

MARS UP CHURCH

September 2024

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

A Word from the Pastor

One of my favorite summer past times is going to yard sales and flea markets. So a few weeks ago when I heard that Cranberry Community United Presbyterian Church was having a huge sale I took my kids out. We found all sorts of treasures!

As is typical when my children accompany me on one of these adventures I let each of them pick one toy. Jacob, in his effort to be just like dad, picked one of those plastic pretend push mowers that blows bubbles as you push it. I think it cost fifty cents.

These pretend mowers have been around for ages, I can remember having one when I was a toddler pushing it in the yard pretending to mow. They are relatively simple toys that enable a child to pretend to do what their parent does.

Much like a play kitchen or toy workshop; play mowers allow kids to walk around a yard and pretend to mow just like mom or dad. And while pretending and role playing is a healthy and developmentally appropriate thing for young children, I fear that adults sometimes pretend in much the same way when it comes to faith. Children use pretend mowers because they aren't able to do the real thing. The act of actually cutting the grass, or actually making a difference is not safe for them yet.

Unfortunately, there are many people who have a play mower type of faith. They want to be seen with the mower, they want to walk around for show and perhaps even have the eye-catching display of bubbles to draw everyone's attention to the fact that they are pushing the bright colored mower. The problem is it is all for show. At the end of their presentation nothing changed, no grass was cut, no purpose fulfilled, no job completed.

The truth is that living the faith of Jesus Christ is more than a show or presentation. It is more than being seen on Sunday mornings or looking like you're doing the right things. It is hard work. It is constant work, like keeping up with mowing

the grass in the summer.

Being a Christian requires maintenance. Like the oil change or sharpening of blades on a mower our faith requires us to maintain our disciplines, add understanding, and sharpen our resolve. And the best part about actually living the faith modeled by Christ is that we will see results, we can hear and see and feel the impact it makes on our lives, our families lives and those around us. We are filled with that sense of pride and accomplishment, just like finishing mowing the grass on a hot day. We can look at what we have done and feel good about a job well done!

As for those who are pretending in the faith I want to offer a word of encouragement. Because pretending to be an active Christian proves the desire is there. What is missing is the know-how, the training and practice necessary to do the real thing. My son Jacob hasn't been shown yet how a real mower works, but he is eager to see and learn as he pretends for the time being. When the time is right he will learn how to push mow, and then perhaps use a riding mower, and someday a weedwhacker. It may be years from now, but he will learn and he will do some day. For now he is going to pretend.

If you are someone who has yet to take the leap from show to results I encourage you to make an equipment change and go from the plastic mower to the real deal. Take your faith and it's results seriously. Read the scriptures, attend bible study, go to Sunday school, etc. If you are someone whose faith has been nurtured and productive for years, do not neglect doing regular maintenance. Engage with mission, be generous, continue to read the scriptures and pray. For only a true faith will yield the accomplishments of a nicely manicured lawn. The visible signs of a true person of faith can be seen in their kindness, their hope, their love for others, and the grace they give. No more pretending, it's time to mow the yard!

Blessings,

Pastor Brian

Here are just a few of the opportunities we have at MUP to **SERVE AND CONNECT**

with each other and with the community

- Sunday School
- Nursery (sign up link below)
- Bulletin folding/mailing
- Newsletter folding/mailing
- Choir
- Church Life Committee
- Church Picnic
- 80+ Luncheon
- Applefest

Speak with Pastor Brian regarding these opportunities and more...

2024 Nursery Sign-up Link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084BA8AA2EABFF2-50185849-nursery>



MomsUP

Moms lifting Moms UP

Where: Mars United Presbyterian Church

232 Crowe Avenue, Mars, PA

When: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month

10 a.m. - Noon

Who: Mothers of kids ages 0-6.

What to Expect:

SMALL GROUPS: to meet other moms and develop new friendships.

CHILDCARE: qualified and loving care for our little ones.

For more information contact

Ashley Hauser.

Cell Phone: 1-814-270-9101

Email:

ashleyhauser90@yahoo.com

SUMMER FUN FEST

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Summer Fun Fest FUN!

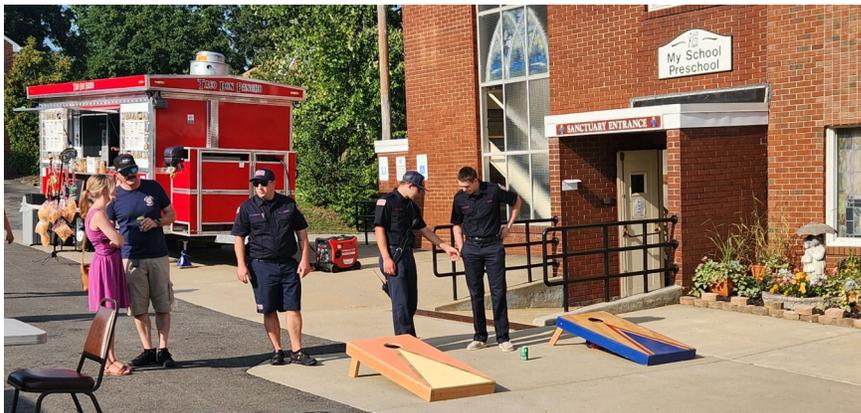
- Mars UP
- Taco Don Pancho
- Dunk Tank Participants
 Aaron Wollerton - Mars Soccer Assoc.
 Heidi Beahm - My School Preschool
 Suzanne Korkus - My School Preschool
 Jason Safreed - Adams Area Fire Dist.
 Chuck Hickenboth - Mars Boy Scouts
 Mark Riggio - Mars Boy Scouts
 Rev. Brian Hauser - Mars UP
- Musical Line Up
 Rock Solid
 Jeff Conner & Mike Houston
 Jimmy Bromley
 Shelley Duff Band





SUMMER FUN FEST

And so many more.....
THANK YOU!!





Fall dates to know:

September 22	Fall kick off
October 13	Youth Group Meeting
October 27	Service Project
November 10	Youth Group Meeting
November 17	Youth leading Worship (@ St. John's)
November 24	Fun outing
December 8	Youth Group Meeting
December 22	Caroling



 **September Music Listening:**

Here is a Spotify playlist, provided by Elizabeth, that contains hymns and songs for our September worship. An awesome opportunity to worship throughout the month and prepare for our worship together. (copy and paste the link into your browser, Spotify is a free music streaming app.)

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6WiNWLfH2wdl7A2HWYgyKi?si=UVNP4NOAToyWKqiTCbRjBQ&pi=u-3KPsdWLhSaiZ&nd=1&dlsi=a8209203e92d494a>

Included in this playlist:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| We Have Come Into His House | Day by Day | You Are My All in All |
| Crown Him With Many Crowns | Surely Goodness and Mercy | We Are An Offering |
| Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty | Abide | Spirit of the Living God |
| Shine Jesus Shine | Holy Spirit Welcome | Just As I Am |
| Sweet, Sweet Spirit | Holy Forever | Living Hope |
| Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing | How Firm a Foundation | Cleanse Me |

are you 80 + ?
You are invited

bring a guest and join us for the

80+ Luncheon

Celebrating Life and Longevity

Sunday, September 22

Mars UP

immediately following worship

Please RSVP to church office

marsup@mars-up.org

724-625-1365

Participants will receive a coupon
for a helpful service



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 @ 10AM
ADAMS TOWNSHIP PARK**



See Pastor Brian to help out
with the Mars UP booth.

Be sure to order your
Mars UP hometown t-shirt to
represent the church.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Date	Event	Time
September 1	Communion Sunday	10 am
September 3	MomsUP	10 am
September 8	Church Picnic @ Township Pavilion	10 am
September 15	Sunday School Starts	9 am
September 22	Youth Group Event	
September 22	80+ Luncheon	
October 5	Applefest	
October 13	Youth Group	
October 27	Bonfire	4:00 pm
December 19	Christmas Concert—Cranberry Men's Chorus	7:00 pm
February 8	Ski Trip	

Scriptures for September:

September 1	James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
September 8	James 2:1-13
September 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-24
September 22	James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a
September 29	Mark 9:38-50



Shirts are red in color

New Shirts! Only \$10.00

Order your new shirt now by emailing marsup@mars-up.org or signing up in Tarry & Talk.

Delivery date TBD.

Pay at pick up.

This holiday season...

Dec 2 • 7:00pm
Dutilh Church
Cranberry Twp

Dec 4 • 6:30pm
Cross Roads Church
Gibsonia

Dec 16 • 7:00pm
Franklin Park Baptist Church
Franklin Park

Dec 19 • 7:00pm
Mars Presbyterian Church
Mars

The Magic of Christmas

CranberryMensChorus.com

DATES TO KNOW

- ◆ September 8 - Church Picnic/Rally Day
- ◆ September 15 - Sunday School
- ◆ September 22 - 80+ Luncheon
- ◆ October 5 - Applefest
- ◆ October 27 - Bonfire



SEPTEMBER

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

Mars UP Church
232 Crowe Ave
PO Box 805
Mars, PA 16046

