the NEWSREEL

DECEMBER 2018

Volume 24, Issue 12

McConnellsburg United Methodist Church, McConnellsburg, PA

from the pastor's pen . . .

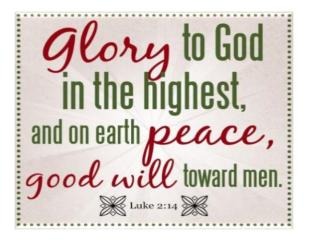
Blinded By The Light

"What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light." John 1:3b-5 CEB

On vacation last year, I did something I rarely get a chance to do...I went to the movies. There is just something so satisfying about sitting in a theater with a huge tub of popcorn and a good movie that sends my heart to flutter. I think part of the reason I get so amped up is the darkness of the theater. When I watch movies at home, it is never completely dark. The security light from outside the garage streams into my windows. The Courthouse lights and car headlights interfere with my viewing pleasure. Even the nightlight in the bathroom sneaks timidly into my TV room. Everywhere I look, I am blinded by light.

Don't get me wrong, light is good. Yet sometimes, I confess, I would like a little less of it. I think that is the human condition. Is it not? If Jesus is the Light of the World, do we always desire nothing but Him and His righteousness? Of course, the answer should be an emphatic "Yes!", but darkness does have its own appeal, and too many times, it lures us away from Jesus. Darkness gives us a perceived sense of anonymity and privacy. Darkness provides rest for our conscious and responsible minds. Darkness even seems fun! Sometimes following the Light of the World appears so much harder than easily walking in darkness. Scripture affirms this in John 3:19-20.

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Contact Information

Pastor: Robin Baer

Parsonage: 717.485.4318

Church Office: 717.485.4815

Email: mcumc@comcast.net

Youth Director: Kelli Miller

717.816.3912

Facility Coordinator: Reta Chamberlain

717.485.5515

Website:

www.mcconnellsburgumc.com

Sunday Services

Worship: 10:00 am

Sunday School: 9:00 am (for all ages)

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Yet, no matter how easy and convenient darkness appears to be, it is lethal to our souls. Jesus alone brings light *and life* into our souls. To enjoy the darkness is to deny the transformative, saving power of Christ in our lives. Jesus is the Light of the World! May we all be blinded by the Light this Christmas season.

Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas, Pastor Robin





Church Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes from November meeting were not available at time of publication.



Finance Team Meeting

There was no Finance Team meeting in November.



~ Sgrvant of the Month ~ by Reta Chamberlain

The Servant of the month for December is Dixie Heacock. Dixie is a retired teacher, having taught for 37 years in Lititz, Pa. and a substitute in Fulton County for the past 7 years. She was raised in the Methodist church and baptized in the Knobsville Methodist Church. She feels very blessed to call McConnellsburg United Methodist her home church.

The committees she serves on in our church are she oversees the Safe Sanctuary policies for the past 5 years and is an assistant with Children's Church. She also helps with church meals with funerals, first Friday, and Thanksgiving. Dixie also serves as a greeter, an usher, and helps serves communion too. Most importantly Dixie says she prays for our church daily which I hope is something all the members of the church do as well.

When asked what her favorite verse is, it's Il Corinthians 5:7, "For we live by faith, not by sight". Dixie said she believes that living faith is not just believing that God exists, it is demonstrated by one's service and obedience to God.

In her spare time Dixie loves to spend time with her family, her husband George, their 2 sons and daughters-in-law and their 6 grandchildren. When she's not spending time with them you may catch her sewing or quilting which she loves to do.

Thank you, Dixie for being a part of our church family and for all you do in the church. We appreciate you!

2018	December					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	01 Love's Closet 12-2p
02 A Choir	03 SPRC Mtg-6p	04 A Choir-6p	05 Bible Study-6:30p only K Choir-5:30p Youth Group Mtg-6p	06	07 First Friday Lunch 11a-1p	08
09 K Choir	10	11 A Choir-6p	12 Bible Study-10a & 6:30p Youth Group Mtg-6p	13 A Choir-6p Finance Mtg-6:30p	14	15
16 A Choir Cantata-7p	17	18 A Choir-6p Council Mtg-7p	19 Bible Study-10a & 6:30p Youth Group Mtg-6p	20	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve Service - 7p	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29
30 Children's Program and Pot Luck Lunch after Worship Service	31		/e's Closet sorting & set-up Choir; K Choir - Kids Choir		y evening 6-8 pm	

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

05 – Edith Mellott 14 – Norma Vores 31 – Pastor Robin Baer

08 – Bob Vores 27 – Tammy Young 31 – Sue Nesbitt

09 – Kya Washabaugh 29 – Allen & Joyce Cover

REMINDER – For additions or corrections to the birthday & anniversary list use the Newsreel Suggestion Box at the back of the sanctuary or email the church office (address on page 1)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH					
DATE	12.02	Lindsay Newman			
	12.02	Jamie Schetrompf			
	12.09	Holly Stambaugh			
	12.09	Vicki Gordon			
	12.16	Penny Shives			
	12.10	Jody Hann			
	12.23	Tracey Fletcher			
	12.25	Brandon Fletcher			
	12.30	NO Children's Church			

NURSERY					
DATE	12.02	NEEDED			
	12.09	Sherri McClain			
	12.16	NEEDED			
	12.23	Deb & Bryan Fletcher			
	12.30	NO Nursery			

Please see **Kelli Miller** if you can fill any of the vacancies shown for this month or if you have questions about what is required to be a helper, teacher, or nursery volunteer.

DECEMBER SCREEN SCHEDULE					
DATE	12.02	Dave Gourley			
	12.09	Kelli Miller			
	12.16	Dave Keaton			
	12.23	Jeron Fletcher			
	12.30	Dave Gourley			
	01.06	Kelli Miller			

2019 McCONNELLSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Staff Support Team (SPRC)

2019 *George Heacock

Jim DeShong

2020 Dianne Stenger

Teressa Carter

2021 Penny Shives

Yvonne Garland

Administrative Team (Church Council)

*Chairperson - Penny Shives

Recording Secretary - Leanne Pollock

Lay Leader - Jeremy Fletcher

Rep. to Annual Conference - Penny Shives

Trustee Chair - Helen Overly

Trustee - Greg Gordon

Finance - Rick Buterbaugh

SPRC - George Heacock

Children & Youth - Kelli Miller

Member at Large - Reta Chamberlain

Member at Large - TBD

Member at Large - Violet Culler

Member at Large - Deb McGarvey

Member at Large - Kate Mellott

Member at Large - Mont Chamberlain

Member at Large - Nancy Cordell

Finance Team

Chairperson - Rick Buterbaugh

Representative from Trustees - TBD

Church Council Chair - Penny Shives

Envelope Coordinator - Nancy Shafer

Treasurer - Sheila Bivens

Endowment Chair - Sam Metz

SPRC Chair - George Heacock

Member at Large - Ellis Yingling

Member at Large - Tim McGarvey

Member at Large - Bob Vores

Financial Secretary - Sam Metz

Head Counter - Norma Vores

Secretary - Norma Vores

Auditor - Gary Shives

Auditor - Greg Gordon

Trustee Team

2019 Deb Buterbaugh

Mont Chamberlain

Gary Shives

2020 Greg Gordon

Eugene Stenger

Kerry Randler

2021 TBA

Pam Ott

*Helen Overly

Endowment Team

*Chairperson - Sam Metz

Council Chair - Penny Shives

Trustee Chair - Helen Overly

Pastor - Robin Baer

Member at Large - Judy Shade

Worship Team

*Chairpersons - Leanne Pollock

Ruth Reeder

Adult Choir Director - Denny Benedick

Worship Arts - Kelli Miller

Lay Leader/HIS - Jeremy Fletcher

Prayer Ministry - Kate Mellott

Communion Steward - Nancy Richards

Communion Steward - Cindy Glessner

Member at Large - Nancy Shafer

Member at Large - Justin Miller

Member at Large - Jim & Sharon DeShong

Communications Team

Web Site Maintenance - Pam Ott

Newsletter - Nancy Cordell

Social Media - Nancy Cordell

Social Media - Kelli Miller

Social Media - Justin Miller

Social Media - Sheila Bivens

Miscellaneous Positions

Membership Secretary - Sheila Bivens
Membership Auditor - Joyce Cover
Alternate to Annual Conference Historian - Ruth Reeder
Small Group Coordinator - Jim DeShong
Safe Sanctuary Coordinator - Dixie Heacock
Love's Closet Coordinator - Sam Metz
Sunday School Secretary - Joan Kling
Holiday Plants Coordinator - Glenda Shafer

Staff

Pastor - Robin Baer

Office Manager/Treasurer - Sheila Bivens
Children, Youth, & Young Family - Kelli Miller
Music - Denny Benedick
Music - Jeff Mills
Music - Carla Helman
Janitor - April Harmon
Janitor - Joan Kling
Facilities Coordinators - Reta/Mont
Chamberlain
Kitchen Coordinator - Deb McGarvey

Nurture Team:

Lay Leader - Jeremy Fletcher
Hospitality and Care - Jody Hann
Hospitality and Care - Sharon DeShong
Hospitality and Care - Justin Miller
Prayer - Kate Mellott
Prayer - Tina Reeder
Christian Ed/Sunday School - Leanne Pollock
Christian Ed/Sunday School - Nicole Fletcher
Children - Kelli Miller
Visitation - Pat Horton
Visitation - Wendy Darrell

Missions Team:

Cindy Glessner
*Kelli Miller
Greg Gordon
Kate Mellott
Jeremy Fletcher
Sam Metz
Dinah Chamberlain
Wendy Darrell
Rick and Sharon Tedesco
Nicole Wilson

Outreach Team

Joye Reeder Kate Mellott Justin Miller Jeremy Fletcher *Reta Chamberlain Wendy Darrell Lois Souders

Lay Leadership Team

*Pastor Robin
Pat Horton
Jeremy Fletcher
Leanne Pollock
Kelli Miller
Kate Mellott

Fundraising Team

Penny Shives
Helen Overly
Deb McGarvey
Greg Garland
Jody Hann
Denny Richards
Sharon DeShong
Kim Benedick
Tina Gress
Others TBA

This list of McConnellsburg UMC Leadership for 2019 was presented and approved during Annual Church Conference, held November 7, 2018.

Pray for the church leadership to be discerning of

God's vision

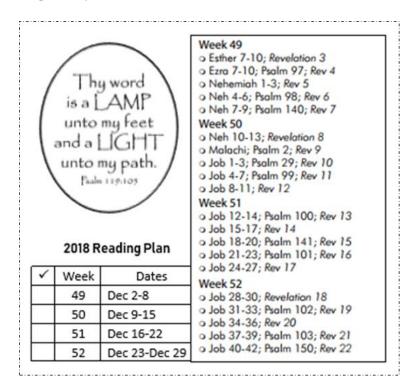
for this church

Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)

^{*}Denotes Team Leader

If you have followed along with this reading plan since January – CONGRATULATIONS – you've have read through the entire bible! May God bless your efforts and give you new wisdom and enlightenment. If you would like a copy of the complete 52-week reading schedule please see Nancy Cordell.



HELP NEEDED

We are in need of an Assistant Facilities Coordinator to help Mont and Reta Chamberlin when they are unavailable. Basically, it entails answering calls about renting our facility and then coordinating set up per the needs of the renter. This is not a paid position but an important service to our Church. For further information, see Mont or Reta. Your prayerful consideration will be greatly appreciated.

SPRC Committee

This & That

Rev. Jason R. Mackey, Director of Connecting Ministries and Administrative Services, Susquehanna Conference, will be joining us on December 16. During the Sunday School hour (in the adult class) he will be talking about "A Way Forward" - the United Methodist policies on whether to ordain LGBT clergy or officiate same-sex marriages. All are welcome to attend. During the worship service he will speak on discipleship.



The Children's Christmas program will be presented during the worship service on December 30. Watch the bulletin for upcoming announcements of rehearsals.



REMINDER – 5th Sunday Pot Luck Lunch will be held in the Faith & Life Center on December 30, after worship service.



The McConnellsburg St. Paul's Lutheran Church has invited our choir to present the *Southern Gospel Songs* cantata at their church (220 N. 3rd St.) on December 9 at 2:00 pm. If you missed it when it was done at our church on October 21st, or if you'd just like to hear it again, mark your calendar to join them on the afternoon of the 9th!