

MARS UP CHURCH



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

December 2017

It might seem a little strange to say Happy New Year to someone at the end of November, but for Christians the first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year. So, brothers and sisters in Christ, let me be the first to say Happy New Year!

Now that that formality is done, what plans do you have for the new year? Any resolutions you might like to make that have an impact on your life as a Christian, a Presbyterian, a member of Mars UP church? I suppose at this point the tradition is for me, the writer, to give you a list of “to do” things that somehow improve your relationship with God, yourself, and each other. That would be rather presumptuous of me, so I am not going to do that. However; my personal plan is to spend more time reading Scripture; Try harder to listen for God’s voice in new places; And let God be God. He has a plan for me, for each of us, and for MUP. And to the best of my ability, I will discern those plans and act to support them.

I would encourage each of you to consider two or three thing that might help you improve your relationships with God, yourself, and those around you. You may call them New Years resolutions if you like or not. The point is to commit to some form of discipleship that renews your faith and spirit.

New Year is often considered a time for new beginnings. I don’t think I will get too many arguments If I say the Mars United Presbyterian Church is now experiencing a new beginning. Pastor Ed is no longer our pastor and who God has in mind to lead us has not been revealed to us. I do know that He has a plan for us and as He said to Moses in Exodus “...I know you by name and you have found favour in my sight.”... “Therefore, if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own position...”. Hopeful stuff right? He knows each of us by name and wants to keep us as His children.

This first Sunday in Advent is all about HOPE. Our hope is in Him who came and lived and died and rose from the dead to bring us life eternal. Our hope is in His coming again to bring an end to this world’s suffering. Our Hope is in each other as we as a community of Faith together seek His will for us individually and our church.

I hope to see all of you in church this Sunday. I will be talking about Paul’s love for the church in Thessalonica and his/His hope for them.

Peace

Tom McMeekin



Volunteers for December

December Nursery

December 3 –

December 10-Bonnie McElhinny

December 17-Angela Guesman

December 24—Pat Auld

December 31 –Brianna Hager

December Greeters

Elder– Linda Moody Deacon– Janie Aiken

December Tarry N Talk Hosts

Mission and Outreach Committee– John Ivory,
Lisa Barbour, Mary Snow (Deacon)

December Muffin Crew

December 3 -

December 10 -Linda Lees, Pam Kennedy

December 17– Linda Lees, Pam Kennedy

December 24-

Mission & Outreach Christmas Service Outreach

“Be an Angel”



For many years, through incredible generosity of this church, needy families in our community have been blessed by the gifts and food we supply through the Salvation Army Angel Tree, local food bank, and the Lighthouse. Share the JOY of Christmas with others. Consider one or all of these options to be a visible face of Christ in our community

♦In Tarry N Talk there will be an Angel tree with tags.

Select a tag for a local senior citizen. Return the unwrapped gift (tag attached) and leave it under the tree by Sunday, December 10th. The Salvation Army will deliver these gifts to the senior citizens at Christmas.

♦Also, in Tarry N Talk are tags for Christmas toys for children of all ages. Please bring the toys by December 10th. This year the Lighthouse is again requesting donations for toys. Last year the Lighthouse foundation was able to supply toys for 750 children throughout the community. Help us, help them exceed this amount and brighten the lives of many more children and families with the love of Christ.

♦Please remember the local food bank at Glade Run Church. There is always a need for non-perishable items but during the holiday season the need is even greater. Please drop off items at the church or stop by the food bank with your donations or even a monetary gift.

Greening of the Church—Dec 2nd at 9am

On Saturday, Dec 2nd at 9am, volunteers are needed to help decorate the church for Christmas.

We need YOU (yes you!!) to help to transform the sanctuary! There are a variety of tasks—from fluffing garland, setting up candles to hanging wreaths.

There is a task for everyone to have a hand! And, many hands make light work!



Time of Year Again.....Christmas Flowers

Mars United Presbyterian Church

Your order for Christmas poinsettias will help to enhance the beauty of our church sanctuary. Poinsettias are available in 6.5" pots for \$7.75. You may take your flowers with you following worship on Christmas Eve. Orders must be placed by December 17, 2017.

Marble (Pink & White mixed) _____

Red: _____

Pink: _____

White: _____

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.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING There will be a Congregational Meeting at 10:00 am on December 17, 2017 for the election of officers and to hear the report of the Budget committee and session.

Thank You Children of Mars UP



If you attended the Turkey bash at Mars UP, you saw the hard work of the children from the Sunday School classes. The children worked for weeks drawing, cutting and assembling over 100 turkeys as favors for those who attended the meal. If you see a mini - mup around, give them a thank you!



MARS UP STUDENT MINISTRY PAGE

**Mars UP Middle School Youth
at Laurelville with
Harmony Zelenople UMC**



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

Dec. 1 thru 3 - Laurelville High School Trip

Dec. 9th - Service Project

Dec. 11th— Normal Youth Group

Dec. 17th— Youth Group Christmas Party!

****Details to come in Student MUPdate Email**

Dec. 25th— Merry Christmas!! NO YG :)

Jan. 1st— Happy New Year!! NO YG :)

Jan. 7th—First Youth Group of 2018



Our Sunday School children have also been busy supplying a tree for the Hosanna Industries "Festival of Trees" fundraiser.

This marks the 6th year for the fundraiser and it was held at Quality Gardens on Rt. 228. The event is full of beautifully decorated small trees. The trees are unique and are able to be bid on or "buy now" price. Highest bidders win the completely decorated trees.

The Sunday School tree was all done in red and white and sold for \$140.00. The event raised over \$20, 000 this year!

Watch for this event next year to get a decorated tree or donate one yourself!!



TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE **SERVICES**



Celebrate the birth of Christ and the great light that has come into the world at Mars UP Church!

*Regular worship services Sunday Morning at
8:30 am and 11:00 am*

Two traditional, candlelight services:

- ♦ **7pm**—Candle Light Service with Special Music from the Chancel Choir
- ♦ **11pm**—Candle Light Service with the Celebration of Communion

Bring friends, family and neighbors!!



MUP YOUTH are having a ****Dining to Donate**** day at Applebee's on **Tuesday, December 12th 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 bulletins.

Any Questions, Please see Call the Office or see Andrew



4-H,

**Mars United Presbyterian Church,
Old Union Presbyterian Church,**

And

Valencia Presbyterian Church

Would like to invite you to come Christmas Caroling to the seniors in our community

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

Who: You

When: Sunday December 10 + Tuesday December 12

Where: Valencia Woods (12/10) + Pen Mar Plaza (12/12)

Time: 2 pm (12/10) + 7 pm (12/12)





Recycling is a measure of good stewardship.

Please look for these new recycling containers in various places in the church to place your recyclables in.

There will be a container on every floor of the church.

Please help us recycle by placing your bottles and cans in these bins.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Have your children color the pictures below and we will put on the bulletin boards in the church.

Please add your name and age to each picture.



December 2017

Tarry N Talk Hosts:
Mission & Outreach
Committee: John Ivory,
 Lisa Barbour, Mary
 Snow

					1 HS Leave for Laurel- ville	2 9am Hang- ing of the Greens
3 8:30 Early Worship -Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor- ship 12:15 CE Mtg Youth Return/Laurel No Youth Group	4 1:30 Womens Bible Study 6:30 Griefshare 6:30 Buildings & Grounds Mtg. 7:00 Boy Scouts	5 9:00 am Ateam 7:00 p.m. AA	6 9am Material Girls 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30 Cub Scouts	8	9 2pm Moraine Rockbusters
10 8:30 Early Wor- ship- 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor 5:30 pm MS YG 7:00 pm HS YG Nursery: Bonnie McElhinny	11 6:30 Grief- share 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 9am Ateam 11:00 am Dining to Donate— Applebees 7:00 p.m. Caroling 7:00 AA	13 9am Material Girls 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14 10am Fiber Arts 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Deacon Meeting	15	16
17 8:30 Early Wor- ship- 10:00 Congregation- al Meeting 11:00 Morning Wor Youth Xmas Party Nursery: Angela Guesman	18 6:30 Boy Scouts	19 WIC 8:30am 9:00 am Ateam 7:00 p.m. AA	20 9am Material Girls 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	21 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	22	23
24 8:30 Early Wor- ship- 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor- ship 7:00 Christmas Eve 11:00 Christmas Eve Nursery: Pat Auld	25 Christmas Day	26 9:00 am Ateam 7:00 p.m. AA	27 9am Material Girls 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30
31 8:30 Early Wor- ship- 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor- ship Nursery: Brianna Hager						

SAVE THE DATE!

- ♦ The Greening of the Church December 2 at 9:00 am
- ♦ Caroling - December 10 at 2:00 p.m.
- ♦ Caroling - December 12 at 7:00 pm
- ♦ Dining to Donate - Applebees December 12 11am - 9pm
- ♦ Christmas Eve Worship Services - December 24th 8:30 am and 11:00 am
- ♦ Christmas Eve Evening Services - December 24th 7:00 pm and 11:00 p.m.



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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(724) 625-1365
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 am &
11:00 am

Prayer Chain
mjaiken@zoominternet.net