

MARS UP CHURCH



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

January 2017

Terry Talks.....

In our lifetime, each of us ought to have the opportunity to try something new or begin something we could have or should have done better. When we walk with God in Jesus Christ and include His planning and vision for ourselves, we can expect a newness and freshness in living to be good for us. Over the years, I have always looked forward to those changes that affect my lifestyle. And, at my age, I still get excited about what is on the road ahead. When we surrender our lives to God's Holy Spirit that in our daily walk with our Savior Jesus Christ, we can be sure that our life will be far more meaningful and joyful than we could ever anticipate with our own limitations.

“Life is a story in three Volumes: The Past, the Present, and the Yet-to-Be. The Past written and laid away. The Present we are writing every day. The Future, the last of Volume Three is locked from sight, and God holds the key.” Believe that! Happy New Year....Have a God Blessed 2017

Terry

To The Mars Congregation,

Thank you for the very generous Christmas Gift, and also, Thanks for being you—a faithful, supportive, committed, and spirit-filled people of God. May God Bless you all in the days ahead. Bill and Vail Jackson, Terry and Jan Stoops and the Mars UP Church Staff.

The Mars UP Chancel Choir performing at Community Christmas Choir Festival at St. John's United Church of Christ





January 15, 2016

New Members class

There will be a new member's class on Sunday, January 15th during the Sunday School hour (9:45).

Please meet in the Tarry N Talk area of the church if you are interested in joining.

Rev. Dr. William Jackson will be leading the class.

As we all say goodbye to 2016 and say hello to 2017, my family and I prepare to say goodbye to our congregation, friends, and family in North Carolina and say hello to everyone who calls Mars United Presbyterian Church home, so I can begin ministry in Mars. Marian and I are excited for the chance to get to know each of you. During the first six months, I hope to spend time with you hearing your stories, getting to know the members and friends of the congregation, the deacons, and the elders who lead the congregation.

I look forward to joining you in worship, Bible Studies, sharing meals, baptizing babies and adults, sharing in your joys and sorrows, and becoming a part of the Mars United Presbyterian Church community. Between now and when we move, my wife Marian, will be undergoing radiation treatments until early February. Then, we will finish our preparations to move to Mars.

Until then, please keep Marian, Will, and me in your prayers over the next weeks and months ahead. Happy New Year!

**With Christ's Love for All!
Ed Boyce**

January 29, 2017 from 5 to 7

Come out to Mars UP Church Sunday, January 29 from 5 to 7 to help support our Student Ministry by attending our ALL YOU CAN EAT spaghetti dinner.



Dinner includes: pasta, meatballs, salad, garlic bread, dessert, and refreshments.

Adults: \$10 and children 9 and under \$5.

Proceeds will support the Mars UP Student fellowship retreats, Summer 2017 mission trip thru Experience Mission and continued student growth as a ministry.

Gift Basket Raffle will be at the Dinner. Need not be present to win!

Living Nativity 2016

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 over 200 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!



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 Michele Baumgartel, Don Lewis, Susan Cox, Keith Cuyar, Linda Lees and Christi Augustine....**DEACONS** Pam Kennedy, Nancy Govan, Louise Fox, Nancy Huggins and Bonnie McElhinny (one year term)

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

Amy Mellor

July 29, 1929—April 20, 2016

Member, Deacon, Elder, Church Secretary

Phillip Lawther

January 17, 1993—July 5, 2016

Member

Charles P. Kennedy

Sept. 12, 1930—October 20, 2016

J. Robert Kennedy

June 11, 1932 - October 31, 2016

Member

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

Volunteering for 2017

January Nursery

January 1-Sally Olsen

January 8-Brianna Hager

January 15-Pat Auld

January 22-Keith Cuyar

January 29-Sharon Gibbs

January Muffin Crew

January 1 - Cookies

January 8-Linda Lees, Pam Kennedy

January 15

January 22-Linda Lees, Pam Kennedy

January 29-

January Greeters

Elder- Bob Riefer, Deacon- Ruth Wilson

January Tarry N Talk Hosts

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

January Flowers for Worship

January 8 thru January 29th are available.

Pastors Schedule for January

January 1 and 8th, Rev. Terry Stoops

January 15, 22, and 29th—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?

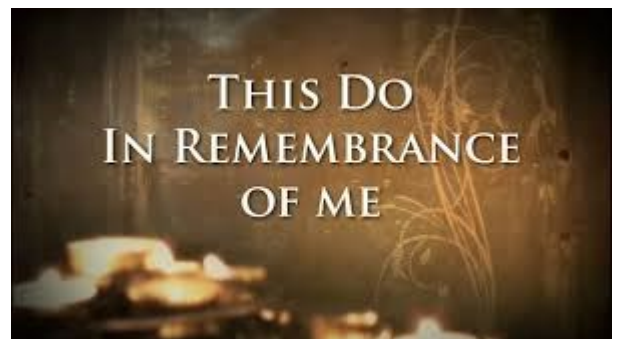
The Per Capita is an important aspect of how we do church. Presbyterians are proud of how our convictions inform our church function and organizational structure. As Presbyterians, we believe in “the priesthood of all believers” and acknowledge that all are called to bring their gifts and talents to 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 \$43.34* 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 8, 2017

On Sunday, January 8th 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!



MARS UP STUDENT MINISTRY PAGE

What you need to Know about!

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

1/8 - 2017 YG Kick-Off! MS 5:30-6:50pm, HS 7-8:30pm

1/15 - Normal YG Times AND **\$75 Ski Trip Deposit Due!**

1/22- Normal YG Times

1/29 - **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser**

Will replace Youth Group! 5-7pm \$10 adult meal, \$5
Children under 10 yrs.

2/5 - Normal Youth Group Times

- FINAL SKI TRIP PAYMENTS DUE

2/10-12— MUP Family Ski Retreat! (No YG Sunday night)

PEEK N' PEAK

SKI RETREAT

Date— Feb. 10-12

**** \$75 Deposit due: Sun. Jan 15th**

\$165 Total per student

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 en-
joy 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 Fam-
ily wants to go! We will spend the
weekend Skiing, Snowboarding,
Tubing, Worshiping, Relaxing, and
yes of course...Eating! This week-
end is such an incredible opportuni-
ty to spend quality time with friends
amongst the Mars UP Church Fami-*



Year End Report from Stewardship Committee

Seasons Greetings!

Wanted to give you a little follow up to the 2017 budget presentation. In my past 3 years on Session as a member of the Stewardship/Personnel Committee, we have faced lots of projects and obstacles. The Session at large has been incredible in keeping spending in check and ensuring the operations of the church we all love. Each committee has held the finances to the budget and cut when they could.

Bob Riefer was chair when I joined the team and he brought a business sense to the budget and helped to steer us on a professional and operational path that we are currently riding well. Marie Matthews does an outstanding job as church treasurer (a volunteer job) that she takes very seriously. Mike Olsen, husband of Sally, did an amazingly thorough audit like this church has never seen before. He was very pleased with our financial processes and gave us some suggestions that Marie quickly adapted to enhance our current book keeping.

As a committee over the last three years, we developed an evaluation process for all of our employees that involves them doing a self-evaluation and the personnel committee providing feedback as well. It has been great to have documented conversations as to our employee's performance. This process has been appreciated by our employees as well.

Additionally, we have developed an employee "handbook" that specifically spells out all of our policies and procedures so everyone is on the same page as far as expectations of employment.

When Reverend Jackson sent out the letter about the Pledge Promise, he included the graph that we, as a committee looked at regarding the financials for January to June of 2016. I would like to explain that graph a little more. To help you understand that graph...there were 117 giving units totaled for this period of time:

10 giving units gave under \$100 in a 6 month period. (That is averaged to be \$.96 a week or \$4.17 a month.)

An additional 14 units gave UNDER \$100 in that 6 month period. (less than \$.96/week)

Most giving units (35) gave between \$200 and 500 in 6 months (\$8.33-\$20.83/week)

Giving between \$600 and \$700 were 17 giving units (\$25-\$29/week)

\$800-\$900 accounted for another 7 giving units (\$33.33-\$37.50/week)

\$1000 in that 6 months giving units totaled 15 (\$41.67/week)

\$2000 totaled 11 (\$83.33/week)

Significant: 5 giving units gave \$3000 (\$125/week); 1 giving unit totaled \$5280(\$220/week); 1 totaled \$6000 (\$250/week) and one totaled \$7640 (\$318.33/week)~ those 8 giving units out of 117 accounted for 31.3% of the TOTAL income for our church! (7% of our donators brought in almost a third of the monies).

(Cont.)

It is completely understandable that most of us cannot donate the amount those 8 giving units bless us with; but it is interesting to see that 24 giving units gave less than \$1/week for 6 months.

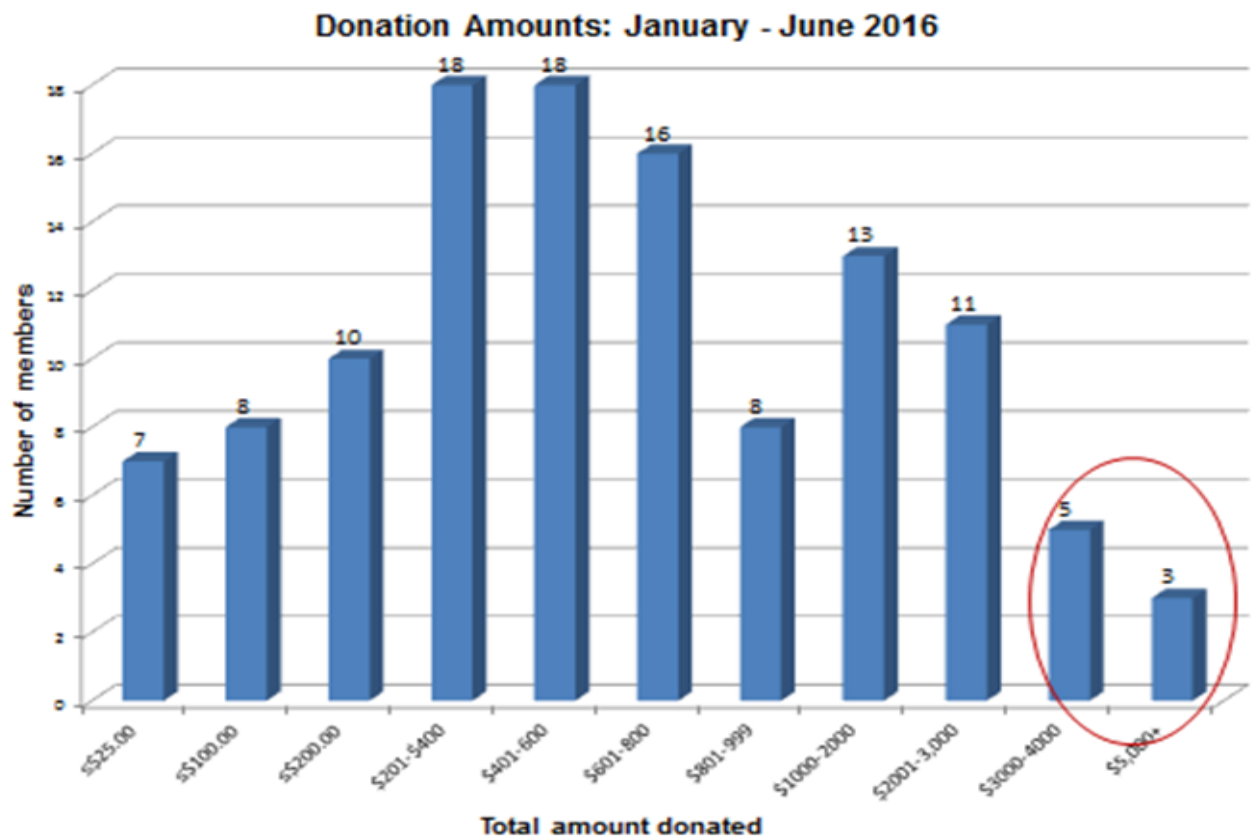
As always, this congregation is a generous one. The support for projects, like the organ fund or the heating and air-conditioning were OUTSTANDING! For a church our size to pay off those debts is nothing short of AMAZING! But remember for your giving that our biggest chunk of the financial pie is salaries and keeping the church open, warm or cool and insured; the youth program flourishing.... Day to day operations eat up most of our budget so your ongoing weekly support is critical.

We leave 2016 in good financial shape because we did not have to pay a full time minister salary with all the benefit costs that come with that position. We have been richly blessed with Reverend Jackson and Stoops taking us through our transition. Reverend Boyce's salary is coming in under our last minister's salary but we will need financial commitment to keep the doors open; our employees paid and operations flowing.

Thank you to all who work tirelessly in our church family both physically and financially to keep us strong. It has been a privilege to help to steer the financial course as part of the Stewardship/Personnel Committee for the last three years.

God bless Mars UP Church in the coming New Year!

Michele Baumgartel



January 2017

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

1 10:00 Morning Worship NO YOUTH GROUP Nursery: Sally Olsen	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 9am A-Team 6:30 M & O meeting 7:00 p.m. AA	4 9:00a.m. Material Girls 7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7
8 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 5:30 MS Youth Gr 7:00 HS Youth Gr Nursery: Brianna Hager	9 6:30 Buildings and Grounds	10 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	11 9:00a.m. Material Girls 7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12 7:00 Stewardship Meeting	13	14
15 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 5:30 MS Youth Gr 7:00 HS Youth Gr Nursery: Pat Auld	16	17 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	18 9:00a.m. Material Girls 7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00 Session	20	21
22 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 5:30 MS Youth Gr 7:00 HS Youth Gr Nursery: Keith Cuyar	23	24 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	25 9:00a.m. Material Girls 7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 8:30 Early Worship 11:00 Morning Worship 9:45 Sunday School 5:00 Spaghetti Dinner Nursery: Sharon Gibbs	30 7:00 p.m. Deacon Mtg.	31 8:30 WIC 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA				

SAVE THE DATE !

- ♦ JANUARY 1, 2017—ONE SERVICE
- ♦ JANUARY 8, 2017—COMMUNION @ BOTH SERVICES
- ♦ JANUARY 15, 2017—INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
- ♦ JANUARY 29, 2017—YOUTH FUND RAISER SPAGHETTI DINNER
- ♦ FEBRUARY 10—12 —MARS UP CHURCH SKI TRIP



O HOLY NIGHT

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.

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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 am & 11:00 am

Prayer Chain
mjaiken@zoominternet.net