

# Good News

CONNELLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## THE MINISTER'S MUSINGS

2 Timothy 1:13–14  
 What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

2 Corinthians 13:5  
 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

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*Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.*

1 Corinthians 16:13–14

Soon Neil and I will be headed to Detroit to the PCUSA's General Assembly. Our Presbytery rotates the responsibility for Ruling Elder commissioners between churches and Connellsville came up this year. Session voted to send Neil since he's up to date on national issues and can spend a week in Detroit. I'm going along for the ride. We'll be gone June 13-21. The first several days will have the commissioners working in committees, followed by several days of all 700 commissioners plus about 150 PCUSA staff and advisors meeting as one group to set the future direction of the PCUSA. Pray for Neil, that he would have wisdom and discernment to see the root issues and to speak in a way that will show God's love and grace as well as God's Kingship.

There are several troubling things before this assembly, you'll probably read about them in the news. A summary of issues before the GA will be available in the Narthex at the church. Many of these are a result of the decision at the 2012 General Assembly to say that our Book of Confessions (part 1 of our constitution, which lays out Presbyterian beliefs) doesn't limit what is in our Book of Order (part 2 of our constitution, defining how we operate). So basically, the PCUSA said at the last General Assembly that what we claim to believe doesn't control how we act. Obviously, this could lead to some very unBiblical decisions. When our actions are no longer captive to the Word of God and the confessions, we are no longer operating as a Reformed people, and may be no longer acting as Christ followers. Friends, the church MUST follow Christ, or it is no longer a church.

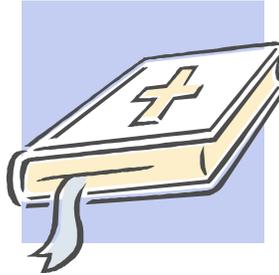
<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. <sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. <sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> **because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator**, who is blessed forever! Amen. Romans 1:18–25 (ESV)

As we have been studying Acts, we have seen how the people's obedience is linked to the work of God in the church. This passage from Romans warns us that to turn from God's truth and seek the desires of men is to shut God out and earn his wrath. Friends I urge you to pray for the PCUSA General Assembly, that they would return to God's Word and God's Will.

To God alone be the glory,

*Rev Suzanne*

## CHURCH CALENDAR SUMMER 2014 EVENTS

**June****June 1**—Graduate Recognition Day**June 7**—Ladies' Lunch at 1pm at Bud Murphy's**June 8**—Pentecost Sunday with Communion**June 13-21**—General Assembly**June 15**—Father's Day Reception after church**June 30**—Committee Night 7pm, report on General Assembly**July****July 28**—Committee Night, 7pm**August****August 2**—Ladies' Lunch at 1pm at Bud Murphy's**August 3**—Communion**August 11**—Session meeting, 7pm**August 30**—City Prayer Walk

### City Prayer Walk - August 30th

Join Connellsville Presbyterian Church for an afternoon of community prayer. We will gather with 84 teams from various churches and will cover our city and each neighborhood in prayer on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The city has been divided into 84 sections, each of which will take about an hour to walk/pray for. I'll be soliciting volunteers, we'll have information on what's expected/how to go about it. Contact Rev Suzanne if interested.

**Birthdays**

June 1—Bob Groff

June 2—Polly Dye

June 3—Sue Husband

June 6—Lois Fosselman

June 13—Kerry Pastors

June 18—Karen Hechler;  
Karen Nedley

June 20—Lawrence Schmidle

June 21—Nicole Davis

June 23—Brady Mitchell

June 25—Brad Hixenbaum

June 28—Michael Schmidt

June 29—Johnathan Kelley

June 30—Joan Conn

July 2—Avery Christopher;  
Shirley Rusnak

July 3—Sophia Franks

July 7—Greg Pastors

July 14—Kelsey Conn

July 18—Patty Miller

July 20—Richard May

July 23—JoAnn Schmidt

July 26—Cayden Conn

July 28—Michael McFadden

July 29—Brian Hann

August 2—Neil Zampella

August 15—Audrey Crislip

August 18—Carole Grimm

August 23—Brandon Conn

August 27—Sandy Grimaldi

August 30—Rhiannon Martin

**Anniversaries**

June 2—Lori and Dan Rosensteel

June 3—Nancy and Rick Luckey

June 6—Carole and David Grimm

June 7—Polly and David Dye

June 11—Kerry and Greg Pastors

June 21—JoAnn and Chuck Schmidt

June 23—Marilyn and Brady Mitchell

June 25—Carol and Bob Groff

July 3—Patty and Jack Crislip

July 12—Mary Lou and Tom Welch

July 21—Becky and Frank Banko

July 28—Debbie and Dave Mullaney

August 28—Alma and Mark Courtley



## Vacation Bible School—June 23—27th

Come to Vacation Bible School and SET SAIL WITH JESUS during the week of June 23-27, 2014.



We will begin with dinner at 5:15 PM, for those who wish to participate, on Monday through Thursday. Dinner is free for the children, and \$3.50 for adults.

Each day, the Opening will begin at 6:00 PM, and Bible School will end at 8:00 PM.

Our Mission project this year will be providing fresh water wells so people in South Sudan can enjoy safe drinking water.

The culminating activity will be the Annual Bible School Picnic. Students and parents are invited to enjoy this event together.

Online registration is now open. We ask that parents register their children via our website, so we know how many children to expect. For more information and online registration, go to [www.connellsvillepresbyterian.org](http://www.connellsvillepresbyterian.org).



## Apple Dumpling Time is coming!

Soon it will be August and Apple Dumpling Time! Please consider helping us in this fun fundraising event this year. We always need workers and no skills are needed! We will gladly teach you how to prepare our luscious dumplings! Apple dumplings are important, as they are helping to pay for the roof. Hope to see you in the kitchen!

## Summer Sunday Schedule

Sundays in June, July, and August:

Sunday School—9:00 am

Worship—10:00 am

## UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL PAUL AND ESTELLA GROSE

It is a rare and honored privilege to help celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of a couple who are members of our church. Paul and Estella are part of the "Greatest Generation" and Paul is a veteran of World War II. How much better can it get? We delight in being with this twosome each Sunday for Worship along with their daughter, Polly.

Both Paul and Estella were born in West Virginia and graduated from high school in Clarksburg. Paul worked on a dairy farm before he was drafted into the service at the age of 19 in 1944. Paul and Estella, who was only 17 years old, decided to marry before he shipped out. Paul's service took him to the Pacific where he served in the Philippines and Okinawa as well as being part of the Occupation Forces stationed in Japan.

After the service, Paul began working for the U.S. Postal Service. He worked on a mail car traveling between Grafton, WVA and Connellsville. When the mail car service ended, Paul requested a transfer to Connellsville. So that is how this family got to Connellsville. He retired in 1967 with 47 years of service. Estella also worked as well as raising her two daughters, Jeannie and Paulette, and running a home. She spent 7 years at Anchor Hocking and 25 years at Modulus Corporation. She retired when the company closed. Their family has grown to include four grandsons and a great-grandson and a great-granddaughter.



They joined the Connellsville Presbyterian Church on moving to Connellsville. They both have been very active in the church for years and were greatly involved in the Apple Dumpling Project. The congregation of our church was delighted to help this special couple celebrate 70 years of marriage.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CONNELLSVILLEPRESBYTERIAN.ORG

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## *Congratulations Graduates!*



*Join us in congratulating our newest High School and College graduates:*

***Caleb Martin**—Graduated from Connellsville High School .*

***Kaitlyn Anderson**—Graduated from University of Pittsburgh with a B.A. in Communication and studies for Pre-Law. She will be going on to law school.*

***Kelsey Conn**—Graduated as valedictorian from Penn State Fayette and plans to attend graduate school.*

***Jessica Striner**—Graduated from West Liberty University and will be a Physicians Assistant once she passes her boards in July.*