



The  
**GLEANER**

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September, 2018

The McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church  
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**“The Right Foundation for a New Year”**

Soon there will be a new house constructed on the vacant lot across the street from where I live in Gettysburg, and for several weeks the contractor has been clearing the lot. Now, as I sit in my office, I can hear the heavy equipment digging the foundation preparing for construction. I thought about the new 2018-2019 church year that begins this month at MUPC with “Rally Sunday.” For all of us there are hopes and expectations, doubts and fears about what lies ahead. We hope for a rich and meaningful Christian Ed program, for new families and new life in our youth program, for enriching fellowship, engaging preaching, joy-filled worship, opportunities to serve, etc. Yet, there are many questions and a degree of anxiety among some of us – Will we carry out God’s work effectively? Will we discern God’s Spirit and God’s leading? Will we find a new Pastor?

The family that will move into the new house, much like our church family, looks forward to what lies ahead with hopes and expectations, doubts and fears as well. The success of that new construction begins with the right foundation which is being laid now, and our success as God’s Church begins with the right spiritual foundation as well. I’m reminded of Psalm 127, written by wise King Solomon, “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.” Jesus concluded the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 7:24 “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” Our hopes and expectations will be satisfied, our doubts and fears will be relieved when we remember the foundation of our Triune God for our church and it’s ministry.

God has laid a sure foundation in Jesus Christ, and has empowered us by His indwelling Spirit, and wants us to allow Him to be the Master Builder. We do well to remember and claim as our own, Jeremiah’s promise to Israel as they anticipated “rebuilding” after the Babylonian invasion: “‘I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future . . . you will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.’”

Pastor Dale

# PRAYER Requests

**Prayer Concerns:** Please be in prayer for those listed below and their families: **Short Term:** C.J. Rhodes, Roxanna Mellott, Charlotte Fowler, & PNC. **Long Term:** Chas Howells, Ella Spriggs, Audrey Mitchell, Mahlon Shimer, John Robinson, & Amanda Bailey (daughter of Patsy Johnston).

## NURSERY

We are changing the routine for the nursery slightly this fall. Connie will be in Church on Sunday mornings and then accompany children to the nursery following the Pastor's children's message.

There will be some planned activities for the children each Sunday along with some time for free play. If there is a need for nursery the entire hour, just let Connie know.

**“In the Steps of Paul”** – Pastor Dale will lead another unique travel experience in the Spring of 2019. This time we will travel to Greece and follow in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul’s second missionary journey recorded in Acts 16-19. The trip departs March 26<sup>th</sup> and returns April 4<sup>th</sup>. The cost of \$3,398.00 per person includes everything – roundtrip air, hotels, guides, tips, taxes, etc. – except for lunches. Detailed brochures and applications are in the Narthex.

**Chancel Choir rehearsal resumes** on Sunday, September 9th at 6:30pm. New members are welcome.



- 2-Jonas Arruanno
- 3-Debbie Carbaugh  
Alyvia Newman
- 5-Wayne MacDonald
- 6-Becca Carlson  
Wes Newman
- 7-Sarah Kimmel  
Hannah Kimmel
- 9-Betsy Ingram
- 13-Ferree LeFevre
- 20-Mikayla Bailey
- 23-Charles Williams
- 24-Barbara Walker  
Jared Carlson
- 30-Kyriana Mitchell



**No Meeting in August**

Next Meeting is scheduled for September 4 at 7PM at the FH.

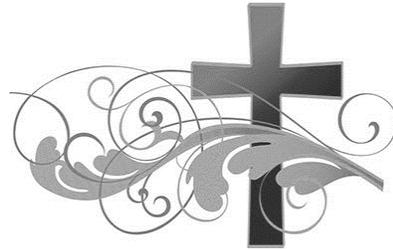
Your Trustees are working on several projects to enhance our church facilities. The new roof on the Fellowship House is nearing completion. The Manse is being repainted. Several other areas should be painted soon. Hopefully the new steps from the Fellowship House to the Fire Hall parking lot will be completed soon. The trees in the cemetery need to be removed. Should they be replaced? We are still working on enhancing the lighting in the front of the church. If you see something that needs our attention, please contact one of us. Ron Mitchell, secretary

**Session**



**No Meeting in August.**

The next meeting will be on September 19 at 6:30 PM at the FH.



**Presbyterian Women**

**No Meeting in August**

The next meeting will be on September 12 at 2:00 PM at the FH. Program and hostesses TBA.

At the meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>, we will be preparing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and planning the schedule for 2018-2019. Some new faces and fresh ideas would be welcome!



**August 1, 2018**

Present: Linda Heuston, Nancy Bivens, April Leese,, Barb MacDonald, & Stanley Kerlin

Absent: Patty Rhodes, Laura Metcalfe  
June minutes approved.

## **Benevolence**

Love's Closet - \$200.00  
Catholic Mission - \$500.00 for school supplies  
Catholic Mission - \$1,000.00 for special projects  
Women in Need - \$500.00  
Food Basket - \$1,000.00  
Fuel Mission - \$1,000.00

## **Business**

Ice cream social will be August 26 at Kerlin's farm at 5pm. Announcement will be in the bulletin.  
Updated prayer list.  
Next meeting will be September 5 at 7pm.

**GLEANER DEADLINE** for the October issue is September 24, 2018. Please submit your information by 10 AM that day. If you can't email it, feel free to call or lay a hand written document on the secretary's desk.



## **September Lectionary Readings**

### **Week of September 2**

#### **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13  
Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9  
James 1: 17-27  
Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

### **Week of September 9**

#### **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23  
Psalm 125  
James 2: 1-10 (11-13) 14-17  
Mark 7: 24-37

### **Week of September 16**

#### **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Proverbs 1: 20-33  
Psalm 19  
James 3: 1-2  
Mark 8: 27-38

### **Week of September 23**

#### **18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Proverbs 31: 10-31  
Psalm 1  
James 3: 13  
James 4: 3, 7-8a  
Mark 9: 30-37

### **Week of September 30**

#### **19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10  
Esther 9: 20-22  
Psalm 124  
James 5: 13-20  
Mark 9: 38-50