

MARS UP CHURCH



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

March 2018

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one” (Matthew 18:15).

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times” (Matthew 18:21-22).

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write this, I have been serving you for two weeks. I have talked to many of you, and I have heard lots of things! Needless to say, I will speak with many more. Please give me a call if you want to set something up.

Take a look at the two passages above: the first is instruction from Jesus, the second is an exchange between Jesus and Peter. *Regarding the second passage...*

Does Peter ever consider HE could sin against someone else?

Is Peter proud of his loving generosity by forgiving someone as many as seven times?

How often, when we read a passage like this, do we think it is for SOMEONE ELSE, and not for us?

How about if we do some *editing* to these two passages...

“If you sin against another member of the church, go and confess your fault when the two of you are alone. If the member is gracious enough to listen to you and forgive, the two of you have renewed your relationship.”

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if I sin against another member of the church, how many times should he forgive me? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times” (Matthew 18:21-22).

My brothers and sisters, we all know someone with whom we need to speak. Of course, it is easy to see ourselves as Peter, when someone sins against *us*. But how many are willing to look in the mirror and admit otherwise, we might sin against someone else?

It is hard to approach someone. It is hard to begin to reconcile. It is hard to forgive. It is hard to heal.

My friends, PRAY about how you are going to approach that person (or persons!). You know who they are. Ask God to give you an opportunity to begin the journey of reconciliation and healing. If you would like me to help begin the process, I am happy to help.

My work is just beginning – please be patient with me as I learn names and faces, and thanks in advance for your forgiveness if I forget someone! The road ahead will be difficult, but I remain confident and hopeful we will reach our destination, which is the arrival of the person whom God has called to lead Mars UP into the future.

Please continue with me the journey thru Lent to Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the joy of Easter and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Don't forget, Easter is the reason we are here...

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jim

Volunteers for 2018

March Nursery

March 4– Jenny Ivory

March 11–Bonnie McElhinny

March 18– Keith Nichols

March 25–

March Greeters

Elder– Sally Olsen, Deacon– Carol Kopar

March Tarry N Talk Hosts

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Herb Wellman,
Ira Baumgartel, Keith Cuyar, Pat Auld, Jay Wilson

March Muffin Crew

March 4

March 11–Pam & Linda

March 18

March 25–Pam & Linda

March Flowers for Worship

Available Sundays March 4th and March 25th

Mars United Presbyterian Church

2018 Easter Flowers

Your order for Easter Flowers will help to enhance the beauty of our church sanctuary. You may take your flowers with you following worship on Easter Sunday or designate them for a shut-in by checking the line below. Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 18, 2018

Easter Lilies \$8:00 _____ Tulips \$7.25 White _____ Yellow _____ Red _____
Pink _____

Daffodils \$7.00 _____

Shut-in _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

By: _____

Please prepay your order and place it in the offering basket, or bring it to the church office.

GROW (Get Renewed on Wednesdays) program at Valencia Presbyterian Church will continue Wednesday, February 21st thru March 28th. Dinner will be served at 6pm, Singing at 6:30, followed by 7:00 Bible study for all ages. Theme: Growing& Gardening. Pastors Jim Kirk, Peter de Vries, and Jim Steiner will be leading the discussion at Valencia Church. All are welcome and there are programs for the children and youth also. If you have any questions, please contact the office or Pastor Jim Kirk at Valencia Presbyterian church.

LENTEN LUNCHESES—Fridays at 12noon

Speaking Schedule:

March 2nd—Karl Kennedy

March 9th—Gregg Hartung

March 16th—Rev. James Kirk

March 23rd—Rev. Peter deVries

March 30th—Mars Ministrium

*Every Friday during Lent, Lunch will begin at 12noon. Following each lunch a speaker from the community will present. ALL ARE WELCOME! There is no charge, but donations are appreciated!

MENU

March 2nd Potato Soup, Vegetable Soup, Cold Cuts, Cole Slaw, Cake

March 9th Potato Soup, Stuff Pepper soup, Egg Salad/Ham Salad, Broccoli-cauliflower Salad and Cobbler

March 16th Potato Soup, Tortellini Soup, Chicken Salad, Jell-O salads, Pistachio Pudding Cake

March 23rd Potato Soup, Chili, Doggie Tails, Cole Slaw, Brownies/Ice cream

March 30rd Potato Soup, Tomato Soup, Egg Salad, Tuna Salad, Broccoli Slaw and Make your own Sundae

**Every week Grilled Cheese and Chips

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Seder Meal & Service—March 29th

In preparation for Easter, come enjoy a quiet, solemn dinner based around the story of the Last Supper. Maundy Thursday dinner will be held, Thursday, March 29th at 6pm. Reservations required. See bulletin for RSVP card or call the Church Office.



He is Risen!

Sunday, April 1, 2018



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting on March 4, 2018 at 10:00 am for the purpose of amending the bylaws to reduce the number of elders and deacons.



Mars United Presbyterian Church GriefShare Sessions for Spring 2018

Session Number	Date	Time
Session 1	Monday, February 12, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 2	Monday, February 19, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 3	Monday, February 26, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 4	Monday, March 05, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 5	Monday, March 12, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 6	Monday, March 19, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 7	Monday, March 26, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 8	Monday, April 02, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 9	Monday, April 09, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 10	Monday, April 16, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 11	Monday, April 23, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 12	Monday, April 30, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 13	Monday, May 07, 2018	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Session 14	Monday, May 14, 2018	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

GRIEF SHARE is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. GriefShare meets in the library on Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The meetings are being sponsored by McDonald Aeberli Funeral Home. No preregistration is required.

SEMINAR TOPICS

Each week your group will watch a video seminar on DVD. The GriefShare videos cover topics essential to your recovery from the hurt of grief and loss. The videos are produced in a compelling television magazine format and feature interviews with grief recovery experts, dramatic reenactments, on-location video and real-life stories of people who have experienced the death of a loved one. Here is a list of the weekly topics:

LIVING WITH GRIEF — SESSION 1

This session introduces you to GriefShare. It also explains what living with grief is like, why you shouldn't be ashamed of your grief and why you shouldn't rush through your healing.

THE JOURNEY OF GRIEF — SESSION 2

This session prepares you for what to expect along the journey of grief. At the same time, it emphasizes that everyone's journey is unique and warns against comparing grief experiences.

THE EFFECTS OF GRIEF — SESSION 3

You're probably surprised at how debilitating grief is. This session explains that this is normal and suggests practical ways to find comfort.

WHEN YOUR SPOUSE DIES — SESSION 4

If you've lost your spouse, this session helps you think through the critical issues involved in your healing. It also begins preparing you to face the difficult transition into a new reality without your spouse.

YOUR FAMILY AND GRIEF — SESSION 5

This session shares how to keep your family afloat when its members are drowning in grief. It also presents some of the unique issues involved if you're grieving the death of a child.

WHY? — SESSION 6

Just because God doesn't answer all of your questions doesn't mean He won't answer any of them. This session answers the "Why" questions and encourages you to begin asking other questions as well.

THE UNIQUENESS OF GRIEF, PT. 1 — SESSION 7

This session explores how the causes of, and your responses to, your loved one's death affect your grief. Topics addressed include suicide, long-term illness, murder and false guilt.

THE UNIQUENESS OF GRIEF, PT. 2 — SESSION 8

Relationships, past and present, affect your grief. This session helps you address insensitive comforters and unresolved conflict with a deceased loved one.

GOD'S PRESCRIPTION FOR GRIEF — SESSION 9

The bereaved are often overwhelmed by the advice they receive from others. And often, what goes unnoticed is what God says about healing. This session tells you how to position yourself to experience God's healing.

STUCK IN GRIEF — SESSION 10

It's easy to get stuck along the journey of grief. This session explains how to keep moving on the path to healing.

TOP TWENTY LESSONS OF GRIEF, PT. 1 — SESSION 11

In this session, those who've walked the journey of grief will share what they've learned and how they've grown from their grief experience.

TOP TWENTY LESSONS OF GRIEF, PT. 2 — SESSION 12

In this session you'll hear the most significant lessons that can be learned during grief.

March Birthdays

March 3rd—Katie Straley

March 6th—Riley Jackson

March 7th—Lisa Barbour

March 8th—Shelly Bocheff

March 11th—George Matthews

March 11th—Howard Meeder - 100

March 12th—Roy Schmitt

March 13th—Mary Ellen Grau

March 14th—Emily Ivory

March 16th—Jack Llewellyn

March 17th—Justina Nichols

March 21st—Sean Guesman

March 22nd—Marge Nicklas



March 27th—Linda Lees

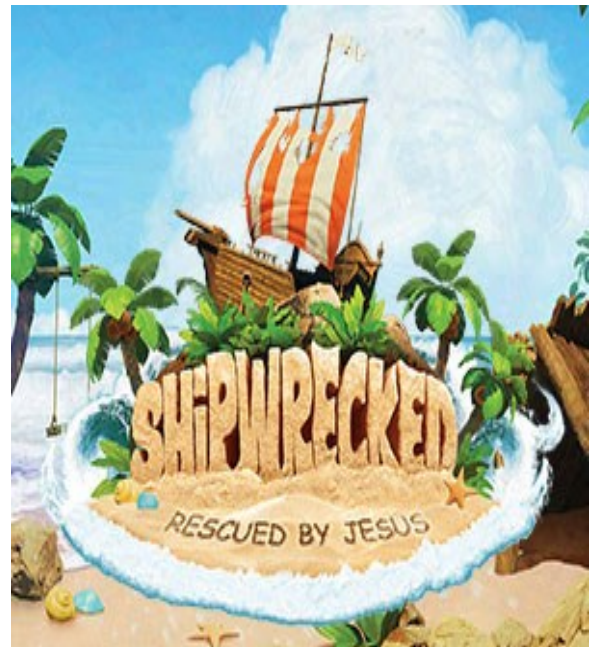
March 27th—Larry Baumgartel

March 28th—Isabel Boynton

March 28th Natalie Llewellyn

Save the Date!!! Vacation Bible School **JUNE 18TH THRU JUNE 22ND**

We are looking for excited kids, helpful youth and adult volunteers to help make this year's VBS another amazing adventure of God's love and outreach to our community. Please speak to Alma Staskiewicz, or Sally Olsen to see how your gifts can help make this happen!





Everyone Welcome

OPEN HOUSE

WHO: Howard Meeder

WHERE: The Villages of St. Barnabas
5850 S Meridian Rd, Gibsonia
Garden Room (Mall Level)
Bldg. A

WHEN: Sunday, March 11th

TIME: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm
NO GIFTS, your presence is all we desire!

Annual Mars UP Easter
Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 25th

2:00 p.m. @ Mars UP
Church

Bring your baskets & a
friend!!!

Refreshments provided after
the egg hunt.



Recent Update at Mars UP Church

The Session of the Mars United Presbyterian Church has unanimously voted to welcome **My School Preschool** to operate in our Church. **My School Preschool** is a Christian based preschool rooted in the Mars community for over 20 years. The preschool has an excellent reputation with teachers employed by the Mars School district and parents of this church and community. The preschool currently offers five different classes with class size capped at sixteen and currently enrolls approximately 85 students. The preschool has a governing Board of seven Directors, four are required to be members of the Mars United Presbyterian Church and the remaining are interested parents or friends of the preschool.

My School Preschool will occupy all but one room on the second floor of the church beginning in August, Monday through Friday following the Mars School district calendar. **My School Preschool** will pay a building fee, accounting fee and insurance for use of the building. Previously scheduled heating improvements by the Building and Grounds committee will be completed in the spring. A safety locking system will be added to the second floor front door from the sanctuary and the second floor double wood doors from the back entrance.

The Session gladly accepts the opportunity to collaborate with the **My School Preschool** group in providing a community outreach Christian preschool and hopes that the Church membership will share our enthusiasm in receiving them.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Barbour or Alma Staskiewicz.



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!***

March

(Lent, a time to re-focus on the Cross)

3/4– Normal Youth Group

3/11 – Normal Youth Group

3/18 - Normal Youth Group

3/25 - Normal Youth Group

Extended Youth Group Schedule

4/1 - Easter, NO YOUTH GROUP

4/8 - Normal YG

4/15 - Normal YG

4/22 - Normal YG

4/29 - Normal Youth Group



MUP Kids (Emma, Gavin, Peter and Diana) working on Valentine Day cards for Shut-ins.

***On February 20, 2018 our relationship with Andrew Higginson was ended. Mars United Presbyterian Church Session discussed this action and came to a unanimous decision. The terms of Andrew's departure were mutually agreeable.

We wish Andrew the best of luck and offer our prayers for his success in the future.

Youth group will continue with parent volunteers. Angela Badger has graciously volunteered to take over the program. Along with other volunteers, John and Jenny Ivory, Bonnie McElhinny, Keith Cuyar, Jill Cooper, Herb Wellman, Alma Staskiewicz and YOU, the youth program will continue at MUPC. If you would like to volunteer or help in anyway, please contact Angela Badger at Angelabadger4@gmail.com.

Thank you for *your* support of *our* church.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At the February Session Meeting, the following items were discussed:

1. On March 18th there will be an Elder training session available through the BBP for anyone interested in considering being an Elder. This event is opened to all current and previous elders. Registration is required. If interested, please contact BBP at 724-452-7515
2. My School Preschool association with MUP was approved by the Session
 - A. Working on upgrades to heating and air conditioning system
 - B. Working on secondary locks for upper floor for security purposes
3. Discussed changes in the Order of Worship is being considered.
4. Church Picnic will be at Adams Park on Sunday, June 10, 2018

Revised Order of Worship Coming March 11: Beginning March 11, we will have a different Order of Worship. The revised Order is more in line of how worship should flow, and is used by the majority of Reformed Churches in the U.S. The change has been approved by Session, and I will take a moment to explain the changes the reasons we are changing.

We Gather Before God

Music before worship...
Greeting and Announcements
Prelude
Introit (11:00)
Call to Worship
Invocation
Hymn of Praise
Prayer of Confession
Silent Prayer of Confession
Assurance of God's Grace and Pardon
Gloria Patri
Passing of the Peace

We Receive God's Word

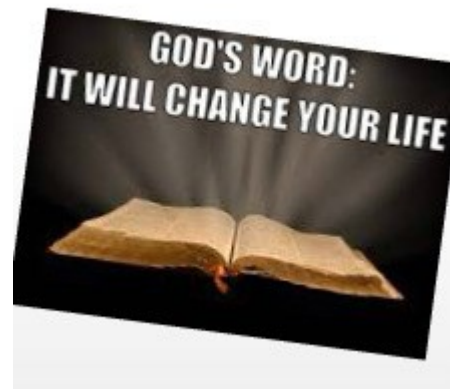
Prayer for Illumination
Choral Anthem (11:00)
Time with the Children (11:00)
Message (Scripture in the Message)

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith
Hymn
Concerns and Celebrations
Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Offertory
Doxology
Prayer of Dedication
Pastoral Rites / Commissionings / Sacraments

We Are Sent Into the World

Sending Hymn
Charge and Benediction
Benediction Response
Postlude



March 2018

Tarry N Talk Hosts: Building & Grounds–
Herb Wellman, Ira Baumgartel, Keith
Cuyar, Pat Auld, Jay Wilson

				1	2 12:00 Lenten Lunches	3
4 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor- ship 12:15 CE Meeting 12:15 B & G Meeting 6:00 pm YG Nursery: Jenny Ivory	5 1:30 Womens Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 Griefshare	6 9 am A-Team 7:00 AA	7 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir Rehears- al	8 7:00 Deacon Mtg	9 12:00 Lenten Lunches	10 2:00 Moraine Rockbusters
11 8:30 Early Worshi 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Congregational Meeting 11:00 Morning Wsh mtg 12:15 Worship Mtg 6:00 pm YG Nursery: Bonnie McElhinney	12 6:00 Boy Scout Mtg Stewardship Mtg 6:00 Grief- share	13 9 am A-Team 7:00 AA	14 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir Rehears- al	15 7:00 Session Mtg	16 12:00 Lenten Lunches	17
18 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor- ship 6:00 pm YG Nursery: Keith Nich- ols	19 6:00 Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 Grief- share	20 9 am A-Team 7:00 pm BS Leader MTG 7:00 AA	21 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir Rehears- al	22	23 12:00 Lenten Lunches	24
25PALM SUNDAY 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor- ship 2:00 p.m Easter Egg Hunt 6:00 pm YG Nursery:	26 6:00 Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 Grief- share	27 8:00 am WIC 9 am A-Team 7:00 AA	28 9 am Material Girls 7:00 Chancel Choir Rehears- al	29 Maunday Thursday	30 12:00 Lenten Lunches With Good Friday Services	31

SAVE THE DATE!

- ♦ Lenten Lunches (every Friday at 12 noon during Lent)
- ♦ Glade Run Food Bank Collection— March 4th
- ♦ GROW @ Valencia Church—Every Wednesday @ 6pm
- ♦ Deacon Kindness Sunday Collection-March 11th
- ♦ Howard Meeder Birthday Celebration—March 11th @ 3pm
- ♦ Palm Sunday—March 25th
- ♦ Egg Hunt—March 25th (2pm)
- ♦ Maundy Thursday—March 29
- ♦ Good Friday Service (following Lenten Lunch)
- ♦ Easter Celebration—April 1th 8:30am & 11am
- ♦ Membership Celebration Pancake Breakfast—April 15th



Don't forget to Turn your Clocks ahead on March 10th BEFORE you go to Bed!!

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11th

See you at Worship on March 11th @ 8:30am and 11:00 am

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

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

We're also on Facebook!!

Join us for Worship
Sunday's at 8:30 & 10!