

# Aston Press

## Monthly Newsletter



### February 2025

February 2nd - Communion Sunday  
 February 5th - PW Soup Luncheon  
 February 9th - Souper Bowl  
 February 11th - Session Meeting  
 February 14th - Valentine's Day  
 February 17th - Presidents Day - LC Closed/Church Office Closed  
 February 19th - PW

### Elder of the Month

Pat Zebley

610-348-3350

### Church Office Hours

Erin Schuler Coia  
 Administrative Assistant

Wednesdays 10am - 1pm  
 Thursdays 10am - 1pm  
 Fridays 10am - 1pm  
 610-494-2634  
[astonpcusa@gmail.com](mailto:astonpcusa@gmail.com)

## From the Pastor's Desk

Given all the snow we've had it is safe to say we are in the depths of winter. It has been colder longer than it has in many years. I hope everyone is able to stay warm and is careful when shoveling snow.

Did you know snow is mentioned eight times in the Bible. In the 38<sup>th</sup> chapter of Job God questions Job, "Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, <sup>23</sup> which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?" I think God released some of the snow from his storehouse this January!

There is nothing special on the church calendar in February. We simply count the Sundays between Epiphany and the beginning of Lent. This used to be known as Ordinary Time. The word "ordinary" here does not mean "routine" or "not special." Instead, it refers to the "ordinal numbers" (first, second, third, etc.) used to name and count the Sundays (such as the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany). This term comes from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning "numbered" or "ordered," and *tempus ordinarium*, "measured

time." We are now in the first period of Ordinary Time which begins on Epiphany and ends on the day before Lent which is Ash Wednesday. The focus during this time is the calling of the disciples and the early ministry of Jesus and this is what I will be preaching about.

While Ordinary Time may not include the dramatic celebrations of Christmas or Easter, it is far from ordinary in the spiritual sense. This period invites us to reflect on the "ordinary" moments of our lives, recognizing that Christ is present not only in the extraordinary but also in the everyday. The liturgical color for this season is green and it symbolizes growth and life, reminding us that this is a season of spiritual nourishment and deepening of faith.

During this "ordinary" time may all of us grow in our faith and deepen our relationship with our savior Jesus Christ.

God's blessings to all, Rev. Christine

# APC Committees

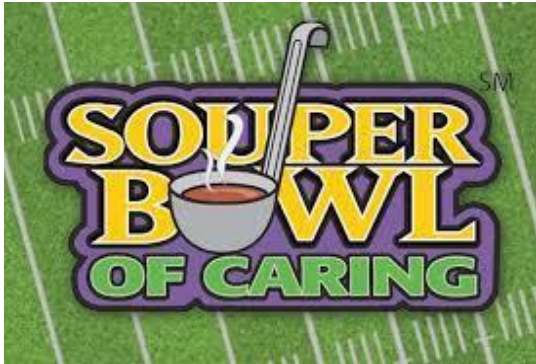


## February Birthdays

- February 7th - Bob Worrell
- February 7th - John Vasquez
- February 17th - Mark Canavin
- February 24th - Nick Lazer

## February Anniversaries

- February 4th - Sue & Jeff MacArthur
- February 19th - Bonnie & Nick Lazer



While the Philadelphia Eagles are preparing themselves for the Big Game, we at APC are preparing for our own **SOUPER Bowl**. Our 32nd Souper Bowl in fact. **Beginning Feb 2nd through Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**, we are asking for your help in gathering as many cans/cartons of SOUP as you are able to share. We will also have our collection jars for monetary donations to go along with the soup. All of the soup and other donations will go to Chester Eastside Ministries..

Will you help Cheer on our Team here at APC tackle hunger. Our Learning Center also participates in this Souper Bowl and they cheer loudly. Hoping to have you on the APC Team,

Mission and Stewardship Committee.

## Financial Corner

### Financial Corner as of Jan. 31, 2025

#### Budget Recap - 2025

	YTD Budget
Envelope Giving	60,800.00
Loose Offering	850.00
DC Learning Ctr	14,400.00
DCLCtr (shared exp.)	-
Building Use	1,200.00
Initial Offering	100.00
Per Capita	300.00
Investment Fund Div.	3,500.00
Misc. Income	250.00
<b>Income</b>	<b>81,400.00</b>
Local Expenses	82,641.99
Mission Giving	2,551.68
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>85,193.67</b>
<b>Anticipated (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(3,793.67)</b>

**NOTE: Please note that the December 2024 Joy offering collected at the Christmas Eve service will be reflected as part of the 2025 giving statements.**



## 2025 Committee Chairs

Administration Committee  
Chairperson - Donna Marie Gawne

Personnel Committee  
Chairperson - Michele Kane

Buildings & Grounds  
Chairpersons - James Coia & Bill Gawne

Care & Fellowship Committee  
Chairpersons - Erin Schuler Coia & Ruth Voss

Christian Education  
Chairperson - Erin Schuler Coia

Mission & Stewardship  
Chairpersons - Ruth Voss & Pat Zebley

Worship & Music  
Chairperson - Lori Clements

Please contact any of our Elders to join a committee



## Word Search

- God
- Love
- Neighbor
- Jesus
- World
- Light
- Hands
- John
- Mark
- Luke
- Matthew
- Mystery
- Faith
- Great
- World

## Buildings & Grounds/St. Andrews

Please continue to bring in your food items for our food cupboard in the church narthex and the St. Andrews group will continue to deliver these items monthly Thanks again for everyone’s help in feeding those in need.

Come join the free coffee hour on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am around the “Round Table” in the boiler room of the Church. Be prepared to solve the world’s problems.

**Congratulations to Learning Center Teacher  
Rikki Miller  
10 Years of Teaching at  
Aston Presbyterian Church Learning Center**

**Congratulations to Learning Center Teacher  
Lisa Delvecchio  
15 Years of Teaching at  
Aston Presbyterian Church Learning Center**





# February memories

As we arrive at the month of Valentines and as we honor human love and also as we recognize our history on Presidents Day, we also look back at February events in the ministry of this congregation for Jesus our Lord.

**Five years ago- 2020-** Pastor Michele Grunseich in her "from the Pastor's Desk" column wrote about the hymn "Here I Am Lord". She commented that God has blessed our congregation with many gifts to serve our Lord Jesus Christ. So, we must be ready to answer "Here I am Lord, send me to serve for you. The Adult Class was doing a study on the Great Religions of the World. Day Care Events: Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> Friends Day, Feb 1 Valentines Day. The PW Blanket Sunday was held on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Ten years ago- 2015-** Pastor Graham Robinson in his column asked: "How can we make a difference in the world? And how do we share the light of Christ to the world? He also asked, "How do we foster peace? He noted that he was thinking and asking for God's direction on these questions for the 2015 year. He also said that during Lent we should work to master the art of forgiveness. Day Care Events for February: Feb 6<sup>th</sup> Celebrating 100 /days of /school, February 13 Valentine's day party, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> A visit to the Please Touch Museum. Sunday, /February 14<sup>th</sup> was "Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday"

and also Blanket Sunday. The Adult Class was studying "The Parables of Jesus."

**Fifteen years ago - 2010-** Rev. Jane Ritterson's "From the Pastor's Desk" column was about Ash Wednesday. She said that Ash Wednesday begins Lent. She noted that people receive ashes on that day as a reminder of their mortality. She said that Lent is a wonderful time to add to our spiritual disciplines of Bible Study and Prayer. Day Care events: Feb 2 Pajama and Groundhog Day, Feb 9 100 Days of School. Feb 10 A program on caring for your teeth, Feb 14 Valentine's day Party, Feb 18 Aston Presbyterian Day Care Pride Day. PW Blanket Sunday was on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. The Deacons for 2010 were: Debbie Smith, Dolly Kok, Ellen Beggs, Michele Kane, Donna Marie Gawne, Rob Hull, and Matt Voss.

**Twenty years ago -2005-** Pastor Pam Cowan in her "From the Pastor's Hat Rack" column, she talked about Lent being a time that we lengthen our commitment to Jesus Christ. She noted that we should picture Jesus as someone who worked with his hands. We should work as hard as Jesus in getting people to know and be transformed by Christ. We should always be proclaiming the Good news of Jesus for all people. The day Care Classes were studying Winter. Feb 6<sup>th</sup> was Souper Bowl of

Caring Sunday and PW Blanket Sunday was on Feb 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Twenty-five years ago -2000 -** Pastor Pam Cowan wrote about her background to introduce herself to our congregation, Acolytes and Liturgists were being sought for our Worship Service. In the congregation: Shannon Cisco was named Student of the Month at Chichester Middle School.

**Thirty years ago -1995-** Pastor Scott Cupp's "Ex Cathedra" Column was about a recent study titled "A Nation At Risk". This study was about the state of Public Education in America needing reform. In light of this study, we as a church would be setting up a Task Force to review and evaluate our Christian Education programs. On Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> Boy Scout Sunday was observed with scouts serving as Greeters and Ushers, PW Blanket Sunday was on Feb.12<sup>th</sup>. Session and Trustee Officers for 1995 were: Bob John, Clerk of Session, Bill Schuler, Jr. Treasurer, Jack Sidoriak, Assistant Treasurer, Aaron Miller, Financial Secretary, James G. Singley, President of the corporation.

**Thirty-five years ago - 1990-** Pastor Scott Cupp's "Ex Cathedra" column asked "What are we doing for God's and what are we doing to serve Christ? He also asked us to work on answering those questions over the next few months. Boy Scout Sunday was observed on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. Mariners held their Sweetheart Dinner on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> at The Inglebrook Tea room in Swarthmore.



# February memories

Continued on the next page

# February memories

**Forty years ago - 1985-** Pastor Bob Boell in his columns thanked the congregation for its prayers and support during his time as Moderator of the Philadelphia Presbytery in 1984. The St. Andrews Groups began its initial meeting on January 23, 1985. The session was considering sponsoring a couple of Hungarian Refugees. Michele Kane was visiting Washington D.C. as part of the Sun Valley group attending the "Close-Up" program.

**Forty-five years ago -1980-** Pastor Bob Boell in his column wrote that our goal for 1980 is to develop and grow our congregation's prayer and Spiritual Life. In the news of the congregation column; Barbara Cavanaugh was named to the Dean's List at Millersville, Bob Case was commissioned to write the 300 year history for Concord Township, John Monaghan was study for his Doctorate at Temple, Bob and Jean Boell were One Great Hour of Sharing Coordinators for the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Dave Sidoriak was on the JV Basketball Team at Sun Valley, Chris John was on the Northley JV Basketball Team and also played in the Aston AA Basketball League.

**Fifty years ago -1975-** Pastor Bob Boell wrote that in 1975 we would be working on our connectional relations in our Presbytery, our Denomination and with the other churches in our community. After over 50 years as a class which was formed in 1918, the Friendship Class voted to disband. Adult Class studies were: "Values" led by Jim Singley and I & II Timothy and Titus led by Howard Turner

**In this month of February 2025,** let us recommit our congregation to spreading the redeeming love of Jesus Christ throughout our communities. May the words of the Hymn "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the Morning" provide us inspiration in our witness for Jesus our Savior: "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning, Jesus in the noontime, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down!"

Grace and Peace in the name of Jesus Christ,

Bill Schuler



## Recipe of the Month

### Philly Cheesesteak Dip

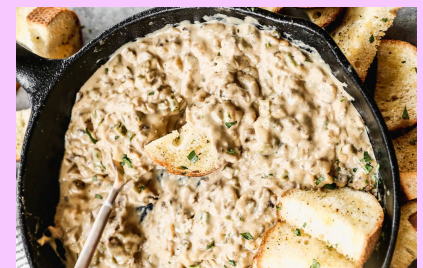
#### INGREDIENTS:

8oz Cream Cheese  
16oz Shaved Steak  
6oz cooper sharp cheese (from deli)  
4oz provolone cheese (from deli)  
1 cup mozzarella cheese shredded  
6 tbsp half/half  
1 cup diced onion (optional)  
Salt and Pepper and garlic to taste  
Crusty bread/baguette sliced and toasted

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cook onion (if desired) and steak in a skillet, season with salt, pepper, garlic and cook until done
2. Cut the provolone and cooper sharp into a dice
3. Mix softened cream cheese, half/half, provolone, and cooper sharp
4. Add in meat and onion mix and stir to combine
5. Put in oven proof casserole dish or in crockpot (low setting)
6. Top with the mozzarella
7. Bake at 400 for 20 minutes or until the cheese is melted and browned (in crockpot top with cheese and cook on low until party time stirring occasionally)
8. Slice baguette and toast is desired
9. Serve and ENJOY as the Eagles play in the Super Bowl

Submitted by Erin Schuler



# Aston Pres. Learning Center



## February 2025 Learning Center Events

- February 1st - 7th - SOUPER BOWL of Caring Contest
- February 7th - EAGLES Day
- February 11th - 100th Day of School
- February 14th - Wear Red for Congenital Heart Defect Awareness/Valentine's Day
- February 17th - LC Closed for Presidents Day
- February 20th - Parents Night Out
- February 24th -APCLC Spirit Day at Oasis



## APC Learning Center

Happy February! Winter is flying by and there is so much to explore this season with our little ones as we learn about snow, ice, hibernation of animals, and so much more! Our month starts with the lesson of Groundhog Day as we talk about making predictions of an early spring or long winter as well as what is a shadow. This month we are also looking forward to celebrating Valentine's Day and expressing how thankful we are to have each other. Our mailroom is open for our kiddos to drop off their valentines in our large whole school mailbox and then throughout the month leading up to Valentine's each child will hand out their valentines to the kids' individually decorated Valentine bags. A huge favorite around here! We are also looking forward to our annual dental show for Dental Care Month as a local dentist comes in and expresses the importance of taking care of our teeth and keeping them clean. For the shortest month of the year we are keeping busy with so much to do. We also have our 100th Day of school quickly approaching, a PJ Day coming up and an EAGLES Day as we show our support for the superbowl! In addition to the Super Bowl the whole school is working to collect cans for our Souperbowl of Caring. To help encourage can donations we have each floor in a competition to see which floor can donate the most cans. The winning floor gets a pizza party on Monday February 10th. Everyday our little ones are looking at the daily numbers in the office hallway to see who is in the lead. It's also a great way to encourage number recognition! We will be collecting canned goods from now until Friday, February 7th. Lastly our month ends with a fun fundraiser at Oasis Family Fun Center in Glen Mills on Monday February 24th from 6 to 8. Tickets are \$15 dollars for kids when bought in advance at the center or \$20 at the door. We are hoping for a good turnout! Hope everyone has a great month! Try to keep warm!!