



The Beacon

The Church needs you, your enthusiasm, your creativity and the joy that is so characteristic of you? Pope Francis

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

Trinity
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Fort Loudon, PA

March 2021



Therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20

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

STAMP

Dear Church,

Lent is the time of the church year when we dig deep. We confront our mortality and our sin, and we commit to a better way, taking up our own crosses and following Jesus on the perilous way that leads through death to new and everlasting life.

During Lent, we fully confront our own brokenness and the brokenness of our world. It's a difficult and sometimes painful process. But through it all, we have that source of strength and perfect peace that passes all understanding.

Perhaps this is the most important thing about Lent, recognizing that we do not journey alone, and that we are equipped with everything we need to meet every challenge of our lives through discipleship in Jesus Christ, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the great love of our God.

I pray that this Lenten season you do not simply give up something, but that you take on the work and character of Jesus Christ, making whatever sacrifices are necessary to be the person God is calling you to be today. May God richly bless you as you seek to get closer and dig deeper.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Marleen

Take up your cross and follow me...

Holy Week 2021

March 28 Palm Sunday

April 1 Maundy Thursday Table Service
St. Paul's 7 p.m.

April 2 Good Friday Service
Trinity 7 p.m.

April 4 Easter Sunday



GIVING

IN THE TIME OF COVID

Thank you so much for your continued support of the mission and ministry of our church!

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Please make checks payable to the church and mail to:

Seleen Shives

208 Cooper Lane
McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Give online at:

<https://uccmccbg.weebly.com>

Trinity United Church of Christ

Please make checks payable to the church and mail to:

Jerry & Cindy Armstrong

5453 Forest Lane
Fort Loudon, PA 17224

Sunday Worship

9 am Trinity UCC Fort Loudon

11 am St. Paul's UCC McConnellsburg

11 am Facebook Live from St. Paul's
www.facebook.com/UCCMcCbG



It was a joy to welcome Cheryl Moyer into full membership at Trinity UCC on Feb. 7, 2021. If you are interested in joining the church, please let the pastor know!

Rev. Marleen Shepherd

Contact the pastor 618-521-3541 marleen.shepherd@gmail.com

Discipleship Process

Being

- Sharing Christ
- Fruits of the Spirit
- Have an emotional healthy spirituality
- Christ Likeness

Becoming

- Knowing Spiritual Gifts
- Serving in ministry

Believing

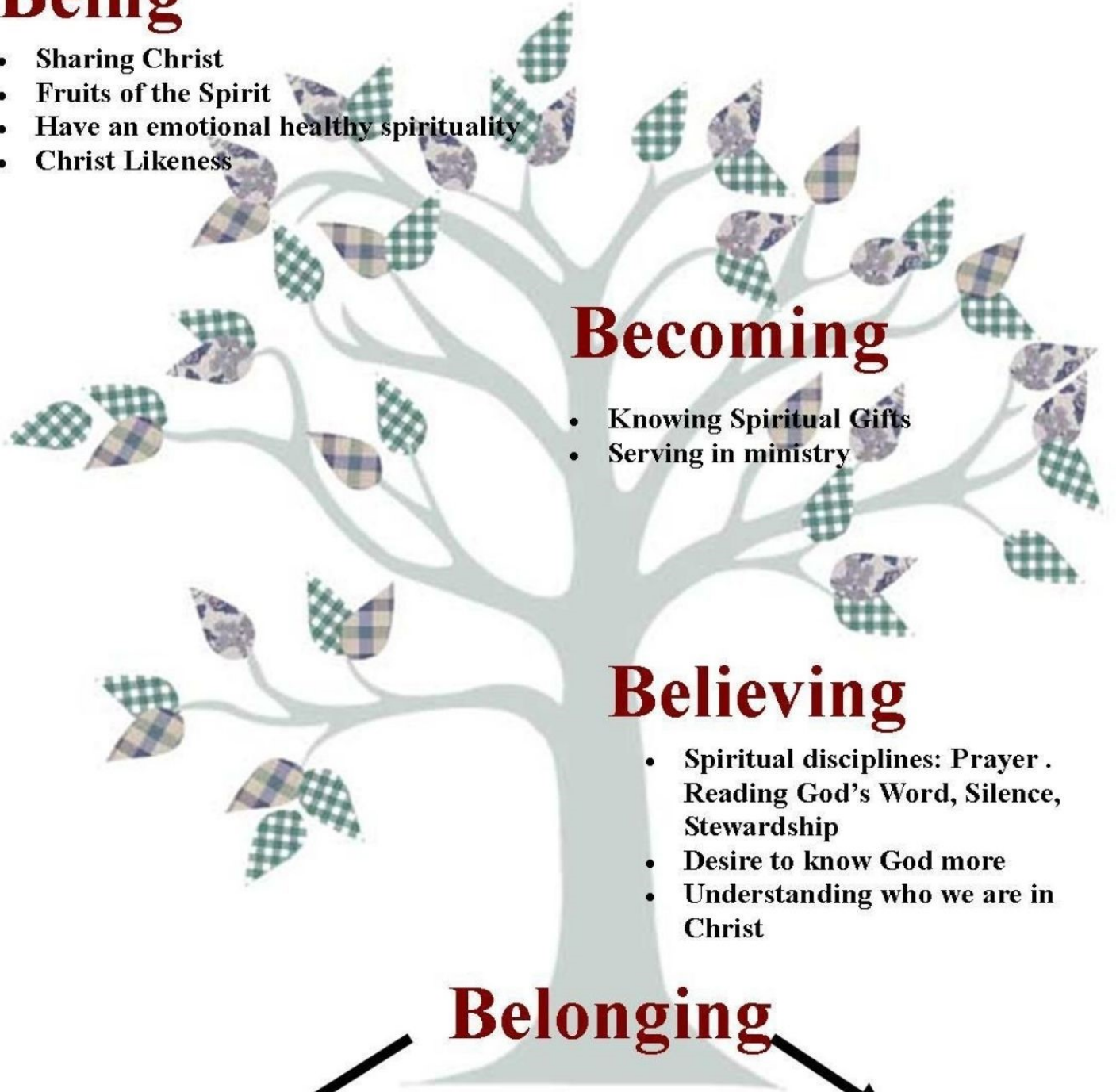
- Spiritual disciplines: Prayer . Reading God's Word, Silence, Stewardship
- Desire to know God more
- Understanding who we are in Christ

Belonging

God

- Becoming a child of God
- Connected and making connections
 - Interdependence
- Love for the family of God

His family



Christian Education For All Ages

"Train up your children in the way they should go: and when they are old, they will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6

St. Paul's UCC McConnellsburg

9:30-10:30 AM Sundays

K-3: Donna House

4-6: Linda Garber

7-9: Loy Garber

10-12: JoAnn Sheffield

"Ignite Teens"

Adult: Pam Carmack "Ephesians"

All classes are in-person following safety guidelines. Teen and Adult classes at St. Paul's are also available online:

"Ignite Teens" Grades 10-12

<https://meet.google.com/rgp-zudv-nfe>

Adult Sunday School

Zoom.U.S

Meeting ID: 876 0047 5397

Phone: 301-715-8592

Trinity UCC Fort Loudon

10 AM Sundays

Adult Sunday School follows worship

Led by Glenn Crouse

Peach Fest Planning Meeting

6:30 PM Monday, March 1

Trinity UCC



Mark your Calendars. The Peach Fest will return **Saturday August 21, 2021** at the Fort Loudon Community Center Grounds.



Return to Sunday School *Again* at St. Paul's Feb. 21, 2021

We're so glad to see you back!

TRINITY

Trinity taking orders for Easter flowers. 9 dollars per plant. Choice of tulips, lilies and hyacinths. Contact Corinna Rotz if you want to order. Need to know by 5 March.



Insights for Me from “The Godbearing life” by Kenda Creasy Dean & Ron Foster

“When we are used by God, we are not used up.” We are a lot like the burning bush. God works through us without exhausting us, as long as we refresh our faith, taking time to restore our own souls. Keeping our own relationship to Christ fresh and strong is central to being authentic Godbearing disciples.

“People need more God, not more about God,” especially youth. We normally spend a lot of time teaching and preaching, but is very important to go out into the world, meeting people where they are, showing them God’s compassion, being a good Christian listener without trying to fix them or their lives. We need to be willing to walk hand in hand with them, as the song “They’ll Know We Are Christians” says. Then they can see God’s love and light in our lives.

“God is all about relationships,” and adults and youth seek relationships of many kinds. “Holy ground is communal space.” Christians need other Christians to thrive. Faith and friendship are firmly woven together in ministry. That’s why the fellowship of the church body, the family, and the community is so important.

We can be an instrument, but ultimately the heavy lifting needs to be left to God, and we need to have patience and give people space. I loved the correlation between youth ministry and building a fire. The authors told a story about starting a fire with tinder, adding, kindling, then small logs, and eventually stoking it with larger logs. It reminded me very much of the song that I love, “Pass It On.” We can create the spark, then it needs to be gradually nurtured until God flares it up.

“Practice helps us get it, not get it right”. We all still need to work on our Christian practices. The authors listed more than 30 Christian practices that we can work on with each other. Practicing them with others helps new Christians and young people more fully understand what God can mean to their lives. Here are just a few examples with which you are familiar: baptism, communion, forgiveness, intercession, praise, thanksgiving.

Submitted by Bernice Crouse



Trinity United Church of Christ's
BEEF, HAM, and CHICKEN

SLIPPERY POT PIE

~\$7.00 TAKE-OUT QUARTS~

at the Fort Loudon Community Center on the
corner of Hawbaker Drive and Mullen Street



SATURDAY
MARCH 6, 2021



3:00 PM – 6:00 PM (or sold out)

Pre-orders for quarts are strongly encouraged.

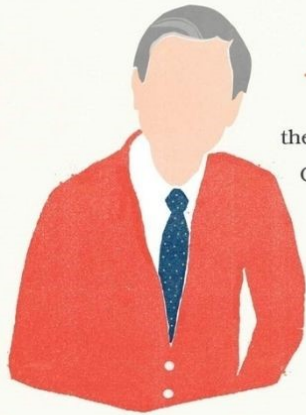
**Call or text Heidi at 717-360-6582 to easily
pre-order by Wednesday, March 3 or to check
availability on the day of the event.**

**Pre-orders not picked up by 4:30 PM will be
re-opened to the public.**

This Fundraiser benefits Trinity United Church of Christ Programs
Sponsored in-part by Thrivent Financial

March 2021

The Mister Rogers Effect



7 Secrets
to Bringing Out
the Best in Yourself and
Others from America's
Beloved Neighbor

ONLINE STUDY

February 2021

3:30 P.M. THURSDAYS

Zoom.us

Meeting ID: 849 0291 3478

If you do not have computer access, you can join us by phone at: 1-301-715-8592

"I like you just the way you are!"

What's Your Discipleship Type?

That's the question Gospel Discipleship seeks to answer. Through the process, you will learn if you are a Markan (Holy Spirit centered), Matthean (Action driven), Lukan (Relationship focused), or Johannine (Mentor-Apprentice nurtured) disciple. Once you understand who you are and how you conceive of discipleship, you can map a path to grow intentionally in your love and life with Jesus. You will also find that you can work better alongside other Christians once you understand where they are coming from too. Participants may purchase the book or simply join the group for great discussion and a time of prayer.

Join Us In Person or Online!

Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 28-March 28, 2021

In-person sessions rotate between Trinity & St. Paul's.

To join us online, go to Zoom.us and enter the Meeting ID: 849 0291 3478. If you do not have computer access, you can join us by phone at 1-301-715-8592.

LENTEN STUDY 2021

GOSPEL DISCIPLESHIP

4 Pathways for
Christian Disciples

Feb. 28 "Markan Discipleship"
Trinity UCC Fort Loudon

March 7 "Matthean Discipleship"
St. Paul's UCC McConnellsburg

March 14 "Lukan Discipleship"
Trinity UCC Fort Loudon

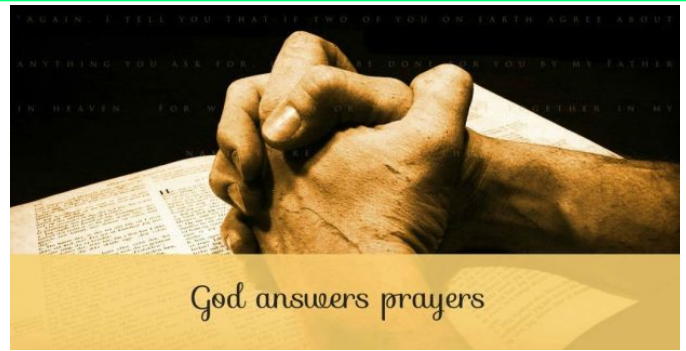
March 21 "Johannine Discipleship"
St. Paul's UCC McConnellsburg

March 28 "Our Discipleship Together"
Trinity UCC Fort Loudon



March BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Gary Sweeney
- 6 Robert Will
- 8 Zachary Long
- 10 Taylor Myers
- 15 Beth Ann Daniels
Carole Grissinger Sieber
- 16 Chris Myers
- 19 Eileen Hornbaker
- 21 Jessica Pryor
- 25 Hillary Alexander
- 30 Clint Alexander
Jayne Buterbaugh



The healing of our nation+

- Amanda Mitchell
- Ruth Brubaker
- Linda Sowers
- Ed Hayes
- Kylene McLucas Arwood
- Elizabeth Kerlin
- Chase Andrews
- Korbyn Rotz
- Mary Haubrick
- Skip and Betty Daniels
- Nicole Hummel
- Carl and Carol Mellott
- Dennis Hess
- Robert Door
- Nancy Barmont
- Sawyer and Jan Bye family
- Meril Fetters
- Ernie Tarner
- Jessica Truax
- Corinna Rotz
- Zereau Higgins and family
- Sarah Baker
- Carole Grissinger Seiber
- Bernice's friend Christa
- Evelyn Zeis family
- Chris Myers uncle Ed Vance
- Military and families
- Our Church & ministries, Sunday school classes
- Teachers and students
- All affected by Covid-19, health, life, livelihood
- Emily & Brad Rotz
- Bill & Ann Hays
- Leah Hamil
- Kathleen Pappas
- Dee & Ken Hupp
- Summer Hoover and daughter Ruby (3)
- God's people

Please send additions and corrections to the church office.



2021



well hello, march

Sunday morning worship

Trinity 9:00 a.m. St. Paul's 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday each month

Trinity's Eldercare Offering

Third Sunday each month

Trinity's Building Fund Offering

Sunday, February 28

Lancaster Theological Seminary Offering, St. Paul's will send \$100.00 of the worship offering

Lenten Study, 6:30 p.m. Trinity, St. Paul's will car pool from church at 6:10 p.m.

Monday, March 1

Trinity Peach Festival Planning meeting 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 6

Trinity Slippery Pot Pie Carry Out (please see page 6)

Sunday, March 7

Lenten Study, 6:30 p.m. St. Paul's

Sunday, March 14

Lenten Study, 6:30 p.m. Trinity, St. Paul's will car pool from church at 6:10 p.m.

Sunday, March 21

Lenten Study, 6:30 p.m. St. Paul's

Sunday, March 28

Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 1

Maundy Thursday Table service at St. Paul's 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 2

Good Friday service at Trinity 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 3

Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

Thursdays

Online Bible Study 3:30 p.m. (see page 7)

Zoom Us "The Mister Rogers Effect" ID:

849 0291 3478



QuotesBlog.net

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mcbucc@embarqmail.com Facebook & www.uccmccbg.weebly.com

Trinity UCC (717)-369-4773

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



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