**Sts. Peter & Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church LC-MS**

Monthly Newsletter --- November 2021

699 Stambaugh Avenue, Sharon, PA 16146

Phone: 724.347.3620 (Opt. 2, Pastor Deal; Opt. 3, Office)

E-mail: church@saintspeterandpaul.net [www.saintspeterandpaul.net](http://www.saintspeterandpaul.net)

“THE ROCK and THE SWORD”

“Built upon the Rock of Christ and wielding the

Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.”

**From the Pastor:**

**Should Women Cover Their Heads in Worship—Part One**

Should women cover their heads in the Divine Service and in prayer at home? This is a good question. Recently, you may remember that I asked for people to bring their theological questions to me. Some of the college women from Slippery Rock brought up this one over a group lunch a few weeks ago. This article is going to raise more questions. I fully intend to bring answers to those in the short series that will follow. This first part is an overview with a conclusion following. The second part will explain the “why” with the beauty of diving deeper into the context of 1 Corinthians 11 and supporting texts.

Women covering their heads during service at Church and in the home is a reverent practice. It is not altogether foreign to us as we survey that in many churches women have traditionally worn hats for festivals and other occasions. Through the mid to late 1900s, it would not have been surprising to go into a congregation and see women with their heads covered, especially in the Roman Catholic Church since canon law from 1917 - 1980 required women to cover their heads during mass. But that law is now discarded and seeing women with head coverings is a rather rare occurrence. Rarer still are people who actually want to know the answer to the question: Should women wear a physical head covering?

This act of a woman covering her head during service and in prayer is still reverent and proper based on the Words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:2-16, which read in part *"… But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.  Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonors his head.  But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, for that is one and the same as if her head were shaved.* *For if a woman is not covered, let her also be shorn. But if it is shameful for a woman to be shorn or shaved, let her be covered.*" St. Paul continues " *For this reason the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels... But if anyone seems to be contentious, we have no such custom, nor do the churches of God.*"

These words are not misleading or confusing. Saint Paul speaks very clearly regarding this matter. Like many assertions of Scripture, these Words directly conflict with what is taught and believed by so many in the world today. Personal rights, individuality, freedom, and equality have been the buzzwords of our secular culture. Study anything of these words apart from God’s Word and you can go down any number of paths. The Order of Creation (man created first and, then, woman taken from man) is rejected by the world, as are the Biblical roles of man and woman in the church and home (men being the spiritual head of the family). It is no surprise that this teaching and the sight of such a practice would be difficult for some and, therefore, completely ignored. But the Church of God is led by her groom, Jesus Christ, and so we must take up these matters with serious attention.

Churches most often have stopped short of *requiring* the use of head coverings by all women. It would be wrong to make this a law.Scripture supports this assertion.  St. Paul writes to the Church in Rome about adherence to dietary traditions "*Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things…  Therefore, let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.*  *I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean… Therefore, let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.* (Rom 14:1-19)

Our Confessions of 1530 also have answered this question.  In Article XXVII of the Augsburg Confession, we read:  “*…it is lawful for bishops or pastors to make ordinances that things be done orderly in the Church, not that thereby we should merit grace or make satisfaction for sins, or that consciences be bound to judge them necessary services (cultus), and to think that it is a sin to break them without offense to others.*

*So, Paul ordains, 1 Cor. 11, 5, that “women should cover their heads in the congregation”, 1 Cor. 14, 30  that “interpreters be heard in order in the church,” etc.*

*It is proper that the churches should keep such ordinances for the sake of love and tranquility, so far that one do not offend another, that all things be done in the churches in order, and without confusion… but so that consciences be not burdened to think that they are necessary to salvation, or to judge that they sin when they break them without offense to others; as no one will say that a woman sins who goes out in public with her head uncovered, provided only that no offense be given.”*

Therefore, it is in this context, our freedom in the Gospel, that the Church should invite, but not require, women to cover their heads during the Divine Service and in prayer at home. “Let it be that pious, faithful women, catechized by the Scriptures, loving and respecting one another in Christ, may elect not to cover their heads, or to cover their heads, as their personal piety leads them, prayerfully giving due consideration to the traditions of the Church and the consciences of their Christian sisters. But let Christ and Him crucified and risen for us, and the saving Gifts that He alone can give, remain the focus and center of our worship and our life together.”

This compilation above was assisted from an article written by Fr. Braden of Zion Lutheran Church with my own additions as were specific to our recent discussions and congregations. In part two of this topic, we will explore the beautiful aspect of how Saint Paul framed teaching about this tradition of the Church and his references. First and most importantly, as Fr. Braden has encouraged, prayerfully consider all teachings which you may wrestle with in the Church. Ask for the help of the Holy Spirit whom God has promised to us. Also keep notes of all your questions to see if they find their answers at the end of this series.

Your servant in Christ,

*Pastor Jacob Deal*

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**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AT A GLANCE**

**Goal: $200,000**

**Total Contributions**

**as of 10.24.21: $40,278**

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**It’s not too late to submit a Capital Campaign pledge card!** Pledge cards are available on the table outside Pastor’s office.

**Homebound Members & Friends**

***Please keep the following in your prayers:***

Anne Colt

St. John XXIII

2250 Shenango Valley Fwy.

Hermitage, PA 16148

lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll

Marion Roberts

The Lakes at Jefferson

7271 W. Market St.

Mercer, PA 16137

724-946-2236

lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll

Betty Ann Wolf

7777 Arthur St., SC

Masury, OH 44438

330-448-1080

lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll lll

Millie Zachar

1320 Old Forge Rd.

Niles, OH 44446

330-652-9316

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**SCRIP Program:**

The next date for **SCRIP orders and payments** is Sunday, November 1st. Checks should be made out to Sts. Peter & Paul’s and are to be given to Matt Berent or placed in the offering plate. You should receive your gift cards the following week.

 Looking for that Christmas gift guaranteed to fit and sure to bring joy? Consider giving a SCRIP gift card!

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**Pastor Deal** continues to serve as **Vacancy Pastor for All Saints Lutheran Church** in Slippery Rock, PA until further notice. As he must leave shortly following our worship service in order to travel safely to Slippery Rock, Pastor will be available one hour prior to our service for those wishing to speak with him.

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**To listen to Pastor Deal’s sermons, phone 724-347-3620 and press Opt. 6.**

**TRUSTEES’ UPDATE**

 **By Mike Flaugher, Chairman**

*Finally*, the new roof. fascia and gutters are done!  Many thanks for everyone’s patience in assuring that all minor details be worked out.

Next up will be the drainage around the church. This is to eliminate the water seeping into the church kitchen and Fellowship Hall when there are large amounts of rain.

On October 7th, **SUREFLO SEWER & DRAIN** was at the church to inspect the drains around the church.  Their notes follow:

**East Wall** *(Starting at the East wall just below the secretary’s office.  When you go around the church, you will see some white paint marking locations. )*

* These drains were inspected and are open from the church to the street.  There a few traces of roots detected, but no blockage from this downspout to the street.
* Terra Cotta piping looks remarkable good for its age.
* The drain by outside storage door was open to the tie-in at the drain to the street.

**North wall** *(Near alley; 2nd drain from end of building.)*

* This drain just outside the steps is blocked.  The blockage is marked and is caused by a baseball.   It was surmised this is the cause of stairwell flooding into the Fellowship Hall as the drain outside the door ties into the drain with the baseball.
* The north side drains flow down the north wall and tie into the drain going down the alley into the Clover Street drain.

**Courtyard**

*(Southeast corner of courtyard)*

* This drain is plugged with what appears to be a plastic bag.  It is plugged about 18 feet from the downspout tie-in.  This drain runs to Stambaugh Ave.

*(Northeast corner of courtyard)*

* This drain is clogged with roots and debris straight down where at the 90^ bend.  This drain runs to Stambaugh.

**Some recommendations from SureFlo:**

*East wall*

* Add ditch drain / trench with cover in between the concrete parking pad and the asphalt alley.  This would run from storage door drain to the length of parking pad then be piped to Clover Street.
* It was SureFLo's thought that the drains are good but overtaxed with water when we get large amounts of rain. If the kitchen continues to leak, they could then go in and do a patch of drain where the root comes in.

*North wall*

* Dig out baseball and fix drainage pipe.  Drains should be good once that is done.

*Courtyard*

* Both corner drains need dug up and repaired at the source of the blockage.
* The bushes in the northeast corner need removed.
* Drains need rerouted to the street above the grade of the pavement.

On October 15th, **GREENWALT CONTRACTING** was in to quote the work generated from the SureFlo findings along with removal if bushes in the courtyard.

Their quote involved removing the baseball and fixing the drain. Additionally, they recommended that we install a drain near the ally running into the existing storm sewer lines.  This should give a good flow of rainwater away from the church.

Finally, they would remove the bushes in courtyard and unplug drains.  They will upgrade tile drainage to Stambaugh as needed.

On October 14th, **ELIAS PAINTING** from Johnstown, Pa.  was at the church to quote painting the steeples.  They gave recommendations and a price, but felt we would be better served if we could find a local contractor.  Elias’s cost was between $15,000 to $20,000.  Elias said that if we found a local contractor, they would review for us the procedure to paint at no charge.

On October 17th, the back-up  boiler pump motor was delivered to the church.

On October 21st, the steel pole on north wall by the stairwell was removed.

The next meeting of the Trustees will be Tuesday, November 16th at 6 pm. Please let me know if you are unable to be in attendance.

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**ATTENTION AUDITORS!** The **November monthly audit of deposits and the Food Pantry account** will take place following worship, Sunday, November 21st in the library. If unable to attend, please phone Bev Chlpka at 724-962-4806.

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 Don’t forget to VOTE Tuesday, November 2nd.

**CELEBRATING IN NOVEMBER!**

**Birthdays**

Maria Marks 11- 2

Jerome Thomas 11- 3

Rev. Arthur Baisch 11-10

Judith Furey 11-10

Patricia Voytik 11-23

Edward Zachar 11-25

Elizabeth Shreffler 11-26

Paul Andolina 11-29

\*If birthdays or anniversaries have been omitted, please let the church office know. Thank You!

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**** **LIKE & FOLLOW our Church’s Facebook page (Saints Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church)!**

Remember to like, comment, and share to help us reach as many people as possible.

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**STS. PETER & PAUL’S**

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**

We hope you enjoyed the free produce provided to us by the Community Food Warehouse of Mercer Country the last three months! A note of appreciation has been sent to them on the congregation’s behalf.

 Please remember to let us know if you become aware of someone who is in need of food assistance. If we are not able to help them ourselves, we will do our best to direct them to an agency which may be able to help.

 At this time, our Food Pantry is not in need of additional donations. Please consider re-directing money which you might typically give to other funds in our church which have need.

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**Thank You for Serving in November:**

**Head Elder:** Barry Nelson

**Assisting Elder:** Jonathan Baisch

**Ushers:** To be determined.

**Altarware:** (Before service) Marie Flaugher & Diane Riefstahl; (After service) Ruth Meszaros & Viola Sakony

**Finance Committee:** Joan Rice, Rev. & Evelyn Baisch

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If you do not have an email account or do not receive emails from the church but wish to be notified of significant information concerning your fellow church members (such as births or deaths), please put a note in the Secretary’s mail slot asking to receive a phone call. Every attempt will be made to phone you within 24 hours of an email being sent out.

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Join us for **COFFEE & DONUTS FELLOWSHIP**

Sunday, November 14th in the Fellowship Hall following worship. This month’s fellowship is being sponsored by Sue Bender.

 Mid-November, the 2022 Coffee & Donuts Sponsor sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please consider becoming a sponsor! Sponsors need to bring 2-3 dozen donuts/muffins (or other treats!) and 1 qt. orange juice on the day they are scheduled and place them in the Fellowship Hall prior to the worship service. Set up and clean-up will be done for you. Freewill donations will help cover the cost of coffee, tea, creamers, sugar, and miscellaneous supplies.

**Special November Services**

Please join us this month to celebrate the following:

**6 pm Monday, November 1st:**

**All Saints’ Day Divine Service**

**6 pm Wednesday, November 24th:**

**Thanksgiving Eve Vespers**

**6 pm Tuesday, November 30th:**

**Festival of St. Andrew, Apostle**

**Vespers Service**

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**UP-COMING MEETINGS:**

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Monday, November 15th

7 pm

Fellowship Hall

*(Please send a digital copy of your report to Diane by noon that day.)*

**TRUSTEES’ MEETING**

Tuesday, November 16th

6 pm

Library

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**MEETING**

Sunday, November 28th

Following Worship

Fellowship Hall

(Lunch will be served!)

**VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY**

Sunday, December 5th

Following Worship

Fellowship Hall

  

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Remember the

following in Prayer…

**~The Hurting and Healing:** *Ellen BaronCA, Lois BortnerCA, Richard Brandes, Jean Brillinger, John Burdette, Anne Colt, Ron Carson, Kathleen Coughenour, Kim, Susan Davies, Tim Dudash, Joseph Fleet, Eddy Furey, Judith Furey, Marie Haenftling, Neale & Melissa Huston, Michelle KellyCA, Donna Kennedy, Jess Lavoie, Greg Lawrence, Paul LucasCA, Sandy Marshall, Ernie Meszaros, David Nelson, Juanita Rentschler, Richard ReuningCA, Alyxis Riffle, Marty Scott, and Angela WeserCA.*

**~The Homebound:**  *Marion Roberts, BettyWolf, and Millie Zachar.*

**~Serving in the Military:**  *Curtis Sinewe and Joshua Solyan.*

**~Community & World Needs:**  *Those suffering from or affected by the coronavirus; those suffering from loss and dislocation because weather disasters; those suffering from addiction and their families; Local, State, and National Government Leaders; safety for all Police Officers, Firefighters, & First Responders; the unemployed; our Fourth Quarter Local Mission: Keystone Blind Association of Hermitage, PA.*

*\*CA represents cancer*

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*.***REMINDER:** If you would like someone’s name to be added to or deleted from our prayer list, please put a written note in the secretary’s mail slot by the office door.

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Our Fourth Quarter

Local Mission

is the Keystone Blind

Association of Hermitage, PA.

Your support is appreciated!

FROM YOUR ALTAR GUILD:

**Light’s On, but Nobody's Home**

-*Marie Flaugher*

Imagine you have planned a wonderful party and invited everyone you know.  You have cleaned your home, set out your best dishes, lit beautiful candles, made a feast for all and dressed in your very best.  You do not ask for anyone to bring anything-just themselves.  At the expected arrival time you open your doors, turn on all the lights, have soft music playing, and...NOBODY COMES.  You are heartbroken. You wait...wait...wait.  After a while you get 1 or 2 guests.  GREAT!  You have already done all the preparations, so you share what you have with them.  Everyone has a good time and you feel a little better as the evening ends.

You still wonder what kept everyone else you invited from arriving-*Still at work? Too tired after work? Did not want to leave the house again? Too far to drive? Forgot?* Whatever the reason, you know you did all you could to offer a wonderful time for all who were invited.

Now, imagine the same scenario, but the setting is our special Church services.  The altar is laid out with special paraments, candles are lit, the organist is in place, a special service bulletin has been printed, and the doors are open and welcoming.  It's almost time... and NOBODY—or only a handful—COMES.  The service will go on as planned for the people who have prepared for it.  Is God heartbroken? Is the pastor?  What about the organist?  All that preparation and anticipation…

Our church offers special services on select feast days throughout the year in addition to regular Sunday Divine Services and midweek Lent and Advent services. When you are not there, you are actually the one missing out on a "great party".  Even though those who planned the event along with those who do attend feel joy from the service, you, however, are still missed.

Advent will be upon us at the end of this month. Think about making plans to attend the mid-week Advent Services (offered at noon and 6 pm), along with other remaining special services for 2021.  You have an open invitation!  You may be missing out of the best party of your life!

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**Other Altar Guild News**

The Altar Guild’s pie sale in October was a great success with over fifty pies (and other “goodies”) ordered. Pies will be picked up from Jane’s Specialties Friday morning, November 12th, and will be able to be picked up at the church between noon and 1 pm that day. It you placed an order, *please* try to pick it up that day as freezer space for storage is very limited. Please come to the Clover St. entrance and your pie(s) will be ready for you.

The Altar Guild is excited to host its first Christmas luncheon for the women of our congregation December 4th! Invitations will be distributed shortly and guests are asked to sign-up on the clipboard found in the narthex if planning to attend.

 In December, the Altar Guild will be sponsoring a special “Coffee & Cookies” Fellowship following worship Sunday, December 12th. Members are asked to bring a couple dozen cookies (or more) to share.

Work has begun on the new Memorial Book which will note donations made to our church in “honor” or “memory” of someone. Plans are to have this complete by January.

 Beginning with our January meeting, Pastor Deal will be presenting a half-hour Bible study at the beginning of each meeting when available. Our first topic will center on women in the Bible.

 New members to the Altar Guild are always welcome! Consider joining us at our next meeting, Saturday, January 8th at 11 am.

(Note: the meeting originally scheduled for November 13th has been canceled due to conflicts.)

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**A note from Pastor Deal:** *Please let me know if you or a loved one are in the hospital or have a special need. Also, please ask the hospital or family members to phone me or the church office as I wish to visit those who may be hurting.*

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Many thanks are extended to those who helped with our **Trunk or Treat** event October 30th. Pictures from the event will be in our next newsletter.

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**Submissions for the December issue of “The Rock and the Sword” newsletter are due to the secretary’s office Monday, November 21st at noon. This includes meeting dates and times for the church calendar.**

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**Address Update!** Judith and Eddy Furey are in their new home! Please update your directory with their new address: 196 Tower Rd., Jamestown, PA 16134.

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**We were chosen!** By directing designated Choice Dollars through Thrivent Choice, eligible Thrivent members choose where Thrivent Financial for Lutherans distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating Lutheran nonprofit organizations and congregations.

 **Many thanks** to Thrivent Financial member **Rudy Tomko** who recently directed Choice dollars to our church!

 Also, did you know that Thrivent sponsors Action Team grants? Recently, thanks to Marie Flaugher, we were the recipients of a $250 grant to be used for our Trunk or Treat event! Grants are easy to apply for and can be used for a variety of events. Check out Thrivent’s website for more information.

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It’s time, once again, to place orders for **The Lutheran Witness**. Subscriptions cost $10.90 (same as last year!). Checks may be made out to our church. Please place payments in a pew envelope labeled with your name and note that it is for the LW. See Diane with any questions. Orders are due to the office on or before Sunday, November 21, 2021.

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During the month of November, the **secretary’s office** will be open Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-4:30. During the week of Thanksgiving, the office will be open Monday (8:30-4:30) and Friday (as needed).

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**REMINDER:** Please let the church office know of any changes to your address, phone, cell phone or your e-mail address!

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSES FROM OCTOBER**

**For Adults**

Oct. 3: *For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. Romans 8:13*

Oct. 10: *You will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. Matthew 10:22*

Oct. 17: *Let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. 1 Corinthians 7:17*

Oct. 24: *Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*

*Matthew 7:21*

Oct. 31: *For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. John 6:40*

**For Children**

Oct. 3: *This commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother. 1 John 4:21*

Oct. 10: *Know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. Matthew 9:6*

Oct. 17: *“The Lord knows those who are his,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity.”*

*2 Timothy 2:19*

Oct. 24: *An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.*

*2 Timothy 2:5*

Oct. 31: *With you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. Psalm 130:4*



Veterans’ Day is Thursday, November 11th. We thank all those who have served!

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NOVEMBER 1ST IS

ALL SAINTS’ DAY!

Please join us for a Divine Service Monday, November 1st at 6 pm as we fondly remember those members of our church family who have passed from this world to their heavenly reward.

John Zachar

(January 27, 1929-November 22, 2020)

Helen Bender

(October 29, 1925-December 27, 2020)

Mary Ann Krajci

(July 24, 1927-January 23, 2021)

John Dyll

(June 23, 1928-March 11, 2021)

Martin Weisenborn

(November 3, 1951-April 23, 2021)

May those who mourn their passings find comfort during this difficult time.



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**Word of Hope: 1-888-217-8679**

The only 24/7 CONFIDENTIAL Hotline that is distinctly Lutheran, bringing healing found in Christ, to those whose hearts have been broken by abortion.

**Sunday,**

**November 7th**

****(Move your clock back one hour!) **llllllllllllllllllllllllllll**

**KEEP BRINGING IN THOSE POP TABS!** We continue to collect pop/can tabs to donate towards a charitable cause. Tabs may be placed in any of the labeled containers throughout the building or given directly to Marie Flaugher.

 We are unsure as to whether Thrivent is doing their “pop tab challenge” this coming spring. If not, we will try to find a worthy cause which can make use of them.

 To date, over 28 pounds have been collected!

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**PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION**

Soon it will be time to consider 2022 church officers and board/staff members. For our congregation to thrive, we need members to step up and prayerfully consider how they can be of service. It cannot just be the task of a few to lend their time and talents.

 So, if asked to serve, please give it prayerful consideration.

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Happy Belated First Anniversary to

Paul & Gretchen Andolina! (October 10th)

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Order forms for **Christmas Poinsettias** will be available Sunday, November 21st. Please consider purchasing one or more to help beautify our altar for Christmas.