

The Beacon

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

Psalms 122:1

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

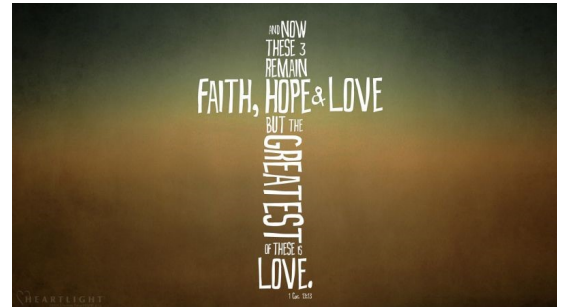
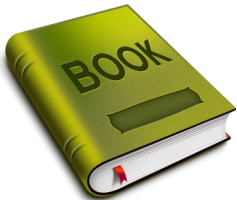
Trinity
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
Fort Loudon, PA

October 2022

Deeply Formed Life Study and Prayer Group.....

Our **next Thursday** date is, **October 13**, 3:30. If you have a book, please read Chapter 1. If not, please come that day anyway, because we will be talking about Christian habits that deepen our relationship with God. You don't need the readings to participate in the conversation. I have the wonderful notes from Pastor Scott Bowerman of Chambersburg from when he did the study in which I participated to help guide our discussion. From there, we can take it any direction that supports our faith formation.

Bernice Crouse



The Fort Loudon-McConnellsburg Charge

United Church of Christ

228 North 2nd Street

McConnellsburg, PA 17233

STAMP

ST. PAUL'S CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX MINISTRY

There are millions of children in need around the world, many who have never received a gift. Since 2007, St. Paul's UCC has participated in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox program and have packed and donated a total of 646 boxes. Each child will hear and receive a copy of The Greatest Gift, a Gospel booklet about the gift of salvation being in Jesus Christ alone. The booklet includes 11 Scripture stories and invites them to follow Christ. Children take this Gospel message home to read with their family and friends. The Gospel booklet is produced in more than 90 languages and distributed in more than 100 countries around the world.

Empty shoe-boxes and information will be available at the church beginning Sunday, Oct.9. You may also use your own empty cardboard shoe-box or purchase a plastic shoe-box with lid. The back to school sales in the fall and end of summer sales of clothing and shoes are two great sources of purchasing shoe box items. Recently, a local thrift store, "Dave's Putting a New Leash on Life" has stocked new Target clothing items for children at a greatly reduced price. Adult clothing in size small would fit the 10-14 year old boxes.

The Children and Adult Sunday School classes are going to fill boxes on November 6th in lieu of lessons that day. You may start bringing in donations to fill the boxes any time. There will be a "collection area" for items in the upstairs Sunday School Room.

A list of suggested items to donate is included in this newsletter.

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THE FILLED BOXES TO ST. PAUL'S IS SUNDAY, NOV. 20.

. A donation of \$10 is requested for each shoe box to help cover shipping and project costs. If you are not able to shop to fill a shoe-box, you can still participate by your donations that will be a great help to this special ministry. A gift to Operation Christmas Child helps cover processing and shipping expenses and allows teams to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with children and their families. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse with a note on the memo line "Operation Christmas Child", and give donation to Mary Haubrick.

SUGGESTIONS TO PACK IN AN OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE-BOX

First determine the age category and gender for each box..... Boy or Girl

Age 2-4 years	Age 5-9 years	Age 10-14 years.
Crayons	Coloring Books	Pencil & Pens
Pencil Sharpener	Glue Sticks	Scissors
Small Notebook	Highlighters	Chalk
Watercolor Paint Set	Colored Pencils	Glitter
Small Crafting Kit	Paper (can be rolled to fit)	Post It Notes
Small Etch a sketch	Play Doh	Silly Putty
Card Games	Puzzle in small box	Pom Poms
Tape	Small Back Pack	Finger Puppets
Travel Size Games	Jump Rope	Balloons
Comb/Hair Brush	Hair ties...barrettes..ribbons	Bracelet
Bandanna	Hat Cap or knitted	Sunglasses
Socks	Ball of any sport	Scarf

Toothbrush (Toothpaste cannot be included !)

Bar of soap..(Put in plastic bag to keep scent contained)

Travel Pack of Tissues

Flashlight with extra batteries

Plastic Cup

Matchbox cars, trucks, etc.

Flip Flop shoes

Small Stuffed Animals

T Shirts

Pants...short or long

Washcloth

Chap stick

Harmonica

Dolls

Doll Accessories

Dresses

FOR OLDER BOYS:

Tools—hammer, screwdriver, wrench or pliers, duct tape, measuring tape

Small Fishing Kit, fishing line, hooks, Binoculars, Watch, Collapsible Water Bottle

Small calculator, Handkerchief, Soccer ball (collapsed) and Ball Pump

FOR OLDER GIRLS:

Small sewing kit

Clip on earrings

Jewelry

Coin Purse

Ink Pad and stamp set

Colored Sharpies

A friendship bracelet with extra string so they can make more.

DO NOT INCLUDE: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; Candy or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

DO NOT PACK ANY CANDY OR

TOOTHPASTE !

TOYS: include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.

ACCESSORIES: t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

A PERSONAL NOTE: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

Remove packaging from your items so that you allow for more room in your box and so that they don't have much trash to throw away.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will fill shoeboxes on **the first**
Sunday of
November, the 6th.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

St. Paul's United Church of Christ helped their beloved friend and church member, Elizabeth Kerlin celebrate her 99th birthday on Sunday Sept. 18, 2022, following the morning worship service.

The church record book of St. Paul's Reformed Church, list Elizabeth L. Morton's name on the "Cradle Roll" as a very young, little girl in the 1920's, and she was later confirmed at age 14 on April 17, 1938 by the late Rev. William J. Lowe; making her a church member of 84 years! Elizabeth has faithfully served The Lord and her church her entire life, and she continues to inspire her church family by her weekly attendance each Sunday at Sunday School and Worship Service. When asked "How are you, Elizabeth?"...her quick reply is always "I have no reason to complain".

The church family of St. Paul's U.C.C. extends much love and their prayers that God will continue to bless and strengthen Elizabeth each day.

St. Paul's Very Important People...

Elizabeth Kerlin

By Linda Garber

When I think of a worship service at St. Paul's, a dinner, a women's group meeting, or a community worship service, I think of Elizabeth Kerlin. She has

been a faithful occupant of one of our pews since she was born in 1923. Her parents were Edith and Earl Morton. Earl was one of ten Morton siblings, who have blessed Fulton County since the 1700's.

Elizabeth lived in the old toll house at the edge of Lincoln Way and the Peach Orchard Road. The stone wall and steps to that property still remain. She probably used those steps to walk into town to school. The Mortons belonged to the Reformed Church when a Federation existed with the Presbyterian Church. She remembers going to Sunday School with her good friends Betty Washabaugh, Lyle Duffey and Warren Daniels who were her classmates. On Sunday evenings they went to "Christian Endeavor" for Christian lessons taught by Rev. William Lowe.

Elizabeth became an official member of St. Paul's when she was twelve years old. Meta Lynch and Olive Hohman were her Sunday School teachers in the room where the church office is today. This special lovely room would one day become her room to teach the youngest children in the church congregation. She gives much credit to Dorothy Stevens her co-teacher. This all started in the 1950's, when their children were that age. Elizabeth nurtured many young ones till she retired to the Adult Sunday School Class.

After high school she went to the Business School in Harrisburg, and worked at Letterkenny. She married a school friend, Herman Mellott. They lived in Missouri while he was in the Army Air Corps. Then in Gettysburg and Bethlehem while he attended college after his military service.

Herman's father owned a coal stripping operation in West Virginia where they lived for six months.

Tragically Herman was killed in an airplane accident in July 1948. Rev. Laquear who married them also officiated at the funeral.

Elizabeth returned to live with her parents who were now residing in town in the white house next to the present Kerlin home. And she returned to Letterkenny to work.



Continued...

Thank goodness for the dedication service of the Fulton County Medical Center the next year. Her friend, Alma Naugle introduced her to a new young lawyer in town, who was also attending that event. A match was made with this Burnt Cabins young man, and in 1953 Rev. Brindle tied the knot, and St. Paul's had two dedicated lay people who would lead our church for many years.

Stanley was born in 1954 and Suzanne in 1958. Elizabeth was teaching when Loy and I came to St. Paul's, and our boys benefited from her special Sunday School room experiences, as well as many other children over the years.

Elizabeth recalls the fire at the church as frightening, and joined with others in the restoration process. She has fond memories of the class meetings held by the Church Women's Group. The ladies took turns meeting in each other's homes. Ruth Washabaugh's home was a favorite meeting place, because of her great refreshments. Other memorable church women were Nell and Rue Barmont Elsie Shimer and Phlene Mellott.

I admire the faithful dedication of Elizabeth to our church, and was not surprised to learn that her Christian love keeps on giving despite her years and occasional lapses of memory. She calls her church friend, Jean McLucas, in the evening; and Peg Gordon in the morning. They make sure each is alive and well.

Her four grand children have a quiet, unassuming grandmother very much worth emulating. I hope they realize this as we do at St. Paul's. Elizabeth's favorite charity is the American Cancer Society in Merrill's honor.



St. Paul's Financial Information August, 2022

ACCOUNT SUMMARY:

General Fund

Total Income August, 2022	\$5,518.95
Total Expenses August, 2022	\$3,485.38
Interest Earned GF August, 2022	\$20.11

Net GAIN \$2,053.68

January-August, 2022 - Net LOSS - \$ 4,513.30



The Faith & Fellowship Center Up Date

Loy Garber

The Faith & Fellowship Center Project Committee on September 22nd met with Jim Rock, President/CEO, of the GRC General Construction Company from Waynesboro (low bidder on our project). Mr. Rock was very helpful in sharing information about what goes into the bidding process, and particularly how his company developed our bid. He discussed the present situation with material costs, and what the future may or may not reveal about the construction business. He also indicated that the construction of commercial buildings is very aggressive right now into the Winter months. The committee appreciated Mr. Rock's forthright comments based on his 40-some years in the construction business.

After the meeting with Mr. Rock, the committee discussed strategies, and are working on developing a timeline for completing the project.



A couple of photos of western Florida for the newsletter These were taken between Tampa Bay and Desoto Landing in Bradenton. Bernice Crouse shared these pictures with us. Keep these folks in your prayers.

October

6	Donna House
7	Betty Burns
9	Bill Alexander
11	Pacey Richards
12	Connor McElhinny
13	Zereau Higgins
15	Kimberly Pryor Matt Pryor
16	Judy Dietrich
17	Deb Dick
19	Ryder Richards
20	Seleen Shives
21	Ethan Barclay
23	Betty Newman
29	Ann Hays
30	Mark Crouse Karen Fox



Please send additions and corrections to the church office.

Prayer Request

The healing of our nation + world
Seleen Shives and family
Amanda Mitchell
Linda Sowers
Lana Pine
Kylene McLucas Arwood
Elizabeth Kerlin
Chase Andrews
Bernice Crouse's 96 yr. Aunt Marie and family
Korbyn Rotz
Skip and Betty Daniels
Nicole Hummel
Carl and Carol Mellott
Dennis Hess
Robert Door
Nancy Barmont
Ann Hays
Jessica McLucas Truax
Bernice's friend Christa
Chris Myers' uncle..... Ed Vance
Military and families
Our Church & ministries, Sunday school classes
Teachers and students, front line workers
Emily Rotz
Leah Hamil
Linda Garber
Eileen Troutt-Ervin and Bob Perry
Kathleen Pappas
Patrick McCarthy
Summer Hoover and daughter Ruby
Daniel Harper, grandson of Linda Best.
Ed Stonecipher



2022



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:

The first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM at the McConnellsburg United Methodist Church in McConnellsburg.

Third Sunday each month: Trinity's Building Fund Offering

Sunday, October 9

Communion at both churches with Loy Garber

Wednesday, October 12

Trinity consistory meeting 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Church Women United meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 18

St. Paul's consistory meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Watch for Trinity's Pot Pie fundraiser, coming soon!



St. Paul's UCC (717)-485-5554

228 N Second Street, McConnellsburg, PA 17233

mcbucc@embarqmail.com

Facebook & www.uccmccbg.weebly.com

Trinity UCC (717)-256-2703

P.O. Box 253

13189 Main Street, Fort Loudon, PA 17224

*****Find Us on Facebook**

www.pccucc.org (Penn Central Conference) www.ucc.org

www.mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com