



# McPresby News



## **ALL-HANDS EVENT!!!**

**When: May the 4th (Be With You!)  
6-7:30 pm**

**Where: Trinity Center Fellowship Hall**

**What: 6:00-6:30 - Dinner (Taco Monday!)  
6:30-7:00 - Short presentation and prayer  
7:00-7:30 - Discussions around the tables**

**Why: Opportunity to break bread together, pray side-by-side,  
And discover how the Lord will strengthen and enhance  
Our hospitality and worship**

McDonald Presbyterian Church

## **150th Anniversary Celebration**

*All  
Welcome*

## **Community BLOCK PARTY**

Free Live Music: Echo Valley Bluegrass

Food Trucks\* - Bounce House - Balloon Artist - Face Painting

**May 31, 2026 - Noon to 2pm - Grant Street**

Full Details At: [mcdonaldpres.org](http://mcdonaldpres.org) - \*Food For Purchase - Kids Activities Are Free!

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And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

~ Hebrews 10:24-25



# Pastor's Page— Imagining 150 Years of Ministry: 1876-2026

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## Organizing Principles

In 1876 the population of our little town of McDonald was growing quickly as opportunities in coal mining and petroleum production were becoming more and more significant. This valley was coming together as a boom town where little had been developed before. Many individuals and families were relocating to this patch of ground because of the great opportunities for making a better life.

With the staking out of our city center and laying out streets and lots, something else was considered essential by hundreds of these new residents: reformed and Presbyterian worship. Many of those who settled here brought with them high conviction for honoring our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and service in the Presbyterian belief system and form of government. Presbyterian churches featured local elders who discerned the Holy Spirit's leading for the affairs of the church. A strong devotion to the very heart of the Gospel was given room to run through local groups of elders who could act without a bishop or overseer in another town limiting local mission and ministry. The churches would work together for the common good but enjoyed a great amount of autonomy in their day to day operations.

At this time everyone needed to be able to walk or at most attend worship by way of a reasonably short carriage ride. Early worship took place at the train station in McDonald with rotating guest pastors. In 1876 the First United Presbyterian church (Calvary) was chartered and in 1885 the First Presbyterian church (Trinity) was constituted and chartered. Raccoon Church and Oakdale churches especially fed into what we know as the former Trinity Congregation. Those residents who lived in McDonald naturally relocated from those congregations when the opportunity arose to begin local ministry here. The same may also have been the case with the United Presbyterian Congregations. So began the story of two churches that eventually would become one congregation. Buildings were built and rebuilt, two early structures would be replaced by the long-standing facilities that we now enjoy. Churches built for gas lighting and natural acoustics would eventually be wired for electricity and sound systems. Roofs would be repaired and replaced and new technologies would be added.

Ministry would be adapted for different times and seasons. Community service would always be essential to living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ together. This year we are celebrating 150 years of Presbyterian witness, service and outreach in McDonald. Our commitment is to keep doing what God has called us to do: worship Him and love our neighbors. That has always been our mission and will continue to be what drives us into the beautiful future that God has planned for us.

See you at our Block Party!

*Pastor Justin*



# Announcements

## DEACON NEWS



We are excited to let all know that our new Cafe will have a soft-launch opening on Sunday, May 3rd! Please plan to join us with more information coming soon.

Thanks to those who volunteered to assist with Easter Flower Distribution. Deacons were blessed with your help. We are soon sending out blessing cards to our college students. Also, please read the separate update about our Deacon coordinated New Directory and dates for Directory Pictures.

Deacons next meeting will be May 17th at Noon in New Beginnings Room.

### Hearts and Hands Fellowship Friday, May 8th 6-8pm

Bring a craft or a project and a snack to share. For two fun-filled hours, we talk and laugh (and eat) as we craft together. Men & women of all ages welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Dana Motte or Kerry Schmitt



### Walk, Talk, Pray Begins Tuesday, May 5th!

WTP is an excellent opportunity to get some exercise while sharing and talking with your church friends. At the end of the walk, we pray about what we discussed.

Tuesdays and Thursdays -  
6:00 pm group walks to Hunners and back  
6:30 pm group walks to Oliverio and back  
Saturday morning:  
8:00 am group walks to Hunners and back  
8:30 am group walks to Oliverio and back

If you are interested in joining us (even one or two times a week), please call Dana Motte at 412-296-2037, or just show up!!! We meet at the Trail Station.



### ROSE MANOR OUTREACH

#### Save the Dates for May:

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 - 5:30-6:30 PM - Worship at Rose Manor

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 - BINGO at Rose Manor 1:00 PM

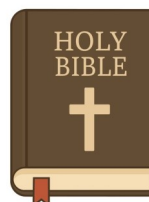


### GET INVOLVED IN WORSHIP

Are you willing to serve as a Lay Leader? All you need to do is lead the Responsive Reading and read the Scripture Lesson. Our 9th-grade and above active covenant partners are invited to serve as Lay Leaders. We also need people to help out with Children's Church or teach the Young Disciples lesson. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please contact the church office or scan the QR code here to sign up online. Thank you for your active role in our congregation.



### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



Adult Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the space next to our new café in Calvary. Anyone is welcome to join us! See Peggy Samarin or Lin Nalesnick for more info.

# Announcements

Will your family be celebrating the high school, trade school or college graduation of someone special this spring?

Your MPC family would love to recognize your student on

**Graduate Sunday, May 17th.**

Please contact the church office by May 3rd to share and receive important details.



## SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

We will be holding our annual spring clean-up day on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 8am to noon. All members are invited to help with mulching, weeding, and general clean-up. Volunteers are also invited to stop by any time during the week before to pull weeds and prepare for beds to be mulched.



## MCDONALD YARD SALE

McDonald is having their annual community yard sale on Saturday, June 6th. Once again, we will be opening Calvary Fellowship Hall to MPC families who may be interested in selling their own items. There is no charge for a table, but we ask that you please take home any unsold items after the sale. If you would like a table please call the church office.



## SILVER SOULS

Our next gathering will be held on Wednesday, July 8th at Trinity Center Fellowship Hall at 11:30am. We will have a Pot-Luck Lunch, and our after-lunch activity will be Bingo. Mark your calendar now and more information will be sent out in late May.

## ONLINE GIVING

Did you know that you can make your weekly offering and other church contributions online? You can do this by visiting [mcdonaldpres.org](http://mcdonaldpres.org) and clicking on *Covenant Partner Account Access*, or you may scan the QR code.



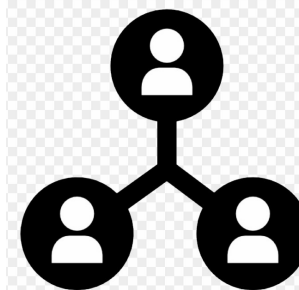
## STAY CONNECTED — LIKE, SHARE & SPREAD THE WORD!

Did you know that one of the easiest ways to help spread the good news is right at your fingertips? When you like and share our posts on Facebook and Instagram, you help our message reach far beyond our Sunday morning congregation.

We have an exciting summer ahead, and we want everyone — members, neighbors, and friends who may not yet know us — to have the chance to be part of it. We are looking forward to our 150th Anniversary Celebration — Sunday, May 31st, Vacation Bible School — June 22–26, and Summer Service Week — July 28–31, just to name a few.

It only takes a moment to help spread the word. Follow us, tap that like button, and share our posts with your friends and family. Together, we can make sure no one misses out on a potential encounter with Jesus.

Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/McDonaldPres](https://facebook.com/McDonaldPres) and on Instagram at [@mcdonaldpresbyterian](https://instagram.com/mcdonaldpresbyterian).



# Announcements



## “WHO STOLE THE COOKIE FROM THE COOKIE JAR?”

Can you find the cookie jar and help us fill it? It needs filled with “150 years” of your favorite cookie, dessert, cake and easy for children to make recipes. Looking for recipes that are family favorites and have a story – maybe a favorite of someone in the family who was a member of our church but has now passed. Could be a recipe for a dessert currently served at one of our events. And of course, well known to our area – Gulletes. Cherish those memories by having the recipe in the celebration recipe book. We would like to publish this book for Rally Day as part of the 150th celebration so we need your recipes by July 12, 2026. You may fill out the form found in the bulletin or drop a copy of your recipe in the COOKIE JAR. You may also email recipes to [lynnabrockman@gmail.com](mailto:lynnabrockman@gmail.com). Any questions please see Lynn, Anna, Jane or Chris.

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!

We are excited to announce that we will be working with Universal Church Directories to provide a new picture directory of our church members. This will be done in conjunction with our 150-year anniversary celebration. Picture dates are set for June 11-13. The Deacons are spearheading this effort, but we will gladly take any additional volunteers to help with registrations, phone calls, mailings, etc. You may schedule your timeslot now by going online to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) (church code is pa1261 and the password is smile1261) In person sign-ups will begin May 3rd before and after worship.



McDonald Presbyterian Church  
MCFALL FEST- October 10, 2026

### Now Accepting VENDOR APPLICATIONS

Call 724-926-8561 or  
Email [office@mcdonaldpres.org](mailto:office@mcdonaldpres.org)

- Beware of scammers!
- We will not ask for money!

## GOVERNMENT CLEARANCES

A reminder to all adult volunteers 18 years of age and older, you must have government clearances to help with any youth-related activities in the church. For information on how to obtain government clearances, contact Karen Irwin at 412-279-8478 or [irwinkl@aol.com](mailto:irwinkl@aol.com).

## VBS 2026– BE TRANSFORMED!

Registration is now open for students entering Kindergarten through 5th grade! VBS will take place in our Trinity building June 22-26 from 9am to noon. You may visit our website or scan the QR code to register your child. You may also register as a volunteer. Come and “Be Transformed!”

For more information, please see Dana Motte, Kerry Schmitt, or Heidi Betschart.



*If you have any old Legos that you are no longer using, we are looking for donations for VBS. Please note: these will not be returned.*

# Missions



## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Thank you for the tremendous response to our Lenten Giving Project to benefit the FMSC Mobilepack event scheduled for September 12. MPC donations consisting of monies collected in M&M tubes, general contributions and FMSC Purse Bingo tickets totaled \$2450! Additional (private) individual contributions were made by those who attended the bingo. Your generosity will go a long way in making a difference in the lives of many children around the world.



**FMSC  
PURSE  
BINGO  
April 12,**



BINGO				
3	18	32	51	69
12	29	40	60	61
7	30	42	55	74
5	22	38	53	68
13	26	43	59	60

## SUMMER SERVICE WEEK

**July 27-31, 2026**

Together with our other church partners we have made an incredible impact on our community over the past 8 years. We are blessed to be able to repair about 35 homes each year and organize some 65 volunteers to carry out the mission. Volunteer opportunities include all levels of painting, cleaning, landscaping and construction work as well as prayer team, kitchen team and more.

We hope you will be able to join us for this impactful week. If you would like to volunteer, or if you would like a homeowner's application, please visit the church website (scan the QR code) or pick up a form on the welcome table or in the church office.



# Community Life Groups

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**YAHWEH WEDNESDAY:** Our group meets once a month, and each session, we are studying a different minor prophet. We will meet next on May 6th and study the book of Zechariah. If you have questions or are interested in joining us, please contact Pastor Justin.

**LUNCH LADIES:** Lunch ladies will meet on May 11th and 18th. The study *Twelve Daring Women of the Bible* will continue. New members are welcome to join us! Please see Peggy Samarin or Linda Matchett if you have any questions.



**LAMPLIGHTERS:** The Lamplighters have just finished a challenging study on the spiritual discipline of "Listening to God." We will take a break for the summer, allowing our members to engage in the many church activities planned over the next few months. Details on our next study will be forthcoming. Lamplighters is a women's study group that meets on Monday evenings at 7pm. New participants are always welcome. Contacts for this group are Syndria Lowe and Patty Doane.

**SHE SOARS:** Come join us every Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour as we navigate through life and our relationship with Jesus. All women are welcome!



**MIGHTY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Come meet some awesome men each Sunday morning at 9:30 AM upstairs in the Calvary pastor's study. We are studying the Attributes of God in order to learn about the God who is, rather than the God we imagine. Each week, over a cup of coffee, we try to wrap our finite minds around our infinite God. Please note: We will not meet on May 17th or 31st. We will also take off for the month of June and start back on July 5th.

**READY, SET, GROW:** Our class meets on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Tower Room of Calvary. Each session, we meet to pray and then we review and discuss the previous week's Scripture lesson and sermon. We have found it to be an excellent opportunity to connect with others as we delve more deeply into the Bible. Please contact the church office or Dana Motte with any questions, or just pop in on a Sunday morning. You are welcome!!!



**QUARTER-LIFE CRISIS:** Quarter-Life Crisis is a group of young adults who meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 to study the Bible, eat food, and encourage one another. The group is for young adults from 10th grade and through their 20s. Talk to Kylie Bowland or Julia Amsler to get involved in this dynamic group.



We are excited to announce that our new café area in Calvary parlor is almost ready to use! We will be having a "soft launch" after church on Sunday, May 3rd. We will have coffee, tea, pastries, and goodies for you to try while you check out the new space.



# Operation Christmas Child



Item of the Month  Flip Flops (any & all sizes)

This congregation has been **amazingly faithful and generous** to the ministry of OCC for 27 years! But let's be honest - every year it gets more and more expensive to fill a shoebox gift with quality items.

*What if we tried something new this year as we prepare for our Packing Party (in November)?*

**By purchasing some items in bulk, we can get better deals and reach our goal of 825 shoeboxes faster and more economically.** Please scan this QR code and visit our [Packing Party Wish List](#) to see what we are talking about. (Maybe invite a friend to share the cost of an item with you)

Always feel free to contact Michelle Unruh with any questions (412-720-8232).

And again, thank you so much for your support!



[Packing Party Wish List](#)

## Inventory Update

Washcloths: 354	Bandanas: 181
Toothbrushes: 71	Notebooks: 34
Stuffed Animals: 141	Flip Flops: 39

### May 31- Detailed Agenda for the Day

10:00 AM	Café Dedication & Ribbon Cutting	12:10 PM	Echo Valley Bluegrass Concert
	Café open providing coffee & refreshments	12:15 PM	Face Painting
10:45 AM	Special Worship Service	1:00 PM	Echo Valley Intermission
11:50 AM	Worship Service concludes and we proceed to Lincoln Avenue/Station Street corner of Calvary Center		Dignitary Recognition
NOON	Cornerstone Dedication ~ Calvary Center		Cake Cutting Ceremony
	Food Trucks open	1:15 PM	Words of Appreciation
	Bounce House opens		Echo Valley Bluegrass Concert continues
	Balloon Artist	2:00 PM	Festivities Conclude

**MPC COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY!**

## MCDONALD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH YOUTH SUMMER CAMPING PROGRAM 2026

PINE SPRINGS CAMP, JENNERSTOWN PA

[WWW.PINESPRINGS.ORG](http://WWW.PINESPRINGS.ORG)

McDonald Presbyterian Church is committed to sending all our young people to summer camp that would like to attend. Church camp is not something that only “outdoorsy” kids do. It is something that we believe is a powerful spiritual formation experience. A week of spiritual formation could be life-changing for any student, especially in these times. At camp our students experience a full week of worship, study, play, and relationship-building that leads to a great week of spiritual growth that is fun and energizing. Every student that attends from McDonald Presbyterian Church and registers by the deadline will receive a \$300.00 scholarship towards the cost of camp. While the cost of camp could be more than \$600.00 this scholarship program will bring the costs down to below \$300.00 for those who register before the early bird deadline.

### **McDonald Presbyterian will be attending Pine Springs Camp Week 6: July 19-24**

**We have chosen a week where all our students who have completed the third grade or higher will be able to attend camp together.** This week of the summer there are traditional camps offered for students who have completed the third grade to the completion of their senior year. Pastor Justin will be able to serve as a Volunteer Director for the exploration camp. Adventure Exploration is open to all students who have completed grades 3-5. Students who have finished grades 6-8 will attend the Adventure Journey Camp and students who have completed grades 9-12 will attend the Adventure Expedition Camp. All Classic camps run from Sunday afternoon through Friday evening.

**MPC Registration Deadline:** Pine Springs does not have a registration deadline date, but our church has a scholarship deadline of **Sunday, June 1**. We recommend registering your camper(s) as soon as possible due to limited cabin availability. Pine Springs offers an early bird discount of \$25 if your registration is completed or postmarked by **March 23rd**. Other discounts are also offered.

**Registration Procedure:** Registration for camp is something that happens directly between the student’s parent or guardian and Pine Springs. Registration forms and initial payment should be completed online or mailed directly to the camp. When this happens, contact the church office ([kerry@mcdonaldpres.org](mailto:kerry@mcdonaldpres.org)) and notify us of the details: child’s name, child’s grade completed and week of camp attending. Most of our parents register their children online and forward us their confirmation email, which works very well. In early June a check will be sent out from our church to pay for the MPC Scholarship portion of all those students who have registered.

**Other Weeks at Pine Springs:** Can’t attend our week? Have a brave young camper who wants to attend a different week? PSC offers camps all summer long. The same scholarship guidelines apply for students attending from our congregation. Students attending one of the short weeks (3 days) will receive a prorated scholarship of \$200. The same registration procedure applies.

**Additional Scholarships:** Pine Springs Camp also has a scholarship fund that is available for additional support.

*Thank you for your interest and support!*

# Easter Sunday

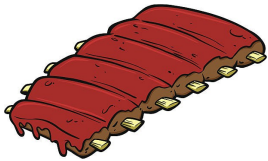


It was wonderful to celebrate Easter Sunday with so many of you and your families. Thank you to Chris Samstag for taking pictures on the porch and to the Wonderly family for the beautiful backdrop. If you would like copies of your pictures emailed to you, please email the church office.



# Community News/ Our Love & Prayers

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## **MCDONALD LION'S CLUB RIB COOKOUTS**

At the McDonald Trail Station from 9am until sold out  
May 30th, June 27th, July 25th, August 29th, September 26th

## **DEMENTIA 360**

The Mariners of Center United Presbyterian Church of Midway are hosting an informative evening for families living with dementia on May 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome, and no reservations are needed.

## **HERITAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY HAPPENINGS**

Gardening Presentation : Gardening for Birds on Wednesday, may 6th at 5pm. No registration required!

Mother's Day Morning Tea Storytime on Friday, May 8th from 10:30-11:30am. To register, please call

## **TRAIL STATION ELECTION DAY HOMEMADE BAKE AND SOUP SALE**

Join us for Lunch: Sandwiches, Soups, Deserts and Drinks available.

Tuesday, 19 May (7AM – 6PM)

## *Our Love & Prayers Go Out To...*



Ida Galicic  
Strabane Woods- Room 116  
319 Wellness Way  
Washington, PA 15301

Jon & Patty Sember  
Strabane Woods, Room 314  
319 Wellness Way  
Washington, PA 15301

Larry Doak  
H. John Heinz III Progressive Ctr  
First Floor South Hall  
1010 Delafield Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15215

Laurain Lacotte  
Middy Ecker  
Elsie Kovach  
Cloe Barricklow  
Rose Manor  
100 Rose Court  
Oakdale, PA 15071

AT HOME:  
Mary Catherine Garrett  
Lana Gilbert  
Julie Hanczar  
Marlene Shupe  
Chuck "Tootie" Smith  
Bob & Vicki Zyra

## 724

### CLUB 724

#### NEWS OF TITANIC PROPORTIONS!!!

Jr/Sr high students of MPC. We are opening a dedicated area just for you in Trinity Center. The area behind the kitchen is becoming your new youth room. To celebrate its opening, join us after church on May 3rd after church for pizza and for an epic build 114 years in the making; help us build the over 19,000-piece LEGO Titanic as we film it to post on YouTube! See Erich for more details.

### RENEW YOUTH GROUP

Thank you for your continued support as we outreach to the Jr/Sr high students of the McDonald area. Last month, we took about 18 students down to Sarris candy for Ice Cream for dinner and even had a NERF battle with over 1,000 rounds of darts launched. Join us Wednesdays @ 6-7:45 pm in May as we place flags on the graves of our service men and women interned at Robinson Run Cemetery, as well as other planned outings, games and just plain good times.



### TEAMREACH

Be on the know. Renew and Club 724 will be connecting to students through the Teamreach app to keep our students updated on the happenings for this season! Download the app on google play or the Apple app store and use the following code to join the conversation! RENEW youth code: MPCeco0613 ; CLUB724 code: MPC724eco

### MAY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

May 3 - Jeanna Manses & Asher Martin  
May 10 - Della Endy & Ella Puhlman  
May 17 - Jonah Amsler & Selah Amsler  
May 24 - Julia Amsler & Asher Martin  
May 31 - Della Endy & Selah Amsler  
June 7 - Jeanna Manses & Alyssa Wasco



On Palm Sunday, our Sunday School kids made pretzels that were handed out to the congregation after worship!



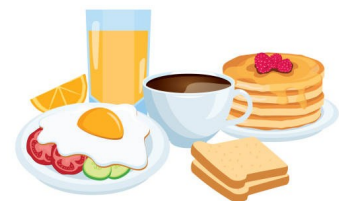
### END OF YEAR SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST

**Sunday, May 17th at 9:30am**

**Trinity Fellowship Hall**

Bring your family and join us as we celebrate "Digging into God's Word."

\* The kids will be recognized during the 10:45am service.



# Music

## MUSIC MINISTRY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

May 7: Jubilant Ringers 6 pm, Echoes of Mercy (Praise) 7 pm, Sacred Sounds 7:30 pm

May 14: Jubilant Ringers 6 pm, Echoes of Mercy (Praise) 7 pm, Sacred Sounds 7:30 pm

May 21: Echoes of Mercy (Praise) 7 pm, Sacred Sounds 7:30 pm

May 26: Amplify 6:30 pm

May 28: Jubilant Ringers 6 pm, Echoes of Mercy (Praise) 7 pm, Sacred Sounds 7:30 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS/ OPPORTUNITIES

Do you love music? Are you interested in learning something new or improving what you already do? Perhaps one of these upcoming summer music sessions is for you. Please speak with, call, or text Heidi directly (412-491-6050) with your RSVP:

*Introduction to Group Voice/Singing Class* - date/time to be determined with attendees

*Introduction to Ukulele and Guitar* - date/time to be determined with attendees

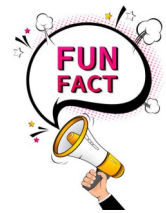
*Introduction to Handbells* - - date/time to be determined with attendees

*Drum Circle* - date/time to be determined with attendees

*Flute Ensemble* - - date/time to be determined with attendees

## MUSIC FUN FACT!

Did you know that processing music is a “whole brain” phenomenon? Using fMRI scans, neuroscientists have identified the parts of our brains that are active when we listen to, sing, and/or play an instrument. Here’s how it works: The frontal lobe manages the complicated task of musical expectations and planning of musical performance. The auditory cortex is the first part to respond, and it handles volume and pitch. The cerebellum and motor cortex handle rhythm and timing, and it's here we find ourselves tapping or clapping along. The amygdala and hippocampus process the emotional aspect and associate music with memories. The nucleus accumbens releases dopamine, giving us the good feelings we get when we’re rewarded. That being said, every song you hear leaves a neural trace. (Source: This Is Your Brain On Music, by Daniel Levitin)



## FOOD BANK



For the month of May, the Food Bank is requesting *canned or dried fruits* that can be dropped off in Calvary Parlor. They are also accepting cash and check donations. Please make checks payable to McDonald Presbyterian Church and indicate “Food Bank” on the memo line. Please contact Ed Nalesnick with any questions.

## BLESSING BOX

Our Blessing Box, located outside the church office, is still thriving and blessing many community members.

We are always accepting donations of nonperishable food items. If you would like to contribute to this cause, food donations may be dropped off in the church office.

# Calendar

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May 3	Ready, Set, Grow Mighty Men Soft Opening of Café	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
May 4	All Hands Congregational Conference	6:00 p.m.
May 5	Walk, Talk, Pray Quarter-Life Crisis	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
May 6	Yahweh Wednesday ReNew Youth Group	Noon 6:00 p.m.
May 7	Walk, Talk, Pray	6:00 p.m.
May 8	Hearts & Hands Fellowship	6:00 p.m.
May 9	Walk, Talk, Pray	8:00 a.m.
May 10	Ready, Set, Grow Mighty Men	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
May 11	Lunch Ladies Session Meeting	Noon 6:30 p.m.
May 12	Walk, Talk, Pray Quarter-Life Crisis	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
May 13	Rose Manor Bingo Rose Manor Worship ReNew Youth Group	1:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.
May 14	Walk, Talk, Pray	6:00 p.m.
May 16	Walk, Talk, Pray	8:00 a.m.
May 17	Ready, Set, Grow Mighty Men Deacons' Meeting	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Noon
May 18	Lunch Ladies	Noon
May 19	Walk, Talk, Pray Quarter-Life Crisis	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
May 20	ReNew Youth Group	6:00 p.m.
May 21	Walk, Talk, Pray	6:00 p.m.
May 23	Walk, Talk, Pray	8:00 a.m.
May 24	Ready, Set, Grow Mighty Men	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
May 25	Memorial Day - Church Office Closed	
May 26	Walk, Talk, Pray Quarter-Life Crisis	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
May 27	ReNew Youth Group	6:00 p.m.
May 28	Walk, Talk, Pray	6:00 p.m.
May 30	Walk, Talk, Pray	8:00 a.m.
May 31	ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!	10:00 a.m.

# Birthdays, Anniversaries

Kathy Morgan	5/1	Donna Meade	5/14	Chuck Smith, Jr.	5/27
Tommy Gilbert	5/2	Rhonda Lauff	5/15	Jonah Amsler	5/29
Lucy Hawk	5/3	Mary Lou Cooper	5/16	Larry Jacobs	5/29
Kelly Johnson	5/4	Abby Weiler	5/16	John Libert	5/29
Lisa Carter	5/5	Frank Frazier	5/17	Samantha Berthold	5/30
Kaitlyn Eger	5/8	Sydney Bair	5/18	Betsy Arreola	5/31
Jake Cole	5/9	Bill Gibbs	5/19	Anna Hoffman	5/31
Jim Gladden	5/9	Linda Matchett	5/20	Sam Unruh	5/31
Donna Bennett	5/10	Jodie Panizza	5/20		
Jon Sember	5/10	Dean Kademenos	5/21		
Emery Smith	5/10	Connie Buydasz	5/23		
Brooks Baker	5/10	Deborah Elicker	5/26		
Macey Murphy	5/11	Karen Krenn	5/26		
Marah Slack	5/11	Amanda Petito	5/26		
Julia Amsler	5/12	Jim McDowell	5/27		
Jimmy Gilbert	5/14	Tim Motte	5/27		



Patty & Samuel Doane	5/5
Heather & Scott Weiler	5/11
Joann & Bill Gibbs	5/14
Kristie & Warren Briceland	5/19
Melanie & Tom Ankley	5/21

## SAVE THE DATES!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JUNE 22-26, 2026**

**SUMMER SERVICE WEEK: JULY 27-31, 2026**

**WORSHIP IN THE PARK: AUGUST 2, 2026**

**FMSC PACKING PARTY: SEPTEMBER 12, 2026**

**MCFALL FEST: OCTOBER 10, 2026**



# McDONALD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2026  
NEWSLETTER

Non Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
MCDONALD, PA  
PERMIT NO. 9

**Worship Site:**  
202 West Lincoln Avenue  
McDonald, PA 15057

**Office Location:**  
119 Station Street  
McDonald, PA 15057

**Phone:** (724) 926-8561

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday

*McDonald Presbyterian Church is a mid-sized congregation located in McDonald, PA that exists to honor God by making more disciples for Jesus Christ. Our worship, service and outreach are all focused on helping others experience the love of God and the joy that comes from knowing Him. We love what we do and who we are when we come together as a community of God's people. Our door is always open, and we look forward to meeting you and welcoming you into our fellowship.*

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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

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Visit our website:  
[mcdonaldpres.org](http://mcdonaldpres.org)

## Pastor

*Dr. Justin Amsler*  
[justin@mcdonaldpres.org](mailto:justin@mcdonaldpres.org)  
(724) 699-0157

## Children's Ministries Coordinators

*Erich & Dana Puhlman*

## Director of Music Ministry

*Heidi Betschart*

## Assistant Director of Music Ministry

*Jeff Betschart*

## Administrative Assistant

*Kerry Schmitt*  
[kerry@mcdonaldpres.org](mailto:kerry@mcdonaldpres.org)

## Bookkeeper

*Dana Myers*  
[bookkeeper@mcdonaldpres.org](mailto:bookkeeper@mcdonaldpres.org)

## Operations Officer

*Tom Maxwell*

## Custodial Staff

*Bob McDowell*  
*Kerry Schmitt*

## Newsletter Editor

*Kerry Schmitt*

## GET CONNECTED ... BE ENGAGED

### WORSHIP

Sundays @ 10:45 a.m. Calvary Center or  
live on Facebook

### SERVE

Look for volunteer opportunities for upcoming events, such as our Anniversary Celebration later this month, VBS in June, or Summer Service Week in July

### PRAISE!

Join us on Sunday, May 31 for our 150th Anniversary Community Celebration Day. We will hold a special worship service with food trucks and special music following—featuring Echo Valley Bluegrass & children's bounce house, face painting, and more!

