



The GLEANER

November 2025

The McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church

Office: 717-485-4400

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

Pastor's Column

“Giving Thanks”

At the end of October my wife and I sat beside a blazing fire in our living room, eating dinner on TV Tables and listening to peaceful music. It was our first fire of the season, and we were grateful! Our fireplace does not put out much heat, but it is cozy sitting by the fire and enjoying a quiet evening. We are grateful for the little things!

And now, each morning as I read my Bible and have my morning coffee on my back porch, I take in the beauty of the Autumn leaves and give thanks. I am grateful for the little things!

Our family – 3 children, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, and 2 granddaughters - all are in good health; all are pursuing satisfying careers; and all are grounded in a relationship with our Lord. My wife and I are so grateful!

This month, on the 27th of November, Thanksgiving will be observed as a National Holiday. In 1942, then President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress establishing a National Day of Thanksgiving on the 4th Thursday in November each year. Unfortunately, for many Americans it has simply become the “official” start of the Christmas shopping frenzy! Or else, we set aside one day and enjoy a good meal and time with family, and then become so immersed in technology, and social media, and negative news, that we fail to acknowledge God’s blessings on a daily basis. As people of God, we know that Thanksgiving is not a government mandated day. It is a season; it is a lifetime. It is a way of life that God wants for each of us in order to enjoy rich and satisfying lives.

My wife and I are thankful for the little things in life. God has blessed us richly . . . and we are truly grateful!

November is a Season of Thanksgiving – What are you thankful for?

Set aside time this month to keep a “Thankfulness Journal,” to spend time with loved ones reflecting on God’s blessings, and to say “thank you” to our loving and gracious God!

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever! Psalm 107:1

Pastor Dale





Short Term: Bill & Janet McGinnis,
Patsy Johnston & her daughter Amanda's family,
Bob McCormick, Jill Cline, Gary Black,
Amy Mimm, Patty Hall, Carter Straight,
Jason Harbaugh, Chas Howells (PTL!), &
Bill Warthin & family.

Long Term: Audrey Mitchell, Amanda Bailey,
FaeAnna Heilig, Dean Dovey, Loy & Linda Garber,
Faye Elvey, & Naomi Marcus (mother of
Diane Seiders Johnston, who began receiving
kidney dialysis on July 25th).



Birthdays

2-Hayden Mitchell
Kristen Milroth

7-Seth Ott

8-Andrew Smith

9-Rachel Kimmel

14-Gavin Fowler

15-Eric Kerlin

16-Sonny Harr

17-Anne Eisenhower

20-Lorraine Milroth

21-Charles (Wes) Howells



Betty Warthin

July 20, 1939 - October 18, 2025

The congregation was saddened to learn of Betty's
passing on 10-18-2025.

Please pray for the Warthin Family.



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.



Gleaner Deadline for the December Issue is November 24th. It will be printed on the 24th. If you can't email it, feel free to call or lay a handwritten document on the secretary's desk.



Session October 15, 2025

Session met for their stated October 15, 2025, meeting with all members present except April Leese who was absent and excused. The Rev. Dale Williams moderated the meeting. Elder LeeAnne Kendall led devotions with scripture from Psalm 139, stating God's works are wonderful as they have been, are now and will be in the future. She then opened the meeting with prayer. The meeting

agenda and the minutes from the stated September 17, 2025, meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

The clerk provided a request from presbytery's stated clerk that one action before the Presbytery will be a motion to waive term limits for congregations in need of that waiver per Book of Order paragraph G-2.0404. This reference states that if a congregation is in need for a Ruling Elder or a Deacon to serve beyond the permitted two consecutive 3-year terms, the congregation can ask for this waiver by November 1, 2025. The nominating committee chaired by Elder Joyce Fowler will decide if this waiver is needed. The average worship attendance for August was forty-five.

Rev. Williams reviewed October 19, 2025, White Church hymn sing arrangements. He also mentioned the need for his 2026 Covenant Agreement with our congregation needs to be completed by December 1, 2025. Session requested Rev. Williams to be the designated pulpit supply for as much time as he is comfortable serving this congregation in 2026. He plans to serve our congregation during the Advent, Lent, Easter and again through the 2026 advent season in addition to moderating stated session meetings. Guest pulpit supply ministers will fill the remaining Sunday worship services. Rev. Williams will provide a three-week evening online Bible study on "Thanksgiving" beginning on Wednesday October 29, 2025, and ending on November 12, 2025.

Pastor Williams visited the Mitchell's prior to their move to Paramount Senior Living in Fayetteville, PA.

Elder Kneas reported the Flower Committee is functional. Elder April Leese will prepare for communion to be celebrated on November 30, 2025, the first Sunday in Advent.



Deacons

October 1, 2025

Present: Val Alexander, Al Clark, Frank Ingram, Barb MacDonald, Marin Carbaugh, & Rachel Howells.

Meeting opened with prayer by Al. September minutes were approved. Correspondence was reviewed.

Old Business:

1. Center for Community Action v. Fulton County Community Charities - April Leese explained that when the Catholic Sisters retired, the Fulton County Community Charities was created by local people who wanted to continue the mission of serving Fulton County citizens and to continue many programs like the Backpacks for school children, the Christmas Treasures for Children, and other gap funding.
2. Hayride 10/5 with UCC - Deacons will provide hot dogs, buns, S'mores. UCC will bring side dishes.
3. Trunk or Treat - Rachel is creating gift bags with candles, cards about All Hallows Eve, bracelets, and candy to give out during town Trick-or-Treating.

New Business:

1. Discussion about a possible secretary to replace Val, and learn about Google Docs and Deacon files.

Prayer Lists were updated with new categories.

Visits were discussed.

Benevolence

- Love's Closet \$200
- Fulton County Food Basket \$500

- Fulton County Charities (via Center for Community Action) - \$500
- Hands and Feet of Hope - special local project - \$1500
- Maranatha Ministry, Inc. - \$1,000
- Fulton County Dental Clinic - \$300

Next Meeting will be on Wednesday, Nov. 5th at 7:00pm.

Meeting was adjourned, with prayer by Rachel.



Trustees

October 8, 2025

The Trustees met for their regular monthly meeting on 8 October. The following projects are in-work or planned for the near future.

In work:

Repair to water heater for kitchen
 Repair to south bell tower light
 Repair to timer for exterior bulletin board and streetlamp
 Waxing of floors in Social Hall and Community Room

Repair and resetting damaged headstones in graveyard

Walk-through with cleaning service to highlight areas requiring their specific attention

To be scheduled:

Renovation of Manse bathroom
 Improvements to lighting of Maple Street sidewalk
 Construction of wood ramp from Lot 59 to north-west entrance door

If you see something that requires maintenance or repair, please contact any Trustee.



November Lectionary Readings

Week of November 2, 2025

Rev. Dale Williams

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Habakkuk 1: 1-4, 2: 1-4

Psalm 119: 137-144

2 Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12

Luke 19: 1-10

Week of November 9, 2025

Joe Calhoun

5-7 PM Youth Group MUMC

Haggai 1: 15b-2: 9

Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21

Psalm 98: 1-9

2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5, 13-17

Luke 20: 27-38

Week of November 16, 2025

Rev. Dale Williams

Stewardship Sunday

Isaiah 65:17-25

Isaiah 12

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Luke 21: 5-19

Week of November 23, 2025

Rev. Dale Williams

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Luke 1: 68-79

Colossians 1: 11-20

Luke 23: 33-43

Week of November 30, 2025

Rev. Dale Williams

First Sunday of Advent

Communion

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Psalm 122: 1-9

Romans 13: 11-14

Matthew 24: 36-44



November 2, 2025



November 4, 2025



Stewardship Sunday



November 16, 2025



November 29, 2025
Town-Wide Event
9 AM – 1 PM



November 23, 2025



November 30, 2025



November 27, 2025

Feel overwhelmed? Need a break from life's busy-ness?
Believe that the Lord is calling you to do "something,"
but you're over-committed and have no bandwidth?

You are invited to a *Table Connections* Women's Retreat.

Bless Your Neighbor

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA 17225

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



Saturday
November 15, 2025
9:30AM to 1:30PM

This retreat is led by
Rev. Katy Yates Brungaber,
a Minister of Word and Sacrament
in the Presbyterian Church (USA).
Our anchor scripture is Romans 12:13
"Take every opportunity to open
your life and home to others."
TELIC and non-TELIC members
are welcome; bring a friend!

Your gift of any amount at the door –
suggested \$25 – covers lunch (\$9) and supports
Pastor Katy in ministering to those who cannot
afford to pay for care, coaching or consulting.

We have room for 25 women.
Call the church office to register by November 6:

717.597.9348

(please leave your name and phone number)





2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2-Rev. Dale Williams Daylight Saving Time Ends 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	4 Election Day Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	5 7 PM Deacons Meeting (BR)	6 Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	7	8
9-Joe Calhoun 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship 5-7 PM Youth Group MUMC 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	11 Veterans Day Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	12 7 PM Trustee Meeting (BR)	13 Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	14	15
16-Rev. Dale Williams 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	18 Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	19 7 PM Session Meeting (BR)	20 Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	21	22
23 Christ the King/Reign of Christ Rev. Dale Williams 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Worship 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 6:30 PM Boy Scouts (CR)	25 Office Hours 9-2 10 AM Bible Study (CR)	26	27 Thanksgiving Day Office Hours 9-2 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Women's Ens.	28	29
30 1st Sunday of Advent Communion Rev. Dale Williams						

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