

MARS UP CHURCH



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

March 2021

Dear friends and members at MUP,

Earlier this year if you experienced worship at Mars U P Church, (either in-person or virtually by way of our live Facebook feed (or later in the week by way of our YouTube channel or Facebook page), you heard me speak about four spiritual disciplines to nurture our spirits.

They were: 1. Worship, 2. Bible reading/study, 3. prayer and 4. spiritual discernment. Those weekly disciplines/ practices continue to be even MORE VITAL to our spiritual health as this pandemic continues and our sense of isolation and separation from others becomes more and more oppressive.

That is why during the season of Lent we at MUP have recommended that you use the devotional tool “**praying the scriptures**” for daily reading and reflection. Hopefully this will remind all of us daily that God still loves us, cares for us and will provide for us the strength we need to see us through. Each Sunday hardcopies of that devotional for the week are available for you to take home and use. (Digital copies have already been emailed to our mailing list.)

Also since we are not hosting the “Lenten Luncheons” this year, our worship committee has chosen to post “**Views from the Pews – Reflections on the Lord’s Prayer**” each week on our Facebook page. The videos will be presented weekly by members of our congregation. You are invited to check the site (links are on our church website) watch the brief video and then do your own reflecting. (note: details about Maundy Thursday / Good Friday and Easter Sunday are still being worked out. More info to come later.)

On the next page, is a new hymn that can be sung to familiar tunes. It captures the sorrowful and grievous spirit of our day and it challenges people of faith to be a healing presence wherever we are.

New Hymn : WE GRIEVE 500,000 (Covid deaths in the USA)

to tune of ("Lead On O King Eternal", or "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus".)

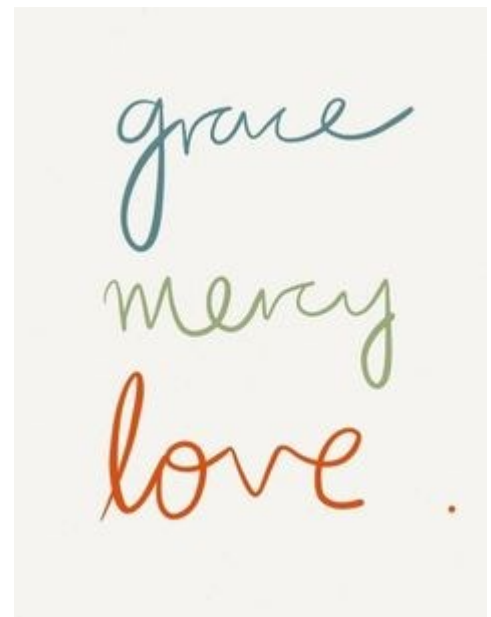
We grieve 500,000 — yet we can't understand;
we cannot grasp how many have died throughout this land.
We cannot see their faces or hear the stories told
of all the ways they blessed us — the young ones and the old.

O God, we grieve the struggle of those who died alone —
so far from friends and neighbors, from all they'd ever known.
We grieve for precious people who could not say good-bye;
we weep for those, now mourning, who sit alone and cry.

O God, we grieve for millions who now are unemployed
who cannot feed their families — whose hope has been destroyed.
We grieve that needed workers must worry for their health
while some with lives of privilege stay home and build their wealth.

O God of love and mercy, we cry to you, "How long?"
In troubled times remind us: Your love is ever strong.
Now as we grieve the suffering, Lord, show us how to be
A healing, loving presence in each community.

Take care. Stay Safe. Praise God Daily.
In His Service,
Rev. Paul Aiello



Opportunities to Worship In-Person and On-line

MUP meets in-person and on-line each week. You can watch the service live, or anytime during the week on either facebook or Youtube. You don't need a Facebook account to watch the service live on Facebook, and you can watch the prior week's service any time on Facebook or YouTube.

If you have a Facebook account, the easiest way to watch the service and to stay connected with the church, is to join the Mars United Presbyterian Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/41052007336>), but you don't need to join in order to see the page.



If you don't have a Facebook account, You can watch the service by going to the Mars UP website (.<https://www.mars-up.org/>). There you will be able to watch the prior week's service, or if you come on at 10:00 Sunday morning, you will be able to watch the service live. There is also a lot of great information both on the website and the facebook page.

Don't forget to Turn your
Clocks ahead on March 13th
BEFORE you go to Bed!!

Daylight Savings Time begins
on Sunday, March 14th

See you at Worship on March
14th @ 10:00 am



Time to Spring Ahead



We want to invite you to our **GriefShare program**. GriefShare is a Christ-centered, video-based, [grief recovery ministry](#). 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,
February 22nd through Monday,
May 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM
at Mars United Presbyterian Church,
232 Crowe Avenue, Mars (rear entrance).
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 questions please call McDonald-Aeberli at 724-625-2900 or email the facilitator at ddemarco5@yahoo.com

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

Session Highlights

On the third Thursday of every month, Elders of Session meet to pray and discern the leading of the Spirit in our church's activities and ministry. Here are a few highlights from **January** and **February** Session Meetings

Committee Assignments:

Worship/Membership: Elders Keith Nichols, Christi Augustine, Maryann Croop; Deacons Sharon Gibbs

Stewardship: John Ivory, Linda Lees, Sally Olsen

Buildings and Grounds: Elders Mike Bocheff, Bob Riefer, Herb Wellman; Deacons Alice Leonberg

Christian Education/Mission: Elders Susan Cox, Lisa Barbour, Don Lewis Deacons Caroline Kopar

Worship/Membership:

1. Served 11 for Communion on Christmas Eve Service at 11:00 pm
2. Served 32 for Communion on January 3, 2021 Service
3. Ash Wednesday Service – Rev. Paul Aiello and Karl Kennedy will conduct a brief worship every 15 minutes with communion offered.
4. Celebration of Communion will be the first Sunday of each month and 4 times during the year. as approved by session.
5. Weekly Lenten Video on Facebook and U tube Theme: The Lord's Prayer

Stewardship:

Congregational Meeting for acceptance of Budget set for Sunday February 14
Per Capita for 2021 is set at \$40.82 per member.

Buildings and Grounds:

Alterations to Choir Loft to begin in June
Porch Roof leak has been fixed
Obtaining quotes to "Point" the Brick in Building facing Crowe Ave.

Christian Education:

My School Preschool has begun to accept reservations for next school Year
Beginning in September, 2021.
54 spots have been reserved

Herb Wellman

Clerk of Session

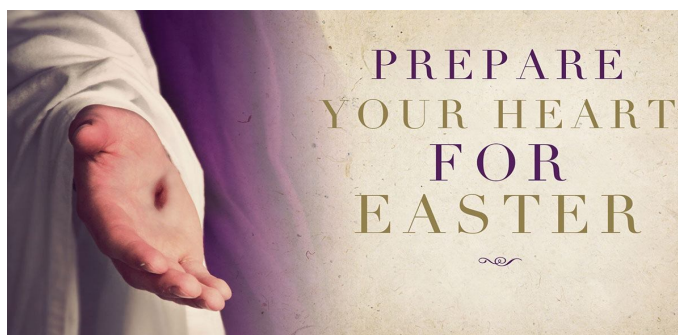
Making a Difference

Here are a few ways to make an impact in the community and in our church during Lent:

- **Feed the Hungry**—each month we collect non-perishable food items to be given to a local food bank. The second Sunday of each month, we take up an additional offering (The Deacon's Kindness Offering) to help support those in financial distress.
- **Chancel Choir** - the choir meets for practice Wednesday evenings at 7pm. We have a wonderful choir and are always looking for more people!
- **A-Team** - a Tuesday morning group of retirees who do great in and around the church building (*go A-Team!*).
- **Sunday School** - classes are available for every age and on a variety of topics. A great way to deepen your faith and get to know other people in the church!
- **Prayer Chain** - emails are sent supporting individuals, families, situations in the power of prayer.

TAKE THE LENTEN CHALLENGE!

Find ONE person during Lent and invite them to come with you to Sunday School and church. The best way to make a difference is to encourage someone to claim their faith in Jesus Christ!



- * Daily Scripture Readings "Praying The Scriptures" are available in Tarry N Talk and have been emailed.
 - * Sunday Worship @ 10am
- * Palm Sunday March 28th and the start of Holy Week
 - * Maundy Thursday—April 1st
 - * Good Friday—April 2nd
 - * Easter Sunday April 4th

2021 Easter Flowers



Your order for Easter Flowers will help to enhance the beauty of our church sanctuary. You may take your flowers with you following worship on Easter Sunday or designate them for a shut-in by checking the line below. Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 21, 2021

Easter Lilies \$8.50 _____

Tulips \$7.25 White _____ Yellow _____

Red _____ Pink _____

Daffodils \$7.25 _____

Shut-in _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

By: _____

Please prepay your order and place it in the offering basket, or bring it to the church office.



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY POTATO SOUP

The MUP Deacons will be making Potato Soup on March 17th for the church members.

Only Pick-up and Orders will be taken prior to the event.

If you are unable to pick-up your soup, delivery is available.

More Details to Follow!!

SAVE THE DATE!

- ♦ Glade Run Food Bank Collection– March 7th
- ♦ Communion—March 7th with Karl Kennedy
- ♦ Deacon Kindness Sunday Collection-March 14th
- ♦ Deacon Potato Soup—March 17th
- ♦ Good Friday—April 2nd
- ♦ Easter Sunday– April 4th



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 10:00 am

PRAYER CHAIN
mjaiken@zoominternet.net

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