From the Pastor’s Desk

Malachi 4:6

“And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

As we prepare for the beginning of Summer there is so much I could write about, but I want to take a moment and write a message to men. In the month of June we celebrate Fathers Day. It is a time for us to remember and celebrate our fathers and all that they have taught us. For many, the problem with Father’s Day is that it’s just another day.

This is for a variety of reasons; their father abandoned them, was physically present but emotionally absent, he was mean, or well, you fill in the blank. You see, any man that is physically able can be a father, but it takes so much more to be a dad. I pray that we as men will not be fathers, but we will be dads to our children. You say “I don't have any kids, so am I off the hook?” No, you are not. One thing I know for sure as a man, no matter what your age, someone somewhere looks up to you. You have the opportunity to mentor, teach, and speak truth into their life.

My prayer is that we as men of the Greensburg Alliance Church will do just that. That we will reverse the curse.

In the above Scripture we see the prophet Malachi has some very hard words to Israel. The young people of Israel had departed from the teachings of their fathers, and grandfathers. This in return made a large generational division. The elders among them knew that they must trust in the one true God, but the younger generation wanted to do it their way. In return the older generation just gave up on the younger, and the younger no longer listened to the knowledge of the older.

It is easy for us to become like this in our own lives. We can watch the news, listen to all that is going on, and just give up on the next generation. In the Scripture we see that it says “He will turn the fathers’ hearts back to their children”. Men, we need to have our hearts broken for our children and all the children of this world, and realize if we do not step up and teach, mentor, and love then they will not understand. The Scripture says when we turn our hearts back to them, they will turn their hearts back to us. Our approach matters. How we see the next generation matters. If we do not teach them, who will?

This Father’s Day let us make a commitment to turn our hearts back to our children and all of the children of this world. Let us never settle for being fathers and always strive to be dads.

-Pastor Lu
Weekly Men's Ministries

The Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets at 6:30am in Conference Room 550 with the study being completed at 7:30am. Weekly attendance is not a requirement, and all men and their sons are welcome to drop in as their schedule permits. Resolve to get into the Word of God and let the Word of God get into you!

The Men's Prayer Ministry meets every Sunday morning prior to the worship services to pray for the services and our congregation. All men are welcome to join us in the Prayer Room located near the Sanctuary.

Relay For Life - Saturday, June 9, 8:30am to 10:00pm

Relay for Life is a community event that raises funding and awareness for those fighting cancer. This event, held at Hempfield Area High School, is a great opportunity for our church to interact with many members of our local community who are going through the fight of their lives or are healing from the loss of a loved one.

Our church's booth will include fresh-squeezed lemonade and a place for our church members to hang out and have fellowship with one another. Every penny collected will go to support the fight against cancer. This event gives us an opportunity to meet hundreds of members of our community face to face and show them that we care. The booth will also have a table with plenty of information about who we are as a church and what we can offer the families that we come in contact with. The booth will be run in shifts from Saturday morning to late Saturday evening. Shifts for set up and tear down will also be available.

Youth Group students will meet at the lemonade stand promptly at 4:00pm to go to the cafeteria to help with meal preparation, serving, and clean up. Remember to wear your Youth Group t-shirt.

This event would be great to sign up for as either an individual or as a family. If you would like to officially join the Greensburg Alliance Church team, you can sign up at www.relayforlife.org under the Greensburg Relay. Our team name is Greensburg Alliance Church. If you would like to volunteer to help with the event, visit the table in the Lobby or contact Rusty Loy, 724-853-6511, rloys@comcast.net.

GAC Garden Exchange - Begins Sunday, June 17

It’s time for our GAC Garden Exchange! Participation is simple; on Sunday morning just bring your extra garden produce to our table in the Fellowship Hall to share with others at Greensburg Alliance Church. The produce is available to anyone who can use it whether you have a garden or not. The best part is that each week any unused produce will be donated to the Welcome Home Homeless Shelter in downtown Greensburg.

Feel free to include any sprouted produce plants that you don’t have room for in your garden. Look for the table with the sign in the Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, June 17.

Baptism

If you are interested in being baptized on Sunday, August 19, please indicate on the back of your Sunday bulletin information card or contact the Church Office, 724-837-1122, churchoffice.gac@gmail.com. The service will be held in conjunction with our church picnic at the Youngwood Park and Pool. All ages are welcome.
**Young At Heart**
Young At Heart is a ministry for those 55 years or older. We get together for lunch, prayer, fellowship, and have a guest speaker or program on the first Thursday of each month, March through December. If you are looking for a place to connect, we would love to have you join us!

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 7 at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a sandwich to eat; desserts and beverages will be provided by our committee for the month, Maryln Davis, Carol Barackman, and John and Jan Maneely. Coffee and tea will be ready by 11:00am for our early birds. Our program will feature the children of our church presenting a talent show. You will be truly blessed and entertained by these gifted children!

**Moms 24/7**
We have had a great year at Moms 24/7! Being a mom is such a wonderful privilege that God has given us; however, at times, we all experience THOSE days. You know the ones; the ones that feel overwhelming and that leave you feeling like you need to connect with other moms. Well, the great news is that our bimonthly meetings may have ended for the summer, but our friendships have not. Please be encouraged to reach out to other moms. Meet at the playground, go for a cup of coffee, or chat on the phone. We are in this together and we all need each other!

Moms 24/7 is a ministry for moms of ALL ages with children of ALL ages. Whether you are a first time mom or you have grandchildren, Moms 24/7 is for you. Whatever your schedule or stage of life, we hope you make Moms 24/7 part of your life. It is not only an opportunity for you to get refreshed and encouraged, but also a chance for you to refresh and encourage other moms. We meet regularly the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, September through May. For questions or more information, please contact Joanne Kreinbrook, 724-433-4585, or email kbrook93@msn.com.

**Graduation Pictures - Class of 2018**
Celebrate this important milestone in your life with your Church Family! In order to get to know you and pray for you as you move into the next season of your life, graduates will be prayed for on Sunday, July 29 at the 10:45 Service. We will also be organizing a slide show of photos and information on our graduates. Please email your photo to gacyouth@gmail.com along with the following information: full name (first, middle and last, plus nickname if desired); name of high school, cyber school or home school; future plans (college or school attending and major, or if you are enlisting in the military, or entering the work force). The deadline to submit photos and information is Sunday, June 17. Contact Pastor Rigel with any questions, gacyouth@gmail.com - 724-575-2862.

**Dad and Lad Camp - June 20-23**
It’s not too late to join us for Dad & Lad Camp which will be held June 20 through 23, at the Tel-Hai Camp and Retreat in Honey Brook, PA. If you are a father of a son ages 8-13, you don’t want to miss this experience.

Last year around 25 campers from our church attended, and this year we are planning for more. Come and enjoy quality time with your son(s) and other men and their sons. We will spend time ziplining, fishing, rock wall climbing, swimming, BB gun shooting, archery, boating, horse back riding, basketball, hockey, and water polo. It is a few days of endless activities, worshipping God, and incredible fellowship. Camp begins on Wednesday, June 20 at 3:00pm and ends on Saturday, June 23 at 12:30pm. For more information or to obtain a registration form, please contact Todd Murgi as soon as possible, Todd.Murgi@gmail.com.
**Christian Action Committee (CAC)**

The annual Baby Bottle Campaign for the Lifeway Pregnancy Center is now underway. If you would like to participate, stop by the table in the Lobby on Sundays, June 10 and 17 to pick up bottles. Bottles will also be available at the Welcome Center during the summer. Fill your bottle with coins and currency during the summer, or place a check in it and return to the church. The last day to return bottles is Sunday, September 30.

The monthly visit to Weatherwood Manor Assisted Living is scheduled for Saturday, June 16, from 2:00-3:00pm. A message will be presented and a craft provided followed by light refreshments.

A meeting of the Christian Action Committee will be held on Sunday, June 24, 12:15pm in Room 230.

**Anchor College Ministry**

Our focus is on discipleship; building a strong group of Christ oriented students passionate about reaching the world. People committed to living out their faith, rather than just talking about it. Through focused studies, hands-on ministry opportunities, and group oriented discussion, we want to help students personalize the Gospel story to better reach those around them. Our group meets Sunday afternoons, 12:15pm in Room 250/260. For additional information contact Josh Nosbisch, 412-378-5791, jnosbisch.gac@gmail.com.

**Join Us For Our Upcoming Activities**

- **Friday, June 22**: Bonfire at Pastor Lu's house, 7:00pm (5690 Saltsburg Road, Murrysville). Bring drinks or dessert to share.

- **Saturday, June 23**: Blackwater Falls Day Trip. Meet at the church, 8:00am. Bring $5 for gas, a packed lunch for the picnic, extra water, as well as additional cash if you want to pick up a snack along the way. Wear clothes and shoes suitable for hiking; the trails aren't overly difficult but can get slippery.

**Sunday School and Growth Classes - “A Place for Growing... A Place for YOU!”**

Our children’s small groups meet for Sunday School at 9:15am in the Children’s Ministry wing. Our Youth Jr. High and Sr. High classes meet at 9:15am in Rooms 250-260. Adult Growth Classes are offered at 9:15am and 10:45am. Pick up a brochure at the rack in the Lobby for details.

**Sunday Morning Adult Growth Classes - Through June 24**

**9:15am: Jesus and the Feasts of Israel** - **Teacher: Ed Kerr** - **Classroom: 240**

Throughout the Bible many of the significant accounts of God moving take place in the context of the Feasts of Israel and the Sabbath. Did you know that these celebrations clearly point to God’s redemptive plan through Jesus? In the feasts we see how the Messiah Jesus is the fulfillment of God’s longstanding promises. It is important to recognize that without a basic understanding of the Sabbath and the Feasts of Israel, we will be missing a huge part of the interpretive context when we approach the Scriptures. In this study we hope to enrich our worship of God by learning about the origin and symbolism of the Old Testament feasts and holidays given by God to his people. This class will be a mixture of teaching, video, and discussion.

**10:45am: C&MA DNA: Alliance Core Values** - **Teacher: Eric Bartels** - **Classroom: 250/260**

Core values are what support the vision, shape the culture, and set the direction for a community. The denomination of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (and Greensburg Alliance Church by extension) is built on some amazing core values. Join us for this study that will explore the driving force and philosophy behind why we do what we do. Whether this is your first week, or you have been part of our church for years, this will be an encouraging class for anyone who desires to grow in their faith!

Brochures outlining our Adult Sunday School Classes for the next two terms will be available later this month in the Lobby rack.
Restore Houston Trip Information
For those of you signed up for the Houston trip, all of the pertinent information about our packing, departure, and trip itinerary, was distributed at our previous meeting. If you were unable to attend and still haven’t received the information, please contact Pastor Rigel ASAP.

Creation Trip (June 27-July 1) - Informational Meeting - Sunday June 3
There will be a mandatory Creation trip meeting in the Sanctuary after the second service on Sunday, June 3. This is a meeting for both students and their parents and it will outline many important details about the trip. The meeting will last approximately 45 minutes and will have plenty of time for questions.

Please note that due to a scheduling conflict this meeting has moved to the Sanctuary instead of the Fellowship Hall.

Creation Reminders
- Packing list and a detailed itinerary will be distributed at the information meeting.
- All students need to bring the bulk of their luggage to the church on Sunday afternoon, June 24 (including your main bag as well as your sleeping bag). You will not have access to the luggage until you arrive at the festival on Wednesday afternoon.
- Creation Prep Day is Monday, June 25 when we will pack the truck with all of our supplies.
- A team will be sent to the festival on Tuesday, June 26 to set up our camp ahead of time.
- Students should arrive at the church by 9:30am on Wednesday, June 27 ready to depart for the festival.
- All meals are included in the cost of the trip, but you should bring money for fair food or any souvenirs you may want to purchase.

Snow Cone Youth Group - Thursday, June 7
On Thursday, June 7, from 6:30-7:15pm we will have the Kona Ice truck at Youth Group. Snow cones of all flavors will be available for the special rate of $1 each. If you are someone who has just moved up, remember to bring the coupon that came with your invitation so that you can get your free snow cone.

Youth Group Game Night – Thursday, June 14
On Thursday, June 14, 6:30-8:30pm, we will have a Game Night at Youth Group. We have a large variety of games and there will be plenty of snacks available. It’s going to be a great night of fun, fellowship, and food. Please feel free to bring your favorite game or an extra snack, but there will be plenty here so you are under no obligation to do so.

Reminder: Youth Group will not be held on Thursday, June 29 due to the Creation trip.

2018 Graduation Pictures Wanted! - See Page 2 for Details

Upcoming Events
July 11 - Jr./Sr. Cookout at the Holmes Home (weather permitting)
July 12 - Wacky Water Night
July 19 - Bonfire Night
Children’s Ministries

Vacation Bible School is on the Move!

This year our VBS will be moving to evenings and will begin on Sunday, July 29 and end on Friday, August 3 with a celebration picnic! We are preparing to venture onto an uncharted island where kids will survive and thrive when they are rescued by Jesus! Each day at Shipwrecked VBS, kids will travel through rotations that reinforce relevant Bible points and immerse them in new adventures. Imaginations will be sparked through faith-building fun. Kids will be anchored in the truth that Jesus carries them through life’s storms. They’ll learn to hold onto God’s promises when they are lonely, they worry, they struggle, do wrong, or feel powerless.

Start thinking about family and friends you want to invite to our VBS, and what you can do to help this year! Registration will begin in July.

Join Our VBS Team!

Please consider giving a week (or even a few days) of your summer to volunteer with our children during VBS. This is a wonderful outreach mission as we try to reach the children of our community with a camp-type program. If you are already cleared to work with children, all you have to do is sign up! If you do not currently serve in our children’s ministries, all that is required of you is Governing Board approval and completion of clearance forms. The process is simple, but required, so the earlier you submit your forms, the sooner you can be approved and positioned for VBS.

If you are interested in helping or would like additional information, check the box on the back of your Sunday bulletin information card or contact Melissa Bartels in the Church Office, 724-837-1122.

VBS Supplies Needed

In connection with this year’s VBS, we need your help. We are in need of the following items and appreciate any donations you would be able to supply: brown packing paper, wrapping paper cardboard tubes, clear shower caps, various colors of plastic tablecloths, coffee filters, multi-colored tissue paper, green and blue crepe paper, and any tropical-themed props. Please place items in the designated boxes under the coat rack in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Melissa Bartels in the Church Office with any questions you may have, 724-837-1122.

Awana® will begin again on September 5. Watch for additional information in upcoming newsletters.
Anniversaries & Birthdays

If you would like your anniversary and family birthdays listed in our monthly Focus newsletters, please indicate on the back of your Sunday bulletin information card or email the Church Office, churchoffice.gac@gmail.com.

**June Anniversaries**

1. Ryan & Kami Hauser
2. Mike & Kathy Iwinski
3. James & Judy Downham
4. Randy & Jennifer Myers
5. David & Mary Kay Baker
6. Mike & Becky Buriok
7. Bob & Linda Schoenfeld
8. Matthew Tomko
9. Kendyl Bowman
10. Nathan Fox
11. Michael Black
12. Rigel Holmes
13. Amanda Christman
14. Carl & Bobbi Fink
15. Joe & Cheri Laudadio
16. Dave & Mindy Colligan
17. Bill & Maryln Davis
18. Darin & Hannah Beachy
19. Alex & Christy Belgiovane
20. Roy & Donna Dail
21. Jack & Lois Moore
22. Chris & Melody Stoltenberg
23. Allan & Barb Fox
24. Alex & Eva Graziani
25. Wendell & Doris Peterson
26. Scott & Dawn Rose
27. Ken & Andrea Nye
28. Rusty & Donna Loy
29. Dave & Julie Kostenbader
30. Charles & Mary Fox

**June Birthdays**

1. Bobbi Fink
2. Melody Stoltenberg
3. Mike Amour
4. Nathan Fox
5. Dave Kintz
6. Heather Polvinale
7. Matthew Dreskler
8. Ashley Kunkle
9. Mia Cross
10. Seth Graziani
11. Charles Fox
12. Matthew Dreskler
13. Jon Kelley
14. Deborah Long
15. Charles Fox
16. Kendyl Bowman
17. Susann Camara
18. Darin & Hannah Beachy
19. Alex & Christy Belgiovane
20. Roy & Donna Dail
21. Jack & Lois Moore
22. Chris & Melody Stoltenberg
23. Allan & Barb Fox
24. Alex & Eva Graziani
25. Wendell & Doris Peterson
26. Scott & Dawn Rose
27. Ken & Andrea Nye
28. Rusty & Donna Loy
29. Dave & Julie Kostenbader
30. Charles & Mary Fox

**Condolences**

To Sharon Williams and family on the death of her mother, Eleanor Miller, on May 5.
May Day

May 1 is Labor Day all across Europe. In France Labor Day is often a day of rest for workers, but also a day of protests. To protest is to be French. The train system in France has been protesting for better wages and retirement classifications. This is a simplified version of what they are striking for, but it covers it as a whole. They are striking two days out of five over three months. Without agreeing or disagreeing with those who are striking, it causes major headaches for a group of people who rely on public transport to work, live, and do ministry. On strike days our attendance at ministry events is lower due to worry about making it home due to the elongated travel time to get from point A to point B. So far the strikes have been calm with no violence, but the disruption to our normal schedule can cause frustration and missed appointments.

Ministry News

Raeni and I have enjoyed this season as we implant the new ministry center. As we gear up for summer ministry, we have five interns joining us which will allow us to multiply our contacts with Parisians and give us extra hands. We are continuing the Alpha discovery video series and are excited to see what God is doing there. Ministry here in France is often one on one relational ministry, and doesn’t always lead to crowds following Jesus (at least for now; we are trusting God for more). This can be discouraging for some, but we have learned to celebrate the small and will continue to do so. We are grateful for the six people total who have come to Alpha and trust God to do His work in the future with each participant.

Connected Café Update - 5/26/2018

What a great night at Alpha! Three regular attenders and a new person who we have invited every week finally said yes. This week the topic was “What does the Holy Spirit do?” - And wow! - The Holy Spirit did what the Holy Spirit does... He broke through and revealed Himself and the risen Christ to our attenders. During the video one of the regular attenders was in tears as he heard about how much Jesus loves him. During the discussion time that followed all the guests shared freely about how God was revealing Himself to them. Thanks for your continued prayers. We are approaching the end of the Alpha film series and want to continue meeting with our friends and dig into who Jesus is.

Family News

Fayth came home from Black Forest Academy for her two week spring break and travel both ways were strike days. She returned to school thanks to another gracious International Worker couple taking their daughter back, because her train was cancelled. We are so grateful that God provided this simple blessing so we didn’t have to make the long round trip at the last minute.

Fayth joined the track and field team and is throwing shot. She gets to travel to all the military bases across Germany for most of her meets so she gets to take advantage of military food courts with Dunkin Donuts and Taco Bell!

Hannah’s online schooling has gone well. She continues to deal with ongoing pain and we are praying God would release her from that and bring healing to her body. Despite that, she is doing well and still connects with her friends from the local public school.

Prayer Requests

Incoming interns and teams
Connected Café Ministry Center
Continued blessings in ministry
Continued financial support
Upcoming ministry opportunities
Soon we will be welcoming our new baby boy into this world. Are we happy and excited? Yes! Are we a little apprehensive? Also yes. The thing is we already have a 4-year-old. Adley is fully potty trained, able to feed himself, and can easily communicate whatever he desires. It’s great! So when we think about the idea of a newborn we often say out loud, “what are we doing?” We are starting all over again! Ground zero. We have come so far, but yet have to go back to the very beginning. Of course we have some experience, but none of that is going to fast forward the process of raising a new little human. Sure, I know there is joy in the development, joy in the learning, and joy in the infancy. But honestly, sometimes it is hard to see past the inevitable hard work and big responsibility.

Our ministry is a lot like that right now. We have over a decade of full time ministry experience, but coming to France is a lot like hitting the reset button. In a lot of ways, we are starting all over. New country, new culture, new language, new city, new ministry, and new people. On a daily basis we are asked to do brand new things that we have never done before. We find ourselves sometimes saying “what are we doing?” or “what have we gotten ourselves into?” The truth is that most people that we come in contact with could care less about what we “used to do” or have previously “accomplished”. We find ourselves in a place where we have to build trust, respect, and credibility from scratch. In so many ways our life and ministry in Paris is still in its Infancy. But that’s okay. We all need time to grow.

Ever since the day Adley was born, we have developed a rhythm of praying with him every night before bed. From the beginning we have always prayed the same desire every night, “May Adley grow to be a man after God’s own heart”. I believe God is answering that prayer. It’s been awesome to watch him grow in his knowledge and understanding of God. To see a sensitivity toward Jesus develop. We continue to pray this desire over him every night. We plan to pray a similar prayer over our soon arriving son as well.

We ask you to join us in praying with this same spirit over this infant ministry. Pray that it would be a ministry that glorifies God and bears much fruit. Pray that it would grow to be strong and reflect the heart of God. That we and the ministry would develop and mature according to God’s perfect plan in the time that He sees fit. We are also searching for a solid and consistent French tutor. Pray we are able to start back up with continued language study soon.

Our International Worker Partnerships

We are excited to partner with International Workers in the country of France and the Arab Lands. Keep watch for information on our partnerships and the changes being made to our Missions Conference in the fall.
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<td><strong>Alliance Youth Houston Missions Trip - 6/9 to 6/16</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dad &amp; Lad Camp - June 20 to 23 - Tel Hai Camp</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Alliance Youth - Creation Festival - June 27 to July 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 &amp; 10:45am Worship, Communion &amp; Sunday School</td>
<td>Elder Meeting will not be held tonight</td>
<td>6:30am Men’s Bible Study</td>
<td>Church Office Closed In observance of Independence Day</td>
<td>11:30am Young At Heart Meeting</td>
<td>6:30pm Thursday Night @ The Well-Alliance Youth (AY)</td>
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<td>12:15pm Anchor College Ministry</td>
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<td>6:00pm Worship Night (Childcare &amp; Program for infants through Grade 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 &amp; 10:45am Worship &amp; Sunday School</td>
<td>6:30am Men’s Bible Study</td>
<td>6:30pm Jr/Sr Cookout @ Holmes Home (weather permitting)</td>
<td>6:30pm Alliance Youth Wacky Water Night (Rain Date 7/19)</td>
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<td>12:15pm Anchor College Ministry</td>
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<td>9:15 &amp; 10:45am Worship &amp; Sunday School</td>
<td>6:30pm Governing Board Meeting</td>
<td>6:30am Men’s Bible Study</td>
<td>Newsletter Article Deadline</td>
<td>6:30pm Alliance Youth (AY) Bonfire Night</td>
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**Mahaffey Camp - July 20-29**

**Mahaffey Camp-Last Day**

**Vacation Bible School**
Have you ever wanted to run a race, get a t-shirt and medal, but don't like running? Then this is the event for you! It is not a 5k - it is a .5k. That's right, not even two full laps around a regulation track! There will be a hydration station featuring an assortment of donuts and coffee at the half-way point. We are not keeping time so feel free to enjoy these treats. Your kids can run with you, but if they don't register they will not receive a t-shirt or medal. If you say 'that's great, but I don't want to run at all', that's fine too; just purchase the VIP package. In this package you will receive a shirt, a bigger medal, a sticker for your car, and the best part is that someone else will run for you!

We will have a DJ set up playing music throughout the morning. Bring some money and hang out for a little while after you are done. We'll have food trucks, snow cones, and fresh-squeezed lemonade. This will be a fun day for the entire family. All proceeds from ticket sales for this event will help our students go to LIFE 2019, our denomination's tri-annual youth convention. Go to our website, www.greensburgalliancechurch.com, to register and start training for your first .5k race!