The Beacon

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
McConnellsburg

Trinity
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Fort Loudon

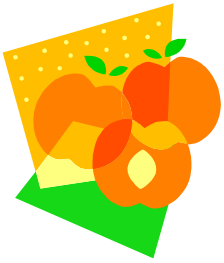
JUNE 2013

Newsletter Dates

Deadline	Tuesday, June 25
Church Pick-up/Email	Sunday, June 30
Postal	Monday, July 1

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.

This month: **Use less paper products.** Many trees are sacrificed and much energy and water is used to produce the many paper towels and napkins people use. Try using *one* napkin instead of three. When cleaning the house or drying your hands, use washable towels or cloths instead of disposable ones.



Trinity's Peach Festival

Plans for our third annual Peach Festival are underway, for **Saturday, August 17, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the Community Grounds. Please plan to make lots of peach pies and cobblers! We sold out quickly last year and are expecting an even larger turnout this year.

Craft vendors and **home-based businesses**, please contact Eileen Hornbaker for an application (328-3538).

If you are interested in participating in the **art show**, please contact Linda Best (369-2249). Enter your peach pie in our **pie baking contest** to win $50! Contact Corinna Rotz (369- 4804) for an application.

The Fort Loudon-McConnellsburg Charge
of the
United Church of Christ
228 North 2nd Street
McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Stamp

Message from Your Pastor

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month, I asked you to bring a piece of "joyful noise" to worship on Sunday, May 5. I was very touched by the many inspirational stories some of you had to tell. Many of them were a testimony to how God comforts you in times of trouble, and I am sure they were a comfort to those who had the privilege of hearing them. That was the work of the Holy Spirit.

We just celebrated Pentecost, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on God's people. The prophet Joel tells us about God's promise: "Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old shall dream dreams, and your young shall see visions." (Joel 2:28)

What dreams and visions do you have? For our church, for our community, and our world? I think many of us have given up on those dreams. We just try to get by somehow but we have become disillusioned, we don't think there is much we can do. And even if we knew what to do, who has the time, the money or the strength to do it!

The Spirit of God is not a spirit of fear, depression or hopelessness. It is also not a spirit of resignation or passivity. It is a Spirit of dreams and visions, of hope and enthusiasm. Let us rekindle our dreams and visions and let us put our hearts and our energy into making them real.

Only if we still have faith in the good future that God has for us, can we pass that faith on to others. Only if we let God comfort us in our worries, in our frustrations and our stress, can we comfort others. And I believe that is what we are called to do.

So this Pentecost season, let God's Spirit inspire you. Let it breathe new life and new hope into your dreams and visions, and into our churches!

Pray for the Spirit to move you, to encourage you, to guide you. And share your dreams and visions with the rest of us, just like you shared your stories of comfort last month.

I know there is much more where that came from. All of you are an inspiration. If you have something that you think will be uplifting or encouraging for others, please contact me. If you don't feel comfortable presenting it yourself, we will find someone who is. This newsletter is also a medium with which to get your own faith and life experiences out there as an inspiration to others. Tell us about your dreams and visions. Please share your spiritual gifts. They will not grow or multiply if you keep them to yourself.

Dream boldly. Imagine. Have a vision! Let the Spirit take all your fear and reservations away, and give you hope, enthusiasm and comfort. "For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:17) Have faith in that power!

In Jesus' Name,
Pastor Valeria.

Picnic at Cowan's Gap

Join us for our annual picnic, sponsored by Trinity. We will meet **Sunday, June 2, at 12:30 p.m**. at Cowan's Gap. We have reserved Pavilion #1, located close to the parking lot. Hot dogs, barbeque, rolls and drinks will be provided. Please bring your place settings and a covered dish, your lawn chairs (and swimming gear and/or games, if you wish!), and join us for a day in God's beautiful creation. **St. Paul's has decided not to have a Salad Sunday that day, to attend the picnic instead.**

St. Paul's Scholarships

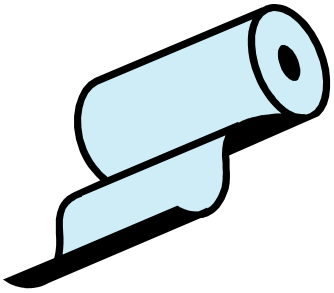
Scholarship applications for the 2013-2014 academic year are now available at St. Paul's. Please contact Mary Haubrick for more information (call 987-3604 or email mhaubrick@embarqmail.com). Applications are due by June 9.

Special Offering for Church World Service

On **June 9,** we will be taking a special offering for Church World Service (formerly known as "The Blanket Fund"). With your donations, you will support various projects nationally and worldwide that help give a future to those in dire need. Your money will go towards providing blankets, clean water, tents, garden tools, seeds, education, and much more. For more information, go to www.churchworldservice.org

New Sign for Trinity

Trinity's Consistory has been discussing getting a new sign outside the church for a few years now. Our financial situation has always held us back. We all agree we need to advertise our events and services more noticeably, especially since our parking lot and pavilion are hidden behind the church. We would like to purchase a 24 x 36" sidewalk sign with adjustable letters and an acrylic cover (similar to image below). The cost is $345. Donations are needed and would be much appreciated. If we had enough funds, we would prefer building a more permanent structure.



"Items of the Month" at Trinity

With having had such a good response to our Food and Clothing event in April, we are planning our next event on **October 12**. In order to collect enough items by then, we will designate a suggested item of the month, asking members to bring them to church as they are able. Our item for the month of June will be **paper towels/toilet paper.**

Partners in Peace Camp

From **June 6 – 20,** 15 young adults will be coming together to learn from and with each other how they can be peacekeepers in the world today. Our own Penn Central Conference has invited three members from all of our partner churches and three Penn Central Conference members for an experience they will never forget. We are expecting people from Namibia (in southern Africa), from Berlin-Brandenburg (Germany), the Rhineland (Germany), and the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota, as well as the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ. They will be attending Conference Annual Meeting at Susquehanna University, will then spend a week at Hartman Center at a peace camp, and end their stay by visiting different government representatives, churches and NGOs in Washington DC. Pastor Valeria will help lead the camp at Hartman Center from June 9 – 15. Loy Garber will be available for any pastoral needs during this time (call 485-4902). Please pray for safe travels and a good experience for all participants – and for peace!

Bus Trip to See "Noah" at Sight and Sound

Trinity is sponsoring a bus trip to Lancaster on **Saturday, November 2**. Tickets are $115 for adults, $81.75 for teens (13-18) and $61.50 for children (3-12). This includes transportation, a meal, and the show tickets. We have reserved a 57-passenger bus and seats usually fill up quickly. To make a reservation, contact Anna Rotz (369-3318). Please make checks payable to Trinity United Church of Christ.

Strawberry Festival

St. Paul's Church Women United will have a food stand again at this year's Strawberry Festival near the courthouse lawn on **Friday, June 14 and Saturday, June 15**. Country ham sandwiches, hot dogs and more will be offered. Stop by and support us!

Thank You, for the prayers and concern for Doris Ray. Doris has returned to Providence Place from the Chambersburg Hospital on Tuesday (21st.) afternoon.
Bernice Crouse and family

NOTE: Last month's Thank You note was from Janis Cutchall.

ST. PAUL'S CONSISTORY
SUMMARY OF APRIL MEETING

Submitted by: M. Haubrick, Secretary St. Paul's Consistory

All consistory members present except Paul Stevens

Discussion and action was taken on the following:

✦ **MEMORIAL FUND:** Balance of the Memorial Fund is currently $75.00. No action was taken

✦ **CHURCH WOMEN:** Annual church yard sale netted around $1,000.00. June Strawberry Festival plans to sell country ham sandwiches and other sandwiches

✦ **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** The children's Sunday School will not meet during the summer...Adult Sunday School class will continue during summer.

✦ **PARSONAGE GARAGE/WALL REPAIR:** Work still pending.

✦ **PARSONAGE ROOF:** Inspection of the roof revealed loose shingles and an overall deterioration of the shingles. Bid request notice will be published in local newspaper for composition shingles or metal replacement.

✦ **FURACE INSPECTION:** Kirk Cover will check on this with help from Charlie Baker.

ELEVATOR REPAIR; The elevator lift recently stopped working. The elevator lift company was contacted and they stated we did not have a current service contract agreement with them. The cost for a mechanic would be $186.00 per hour/ plus any materials. The company had agreed to extend their 90 day warranty on the elevator to one full year when the unit was finally installed as a gesture to compensate to the long delay in their installation. This full year of warranty should be in affect until August 2013. Loy will get back with the company concerning this.

**NOTE: Information received after the meeting from Loy Garber: *A serviceman placed our elevator back into operation. No serious repairs were required. Also, my phone call to their main office resulted in a "no charge" for the service visit...because the promised service agreement made last year is in affect until August 22, 2013. This summer a representative is coming to McConnellsburg to discuss future service agreements.*

✦ **UPDATED MEMBERSHIP LIST** Pastor Valeria stated that she had revised the current membership list and also friends of St. Paul's. The list indicates 69 members and 34 friends of St. Paul's.

✦ **MOWING CHURCH GROUNDS;** Approval was given to increase Peggy Bailey's salary from $40 to $60 per mowing.

✦ **PLAQUES:** Approval was given to purchase a plaque for the new organ in memory of Fay Welsh Koontz, and also an elevator plaque in memory of Ray S. Koontz and Walter R. Grissinger. A special **ORGAN DEDICATION SERVICE** was discussed also. Contacts will be made to Fay's family and the service possibly set for the fall of this year.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY: Announcement of a **letter received from Penn Central Conference honoring Pastor Valeria for the ten year anniversary of her ordination. Consistory members offered their congratulations to Rev. Schmidt.**

St. Paul's Financial Information Treasurer's Report APRIL 2013

Income for April	$33,032.50 *
Expenses for April	32,835.02
Interest on Account	1.81
Gain for month	+ $ 199.29

***NOTE:** The total income and expense included $17,870.00 transfer for payment of the new organ, and $10,000.00 bequest from Gladys Williams Estate that was invested in the Scholarship fund.

Trinity's Financial Update

Month	Received	Budget	Expended
Jan.-Apr	$18,799.24	$23,189.00	$19,701.32
May 1-19	$4,676.92	$3,567.60	$2,336.72
TOTAL	$23,476.16	$26,756.60	$22,038.04

Angels Explained by Children

I only know the names of two angels, Hark and Harold.

Greg, age 5

Pastor - Rev. Valeria Schmidt
stpaulsparsonage@embarqmail.com
(717)-485-3369
Secretary - Pam Carmack
buckpcar@embarqmail.com
(717)-485-4795

St. Paul's UCC
228 N Second Street, McConnellsburg, PA 17233
(717)-485-5554
mcbucc@embarqmail.com
Now on Facebook & www.uccmccbg.weebly.com
Trinity UCC
P.O. Box 253
13189 Main Street
Fort Loudon, PA 17224
(717)-369-4773
http://trinityuccftloudon.org
www.pccucc.org (Penn Central Conference)
www.ucc.org

Trinity United Church of Christ Fort Loudon Consistory Meeting Minutes May 14, 2013

Trustees' Report:

No date has been set for the installation of the chimney liner.

Evangelism Committee Report:

Pastor Valeria will be sending cards to families with children who came to the Free Food and Clothing event which will give dates and times for upcoming church events.

There will be a picnic after church to be held at the church pavilion July 28 and September 8.

Old Business:

A sandwich board type sign with a plastic cover and changeable letters can be purchased from Fast Signs in Greencastle at a cost of $345. The sign would be used to advertise various church events. The current signs being used have problems with blowing over and not being waterproof. A motion to ask the congregation for donations for the purchase of the sign was passed. Jeff Lawyer will also inspect the community events sign which was damaged by vandalism to see if the church could make use of it.

New Business:

Pastor Valeria will be unavailable from September 22 to the 29th. Loy Garber will be asked to lead worship on one of the Sundays and the Pastor from the Truck Stop Ministry will be asked to lead worship for the other.

A bus trip to Sight and Sound in Lancaster to see Noah is planned for Saturday, November 2. A Jeff Lawyer/Best motion to raise the adult cost from $113.25 to $115 per person was passed to benefit the church. The cost for Teens (13-18) is $81.75 and the cost for Children (3-12) is $61.50. A $100 check will be sent to Bolmans Bus Lines to reserve the bus.

The consistory meeting next month will be held on Tuesday, June 4 @ 7:00 due to a prior commitment of Pastor Valeria's on June 11.

Other Business:

Rosie reported that John Hornbaker said the heating and cooling in the Sunday School room is currently working.

Glenn and Sam spread topsoil over the area by the rear door of the church and will plant grass when the soil is dryer.

The Scholarship committee received one application for a scholarship from Bethany Crouse. The committee will meet to review the application for approval.

Linda Best

HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY

4 Daniel Barley
6 Lory Mester
9 Dorothy Stevens
11 Andy Barley
14 Chase Buterbaugh
Mason Buterbaugh
Tony Shives
15 Ross Weller
Elsie Bricker
16 Sharyn Zeis
20 Roy Hornbaker
22 Arnetta Mellott
23 Blaire Shives
28 Jody Buterbaugh
Amy Headley
30 Cathy Buterbaugh

St. Paul's Flowers

Nancy Barmont (485-3456)
Linda Garber (485-4902)

Call the above person(s) if you wish to order flowers in memory/ honor of someone.

St. Paul's Ushers

Will be announced each Sunday morning

Thank You for Serving!

Trinity's Ushers

Cheryl and Gary Shives

Thank You for Serving!

PRAYER LIST

Bertha Byers
Betty Daniels
Betty Grissinger
Bob and Nancy Lawyer
Dorothy and Paul Stevens
Gene, Elsie and Barb Bricker
Harold and Betty Keefer and family
Joyce and Thurman Hassler
Military and families
Arlene and Bob Carmack
Peg Gordon
Roger and Lois Byers
Sponsored Children: Adrianus, Marc
Philip, Thierry, Marcela
Sandy Richards
Thelma Miller
Zeis family
Justin Jr. and Blaze Hege
Jean McLucas
St. Paul's Care Team
Diane Baxter
Janis Cutchall
Sarah Gordon
Doris Ray
All individuals and families affected by cancer
All Sunday school classes
The people of Oklahoma

Please let us know of any changes, additions or corrections to the Prayer and Birthday lists. Thank you!

July 2013

Wednesdays	Trinity's Prayer and Praise, 7:00 p.m.
Thursdays	St. Paul's *Joyful Noise* Band practice, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 2	St. Paul's Contemporary worship Picnic at Cowans Gap, 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 4	Trinity's Consistory meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 9	Special Offering for Church World Service Trinity's change collection for Hartman Center
June 10 – 15	Pastor Valeria at Partners in Peace Camp. Contact Loy Garber for pastoral needs (485-4902)
Wednesday, June 12	St. Paul's Church Women United, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, June 14 and Saturday, June 15	Strawberry Festival in McConnellsburg
Sunday, June 16	Trinity's special offering for the Building Fund
Monday, June 17	Trinity's Peach Festival meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 18	St. Paul's Consistory meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 23	Holy Communion Trinity's change collection for Hartman Center
Monday, July 4	Independence Day
Sunday, July 7	St. Paul's Contemporary worship and Salad Sunday