



The GLEANER

March, 2024

The McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church

Office: 717-485-4400

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

Vol. CXLVII, NO. 224

Beloved of God,

Spring will be a welcome relief from the cold days of winter that we've endured this year. March is the month when things start to wake up and come back to life. Rosie has already noticed more birds singing outside the windows in the morning. She will say, in her toddler way, "what's that?" with a hand to her ear, listening to the birds sing. I pray the birds bring you as much joy and inspire such wonder as they do for Rosie.

This month, we will continue to wander through Lent together, slowly approaching an early Easter on March 31st. Surrounding Easter, we have our Maundy Thursday service on Thursday the 28th at 7 pm, and a Good Friday service on the 29th at noon in our building hosted by the Ministerium. Easter morning will ensure that we, too, have woken up and come back to life this spring. Be sure to keep an eye out for upcoming special events like our next church family movie night.

To keep up-to-date with the happenings at church, make sure you receive my weekly "MUPC This Week" emails on Thursdays. If you would like to be added to the list, please notify me at pastor@mupc.org.

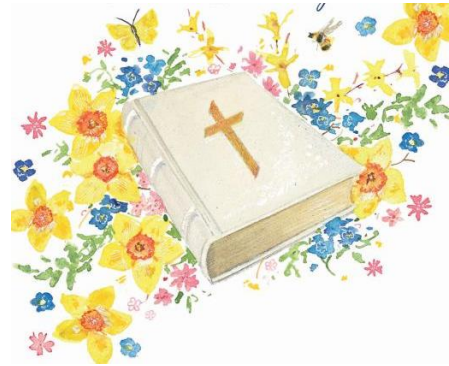
Grace & Peace,
Rev. Emily R. McCachren



PRAYER REQUESTS

Short Term: Freda Cromer, Bill & Janet McGinnis, Connie & Doug Brown, Patsy Johnston, Loy & Linda Garber, Suzanne Hockensmith, Dean Strait, Cindy Glessner, Kendra Richards Graham, Byron Helsel, Sylvia Brown, Roger Horton, Dorrie Serry, Linda Peppernick, the family of Minnie McCachren, Joanie Peck, Deborah Seville, Brixten Hahn, Gary Black, the family of Richard Rhodes, Larry Cooper, & Peggy Sue.

Long Term: Whitaker Raymer, Audrey Mitchell, Amanda Bailey, FaeAnna Heilig, Dean Dovey, & Kathy Kendall.



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



- 1-**Ronald Mitchell
Valerie Alexander
- 2-**Rev.Emily McCachren
Kyzley Doris Mitchell
- 5-**Noreen Mann
- 7-**JoAnn Carlson
- 10-**Al Clark
- 15-** Rachel Leese
- 20-**Audrey Mitchell
Betty Lockwood
- 24-**Madilynn Florence Cutchall
- 29-**Aaron Kerlin
Kate Carbaugh
- 30-**Brent Carlson



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.



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



(February 21, 2024)

The February 21, 2024, stated Session meeting was held in the board room following soup night with Julie Dovey being absent and excused. All other elders were present in addition to the moderator, the Rev. Emily McCachren. The devotions were led by Elder LeeAnne Kendall using the Scripture, Psalm 110, Standing Ready to Help. She then opened the meeting with prayer.

The average worship attendance for the month of December was 48 in person and online. Thirty-Five persons received Communion on January 14, 2024.

Pastor Emily submitted a written pastor's report showing her activities for the past month. With her worship service preparation, she has focused on the importance of authentic worship that captivates each person's body, mind, and soul.

The Youth Group leaders are trying a new outreach model via TikTok which can be viewed on social media.

Pastor Emily is seeking midweek program leaders for next year. Her anticipated leave now includes June 2nd and July 15-21 as vacation time; April 8-14 and May 20-23 as continuing education and April 1 as Spiritual Renewal.

Elder John K Johnston was elected clerk of session for a one-year term. Elder April Leese was welcomed to her first session meeting as ruling elder.

It was noted that five new members were welcomed to the congregation on February 11, 2024: four by reaffirmation of faith and one by profession of faith.

Session continues to work on methods, activities and programs that can be initiated for the growth of

the congregation and to provide discipleship to the community. A separate work session is planned for the session to complete the development of these plans. A congregational meeting will be planned after Lent to approve the newly revised church by-laws.

The session reorganized the working committees changing some chairperson positions. Elders John K Johnston and Richard Rotz were elected to serve as the Elder Commissioners to the March 11, 2024, Carlisle Presbytery Meeting at Middle Spring church.

A scout room usage request was approved to hold a school bus instructor training session on April 13, 2024. The use of the sanctuary was approved for the ministerium to hold the community Good Friday noon service. A National Tartan Day observance will be held April 7, 2024, where each clan is invited to wear their tartan and join in the "Calling of the Clans." All Scots are invited to wear their tartan and celebrate our common Scottish heritage.

An Investment Committee was formed with Elder and church treasurer Julie Dovey as chair and Wayne MacDonald and Stanley Kerlin as members. The 2024 per capita payment to presbytery was authorized and a \$2000 pledge for general mission was approved. Usher responsibilities for the month of March were appointed. Session was informed by the trustees that flu replacements are necessary for the manse and the church chimneys. The total estimate of \$9000 was not budgeted but is a necessity.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by the moderator at 8:55 pm.



March 10, 2024



Deacons **(February 2, 2024)**

Present: Al Clark, Barb MacDonald, Pastor Emily, Val Alexander, Frank Ingram, & Marin Carbaugh.

Meeting opened with reflection and prayer by Barb. January minutes were approved.

Old Business:

1. Date with a Book - Starts this week
2. Cookies for Homebound members - Carolyn will bake and bring Sunday

New Business:

1. Nominating Committee – Frank will represent Deacons

Visits

Prayer Lists

Benevolences

- \$200 Love's Closet
- \$1,000 Food Basket
- \$1,000 Women in Need (WIN)
- \$1,000 Presbytery of Carlisle - GAGM
- \$1,000 Heifer International

Meeting was adjourned, with prayer by Al.

Next meeting is Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 7:00pm



Trustees **(February 14, 2024)**

ATTENDANCE: Wayne MacDonald, Jayne MacDonald, Harvey Kneas, Brett Cornelious and Ken Keebaugh.

OPENING PRAYER: Wayne MacDonald.

Brett Cornelious was welcomed as a new member of the Board of Trustees.

Juniata Chimney Sweeps will be contracted to correct a strong down draft in the church chimney and inspect the manse chimney.

Ed Lininger will be asked to replace filters on the mini-split heaters and be our contractor for plumbing issues.

Nathan Souders was hired for snow removal.

Mike Ritchey was hired to install lighting for the new parking lot on lot 59 and other electrical issues. He will be asked about reattaching a loose restroom sink.

Manse repairs will be scheduled during the pastors leave of absence.

Brett Cornelious will lend his equipment and expertise for repairing and resetting grave markers.

Josiah DeShong will be asked to replace leaking tiles in the manse bathroom.

Jayne will secure training for the scanner for recording old church records.

Jack Fields will be alerted to repair a malfunctioning streetlight on the church corner.

CLOSING PRAYER: Harvey Kneas.

Ken Keebaugh, Trustees Secretary



The 522 Youth Group
March 10th from 3-6:30 PM
March 24th from 3-6:30 PM



Midweek Youth Group
March 6th at 5:30 PM
March 20th at 5:30 PM



March Lectionary Readings

Week of March 3, 2024

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20: 1-17
 Psalm 19: 1-14
 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25
 John 2: 13-22

Week of March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21: 4-9
 Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22
 Ephesians 2: 1-10
 John 3: 14-21

Week of March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

St. Patrick's Day

Jeremiah 31: 31-34
 Psalm 51: 1-12 or Psalm 119: 9-16
 Hebrews 5: 5-10
 John 12: 20-33

Week of March 24, 2024

Palm/Passion Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Mark 11: 1-11 or John 12: 12-16

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50: 4-9a or Psalm 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Mark 14: 1 – 15: 47 or Mark 15: 1-47

Week of March 31, 2024

Transfiguration of the Lord

Easter Sunday

Easter Day Readings

Acts 10: 34-43 or Isaiah 25: 6-9

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 or Acts 10: 34-43

John 20: 1-18 or Mark 16: 1-8

Easter Evening Readings

Isaiah 25: 6-9

Psalm 114: 1-8

1 Corinthians 5: 6b-8

Luke 24: 13-49



March 17, 2024



Prayer 101

Pastor Emily is offering a class throughout Lent on how to pray. We will learn the basics before touching on some creative prayer ideas. This class is for you if you struggle to feel comfortable praying for a group, don't feel confident enough to pray aloud, or feel like your prayers have hit a rut. Each session will feature a time of prayer after the lesson. We will meet after worship on Sundays from about 12:15 to 12:45, February 18th through March 24th.



Memorial Easter Lilies will be placed in the Sanctuary for Easter. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please sign up by March 17th. The cost is \$10.00. Checks may be made payable to the church & marked "Easter Lily" in the memo section. You may place them in the offering plate or give to Pastor Emily.



March 19, 2024



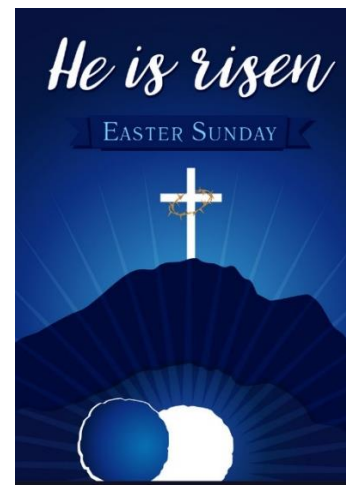
March 24, 2024



**March 28, 2024
Service at 7 PM**



March 29th at 12 Noon



March 31, 2024



2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
					6:30 PM Boy Scouts CR	
3 Third Sunday in Lent	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship +Children's Church 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal		Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (Library) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (CR)	7 PM Deacons Meeting BR	Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	6:30 PM Boy Scouts CR	
10 Fourth Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship +Children's Church 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal		Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (Library) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (CR)	7:PM Trustee Meeting (BR)	Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	6:30 PM Boy Scouts CR	
17 Fifth Sunday in Lent St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Spring Begins	20	21	22	23
9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship +Children's Church 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal		Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (Library) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (CR)	7:00 PM Session Meeting BR	Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	6:30 PM Boy Scouts CR	
24 Palm/Passion Sunday	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thurs.	29 Good Friday	30
9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship +Children's Church 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal		Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (Library) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (CR)		Office Hours 9-2 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service	12 Noon Community Good Friday Service 6:30 PM Boy Scouts CR	
31 Easter Sunday						

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