
Memorial Day...May 26
Juneteenth...June 19
Independence Day...July 3
Labor Day...September 1
Veterans' Day...November 11
Thanksgiving Day...November 27
Christmas Eve...December 24
Christmas Day...December 25
Christmas Week...December 26-29

2026 Presbytery Meetings

Saturday, January 24, 10 a.m.

Lunch
First, Monaca

Tuesday, March 24, 6 p.m.
TBD

Tuesday, May 26, 6 p.m.
Mt. Chestnut, Butler

Tuesday, July 28, 6 p.m.
Trinity, Butler w/ Butler Area Churches
as Co-hosts

Tuesday, September 22, 4 p.m.
Dinner
First, Beaver Falls w/
First, New Brighton Co-host

Tuesday, November 17, 6 p.m.
TBD

Beaver-Butler Presbytery Center

(P.O. Box 279) 134-B South Main Street, Zelienople, PA 16063 | 724-452-7515
office@beaverbutler.org | www.beaverbutler.org

Beaver-Butler Presbytery



Beaver-Butler Presbytery Youth



Presbytery Weekly Update

To share announcements and news or to add names to the mailing list, contact ChrisAnn at

chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org. To access back issues, go to
beaverbutler.org/weekly-update-e-newsletter/.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery | 134-B South Main Street | Zelienople , PA 16063 US

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