



The
GLEANER

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November 2017

The McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church
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“A Spiritual Journey”

October 16-26, my wife, Len, and I joined Donna Ankney and her sister-in-law, Pat Barndt; Dave and Nancy Bivens; Tim and Becky Drover; John and Linda Heuston; and their friend, Stephen Lantz; Richard and Joyce Hornberger; Wayne and Barb MacDonald (all from McConnellsburg Presbyterian) along with three couples from Gettysburg, on a trip to the land of our spiritual heritage, Scotland and England. In Scotland we visited St. Andrews, where John Knox was educated. Knox, who lived from 1513 to 1572, later brought the Protestant Reformation to Scotland, and established the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian), and wrote a reformed “confession of faith” for this new church. Immigrants from Scotland in the early days of our country brought their Presbyterian faith to this new land, and many settled in Pennsylvania.

We visited St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh, where Knox served for a period of time; and Sunday, October 22nd, our group attended worship at the Glasgow Cathedral, where Knox had been pastor. The Reverend David Eason welcomed us and gave us the opportunity to extend greetings from Pennsylvania. I presented a wood block model of MUPC, and Wayne offered the following:

“Good morning. We bring you greetings from the McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church located in rural south-central Pennsylvania on the edge of Carlisle Presbytery. Our congregation of 120 worships in a building dedicated in 1867 and is made up of the descendants of earlier Seceder, Covenanter, Associate, and United Presbyterian congregations all of which had combined into one United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America by 1958. While our current church building was preceded by others in our county dating back to the 1790’s, Carlisle Presbytery had sent itinerant preachers to our valley on the frontier as early as 1769 when Pennsylvania was still a colony of Great Britain. In America, anything that dates to the 1700’s is really old; but that seems rather recent standing here in a church consecrated in 1197. We are very pleased to be able to worship with you this morning in this beautiful place.” Following the service, we had the opportunity to interact with members over tea and coffee – it was a highlight of our trip!

Cont.

Another highlight of our trip was our visit to the Isle of Iona, where the monk, Columba, introduced Christianity to Scotland in 563 AD. England's Reformation experience was not Presbyterian, but we did visit All Hallows Church by the Tower of London, where William Penn was baptized.

Although, as we discovered, the early Reformers were far from perfect – the 1500's were filled with plenty of "drama" between Protestants and Catholics – the legacy of faith they left behind changed the world! They offered a whole new perspective on the meaning of a personal relationship with a God by faith in His grace through Christ's atoning death. Their emphasis on Scripture brought about an explosion in education as schools were founded so that all people would be able to read God's Word. Their suggestion that our chief purpose in life is to "glorify and enjoy God" led to the application of faith to all of life – both within the church and outside in our communities sharing God's love with orphans, the homeless, the hungry, etc.

For all of us, experiencing the land of our spiritual heritage was a blessing, and an experience we will never forget!

Pastor Dale



- 1-Attison Raufer
- 2-Hayden Mitchell
Gage Dile
Kristen Milroth
- 9-Rachel Kimmel
- 14-Gavin Fowler
Luke Marshall
- 15-Eric Kerlin
- 16-Sonny Harr
- 17-Anne Eisenhower
- 20-Lorraine Milroth
- 21-Wes Howells
- 22-Kenneth Spriggs
- 24-Ben Faunce



Prayer Concerns: Please be in prayer for those listed below and their families: **Short Term:** Gerald Peck, Audrey Mitchell, Greg Ramsey, Tammy (Gordon) Metz, Bill Vogel, Izzi Arevalo, Ella Spriggs, Janice Kirkley (Sister of Joyce Hornberger), Joy & Ray Anderson, Jordanna Sharpe, & Mary Jane LeFevre. **Long Term:** PNC, Ben Faunce, Wayne McCoy, Nolan Heironimus, Anne Howard, Chas Howells (Son of Wes Howells), Spence Perry, & Esther Webb (sister of Bill Warthin).

What does it mean to be a Presbyterian?

Pastor Dale will conduct an "Enquirer's Class" for those interested in joining the church, and/or for those who simply want to know more about what it means to be "Presbyterian," during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, November 19th. The class will meet in the Church Office Building across from the Church at 9:30 am. No sign up is required.



October 5, 2017

All members were present at our October meeting.

The November meeting will be held in the Fellowship House, Thursday, November 2, 7 pm.

Our December meeting will be December 7, 6 pm at Sandy's home.

These are among the many projects your Trustees are completing to enhance our church.

The sanctuary walls have been repaired and painted. The new sanctuary HVAC is working. The steel beam to stabilize the CE building is in place. The lift (elevator) has been inspected. Various exterior projects have also been completed. We plan to finish everything else soon.

We are excited that our buildings are welcoming. We feel the excitement among

all of you in our church. Spread the excitement and invite others to join us as we do the work of Jesus.

Ron Mitchell, secretary



October 4, 2017

Jo Ann Carlson opened the meeting with prayer at 7:05pm. Also present were Stanley Kerlin, Connie Brown, Patty Rhodes, April Leese and Joyce Hornberger. Previous minutes were reviewed and approved.

Old Business

Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Dec. 6, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall. Our goal is 21 units of blood.

New Business

Prayer for Peace: Prayer vigil in front of each church from 2-3pm on 10/15/2017.

Mission Central will have truck in Save-a-Lot parking lot and we will take our flood buckets there after 3pm. 25 Buckets collected so far and 9 hygiene kits.

Missionary from Malawi will be giving short mission moment in church on 10/29 and would like to speak to as many deacons as will be in church after the service.

Giving Tree - April Leese will coordinate this year and touch base with Sisters Martha and Margie.

Trunk or treat will not be held this year because too many people will be out of town.

Benevolences

Loves Closet \$100

Samaritan Purse \$1000.00 for Puerto Rico

April is looking into groups sending in water filtration systems to Puerto Rico.

Next meeting is November 1, 2017 at 7pm in the Fellowship House. Stanley Kerlin closed the meeting with prayer.

SESSION

October 11, 2017

Session met for their stated October 11, 2017 meeting in the Fellowship House with elders Tim Drover, Donna Ankney, Al Clark, LeeAnne Kendall; Mary Lou Eisenhower, Ken Keebaugh and the moderator, Rev. Dale Williams present. The meeting was opened with devotions by Elder Mary Lou Eisenhower. The meeting agenda was approved, as well as the minutes of the September 20, 2017 stated Session meeting. The average attendance for the month of September was 60. Notes were read from Henry and Olivia Alexander thanking the church for offering the scholarships for Camp Krisland. : Pastor Williams reviewed his schedule and the Sundays that he won't be with us. He along with Marion Walker took home communion to Don and Charlotte Fowler and Ken and Ella Spriggs on October 1. Pastor Williams will offer an informants class for anyone who wants to learn more about the Presbyterian Church or has an interest in becoming a member. Elder Kendall reported on her trip to Falling Spring Presbyterian Church for the September 26, 2017 Presbytery meeting. Elder Eisenhower reported that the PNC continues to meet weekly in their search for our next pastor. Elder Drover reported on the ongoing projects. Hopefully the work in the sanctuary will be finished by the end of the month. Progress is being made in the installation of the steel beam in the education building. : Elder Ankney reported that Stewardship Sunday will be on

November 12. Elder Drover handed out budget worksheets. We should have session committee budget numbers by the November meeting. The fellowship committee is planning a luncheon/celebration of the projects being completed. They are planning a baked potato bar, salad, and desserts following worship on November 12. New Prayer partners were assigned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 with prayer by the moderator.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

October 11, 2017

The October 11 meeting of the Presbyterian Women was opened with devotions and prayer by moderator Carolyn Kneas. Six ladies were present. Special prayers for: Spence Perry, Myers Kimmel, Darryl Mitchell, Harvey Kneas, Paul MacDonald and family, Ella and Kenny Spriggs, Bernice Stewart, Barb Leese, Charlotte and Jeff Fowler, Anne Howard, Mary Lou Eisenhower, Frank Ingram, Martha Seville, Nolan Heronimus, Audrey Mitchell, Ben and Betty Gail Faunce, Gerald Peck, PNC and all in need of his healing touch. The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given by Marion Walker. The September offering was \$67.00 leaving a balance of \$286.73. Marion Walker reported that the knitting group has completed 16 sweaters, 3 blankets, 2 scarves

and two hats. They will as a group, take them to A.C. Moore to be shipped. The knitting group began in 2004, and so far has completed: 108 prayer shawls, 194 sweaters plus numerous hats and scarves. The group consists of four regular knitters.

Carolyn reported that 130 attended the funeral service for Jane MacDonald at the Cito Methodist Church, and 80-90 were served at the luncheon that followed. A great big thank you to the ladies of Cito that helped to put the luncheon together: Glenda Carbaugh, Sharon Glenn, Glenda Morrison, and Pat Everts.

Thank Offering Sunday will be November 19. LeeAnne Kendall will read the Thank Offering scripture, and Marion Walker the prayer following the offering.

The program for the day was assembling 50 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Refreshments were served by Carolyn Kneas and LeeAnne Kendall

The next meeting will be November 8 at the Fellowship House. The program will be *God Gave Me You* presented by Carolyn Kneas. Marion Walker and Carolyn Kerlin will serve as Hostesses.

NOVEMBER 12, 2017 CELEBRATION

Join with us as we celebrate returning to our beautiful sanctuary for worship. We have so much for which to be thankful. As part of the celebration, a lunch will be served by the Fellowship Committee immediately following worship. Plan to be part of our fellowship together.

Prayers for Peace & Hurricane Relief

Early in September the idea that we could put our resources together and help the victims of the recent hurricanes down south took shape. Our deacons gave very generously out of our benevolence account but we were asked to do more. Our congregation was asked to help in a more personal way. It was special to see our little church in the valley produce 30 hurricane buckets and 43 hygiene kits to help individuals that don't know where to turn or what to do. I'd like to thank you on behalf of those grateful individuals.

On Sunday October 15th a community wide event took place. The first we've ever participated in. We gathered along Lincoln Way in town, while others gathered in front of their churches, and we all prayed for peace for one hour. What a powerful hour! Several of you took part in this event and we prayed and shared our concerns. It was asked "How do you pray for terrorists?" It's so difficult to know what the answer is to that one, but He knows. And only He knows. Remember we're supposed to love our enemies and pray for them. For most of us this is a very difficult thing to do. If God knows our concerns through prayer, He will address them in His own way, in His own time.

Thank you for all who participated in both of these wonderful outreaches.



November Lectionary Readings

Week of November 5

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3: 7-17

Psalms 107: 1-7, 33-37

1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13

Matthew 23: 1-12

Week November 12

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Sunday

Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25

Psalms 78: 1-7

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

Matthew 25: 1-13

Week of November 19

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Thank Offering Sunday

Judges 4: 1-7

Psalms 123

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Matthew 25: 14-30

Week of November 26

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

Psalms 100

Ephesians 1: 15-23

Matthew 25: 31-46

GLEANER DEADLINE for the December issue is November 28, 2017. Please submit your information by that day. If you can't email it, feel free to call or lay a hand written document on the secretary's desk.

INFORMATION FOR FUTURE COLLEGE STUDENTS

Wilson College in Chambersburg, PA, a Presbyterian-related college, is pleased to share the news from the General Assembly Presbyterian Mission Agency, that the National Presbyterian College Scholarship program has been enhanced for 2018. This particular scholarship will increase to \$2,500 beginning in the 2018-19 academic year. A first-time, full-time, freshman student, who demonstrates financial need, and, who enrolls in a Presbyterian-related college like Wilson College from your congregation is eligible to apply. The scholarship is renewable for four years, provided the recipient maintains a 2.5 GPA or above.

The Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger
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September 20, 2017

Dear Friends:

We are pleased to share news of a recent decision by the Presbyterian Mission Agency in the General Assembly to enhance the National Presbyterian College Scholarship program.

This scholarship, increasing to \$2,500 beginning in the 2018-19 academic year, is available to your congregation members who enroll at Wilson College, a Presbyterian related college, as a first-time, full-time freshman with demonstrated financial need. The scholarship is renewable for four years, provided the recipient maintains a 2.5 GPA or above.

Wilson, founded in 1869, has a proud history of educating students since the Reverend Tryon Edwards and the Reverend James W. Wightman submitted plans to the Presbytery of Carlisle for the establishment of the College. Reverend Derek Wadlington, a member of our Presbytery, currently serves as the Helen Carnell Eden Chaplain at Wilson and is an active member of the student-life team.

The core of a Wilson College education is the extraordinary, close bond between student and professor that shapes the learning process for both. Faculty are dedicated to guiding students both in and out of the classroom, forming committed mentor/mentee relationships that motivate Wilson students to push the boundaries of personal expectation. Offering 35 majors/concentrations and 41 minors, Wilson connects career-oriented programs with a rigorous, broad-based education and service learning opportunities that teach students to think critically and communicate with confidence, instilling a foundation for success in an ever-changing world.

Since its founding, Wilson has had a longstanding tradition of educating people of different nationalities, ethnicities, races, religions, sexual orientations, socioeconomic backgrounds and political affiliations. Today's Wilson student experience serves as a true testament of the faith and fortitude of Reverends Edwards and Wightman, who envisioned an institution dedicated to the principles of the Presbyterian Church.

In this time of concern about college affordability, we appreciate your reaching out within your congregation to help identify potential candidates for this scholarship opportunity. Please contact Wilson's Admissions Office at admissions@wilson.edu or 717-262-2002 for more details on the program. And if your travels bring you to the Chambersburg area, I know Barbara and Derek would be pleased to host you on campus.

Sincerely,

The Reverend Mark Englund-Krieger
Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Carlisle

Barbara K. Mistick
President, Wilson College

Stewardship Sunday 2017

As Presbyterians, we are a people reformed and reforming.

Our group just returned from a tour of Scotland and England where we visited some of the sites involved in the Reformation; sites where religious differences caused upheaval, conflict, destruction and executions. Change comes hard and can cause a “rocking of the boat”. But change does come as the reformed continue to reform and to find in the writings interpretations of Christ’s words in our current and ever changing world. I think that more than anything else on this journey I found that God’s creation and the wonders of this creation does and do continue. It’s not a done deal. To stand on the grounds of Iona and view those wonders as they were in the time of St. Columba yet in a community committed to justice and incorporating progressive views on Peacemaking today. Seeing Stonehenge and realizing there is awe and wonder in this creation from so long ago that is still so tangible even after floods, wars, disease, famine and politics.

So, in the spirit of reforming in this new church year, as a church and as individuals within this church, it is time to read, study and examine our own place in this creation; in this particular time and in this particular Presbyterian church.

Next Sunday, November 12, 2017 is Stewardship Sunday, the day you are asked to place your pledges in the basket for the coming year. Pledges for financial help and Pledges of time and talent. You are each asked as individuals to make these pledges, prayerfully examining your own place with God in this congregation.

As usual there is a need for money with ongoing projects, upkeep, fellowship, services... The financial pledge cards are for you to decide where and how much you and your family will plan to show support for this house of worship.

On the time and talent cards we will ask you to consider your future abilities, desires, commitments to different activities in the church. You are asked to examine your individual reforming spirit within this congregation. We need each individual to complete this time and talent card. Please do not fill one in as a family unit. The names from these cards are given to the people who head each program so they will know that you have an interest in serving in their programs.

As I am writing this I keep hearing the words to “The Church’s One Foundation”:
The Church’s One Foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood he bought her and for her life He died.

If you cannot attend next Sunday, please complete a card on your return and give it to me (Donna) or any member of Session as soon as possible. I’d like to make the list of names available to the Session and program heads by the December Session meeting.

Donna Ankney



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