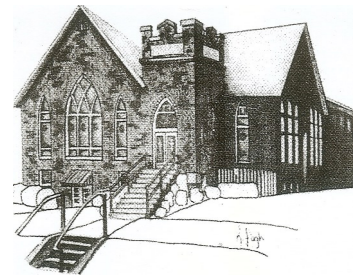


MARS UP CHURCH



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

June 2023

I've never been much of a "car guy", but even I have to admit that cars are pretty useful. They enable us to travel and to get places we want to go in a timely fashion. They can inspire joy, they bring back memories, they can give us a thrill or help us go on vacation. As much as some cars are made for pleasure, the reality is that most of us use cars to get where we are going. Within the past week I used my car to attend a family reunion, two cousin's birthday parties and to visit my parents. Those trips, if I did not have a car and had to walk would have required four and a half days of walking according to the Maps app on my phone and that is if I could walk straight through without stopping to rest, eat or drink, or anything else. Cars really are remarkable in the ways that they free us to travel and do things, but like anything they are not without their draw backs. Cars can be expensive to own and keep filled with gas. And proper car maintenance can be both expensive and time consuming.

That is what has been happening in my family. For example, in the last few weeks I have taken my families cars to the local mechanic to replace a shift mechanism, several engine mounts, a battery, brake lines, and possibly more as I wait for another call on the most recent car I took in. Four mechanic appointments in just a few weeks. The cost of proper maintenance on cars can certainly be frustrating at times, but I am not complaining. When you own and drive older vehicles they need maintenance from time to time and things need to be replaced. Proper maintenance is imperative to keep cars running effectively.

Cars are not the only things that require regular maintenance. This week I found myself thinking about the maintenance required for our faith lives. For some in our congregation the beginning of their life of faith dates back thirty, forty, fifty years or longer. Much longer than a typical automobile will last. Which begs the question: What do we do to maintain our faith? How do we service our belief systems? What does the maintenance schedule for our faith look like? We all know that cars require oil changes, need the salt and grime of the road washed off, need fluids checked, and other regular maintenance. Our faith is the same way. Without the pit-stops for prayer and the filling up the fluids of reading and understanding God's word our faith lives begin to break down.

Summer is now upon us which often makes keeping regular schedules more difficult, but I urge you sisters and brothers not to neglect the proper maintenance of your faith. Romans 10:17 says, "faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18a says, "rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances". Friends, we recharge our faith by taking care to do the things we know will bring us closer to God and our Lord Jesus Christ. When we read and meditate on the scriptures, when we pray without ceasing, when we give thanks to God, and live in fellowship with God's family, the body of Christ, we are maintaining and strengthening our faith. Just like our cars or our homes or anything else, our relationship with Jesus Christ requires regular servicing. Not that faith has to be a scheduled item on a to do list, but rather that we take seriously the invitation to keep building and growing our faith in Jesus Christ. I invite you, if you do not already do so, to try coming up with a summer maintenance plan for your faith. How many books of the bible will you read? How many times a week will you do a devotional? What does a well-maintained prayer life look like for you? It is like my mechanic is now telling me, good maintenance now can prevent bad outcomes down the road. Take care not to let the blessing of faith fade away. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

Session Highlights – May 18th Meeting

1. MSPS completed another year with a School picnic. Summer Camp almost sold out for this year...
2. Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser raised \$3200 for the Fire Dept.
3. Graduation Sunday will be June 4
4. VBS Dates—July 9th thru July 13th
5. Refrigerator in Social Hall to be replaced - has been ordered
6. Ice Machine replacement has been approved
7. Ladies Room renovation completed
8. Rev. Hauser requested a vacation date of June 11 for family graduation out-of-state. Rev. Aiello to be in Pulpit



OPENINGS FOR MSPS

2023-2024 SCHOOL

YEAR

There are openings for the 4 day transitional and in the 3-day PreK and Preschool Prep.

If you are interested or need more info, please contact Heidi Beahm at 724-272-9911 or myschoolpreschool-mars@gmail.com



Pastor Brian will be on Vacation on Sunday, June 11th and our Guest Pastor will be Rev. Paul Aiello.



MOPS International encourages and equips moms of young children to realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church.

WHERE: Mars UP Church
232 Crowe Avenue, Mars PA 16046

WHEN: Fall 2023

To Register or questions please contact the office @ 724-625-1365 or Ashley Hauser @ 814-270-9101



My School Preschool NEWS

My School Preschool Summer
Camp

WHERE: Mars UP Church

WHEN: Week of June 12th

Week of June 19th

AGES: 3yrs to 6yrs

More Information at
www.myschoolpreschool.org



DON'T MISS IT!

Mars UP Church

JUNE 3RD

8AM—1PM

12 NOON TO 1PM

BAG SALE

ST JOHN & MARS UP CHURCHES

VBS 2023



SUNDAY, July 9th – THURSDAY, July 13th 2023

6:00-8:20 PM

SPECIAL OPENING SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Families join us for a HOT DOG BEAN kickoff

5:00pm MUP Fellowship Hall

**GET a preview of the great VBS decorations,
music and games!**

REGISTRATION AT www.mars-up.org

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS



HERSHEY CHOCOLATE BARS

SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH @ 10AM WORSHIP

ALL MEN WILL BE
HONORED WITH BARS
OF CHOCOLATE IN
CELEBRATION OF FATHER'S
DAY



June Monthly Reminders

Worship Hours: In-person 10:00am and online every Sunday

Food Bank Collection: Every First Sunday—June 4th

Graduation Sunday: June 4th

Deacon Kindness Offering: Every Second Sunday (June 11th) of the month.

Vacation Bible School: July 9th through July 13th

Mars UP CHURCH VBS

Every Year our Vacation Bible School reaches out to the community to share God's Word to the children. Our VBS is FREE to all those who attend. In order to continue this, we need YOUR help!! If you are able to donate to this community project, please send a check marked "VBS" to Mars UP Church or put in the offering plate. If you are unable to donate funds, we are still looking for volunteers. Please contact the office @ 724-625-1365 or email to marsup@mars-up.org

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

Registration is available on Mars UP Website @ www.mars-up.org

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC RALLY DAY

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 10TH

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!!!!

A NOTE FROM STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE...

The Stewardship Committee would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who has paid their per capita. The response has been wonderful! If you haven't taken the opportunity to pay yours, there is still time. As a reminder, the per capita amount per confirmed member is \$43.77

2023 Graduates



ELIZABETH HIXON

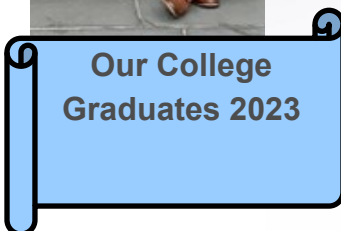
Elizabeth will graduate with honors from Seneca Valley High School on June 1st. Her high school achievements include many PMEA festivals all the way up to the national level. Elizabeth also participated in Show Choir, Madrigals and the Girls Quartet. She served as Drum Major for the Roarin' Raider Marching Band.

Elizabeth plans to attend Slippery Rock University in the fall to study Music Education and Piano Performance.



ADAM GOLDEN

Adam graduated from Duke University Law School on May 13, 2023. Adam is very passionate about making a difference in the world and helping those less fortunate. During his time in Law School, he completed internships in both New Hampshire and the Bronx working with Public Defenders. He also participated in University and community activities reflective of his desire to help others. He was the President of the Government and Public Service Society, worked on the Duke Law Immigrant and Refugee project, and worked as a Poverty Law research Assistant among many other activities. He also was presented the Duke Law Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Duke Law Community. Adam will be using his Law Degree to further pursue his passion to help others. He will be starting a position in the Baltimore area working as a Public Defender in January of 2024. Until then he will be busy studying for the BAR and spending time in South America to become fluent in Spanish.



JUSTINA NICHOLS

Justina Nichols received her Master's degree in Forensic Biology from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. In addition, her Master's Thesis won the Jefferson College of Life Sciences Alumni Thesis Prize.

Justina is currently a Forensic DNA Scientist working for the Pennsylvania State Police in the Greensburg DNA Lab.

SAVE THE DATE!

- ♦ June 4th— Communion
- ♦ June 4th-Graduate Sunday
- ♦ June 11th—Guest Minister Paul Aiello
- ♦ June 18th Fathers Day—Dad's Root beer for all men



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

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

We're also on Facebook!!

Join us for In-person
Worship
Sunday's at 10am

Prayer Chain:
mjaiken@zoominternet.net

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