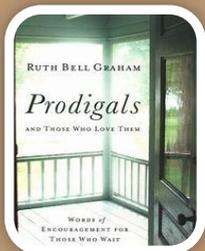


# Soup & Study

*'Prodigals and Those who love them:  
Words of Encouragement for those Who Wait'.*

March 11, 18,  
and 25, 2026



Noon to 1:30 pm

Community Presbyterian Church  
1755 S. Delaware Dr.  
Mt. Bethel, PA 18343

Your host: Rev. John Heinsohn  
For more information please call:  
(570)897-6766 (church office)  
(609) 462-1639 (Rev. Heinsohn)



The Parable of the Prodigal Son by Rembrandt  
Luke 15



Fyodor Dostoevsky  
The famous Russian writer



## RYAN MACKENZIE

U.S. CONGRESS



### Supporting Families with Paid Parental Leave

By Congressman Ryan Mackenzie

This week, I chaired a Workforce Protections Subcommittee hearing focused on expanding access to paid parental leave. As a working parent, I know how important it is to have time at home with your child—right now, my wife Chloe is able to care for our newborn daughter thanks to her employer's paid leave policy. Unfortunately, millions of families don't have that same support.

That's why I worked with colleagues to make the employer-paid family leave tax credit permanent through the Working Families Tax Cuts. I'm also a cosponsor of the bipartisan More Paid Leave for More Americans Act, which encourages states to expand paid leave through public-private partnerships and helps more families access these benefits.

This hearing brought together experts from across the country to discuss real, practical ways we can help more parents balance work and family.



### Supporting Families with Paid Parental Leave

By Congressman Ryan Mackenzie

I was proud to introduce the bipartisan Military Family Diaper Partnership Act alongside Rep. Valerie Foushee to support military families and ensure they have access to essential supplies like diapers. Those who serve our country shouldn't have to worry about affording basic needs for their children.

This builds on our previous work to expand diaper assistance and takes the next step by creating a Military Family Diaper Fund to better support servicemembers and their families. It's about making sure military families have the resources they need to grow and thrive.

By Congressman Ryan Mackenzie

We're now accepting requests for Community Project Funding (CPF) and appropriations submissions for Fiscal Year 2027. This process helps bring federal resources back to the Lehigh Valley and the Poconos to support local projects, first responders, housing, and more.

This past year, we secured over \$12 million for projects across our region, and I'm looking forward to building on that progress. We also recently secured \$47 million in programmatic funding to build Mack Defense heavy dump trucks, and advocated for \$4.8 million in federal funding to help expand lab space for early-stage technology companies in our region.

If you or someone you know is interested in submitting a request for CPF, programmatic, and language appropriations, you can learn more [HERE](#). CPF submissions [HERE](#). Programmatic and language appropriations submissions [HERE](#).

To help applicants navigate the process, we will be hosting a webinar on Monday, March 2, at 1:00 PM ET, featuring a demonstration for community members applying for Community Project Funding and programmatic/language appropriations requests. Register [HERE](https://iqconnect.house.gov/iqextranet/iqClickTrk.aspx?&cid=PA07RM&crop=15679.19466628.5229691.7680129&report_id=&redirect=https%3a%2f%2fevents.gcc.teams.microsoft.com%2fevent%2f6223afb2-2548-4378-a953-f04875e7f95b%4092138299-22d0-4d49-8d30-7170d5896d98&redir_log=889329229199679) [HERE](https://iqconnect.house.gov/iqextranet/iqClickTrk.aspx?&cid=PA07RM&crop=15679.19466628.5229691.7680129&report_id=&redirect=https%3a%2f%2fevents.gcc.teams.microsoft.com%2fevent%2f6223afb2-2548-4378-a953-f04875e7f95b%4092138299-22d0-4d49-8d30-7170d5896d98&redir_log=889329229199679).



Tuesday, March 24, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

@ Edge Restaurant

74 W Broad Street, Suite 220, Bethlehem

