



Vol. CXLVII, No. 166

# The GLEANER

February, 2019

The McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church  
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Dear flock,

February is one of my 12 favorite months of the year. Sure, it might be the shortest – but it has a favorite “Hallmark” holiday smack-dab in the middle: Valentine’s Day. When I was young, we would make mail boxes to set up in our classroom, and write platonic love notes to classmates we hardly knew. As I got older, I started to celebrate “gal”-entine’s Day – my girlfriends and I would swap appreciation notes and go out for cheesecake. Now, I take the opportunity to send as many overly-sappy cards as possible to my loved ones. Valentine’s Day is cemented in our cultural tradition, and a year without Valentine’s Day would be nearly incomplete.

The history of Valentine’s Day, as you may know, is rooted in Christian tradition. Saint Valentine was a Christian who died on February 14, 269. While we, Presbyterians, do not venerate individuals in the way Saint Valentine has been venerated, we still appreciate his ministry. Saint Valentine is the patron saint of love, engaged couples, and happy marriages. These make sense given our tradition surrounding Valentine’s Day. But he is also the patron saint of beekeepers, protection against fainting, the plague, and epilepsy. Interesting facts, but not necessary for the celebration of Valentine’s Day. We all know that this one day of the year is consumed by love. Whether it is real, un-filtered love between parent and child, or the pretend-love of an elementary school classroom, it is celebrated on Valentine’s Day.

Perhaps you have read about the five love languages that people tend to exhibit. Dr. Gary Chapman wrote the book that has helped millions of people discover their love languages. The five love languages that he has identified are: words of affirmation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time, and physical touch. These five all apply to the love found in friendship, family, strangers, and romantic partners. The trick is, while each person may lean heavily towards one or another, we all have a combination of all five as part of our love language. There is even a difference between which of these five we prefer to receive and which we prefer to extend towards others. Discovering what makes each of us feel loved is a natural part of life. So natural, in fact, that it is the way we connect with our Creator.

1 John 4:19 “We love because he first loved us.” How wonderful it is to have a Creator who instilled in us this deep drive to show and accept love. This essential part of our existence is what we celebrate on Valentine’s Day. We celebrate the love that surpasses our understanding yet has

managed to teach us how to love one another. So, this Valentine's Day, write an extra love note to the source of all love, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In God's Peace,  
Pastor Emily



**Prayer Concerns:** Please be in prayer for those listed below and their families: **Short Term:** Paula (Friend of Ella Spriggs), Carl Drumheller (Audrey Mitchell's brother), Jim Smith, Suzanne Moore, & Richard Rotz. **Long Term:** Chas Howells, Ella Spriggs, John Robinson, & Amanda Bailey (daughter of Patsy Johnston).



**Just a special Thank You** to everyone who helped me get the Annual Report completed this year. Your help was greatly appreciated.  
MUPC Secretary



- 3-Isla Hu
- 5-Tim Drover
- 7-Stanley Kerlin  
Patty Rhodes
- 9-Leo Spriggs
- 10-Conner Fitz
- 11-Chris Youngblood  
Monteir Spriggs
- 16-Nathan Horton
- 17-Dennis Rauffer
- 20-Kevin Reed  
Preston Carbaugh III
- 21-John LeCornu
- 23-Garrison Behan
- 25-William Dovey
- 28-Lois Croom  
Anne Gobin  
Roger Horton  
Joyce Hornberger



## **Trustees**

**January 8, 2019**

Trustee report for the February Gleaner  
Our Trustees are continuing to repair and enhancing our facilities. We have made repairs in the Manse and Fellowship House recently. The committee is planning and contacting contractors to make sure improvements are made in a timely manner. We appreciate and encourage church family members to help us out with their skills. Our group enjoys working together and are pleased to have Pastor Emily working with us.

We are a church family that reaches out to the community. We encourage you to invite others to be a part of our church family.

Ron Mitchell, secretary



## **Session**

**January 16, 2019**

Session met for their stated January 16, 2019 meeting in the Fellowship House at 7:00 with elders Tim Drover, Carolyn Kerlin, Donna Ankney, Al Clark, LeeAnne Kendall, Wes Howells, Ken Keebaugh, and the

moderator, Rev. Emily McCachren present. The meeting was opened with devotions by Elder LeeAnne Kendall. The meeting agenda was approved, as well as the minutes of the December 19, 2018 stated Session meeting. The average attendance for the month of December was 74. Attendance at the 4:00 Christmas Eve service was 57 and the 11:00 Christmas Eve service was 147. The Christmas Eve offering was \$19,166.00. Fifty one received communion on January 6. Emily reported that the next Presbytery meeting will be February 26 from 9:30-3:00 in Hershey. She has now officially been named the contact with the Boy Scouts. There will be an Ash Wednesday service on March 6 with a Bible study beginning the next week. The theme of the Bible study will be Because of This, I Rejoice. She is in the process of putting together a book study, Just Mercy, together with April Leese. It was approved that Ron Mitchell will oversee an update of a new church directory pending a cost estimate. The new copier has been installed in the church office. Elder Howells discussed the contracts with the old company and the new one. **COMMITTEE REPORTS Financial:** The financial report for the month of December was given by elder Drover. **Fellowship:** The committee is working on signing up groups to host soup night. There are three slots remaining open. The committee will host the first soup night on January 30. They will also assist the Presbyterian Women with the congregational dinner. **Nominating:** The committee met after worship on January 13. They are looking for a candidate to fill a seat on the Board of Deacons. **Stewardship:** Elders Ankney and Howells are still compiling information from the time and talent surveys. **Worship:** The committee met and would like to purchase 30 new hymnals for use by the choir. **Christian Ed:** Pastor Emily presented 3 sample books to be given to children when they reach an age

milestone. One is a Bible picture book to be given to babies through 5 years. One is an action Bible for third grade and up. And one is a study Bible for older students.

Discussion of a combined meeting of the three boards was tabled until spring.

Communion procedures such as prep, clean up and serving was discussed. Copies of the church closing call list was handed out. The final budget for 2019 as it will appear in the annual report was approved. The 2018 church statistics report was approved. It will be sent to Presbytery and entered into our minute book.



Present: April Leese, Barb MacDonald, Stanley Kerlin, Nancy Bivens, Emily McCachren  
Absent: Patty Rhodes, Laura Metcalfe, Linda Heuston  
December minutes approved.

**Benevolence**

Love's Closet \$100.00  
Catholic Mission - Special Projects \$1,000.00  
Presbytery of Carlisle GAGM \$2,000.00  
Business



Updated prayer list.  
Treasures for children was completed. Our congregation supported 35 children.  
Gifts were bought per request.  
Poinsettias were delivered to shut-ins.  
Reorganization is deferred until when the new officer is available.  
We hope to serve for soup night on February 6. Meet at 4:30 to set up and meet. If that date is unavailable, we will take the next date.  
Next meeting will be February 6 at soup night.

**“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.

**Gleaner Deadline** for the March issue is February 25, 2019. 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.

**A reminder that soup night began January 30, 2019.** The sign up sheet is in the basement.



## **February Lectionary Readings**

### **Week of February 3**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Psalms 71: 1-6

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Luke 4: 21-30

### **Week of February 10**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Isaiah 6: 1-8 (9-13)

Psalms 138

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Luke 5: 1-11

### **Week of February 17**

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Jeremiah 17: 5-10

Psalms 1

1 Corinthians 15: 12-20

Luke 6: 17-26

### **Week of February 24**

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Genesis 45: 3-11, 15

Psalms 37: 1-11, 39-40

1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50

Luke 6: 27-38



# 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
					6:30 PM Boy Scouts CE	
<i>3-4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM The Gathering 11:00 AM Worship Congregational Meeting/Dinner 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM Cub Scouts CE	Office Hours 9AM -2PM 7:00 PM Trustee Meeting FH	5:30-6:30 PM Soup Night 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting FH	Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	6:30 PM Boy Scouts CE	
<i>10-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM The Gathering 11:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM Cub Scouts CE	Office Hours 9AM -2PM	2:00 PM Presby. Women FH 5:30-6:30 PM Soup Night	Office Hours 9-2 MG 9-11 AM 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	6:30 PM Boy Scouts CE	
<i>17-6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM The Gathering 11:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM Cub Scouts CE	Office Hours 9AM -2PM	5:30-6:30 PM Soup Night 7:00 PM Session Meeting FH	Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	6:30 PM Boy Scouts CE	
<i>24-7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	25	26	27	28		
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM The Gathering 11:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM Cub Scouts CE	Office Hours 9AM -2PM	5:30-6:30 PM Soup Night	Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.		



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