



# The Beacon

*Then Jesus said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."*

**Luke 9:23**

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

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

**April 2024**



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

**STAMP**



## Christ is Risen!

Now that it's April, thankfully the temperature is rising too. Spring's warmth and beauty are here. Everywhere we look, we see new beginnings: Trees have begun budding. Flowers have begun springing up. Birds have begun singing. It seems all of Creation has begun to ...well, *create!*

This season is just buzzing with “fresh start” energy, so it's no wonder *this* is the time of year we find ourselves doing yearly activities like spring cleaning, gardening, and repainting. It's as if the optimistic “newness” of Spring calls to our winter-wearied souls with fresh petals and playful birdsongs—as if the opportunity of this season resonates with our nature as created beings. As a parent, I am recognizing more and more what a blessing energy is. So how can we best harness this holy gift?

By sharing it, of course! April happens to be “National Volunteer Month,” so, as we plan how to direct *our own* creation-energy into improving the spaces we live in, let us reimagine “our spaces” to include the greater community. That might mean dedicating a couple hours to volunteer service at a local charity organization, picking litter along the road, signing up for a request recently added to the church volunteer board, or simply doing some task you've noticed needs doing at church. Don't be afraid to involve your young people! They are constantly looking for something meaningful, and what could be more meaningful than acknowledging our creation and calling with service to the community?

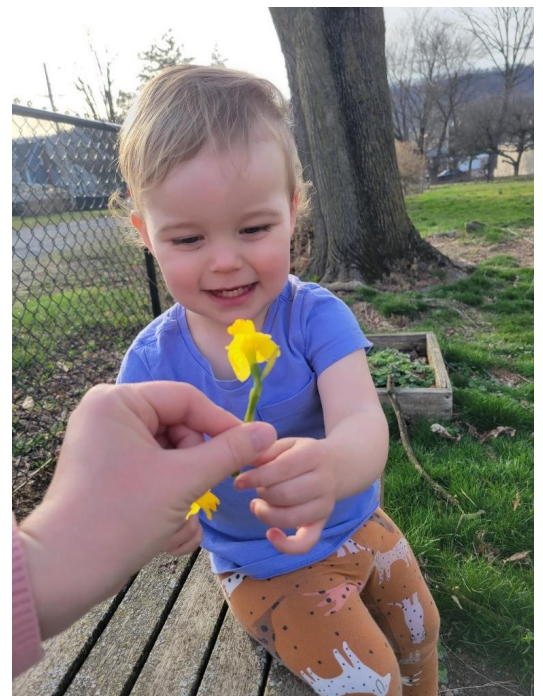
*“For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.”*

—*Song of Solomon 2:11-12*

With Spring optimism,  
Pastor Peter

## Rosie's Springtime

*I hold open office hours 10am-2pm at Trinity on Tuesdays, and at St. Paul's on Thursdays. -My cell phone is (609) 477-9194. Please feel free to call or text. I may not reply on Friday. (My day off.)*

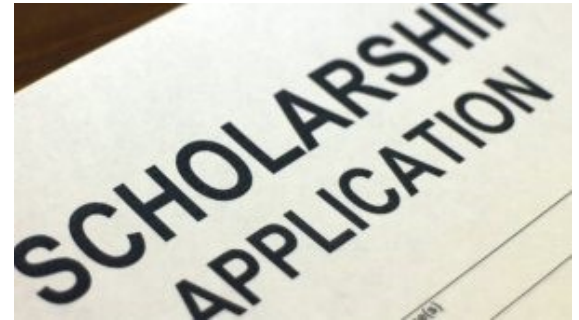


**St. Paul's Financial Report.....Denise Mellott**

<b>ACCOUNT SUMMARY:</b>	
<b>General Fund</b>	
Total Income February, 2024	\$6,279.15
Total Expenses February, 2024	\$4,573.40
Interest Earned GF February, 2024	\$202.39
<b>Net GAIN</b>	<b>\$1,908.14</b>

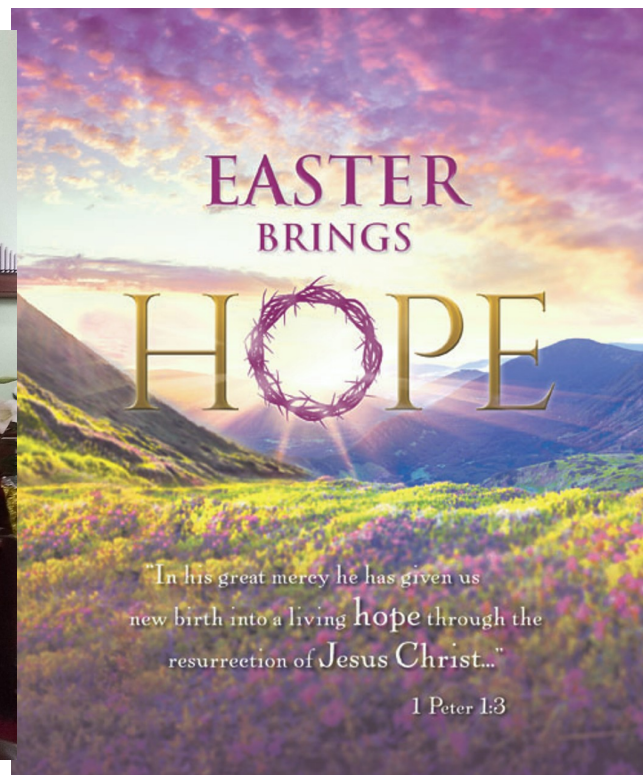


January-February- 2024 - Net GAIN \$ 7,453.26



The St. Paul's Consistory is currently accepting applications for awards from the Retha Glazier Memorial Scholarship Fund. Awards will be for the 2024-2025 academic year. To be eligible, candidates must be a member of St. Paul's United Church of Christ and accepted to, or in good standing at, a post-secondary educational institution as a full-time student. First time and returning students are welcome to apply. Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2024. Contact Scott Arwood for additional information or to request an application.

Trinity UCC, Ft. Loudon, PA *"Come and join us"*





St. Paul's Church Women United held their first meeting of 2024 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March. After our devotional, prayer, and reports we got to work on the following:

**Hands and Feet of Hope** - Church women will once again help with a meal at the Hands and Feet of Hope this summer. On Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> we will be supplying a meal of chicken, mac and cheese, corn, fruit, and cookies, for approximately 80-90 children and adults. The chicken will come from Giant. The rest will be prepared. A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the adult Sunday school room a bit closer to the time. Thank you for your help and support.

**Fundraisers** - We are throwing around ideas for fundraisers this year. Some of the ideas we have come up with are:

Having a tea

Having a one-day women's retreat at the church

Selling and making sandwiches

Bake sale

Auction - Silent and regular – like St. Paul's had years ago.

If you have any ideas, please let us know. If you have any insight or input to any of the ideas above, please let us know. All help is appreciated!!

**Altar Flowers** – Sadly, with the passing of time, many of the ladies that did the altar flowers are no longer with us or not in the area. As such, we are asking any person and/or family that would like to provide altar flowers please let

Jo-Ann or Pam know. We have January, February, May, June, and July open. Basically, you would be responsible for the altar flowers for that month. We have artificial arrangements here, you can buy arrangements at Giant, or at Knobsville Florist. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Meeting** – Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM. You are welcome to join us!!! If you have any questions about anything above, please see Jo-Ann. Thanks!

\*\*\*see next page.....

# ST. PAUL'S FLOWER SCHEDULE

January 2024 - December 2024

## JANUARY

Jo-Ann Sheffield 658-3561

## FEBRUARY

Pam Carmack 485-4795

## MARCH

Sally Cover 485-4144

## APRIL

Donna House 485-4732

## MAY

Carol Mellott 485-3905

Christian????

## JUNE

## JULY

## AUGUST

Betty Daniels 485-4508

## SEPTEMBER

Denise Mellott 485-4907

## OCTOBER

Seleen Shives 485-4687

## NOVEMBER

## DECEMBER

Pam Carmack 485-4795

Mary Haubrick 978-3604

*\*Poinsettias\**

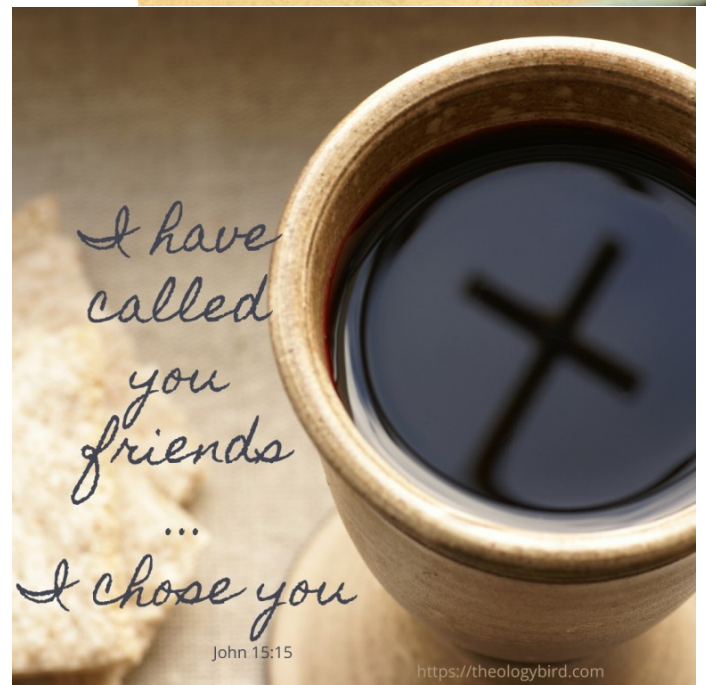
1. Jo-Ann will be responsible for getting the Palms for Palm Sunday
2. Jo, Pam or Mary will get the flowers for Memorial Day
3. Fresh flowers are lovely and appreciated. However, there are artificial arrangements also available at the Church for you to use. Or, you are more than welcome to make your own artificial arrangement to use. The decision is yours to make.
4. The person or person(s) responsible for taking care of the Altar flowers are also responsible for making sure the Altar Linen is clean, changing the paraments to the appropriate color, and replacing the candles when needed. The chart concerning the parament colors is on the bulletin board in the Church office. Candle replacements and paraments are in the drawers in the cupboards in the upstairs Sunday School Room. If the candle supply is low, please contact Jo-Ann Sheffield or Pam Carmack.

**THANK  
YOU!!**

***Our Maundy Thursday service went incredibly well last night.***

*Cleansing and communion at Trinity United Church of Christ on Maundy Thursday was a spiritual event. The words of Jesus in John 13 were alive as feet were washed in a small room filled with His followers just as at the Last Supper where communion was also established by Jesus, although this time there were none present who would betray Him. Persecuted, betrayed, denied, and crucified He is sitting at the right hand of God waiting for us to live eternally with Him but for now we finish our time on earth and celebrate The Risen One, not held by death, by doing what he asks of us. Therefore, let us wash each other's feet showing our love for one another as Jesus did.*

Sharon



*I have  
called  
you  
friends  
...  
I chose you*

John 15:15

<https://theologybird.com>

3/20/24

It takes a Village  
to raise children!  
That is what our  
church has done.

We are St Paul  
Proud!

thank you

Dear St Paul friends,  
You sure made  
Loy + I feel welcomed  
and loved. Thank you  
so much for a multitude  
of acts of love.

The absolute joy of  
the day was witnessing  
how our kids are  
maturing in size  
and in spiritual  
growth.

The wonderful day  
inspired us. We  
will be back soon.  
Love Linda

Dear St. Pauls,

Thanks for the generous donation! Thanks for  
helping to send me and 41 other people from  
Junata Christian Fellowship to the Jubilee conference  
in Pittsburgh! It was a lot of fun celebrating and  
growing in faith with everyone from Junata Christian  
Fellowship as well as the hundreds of students from other  
colleges!

Thank you so much!

Theo Arnolds, on behalf of Junata Christian  
Fellowship

THANK  
YOU

April

### Meeting Dates...

Grief Support Group Meetings will be held every other Tuesday from 6:30pm-7:30pm. There will be 6 sessions. Each meeting will be held in a comfortable, brave space within the McConnellsburg United Methodist Church.

### Save YOUR Spot!!

Please call the McConnellsburg United Methodist Church secretary to get your name on the list for the next available support group.

717-485-4815

Please leave your name and phone number so one of the leaders can reach out when your group is about to start.

**"Grief never ends. But it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor lack of faith. It is the price of love.**

-Author Unknown

# Grief Support Group

121 N. Second Street  
McConnellsburg, PA 17233  
717-485-4815



### Our Goals for YOU

- ♥ Carry all your burdens and grief with you.
- ♥ Come with a willingness to listen and maybe talk.
- ♥ Learn coping mechanisms.

Leave with a friend or two you may be able to continue to cope with.

### Types of Grief

- ♥ Grief comes in all shapes and sizes. There is no grief that is unworthy of recognizing and working through.
- ♥ Maybe you have lost a loved one, went through a divorce, lost a job, or a friend is going through the struggle.
- ♥ Maybe you have lost a pet.
- ♥ Maybe you are grieving singleness, a child gone astray.
- ♥ Grief never ends.
- ♥ Whatever the grief you carry, it is welcome here!

**\*Our very first session will begin on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

And after you have walked through the program and you want to continue your healing, or want to be a shoulder for someone else's healing, you are always welcome to return to future sessions!

### **YOU MATTER!**

\*To make this group most effective we are asking that we have 6 participants prior to starting a group.\*

### About the Leaders....

**Jackie Kelso** – Born and raised in the funeral home. I have experienced grief through the eyes of others and in my own soul with the loss of my parents and through a divorce. Grief comes in many shapes and forms! Please join us as God carries you to a new normal and you choose joy once again.

**Penelope Shives** – I was 7 and my sister was 5 when we lost my brother. The brother we had asked God for in our nightly prayers for years. Timothy only lived 8 hours. His death taught me that grief is not measured by years but by a lifetime.

**Janet Pierre** – While in my 30's, I lost both of my parents. I lost my younger brother when I was 16. I had to step in and be the strong one each time and didn't have the opportunity to grieve my loss until much later. I have experienced grief through multiple miscarriages and am currently working through the grief of losing my leg.

These leaders have walked through grief and continue to walk through grief each and every day. They are excited to join you on your grief journey and provide support along the way.





## April

- 2 Mark Washabaugh  
Shaylee Kuykendall
- 6 Cindy Armstrong  
Jenna Armstrong
- 8 Lori Rotz
- 9 Theo Arwood
- 10 Amanda Daniels Neal
- 12 Jo-Ann Sheffield
- 20 Denny Carmack
- 21 Tamela Mellott Hemming
- 23 Heidi Myers
- 26 Reanna Jo Richards
- 28 Hayes Alexander
- 29 Glenn Crouse



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



Chandra Rotz and family  
Susan Glazier  
Tom Oliver  
Daryl Kendall  
Kathy Hess  
Sharyn Zeis  
Joni Peck and family  
Betty Keefer  
Kathy and Bill Kendall  
Glenn Crouse and family  
Betty Burns  
Linda Sowers  
Lana Pine  
Kylene McLucas Arwood  
Chase Andrews  
Korbyn Rotz  
Skip and Betty Daniels  
Nicole Hummel  
Carl and Carol Mellott  
Dennis Hess  
Robert Door  
Nancy Barmont  
Ann Hays  
Military Members and families  
Emily Rotz  
Leah Hamil  
Loy and Linda Garber and family  
Kathleen Pappas  
Patrick McCarthy  
Phillip Harris  
Daniel Harper, grandson of Linda Best.  
Our Church & ministries, Sunday school classes  
teachers and students  
522 Youth Group  
The healing of our nation + world

# 2024



**Third Sunday each month: Trinity's Building Fund Offering**

**Wednesday, April 10**

**Trinity Consistory meeting, 6:30 p.m.**

**St. Paul's Church Women United meeting, 6:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, April 16**

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

**Sunday, May 12**

***Mother's Day***

**NOTE:** Please call or email the church office to add or remove a name from either the birthday list or prayer list. If you are adding a name please be sure to have that persons permission.

**NOTE:** The deadline for newsletter articles is the Wednesday before the last Sunday of the month, this is to allow us to distribute newsletters on the last Sunday of the month...all ready for what we need to share for the coming month. Without each of you there is no news to share, please take ownership of your newsletter.



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

228 N Second Street, McConnellsburg, PA 17233

mcbucc@embarqmail.com

Facebook & [www.uccmccbg.weebly.com](http://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](http://www.pccucc.org) (Penn Central Conference)

**United Church of Christ** [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

[www.mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com](http://www.mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com)