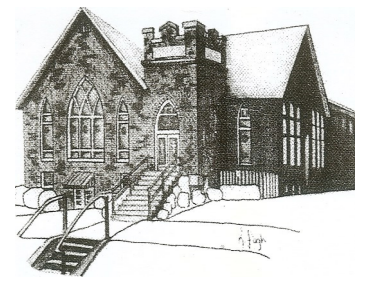


# MARS UP CHURCH



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

August 2022

## Our memories are not as Bad as they need to be!

In the corner of my basement is a memory game that has been in my family as long as I can remember. It is a relatively simple game. The directions for the game read like this:

1. Repeat what the machine does by pressing pads to activate lights in the same order.
2. A delay of more than 3 seconds during play will terminate your score. Like I said relatively simple. One of the four colored pads will light up, and you have to push that colored pad. Each round the machine adds another pad to the pattern. As you try to remember the pattern by pushing the colored pads you earn points that ultimately give you a memory score.
3. The score range begins with “Fair”, and goes through “Good”, “Excellent”, “Genius”, all the way to “Too Good to be true”. What score do you think your memory would earn you?

Memory, or lack thereof, is one of the leading things I hear people complain about. I hear from young and old alike statements similar to ‘I can’t remember what I had for breakfast’. It seems everyone is losing their memory. And while I do see many people whose mental acuity is waning, I have found that in one particular instance, memory is the last thing to go. That instance is the pain and hurt of a past sin. It can be very hard to move on from a mistake. It is hard to forgive ourselves and move forward with our lives. When it comes to painful pasts, it is actually harder for us to forgive ourselves than it is to seek God’s forgiveness.

This selective memory comes in two fashions. The first is the one where we hold on to our sin and refuse to lay it down before the cross of forgiveness. The second is when we do lay our burden down at Jesus’ feet, only to pick it up again as we turn to go out the door. And so, since we are filled with this troublesome memory that keeps our faults and failings in a sack upon our shoulder, weighing us down, I thought it might be helpful to remind us what God does when we confess our sins and seek forgiveness. Psalm 103 says that “as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us”. I’m not a professor of geography but the east seems pretty far removed from the west. 1 John tells us that “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

The LORD speaking to the prophet Isaiah says in chapter 43 “I will not remember your sins”. Multiple places in the book of Hebrews God states “I will never again remember their sins”. The book of Romans talks about our sins being ‘cleared’. Other places in the scripture talk about our scarlet stains being washed whiter than snow. The point is that once we confess and seek reconciliation with God, God does not hold our sins against us anymore. They are forgotten, covered, removed, cleansed, gone. So why do we keep carrying them around? If God is willing to remove the blemish of your sin from your record, why aren’t you? Is our memory really better than God’s?

Friends, the past will hang around our necks as long as our memory keeps hold of it. We must learn to lay the burdens we carry before God, and leave them there. We need to allow the cleansing power of true forgiveness to wash over us so that we may be truly free from all that restricts our lives in Christ. Christ died for our futures, not as judgment for our pasts.

And so today I'd like to give you permission to forget, forget all that restricts and hold you down, all regrets, all faults, and all failings. Learn from them, but do not hold onto them. Forget about the mistakes you've made, forget your sin. And remember: Through Jesus Christ you are forgiven!

Blessings,  
Pastor Brian



# Sunday SCHOOL

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD

*Growing in Faith Together*

Begins: SEPTEMBER 22ND

WHEN: 9:00 AM

SAVE THE DATES

Applefest

80+ Dinner

Michael Blanchard Concert

October 1st

October 2nd

September 18th

10am—4pm

After Worship

During 10am worship &  
6:30 pm Performance

# June Session Highlights

- 1 - MOPS - Mothers of Pre-Schoolers - program being started at Mars UP in the Fall. Will need Child Care during meetings
- 2 - Expanding the Youth Program with St. John's to include youth from Grade 2 through 5
- 3 - Rev. Hauser served Communion to Shut-ins
- 4 - May 19, 2022 Session Minutes approved
- 5 - Annual Review of Session Minutes by Presbytery was held and passed
- 6 - Beginning Nursery program during Worship Service - need volunteers
- 7 - Need to update the Church Directory for the Congregation
- 8 - VBS has 43 children signed up so far
- 9 - Rev. Hauser on Vacation week of July 10. Rev. Robert Kennedy will be in Pulpit
- 10 - Church Picnic/Rally Day Worship Service will be Sunday September 11 at Adams Park
- 11 - Bid for Painting of Social Hall by Weber Painting accepted.
- 12 - Approved use of Social Hall by Mars Rotary Club each Wednesday during Lunch was approved
- 13 - No Session Meeting scheduled for July, 2022

The Food Bank collection is First Sunday

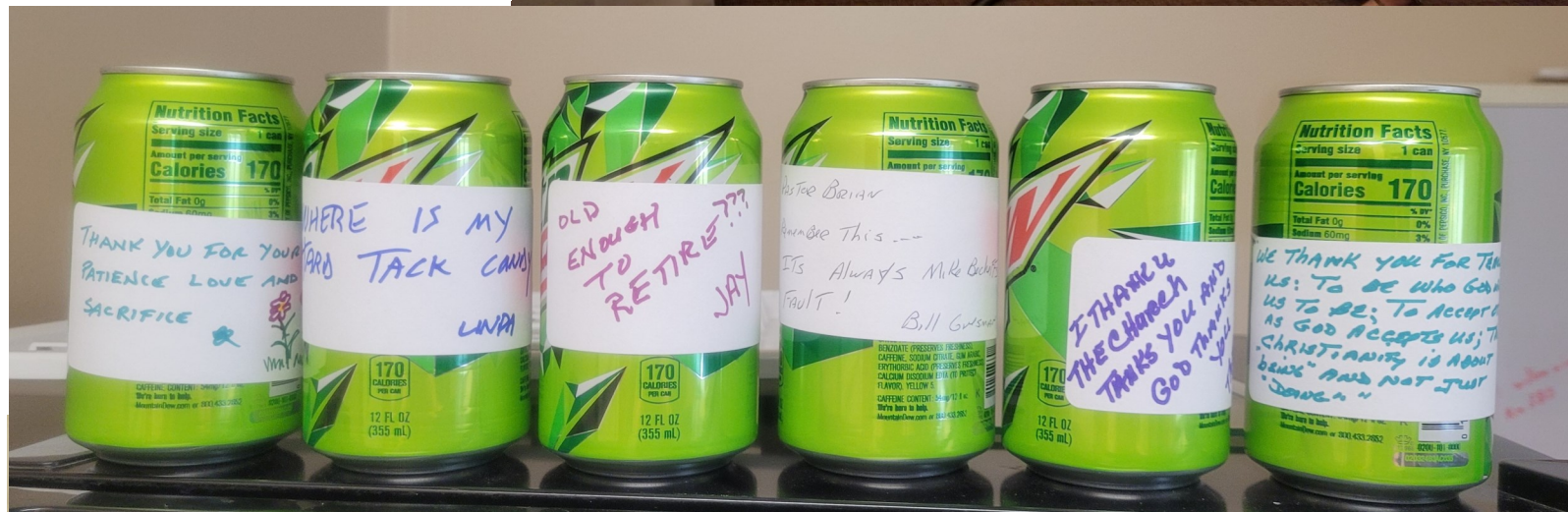
Please bring donations on Sunday and place in the marked box in Tarry N Talk



Deacons will always be accepting donations for their Deacon Kindness fund. If you know of anyone needing assistance during this time, please contact Steve Martin or any other Deacon.

# CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY!







We want to invite you to our **GriefShare program**. GriefShare is a Christ-centered, video-based, **grief recovery ministry** to help you when a loved one dies. You will feel comfortable and accepted as you encounter others who hurt and share some of the same kind of feelings as you do. *At GriefShare, you will find that you are not alone, there are others who understand what you are going through.*

Please join us beginning **Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> through Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 PM** at **Mars United Presbyterian Church, 232 Crowe Avenue, Mars (rear entrance).**

♥ **Surviving the Holidays on Monday, November 14th.**

We look forward to walking this journey alongside you! **You'll discover hope for the future.** While things may look bleak now, you'll learn ways to restore your hope and rebuild your life. Many GriefShare alumni tell us the program helped them move from deep grief to peace and a sense of joy again. *For information, or to register, please call 724-625-2900 or email [ddemarco5@yahoo](mailto:ddemarco5@yahoo)*

Sponsored by **McDonald-Aeberli Funeral Home, John C. Hanovick, Supervisor**

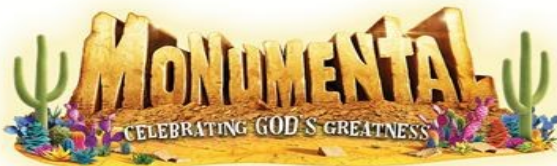


VBS 2022









# VBS REUNION!



Sunday, August 7, 2022

1:00—3:20 pm

Mars United Presbyterian Church  
(232 Crowe Ave.)



We had so much fun at VBS, we can't wait until next year!

Join us for a VBS REUNION to have a bonus day of VBS!

Just like VBS, there will be Bible Adventure, songs, games, crafts, science, and snacks... **And of course, lots of FUN!** And if you have any friends who couldn't come to VBS, but want to learn about it, invite them too!

To sign up to receive updates about this new group and meeting details, fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/pYqJNUjqRwaTP7jF9> or scan the QR code.

## Calling All 6th-12th Graders!



## Mars Area Youth Group



Hosted by:

Mars United Presbyterian Church (Crowe Ave)

and

St. John Lutheran Church (Beaver St)

Youth of the Mars Area will have time with **old and new friends** as they have **fun and learn and grow** in their faith. All youth are welcome!

Youth Group will be about twice per month with **extra social and service events** throughout the year.

To sign up to receive updates about this new group and meeting details, fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/jWVgiF8FQ6LuEVCT7> or scan the QR code.

Calling All 2nd-5th Graders!

**NEW!**



Mars United Presbyterian Church (Crowe Ave)  
and

St. John Lutheran Church (Beaver St)

Kids of the Mars Area will have time with old and new friends as they play and learn and grow in their faith. All youth are welcome!

Kid's Club will be about twice per month with extra fun and service events throughout the year.

To sign up to receive updates about this new group and meeting details, fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/zvueShBkC028ZvuE8> or scan the QR code.

# **ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC/RALLY DAY**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SEPTEMBER 11TH**

**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!**

**Rally Day will also be celebrated at the park to “mark” the start of Sunday School!!!!**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BEGIN SEPTEMBER 18TH**

# MOTHERHOOD IS HARD

BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LONELY

JOIN US AT MOPS



Mars United  
Presbyterian Church

## MOPS IS

A tribe of moms, with kids ages 0-5, living life together. It's a place for friendship, community, support, and growth. We are calling our sisters to join us in taking a chance at a fresh start this year. Let's have more fun, fear less, and find our people. Come along with us, and may this be the year you live life...

**Where:** Mars United Presbyterian Church

1st and 3rd Thursdays

**& When:**

1st Thursday child care will be provided



## WHAT TO EXPECT

**MESSAGES OF HOPE:** to inspire and encourage moms.

**SMALL GROUPS:** meet other moms and talk about mom life.

On Being a Mom:

Half of the time I feel  
like I'm running an insane  
asylum...the other half I feel  
I belong in one.

your eCards  
somecards.com



### WHAT'S IT LIKE HAVING A TODDLER?

Imagine raising a heavily  
caffeinated chimpanzee  
who's allergic to sleep.

For more information contact Ashley Hauser.

Cell Phone: 1-814-270-9101.

**BETTER MOMS MAKE A BETTER WORLD**

**STARTING SEPTEMBER 1ST AT MARS UP CHURCH**

**10AM UNTIL 12 NOON**

## SAVE THE DATE

- ♦ August 7th—Communion / VBS Reunion 1pm to 3:20pm
- ♦ August 8th— Griefshare Summer Meeting @ 6:30pm
- ♦ September 1st—MOP Begins
- ♦ September 4th —Communion
- ♦ September 11h—Church Picnic/Rally Day



## Contact Us

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

### **Mars UP Church**

232 Crowe Ave  
PO Box 805  
Mars, PA 16046

(724) 625-1365  
[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 10am  
Zoom at 8:30am

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

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