

from the pastor's pen . . .

Having Faith

1 Corinthians 2:5

"That your faith might not rest in the wisdom
of men but in the power of God."

Brothers and Sisters, have you ever noticed that being a Christian can be difficult? I don't know about you, but sometimes I think we assume that after we are saved through Christ that life gets easy. I will be the first one to say that life doesn't get easier as a Christian, but I will say life becomes more manageable through Christ who helps us along our discipleship journey.

To be a Christian, it takes a lot of faith. It takes faith to believe in something we cannot see. It takes faith to step out of our comfort zones. It takes faith to trust that God will take care of us. It takes faith to live a life that is contrary to the world. It takes faith to be a Christian. Sometimes the best way to get our faith walk going in the right direction is being willing to admit that being a Christian takes a lot of faith. Even Paul, one of the greatest apostles, recognized that it took faith to be a Christian (which for me is reassuring).

As we look at 1 Corinthians 2:5, Paul tells the small church in Corinth that we cannot rest in the wisdom of men because God operates outside human logic. If you don't believe me, then scan the pages of the Bible either in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Just think, it was illogical for God to use a man with a stutter to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt (Moses). It was illogical to believe that the Messiah would be God's Son who would die on the cross and raised on the third day (Jesus). Time and time again God constantly proves to us that He can do anything even if it is outside human logic.

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Contact Information

Pastor: Joshua Davinsizer

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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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It is my prayer that as we embark on our next sermon series called “The Power of Faith” that we can build off of the idea that God has called His people to be a “Holy Nation, God’s possessions” so that we might be able to model for the world what it means to be a people of Faith. I know that God has called the people of McConnellsburg United Methodist Church to be a people of Great Faith.

A Servant of Christ,
Pastor Joshua



Church Council Meeting Minutes

To keep the congregation updated on happenings at the Church Council Meetings the following information was taken from their meeting minutes

August - The regular meeting of the Church Council was held on August 20, 2019 with ten people in attendance.

SPRC: Next scheduled meeting is September 9, 2019.

Trustee's Report: Greg Gordon reported one air conditioning unit had to be replaced in the rental property with a cost of approximately \$4,200.00. Joy Reeder and Sam Metz met with the Trustees in regards to Love’s Closet.

Youth: Kelli Miller reported VBS “Roar”, went very well with 40 to 50 children attending each night and 35 teenage and adult volunteers. Youth Meetings will begin September 9, 2019. The Youth Visioning Team met in regards to the vision and future of our youth. The 30-Hour Famine possibly in September or October. Any children interested in becoming an acolyte with Acolyte Training in the near future, the date and time will be placed in the church bulletin.

Outreach: Reta Chamberlain reported beginning of the “Secret Sister” Program in the near future. Two events are scheduled in the Faith and Life Center in September, 2019.

Old Business: Plans for the Church Directory possibly in September, 2019. The newspaper has been updated with the change of the pastor.

New Business Leanne Pollock reported Worship Committee will meet on August 21, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. Mont Chamberlain reported that the church van has a new inspection sticker. Kelli Miller reported that a church has inquired about the VBS, “Roar” curriculum. Pastor Josh presented his Minister’s Report with visitations, getting acquainted with other pastors in the community, met with Kathy Kind, D.S., and other ministers from the Altoona District, attended First Friday, Fulton County Fair Youth 4-H Livestock Show, toured Fulton County Medical Center, attended community revival and church camp, completed CPR training and met with Jeremy Fletcher on the visioning of the church and developing a men’s group. Pastor Josh has been asked to be the Cluster Leader for the McConnellsburg Cluster, District Committee for Ordained Ministry and part of a small group (conference wide) for pastors working with larger congregations. The average worship attendance in July was 146 with highest worship attendance for the year of 166. Several Sundays have over 20 children in worship. Pastor Josh presented proposals for MUMC and planning for the future (simple ways to help us grow), and work in progress. Pastor Josh presented a request to relocate Children’s Church to the new Sunday School area. This will be further discussed and input by the next Church Council Meeting. Discussion regarding the church office, signage within the church and Love’s Closet. “We need to move forward where God is calling us to go”.



Finance Team Meeting
 No minutes from the August meeting were received.

Minister's Report

(Presented to Council at August meeting)

Visitations

Althea DeShong	Sylvia Peck
Lunch with Bonnie and Larry Flook	Pat Horton stopped over for a nice chat
Doris Pittman	Sent Cards to individuals
Ellis and Shirley Yingling	
Hospital visit with Maxine Bard (Chambersburg Hospital)	
Penny Shives showed me around the Harrisonville Area	

Ministerial Connections

Revival Prayer Meetings with Area Ministers
 Met with Sister Martha—New Priest in Town
 Met with Pastor Emily (Presbyterian Minister)
 Met with Pastor Mark Smith (Nazarene Minister)
 Met with Rev. Josh Wargo (United Methodist Minister/Friend)
 Met with several Altoona District United Methodist Ministers (Evangelical)
 Connected with Pastor Dave Calovi (UM Minister in Everett)

Meetings/Staff

Met with Jeremy Fletcher about visioning for the church/Men's Group Developed
 Met with the first ever Youth Team
 Planned Worship Meeting (Takes place this week)
 Met with D.S. Kathy Kind and three other ministers from the Altoona District in Hollidaysburg
 Several meetings with Joy and Sam about Love's Closet
 VBS Meeting
 Met with a small group of Church leaders
 Took Van Insurance Tests

Outreach

First Friday	Church Camp at Greene Hills
Fulton County Fair	Visited and Toured Fulton County Hospital
Took part in the community Revival	Became certified in CPR and First Aid
Took part in VBS	
Building community connections through meeting and talking with people	

Immediate Church Growth

Transfer Membership to McConnellsburg UMC	
Delores Souders	Linda and Eric Shives
Will be joining the Church	
Justin Miller	Joan Kling
Average worship attendance in July— 146	
Highest Recorded worship attendance of year 166	
We have had several Sundays with over 20 young kids in worship	

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Conference/Altoona District Related Business

Asked to be the Cluster Leader for the McConnellsburg Cluster

Asked to be on the District Committee of Ordained Ministry

Will be part of a small group (conference wide) for pastors working with larger congregations

Planning for the Future (Simple Ways to Help Us Grow) Goals Accomplished

Visioning Team created and scheduled to meet

Church Trip Team created and scheduled to meet

Spiritual Deepening

- ≈ Men’s group formed and scheduled to meet
- ≈ Women’s group leadership is currently coming together

Planning for the Future (Simple Ways to Help Us Grow) Work in Progress

Van Ministry

Spiritual Deepening

- ≈ By August, establish a small group whose purpose is to be the prayer warriors for our congregation
- ≈ By September, Bible study to start after Labor Day
- ≈ Establish several new small groups whose focus would be to deepen people’s faith, create more community, and be instruments of evangelism to the greater community

New Ideas

- ≈ Schedule a Blessing of the Pet Service at the Band Shell for October
- ≈ Schedule Monthly Staff/Ministry Meetings
- ≈ Create a Volunteer Position “Director of Small Group Development”



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APPLE DUMPLINGS

Dumplings for the Fulton Fall Folk Festival will be made on **either** September 23rd **or** 30th, depending on when the apples are ready. Watch for announcements in the bulletin, emails, or Facebook posts as those dates get closer.

REMINDER

The **5th-Sunday Pot Luck Lunch** will be held on September 29, after the worship service. Bring one of your favorite dishes to share and enjoy the good fellowship!

**ATTENTION
CHILDRENS CHURCH
HELPERS**

There will be a meeting on **September 18, at 7 pm**, to discuss the Children’s Church program. If you currently help with this or are interested in helping in the future please plan to attend. If you have questions, see Kelli

A big **THANK YOU** to *everyone* that helped make “**ROAR**” (our vacation Bible school) such a success. May God bless you for your willingness to be a part of this important mission.

Please Note the Time Change

The evening **Bible study** is now beginning at **6:00 PM** (previously 6:30 PM). The morning group remains at 10:00 AM. Both groups meet in the conference room (beside the office). The study beginning in September is NEHEMIAH. All are welcome!

September 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 A Choir	2 Labor Day	3 A Choir-6p	4 Bible Study 10a & 6p K. Choir 5:30p	5 Nominations Committee Mtg- 5:30p	6 First Friday Lunch 11a-1p	7
8 Grandparent's Day K Choir	9 God's Creations YG-6p SPRC Mtg-6p	10 A Choir-6p	11 Bible Study 10a & 6p	12 Finance Mtg-6:30p	13	14
15 A Choir	16	17 A Choir-6p Council Mtg-7p	18 Bible Study 10a & 6p Childrens Church Mtg-7p	19	20	21
22 A Choir	23 Fall Begins God's Creations YG-6p	24 A Choir-6p Trustee Mtg-7p	25 Bible Study 10a & 6p	26 Worship Mtg-6:30p	27	28
29 Pot Luck Lunch	30 God's Creations YG-6p	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	NOTES A Choir - Adult choir K Choir - Kid's choir				

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

02 – Stanley & Janet Mellott
 06 – John Hann
 08 – Jenny Culler
 10 – Bristol Stambaugh

13 – Victor & Evelyn Gobin
 18 – Joy & Gary Minnier
 21 – Jim & Sharon DeShong
 24 – Rick & Deb Buterbaugh

25 – Cole Fletcher
 28 – Paul & Nicole Wilson
 30 – Jeremy & Nicole Fletcher

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	09.01	Penny Shives Jody Hann
	09.08	Tracey Fletcher Brandon Fletcher
	09.15	Holly Stambaugh Vickie Gordon
	09.22	Dave & Yvonne Garland Cindy Glessner
	09.29	NO Children's Church

NURSERY		
DATE	09.01	NEEDED
	09.08	Deb & Bryan Fletcher
	09.15	Sherri McClain
	09.22	NEEDED
	09.29	NO Nursery



SEPTEMBER SCREEN SCHEDULE		
DATE	09.01	Kelli Miller
	09.08	Dave Gourley
	09.15	Bryce Garland
	09.22	Jeron Fletcher
	09.29	Kelli Miller
	10.06	Kelli Miller



BARBECUED SPARERIBS

- 4 lbs. of lean, meaty ribs
- 2 cups water
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 2 T prepared mustard
- 2 T onion, grated
- 2 T Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 2 T lemon juice
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 tsp. sugar

Simmer ribs in 2 cups of water for 1½ hours. Drain. Combine all other ingredients and simmer for 30 minutes. Makes about 1 cup of sauce. (May need to add a little water from ribs). Brush sauce liberally over ribs. Brown for 20 to 25 minutes, turning and brushing frequently. Optional cooking directions: Sometimes I put in a flat baking dish and place in a 300 degree oven. Turn as needed.

Huldah M. Bain, 2009 McConnellsburg United Methodist Church Cookbook

BAKED BEANS

- 2 – 40 oz. cans of Great Northern Beans
- 1-1/2 lbs. lean bacon
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 – 36 oz. bottle ketchup
- 1/4 cup water
- 1-1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1 tsp. prepared yellow mustard
- 1/8 tsp. black pepper

Cut up bacon into 1/2-inch pieces. Fry in a large skillet, but not crisp. Add onions and fry with bacon. Do not throw away any bacon grease. Add ketchup, brown sugar, mustard, and pepper. Cook sauce a few minutes with 1/4 cup water. Mix beans and sauce and place in large casserole, or you may use two smaller dishes. Bake, uncovered, at 250 degrees for three hours. Stir two- or three-times during baking. If beans get dry, add a little water. Yield: 24 servings. Note: All ingredients may be cut in half, but do not shorten cooking time. If bacon is too fatty, you may want to remove part of the grease, but don't remove all.

Sue Ellen Nesbitt, 2009 McConnellsburg United Methodist Church Cookbook

TRIP TO LUHR'S CENTER PLANNED

The **Magical Cirque Christmas** show will be at the Luhr's Center in Shippensburg on

Friday, November 29, at 7:30 PM.

See the bulletin insert for more details.

The producers of Broadway's smash hit "The Illusionists" have brought together the world's greatest entertainers for a spell-binding and incredible new holiday production – A **MAGICAL CIRQUE CHRISTMAS!** Experience the magic of Christmas with dazzling performers and breathtaking cirque artists from all corners of the world, accompanied by your favorite holiday music performed live. Get into the spirit of the season with this merry treat that's perfect for the entire family. Learn more at www.magicalcirquechristmas.com.

The kids from the "God of Wonders" camp send a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to us for the use of the church van.

