



The GLEANER

July/August, 2025

The McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church

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Pastor's Column

“A Time to Cultivate”

Sitting on my back porch on Friday, June 20th, the Summer Solstice, I reflected on George Gershwin's familiar 1935 song from “Porgy & Bess” – “Summertime, When the Living is Easy.” Summertime is a Season of growth, when the seeds planted and watered by abundant rain in Spring are sprouting and being cultivated into flowers to appreciate and produce to enjoy. Recently, I've been reading a book by Presbyterian minister, Jill Duffield, entitled, *Appreciate These Things: Eight Ways of Cultivating Compassion*. Duffield's book is based on a verse to the young church in Philippi comprised of a variety of people from a variety of backgrounds. Paul writes, “Brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (4:8). She suggests that we focus, meditate on, and appreciate these things – both in God's rich blessings of Creation and in God's blessings of the people He places in our lives – mentors, friends, family, etc.

Wow! If we could “renew our minds” as Paul suggests in Romans 12:2, by thinking about these things, it just might make a difference in all our relationships. In this tumultuous world, where so many seeds of hatred, anger, mistrust, and division are being planted and cultivated, it would be a powerful testimony to the love and grace of God, who cares about every human being, if we could be intentional with regard to “cultivating compassion.” “Cultivation” requires daily nurture and care. And, this is certainly true spiritually. During these Summer days, may each of us take time to “cultivate compassion” by thinking on and appreciating all that is “true, honorable, just, etc.” in God, and in others, so that, indeed, our gratitude toward God and appreciation of others will make our “living a little easier.”

Pastor Dale



Short Term: Bill & Janet McGinnis, Patsy Johnston, Julie Dovey, Harvey Kneas, Bob McCormick, Jill Cline, Betty Warthin, Wayne MacDonald, Gary Black, Mac Miller, Amy Mimm, Mrs. Peyton, & the family of Freda Cromer.

Long Term: Audrey Mitchell, Amanda Bailey, FaeAnna Heilig, Dean Dovey, Loy & Linda Garber, & Faye Elvey.



Birthdays

4-Gene Leese

Jeff Bigelow

5-Tara Ritchey

7-Rosemary Billings

10- Debbie Reed

14-Sandra Richards

15-Carolyn Kneas

Richard Hornberger

16-Frank Ingram

21-John Heuston

22-Tim Fowler

26-Sarah Cutchall



Birthdays

3-Dan Adams

Marin Carbaugh

4-Olivia Mitchell

6-Nancy Bivens

15-Chas Howells

17-Darryl Mitchell

Betty Warthin

25-Scott Alexander

Brett Cornelius

27-Rebecca Eisenhower

28-John Johnston

29-Joyce Fowler

31-Janet Champion



Find us on YouTube

Our YouTube channel is MUPCLive. All in-person worship services are also simultaneously broadcast on YouTube.

The videos are also later uploaded to our church website, www.mupc.org, under the Media Worship tab.

Summer Bible Studies



Bible Study continues Tuesdays at 10 AM in the community room. Everyone is welcome to join our discussion-based Bible Study group.



Gleaner Deadline for the September Issue is August 26th. It will be printed on the 26th. If you can't email it, feel free to call or lay a handwritten document on the secretary's desk.



Session June 18, 2025

Session met for their stated June 18, 2025, meeting. All the elders and the moderator, Rev. Dale Williams, were present. Elder April Leese attended by zoom. Elder John Johnston led devotions and opened the meeting with prayer at 6:05 pm. The meeting agenda and the prior two meetings were

approved. Items from the June Presbytery Newsletter were reviewed. An annual Domestic Nonprofit Corporation report needs to be filed with the PA State Department by June 30. The most recent wording changes to the Book of Order have been made. The average pastoral tenure for the Carlisle Presbytery has gone from 14 years in 2014 to 8 years. The average weekly April worship attendance was forty.

Pastor Dale commented on his impression on the Holy Cow survey results. He prays for the Pastor Nominating Committee and was informed of homebound members and members in transition to new residences. A Resolution of Respect was approved for Elder Freda Cromer who joined the Church Triumphant on June 2, 2025. Her memorial service was held in the sanctuary on June 6, 2025, with the Rev. Dale Williams leading the service.

Elder Carolyn Kneas continues to work on the formation of the Flower Committee. Elder John Johnston updated the session on the first meeting of the PNC held June 11, 2025, for orientation by the presbytery's stated clerk, Rev. Kristal Smith. The Mission Review for our congregation and the Ministry Discernment Profile are two reports that will be completed and sent for presbytery Commission on Ministry approval. Then access to the Church Leadership Connection will be granted. Session will not meet during the month of July.

A communion schedule was amended for the remainder of the year. Communion will be celebrated on July 6, September 14(Rally Day), October 5(Worldwide Communion) and November 30 (First Sunday in Advent). An additional trained person is needed to operate the microphones and video camera for worship and special services.

This year's and last year's graduating seniors, Nevin Carbaugh, Will Dovey, Gavin Fowler, and Henry Alexander, will receive a Study Bible and a laundry bag with the MUPC logo in August. A May treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

Session approved the MUPC facility to serve as a back-up location for the Fulton County Family Partnership for students and staff should an emergency occur. Elder Dovey abstained from the vote. A session retreat will be held August 9, 2025. The purpose of the retreat is to seek methods to

expand our outreach program, take the Good News of the Gospel to the community and help grow the congregation. The Rev. Chris Elliott will be invited to the July 13 worship service to briefly speak on his mission project in Africa.
The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.



Deacons May 7, 2025

Present: Al Clark (President), Frank Ingram, Barbara MacDonald,

The meeting opened with prayer at 7PM.
The prayer list was updated.

MUPC Benevolence Disbursements May 2025

Fulton County Food Basket	\$500
Love's Closet	\$200
Our Daily Bread	\$200

The Presbytery of Carlisle	\$2000
Shared Giving – yearly pledge	
80% Presbytery, 20% GAMA	

Next meeting Tuesday, 6/3/2025.

submitted by Barb MacDonald

Deacon Meeting Minutes June 3, 2025

Present: Al Clark (President), Marin Carbaugh, Frank Ingram, Carolyn Kerlin, Barbara MacDonald,
Excused: Valerie Alexander, Rachel Howells

The meeting opened with prayer at 7PM.
Tasks were assigned to assist with funeral arrangements for family of Freda Cromer.

Prayer list was updated.

Benevolence Giving

Loves Closet	\$200
Fulton County Food Basket	\$500
Pizza for Hands and Feet of Hope	\$400

Next meeting will be Wednesday, 7/2/2025 @ 7PM

submitted by Barb MacDonald



Trustees (No Report for June)



The 522 Youth Group

Youth schedule will be the second Sunday of each month from 5-7 PM at the Methodist Church.



Anyone interested in the results of the Holy Cow survey, they are available to you on the website (www.mupc.org<<http://www.mupc.org>>). Go to Media, then click Holy Cow Survey Information.



During this time of transition, if you require pastoral care or assistance, please email our Session at session@mupc.org or call our clerk, John Johnston at 717-658-1921.



August 21, 2025

The secretary will be out of town that day, but will be back on Friday, Aug. 22nd.



July Lectionary Readings

Week of July 6, 2025

Communion

2 Kings 5: 1-14
 Psalm 30: 1-12
 Galatians 6: 1-16
 Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

Week of July 13, 2025

Amos 7: 7-17
 Psalm 82: 1-8
 Colossians 1: 1-14
 Luke 10: 25-37

Week of July 20, 2025

Amos 8: 1-12
 Psalm 52
 Colossians 1: 15-28
 Luke 10: 38-42

Week of July 27, 2025

Hosea 1: 2-10
 Psalm 85: 1-13
 Colossians 2: 6-19
 Luke 11: 1-13



August Lectionary Readings

Week of August 3, 2025

Hosea 11: 1-11
 Psalm 107: 1-9, 43
 Colossians 3: 1-11
 Luke 12: 13-21

Week of August 10, 2025

Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20
 Psalm 50: 1-8, 22-23
 Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16
 Luke 12: 32-40

Week of August 17, 2025

Isaiah 5: 1-7
 Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-19
 Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2
 Luke 12: 49-56

Week of August 24, 2025

Jeremiah 1: 4-10
 Psalm 71: 1-6
 Hebrews 12: 18-29
 Luke 13: 10-17

Week of August 31, 2025

Jeremiah 2: 4-13
 Psalm 81: 1, 10-16
 Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16
 Luke 14: 1, 7-14



2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5
		Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	7 PM Deacons Meeting (BR)	Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM.		
6 <i>Communion</i>	7	8	9	10	11	12
Rev. Kristal Smith 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	7 PM Trustee Meeting (BR))	Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship 5-7 PM Youth Group MUMC	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	No Session Meeting this month.	Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM.		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)		Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM.		
27	28	29	30	31		
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)		Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM.		

Please check our online calendar, www.mupc.org/media/calendar, for any changes.



2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)		Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship 5-7 PM Youth Group MUMC	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)		Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	6 PM Session, Trustee, & Deacons Meeting (BR)	Office Closed	Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)		Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM		
31 Rev. Dale Williams 10:00 AM Worship						

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