

The Beacon

“Arise, shine; for the light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.”

Isaiah 60:1

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
McConnellsburg, PA
Trinity
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Fort Loudon, PA

JANUARY 2017

Christian Unity Prayer Service

The annual Christian Unity prayer Service will be held on **January 29th**. at the Fulton Theater. St. Paul's will be responsible for the Prayer Service this year. Each participating church will be in charge of some portion of the meal. Please come and fellowship with the local Faith community.



Potpie Supper

Trinity will be holding an All-You-Can-Eat Potpie Supper at the Fort Loudon Community Center on Saturday, **January 14, from 3:30-6:30 PM**. The menu includes ham, beef and chicken slippery potpie, applesauce, pepper slaw, pickles, onions and vinegar, bread, cake, coffee, and punch. Cost is \$8.50 for adults, \$5.50 for 7-12 year olds, and FREE for children under age 7. Eat in buffet, takeout dinners, and quarts of potpie are available.



The Fort Loudon-McConnellsburg Charge

of the

United Church of Christ

228 North 2nd Street

McConnellsburg, PA 17233

STAMP

FROM REV. JAN:



(1) Happy New Year! As we continue our journey together I look forward to a new year of worship, spiritual growth, fellowship and service. I've included my favorite prayer written by Ted Loder that reminds us we service a God in Christ who promises new beginnings. May that be our theme of discipleship!

HELP ME TO BELIEVE IN BEGINNINGS

By Ted Loder

God of history and of my heart, so much has happened to me during these whirlwind days;

I've known death and birth;
I've been brave and scared;
I've hurt, I've helped;
I've been honest, I've lied.
I've destroyed, I've created;
I've been with people, I've been lonely.
I've been loyal, I've betrayed;
I've decided, I've waffled;
I've laughed and I've cried.

You know my frail heart and my frayed history—and now another day begins.

O God, help me to believe in beginnings and in my beginning again, no matter how often I've failed before.

Help me to make beginnings:

to begin going out of my weary mind into fresh dreams, daring to make my own bold tracks in the land of now;
to begin forgiving that I may experience mercy;
to begin questioning the unquestionable that I may know truth;
to begin disciplining that I may create beauty,
to begin sacrificing that I may accomplish justice;
to begin risking that I may make peace;
to begin loving that I may realize joy.

Help me to be a beginning for others,

to be a singer to the songless,
a storyteller to the aimless,
a befriender of the friendless;

to become a beginning of help for the despairing,

of assurance for the doubting,
of reconciliation for the divided;

to become a beginning of freedom for the oppressed,

of comfort for the sorrowing,
of friendship for the forgotten

to become a beginning of beauty for the forlorn,

of sweetness for the soured,
of gentleness for the angry,
of wholeness for the broken,
of peace for the frightened and violent of the earth.

Help me to believe in beginnings,
to make a beginning
to be a beginning,
so that I may not just grow old, but grow new
each day of this wild, amazing life you call me to live. AMEN

I continue my prayers for continued blessings for our church families and that we can be a blessing to this community and beyond.

Grace and Peace, *Rev. Jan*

2) Dear Trinity and St. Paul's Churches,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful sharing of Christmas cards and treats! I appreciate you remembering me in your celebrations. It warmed my heart and stomach. As one of my children expressed..."Why didn't you serve a church before, these treats are the best!" Your continued warm welcome of me makes me look forward to our time together!

New Year Blessings, *Rev. Jan*

Rev. Janice M. Bye, United Campus Minister
Cora I. Grove Spiritual Center
Shippensburg University
Shippensburg, PA 17257
717-477-1672



TRINITY'S FINANCIAL UPDATE

Month	Received	Budget to Date	Expended
Jan./Nov.	\$56,466.66	\$66,066.00	\$48,605.11
December	\$ 5,802.29	\$ 6,006.00	\$ 6,516.46
2016 Totals	\$52,268.95	\$72,072.00	\$55,121.57

Note: A combination of regular giving and numerous fundraisers throughout 2016 enabled Trinity to meet all of its financial commitments.

Secretary - Pam Carmack

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St. Paul's UCC

228 N Second Street, McConnellsburg, PA 17233

(717)-485-5554***mcbucc@embarqmail.com

Facebook & www.uccmccbg.weebly.com

Trinity UCC

P.O. Box 253

13189 Main Street, Fort Loudon, PA 17224

(717)-369-4773***trinityuccftloudon.webs.com

www.pccucc.org (Penn Central Conference)

www.ucc.org

www.mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com



Sunday, January 1

Trinity Worship w/Holy Communion, 9:00 AM, Sunday School, 10:30 AM

Monday, January 2

Trinity **Cancelled**—Ladies Party for Penn State at the Rose Bowl

Wednesday, January 4

Trinity Choir Practice, 6:30 PM

Saturday, January 7

St. Paul's removing the decorations 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 8

Trinity blended Worship, 9:00 AM, Eldercare Collection, Sunday School, 10:30 AM. Please turn in any 2016 reports to Linda Best for printing, Joint Consistory Meeting at Trinity, 2:00 PM

Tuesday, January 10

Trinity Consistory Meeting, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, January 11

St. Paul's **NO CHURCH WOMEN MEETING**

Saturday, January 14

Trinity Potpie Supper at the Community Center, 3:30-6:30 PM – signup sheets on the hall table with posters for distribution

Sunday, January 15

Trinity worship with Annual Congregational Meeting, 9:00 AM, Sunday School, 10:30 PM

Tuesday, January 17

St. Paul's Consistory meeting, 7:00 PM

Sunday, January 29

McConnellsburg Christian Unity Fellowship at the Fulton Theater (watch for details)



This brings warmest thanks for your thoughtfulness.

Rev. Bye, Trinity and St. Paul's,

I want to thank all of you for the beautiful flower basket, your prayers, get well wishes and cards. It has taken me sometime, but, I have finally come to terms with the fact that on November 2, a viral infection attached my heart and sent me on one of the darkest, scariest journeys of my life. But, with the help of some dedicated doctors, the home health nurse and very skilled physical and occupational therapists, I am well on my way to recovery. Thanks again for your kindness and concern.

Always, Anna Rotz

Beware of Seasonal Affective Disorder

It can happen to us during the Fall and Winter months. The reduction of the levels of sunlight from November thru February can cause mood changes in our lifestyle called: Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). This diagnosis has been shown to affect over three million adults most every year.

What can we do about it? Here are some time-tested things we can do in order to deal with these "winter blues".

It is important to stay active, spend as much time outside as is possible in the light. Move around and do exercises like walking. Sit near lights in your house.

Be connected to and hang out with people. It is healthy for us to spend time with others by volunteering in our community and in our church. It is a very important way to "give back".

Take time to be nice to yourself. Think positive thoughts. Don't allow yourself to get upset with the negative news on TV. You can't do anything about it. But you can do something about yourself. Even Jesus saw value in being nice to yourself when he said: "Love God and love your neighbor as you love yourself". In other words, if we cannot be nice to ourselves, it is going to be very difficult to love others. Be good to yourself.

Concentrate more on your faith. Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) can pull us down. Faith in God can pick us back up. The Lord Jesus told us lots of ways to have a purpose for getting up each morning and being productive. He encourages us to get out of our easy chair and get involved serving others.

So if you are feeling down in the dumps with those Winter blues (SAD), there are things you can do to make 2017 a healthy and happy new year.

Submitted by: *Loy Garber*

January

4	Esty Alexander
8	Joyce Hassler
11	Charlie Pryor
13	Hunter Buterbaugh Denise Grissinger
14	Eric Hess
16	Charlie Baker Madison Koontz Bodie Shives
17	Jane Lamison
19	Kelly Lassen
20	Pam Carmack Ashley Souders Larry Newman Shaffer Eugene Early
24	Linda Grissinger
29	Henry Arwood
31	Bernice Crouse



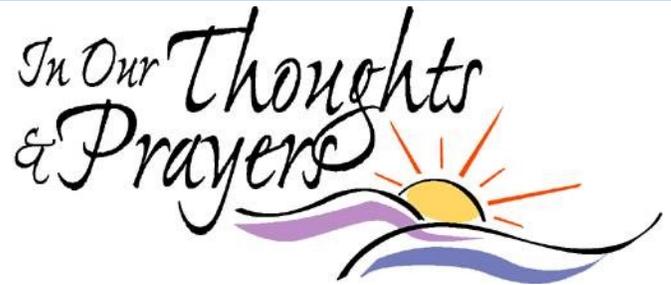
Trinity's Ushers:

Cindy and Jerry Armstrong

St. Paul's Ushers:

St. Paul's Flowers:

Jo-Ann Sheffield



Betty Daniels
Dorothy Stevens
Gary Stevens
Gene and Barb Bricker
Joyce and Thurman Hassler
Military and families
Sponsored Children: Adrianus, Marc Philip,
Thierry, Marcela
Zeis family
Jean McLucas
Diane Baxter
Tom Hamil
Nancy Barmont
Darlene Hannon
Ann Hays
Anna Rotz
Korbin Rotz
Nancy Lawyer
John Hornbaker

All individuals and families affected by
cancer

All Sunday school classes

Our Church & it's ministries

*If you have any additions or corrections to the
prayer list or the birthday list, please contact the
church office.*



*If you would like to get your newsletter emailed to you,
please send an email with your name to:
mcbucc@embarqmail.com and help us save paper and postage. Thank
You!*