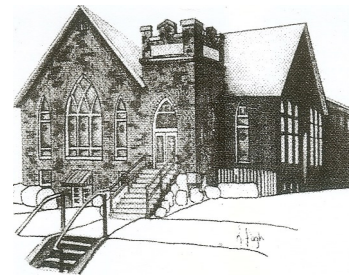


# MARS UP CHURCH



We are your hometown church: Faithful to Tradition, Loving in Fellowship & Reaching for Tomorrow!

May 2018

*Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God (Romans 13:1).*

Dear Friends in Christ,

This month, I want to talk about *Presbyterian Polity*, or how we govern ourselves. At Mars UP Church, we have two elected bodies – the Session (comprised of Ruling Elders) and Deacons.

Here are some definitions, from our Constitution, *The Book of Order*:

**Deacon:** “The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.”

**Ruling Elder:** “Ruling elders are so named not because they “lord it over” the congregation (Matthew 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with [Ministers], exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the Session.”

Deacons and Elders are elected by the congregation, but they do not have “constituencies.” Our leaders do not represent certain age groups, genders, or geographic areas; in their deliberations, they vote their conscience. On the other hand, as *servant leaders*, they are encouraged to keep their ears open to the opinions and feelings in the congregation. Further, they should be present and available to those they serve – this means participating in the work and worship of the church (hard to be a servant leader if you’re not around!)

**What about Authority and Responsibility?** Our *Book of Order* is quite clear about who has, *and who does not have* authority, and who is responsible for what.

**The Congregation’s authority:** “Business to be transacted at meetings of the congregation shall be limited to matters related to the following:

- a. electing ruling elders, deacons, and trustees;
- b. calling a pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor;
- c. changing existing pastoral relationships, by such means as reviewing the adequacy of and approving changes to the terms of call of the pastor or pastors, or requesting, consenting to, or declining to consent to dissolution;
- d. buying, mortgaging, or selling real property;
- e. requesting the presbytery to grant an exemption as permitted in this Constitution
- f. approving a plan for the creation of a joint congregational witness, or amending or dissolving the joint congregational witness.”



**What about the Pastor's authority?** Again, from the *Book of Order*: "The Pastor has certain responsibilities which are not subject to the authority of the Session. [Regarding] worship, the pastor is responsible for:

- the selection of Scripture lessons to be read;
- the preparation and preaching of the sermon or exposition of the Word;
- the prayers offered on behalf of the people and those prepared for the use of the people in worship;
- the music to be sung (in coordination with the Choir Director);
- the use of drama, dance, and other art forms."

Essentially, the Pastor only has authority (or responsibility) for things related to worship. As you read above, the congregation also has limited authority. So outside the congregation and the pastor, we can conclude that *Session is responsible for everything else*.

***So why am I taking the time to go through all this? I hope you are still reading!***

As your Pastor, I certainly have experience and opinions, but decisions are made by the Session, and by the congregation as noted above. And unless the Session *specifically decides* to give me authority for something, I don't have it.

Mars UP Church is not congregational – we are *Presbyterian*. The Presbyterian form of government is representative and consultative. Leaders are elected out of the body, and the membership agrees to *submit to the authority* of the leaders. An important part of leadership is *followership*.

***ALL THAT BEING SAID, LET ME EMPHASIZE SOMETHING:*** I fully realize improvements can be made regarding how we get things done, and how we communicate with each other. Everyone agrees we need to have more trust and transparency. Perfection may not be possible, but things can, should, *and will* be done better in the future. But please be patient.

As we move forward through this Interim time, I want everyone to be clear regarding who has authority, and who does NOT. And as Paul reminds us, we are all under the authority of Christ, who is the Head of the Church.

If we strive to follow the words of the Apostle, the Body of Christ called Mars UP Church will be much healthier.

In Christ,

***Pastor Jim***

MUP YOUTH are having a **\*\*Dining to Donate\*\*** day at Applebee's on **Sunday, May 20th from 11am to 9pm**. It will be at the Rt. 228 location and Applebee's will donate 15% of your check to the Mars UP Youth Group. Come out and Support the MUP Youth group and "Enjoy A Meal That's Filling and Fulfilling"

Flyers are needed to participate and they will be available in the Tarry N Talk area and in your bulletin.





# SAVE THE DATE



## JUNE 18 - 22

Beacon



## 6:00 - 8:30PM

At Shipwrecked VBS kids discover how Jesus rescues us through life's storms. Shipwrecked is filled with incredible Bible -learning experiences kids see, hear, touch and even taste. Kids will love the science-fun crafts, games, cool Bible songs and the tasty treats!

Please mark your calendars, registration available at [www.mars-up.org](http://www.mars-up.org)

Register online before June 10th to purchase the Shipwrecked music CD for the discounted price of \$5.00

We will need many volunteers to minister to the children. Please consider how God can use you this summer to impact the lives of children in our community.

Questions or willing to volunteer? Please contact the church office @ 724-625-1365

Background Clearances are needed for Adults to participate and help with VBS. These are free and can be done at the church office.



## MAY Volunteers for 2018

### MAY Nursery

May 6– Natalie Llewelyn

May 13 –Dave McElhinny

May 20—Bonnie McElhinny

May 27—MaryAnn Croop

### MAY Greeters

Elder-Herb Wellman and Deacon-Jill Cooper

### MAY Tarry N Talk Hosts

Stewardship committee: Sally Olsen, Marie Matthews and Alice Leonberg

### MAY Muffin Crew

May 6-Pam and Linda

May 13-Mother's Day Cake

May 20-Pam and Linda

May 27

### MAY Flowers for Worship

Sunday's Available for May are 6th and 27th

Sunday May 13th—Howard and MaryAnn Croop

May 20th-Marie Matthews



## May 2018

May 6th—Cole Guesman

May 7th—Jennifer Ivory

May 14th –Caroline Kopar

Mary Ann Croop

May 15th—Zach Aaron

May 16th—Rev. James Steiner

May 17th—Emma Badger

May 19th—Michael Olsen

May 20th—Bailey Jackson

May 22nd– Brianna Hager

May 23rd—Katie Olsen

May 25th—Alex Hager

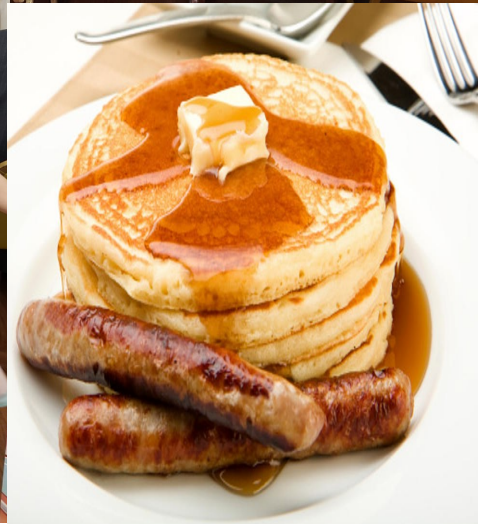
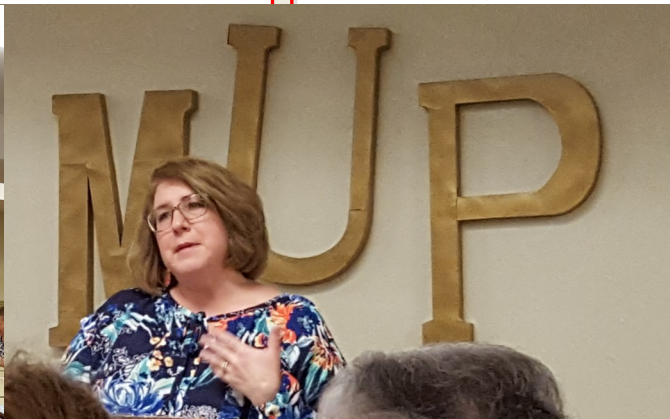
May 26th– Mason O'Brien

May 27th—Cooper Courson

May 30th—Jeffrey Leonberg



# Membership Breakfast





# LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

May 20, 2018

JUNE 10, 2018

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE @ THE PARK

ADAMS TOWNSHIP PARK IN THE  
TOWNSHIP PAVILLION

(DOWN BY THE PLAYGROUND)

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS AND BEVERAGES  
PROVIDED. EVERYONE IS ASKED TO BRING A  
COVERED DISH.

GAMES, FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL!



# Summer Worship time change

8:30 Am and **10:00 Am**

June 3, 2018

## MOTHERS DAY PROGRAM

May 13th during the 11:00 Service

Alma's Angels Performing

Performance by Sunday School Children

Flowers for all Ladies

Some special surprises for Mother's also!



## My School Preschool update...

On April 3<sup>rd</sup> Mars U.P. Church entered into an agreement with Dutilh Methodist Church wherein Dutilh will transfer My School Preschool (MSPS) to MUP after the end of the preschool's current school year -May 23, 2018. After that date MSPS will officially be part of MUP and will begin moving the school to our Church. The preschool teachers will be busy this summer, painting, etc. to ready the rooms upstairs for the start of school in September. Previously scheduled HVAC improvements will be completed this Spring. A safety locking system will also be added to both sets of doors on the second floor.

The MSPS Board of Directors will be comprised of seven members: three will be interested parents or friends of the preschool and four will be MUP members. The initial MUP Board members are: Alma Staskiewicz, Susan Cox, Marie Matthews and Herb Wellman. The Board meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of the month. The first Board meeting was held on April 9<sup>th</sup> to begin the transition process.

A few spots for students are still available in MSPS for the fall. If you have a preschool age child or know someone who does and might be interested in sending him/her to the preschool, please contact the director, Jill Ceasar, at 724-625-1610. You may also email Jill at [myschoolpreschoolmars@gmail.com](mailto:myschoolpreschoolmars@gmail.com) or visit the MSPS Facebook page.

The Session is excited to begin our collaboration with MSPS to provide a community outreach Christian preschool. Please contact Alma Staskiewicz or Lisa Barbour if you have any questions.



# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Upcoming Mother's Day Program May 13, 2018, during the 11:00 service
2. Graduate recognition – June 3, 2018 at second service
3. Session is kicking off a \$ 70,000 three year Capital Campaign to cover anticipated church roof replacement
4. Sunday 11 am worship times moves to 10 am from June 3 to September 16, 2018
5. Plans underway to form a search committee to seek a Director for our Youth



SUNDAY

MAY 20TH

CELEBRATE AND WEAR RED



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### John and Ella Heeter & Rodney

John and Ella Heeter were both born and raised in Pennsylvania. John is from Rimersburg and Ella is from Chambersburg. They graduated high school in 2008 and attended the U.S. Naval Academy immediately following. John studied Naval Architecture and Ella studied Mathematics. They met on a hiking trip in the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State just before their senior year. After graduation in 2012, John went into the Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer and Ella went into the Marine Corps as a Logistics Officer. After a year of service, they got married on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Dry Run, PA. They lived in Plymouth, NC for their first two and a half years of marriage, and then moved to Norfolk, VA, where they lived for the next three years. After Ella completed her time in the Marine Corps and John was almost complete with his time in the Navy, they were blessed with a son, Rodney Craig, born on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. They currently reside in Cranberry Township. John is training to be a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones and Ella is a homemaker. John is an avid woodworker, Ella enjoys cooking and raising their son, and they both love to work outdoors.







# MARS UP STUDENT MINISTRY PAGE

What you need to Know about!

***Let's Check out what's going on this month  
for Mars UP Student Ministry!***

## MAY

MAY 6TH- Normal YG

MAY 6TH—DEPOSIT FOR ALIVE \$75 DUE

MAY 13TH - MOTHER'S DAY / No Youth Group

Enjoy some time with MOM!!!!

MAY 20TH - Normal YG

MAY 27TH—No Youth Group—Holiday Weekend

JUNE 3RD—LAST NORMAL YOUTH GROUP/

End of Year Celebration 5:30 to  
8:30

## LOOKING AHEAD FOR SUMMER EVENTS

JULY 2ND MONDAY—PINE VALLEY MISSION TRIP

*Special thank you to everyone that  
helped with the cleaning of the youth  
room.*

*Miss Angela*

**The Youth Room is in need of a GENTLY  
USED couch to use for seating in the room.  
If you have a couch you would like to do-  
nate, please contact the office or talk with  
Angela Badger.**

## ALIVE!!!

### MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

### MUSIC, SPEAKERS, COMEDY, & MORE

ALIVE Festival is one of the nation's largest and most popular Christian Music festivals. The event features over 60 artists covering a wide range of contemporary genres including rock, rap, pop, alternative and more. This is not just a music festival, but a celebration of faith and rededication bringing together Christians from all over the continent. ALIVE Festival is held at Atwood Lake Park in Ohio, which offers open and shaded campsites and surrounds a beautiful lake with sand beaches.

### JULY 20TH—JULY 22ND

**If you are interested in attending, please contact Angela Badger or the office ASAP.**

### Looking ahead to May, June, and July...

MAY 20th last Sunday school

JUNE 3rd—Graduation Sunday

JUNE 10th— Church Picnic & Worship Service @ Adams Twp Park

JUNE 18th—VBS 6:00—8:30pm

JULY 20th—22nd Alive!!



# May 2018

**Tarry N Talk Host:** Stewardship Committee, Sally Olsen, Marie Matthews, Alice Leonberg

		1 9am A-Team  7:00 p.m. AA	2 9:00a.m. Material Girls  7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5
68:30 Early Worp/ Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 12:15 CE/MO Mtg 12:15 B & B Mtg 6:00 MS/HS YG <b>Nursery: Natalie Llewellyn</b>	7 1:30p.m. Women's Bible Study  6:30 p.m. Griefshare	8 9am A-Team  7:00 p.m. AA	9 9:00a.m. Material Girls  7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal	10 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting  7:00 pm Deacon Meeting	11	12
138:30 Early Worp 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship NO YOUTH GROUP  <b>Nursery: Dave McElhinny</b>	14 6:30 p.m. Griefshare	15 9am A-Team  7:00 p.m. AA	16 9:00a.m. Material Girls  6:00 pm Worship Meeting	17	18	19 Golden Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser
208:30 Early Worp 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 6:00 pm MS/HS Youth Group Dining to Donate <b>Nursery: Bonnie McElhinny</b>	21	22 9am A-Team  7:00 p.m. AA	23 9:00a.m. Material Girls	24  7:00 p.m. Session Mtg.	25	26
27 8:30 Early Worp 11:00 Morning Worship  NO YOUTH GROUP  <b>Nursery: MaryAnn Croop</b>	28	29 9am A-Team  7:00 p.m. AA	30 9:00a.m. Material Girls	31		



## SAVE THE DATE!

- ♦ May 13th-Mothers Day Program
- ♦ May 13th- Confirmation Sunday
- ♦ May 20th-Pentecost Sunday
- ♦ May 20th—Last Choir
- ♦ May 20th—Last Sunday School
- ♦ May 20th—Dining to Donate
- ♦ June 3rd—Graduation Sunday
- ♦ June 3rd Worship time change 8:30 am and 10:00am
- ♦ June 10th—Church Picnic and Worship @ Adams Park



**M·H·Y**  
FAMILY SERVICES

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO  
EVERYONE THAT  
DONATED ITEMS FOR THE  
MARS HOME FOR YOUTH.

With the support from Mars  
UP Church family we were  
able to send back with MHY several large boxes of  
toiletries.

Mission & Outreach and Membership Committees

Mars UP Church  
232 Crowe Ave  
PO Box 805  
Mars, PA 16046

## Contact Us

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

### **Mars UP Church**

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[marsup@mars-up.org](mailto:marsup@mars-up.org)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.mars-up.org](http://www.mars-up.org)

We're also on Facebook!!

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

Prayer Chain:  
[mjaiken@zoominternet.net](mailto:mjaiken@zoominternet.net)