



The GLEANER

June, 2026

The McCconnellsburg United Presbyterian Church

Office: 717-485-4400

Vol. CXL VII, NO. 249

email: office@mupc.org • web page: www.mupc.org

“WAITING”

We spend a lot of time in life waiting – waiting for Spring to come after a long, cold winter; waiting for the right person to come along; waiting for the right job, etc. I’ve thought a lot about waiting in the past couple of years. Our oldest daughter, Kristin, spent over 18 months applying for jobs, interviewing for jobs, and waiting! It seemed like an eternity – especially, because she had to live with Mom and Dad! She finally got a job she enjoys at the University of London last May, and my wife and I are going to visit her in June. Our new son-in-law, Tom, is a citizen of the UK. He married our youngest daughter, Rachel, last July, and applied for a “Green Card” so that he could work in the USA. And he waited and waited. and waited! Finally, after 8 months, at the end of March he was called for an interview with Immigration Authorities, and within a few days he had his Green Card, and has now been at his new job for a month! It seemed like it would never happen! I thought about waiting again, when the chair of the Pulpit Nominating Committee for MUPC, John Johnston, indicated to the rest of the committee that he is going to try new innovative ways to advertise for the open position of “Pastor” at McCconnellsburg United Presbyterian Church. After searching and reviewing resumes and reaching out to candidates for almost a year and a half, the PNC has no viable leads. It is frustrating and discouraging! They’ve worked hard for our congregation, but it looks like they will have to wait a while longer.

The Scriptures remind all of us human beings who have a hard time waiting that God is on a different timetable than we are. Peter wrote, “Do not forget, dear friends: with the Lord, a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day” (2 Peter 3:8). God spoke through the Prophet Isaiah: “My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:8-9). And, through the prophet Jeremiah to a people in bondage growing weary of waiting for deliverance: “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” (Jeremiah 29:11). So, the Prophet Isaiah challenges every one of us who become tired and weary of “waiting” – “God gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Those who wait on [put their hope in] the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint” (Isaiah 40 29-31).

We can all be praying for the men and women representing MUPC on the Pulpit Nominating Committee. And, we can make it our daily prayer for ourselves, when we become tired of waiting, impatient, irritable, frustrated and discouraged – “Teach me, Lord, to wait on You!” Paul wrote, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him!” (1 Cor. 2:9).

When we wait on the Lord, we will be blessed!

Pastor Dale



Prayers for Health Issues:

Patsy Johnston, Bob McCormick, Jill Cline, Naomi Marcus, Patty Hall, Morgan Taylor and baby Isaiah, Kenny Walker, Harvey Kneas, Laura Thatcher, David Nuner, & Brandon Genescritt (kidney transplant).

Prayers for Senior Living and Home-Based Members:

Bill Warthin, Ron and Audrey Mitchell, Faye Elvey, FaeAnna Heilig, & Janet McGinnis.



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



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.



- 3-Larry Ott
- 6-Jackson Cornelius
- 14-Lisa Culler
- 15-Dennis Ritchey
- Laura Olivia Alexander
- 21-Benjamin Carlson
- 26-Stephanie Walker
- 27-James Henry Alexander



Gleaner Deadline for the July/August Issue is June 25th. It will be printed on the 25th. If you can't email it, feel free to call or lay a handwritten document on the secretary's desk.



May 20, 2026

Session met on May 20, 2026, for their stated monthly meeting with all session members present except Julie Dovey who was absent and excused. The Rev. Dale Williams was present and served as moderator. A quorum was present. Elder John Johnston led devotions and opened the meeting with prayer at 6:08 pm.

The meeting agenda and the minutes from the stated April 22, 2026, session meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent. The average worship attendance for March was fifty-two.

Pastor Dale commented on music for the church picnic on June 28, 2026, at Cowans Gap State Park. He also mentioned he will be leaving Sunday to be on a cruise and will return in time for the June 28, 2026, service at Cowan's Gap State Park.

The PNC Chairperson, Eder John Johnston, presented a verbal report to inform session that two candidates have been interviewed. The second candidate is residing in Indiana, PA, and is currently a commissioned at-large teaching elder. She has withdrawn her application due to the two-and-one-half hour commuting distance. Elder boundary training will be completed using a second short training video. The videos will be viewed after Sunday worship on May 31, 2026.

As a MUPC Christian Education effort, the non-profit, Live Like Levi Foundation, whose focus is to keep our children aware of harmful internet use will present a seminar co-sponsored by MUPC and the Central Fulton School District on October 14, 2026. MUPC will cover the presenter travel costs, brochure printing and additional incidental costs.

A Small Group Ministry overview was presented by the clerk. An "trip interest" survey will be posted in the sanctuary narthex. The trips include a Gospel Music Performance at the Lurhs Center, the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County, the American Music Theater in Lancaster PA, the Shenandoah Musica Conservatory in Winchester VA, and Sight and Sound in Lancaster PA. The trip interest survey posting and the use of the church's debit card to purchase future event admission tickets were approved. As a reminder, guests may be invited to attend any of these trips and all costs are the responsibility of the trip participants. The clerk reported on information submitted to Guide One Liability Insurance Company to satisfy a request for Sexual Misconduct Liability Insurance coverage at one million dollars as recommended by the Carlisle Presbytery. A reply from Guide One is expected, either that the submitted information is satisfactory or additional information is needed.

Christian Education: Elder Carolyn Kneas is continuing a Sunday School search to be offered for the return to regular worship time in September. Her goal is to have a universal age curriculum that can be used as a community outreach.

Fellowship: A meeting will be held to discuss preparations for June 28, 2026, Church Picnic and for Rally Day, September 13, 2026.

Stewardship: Elders Donna Ankney and Jack Rhodes will decide on a November Stewardship Sunday plan, should the way be made clear.

Elder Donna Ankney gave remarks received from a congregation member concerning pew cards. Action was tabled until the June meeting, giving time for each session member to review the present cards and to decide what changes, if any, should be made.

A request to provide \$350 for the purchase of pizza, as MUPC is responsible for an evening meal during the Hands and Feet of Hope summer youth event, was approved.

Session will review and approve the adoption or establishment of policies as amended by the Carlisle Presbytery or the Trinity Synod as a monthly agenda item, with the following:
Boundaries (11/2019 and amended 08/2024);

Sexual Misconduct (09/26/2000 and amended 11/17/2009); Children, Youth and adults with Vulnerabilities (12/05/2017); Anti-Harassment (10/29/2024); and Anti-Racism (10/29/2024)

September 13, 2026, had been determined to be Rally Day and the return to the 11 am worship service.

Graduating high school seniors who participated in the Handbell Choir will receive a gift and a Bible; and rising fifth grader Bibles will be presented during the May 31, 2026, worship service.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by the moderator at 7:27 pm.



May 6, 2026

Present: Al Clark (President), Marin Carbaugh, Barbara MacDonald, Joyce Hornberger, Rachel Howells (zoom).

Excused: Frank Ingram, Carolyn Kerlin

Meeting opened with prayer at 7PM.

Minutes of April meeting approved.

Carolyn will have flowers ready for Memorial Day ceremony at our church's military graves.

Prayer list was updated.

Benevolence Giving

Loves Closet (monthly)	\$300
Fulton County Food Basket (monthly)	\$500
Center for Community Action (CCA) (monthly)	\$500
Fulton County Partnership (monthly)	\$500

Heifer Internationa \$500

Krislund Camp \$1500

Child Evangelism Fellowship Good News Camp (Dublin Mills Community Church) \$500

Personal Assistance (2) \$1000

No meeting in June. Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 1, 2026 @ 7PM.

submitted by Barb MacDonald, Secretary



(No Report for May)



The 522 Youth Group

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



Hands and Feet of Hope (HFOH) will be running June 14 through June 20. HFOH is a Christian work camp for teens that focuses on helping those in need here in Fulton County with home repairs. Please keep the teenagers and adult volunteers in your prayers.



Pastor Nominating Committee

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues to review candidates who are matched to our congregation by the Presbyterian Church (USA) Clergy Leadership Connection. A small number of candidates have been interviewed but have either determined not to be a good fit for our congregation or have been beyond the benefit package that our budget can support. The PNC has not been discouraged by the process as we know GOD oversees our pastor search and our chosen pastor has not yet been presented to the committee. Please join our committee and pray for GOD to present the pastor HE has chosen for our congregation.



The Scouts are collecting Aluminum cans (any not attracted to a magnet) including soda cans, beer cans, energy drinks... cat food cans/lids.. **NOT STEEL CANS.** Aluminum only for now. The scouts get \$0.52/lb when they recycle and they use these funds for activities, camporees and summer camps. Cans will be collected and recycled every two weeks on Saturdays. (ie: 4/11, 4/25, 5/9... and continues biweekly). Cans must be washed. Please place your clean aluminum cans in the large trash can in the Scout meeting room downstairs to support our Scout troop.



HELP! The MUPC Session is looking for a PR (Public Relations) person to promote the ministry of our congregation to the wider Fulton County Community. The individual we are looking for should be familiar with social media and how to communicate our mission to a new generation. Please reach out to one of our Elders if you or someone you know might be interested.



Worship will begin at 10 am on June 7th thru September 6th. The winter schedule will then begin and have an 11 am start time beginning on September 13, 2026.



June 14th



June 21st



June 21st

**Many Voices,
One Song!**

A PRESBYTERY-WIDE WORSHIP GATHERING

Bringing Healing, Unity, & Renewal
— Across the Presbytery of Carlisle —

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2026
• 4:00 PM •

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CARLISLE
528 Garland Drive, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013

GUEST PREACHER:
Rev. Cecelia “CeCe” Armstrong,
Co-Moderator of the 226th General Assembly

LOTS OF MUSIC INCLUDING
Vocal and Bell Choirs and
a Hallelujah Chorus Singalong.

**COMMUNION, LITURGY &
ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**

**FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP
FOR ALL AGES**

One Presbytery, Many Voices, One Song
— Many Congregations joining Together in Worship —



Small Group Ministry

A new initiative has been launched with Session’s approval to provide some social activities for our congregation in a small group setting. Each event offers an opportunity for those who appreciate fellowship, music or theater to enjoy an outing. There may even be a Biblical quiz for each carpool.

The first event offers the Raleigh Ringers, a handbell choir using eight octaves (over 400



The Annual Church Picnic will be held at Cowan’s Gap State Park Sunday, June 28th.
Worship begins at 10 AM.

handbells) at the Luhrs Center for the Arts, Shippensburg University, June 27, 2026, 7 pm. Feel free to invite friends or family members. Two uncommitted seats are still available.

We will need some feedback as to what future events will be chosen. Be sure to visit the "Interest Survey" in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary. Please choose and indicate what future events you would enjoy attending. If there is enough interest for an event, tickets will be purchased for block seating. The individual admission price will be the responsibility of each person in addition to any meals and incidental costs. Each carpool will decide departure times, passengers and restaurant choice.

We hope you will participate and enjoy a show and fellowship with congregation members. Friends and family members are welcome to attend.



A Christian Education Seminar dealing with "Safe Internet Use by Minors" will be co-sponsored by the McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church and the Central Fulton School District. Presenters will be Tricia Maciejewski, mother of Levi Maciejewski, and founder of the Live Like Levi Foundation. The foundation was created after Levi's tragic suicide death due to a fraudulent internet sextortion assault. In addition, FBI Special Agent Ford informs the audience on laws and enforcement of fraudulent internet schemes. This very important information seminar will be held on October 14, 2026, at the Central Fulton auditorium at 7 pm. We hope to have a large audience for such an important topic. Do not think your child, grandchild, niece, nephew or other minor would never be the victim of a social media assault. This is one seminar to attend and learn about social media pitfalls. The community is invited to this seminar; we encourage you to attend and invite a neighbor to come along.



June Lectionary Readings

Week of June 7, 2026

Elder Joe Calhoun

Genesis 12: 1-9

Psalm 33: 1-12

Romans 4: 13-25

Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

Week of June 14, 2026

Pastor Nancy McClure

Flag Day

Genesis 18: 1-15

Genesis 21: 1-7

Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19

Romans 5: 1-8

Matthew 9: 35-10: 8-23

Week of June 21, 2026

Rev. Dale Francis

Father's Day

Spring Begins

Genesis 21: 8-21

Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17

Romans 6: 1b-11

Matthew 10: 24-39

Week of June 28, 2026

Rev. Dale Williams

Cowan's Gap Picnic

Genesis 22: 1-14

Psalm 13: 1-6

Romans 6: 12-23

Matthew 10: 40-42



2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR))	7 PM Deacons Meeting (BR)	Office Hours 9AM-2PM		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Elder Joe Calhoun 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		
14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19	20
Pastor Nancy McClure 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))	7 PM Session Meeting (BR)	Office Hours 9 AM-2 PM		
21-Father's Day Spring Begins	22	23	24	25	26	27
Rev. Dale Francis 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		7 PM Handbell Concert at Shippensburg University
28	29	30				
Rev. Dale Williams Cowan's Gap Picnic 10:00 AM Worship	6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR))				

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