

MCDONALD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MCPRESBY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2015



SEPTEMBER 13TH ~ 9:30 A.M.

This is the Sunday that our service of Worship returns to 10:45 a.m. and the Sunday School hour resumes at 9:30 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. in Trinity Center Sanctuary there will be a Rally Day gathering to launch the new Sunday School Year.

The whole church is invited, and we are looking forward to a dynamic and fun celebration. Don't miss this exciting day of worship and fun! The 10:45 worship at Calvary Center will also highlight some the accomplishments of the students over the summer.

ALL CHURCH ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

Understanding & Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Sunday mornings: Sept. 13 – Nov. 29, 2015
9:30 – 10:30am

Trinity Fellowship Hall

Open to any and all interested adults.

Ministering Through Spiritual Gifts by Charles F. Stanley
(cost is approximately \$7 for text)

Class and Teacher Schedule (subject to change)

Sept. 13 – Introduction after rally day program	Rev. Justin Amsler
Sept. 20 – Chapters 1 and 2	John Casey
Sept. 27 – Spiritual Gifts test	Assessment of <u>your</u> gifts
Oct. 4 – Gift of Prophecy	Ray Morgan
Oct. 11 – Gift of Service	Peggy Samarin
Oct. 18 – Gift of Teaching	Lin Nalesnick
Oct. 25 – Gift of Exhortation	John Casey
Nov. 1 – No class	Shoebox Packing Party
Nov. 8 – Gift of Giving	Ray Morgan
Nov. 15 – Gift of Organization	Syndria Lowe
Nov. 22 – Gift of Mercy	Rev. Justin Amsler
Nov. 29 – Wrap up	All Teachers

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

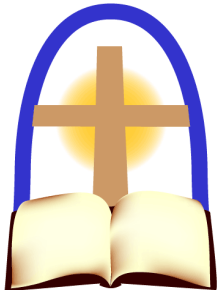
- Sept 1st-Trustee Mtg.
- Sept 2nd- MYM Mtg.
- Sept 3rd-Choir
- Sept 6th-Communion
- Sept 7th-Office Closed
- Sept 13th-Rally Day & Service Fair
- Sept 14th-Session Mtg.
- Sept 20th-Pulpit Exchange
- Sept 28th-Deacons Mtg.

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Any questions can be directed to any of the teachers listed above.

PASTOR'S PAGE –REV. JUSTIN AMSLER



A Year of Discipleship

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

When we meet Jesus as an adult entering into his public ministry we encounter him as he is gathering his disciples. He was doing what countless Jewish rabbis had done in the past; call followers to learn his ways and follow God beside Him. Of course Jesus did his work as the ultimate Rabbi, the ultimate teacher, God himself. Later Jesus would take this act of calling disciples and give it to all of his followers as a primary task. Matthew 28 famously says that we are to go and "make disciples of all nations" (ethnic groups not political entities)... "teaching them to obey..." Known as the Great Commission, this is to be a major focus for every church and every believer. Equipping others to serve and obey God is the most loving work that we could ever be involved in.

A renewed focus on discipleship and teaching is our focus this new school year. Students will be walking the path of Discipleship through our new curriculum "The Gospel Project." This is exactly the right curriculum for us now, and I am looking forward to seeing the fruit that comes from our engagement with it. We will be returning to a strong classroom teacher model for the year with a short but essential opening segment and video together. It will be critical for our students to be on time for the beginning of the lesson, or they will miss the introductory video, prayer and important interaction with other students.

Adults are challenged to engage in an all-church Adult Discipleship Class that will be held in Trinity Center Fellowship Hall each Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour. All of our Sunday morning groups are participating and we hope that many others will join in as well. Discovering and putting to use our spiritual gifts is an essential component of living a life of active discipleship.

In Sunday Worship we will be exploring the theme of discipleship with a new sermon series: ***From Believer To Disciple: Living the change that makes all the difference.*** We will think deeply about what it means to move from belief in God to obedience to Him as a disciple. Our belief is the foundation of everything, but if it is not put to action across all of the areas of our lives then we will not see the change that is promised in the Scriptures. The reality that we must communicate to our world is that saying you believe is not enough. If action does not accompany belief, it is not true belief.

The greater church in our culture is working to correct a substantial mistake in our communication of the Gospel. For many years it was taught that all that was needed for salvation was the acceptance of Jesus in your heart. While true, our acceptance of Jesus obligates us to walk with him, to worship him in the presence of other believers and to dedicate our life to his mission. If we are not doing that, then the acceptance that we have claimed is most likely not real. Let's show the world together what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Justin



SERVICE FAIR ~ SEPTEMBER 13TH

Get your calendars out! Please stop by the tables and sign up to assist with the various aspects of MPC ministry. All can serve in some capacity. . whether young or old! We have service areas of greeters, hospitality bakers, nursery helpers, children's church, lay leaders and more.



McFALL FEST UPDATE

Fall is just around the corner

That means McFall Fest II is almost here -
October 10, 2015 - 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

So far Lucy and Gerry are ready to set up their Bake Sale

Mike and Marcia have their mums on order and Alice has the pumpkins on the way . . .

Sandi will be collecting treasures soon for the Treasure Chest . . .

Linda and company are making baskets and looking for more to be made and donated . . .

Janet and friends are planning their menu and looking for donations . . .

Sonny (Mr. Edward Gilbert) will be doing one tour of Calvary Center . . .

Syndria will have a Fire Truck from the McDonald Volunteer Fire Company to help entertain the children. . .

The Vendors and Crafters will be displaying their wares . . .

The QUESTION IS WHAT will you be doing?

There is still plenty of time left to decide what your part will be. There will be a sign up table on two Sundays - Sept. 20th and 27th after church.



BASKETS FOR McFALL FEST

Since our Chinese Auction/Basket raffle was so successful last year, we are again hoping some of you may be willing to donate a basket to this event. We have small and medium baskets available for you under the information table in Calvary Parlor, so feel free to take one to hold your donation. Any questions, please call or talk with Linda Matchett. Also, if you are planning to donate a basket, please let me know in advance. Thanks for your help in this!

MYM SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE



MYM Planning Meeting ~ September 2nd ~7:00 p.m. Trinity Center Fellowship Hall

If you have helped with MYM in the past, we would love to see you back with us for the 2015-2016 school year. If you are thinking of helping and want more information on what we do, please join us for this meeting. Thank you for your support.

MYM is BACK!!! ~ September 9th ~6:00-8:00 p.m. Trinity Center
Join us for dinner, games, worship, and lesson as we kick off a brand-spanking new school year.

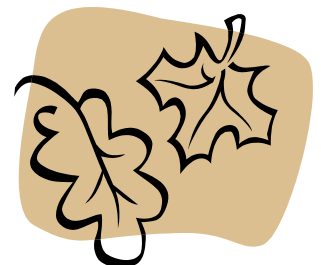
MYM Cherry Valley Lake Picnic ~ September 16th ~6:00-8:00 p.m. Meet at Trinity Center and drive out. Fishing, boat rides, fun in the water, and good food hosted by the Maxwells and neighbors.

BIBLE CLUB / CLUB 412

What is Club 412? Over the past several years we have been developing a new Student Ministry called Bible Club. It began with gathering our students together for Bible Study and fun on weekday mornings in the summer followed by lunch at Subway. Last fall we launched the club as a year-round entity with monthly events alternating between social and service activities. Our attendance has been outstanding and our enthusiasm is high. We have close to 20 students involved and have seen a real need in our congregation filled. We have elected student officers who are doing an exceptional job of forging out their new positions. Service projects and activities have been many including: Fall Bonfire and swimming, Fall Retreat, Operation Christmas Child Relay Center, Rec Night in Trinity Center, Sunday Morning Sunday School, a home repair and cleanup project, a Kennywood trip, awesome Pine Springs Camp attendance, exceptional service to VBS, and more.

The students selected their own name which refers to I Timothy 4:12 - "Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech in life, in love, in faith and in purity." It also reminds us of our city (Area Code 412) and our call to reach as many as we can with the message of Christ.

We are very excited that Jamie Slack has volunteered to serve as advisor to our Bible Club, and we look forward to an active fall. Some of the things to look for are a bonfire and movie night at the Slacks, opportunities to serve at McFall Fest, OCC Relay Center, Sunday Morning Gospel Project, an after Christmas Party, Rec Night and more. Bible Club is a compliment to our very successful McDonald Youth Ministries youth group program on Wednesday nights. Both groups are open to all students and sometimes work together but have a different focus to meet different needs. Look for more thinking on this in future newsletters!





DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Our congregation has been very blessed to have Mrs. Heather Weiler serve us as our Director of Children's Ministries for the past several years. She picked up a new position with enthusiasm and brought the Word of God with energy and passion to our children and students. Effective with the completion of this year's Vacation Bible School, Heather is stepping aside to allow someone else an opportunity to step in and lead our youngest generation of disciples. Heather will continue to do her excellent work in the area of Accounts Payable and will continue

to serve as a volunteer throughout our congregation. We extend our sincere appreciation to Heather for the outstanding job that she has done and look forward to moving forward in ministry together. May the Lord bless all of our families as we seek to equip our children to live faithfully in a challenging world.



THE GOSPEL PROJECT

On September 13th a great journey begins. Three years of in depth study into the Scriptures for our Sunday School students. We are preparing now to experience the Bible together with our children. From preschool through Sr. High we will be walking a chronological path through the bible over the next three years. This new curriculum is just beginning its second three year run and it has been completely improved and updated for this new sequence. We are excited to be on board from the beginning with this series.

We are expecting amazing connections between the Bible stories and the theology of God that lies just below the surface of each one. The focus of the curriculum is to understand that each and every story in the Bible points to a Savior who is coming to deliver us from the perils of life in a sinful world. There is one who is coming to make all things new!

Each student will receive his own handbook every quarter. The curriculum is integrated with outstanding video and print resources. Our children are going to be immersed in this teaching in both Sunday School and Children's Church so they will have a deep understanding of not only the story but the spiritual truths behind the story. Make sure your child(ren) are signed up for this great experience. Fill out a registration form or contact the church office today with any questions.



PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR OCTOBER 4, 2015

We will be hosting a Pizza with the Pastor Event on Sunday October 4th following worship. The gathering is for anyone who is not a member of our congregation but is interested in learning more about our mission and purpose as a church. You will have an opportunity to discuss membership possibilities and interact with Pastor Justin and several other church leaders. There is no cost for the event, but we would appreciate RSVP's to Pastor Justin or to the church office. Childcare is available upon request.



IT'S TIME TO SING & RING

Yep, it's that time of year when the school bus heads out, the final garden produce is being harvested and the days are growing shorter. But best of all that means it is time of the Adult & Kids Choirs, Worship Team and Bell Choir to come back from their summer break and start bringing their gifts to our MPC Morning Worship Services! I am excited to invite back some old (aka familiar faces) as well as to welcome anyone who would like to start the new year with us.

Kids Choir is for Kindergarten through 8th Grade and boys are welcome. Adult Choir is for 9th Grade to whatever! Bell Choir is for anyone who can count,,,we train!

Practice for the Kids Choir will start on Thursday, September 3rd at 6:45 pm in the Choir Room.

Practice for the Adult Choir will start that same night, September 3rd at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Practice for the Bell Choir will start on Thursday, September 10th at 6:00 pm in the Choir Room.

For more information, please call Syndria Lowe at 724-926-0127.

CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 3rd	Kids Choir	6:45 p.m.
	Adult Choir	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 10th	Bell Choir	6:00 p.m.
	Adult Choir	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 17th	Kids Choir	6:45 p.m.
	Adult Choir	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 22nd	Bell Choir	6:00 p.m.
	Adult Choir	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 1st	Kids Choir	6:45 p.m.
	Adult Choir	7:30 p.m.



MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS NEEDED

Do you have about an hour a week to deliver meals to senior citizens in our area who depend on them? Many of us are busy and have plenty of things on the schedule but perhaps this would be a welcome project for you and a

friend. One or two person teams are needed Monday - Friday starting at 10:30am in Calvary Center Fellowship Hall. Drivers report to the Meals On Wheels Kitchen, pick up their meals and then deliver them on one of three different routes surrounding McDonald. All of our drivers are blessed by the interaction with the MOW clients and many look forward to a time of connecting with their volunteer partner. Most routes have about 8 deliveries at this time, and this can usually be completed in just about an hour. We are especially short of volunteers right now as we are beginning the school year and some of our summer help is back to school and work. We can use weekly regulars and substitutes as well. Please pray about serving in this way.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The OCC items for September are: The OCC items for August and September are: coloring books, pens, erasers, pencil sharpeners, crayons, markers, colored pencils and **especially notebooks and pencils.** Thank you for any and all donations.

Pre-Packing Party Work Days are scheduled for the following days:

Tuesday, September 8

Thursday, September 24

Wednesday, October 14

Thursday, October 29 (set up)

We will meet in Calvary Center Parlor at 9:30am to sort and inventory the filler items for the shoeboxes.

On October 29 we will set up in the Fellowship Hall for our Packing Party (November 1, 2015 - 9:00am!!)

Contact Michelle Unruh - [412-221-4143](tel:412-221-4143) - with questions. Thank you.



MCDONALD FOOD BANK

The suggested items for the McDonald Food Bank for September are boxed dinners, like mac and cheese. All contributions are welcomed. Please drop off your donation in the parlor of Calvary Center. If you have any questions, please contact Ed Nalesnick.

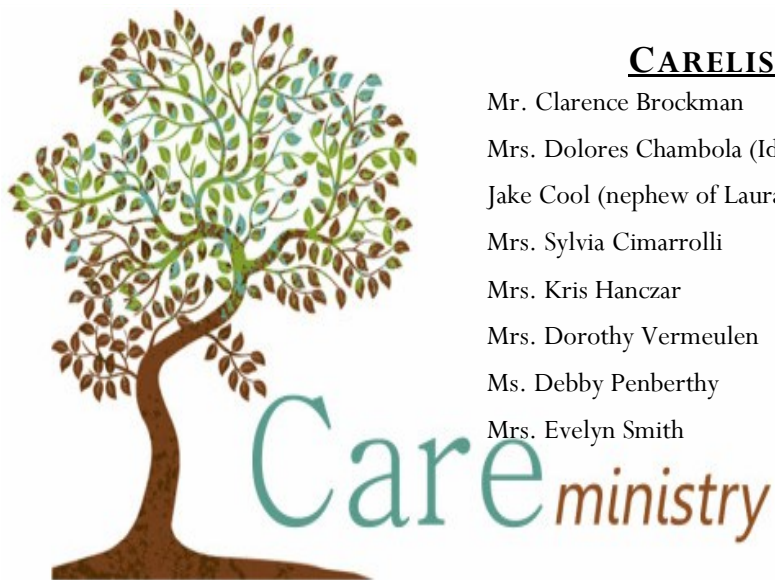
HERITAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY—SEPTEMBER

There are several events for September including; Steeler Tickets Raffle, Fit Club (Tuesday night exercise group), book discussion groups, watercolor Class, St. Memorial Hospital Health Fair. For more details about these and many more events, contact the library at 724-926-8400 or www.washlibs.org.



BEGINNERS TAI CHI CLASSES

Burgettstown Community Library is offering Tai Chi classes on Thursday nights starting on September 17, 2015. Classes last for one hour and the cost is \$10 per class with instructor Dorothy Tecklenburg. The Library receives half of the proceeds for each session. For more details contact the library at 724-947-9780 or www.burglib.org.



CARELIST

Mr. Clarence Brockman

Mrs. Dolores Chambola (Ida Galicic's sister)

Jake Cool (nephew of Laurain Lacotte)

Mrs. Sylvia Cimarrolli

Miss Julie Hanczar

Mrs. Kris Hanczar

Mr. Chuck Smith, Sr.

Mrs. Dorothy Vermeulen

Mr. Jack Penderville

Ms. Debby Penberthy

Ms. Kim Cook

Mrs. Evelyn Smith

Amanda (Welsh) Ewing - Prayers for a high-risk pregnancy while stationed in Alaska

Assisted Living /Rehabilitation

Mrs. Connie Walker, **Helen Purcell Home, Health Care Unit**, 1854 Norwood Boulevard, Zanesville, OH 43701

Miss Mary Ann Johnen, **Presbyterian Senior Care, Southmont, Room 528**, 880 South Main Street, Washington, PA 15301

Mrs. Jo McDowell, **Golden Living Center of South Hills**, Room 203 D, 201 Village Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317

Mrs. Hilda Balog, **Victoria Manor**, 100 Rose Court, Oakdale, PA 15071 (724)693-8325

Mrs. Bea Cerezo, **Country Meadows of South Hills, #4**, 3570 Washington Pike, Room 414, Bridgeville, PA 15017

Mrs. Dorothy Roths, **Golden Living Center of South Hills**, 201 Village Dr., Room 308, Canonsburg, PA 15317 (412)344-9860

Mrs. Dorothy Laughlin, **Victoria Manor**, 100 Rose Court Oakdale, PA 15071 (724)693-8325

Mr. John Walker, **Paulin Personal Care Home**, 119 W. Lincoln Ave, McDonald, PA 15057

Miss. Rosemarie Rocher, **Country Meadows of South Hills**, 3570 Washington Pike, Bldg#4, Room 473A, Bridgeville, PA 15017 (412)206-7096

Mr. Larry Doak, **H John Heinz III Progressive Center**, First floor, South Hall, 1010 Delafield Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15215

Ms. Margaret Augustine, **Humbert Lane Personal Care Home**, 90 Humbert Lane, Washington, PA 15301



From Joy & Jack Penderville ~ "Thank you" are two small words but large in meaning. So when we say **"THANK YOU"** to Rev. Amsler and our church family for your prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, food and concern over these past three months, know these words come straight from our hearts. Our special gratitude is extended to the Crawford, Gibbs, Jewel and Maxwell families for their transportation help three days a week for the past 10 weeks. They have been such a blessing. Once again we say **"THANK YOU"** to our church family and pray Jesus may bless each and every one of you as He has blessed us.

From Debbie McGinnis ~ To Justin, Deacons and Dear Friends,

Thank you all for being so kind and thoughtful during my recovery from my knee replacement. Thanks for all the encouraging words in your calls and beautiful cards. Your delicious meals fed our family for days. So many of you are shining examples of what I hope to accomplish. May God bless you as you have blessed me.

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Children's Church

September 6th
September 13th
September 20th
September 27th

Adult Volunteer

Volunteer Needed
Jamie Slack (Macey & Marah)
Volunteer Needed
Jamie Slack (Macey & Marah)

Small Talk

September 6th
September 13th
September 20th
September 27th

None
Linda Matchett
Sarah Amsler
Syndria Lowe

Greeters

September 6th
September 13th
September 20th
September 27th

Peggy Samarin
Suzanne & John Casey
Hannah Fay Descutner, Deb & Gary McGinnis
Vicki & Bob Zyra

Lay Leaders

September 6th
September 13th
September 20th
September 27th

Ed Nalesnick
Michelle Unruh
Linda Matchett
Sarah Amsler

Acolytes

September 6th
September 13th
September 20th
September 27th

None
Sam & Adam Unruh
Katie & Alex Nemec
Tom & Jim Gilbert

Communion Servers

September 6th

Ed Nalesnick, Linda Matchett,
Bob Shepherd, Nancy Turk,
Ted Bair, Ray Morgan

Hospitality

September 6th
September 13th
September 20th
September 27th

Karen Cooper
Volunteer Needed
Lana Gilbert
Deacons Donut Day





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Melinda Errett	9/1	Debbie Keslar	9/16
Courtney Gladden	9/1	Ray Morgan	9/16
Michelle Unruh	9/1	David Rocher	9/16
Doris Druga	9/3	Hannah Eyler	9/22
Tammy McDowell	9/3	Julie Hanczar	9/23
Nancy Diamond	9/4	Kathy McVicker	9/23
Adrienne Ware	9/4	Anthony Panizza	9/23
Hannah Tidd	9/5	Bob Zyra	9/26
Michael Zyra	9/8	Victoria Nation	9/27
Margaret Augustine	9/8	Alli Patishnock	9/27
Melanie Nemec	9/9	Emma Russi	9/28
Dorothy Roths	9/9	Stacy Bennett	9/30
Dana Myers	9/10		
Ryan Causey	9/11		
Nancy Lauff	9/12		
Melissa Mohon	9/12		
John McCarty	9/13		
Rev. Donald Patchel	9/14		
Jamie Slack	9/14		



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Syndria & Ed Lowe	9/4
Joy & Jack Penderville	9/8
Adriane & Jeffrey Ware	9/10
Joan & Chris Pryor	9/10
Robin & Tony Muggar	9/15
Tammie & Brian Eger	9/16
Connie & Andrew Buydasz	9/19
Jodie & Paul Panizza	9/29
Marlene & Jerry Thomas	9/29
Dana & Mike Martin	9/29



SEPTEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Trustees Mtg 7:30pm	2 MYM Mtg. 7:00pm Trinity	3 Choir	4 AA's Trinity Center	5
6 Communion 10am Children's Church/ Trinity Ctr. 10am Worship	7 LABOR DAY Office Closed	8 OCC Work Day	9 Office Staff Mtg – 10:30am MYM	10 Choir	11 AA's Trinity Center	12
13 Rally Day & Service Fair	14 Newsletter Deadline	15	16 MYM—Cherry Valley	17 Choir	18 AA's Trinity Center	19
9:30am Sunday School (Trinity Center) 10:45am Worship (Calvary Center)	Session Mtg 6:30pm					
20 Pulpit Exchange 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	21	22 Deacons baking at Trinity 6:00pm	23 MYM	24 OCC Work Day	25 AA's Trinity Center	26
McFall Fest Signup		Choir				
27 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	28 Deacons Mtg 7pm	29	30 MYM			
McFall Fest Signup						

McDonald Presbyterian Church

Worship Site:

202 West Lincoln Avenue
McDonald, PA 15057

Offices Located at:

119 Station Street
McDonald, PA 15057

Telephone:

724/926-8561



Non Profit Org.
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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Website:
www.mcdonaldpres.org

WORSHIP IN THE PARK PICS

Rev. Justin Amsler

Pastor

justin@mcdonaldpres.org
724/699-0157

Choir Director

Syndria Lowe

Organist

Donna Klimas

MYM Ministry Leader

Jim McDowell

Custodial Staff

Pat Powell—Supervisor

Paul Winters

Dana Myers

Accts. Payable

Heather Weiler

724/926-8561

heather@mcdonaldpres.org

Church Secretary

Karen Richard

karen@mcdonaldpres.org

724/926-8561

724/926-8602(fax)

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

