

Summit Presbyterian Church 181 Caldwell Drive Butler, PA 16002 ADDRESS SERVICE

The Summit Herald January 2025

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Annual Reports are due to the Church Office by Sunday, January 5.





To the Saints at Summit Church:



First let me wish you a Happy and Blessed New Year as we enter 2025!

2025 is going to be an exciting year as the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been formed and has begun their work to find the next called pastor for Summit Church.

That being said, the question <u>always</u> comes up: Why is it taking so long to find a pastor?

Let me explain since the dynamics have changed dramatically since the last time Summit looked for a called pastor.



Presbyterian Church

Changing Lives for Jesus Christ!

The Summit Herald
is a monthly publication of:
Summit Presbyterian Church
181 Caldwell Dr. Butler, PA 16002

724-287-2378

Email address:

summitchurch@zoominternet.net Website: www.summitchurchpa.org Summit Church is a member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Church Staff:

David Perry, *Transitional Pastor* Carol Novy, *Minister of Education* Dianna Carr-DiZinno, *Admin. Assistant*

Sunday Schedule: 10:00 a.m. Worship

Other ministries of Summit Church:

- •Summit Church's Christian Community Outreach Building
- •Loaves & Fishes Food Bank Directors: Kim Steighner, Luanne Steighner, & a host of volunteers

•HIS Kids Christian School

(PreK--6th grade) 650 Saxonburg Rd. Butler, PA 16002 724-352-8177 office@hiskidscs.org The first thing the PNC must do is complete a Church Information Form (CIF). The CIF provides statistical data regarding Summit Church and the community, but more importantly the CIF must tell the story of Summit Church, and there is a story to tell! In the period of a year, Summit has gone from "nothing is happening here" to an engaged Church. There was a Women's Retreat, Soup and Study, the return of the Advent Luncheon, the development of small groups, and the start-up of the Youth Café. We created a new mission statement that we can live out – *Love Jesus, Learn from Jesus and live like Jesus*. We have a new digital sign, and we are updating our webpage and social media as well as having a dedicated Audio-Visual station that will be able to provide live stream of the Sunday Service.

Why is this important? It is important because the number of available pastors is <u>very</u> limited and pastors that are looking to move have their choice of Churches to choose from.

The number of pastors is limited for two reasons: first, 50-70% of the pastors that are currently in the pulpit will be retiring within the next 3-5 years (that would include me!), Second, fewer people are going to seminary.

Pastors that are looking to make a change want to see Churches that have taken the time to go through the Transitional process and are looking forward to the future. No pastor wants to take a church that is stagnant, trapped in the past and to just take care of the "aquarium"

Summit Church has done the work that is needed through the Transitional process and has made itself an engaging Church that a pastor would be looking for.

We need to be praying – for the PNC, for God to lead the next called pastor to Summit and for the Church to keep moving forward in its mission and ministry of Jesus.

This will be an exciting year – Love Jesus, Learn from Jesus, Live like Jesus

Grace and Peace,

Pastor David



...a quick study of God's edifying Word by R.J. Baker. Discover the truth and promises intended for every believer.

THE BEATITUDES...DEEP JOY OF THE SOUL

Study Versus: Matt 4: 25, Matt 5: thru 7; The Bible Almanac, Nelson's Bible Dictionary

Until this recent study, I understood very little of Jesus' opening remarks of His teaching well known as the **Sermon On The Mount**. They, the Beatitudes, primarily intended for the disciples, came clearer in purpose and grasp upon learning *the Greek translation of the word "blessed"*. This word opens each expression: spiritual wellbeing and prosperity! The ideal follower of Christ adopts the teachings, i.e. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven". There exist here a foretaste of heaven and a share of salvation "with present and future rewards". Jesus describes a person "of different quality of character and lifestyle from those outside the Kingdom". Again the ideal follower.

Most scholars have settled on eight declarations; some believe seven to as many as ten. A deciding factor is Matt 5: 10-12 being accepted as one beatitude! Thusly eight covers the spectrum. Read them all Matt 5: 3-10.

Sermon on the Mount

The above title given to Jesus' moral and ethical teachings (including the beatitudes) with the underlying theme "be ye perfect (complete) as our Father in Heaven is perfect (whole)." Jesus was now attracting large crowds primarily because of His healing efforts, but also due to the Lord's authoritative manner of teaching. This is a spiritual call to gain everything God wants you to achieve (maturity), although efforts will be beyond this earthly life to more fully understand the heart of the Holy Father.

The ways to true happiness: a poor (humble) spirit, be a mourner, gentleness, seeker of righteousness, be merciful, own a pure heart, a peacemaker, endure righteous persecution. Then it is the time to rejoice and be glad, as your heavenly reward is great!

Amen





1 Vienna Moyer LeAnn Yamnitsky

2 Hunter Harrison Donna DeLuca

3 Kim Steighner

4 Paul Kelly

7 Becky Gallagher

9 Tom Grabe

10 Mary Jane Kelly Garret McCabe 11 Mabel Douglas Georgiana Jones Gary McCall

15 Charlie Perfors

16 Evan Mowry

17 Diana Campbell

27 Rex Jewell

29 Tory Mowry

30 Pollie Fife

31 Brittany Speer Skip Wagle

Jan & Bonnie Smith 1/16

John & Donna DeLuca 1/20/80

Shorty & Lois McCommon 1/21/1966

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in the Herald, please contact Dianna in the church office. Thanks!

Session,

Reminder that our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 14.



Deadline

Articles for the February *Herald* are due to the church office by Monday, January 20th.

Thanks!

CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE



Would you like to save on your Christmas card postage? Then be sure to take advantage of Summit's Christmas Post Office in the Fellowship area! Bring the Christmas cards you

have for your Summit brothers and sisters (with no postage stamps) and file them in the boxes rather than dropping them in the mail. The side door by the church office will be open during office hours M-Th 8:30-12:00 p.m. for those who feel more comfortable dropping off during the week. Then check back to see if any mail has arrived for you!

If you'd like to recycle your Christmas cards, there will be a box in the Fellowship Hall!

Herald Assembly Team for the February issue:

Dave Faust Kathi Fischer
Cheryl Rumbaugh Amanda Galvan

Ernie & Nancy Hall



It's time to put away the church's Christmas decorations! It has been so wonderful to enjoy the greenery and the lights that point us in the direction of the true Light of the world, Jesus Christ, as we celebrate His coming to earth so many years ago!

On Saturday, January 11 at 9:00 a.m., volunteers are welcome to come and help take down the decorations in the church.

FDFX NEWS!

FDFX will be on Christmas Break and will resume on Tuesday, January 7th!



SANCTUARY POINSETTIAS

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS TO THE FOOD BANK

- Given by Gretchen Ciccarelli in memory of Harold Foertsch.
- Given by children & grandchildren in memory of Janice Faust, and in honor of Dave Faust.
- Given by Nancy & Clint Warner in memory of Christopher Raymond.
- Given by Helen, Sheri, & Don Hortert Jr. in memory of Donald L. Hortert and in honor of Carol Novy, and Pastor David & Kim Perry.
- Given by Jim & Tracy Williams and Family in memory of Parents, Grandparents, and Family dearly missed and in honor of Aunts and Uncles endless support and love.
- Given by daughters & their families in memory of our Dad– Russ Morrow and in honor of our Mom—Sue Morrow.
- Given by his wife in memory of Russ Morrow.
- Given by Carol Novy in memory of Russ Novy and in honor of Mary Lou Novy.
- Given by Rev. David & Kim Perry in memory of our parents.
- Given by the Faust Family in memory of Janice Faust and in honor of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.
- Given by Dorothy Steighner & Family in memory of Paul & Bob Steighner.
- Given by the Carr-DiZinno Family in memory of David "Pat" Schmeider and Tina Perfors.
- Given by Cheryl Nagel, children and grandchildren in memory of Chuck

- Given by the Jewells in memory of family and in honor of family.
- Given by family in memory of John & Virginia Fleishner, and Sam & Lucille Corace
- Given by Aaron & Renee Davis in memory of Mary Lou Davis.
- Given by Roy Andrews in memory of Barb Andrews.
- Given by Ernie & Nancy Hall in honor of our parents.
- Given by Bruce & Terry Dean in memory of loved ones.







The FUNDRAISER That Sells Itself!

Fundraiser Sale to Benefit:

HIS Kids Christian School

Delivery Date:

January 29, 2025

Orders and Money Due By:

January 17, 2025

Any Questions
Please Contact:

Boosters@hiskidscs.org



www.MariannasFundraisers.com

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Lisa Roberts 1138 N. Negley Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Women of Summit, set aside Feb 15th for our next gathering!

Where: Summit Church or HIS Kids School (venue depends on how many women register)

Time: 9-3p.m.

Soup and sandwich luncheon

Theme: Loved by God

Please invite your friends!

Further information regarding cost per person and registration will be coming soon!

Boosters Update!

We have been very busy this year!

We had our big thanksgiving feast on Nov. 27th . Thank you to all the donations and

Volunteers . Its such a blessing to have the whole school come together and eat as one big family .

We just finished up our giving shop for the students . Thank you to everyone that helped and thought of us to donate . We love how much the kids love coming and shopping for their families members . We love being able to show the kids how good it feels to give and not just receive gifts during the holiday season .

We have our last Hoagie order for this school year in January! With all the hard work that everyone puts into this fundraising we have been about to purchased a new preschool school sign, a new bounce house for our funday, and all the little things such as holiday treats and fun events that we have at the school for the children and staff.

We will be trying a new fundraiser this year Nothing Bundt Cakes in March for Easter.

We will also be planning a Boosters Meeting in February . This is a great time for parents , grandparents , church members and staff to come together and explore ideas and suggestions . We are always looking for new ideas and new things to do for the Kids at HIS Kids

Thank you again for all the support and love!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

from the Dec. 10, 2024 Session Meeting

Pastors Report: The small groups had their meet and greets after worship on December 8th. The youth café has been meeting Sunday evenings and have been well attended. The PNC had their first meeting and training and have a long road ahead of them. Please continued prayers as they continue the process of obtaining a full time pastor.

Clerks Report: Motion approved to accept the minutes from the, Nov. 12, 2024, Session Meeting.

Finance Committee: Motion approved to accept the November treasurer report.

Congregational Care: The Advent lunches have been taking place every Tuesday during this season.

HIS Kids School Report: Continued prayers for the 2024-2025 school year. Both elementary and pre-school Christmas concerts were held at HKCS and were a raving success. The students from HKCS performed a few songs during December 15th worship service. A special thank you to Mrs. H for all the hard work she has put into the music program at His Kids.

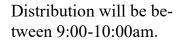
Summit Church 2025

Elders Deacons

Luc Carr-DiZinno	724-816-7448		Celeste Faust	412-585-2241
Bill Dorsey	301-263-4556		Ken Galvan	724-991-0872
Amanda Galvan	724-991-0639		Tim Hankey	724-352-2477
Jim Harbision	724-524-3305		Michelle Morgan	724-283-8223
Phil Henkel	724-287-8314		Tammy Mowry	724-822-7390
Andrew Moyer	724-352-0358	Deacons	Jennifer Suttor	724-290-0944
		veacons	Linda Toy	724-352-3268

Saturday - January 25

Volunteers please come at 8:00 am to set up and pack orders. **





**Volunteers—new and "experienced" are always welcome to serve at the Summit Church Food Bank. Packing orders and carrying them out to the cars of those we serve—there are jobs for everyone! This is a great service opportunity for individuals and families!! Won't you join us??



Shoebox Update

Can you find Botswana on the map??

Why would I want to know that, you may ask?? Because that's where our shoeboxes were sent!

Located in southern Africa, Botswana is known for its production of diamonds as well as its safari tourism that features, in particular, its large herds of elephants.

Check out these links: https://photo.samaritanspurse.org/changed-lives and

https://www.samaritanspurse.org/article/god-is-transforming-families-in-botswana-through-the-greatest-journey/ - for a look at how God uses shoe-boxes in the life of a child!

Keep praying for the children who will receive our shoeboxes—that God will do a great work in their lives. HIS Kids students and Summit Church making a difference around the world!!





Hark! The Herald Angels' Things

January 2025 Vol. 15, Issue 5

NOTES FROM OUR HIS KIDS TEACHERS

Welcome to a new year! I feel like with every new year the question is always asked: Where did the time go? In third grade the time went by fast. They have been working really hard. We had so much fun celebrating the Christmas season. In bible class, Miss Carol quizzed the kids on the true story of Christmas. They learned things like: we don't know how many wise men came to see baby Jesus. There may have been more than three, even though there were 3 gifts. It was even great to see some of the HIS Kids students (current & past) help out with the live nativity at Summit Church! We also took a trip around the world! We looked at what other countries do to celebrate the holiday season. We visited Brazil, Germany, Japan, Mexico, and Spain. There were some great discussions on how we celebrate the same all around the world, with a few differences mixed in. If you missed it the whole school put on another amazing Christmas program led by Mrs. Horstman. A few students even attended a church service to put on a small performance. It is always great when we can spread the holiday cheer! In the midst of all the Christmas fun we did manage to get some learning in. We accomplished our several multiplication units in math. Even with those done, we continue to practice our multiplication facts. They are making great progress. I look forward to what the new year has to offer to my third graders. From third grade we wish you nothing but the best for the new year!

Mrs. Maxwell- Third Grade Teacher



We've had a super fun fall in fourth grade! Some of our class highlights so far this year include our field trip to Sylvania, Spelling mastery, multiplication into the thousands place, our gingerbread house STEAM project, and a fun and fabulous Christmas Party. Of course, every student listed PLAYING GAGA as their favorite thing to do at His Kids! As we start a new calendar year and approach the second half of the school year, students dive deeper into their learning journey, building on the foundation they laid in the first half of the year. This time is packed with exciting challenges, opportunities for growth, and new discoveries. Here's a glimpse of what happens in fourth grade during this critical period. Our second semester focuses on expanding critical thinking and applying learned concepts:

- Reading & Writing: Students explore more complex texts, developing skills in identifying themes, analyzing character development, and comparing multiple sources. Fourth grade will start their first research report for the Living Wax Museum which will take place later in the spring. This is a chance to combine a creative project with structure and research, helping students express ideas more clearly and confidently.
- Math::We're learning and applying advanced multiplication and division, fractions, and geometry. Our goal is to strengthen problem-solving skills and mathematical reasoning. Mastering the concepts taught in fourth grade sets students up for future math success.
- Science: From hands-on experiments to interactive projects, fourth grade focuses on making science FUN. One of the best things about fourth grade Science is that at the end of the year, we take the concepts we studied and put them to practice in fun and sometimes messy experiments!
- Social Studies: Students learn about historical events, geography, and government systems, with a focus on state history of Pennsylvania. The second semester brings us to memorizing the states, capitals and state abbreviations. One fun way we achieve this is by learning a song about touring the United States!



Hark! The Herald Angels' Things

January 2025 Vol. 15, Issue 5

NOTES FROM OUR HIS KIDS TEACHERS

My 5th graders have been keeping busy and adventuring into some new learning experiences together. They did a wonderful job performing the play "The Miracle of Spring" for the entire school. Their homemade props and great acting skills made the story come alive for the audience. The students have also loved getting to use the newly purchased microscopes during our science lessons on cells and organisms. They are looking forward to running a whole school campaign for a mock student President election in the beginning of the New Year.

I am very proud of my students for willingly making tons of extra cards for both Veteran's Day and Christmas cards to be handed out at local nursing homes for our veterans. Several of my students gave up their recess time to help organize and wrap Christmas presents for needy Veterans. I love that HIS Kids Christian School puts a lot of emphasis on not only growing our students' minds, but also developing their giving hearts.

I hope everyone reading this had a blessed Christmas with your friends and family. I know my students and I both were all excited for a break. Have a very Happy New year!

Ms. Dimit– Fifth Grade Teacher









A Ministry of Summit Church

Love Jesus - Learn from Jesus - Live like Jesus

"...And I pray
that you, being
rooted and
established
in love,"
"may have
power
...to grasp
how wide and long
and ligh and deep
is the love of Christ,"
Eph. 3:17b-18

A powerful prayer as we begin 2025—let this be your prayer for the staff and students of HIS Kids as we continue through this 2024-25 school year!

...I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, through it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Ephesians 3:14-19 (NLT)



Prayer Huddle

Come pray for HIS Kids! Join us for our monthly "Prayer Huddle" the first Friday of each month—our January Huddle will be on Friday, January 3. Meet us at 8:30 am at the front of the school! Everyone is invited!



January is "Soup"er Bowl Month at HIS Kids!

January finds our HIS Kids students "Living Like Jesus" through our annual "Soup"er Bowl service project. We are collecting cans of soup, along with fixin's such as crackers, corn bread mix, etc., to fill up Summit Church's Loaves and Fishes Food Bank! Let's see how many items we can collect!!

A big THANK YOU to Mrs. Stephanie Horstman, our music teacher, and to our students and staff for creating such a wonderful Christmas gift through our Christmas program—Random Acts of Christmas! Our preschoolers did a great job sharing their songs the next afternoon!

THANK YOU to Mrs. Bandy Biondo, our Art teacher, for helping our students create wonderful decorations! THANKS to our teachers, as well, for their part in decorating the hallways!!



Who we are...

A Ministry of Summit Presbyterian Church

Our Mission Statement...

HIS Kids Christian School is a ministry of Summit Presbyterian Church located in Butler, PA. Our purpose is to educate children and guide them to Jesus Christ through an academically challenging Bible -rich curriculum. We desire to see children develop in a balanced way - spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially, just as Jesus did.

Our Board...

The HIS Kids Board is made up of members of Summit Church, Parents, and the Community. They meet monthly—usually the first Tuesday of the month. Because HIS Kids is a ministry of Summit Church, the board is under the authority of the Summit Church Session. This year's board members are:

Michelle Morgan, President Lynette Glaze, Vice-President

Amy Warner, Secretary Ken Galvan Jason Dobson Heather John Debora Dawson **Holly Collins**

Stefanie Christiansen

Our Boosters...

HIS Kids Boosters are comprised of anyone who supports the ministry of HIS Kids Christian School—anyone can be a HIS Kids Booster!! The Boosters support the mission of HIS Kids Christian School and provide the "extras" for our students and teachers, such as field trips (admission and transportation); special activities, such as our Thanksgiving Feast and end of the year Fun Day; refreshments for concerts and special events, just to name a few. This year's Boosters Leadership Team is made up of Dianna Carr-DiZinno, Janice Stahl, and Tara Cornetti.

Stay Tuned

Listed below are some helpful links and addresses to help you stay connected. Don't forget to check out our calendar on the school website to keep up-to-date on upcoming events.

School E-mail office@hiskidscs.org

School Website https://www.hiskidscs.com

HIS Kids Christian School School Facebook Page

Boosters E-mail boosters@hiskidscs.org



(Pre-K - 6th grade) 650 Saxonburg Road Butler, PA 16002 724-352-8177 www.hiskidscs.com

Staff

Preschool—Jenna Weston Preschool/Primary Aide—Tara Corace Kindergarten—Linda Heckman 1st Grade—Tara Riddell 2nd Grade—Josh Mion Primary Aide—Sherry Smith 3rd Grade—Kim Maxwell 4th Grade—Jennifer Schwalm 5th Grade—Jennifer Dimit Bible (3rd-5th Grade)—Carol Novy Music—Stephanie Horstman Art—Brandy Biondo Phys. Educ. (K-5th Grade)— Amanda Galvan Library—Toni Esasky Curriculum Advisor—Marlene Beamer Cafeteria—Tara Cornetti Cleaning —Holly Collins & Jessica Hanna Principal—Carol Novy Administrative Assistant—Brittany Morse Financial Administrator—Katie Anderson Transitional Pastor of Summit Church— David Perry Midwest Intermediate Unit 4 Support:

Title I Reading & Math—Marie Farkas

Speech & Language—Karen Nicholas

Guidance—Rhett Fertig

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January 2025	Wednesday	1 Happy New Year!!	&	15 End of 2 nd Marking Period	22	Hoagie Pickup 3:15 – 5:00
Ja	Tuesday	"Souper" Bowl Service Project Month	7	14	21 Hoagie Orders Due 6:30 Skate Night	28
	Monday	"Soupe Service	6	13	20 Martin Luther King Day NO School	27
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