

MARS UP CHURCH



Celebrating 120 years as a Light in the Community: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow!

August 2016

Message from Terry

After eight years, I am happy to be back at Mars U.P. as your co-interim pastor. My responsibilities include some preaching, but mainly visitation. What does that entail? The past few weeks I have spent visiting nursing homes, locating home-bound residents, and hospitals. Occasionally, I call on members or families who attend worship. Ideally, during my interim period, I would hope to visit most members of the congregation. Right now, I am compiling a list of folks who would appreciate being served home communion in mid-January.

You are my best resource and can help me out by sharing information regarding anyone who would want or need to be visited or served home communion. Please call the church office and leave word with Shelly. Thanks so much! Terry

Message from Bill

Dear Fellowship "Martians"

I count it a privilege and an opportunity to work with Terry Stoops, the staff, and all of you during this interim period at Mars UP. In just less than two months I have developed a growing appreciation of this special congregation: your pride in your heritage: your positive upbeat attitude: your spirit of co-operation: your dedication and high energy to whatever task needs to be done; your sense of humor; and , most of all, the clear evidence of your faith and commitment to the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Having said that, I promise to continue to pray and work with you and for you as we evaluate where we are at this time in our history, as we continue to maintain a growing and vital ministry, and as we make all the necessary preparations for the calling of a new Pastor. There will first be an important self study, the election of a pastor nominating committee (PNC), the writing of the church information form (CIF), and then the search.

All of this points to the reason on my first Sunday with you I suggested a possible motto for you during this process: HONORING (planning for; building for) THE FUTURE, WITHOUT DISRESPECTING (remembering; building upon) THE PAST. The appropriate scripture passage to go along with that motto is: : " Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (all the heritage of faith in our history), let us (all of us) run with perseverance the race that is set before us , looking to Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecta of our faith...." Hebrews 12:1,2. May this be a rich and fruitful time of spiritual blessing for this entire congregation.

MAY THE 'FAITH' BE WITH YOU !

William N. (Bill) Jackson
co-interim pastor

PLEASE REMEMBER THE PRAYER COVENANT!

Please remember, I asked you as a congregation to make Thursday your Covenant Prayer Day. My hope is that each Thursday, during the interim period, sometime during that day, either alone or with others you will pray with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, for the self -study, the selection of the search committee, and for the final decision in the calling of a new pastor. (Read I Thessalonian's 5: 18 and 19)

"With a Joyful Ring" Christmas Program 2015 at MUP



2016

Happy New Year!



6th ANNUAL WINTER RETREAT

January 22 thru 24

Take to the slopes and join us for a weekend away at the magical and wonderful Peak n Peek Ski Resort! Peak n Peek offers something for everyone: Skiing, snowboarding, winter sports, pool and hot tub, and much more! Sign up for a weekend away you and your family won't forget!

Sign up ASAP if you haven't already done so!

More info is available in Tarry N Talk or ask Justin

REMEMBER!

- ⇒ Bring non-perishable food donations the first Sunday of each month to support our local food bank!
- ⇒ Deacons Kindness Offering (separate offering) is the second Sunday of the month.

...A NEW YEAR!

Consider sponsoring **sanctuary flowers** for Sunday morning church worship services. A new sign up list available in the Tarry 'n Talk. Sponsoring flowers for worship is a great way to recognize a person, significant occasion and honor the memory of a loved one.



Enjoy the **food and fellowship in Tarry n Talk** after worship? Sign up to make or supply refreshments for our time of fellowship.

A signup sheet is available in Tarry n Talk.

THANK YOU ELDERS & DEACONS

THANK YOU to ELDERS Robyn Beckwith, Lisa Foster, Mike Bocheff, Lisa Barbour, Marie Matthews and Keith Nichols....**DEACONS** Gloria Utz, Alice Leonberg, Jill Cooper, Herb Wellman, and Sally Olsen.....

Having fulfilled your term of service, our church thanks you for answering the call, honoring your commitment and for your efforts to help proclaim the love of God! We are better because of YOU!

IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Ebert
June 23, 2015

Member, Deacon, Elder

I. Paul Bhame
August, 15, 2015

Clerk of Session, Deacon, Elder

Lowry "Butch" Leonberg
September 1, 2015

Member

Elizabeth "Liz" Walker
September 23, 2015

Member

Steven Bartolac
September 27, 2015

Member

Charles Wahl
October 1, 2015

Member

"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. John 11:25

Volunteering for 2016

January Nursery

January 3rd-Natalie Llewellyn

January 10-Maddie Thomson

January 17-Karen Goul

January 24-Carolyn Golden

January 31-Missy Wells

January Muffin Crew

January 3rd

January 10-Linda Lees, Pam Kennedy

January 17

January 24-Linda Lees, Pam Kennedy

January 31

January Greeters

Elder: Bob Riefer, Deacon, Mary Ann Croop

January Tarry N Talk Hosts

Stewardship Committee: Michele Baumgartel,
Shelly Bocheff, Sally Olsen, & Marie Matthews(Tres.)

January Flowers for Worship

All Sunday's Available

Pastors Schedule for January

January 3rd and 10th Rev. Dr. Bill Jackson

January 17th Rev. Terry Stoops

January 24th and 30th Rev. Dr. Bill Jackson

Per Capita—What is it & Why Do it???

Many have asked questions about per capita, What is it? What does it support?

The Per Capita is an important aspect of how we do church. Presbyterians are proud of how our convictions inform our church function and organizational structure. As Presbyterians, we believe in “the priesthood of all believers” and acknowledge that all are called to bring their gifts and talents to God (1 Peter 2:9). And so, we champion this idea “call” throughout all levels of our denomination. On the local church level, church members are called to serve as Elders, Deacons, and pastors. Elders and pastors of churches in geographical groupings gather as Presbyteries.

There will be a Per Capita envelope in February's envelope mailing. *The cost per member is \$40.08.* In a small but significant way, consider Per Capita as one way YOU and MARS UP CHURCH might be able to respond along with other Christians and churches across the nation, proclaiming the Gospel message that sin, separation and disunity will not have the final answer for us, our church, our denomination OR our world. The final answer is fully in the sovereign hands of God. Indeed, God is greater and more powerful than our broken and foolish ways of sin.

This is Jesus' prayer and petition for us: “I have told you (plural) these things, so that in me you (plural) may have peace. In this world you (plural) will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

Winter Communion- January 3, 2016

On Sunday, January 3rd, Communion will be celebrated at both the 8:30 and 11am Worship Services. All are welcome! Come gather around the table of our Lord, break bread and share the cup in humble thanks for what God freely offers us through Christ our Lord!

Elders serving (8:30) Mike Bocheff and Don Lewis

Elders serving (11 am) Christi Augustine, John Ivory, Dale Roos, Lisa Foster, Ron Weaver, and Keith Nichols

Living Nativity at Mars UP Church



A special Thank you to all who participated and volunteered this year to make the MUP Living Nativity a HUGE success. Between the two nights, we had approximately 175 visitors to the Living Nativity and worshiped to the community through the celebration of the Birth of our Lord and Savior.

A special thank you to Mars Agway for the donation of all the straw for the Living Nativity. Support our local businesses!

MARS UP STUDENT MINISTRY PAGE

What you need to Know about!

*Let's Check out the next couple months for
Mars UP Student Ministry!*

1/3 - **All YG Worship night @ 6pm if Students are able

1/10 - 2016 YG Kick-Off! MS 5:30-6:50pm, HS 7-8:30pm

1/15/16 - High School Overnight Lock-in at Bakerstown Presby!!

1/17 - Normal Youth Group

1/22-24 - MUP Family Ski Trip at Peek n Peak!!

**1/24 - NO Youth Group

2/12 - Middle School Lock-in @ Bakerstown Presby!!

Family Ice Skating Morning moved to a Saturday in February TBD.

PEEK N' PEAK

SKI RETREAT

Date– January 22-24

*** \$75 Deposit due: Sun. Jan 3rd*

Where? - Peek N' Peak Ski Resort in Clymer, New York (2.5 hr. drive)

Who?- EVERYONE! Last year we had about 60 friends and family enjoy this weekend ranging in age from diapers to retired!

How and What is it?

Talk to Justin or Shelly ASAP and let them know that you or your Family wants to go! We will spend the weekend Skiing, Snowboarding, Tubing, and yes of course...Eating! This weekend is such an incredible opportunity to spend quality time with friends amongst the Mars UP Church Family! Just ask anyone who has come with us before...You don't want to miss this!!



January 2016

Tarry N Talk Hosts: Stewardship Committee: Michele Baumgartel, Shelly Bocheff, Sally Olsen, Marie Matthews

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3 niv

					1 Happy New Year's Day	2
3 8:30 Early Worship 11:00 Morning Worship No SS or Youth Group Nursery: Natalie Llewellyn	4 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 Buildings & Grounds mtg	5 9 am A-Team 7:00pm AA	6 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir	7	8	9
10 8:30 Early Wsh 11:00 Morning Wors 9:45 Sunday School 5:30 MS YG 7:00 HS YG Nursery: Maddie Thomson	11	12 9 am A-Team 7:00pm AA	13 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir	14 10:00 Fiber Arts 5:30 Stewardship Meeting	15 HS "Lock-In" @ Bakerstown Church	16 HS "Lock-In" @ Bakerstown Church
17 8:30 Early Wp 11:00 Morning Wors 9:45 Sunday School 5:30 MS YG 7:00 HS YG Nursery: Karen Goul	18	19 9 am A-Team 7:00 CE Mtg 7:00pm AA	20 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir	21 7:00 Session	22 Ski Trip @ Peek N Peak	23 Ski Trip @ Peek N Peak
24 8:30 Early Wors 11:00 Morning Worship 9:45 Sunday School NO YG Nursery: Carolyn Golden	25 7:00 pm Deacons Mtg	26 8:30 WIC 9 am A-Team 7:00pm AA	27 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir	28 10:00 Fiber Arts	29	30
31 8:30 Early Wp 11:00 Morning Wors 9:45 Sunday School 5:30 MS YG 7:00 HS YG Nursery: Missy Wells						

VOLUNTEERING with Children and Teens

Following recent changes in **PA State Law**, ALL VOLUNTEERS working with children & teens are required to obtain a 1) State Criminal History Report, 2) PA State Child Abuse History Clearance & 3) FBI Criminal History Report. The clearances must be turned in to the Church Office. Clearances will be confidential and kept in a secure place.

Directions for obtaining the clearances are included on the next page of this Newsletter. If you have questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the Church Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Shelly Bocheff.

***NOTE:** If you are obtaining these clearances for volunteering, the PA State Criminal History Report & the PA State Child Abuse History Clearance are FREE! Please contact Shelly for the Codes needed to obtain clearances for free. All Clearances MUST BE COMPLETED By June 30th. Final Deadline (no extensions)



VOLUNTEERING with Children & Teens Cont'd: DIRECTIONS for OBTAINING CLEARANCES

PROCEDURES FOR VOLUNTEERS:

1. PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE CRIMINAL HISTORY REPORT

- a. Go to <https://lepatch.state.pa.us>
- b. left hand side, part way down under Credit Card Users, click on "Submit a new record check"
- c. Follow instructions
- d.
- e. If no criminal record, clearance will be generated immediately, AND THEN PRINT
- f. Submit a copy to the Church Office and keep a copy for your records.

2. PENNSYLVANIA CHILD ABUSE HISTORY CLEARANCE

- a. Go to <http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/findaform/childabusehistoryclearanceforms/>
- b. Follow link on the page for CY113Form English {or Spanish if you prefer}
- c. Fill out form, check "Volunteers" as reason for request
- d. Obtain payment Code from Church Administrator

3. FBI CRIMINAL HISTORY REPORT (Fingerprint-based background check)

- a. Go to <https://fwww.pa.cogentid.com>
- b. Click on the second box on the top row (Nursing students, child care...)
- c. From that page you can find locations - most (but not all) counties have at least one location.
- d. Use this site to check hours and register or call for an appointment
 - i. Check the "what to bring" page
 - ii. Fee is \$27.50
 1. Pay online
 2. Or MONEY ORDER
- e. Report will come in the mail, Submit a copy to the Church Office and keep a copy for your records (and it will say VOID if Copied - that's ok for your records),
- f. **NOTE:** The FBI Criminal History Report is not required for incumbent or prospective volunteers who have resided in Pennsylvania continuously for a period of 10 years prior to becoming a volunteer or applying for volunteer status and who sign an Affidavit affirming that they have not committed certain crimes that otherwise would prohibit them from being a volunteer responsible for the welfare of a child or having direct contact with children. This Affidavit has been prepared by legal counsel and will be provided to you.

4. All clearances must be obtained EVERY 36 months

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ Jan 4th—RSVP deadline for the SKI RETREAT!
- ◆ Bakerstown & Mars UP “Lock In” for High School Youth
- ◆ Winter Ski Retreat at Peak n Peek—Jan 22nd thru 24th



Our Wisemen– Sara Augustine, Cole Bocheff, & Emily Lyon

Contact Us

Stop by the office, email or give us a call for more information.

Mars UP Church

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Visit us on the web at
www.mars-up.org

We're also on Facebook!!

Join us for Worship
Sunday's at 8:30 & 11

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