



The Beacon

"If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." ~ [2 Chronicles 7:14](#)

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
McConnellsburg, PA
Trinity
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
Fort Loudon, PA
January 2023

"And Joshua said unto all the people [of Israel], . . . choose you this day whom ye will serve; . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:2, 15).

In the coming year, just who or what are you going to rely on for leading and advice? Who will you serve? Where will you place your trust? What do you consider to be your sources of wisdom?

While millions are making resolutions, most of which will be broken within thirty days, I challenge you to focus on the questions above and answer them with true sincerity. If you get advice from the right places, serve the right leading, place your trust in the right source and get your wisdom from the right places, the day to day decisions will take care of themselves. Joshua challenged his people to choose who they would serve but said that for him and for his house, they would serve the Lord. So many people today place their trust in what the world calls wisdom, but the Psalmist said it best: *"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."*** (Psalm 20:7)**

In the coming year, pray that we all may do nothing less.

by [John Grant](#) (a thought on life from John Grant) Published January 2, 2011

John Grant is a former Florida State Senator and is a practicing attorney

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

STAMP

Faith Can See God In His Creation

Although you may sometimes feel that you are alone and he is far away, God is an active presence in the wonders of his creation. He can send us messages from his special handiwork.

Let's take a moment to look skyward to observe that flock of Canadian geese high overhead. As it turns out, geese do some interesting things that we could learn from.

Scientists believe that geese honk not only to help locate each other, but also to encourage each other to keep going. Geese travel in a 'V' formation. As each goose flaps its wings, it helps the goose flying behind it. When the lead goose in the 'V' formation gets tired, it drops back, and a new leader moves to the front of the 'V'.

If a goose gets sick or injured and has to come down to the ground, at least two other geese go and stay with it until it is well again to fly.

The eyes of faith might see that God is trying to tell us something as we watch and understand the behavior of a flock of geese.

These large birds that often fly above us, **encourage** each other to keep going no matter how tough their journey may be. We too, should **encourage one another**.

As they fly long distances, they practice "**teamwork**" and "**leadership**" as they lead from the front of the "V"; and when becoming tired another member of the flock (team) volunteers to take over that lead. Working together in this way they can continue their journey and accomplish their task.

Leadership and **teamwork** are important traits that God encourages us to use to get things done and help each other.

When a one of the flock experiences injury or tough times, some other members of the flock make sure they are taken care of. God's message is clear, when people in our flock (neighborhood) have setbacks or injury, he really wants us to see that they are taken **care** of.

God put these wise and wonderful traits in the geese that fly above us. Could it be that our Creator is trying to send us "a message from on High" ???

St. Paul's Church Finances ACCOUNT SUMMARY:

General Fund

Total Income November, 2022	\$9,825.37
Total Expenses November, 2022	\$1,937.60
Interest Earned GF November, 2022	<u>\$26.20</u>
Net GAIN	\$7,913.97

Please remember.....church expenses continue in your absence!



IN MEMORY OF:

In memory of our beloved parents and Grandparents who have passed before us.

In memory of Tom Hamil & Callie & Ethel Truax Charles and Louise Sweeney

In memory of our beloved grandchildren who Have passed. Jonah & Debbie

In memory of Lynn Gehr, Louise Gehr Bivens, Bill Bivens & the Jones, Rotz & McLaughlin Families

In memory of William & Jane Houghland, Genevieve & Arthur Best & Ruth Guyer Mellott

In memory of Jim & Rosie Shives, Gary & Ronnie Shives, Kim Wible & John Hornbaker

In Memory of Robert Lawyer, Sr., Nancy Lawyer & Margaret V. Lawyer (aunt Peg)

In memory of Gene & Elsie Bricker, Martin & Ethel Cox

In memory of Harold & Terry Keefer

In memory of George & Nellie Bryson Walck

In Memory of Harold & Terry Keefer, & Dale Rice

In Memory of Clair, Zereau & Rodney Richard Higgins

In memory of Justin Armstrong, Rich Hurst, Edward, Isabel, Helen & Ronnie Armstrong, Ginger & Cory Jones, & Helen Milhouse, Joseph, Pauline and Ruthie Rotz

In memory of Ethel & Martha Fries; Ron & Catherine Buterbaugh, Joe & Anna Rotz and Overcash family members.

In memory of Joe and Anna Rotz

In memory of Arthur (Sam) Wood

In memory of Lawrence Newman

In memory of my parents Willard & Naomi Mellott

In memory of Leonard & Helen McLaughlin

In memory of Thelma Miller

In memory of William (Bill) Armstrong

In memory of Percy Hays, Donna Keefer & William Hays

By Crouse, Myers and Wynn Families

By Leah Hamil & Gary and Jeanne Sweeney

By Crouse, Myers and Wynn Families

By Chandra Rotz & Family

By Barry & Linda Best

By Cheryl Shives

By the Lawyer Family

By Bonnie, Greg & Barb Bricker

By Betty Keefer

By Bonnie, Greg & Barb Bricker

By Tesha Keefer, Sharon Daugherty, & Great Grandchildren

By the Higgins, Hess & Rosenberry Families

By Jerry & Cindy Armstrong & Family

By Sam & Corinna Rotz & Family

By Sam, Lori & Diana and families

By Wanda Wood & Family

By Betty Newman

By Denise Mellott

By Betty Newman

By Nicholas, Anne, EJ & Olivia

By Rodney & Marcine Armstrong & Family

By Anna & Edward Hays

By Jerry & Cindy Armstrong & Family

IN HONOR OF:

In honor of Barb Hurst



Trinity United Church of Christ

Christmas 2022

POINSETTIAS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN LOVING MEMORY OF.....

St. Paul's United Church of Christ Christmas 2022

Merrill W. Kerlin	by Elizabeth M. Kerlin
Ronald House	by Donna House
Our Parents: Mildred & Eugene Garber and Alfred & Pearle Heuston	by Loy & Linda Garber
Parents, Willard & Naomi Mellott	by Denise Mellott
Parents, Warren & Bernice Daniels	by Skip & Betty Daniels
Our Parents	by Russell and Linda McLucas
Parents: Earl & Lillian Laidig Barmont and "The Aunts" Nell & Rheue Barmont	by Tom & Mary Barmont Haubrick
Parents: Alice & Norman Mellott and Robert & Loretta Buterbaugh Cynthia Mellott and Woodrow Mellott	by Denny & Jayne Buterbaugh & family
Dr. Russell & Jean McLucas	by Scott, Kylene, Theo & Henry Arwood
Husband, Donald E. Ott	by Mary Ellen Ott
Parents: Don & Anna Okeson and In-laws Charles & Helen Ott	Mary Ellen Ott
Brother & Sister-in-law Don R Okeson, Jr & Betty Goshorn Okeson	Mary Ellen Ott
Brother & Sister-in-law Harry J. & Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Okeson	Mary Ellen Ott
Justin Hudson, Juanita Cubine, Dave Gasche, Dick & Norma Ott	by: Chris, Christian, Kacey, Emma, Abby, Jacob Hann
Dr. Frank & Doris Alexander, Earl Clinton & Bill Alexander	by Todd, Hillary, Reese Clint , Esty & Hayes
Our Parents: Bob & Loretta Buterbaugh and Bob and Arlene Carmack	by Denny & Pam Carmack



Born in January

4 Esty Alexander
 11 Charlie Pryor
 13 Hunter Buterbaugh
 Denise Mellott
 16 Charlie Baker
 Madison Koontz
 Bodie Shives
 20 Pam Carmack
 Ashley Souders
 21 Shaffer Eugene Early
 24 Linda Grissinger
 29 Henry Arwood
 31 Bernice Crouse



Please send additions and corrections to the church office >>> mcbucc@embarqmail.com

Prayer Request

The healing of our nation + world
Betty Burns
Glenn and Bernice Crouse
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



2023



Third Sunday each month: Trinity's Building Fund Offering

2nd and 4th Thursday at 3:30p.m. Study and Prayer with Bernice Crouse
Email Bernice for link information: bookswbernie@gmail.com

Sunday, January 1, 2023 **Happy New Year**

Wednesday, January 11 **Trinity Consistory meeting, 6:30 p.m.**

Tuesday, January 17 **St. Paul's Consistory meeting, 6:30 p.m.**

Sunday, January 29, 2023 **Congregational meeting following a shortened Worship service**
*****this is our responsibility*****

PLEASE HAVE YOUR REPORTS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WE NEED THEM READY TO DISTRIBUTE ON JANUARY 22!

Sunday, February 12 **Trinity Souper Bowl of Caring**

Wednesday, February 22 **Ash Wednesday**

Sunday, February 26 **First Sunday in Lent and Lancaster Theological Seminary offering**



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