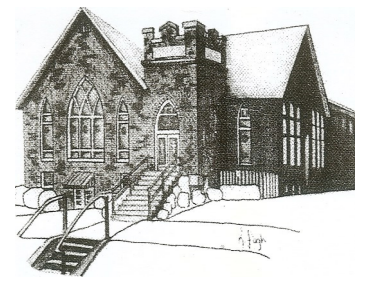


MARS UP CHURCH



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

APRIL 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off (Proverbs 23:18).

This month, I want to talk about how things are going, what I have doing, and what lies ahead. Each day, I am better acquainted with you all. Please be patient with me (and Caroline!) as we learn and remember faces and names – don't forget, there are only two of us, but over one hundred of you! Each Sunday is more comfortable than the last, and I am getting better in worship – I feel a more relaxed atmosphere each week. I am attempting to get to all the Sunday school classes, as well as the various meetings (important in our Presbyterian tradition!). Slowly but surely, I am learning “how things work” around here.

The ministry and outreach of MUP continues – our role as a “venue” for the community goes on, including the upcoming addition of *My School Preschool* this fall (more on that in future newsletters). I praise God that our building won't be empty during the week!

Needless to say, much work lies ahead. I've spoken with many of you, yet many remain. It is my hope to speak to anyone who wants to talk, including those who have stepped away from our fellowship. As I said my first week, nothing will happen at Mars UP until healing and reconciliation occur. If you would like to speak with me, please contact me to set aside a time.

Regarding the actual Interim process, we are a long way from the beginning the actual search. Before we get to that point, we will have many months of conversation, study, and prayer.

The first step will be to form a ***Transition Team***. This is NOT the Pastor Nominating Committee, but a Team of 5 – 7 persons who will lead the congregation through the Interim Process. Elsewhere in this newsletter is an article describing the tasks and characteristics of the Team, and its members. Please take time to read the article, and pray about whom you might suggest to be on the Team.

My brothers sisters, in Christ, *Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off*. I am absolutely hopeful, optimistic, determined, and *unafraid* of the future. With the help and support of the Holy Spirit, we WILL get through the days, weeks, and months ahead.

Please continue to pray for unity, dialogue, and reconciliation. Pray for each other, pray for whoever makes up the Transition Team, and pray for your PASTOR! I need all the help I can get!

I remain thankful to God for calling me to Interim Ministry, and to Mars UP Church for calling me as your pastor.

In Christ,

Pastor Jim

The Transition Team

The Transition Team helps organize and lead the Interim process.

The purpose of the Team is:

- To help members heal after the loss of the pastor and to gain perspective on the chapter in their lives that has ended
- To gather the feelings and ideas of both members and non-members of the congregation about their church in a time of change
- To provide a forum for the sharing and focusing of hopes and aspirations for the future
- To help the congregation move from preoccupation with the past to a state of readiness for a new chapter in their life under the leadership of a new pastor
- To involve the congregation in accomplishing the developmental tasks of the Interim period (Reflecting on our history, Discovering a new identity, Empowering and allowing leadership changes, Renewing denominational linkages, Committing to a new direction in ministry)

The Team members must be committed to the well-being and future of the congregation and its ministry. The congregation needs to gain perspective on the past and focus on the future. The goal is to bring the congregation to a condition of health, unity, and readiness to move forward under the leadership of a new pastor.

Communication between the Team and the congregation is crucial, and must take place on a regular basis. A liaison between the Team and session is a good idea (this can be one or two active elders.) Full support of the membership is essential to make the most of the Interim opportunity. The widest possible ownership of ideas and decisions must be sought.

The Team should be 5-7 members, and represent a cross-section of the congregation. It can be appointed by session (as compared to the PNC, which is elected by the congregation.) The members should have a vision of what should happen during the Interim process.

During the process, Team members need to exercise “appropriate behavior.” They must value each member’s contribution, and take all ideas and suggestions seriously. They must be willing to listen, and honor confidentiality. They must be willing to become acquainted with resources for gathering and evaluating information. The trust of the membership is essential.

A major task of the Team will be to gather information needed to create a congregational vision, establish goals, and define activities for the future ministry of the churches. This information will be a key resource for the PNC as they begin the search for the next pastor.

CONT.

Expectations for Team Members:

- Must be diligent in the use of the means of grace and of prayer. This means regular worship attendance.
- Must be committed to helping fulfill the congregation's vision
- Must support the ministry of the congregation thru regular giving – practicing good stewardship in the sharing of time, talent, and treasure.
- Must seek to grow his/her spiritual life by daily prayer and regular study of God's Word
- Must attend meetings and follow thru on assignments
- Must exhibit a spirit of cooperation and collaboration, willing to work together “for the common good” with staff and members
- Must seek to communicate clearly with other Team members, staff, and congregation members, and avoid misunderstandings
- Must respect the need for confidentiality in appropriate circumstances
- Must have the trust and respect of the congregation

If you would like to suggest someone to be on the Team, please speak to Pastor Jim.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. The Session is very excited about three upcoming baptisms on April 15, 2018 :
Rodney Craig Heeter, son of John and Ella Heeter
Ella Heeter
Emma Rose Badger, daughter of Matthew and Angela Badger
2. Teenage Sunday School class – ***TEEN TIME*** – to be taught by Elder Herb Wellman
3. Membership Breakfast on April 15, 2018, at 9:30 AM with a speaker from Mars Home for Youth
4. Plans for My School Preschool moving along beautifully
5. Our Church roof is in need of significant repairs and we are researching our best options for addressing the issue.
6. Any questions or concerns regarding the above or ***ANYTHING*** in the life of our Church, please ask any Session member

MARS UP SESSION

CLASS OF 2018

SALLY OLSEN
LINDA MOODY
HERB WELLMAN
ALMA STASKIEWICZ

CLASS OF 2019

ALICE LEONBERG
JUNE STIRLING
MARIE MATTHEWS
LISA BARBOUR
IRA BAUMGARTEL

CLASS OF 2020

KEITH CUYAR
LOUISE FOX
ANGELA BADGER

MARS UP DEACONS

CLASS OF 2018

JENNY IVORY
BONNIE MCELHINNY
JANIE AIKEN
PAT AULD

CLASS OF 2019

LINDA LEES
JAY WILSON
JILL COOPER

CLASS OF 2020

CAROLINE KOPAR
AMY LAUTEN

Volunteers for 2018

APRIL Nursery

April 1—Amy Lauten
April 8—
April 15— Missy Wells
April 22--Keith Cuyar
April 29-Brianna Hager

APRIL Greeters

Elder- June Stirling & Deacon- Linda Lees

APRIL Tarry N Talk Hosts

Christian Ed/Mission Outreach Committee: Alma Staskiewicz, Lisa Barbour, Angela Badger, Jenny Ivory, Jill Cooper

APRIL Muffin Crew

April 1-
April 8- Pam and Linda
April 15-Membership Breakfast
April 22 -Pam and Linda
April 29 -

APRIL Flowers for Worship

Sundays available for Flowers are April 15th, April 22nd.



Sunday, April 15th

Baptism of Rodney & Ella Heeter @ 8:30 am

Baptism of Emma Badger @ 11:00 a.m.



MUP FELLOWSHIP AT THE LENTEN LUNCHEAS



MINI-MUP FELLOWSHIP AT THE EASTER EGG HUNT





MARS UP CHURCH WIDE PICNIC

JUNE 10TH AFTER CHURCH WORSHIP

Join us for a wonderful time of
fellowship at

ADAMS TOWNSHIP PARK!

Location: Adams Township Park Pavilion (near Play-
ground)

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages Provided, Everyone bring a covered dish.

Watch upcoming Bulletins for more Details!!

Deacon Update

⇒Deacons Kindness Offering
(separate offering) is the
SECOND Sunday of the month.

Recent giving from the Deacon Kind-
ness Offering was disbursed as:

Pine Valley Bible Camp \$1500.00

Mars Home for Youth \$1500.00

The Lighthouse \$1500.00

The Deacons thank you for all your
support.

REMEMBER!

⇒Bring non-perishable food do-
nations the first Sunday of
each month to support our
local food bank!



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

Save the Date!!! Vacation Bible School

JUNE 18TH THRU JUNE 22ND 6:00 UNTIL 8:30

Check out MARS UP CHURCH WEBSITE @
WWW.MARS-UP.ORG FOR REGISTRATION



We are looking for excited kids, helpful youth and adult volunteers to help make this year's VBS another amazing adventure of God's love and outreach to our community. Please speak to Alma Staskiewicz, or Sally Olsen to see how your gifts can help make this happen!

APRIL 15TH—VBS MEETING @ 12:15p.m.

ALL VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!!!

Membership & Mission Breakfast

On April 15th you are invited to a Membership & Mission pancake breakfast in the Fellowship Hall of the church. The purpose of the breakfast is to celebrate the membership of the church—recognizing long-serving members & new members in the past year. The Mission & Outreach Committee will be offering the opportunity to grow more familiar with several mission opportunities around us. Mars Home for Youth will be speaking at the Breakfast..

It will be a great morning! I hope you are able to join us! As always...especially when food and faith is involved...ALL ARE WELCOME!

There will not be any Sunday School on April 15th for all to enjoy the Breakfast.

Pancake
Breakfast



MARS HOME FOR YOUTH WISH LIST

The CE/MO Committee is asking for donations for the MHY. At the Membership Breakfast on April 15th they will be collecting the following supplies for the MHY.

Items Needed Most Are: Shampoo, body wash (sensitive skin is most needed), lip balm, sunscreen, deodorant, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes , & as always travel size body essentials from hotels.





Easter Sunday
April 1, 2018
6:45 am



MHY Family Services
Main Campus
521 Route 228
Mars, PA 16046
All are welcome!
RAIN OR SHINE

ALL ARE WELCOME— OUTDOOR SERVICE

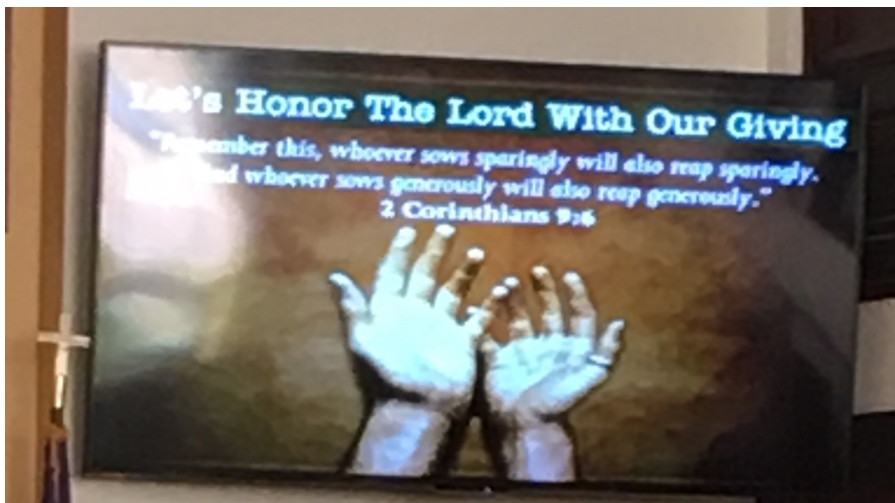
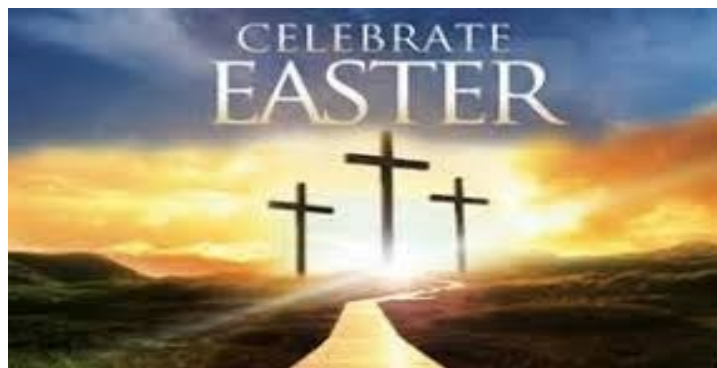
Officiated by: Reverend James Gascoine, Dutilh United Methodist Church and Reverend James Kirk, Valencia Presbyterian Church

He is Risen!

Sunday, April 1, 2018

8:30am & 11am

No Sunday School or Youth Group



Are you enjoying the new Media Screens in the Tarry N Talk and Sanctuary????

If so, let Michele Baumgartel and Alma Staskiewicz know how much you enjoy them! Michele spends countless hours of her time getting these ready for the worship service each week. Alma has also devoted her time to keep everyone informed of upcoming events in the life of the church. Events are continually running on the screen in Tarry N Talk. Both of these Christian women are devoted to enhancing your worship experience at Mars UP !!!!

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10

MARS UP STUDENT MINISTRY PAGE

What you need to Know about!

*Let's Check out what's going on this month
for Mars UP Student Ministry!*

APRIL

4/1—HAPPY EASTER—HE IS RISEN

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
NO YOUTH GROUP—ENJOY TIME WITH FAMILIES

4/8– NORMAL YOUTH GROUP

4/15– PANCAKE BREAKFAST / NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

NORMAL YOUTH GROUP

4/22– SERVICE PROJECT 1-4 / URBAN AIR

4/29– NORMAL YOUTH GROUP

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 22nd
Urban Air
Adventure Park



Service project will be from
1pm until 4pm

Then will leave for Urban Air in
Cranberry

May 20th Ronald McDonald
House

Serving Breakfast @ 8:00 am

Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball
Game @ 1:00 p.m.

More Details to Follow!!





Birthdays of the Month

APRIL 2—JOHN GRAU

APRIL 2—BILL GUESMAN

APRIL 4—SALLY OLSEN

APRIL 5—CAROLYN GOLDEN

APRIL 5—RUTH ANN MCCRALEY

APRIL 8—COLE BOCHEFF

APRIL 9—DENNIS MCCANDLESS

APRIL 12—JAN SCHMITT

APRIL 13—CLAYTON PFEIFER

APRIL 15—IDA BAILEY

APRIL 17—LOUISE FOX

APRIL 24—JACK BARBOUR

APRIL 25—DON LEWIS

APRIL 26—GINNY BARTOLAC

APRIL 27—DAVE MCELHINNY

APRIL 29—SUE MORRIS



WE NEED YOU !!!!!

The following are a few opportunities for you to give back:

- ⇒ Children's Ministry (assist or lead kids' activities during 11am service)
- ⇒ Greeter (put to work one of your gifts and welcome people to worship)
- ⇒ Sponsor Flowers for Sunday Worship
- ⇒ Nursery Rotation (volunteer in nursery once a year)
- ⇒ Sunday Morning Muffin Bakers.
- ⇒ Youth Group Sunday Evenings (Lead games, help with food, supply snacks, female leader, play an instrument and lead songs, help clean up after youth group)

If you are interested and available to help with any of the above, please contact the office. 724-625-1365

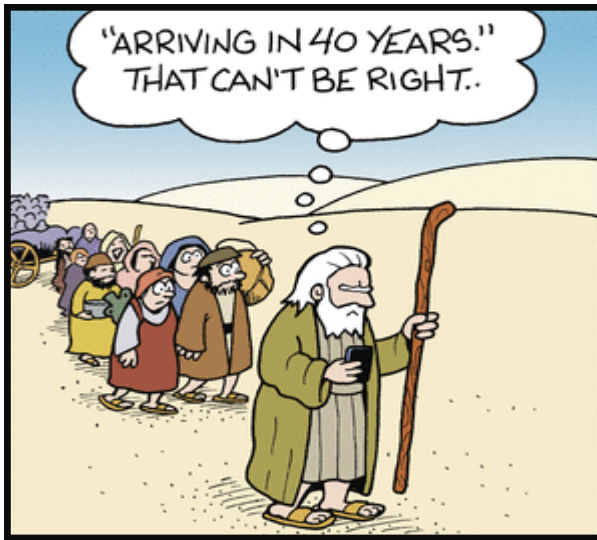
April 2018

TARRY N TALK: CE/MO
 COMMITTEE: Alma Staskiewicz, Lisa Barbour, Angela Badger, Jenny Ivory, Jill Cooper

1 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30 Early Wsp 11:00 Morning Wsp No Youth Group Nursery: Amy Lauten	2 1:30p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Griefshare	3 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	4 9:00a.m. Material Girls 6:00 GROW 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7
8 8:30 Early Worp/ Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wor 12:15 CE Meeting 12:15 B & G Mtg 12:15 Worship 6:00 pm MS/HS YG Nursery:	9 6:30 p.m. Griefshare	10 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	11 9:00a.m. Material Girls 6:00 GROW No Choir Rehearsal	12 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting 7:00 pm Deacon	13	14
15 8:30 Early Worp MEMBERSHIP BREAKFAST 11:00 Morning Wors 12:15 VBS Meeting 6:00 pm MS/HS YG Nursery: Missy Wells	16 6:30 p.m. Griefshare	17 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	18 9:00a.m. Material Girls 6:00 GROW 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00 p.m. Session Mtg.	20	21
22 8:30 Early Worp 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Wors 1:00 p.m. Youth Service Project 4:00 p.m. Youth Urban Air Nursery: Keith Cuyar	23 6:30 p.m. Griefshare	24 8:00 am WIC 9am A-Team 7:00 p.m. AA	25 9:00a.m. Material Girls 6:00 GROW 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28 Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner Fund-raiser
29 8:30 Early Worp 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 6:00 pm MS/HS YG Nursery: Brianna Hager	30 6:30 p.m. Griefshare					

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ April 1— EASTER SERVICES @ 8:30 & 11:00 AM
- ◆ April 8—Communion at the 8:30 service
- ◆ April 15— Membership Celebration Pancake Breakfast
- ◆ April 15—Baptism at both services
- ◆ April 15—VBS meeting @ 12:15 All Volunteers Welcome
- ◆ May 13—Mother's Day
- ◆ May 13—Confirmation Sunday



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.

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 8:30 & 11

Prayer Chain:
mjaiken@zoominternet.net