Aston Press

Monthly Newsletter

November 2025 Events

November 1st - All Saints Day/ Communion Sunday
November 8th - Congregational Meeting
November 15th - PW Thank Service
November 22nd - Hanging of the Greens
November 22nd - Aston Thanksgiving Service
November 26th - Thanksgiving
November 29th - 1st Sunday in Advent

Elder of the Month

Ruth Voss
610-212-5151

Church Office Hours*

Erin Schuler Coia
Administrative Assistant

Mondays 10am - 2pm
Thursdays 10am - 1pm
Fridays 10am - 12pm

610-494-2634
astonpcusa@gmail.com

From the Pastor's Desk

On the first Sunday in November we will celebrate All Saints Day. In the Presbyterian Church we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is also a time to give thanks for the members who have died in the past year. This year Paul Evans entered the church triumphant.

On the fourth Sunday in November we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday. On this Sunday we celebrate the crucified and risen Christ whom God exalted to rule over the whole universe. It also marks the end of Ordinary Time with green paraments and look forward to Advent with purple paraments. We will have the Hanging of the Greens after the church service. I love to see our church decorated for Christmas!

Aside from church celebrations in November our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving. Turkey and stuffing, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. For many it is a day full of football games. Thanksgiving is much more than just food and games though. It is a time to be thankful for all the blessings God has given us. It is a time to look back at the year, to look back upon our lives and to recognize all the ways God has been at work in us.

I have some personal information to share with the congregation. If you remember, I was in the hospital in May with endocarditis, an infection of the heart. This illness damaged my mitral valve so on November 13th I will have it repaired or replaced. Following the operation I will not be able to drive so I will not be at church for a month. I will miss being with all of you and look forward to returning in December.

Let us pray for peace and unity around our country. God's blessings to all, Rev. Christine

APC Events

November Birthdays

November 7th - Bill Schuler Jr.
November 13th - Staci Gawne
November 15th - Abby Gawne
November 20th - Ellen Beggs
November 24th - Tommy Zebley

November Anniversaries

November 15th - Brian & Carol Koffenberger Jones

APC Committees

The Session has called a congregational/corporation meeting for **Sunday, November 8th, 2026** as required in the By-Laws and Book of Order. The meeting will be called to order near the end of morning worship before the benediction.

The purpose of this meeting is:

1. To amend the APC By Laws #16 from The Nominating Committee shall present the slate of officers to the congregation for election on the first Sunday of November to any Sunday in November.
2. To amend the APC By Laws #12 to change the number of elders on the Board of Session from 7 Elders to 5 Elders.
3. To amend the APC By Laws #15 to retroactively change the nominating committee from 2 elders to 1 elder and from no more than 5 at large members to at least 2 at large members
4. To receive the slate of the 2026 Church Nominating Committee for the positions for Session's Class of 2027-2028 of Elders and Members At Large for the 2027 Church Nominating Committee, and any nominations from the floor and then election of the same. Those elected as Elders/Trustees will be installed in January 2027.

Please plan to attend. Our Bylaws require a quorum in order to conduct business. **As a member you are an important part of this process.** The meeting should last approximately ten minutes. Please mark your calendar.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, November 8th, 2025 ~ Session

Presbyterian Women:

On Sunday, **November 15th**, you are invited to join the APC Presbyterian Women in the **THANK OFFERING for 2026.** Once a year we have our Thank/Praise service and join with PW's throughout the country in this special offering. During the year grant requests are received and then recipients are then determined. This year funds have been divided between 8 Synod groups from throughout the US and one International. Information has been posted in Narthex so you can see the recipients and where and how the funds are being used. Special envelopes will be provided on the 15th to receive your contribution. Many thanks to all for assisting with these projects.

The APC Presbyterian Women's Circle continues to meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:30 pm in the MacMurchy Room. We bring a sandwich, catch up with one another and then proceed to the activity for the day.. This year we are continuing to work on the Memory Books for Fair Acres. We are dividing our meetings to one month of Memory Books and one month for business and Bible Study. All are welcome to join and bring a friend. Our ladies will once again be contributing to **GEMMA**, a group facility for young people supported partially by the Presbytery. GEMMA is the new group name, which started out as Presbyterian Children's Village. We choose gifts from the list provided and then add them to our Learning Center's gifts to be delivered to GEMMA. During the month of November these items are collected and then delivered in early December.
ALL are welcome to join with us in sharing and growing as we move forward.

Blessings to all. Ruth Voss, Moderator

Mission Committee

CENTS-ABILITY

OCTOBER OFFERINGS FOR CHURCH WORLD SERVICE - GOAT MONTH are being counted. Thank you everyone, APC and APC LC for a wonderful response. The Learning Center brought in their coins in October toward the purchase of a goat. The total is not known as of this writing. Keep watching and listening for the results. Will post the results and what the monies will purchase. Your generosity is always appreciated.

NOVEMBER's offerings will be going to **RONALD McDONALD HOUSE - COINS FOR KIDS**.
All funds collected by us and the many other contributors help make the hospital stays and being treated easier and more fun for the kids and the families. This organization truly is a blessing for families going through treatment for the kids. Your contributions not only help monetarily but bring great joy and a feeling of being "normal" to so many young people. Containers will be placed in the narthex and at the coffee hour window. Thank you for helping to make being sick and undergoing treatment/hospitalization less traumatic.

DECEMBER we will be collecting for D**elco Helping Hands. Bins for collecting items for their necessity closets will be set out. A list of suggestions will be posted in the Narthex.**

Again this year our **ANGEL TREE GIFTS again** will be going to the families of Delco Helping Hands - teenagers. The Angel Tree will be set up and ready on November 22nd with tags for the young people involved. You will be able to choose a tag(s) for these young people to receive gifts at Christmas. More details will be provided in the next few weeks. As we celebrate God's gift of his Son to us, let us remember those in our community and share with them, not only gifts but the knowledge that God and others care about them.

THANK YOU all for your support and sharing God's generosity.

MISSION COMMITTEE

DELCO HELPING HANDS

Kids Corner

The Five-Finger Prayer Guide

• Thumb: Thank you God for my Mom and Dad, Brothers and Sisters, and all my family and friends.
• Pointer Finger: Thank you God for all my teachers, doctors and pastors. .
• Tallest Finger: Thank you God for all the military, police and fire people and all that keep us safe.
• Ring Finger: Dear God please help the sick and hurting. Give them strength and help them feel better.
• Pinky Finger: Dear God, please help all those that are homeless and hungry. Help us share our love and kindness with them.

Amen.

As we begin the month of November with the celebration of All Saints Day and as we anticipate, giving thanks to our Lord for His gifts of food, of the beauty of the earth and the blessings of family as we sit down to our Thanksgiving meal. We are truly blessed with God's love through our Savior Jesus Christ. Now we pause to look at some of the worship and witness of his congregation in past years.

5 Years ago - 2021 - Rev. Christine Callaway wrote in her column about Thanksgiving. She said that Thanksgiving was not a Church holiday. The Puritans and the Pilgrims were mostly influenced by the reformer John Calvin. They wanted to purify the Church of England, but when they could not get the reforms they wanted, they fled to the Netherlands and then sailed to the New world where they settled in the Massachusetts Colony which is where they celebrated that first thanksgiving. Day Care happenings: Mr. Saeed and his drum program, Cookie rating program, Annual Thanksgiving Feast. The Aston Community Thanksgiving service was held on November 23rd via YouTube.

Ten years ago - 2016 - Pastor Graham Robinson in his column talked about love from I Corinthians Chapter 13. He noted that love is patient and kind. He said we should be guided by the words about love f rom this 13th chapter of I Corinthians. Daycare events: 11/15 - APC Learning Center Pride Day, 11/17 African Drum Program, 11/23 Annual Thanksgiving Feast. The Hanging of the Greens was done on November 27 after Worship.

Fifteen years ago - 2011 - Rev. Janer Ritterson in her "From the Pastor's Desk /column wrote about the upcoming Mission trip that Meghan Kok and she will be taking to Uganda later this month. Day Care Events: 11/15 Scarecrow Day, 11/22 APC Learning Center Pride Day, 11/23 Thanksgiving Feast. The Presbyterian Women's Service was held on November 13th with the Rev. Michele Grunseich preaching.

Twenty years ago - 2006 - Pastor Diane Burkland in her column wrote that November was the end of Harvest Season. She noted that we as Christians must be sowing and watering Jesus' peaceful seed so that His church will grow faithful disciples. Day Care Events: 11/2 A visit to the Colonial Plantation, and on 11/22 Annual Thanksgiving Feast. The PW Praise service was held on November 19th with Rev. Bernice Warren of Chester Eastside bringing the message. The Aston Community service was held on November 19th at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church.

Twenty-five years Ago - 2001 - Pastor Pam Cowan in the "From the Pastor's Hat Rack Column" wrote we need to be thankful in light of the 9/11 Terrorist attacks. She said it is important for us as Christians to seek out people and show them the goodness of God in Christ. We need to reach out with God's love to all people no matter their race or ethnic background. The PW Praise service was held on November 18th with Elder Janet Jones of T.M. Thomas Presbyterian Church giving the message. The Day Care Center celebrated an I Am Thankful Day and on November 21st they had their annual Thanksgiving Feast. The Aston Community Thanksgiving service was held at the new St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church on November 18th.

Thirty years ago - 1996 - Pastor Scott Cupp's "Ex Cathedra" column was about stewardship. Past Cupp said that stewardship's everything we do for Christ after we say I believe. The Aston Community Thanksgiving service was held on November 17th at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church with Andrew Weaver, Pastoral Intern at St. Timothy's delivering the message. The PW Praise Service was also held on November 17th with Barbara Kiester Moderator of the Philadelphia Presbyterian Women's Association speaking. A luncheon was held after worship to celebrate Fred and Agnes Wiley's 50th Anniversary.

Memories

Continued on Next Page

Thirty-five years ago - 1991 - Pastor Scott Cupp's "Ex Cathedra" column spoke about Aston Presbyterian Church having Lay People who are willing to step up to lead worship when the Pastor is on vacation or away on study leave. On November 22nd, the Aston Community Thanksgiving Service was held at Mt. Hope United Methodist Church with Rev. Stven Boughter of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church giving the message. The PW Praise Service was held on November 15th with Elder Laura Visco as the speaker. The Deacons "Who's Who Column" featured members George and Nancy Lawrence. At Worship on November 3rd a festival of banners were displayed at Worship.

Forty years ago - 1986 - The Session reported that they have narrowed down the Interim Pastor search to three candidates and they will meet on November 3rd to choose their candidate. Laura Worrell, Clerk of Session, wrote in her column that we are blessed to have a diverse pool of talented folks to serve the mission of the Church while we are without a Pastor. The PW Praise Service was held on November 16th with Elder Jean Elliott of the Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church giving the sermon. The Aston Community Thanksgiving /service was held at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church with Rev. Timothy Kriebel of Mt. Hope United Methodist giving the message.

Forty-five years ago - 1981 - Pastor Bob Boell wrote in his column that our Church has a good record of sharing their substance to assist people in need. All-Church Breakfast was held on Sunday, November 15th. The PW Praise service was held on November 22nd with Elder Heinz, President of the Philadelphia Presbyterian Women's Association as the speaker. The Aston Community Thanksgiving Service was held at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church; The Adult Class was studying Funeral Practices aided by William Bleller, local Funeral Director. And on November 29th the class was studying a one-day lesson titled: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego led by Peg McNelly.

Fifty years ago - 1976 - Pastor Bob Boell in his column said that our cups are full and running over with God's blessings. He said we should give thanks to the Lord for His many blessings every day. The Aston Community Thanksgiving service was held on November 24 at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church with our Pastor Bob Boell preaching. On November 21st, the PW Praise service was held with Bea Crowther, President of the Philadelphia Presbyterian Women's Association as the speaker.

Let us now approach Thanksgiving with grateful hearts for the blessing that our Heavenly Father continues to grant us; even though we are still in the midst of the political turmoil of our nation and the world. As we give thanks for the Lord's many blessings let us also pray to Him for peace in our nation and our world as we prepare to celebrate once again the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

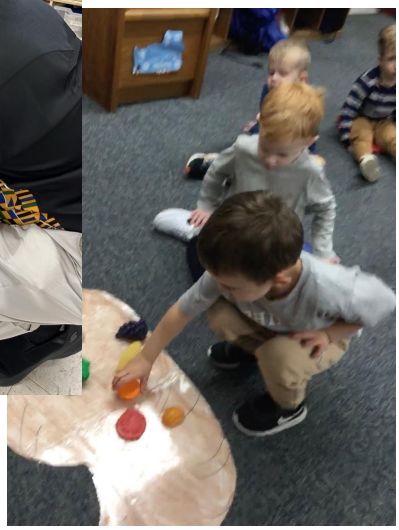
May This prayer entitled "Heavenly Father" by an anonymous author gives inspiration to thank our Heavenly Father for all our blessings:

"We seek Your peace in a world filled with turmoil. Grant us wisdom to understand our differences and strength to unite. May your peace fill our hearts, guiding our actions. Help us spread kindness and compassion. We pray for those suffering and for leaders to pursue justice and unity. Let us work together for a brighter, harmonious future. In Your name we give thanks and pray for peace."

In Christ's Love,

Bill Schuler, Jr.

Aston Pres. Learning Center



November 2026 Learning Center Events

November 3th - Voting Day/ Red, White & Blue Day
November 4th - Yoga
November 6th - National Nacho Day
November 11th - Veterans Day
November 12th - Saeed the Drummer
November 13th - World Kindness Day & National Pickle Day
November 18th - Disney Day
November 19th - Super Parents Club/Board Meeting
November 24th - Falling for Fall Day
November 25th - Thanksgiving Feast
November 27th & 28th - Thanksgiving Holiday - LC Closed

APC Learning Center

Happy November! This month we have so much to celebrate and be thankful for. Our month is starting off with family conferences for each of our classrooms in addition to honoring Veteran's Day, World Kindness Day, and most importantly Thanksgiving. There is always something to do this time of year as we put away Halloween decorations and get ready for more family-oriented holidays with our loved ones. We are looking forward to World Kindness Day, PJ Day, Disney Day, Veterans Day, and getting ready for Thanksgiving. A favorite of the center's is looking forward to Election Day each year to make a very important decision and get our votes in as we vote on our favorite cookie. Will it be Oreos or Chips Ahoy Chocolate Chip? We are all waiting to discover the winning cookie and which cookie will be our little ones' afternoon snack. It's a joy having older siblings and parents come in and discover our winning cookie! We are also looking forward to our special guest, Saeed the drummer, as we learn about cultural music from Africa and our kiddos get the opportunity to try various drums and make their own representation of African music. Our monthly Super Parent's Club topic is "Holiday Meltdowns" as we talk about helping not only our children get through the holiday season but also our families and each other as we slow things down. Another favorite activity this time of year will be our annual feast on the day before Thanksgiving as we share what we are thankful for and enjoy a meal together. We hope everyone has a blessed month and a wonderful Thanksgiving season!

Oreo or Chocolate Chip? Who will win in 2026?