



## ***The Open Door - February 2024***

*The Reformed Church of Bushkill*  
5969 Milford Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302  
(570) 588-6773 / [bshklch@ptd.net](mailto:bshklch@ptd.net) (E-mail)  
[www.bushkillchurch.org](http://www.bushkillchurch.org) (Website)

***"Striving to Do What Christ Tells Us through Scripture"***

Reminder:

Communion is now being served using  
gluten-free bread only.

The congregation is invited to attend the  
Youth Service on Friday, February 2nd  
from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Please consider attending to see what they are  
all about and to support this wonderful group of  
young men and women praising the Lord.

We will be serving breakfast on  
Sunday, February 4th from  
8:30-10:00 AM.



We will hold an Ash Wednesday on  
February 14th at 7:00 PM in our sanctuary.

Articles for the March *Open Door* are due  
by Friday, February 16th.

Please e-mail them directly to the church office,  
[bshklch@ptd.net](mailto:bshklch@ptd.net), or leave them in the church  
office mailbox in the narthex.

### **Let's Celebrate during the Coffee Hour !!!**



On the *third* Sunday of each  
month, we will be celebrating all of YOU during  
the coffee hour with a special cake! If you have  
not done so, call the church office or e-mail your  
birthday and/or anniversary

This month, we want to say a very Happy  
Birthday to:

Juanita Rivera - February 1  
Ken Goble - February 24

And a Happy Anniversary to Dan and Kristen  
VanWhy on February 22nd!

### **Consistory Update**

This year, those on the ballot ran uncontested.

Joe Bush was installed and Bob Craver and  
Rich Scarnecchia were re-installed as Elders for  
two-year terms.

Liz Craver was installed and Kristen VanWhy  
was ordained and installed as Deacons, also for  
two-year terms.

The remaining Consistory members are Pete  
Newman and Theresa Taylor as Elders and  
Juanita Rivera, Yvonne Rodriguez and Wayne  
Taylor as Deacons.

### **Pastor Search Committee Update**

The Pastor Search Committee has begun  
meeting. They are constructing our church pro-  
file which will be available for pastors seeking out  
positions. The next step will be to review re-  
sumes that are sent to us.

Our search committee consists of Bob Crav-  
er, Pete Newman, Erin Reagan, Aharon Delacruz,  
Caroline Agosto, Tiffany Quijano, Ken Goble, Jon-  
athan Schoonover and Mary Scarnecchia.

The Elders will continue to look for an inter-  
im pastor as well while we are looking for a called  
pastor.

Please keep this committee in your prayers  
as they discern who will be right for our church.

## Congregational Care Team

The Congregational Care Ministry is trying to know and understand the needs of our community such as needing a ride to an appointment, a listening ear, etc.

Anyone willing to offer services, please let us know of your availability. Contact Dorothy Bush at 201-926-0452.

We regret to inform you that a former member, Josephine Walton, passed on January 8th.

If you have a mid-week prayer request for our e-mail prayer team please e-mail Jen Schoonover, schooent@ptd.net or call/text her at 570-534-5752.

The *Our Daily Bread* devotional is always available in the narthex -- feel free to take a copy and some extras for your family or friends.

If any of your contact information has changed or would like to let us know your preferred method of communication, please contact the church office, 588-6773 or send an e-mail, bshklch@ptd.net. You will also receive any weather-related alerts from us, etc.

Please bring in your Mignosi's Foodtown receipts.

Mignosi's generously donates 1% of the receipts minus several ineligible items. There is a box in the narthex for the receipts. Thank you!

## Financial Report - MaryAnn Conza

12/01/23 to 12/31/23	1/01/23 to 12/31/23
Income \$ 8,498.00	Income \$162,242.99
Expenses <u>14,626.21</u>	Expenses <u>230,080.06</u>
<b>(\$ 6,128.21)</b>	<b>(\$ 67,837.07)</b>

We ended the year with a \$67,837.07 deficit. The checking account balance has \$13,834.77. Much of the deficit was deducted from the Lewis Fund for some of the high costing expenses, such as the new furnace, the three Crosses on the building and expenses for Evangelism. The deficit does not include paving the parking lot since that amount came directly from the Lewis fund. We also put \$100,000 into two CD's (\$50,000 each). They will mature in April 2024.

Other account balances as of December 31, 2023 are: Laurent Fund \$65,602.30, Capital Campaign funds remaining \$7,029.79 and the Memorial Fund \$6,365.54.

Income other than the offerings include \$158 from a member's personal fund, Community Café \$880.83, Foodtown receipts \$344.77 and \$1,400 for use of the building.

Even though most of our giving goes to the Church, we are not giving to a Church or to a Pastor. We give our offerings to God alone. The Bible teaches us to give, for our own good and for our own blessing, from a cheerful heart. God wants us to give because it shows that we recognize He is truly the Lord of our lives.

*"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need." (Malachi 3:10)*

Blessings to you all,  
MaryAnn