

Good News

C O N N E L L S V I L L E P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

T H E M I N I S T E R ' S M U S I N G S

2 Thessalonians 1:11–12 (ESV)

To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power,¹² so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are wrapping up the season of Easter. I type this on the day of Ascension. You will receive this newsletter the week before Pentecost. The church calendar reminds us that Jesus who died has risen; he has ascended to the right hand of the Father; and he has sent the Holy Spirit to be with his people.

Those of us who have been in the church for a while are so accustomed to the story that we can gloss over the potency of the story. We let our culture distract us with eggs and bunnies and we miss the mind blowing POWER displayed by our creator. Jesus, the God who walked this earth as a man, was raised from the dead and taken into heaven.

We serve an ALMIGHTY God. We live after the ascension: Christ who was willing to die for us now sits at the right hand of the Father and advocates for us and because he left the Holy Spirit, the power behind the resurrection, lives in us (Rom 8:11). Did you get that? **The power behind the resurrection lives in us.**

Do we believe this? Do we live it? Does it make any difference in how we live our lives? It should.

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- **We've been reborn to live new lives in Christ.**

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4

- **New life comes with the Power of God, through the Holy Spirit.**

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses ... to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8

- **Christianity isn't just a belief, but a life of powerful action.**

For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. 1 Corinthians 4:20
God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Tim 1:7

- **The Power comes from God, not us.**

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 2 Cor 4:7

We were intended to live in Christ's power, every day!

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:14–21)

Rev Suzanne

June

June 3 Ladies' Lunch 1pm at Dairy Queen
June 4 10:00 Worship Pentecost Sunday, and Communion
June 12 Session meeting, 7pm
June 19-24 EPC General Assembly
June 26-30 Vacation Bible School

July

No Ladies Lunch in July
No Session meeting in July
July 15 Adopt a Block, Yough Park

August

August 5 Ladies' Lunch 1pm
August 13 Communion
August 14 Session meeting 7pm
2nd and 3rd weeks of August Apple Dumpling Time

Vacation Bible School: *Living Proof* June 26-30

Monday through Thursday, the ladies of the church will serve an evening meal at 5:30. Opening worship in the sanctuary will begin at 6, children will then rotate through lesson, crafts, snacks, and recreation before reassembling in the sanctuary before dismissal at 8. Each lesson will highlight an appearance of our Savior after the Resurrection. Friday will be a time for parents, family and friends to join us at 6:00 for a program followed by a picnic and games on the lawn.

This year's VBS offering will support children's Bible School in Sierra Leone.

Summer Worship Schedule begins June 3

Please note our summer schedule, June 3rd through August 27th:

Sunday School : 9:00 a.m.

Worship: 10:00 a.m.



Birthdays & Anniversaries deleted for the website edition!



Change for the Children

We began a program in January to make sure that children who rely on the free breakfast and lunch at school in order will have at least some food on weekends. For the students who sign up, we send home a bag with two breakfasts, lunches, and snacks each weekend. The food is selected to be nutritious and easy for the children to prepare themselves with just a microwave. We served 66 students a week this year! We are looking to move our weekend food program to a new school this fall, since South Side is closing. We need your help in the following ways:



Prayer: We need you to pray for the program, that God will open doors at a new school, that the children who need the food will get signed up, that the children will be nourished by the food and by the knowledge that someone cares for them.

Paying: We are funding the program with some money from missions giving, some from Apple Dumplings, and we're asking you to donate spare change: Change for the Children. There is a basket in the narthex for your change. We're spending about \$4.75 per week per child (just under \$310/week).

Packing: We pack two weeks' worth at a time, and we take them over to the school each week. We announce specific days we're packing in the bulletin. It takes about 30 minutes to pack for two weeks.

We have heard from several sources at the school and in the community that this program is making a difference in the lives of Connellsville's children.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017 GRADUATES



Graduation was Saturday, May 13, 2017 for Michael McFadden, son of Marilee and Gene McFadden, who was following a family tradition by graduating from West Virginia University. Michael graduated with a Business Administration Degree. He told me that his main emphasis is on Management. He seems to lean toward Human Resources which includes training and recruiting people for specific jobs. This summer, Michael will be looking for a summer job for himself as he studies the market situation to find a position for himself in this early period of his professional life. I really like what Michael said about the job that he wants, "something I want to do every day; a job that I love." For now he would like to remain in the Pittsburgh area, but a good friend will graduate next year, and they are talking about heading west. The best of luck and God's blessing on Michael as he considers what wonderful opportunities are ahead for him.

Our June graduate from Connellsville Area Senior High School is Rhiannon (Reenie) Martin. Reenie is the granddaughter of Wayne and Joann Wilson. Reenie is an honors student at the Connellsville Area Career and Technical Center where she has been enrolled in the EMS curriculum. Helping people in the medical field has always been a major interest for this young lady. At this time, she is anticipating her second test so that she is qualified in Fayette County to be part of an EMS team. I asked what she anticipated in her future, and she said that possibly she might be interested in going into nursing. There are so many opportunities ahead for Reenie, but for now she is looking forward to her prom like any teen-aged girl, and graduation on June 2, 2017. The best of luck and God's blessing on the beginning of a wonderful life for her.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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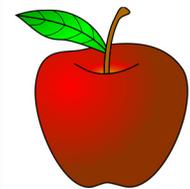
CONNELLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
701 S. PITTSBURGH ST.
CONNELLSVILLE PA 15425

Apple Dumpling Time is coming!

Right now it is only June, but before we know it, August will be here, and at the Connellsville Presbyterian Church, August has come to mean "Apple Dumpling Time". Apple Dumpling Time has become a yummy way to celebrate the end of the summer for many, many people in Connellsville, who wait anxiously for our apple dumplings. Although Apple Dumplings have been a tasty way to reach out to the community, these sweet delights have also benefitted others near and far. In addition to helping with building expenses and our own Change for the Children Program, each year we donate apple dumpling proceeds to several local Connellsville missions and also to international groups in need.



Join the Apple Dumpling Gang!



We always need people to come and help us create these delicious treats. We work 2 shifts on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Mondays we work evenings only, and on Friday, we work mornings only. There is need for all kind of helpers for jobs such as unloading supplies, peeling apples, coring apples, making dough, rolling out dough, making the dumplings, washing the dishes, cleaning the kitchen, getting supplies and answering the phone. No skills are needed and we train you for free! We love to have fun while making dumplings and it's a really great way to embrace fellowship while doing good for our church and others in need. So please set aside some time in August to help with this important project.

SEE YOU IN AUGUST!