



In 1735 John Wesley, the man who became a key founder of the Methodist movement, traveled to Savannah, in the province of Georgia with the intention of evangelizing Native Americans. This was 20 years before the French and Indian war and long before the formation of the United States. He traveled to Georgia at the request of James Oglethorpe, who had founded the colony, and who wanted John to be the colonies new minister. In February of 1736 Wesley arrived in Savannah ready to convert the “savage” Native Americans. However, in a journal entry from January of 1738 John Wesley wrote, "I went to America to convert the Indians; but oh, who shall convert me?"

This encounter highlights for me one of the great struggles within Christianity. On one hand Christians have knowledge of something that can save other's souls and transform their lives; while on the other hand, we remain wholly hesitant to allow our own lives to be transformed. We are called to help direct others to the light while we ourselves hide in the darkness. There is a natural unease to the work of evangelism because evangelism requires Christians to believe they have an answer that others are lacking. This inevitably creates a sense of superiority. We think we are better than others because we have a certain knowledge, the most important knowledge, and knowledge we are told is power. We do not mean to act superior. More often than not we strive to be humble, and to lower ourselves in service the way Jesus taught. But still, in the act of evangelizing our faith, there is the underpinning truth that we know something worth teaching to another, and that role of teacher creates in our minds a hierarchy in the faith. Some do not evangelize because they feel this hierarchy and consider themselves to unimportant or unqualified to bear the faith to others. This elevated position may not be our intention, but it becomes our reality. Never the less we cannot hide behind it. We are called to be one in Christ with our sisters and brothers which means we must somehow be equals not superiors. And yet we know that this tension exists. How do we share the “Good News” without assuming authority over the other person?

How do we restrain from the savior complex, the idea that we save people or we have all the answers? The truth is we do not have all the answers. We don't even have most of the answers. At least we do not live like we have the answers. If we were to take a broad look at Christianity across the United States, our morality, if it differs at all from the general populous, is only marginally different. Christians misuse power, we cheat on spouses, we get divorces, we profit off the manipulation or mistreatment of others, we celebrate violent tendencies, we applaud political victories at the expense of others, we fail to care for people, we...it turns out, are sinful, just like all those we would hope to evangelize. The point of this is not to make us feel guilty about our hypocrisy, it is to help us realize we are not morally superior than those without Christ. The difference is we know about grace which gives us joy for the present and hope for the future. Which brings us to the point of evangelism.

Evangelism is about sharing the good news with love and grace. I say share because evangelism done well is a shared experience. Sharing does not mean dictating, it does not mean teaching, it does not mean saving. Sharing is about doing something or enjoying something together. We live into grace together. As Christians we have much we can learn from those outside the faith as we do life with them; just as they have much to learn from us. We must share our lives with others if we ever hope to be successful in sharing the Gospel! This means being vulnerable, it means listening, it means being open to others. Evangelism can feel like a big scary word, but doing life with others is not scary, it is rewarding and good. I encourage you to do life with others, build mutual trust, genuinely care for another, develop meaningful connections, and then share faith. Evangelism isn't truly about converting the nonbeliever, it is about transforming people, and we all need transformed by grace!

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

MOMS UP

Moms with kids 0-6
Meet other Moms - friendship,
support, sharing ideas, and more.

Mars UP Church
232 Crowe Ave. Mars, PA
1st and 3rd Tuesdays
10 a.m. to Noon

Childcare on 1st Tuesday - qualified
and loving care for the little ones

Moms Lifting Moms UP

For more info contact Ashley Hauser: 814-270-9101 / ashleyhauser90@yahoo.com



GIVING & SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

GIVING -

Food Pantry Donations

There is a basket located in Tarry & Talk that food donations can be placed in to be donated to the local food pantry. Non perishable, not expired food is accepted.

Coins for Camp

For generations, church camp has been a place where kids make life changing decisions to be in a relationship with Jesus.

SERVING -

- Applefest
- Bulletins & Newsletters
- Sunday School
- Nursery
- MomsUp

BONFIRE OCT. 19

@ Quality Gardens

Join us at 4 pm for a warm time of
fun, fellowship and food.
Invite your friends and neighbors!



Hosanna Industries

Mark your calendars
for **October 26.**

Katie DeJournette from Hosanna
Industries will be here with us to
share about their ministries.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Please contact Pastor
Brian for details and
information regarding
the New Member Class
pastor@mars-up.org



MY School Preschool

Preschool Prep
(Two-Year-Old) Program

OPENINGS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

2025-2026
Sept. - April



Scan for
form

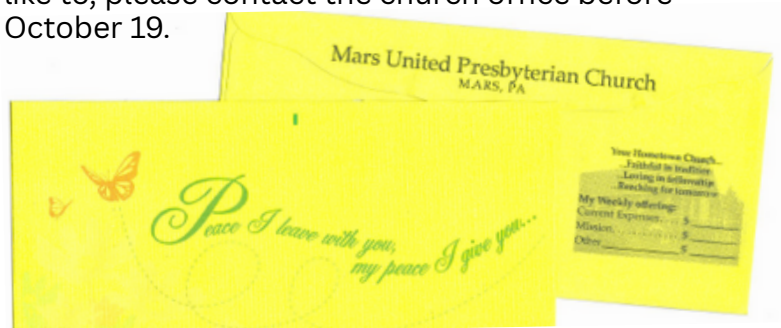


PRESCHOOL PREP CLASS

JOIN THE FUN TOGETHER~Fridays, 10-11:30 am STUDENTS AGE 2-3
My School Preschool at Mars UP Church
Contact Information: Email: myschoolpreschoolmars@gmail.com
Phone: 724-272-9911

Offering Envelopes

If you do not receive offering envelopes and would like to, please contact the church office before October 19.



Sacrament of BAPTISM

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

MANY BLESSINGS

ELIZA BENNETT YANCEY

PARENTS

ANDREW & MEGAN YANCEY

SISTER

MOLLY



Christmas Play

*Inviting all
Children &
Youth*

Collective endeavor of
the Valencia and Mars
UP Churches.

Scan and fill out
interest form below.

Questions - email
marsup@mars-up.org



***One
Miraculous Winter's Night
In Pittsburgh***

MARS UP APPLEBUTTER



pint - \$5
quart - \$8
1/2 pint - \$3



TOY SWAP!

SPONSORED BY MOMSUP (MOMS GROUP
OF MARS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH)

WHEN: Nov. 14, 2025– Coupon Holders
3:00PM-6:00PM

Nov. 15, 2025– All Welcome
10:00 AM-4:00PM

(10 toy limit until 2:00 PM, then all you
can carry!)

WHERE:

Mars United Presbyterian Church
232 Crowe Ave, Mars, PA

****Also accepted- Books, infant
toys (play gyms, swings,
jumpers), puzzles, etc!**

Please donate only
items in clean, working
condition with all
parts.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Bring your toys to swap
to Mars UP Church

Oct. 20-Nov. 13

Tues: 12:00-4:00 PM

Thurs– 8:00AM-4:00PM

Fri– 8:00AM-12:00PM

(E-mail for after hours drop-off
at volunteers home if needed)

You will receive a
coupon designating
your number of items.

Return during the first
swap day to get the
number of items noted
on your coupon!

No toys to swap?
That's ok! Come on the
day open free to
everyone (10 toy limit
per family)

Just want to
donate to the
swap? That's
ok too! All
leftover items will
be further donated!

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT
MRMMURRAY626@GMAIL.COM**



Meals on Wheels Cookies Come bake with us! Monday, October 27 at 9am

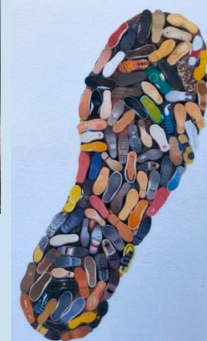
Our church will provide cookies for Meals on Wheels for the month of November. Let's join in fellowship, fun, and service as we bake cookies for our neighbors.



**MARS AREA
MARCHING BAND
SHOE DRIVE**



Collection box located in the church (near elevator). Now through 11/30. Accepting clean, gently worn (no holes or tears) and new shoes. No ice skate, roller blades, or wheelies.



St. John Lutheran Church & Mars United Presbyterian Joint Youth Group/Kids Club 2025-2026 Calendar

**Kids
CLUB &**

Mars Area Youth Group

Unless otherwise noted:

Youth Group (Grades 6-12) meets at Mars UP Church (232 Crowe Ave)

Kids Club (Grades 2-5) meets at St. John Lutheran Church (420 Beaver St)

Event	Date	Time
Combined Service Event	Oct 5, 2025	4-5:30p
Combined Social Event	Oct 19, 2025	4-5:30p
Meeting (dinner at St. John)	Nov 2, 2025	4-5:30p
Meeting (dinner at Mars United Presb.)	Nov 16, 2025	4-5:30p
Combined Joint Worship Service at St John Lutheran Church (420 Beaver St)	Nov 23, 2025	9-10a
Meeting (dinner at St. John)	Dec 7, 2025	4-5:30p
Combined Caroling at St. John Senior Care Center	Dec 14, 2025	4-5:30p

*Meetings held at churches will have the option for a family dinner following the meeting. Youth Group and Kids Club will eat dinner together. Please inform the pastors if you plan to attend dinner so that numbers and dietary needs can be anticipated. *Combined Events include both Kids' Club and the Youth Group at the same activity

*Joint Worship Services will include both congregations

Dates for your Calendar

Date	Event	Time
October 4	Applefest	10-4
October 5	World Wide Communion	
October 19	Bonfire	4 pm
Oct 20 - Nov 13	Toy drop off for Toy Swap	
October 26	Hosanna Industries in worship	10 am
October 31	Halloween in the parking lot	5 pm

OCTOBER IS

Pastor
appreciation
MONTH

Thank you!!

DATES TO KNOW

- October 4 - Mars Applesfest
- October 5 - World Communion Sunday
- October 19 - Bonfire
- October 26 - Hosanna Industries
- Visit our website for a full color newsletter



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 Worship
Sunday's at 10:00am

Prayer Chain:
pastor@mars-up.org

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Mars, PA 16046

