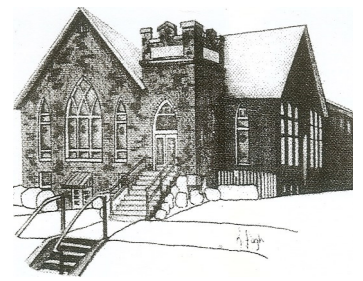


MARS UP CHURCH



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

June 2021

Dear Friends at Mars UP Church,

I recently came across this article by a fellow pastor and thought it worthy of sharing with you. It's about "growing into a mature Christian", Enjoy!

Six Basics for Spiritual GROWTH

****Are you interested in growing spiritually?****Most Christians are not.

The usual category for this topic is discipleship. Believers **should** want to become more like Christ. However, in my experience, most don't because they do not understand the benefits of such growth. This is because they do not understand the work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit produces fruit like love, joy, peace, and hope. Who would not want to grow more of such fruit in their personal life?******

I am addressing especially believers who grew up in infant-baptizing churches, which includes most mainline churches. There the emphasis is on educating children so they can confirm the faith affirmed for them at their baptism by their parents and sponsors. Confirmation is usually done at age 14 at the end of grade school. Most children do believe the faith they are confirming—as much as 14-year-olds can. Some Evangelicals have a similar pattern: infant dedication and believer baptism, which often happens around the age of 14.

The high value for infant-baptizing churches is a life of faithfulness to confirmation vows. The practice "worked" for centuries, producing many fine, up-standing Christians. It's not working so well anymore. The difference now is living in a post-Christian society where Christian life and values are constantly under assault, already in high school and especially in college.

Most pastors witness how many of their confirmands disappear from church life after they have fulfilled their parents' expectations. In my church we confirm about forty children a year, meaning we have approximately 160 in high school in a given year. Yet youth events draw only about one-tenth that number.

No one asks why a child should grow physically. It just happens.

Physical maturity is reached in the late teens. Basic personality is set in the early twenties. *Spiritual maturity* takes a lifetime.

In biblical Greek, maturity means to become all you can be. That's what Paul meant when he encouraged church leaders to build up the body of Christ until we all become mature, reaching to the heights of Christ's full stature (Ephesians 4:12). There is no spiritual-growth endpoint in this life.

Spiritual growth is basically a two-sided affair for developing a closer relationship with God. We naturally focus on our part. But the initiative for growth lies with God, acting through the Holy Spirit. Our part is to regularly put ourselves where the Spirit can work on us. Church is one place, but so many situations in daily life.

****Spiritual GROWTH is mostly about those places.****

##Go to God in Prayer and Worship**

Both exercise your relationship with God-prayer in private and worship in community

##Read God's Word for You**

Scriptures can be read in many ways. For GROWTH, read for applications to your personal life.

##Obey the Challenge to Deny Yourself**

Jesus issued the challenge to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.

##Witness Through Servant Behavior**

Actions speak louder than words. Biblical words about faith mean little to unbelievers.

##Trust God in a New Venture**

A basic meaning of faith is to trust. Test your trust through actions beyond your comfort zone

##Humble Yourself with Discipline**

Choose a discipline to regularly keep yourself humble before God and others. Why invest time in practicing the Six Basics? Put simply, you will experience a more rewarding personal life.

In His Service,

Rev. Paul Aiello

Session Highlights – May 20th Meeting

- 1 - Mask Policy - Follow CDC Guidelines - If vaccinated no mask required. Decision to wear a mask is up to individual.
- 2 - Baptism of Amelia Rae Galliger, daughter of Jason and Jamie (Wonderly) Galliger approved for June 27, 2021
- 3 - Financials - Giving is keeping pace with last year's giving.
- 4 - Re-wiring of outside speakers on roof to be completed next week at a cost not to exceed \$800.
- 5 - Rev. Shawn Harman, our sponsored Missionary, will be sending a monthly email update to the Congregations sponsoring him on his Mission trip. These emails will be posted on our Bulletin Board when received.
- 6 - June 6 will be Graduation Sunday for those Graduating from High School and/or College.
- 7 - There are still several openings for students in MySchool Preschool. It is anticipated that these openings will be filled by the end of August.

OPENINGS SCHOOL

There are
Pre-K and in
noon class.



FOR MSPS 2021-2022 YEAR

openings for the 4 day
the 3-day Pre-K after-

If you are interested or need more info, please contact
Jill Cesare at 724-272-9911

or

[myschoolpreschool-
mars@gmail.com](mailto:myschoolpreschool-mars@gmail.com)



SAVE THE DATE

CHURCH WIDE PICNIC

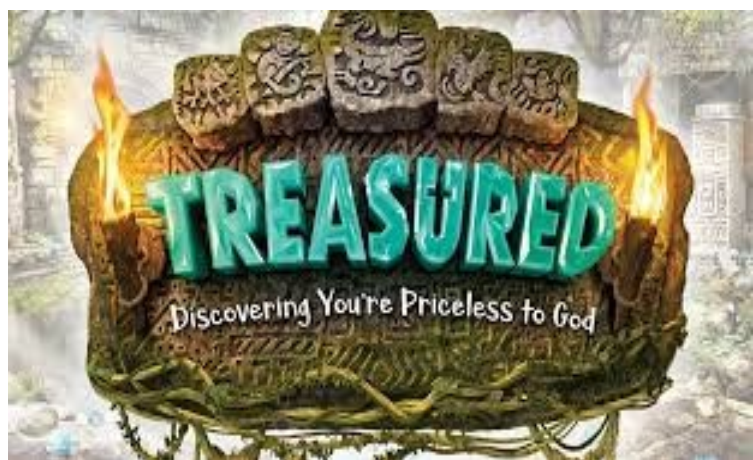
ADAMS TOWNSHIP PARK

AUGUST 8, 2021

10:00 AM

KEEP WATCHING FOR
DETAILS!!

MARS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH



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

Registration will be available soon!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021

July 11th thru July 15th

6:00 UNTIL 8:30P.M.

PUT FAITH ON THE MAP

Embark on an epic quest through hidden ruins, ancient caves, and dense jungles. At Treasured VBS, kids dig into action-packed, faith-filled adventures. They'll discover God's greatest treasure isn't diamonds, gems, or gold—it's them!

This year we will have a Hot Dog and Baked Beans "Kick-Off" social at 4:45pm before VBS starts. Come and meet and greet your crew leaders and play some games for a fun' filled night of VBS.

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



DAD'S ROOT BEER

**SUNDAY, JUNE 20TH
@ 10AM WORSHIP**

**ALL MEN WILL BE
HONORED WITH BOTTLES
OF DAD'S ROOTBEER IN**

CELEBRATION OF FATHER'S DAY



June Monthly Reminders

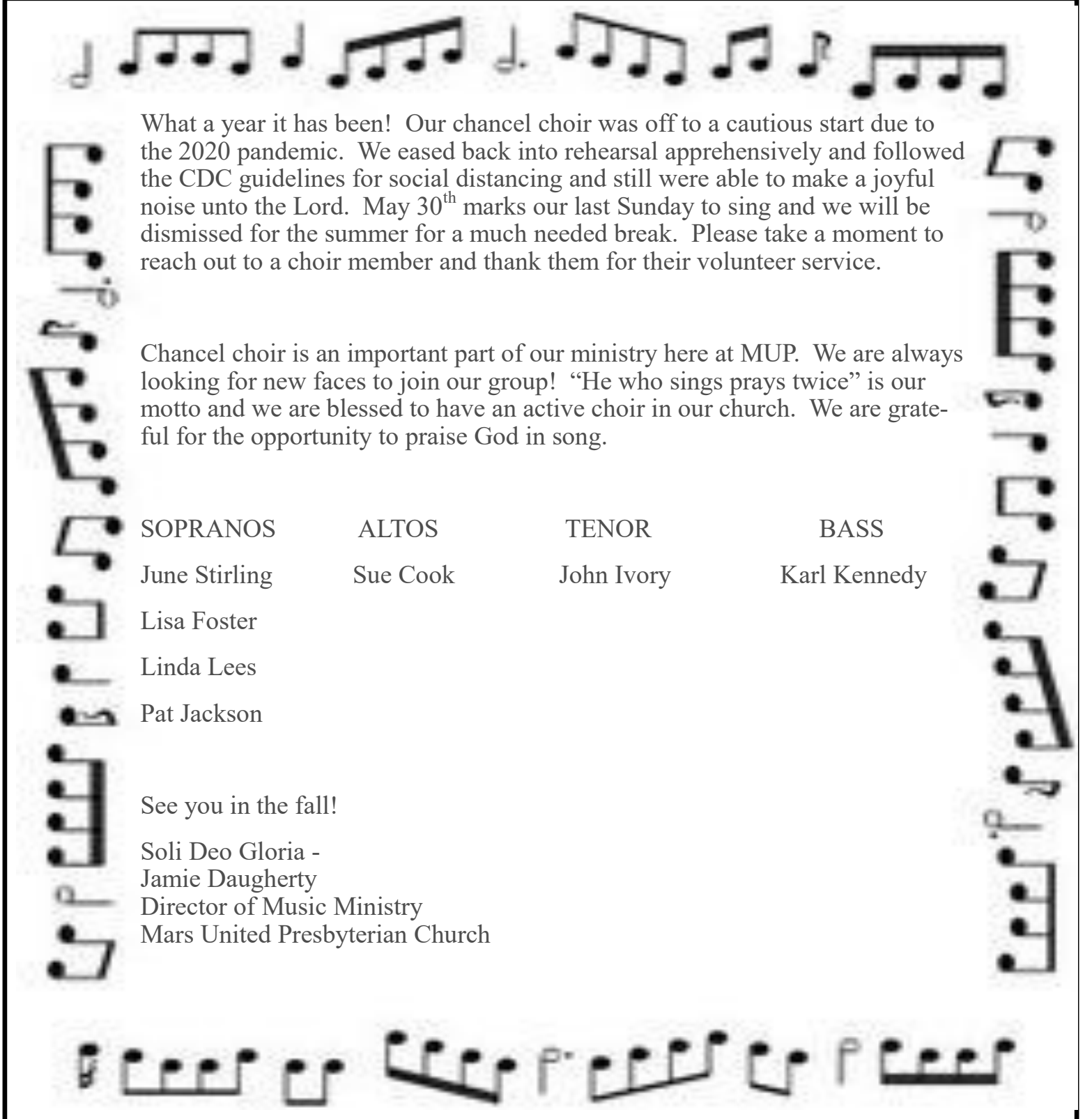
Worship Hours: In-person 10:00am and online every Sunday

Food Bank Collection: Every First Sunday—June 6, 2021

Graduation Sunday: June 6th

New to You Sale: June 11th and 12th

Deacon Kindness Offering: Every Second Sunday (June 13th) of the month.

A decorative border of musical notation, including various note values, rests, and clefs, surrounds the central text.

What a year it has been! Our chancel choir was off to a cautious start due to the 2020 pandemic. We eased back into rehearsal apprehensively and followed the CDC guidelines for social distancing and still were able to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. May 30th marks our last Sunday to sing and we will be dismissed for the summer for a much needed break. Please take a moment to reach out to a choir member and thank them for their volunteer service.

Chancel choir is an important part of our ministry here at MUP. We are always looking for new faces to join our group! "He who sings prays twice" is our motto and we are blessed to have an active choir in our church. We are grateful for the opportunity to praise God in song.

SOPRANOS

June Stirling

Lisa Foster

Linda Lees

Pat Jackson

ALTOS

Sue Cook

TENOR

John Ivory

BASS

Karl Kennedy

See you in the fall!

Soli Deo Gloria -
Jamie Daugherty
Director of Music Ministry
Mars United Presbyterian Church

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 \$40.82

Graduation
Sunday June 6th

Graduates



EMILY IVORY

Emily is a 2021 Mars High School Graduate.

Emily Ivory will be attending Grove City College this fall. She plans to enter the Entrepreneurial Studies program. She will also compete as a member of the Grove City College Girls Tennis Team.



Summer Love

I love the summer's rays,
shinning from the sun
the warmth of laughter
with children having fun.

I love summer's breezes,
gently drifting in the air
the sounds of pure delight
when the weather is fair.

I love summer's laziness,
the strolls down the lane
the sound of peacefulness
upon summer's gentle rain.

I love summer's smells,
fragrant with memories
the happy thoughts wafting
of BBQ's, friends and
families.

I love summertime,
it's smells, sights, its
sounds
I love that God blesses me
when summer comes
around!

~~~~~

## Psalm 118:24

*"This is the day which  
the Lord hath made;  
we will rejoice and  
be glad in it."*





## SARA AUGUSTINE

Sara is a 2021 graduate of Butler Community college. She received her associates degree in general studies. She will be moving to Nags Head, NC for the summer to do an internship.



## OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES

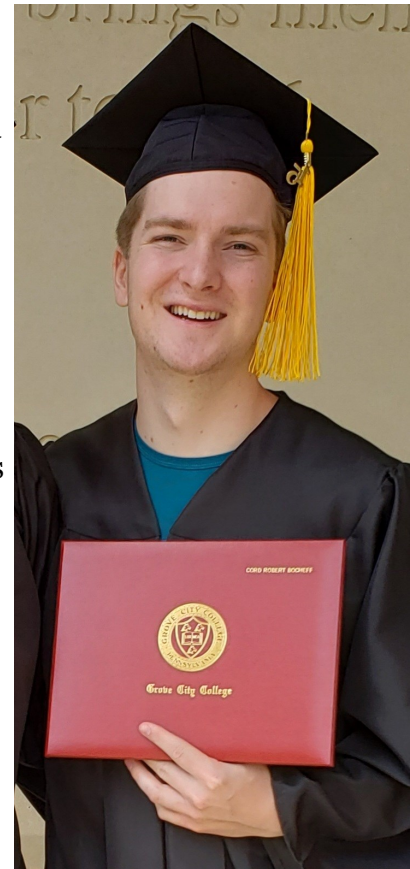
2021



## CORD BOCHEFF

Cord graduated from Grove City College with a Bachelor Degree in Business Analytics and a minor in Accounting.

In July, he will be working towards obtaining his Master of Science in Business Analytics from Grove City College Masters program.



## KATIE OLSEN

Katie Olsen graduated magna cum laude from Penn State University with a Bachelor Degree in Music Education.

At Penn State, Katie was on the executive board of the university's chapter of the National Association for Music Educators as well as Encore benefitting THON, the largest student-run philanthropy committed to enhancing the lives of children impacted by childhood cancer. She also participated in numerous performances, including a world premiere and a full concert at Carnegie Hall.

Katie hopes to share her love of music by teaching in an elementary school setting.



MARS UP CHURCH'S

# NEW TO YOU SALE

FRIDAY, JUNE 11TH AND JUNE 12TH

FRIDAY, JUNE 11TH

PREVIEW SALE— 6PM—8PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH

8AM—2PM



**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE PURCHASE OF  
NEW CHAIRS FOR THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**How Can I Help??**

- Donate your gently used items
- Floor help during the sale
- Tear-Down following the Sale



## SAVE THE DATE!

- ♦ June 6th  
Communion
- ♦ June 6th  
GRADUATE SUNDAY
- ♦ June 11th & 12th New to You Sale
- ♦ June 20th Fathers Day—Dad's Root beer for all men
- ♦ July 11th thru July 15th VBS 'TREASURED '



## 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 In-person  
Worship  
Sunday's at 10am

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

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