

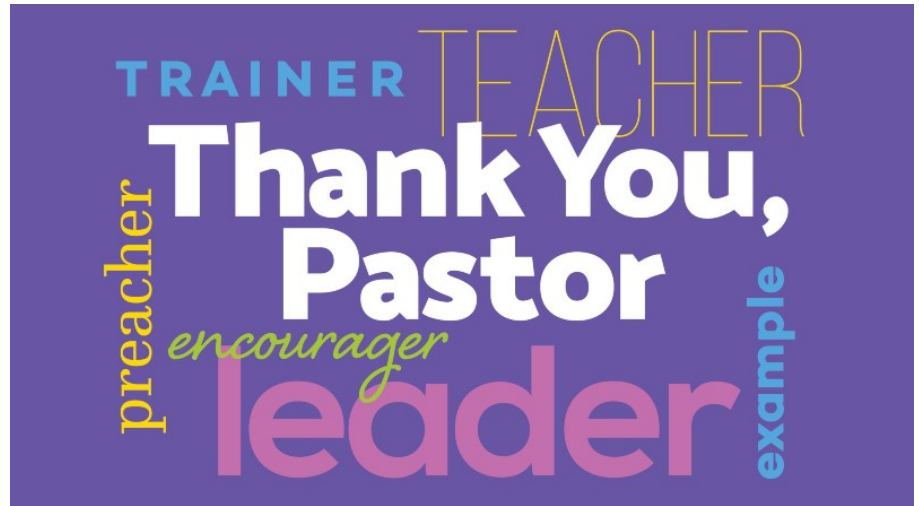
The Beacon

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
McConnellsburg, PA
Trinity
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Fort Loudon, PA
October 2021

*And without faith it is impossible to please him,
for whoever would draw near to God must believe
that he exists and that he rewards those who seek
him. ~ Hebrews 11:6*

Then I will give you shepherds
after my own heart, who will lead
you with knowledge and
understanding.

-Jeremiah 3:15



2021 Pastor Appreciation Day is **Sunday, October 10**

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

STAMP

Mercersburg Association Fall Meeting "Connections"

Sunday October 31, 3-5 PM

via Zoom.

Registration is not necessary. Meeting participants will be asked to sign in by posting their name and church on the Chat Roll at the beginning of the meeting.

All Pastors (active and retired) and two delegates from each church are encouraged to attend.

The meeting agenda is available on our website:

<https://mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com/news>.

The Mercersburg Association will vote to revise our Constitution & By-laws at the Fall Meeting. Please review the current Constitution & By-laws and the proposed changes prior to the meeting at

<https://mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com/news>.

Be careful who you hate.

It could be someone you love.



Matthew 22:36-40

Magnets and other items available from ucc.org

BE A BLESSING PRACTICE PEACE.
LEAD WITH LOVE.
BE JOYFUL. PRAY OFTEN. BE KIND. GIVE THANKS.
DO GOOD. HAVE COURAGE. WORK FOR JUSTICE.
BE THE LIGHT. ENCOURAGE OTHERS.



OCTOBER 2021

BLESSINGS FROM THE PASTOR

REV. MARLEEN SHEPHERD



BE STRONG
IN THE LORD
AND IN THE STRENGTH
OF HIS MIGHT

EPHESIANS 6:10

Friends in Christ, please know that your pastor is praying for you, and this church is praying for one another. We continue to face one grief and sorrow, losing friends and loved ones to the virus--uncertainty and loss seemingly at every turn.

Meanwhile, people just can't get their act together. We see people acting out in frustration, anger and rage. Instead of bringing us together as a nation, our troubles have only divided us.

That is why it is so important to prepare spiritually. If we are going to rise to meet the challenges of this day, we're going to need a lot of help. Luckily, Paul tells us, we have been equipped with the Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18).

Already in worship, we have talked about the first three pieces of the armor: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, and the shoes prepared for the gospel of peace. The rest of the suit is made up of the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the spirit, and last but not least, prayer.

The Bible tells us that prayer is our greatest spiritual weapon. It's our best defense against every changing threat, and it's our touchpoint with Everlasting God.

What a tremendous gift! Let's continue to pray for and with another. We are well-equipped and we are stronger together!

In Christ, Pastor Marleen

OCTOBER 2021



WORSHIP & STUDY



We love to see you online and in person!

9 A.M. TRINITY UCC FORT LOUDON

13189 Main Street

www.facebook.com/TrinityFortLoudon

Adult Sunday School follows worship

11 A.M. ST. PAUL'S UCC MCCONNELLSBURG

228 North Second Street

www.facebook.com/UCCMcCbg

St. Paul's Sunday School

KIDS (PreK-7th)

Begins at 10 am

Snack & Chat at 9:30 am

IGNITE TEENS (8th-12th)

10 am in person and online

<https://meet.google.com/>

Enter Code: rgp-zudv-nfe

ADULT

"Simon Peter" by Adam Hamilton

Begins at 10 am

Coffee & Chat at 9:30 am

In-person and online at [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us)

Meeting ID: 876 0047 5397

Passcode: UCC17233

Phone: 301-715-8592

Online Study Group

WHITE FRAGILITY

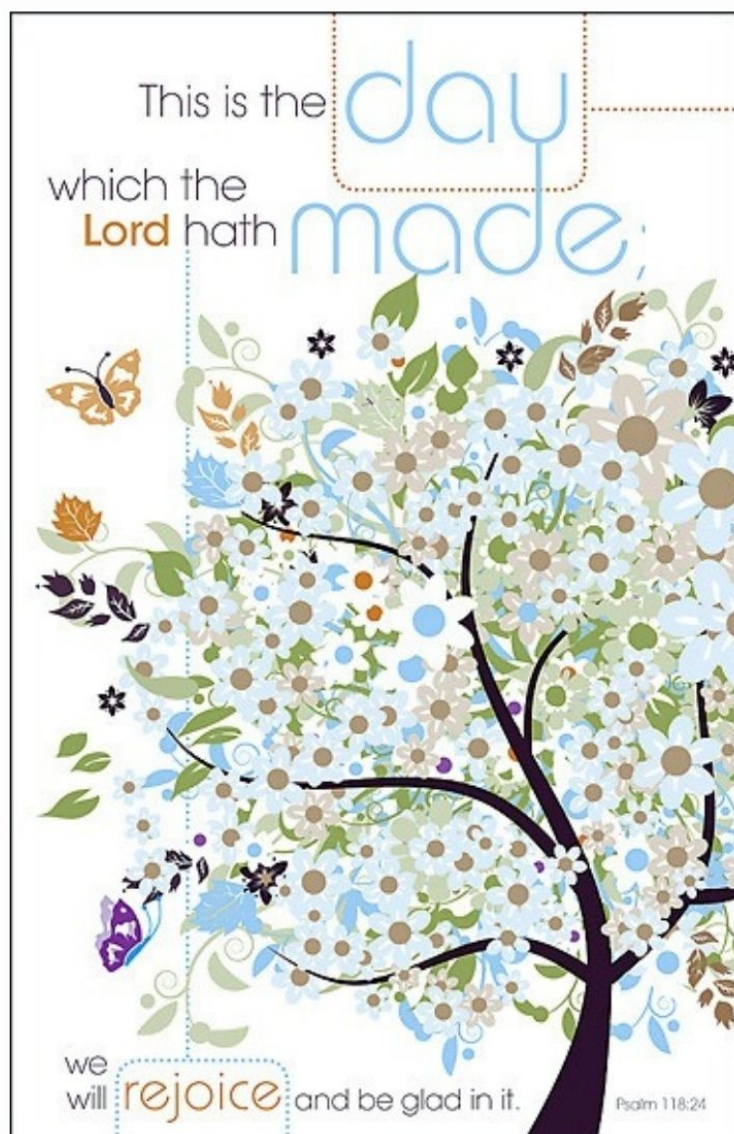
"Sacred Conversations on Race"

330-430 pm Thursdays

[Zoom.us](https://zoom.us)

Meeting ID: 828 9251 4169

Join by phone at 301-715-8592



OCTOBER 2021



HAPPENINGS

@ St. Paul's UCC McConnellsburg



Community Youth Group Hike at the 'creepy abandoned turnpike' Sept 2021. The youth group meets at MUMC's main lot on alternating Sundays. The After-School Youth Program is Tuesdays 3-5pm for grades 5-12 at the MUMC gym. All youth are welcome, and adult volunteers are always appreciated. Thank you!

Confirmation Class

@ St. Paul's UCC

Confirmation classes begin in October at the St. Paul's parsonage. If you are interested in baptism, confirmation or membership, please let us know. We'd love to have you join our church family!

Youth Group Events

Oct. 10

Pumpkin Carving
3-5 pm

Oct. 24

Outdoor Movie Night
7 pm

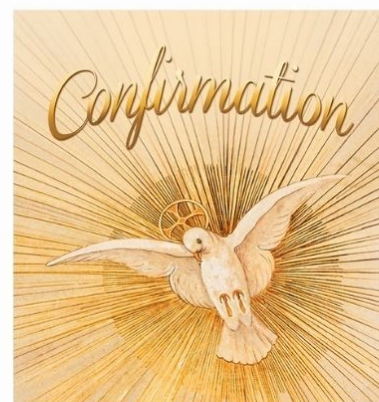
Nov. 7

Packing Christmas Boxes
3-5 pm

For more information

Contact Peter Billings
MUMC Youth Pastor
(717) 485-4815 x204

youthpastormumc@comcast.net



OCTOBER 2021

HAPPENINGS

@ Trinity UCC Fort Loudon!



Yard & Bake Sale

9am-3pm

Saturday, October 9

Trinity UCC, Fort Loudon

Proceeds will benefit families in need this holiday season in memory of Rosie and John. Please bring donations to the church on Wednesday, Oct. 6 from 6-8 pm. Thank you for your support of our ministry!



Potpie Selfie: Bernice and Pastor Marleen March 2021

*Slippery
PotPie*

Harvest Party

6-8:30pm

Friday, October 22

Trinity Pavilion

Games! Food! Music! Fellowship!
All are welcome to join us for this fall get-together at Trinity. If you can help, call Sharyn at 717-328-4912.

*Oh Yes!
It's Back*

Saturday, Oct 23

3-6 pm or Sold Out!

Fort Loudon Community Center
(corner of Hawbaker Drive and Mullen Street)

\$7 Take-Out Quarts:

Beef, Ham, or Chicken

Pre-orders are strongly encouraged and will be taken through Wednesday, October 20. Call or text Heidi at 717-360-6582 to pre-order or check availability on the day of the event. Pre-orders not picked up by 4:30 pm will be re-opened to the public.

Call 717-360-6582 to reserve yours!

The Faith & Fellowship Center Up Date

At a recent Faith & Fellowship Center Project Committee meeting, the next steps were outlined in order to jump-start the building process. The CES Engineering group was asked to provide new project construction costs, and to also outline the various phases for construction. A meeting with the Engineers will take place during the second week in October, at which time information and details will be discussed. The results of that meeting will be presented to the Consistory and congregation.



The Committee wishes to thank all of those families and individuals who have generously contributed and pledged their support. Those persons who made pledges can honor those commitments at any time between now and the close of the year.

There are still opportunities for persons to contribute or pledge their support. Contact Loy Garber for detailed information (485-4902).

Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Project

"Go therefore and make disciples" ---Matthew 28:19-20

St. Paul's UCC will again be participating in the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, by packing shoeboxes filled with gifts of joy for children around the world. Mary Haubrick reports that since 2007, St. Paul's has donated a total of 590 boxes with simple gifts and the message of hope through Jesus Christ that these children are loved and not forgotten.



Empty shoeboxes and information will be available at the church beginning Sunday, Oct. 10. You may also use your own empty cardboard shoebox or purchase a plastic shoebox with lid.

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THE FILLED BOXES TO ST. PAUL'S IS SUNDAY, NOV. 14.

♦ A donation of \$9 is requested for each shoe box to help cover shipping and project costs. If you are not able to shop to fill a shoebox, 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

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.

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.

SUGGESTIONS TO PACK IN AN OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX

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
Bandana	Hat Cap or knitted	Sunglasses
Socks	Ball of any sport	Scarf
Toothbrush (Toothpaste cannot be included !)		Washcloth
Bar of soap..(Put in plastic bag to keep scent contained)		Chap stick
Travel Pack of Tissues	Flashlight with extra batteries	Harmonica
Plastic Cup	Matchbox cars,trucks,etc.	Dolls
Flip Flop shoes	Small Stuffed Animals	Doll Accessories
T Shirts	Pants...short or long	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

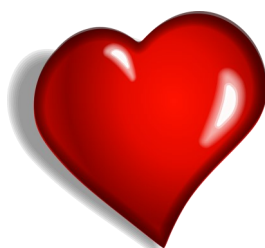
FOR OLDER GIRLS:

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.

- **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.
- *Additional tips that may help:* **DO NOT PACK ANY CANDY OR TOOTHPASTE !**

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.



As You Journey Through Life...

Here are Some Important Things to Know:



You Control . . .

Your attitude
Your effort
Your behavior
Your actions



3 – Ways to make people around you better:

See the positive (+) in every situation.

Praise other's strengths.

*Gratitude will protect you
From a bad attitude!*



Submitted by: Loy Garber

Trinity Faith Formation Plan, Step-by-Step

Step 1: Educate church leadership about the fundamentals of building relationships for faith formation. So far, 4 church members have been fully trained in the vibrant faith formation concepts. Initial training was held during a consistory meeting. We would like to train at least 6 more people from the church

Being AAA Christians works for building relationships. To establish new relationships in the community and refresh old ones with inactive members, we must be:

Authentic

Available

Affirming.

Four keys to strong faith formation for creating powerful events that spread the love of God are:

Caring conversations

Devotions (or meditation)

Service

Sharing rituals and traditions.

Six locations where ministry blossoms are:

With children and youth

In homes

In congregations (or other institutions)

In community

In culture

In creation.

If you would like to learn more about these aspects of faith formation, please contact me, Bernice Crouse at bookswbernie@gmail.com. I can provide printed materials or sit down with you to explain more about the ideas shared above. Learning more will help Trinity strengthen and grow.



Faith Formation



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Donna House
- 7 Betty Burns
- 11 Pacey Richards
- 12 Connor McElhinny
- 13 Zereau Higgins
- 15 Kimberly Pryor
Matt Pryor
- 17 Loy Garber
Karen Rosenberry
- 18 Jeanne Sweeney
- 18 Benson Mester
- 19 Barb Hurst
- 21 Cecil Mester
- 24 Bethany Wynn
Skip Daniels
- 29 Linda Garber
- 30 Amanda Zeis

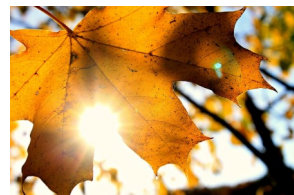


Prayer Request



The healing of our nation+

- Cathy Buterbaugh family
- Amanda Mitchell
- Linda Sowers
- Ed Hayes
- 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
- Meril Fetters
- Jessica Truax
- Corinna Rotz
- Bernice's friend Christa
- Chris Myers uncle..... Ed Vance
- Military and families
- Our Church & ministries, Sunday school classes
- Teachers and students, front line workers
- All affected by Covid-19, health, life, livelihood
- Emily & Brad Rotz
- Leah Hamil
- Dee & Ken Hupp
- Daniel Hopper
- Eileen Troutt-Ervin and Bob Perry
- Kathleen Pappas
- Patrick McCarthy
- Summer Hoover and daughter Ruby
- Daniel Hopper, grandson of Linda Best. (He has left for basic training for the Marines)



Please send additions and corrections to the church office.

*Thanking God
after he answers a prayer is gratitude.
Thanking him in advance is
Faith...*

2021



Third Sunday each month

Trinity's Building Fund Offering

Sunday, October 3

World Wide Communion, Neighbors in Need Offering

Saturday, October 9

Yard and Bake Sale at Trinity from 9:00AM to 3:00PM
Bring any item you wish to donate on Wednesday, October 6,
from 6:00-8:00PM. Proceeds will be donated to local families in
need.

Wednesday, October 13

Trinity Consistory meeting, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, October 19

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

Friday, October 22

Fall Harvest Party at Trinity pavilion, 6:00-8:30PM,
everyone is invited. Food, games, music, fellowship. If you can
help, call Sharyn at 717-328-4912

Saturday, October 23

Potpie by the Quart Takeout Event at Fort Loudon
Community Center, pick up from 3:00 to 6:00PM or sold
out, call Heidi to order quarts or volunteer, 717-360-6582
by 10/20

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