

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

Isaiah 43: 18-19
(ESV)

“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do not you perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

In the calendar year of the church, the fall is a time for new beginnings. As the children head back to school, we kickoff a new year of Sunday School – for Adults and children. It is a time to re-enter the life of the church if we’ve become distant during summer vacations and weekend outings.

We hope that you’ll join us for **Sunday School**; kickoff is Sept 7. In order to grow in our faith, it is important not just to know the stories but to understand the doctrine – the teachings – of the church. So, this fall we’re adding a new class for Junior High on the basics of the faith. The Christian Discipleship committee decided to also offer this course on Thursday evenings for adults. We’ll walk through the Westminster Confession of Faith. Studying the Westminster Confession will help us build up our foundation in the Reformed Presbyterian faith. As Paul says in Ephesians 4:12-15: *to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.*

In addition to kicking off a new School year in study of the confessions, we will be carefully studying whether we should remain with the PCUSA or seek a **new denominational affiliation**. Due to recent actions by the PCUSA General Assembly and Permanent Judicial Council, session has recommended that we seek to realign with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a Presbyterian denomination whose beliefs and practice are more compatible with the ministry of our congregation. The Connellsville Church, in its 183 years, has been a part of at least six different Presbyterian denominations. Our current denomination, the PCUSA, was formed in 1983. Before 1983, we were part of the United Presbyterian Church; and before 1958 (and our merger), we were part of the United Presbyterian Church of North America (which came into existence in 1869) and the Presbyterian Church in the USA. I’m not sure which branch we were before 1869. We Presbyterians have a tendency to take our faith seriously and have split and merged numerous times as we seek to strike a balance in being faithful to the gospel entrusted to us, and seeking unity in the body of Christ. Of course, if we prized unity over doctrine, we’d all be Roman Catholic!

This is a serious step and one that requires our prayerful discernment. Session is completing a rationale to provide to Redstone presbytery, and will be meeting with each family on the rolls to discuss the issues. If, at any time, you have questions – about the process or the issues or what impact the new denomination will have on us – please feel free to ask any of the elders or me.

It is vital that we prayerfully seek the will of God together as we move forward.

To God alone be the glory,
Rev Suzanne

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CHURCH CALENDAR AUTUMN 2014 EVENTS

September

- Sept. 6**—Ladies' Lunch at 1pm at Bud Murphy's
- Sept. 7**—Sunday School Kickoff—10am, Communion
- Sept. 8**—Session meeting, 7pm
- Sept. 10**—Faith Finders Kickoff
- Sept. 11**—Adult Basic Faith Class Kickoff
- Sept. 14**—Church Picnic—following worship at noon
- Sept. 22**—Committee meetings, 7pm
- Sept. 28**—Harvest Home Food Collection begins

October

- Oct. 2**—Apple Dumpling Festival
- Oct. 4**—Ladies' Lunch at 1pm at Bud Murphy's
- Oct. 5**—World Communion Sunday
- Oct. 13**—Session meeting, 7pm
- Oct. 26**—Harvest Home Dedication
- Oct. 27**—Committee meetings, 7pm
- Oct. 29**—Children's Halloween Party, 6pm

November

- Nov. 1**—Ladies' Lunch at 1pm at Bud Murphy's
- Nov. 10**—Session meeting, 7pm
- Nov. 16**—Shoebox Dedication
- Nov. 19**—Faith Finders Turkey Dinner, 6pm
- Nov. 20**—Nativity drop off deadline for community
- Nov. 23**—Nativity drop off deadline for church family
- Nov. 24**—Committee meetings, 7pm
- Nov. 27**—Thanksgiving
- Nov. 29**—Hanging of the Greens
- Nov. 30**—Communion; First Sunday in Advent

Join us for a picnic on the church lawn

A beautiful fall day and good food sounds great! Make plans to stay after Worship on **Sunday, Sept. 14** for an old fashioned picnic. We will be serving hot dogs and hamburgers made on the grill as well as other things that you like at your favorite picnic. If you would like to volunteer to bring a covered dish, check with Karen Hechler. Please make plans to join us for good fellowship and good conversation.



Birthdays

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| Sept. 9—Kayla Hann | Oct. 9—Shelly Hann |
| Sept. 12—Rose Towsey | Oct. 15—Jackson Johnson |
| Sept. 13—Doris Nedley | Oct. 19—Debbie Mullaney |
| Sept. 15—Bobby Groff and Coalby McNair | Oct. 22—Jackson Johnson |
| Sept. 16—Mark Courtley | Oct. 26—Suzanne Zampella |
| Sept. 19—Rose Towsey | Oct. 28—Caitlyn Anderson |
| Sept. 25—Barbara Ramsey | Oct. 29—Deanna Brooks |
| Sept. 29—Dustyn Pastors | Nov. 1—Olivia Christopher |
| Oct. 2—Eric Luckey | Nov. 9—Elle Crislip |
| Oct. 3—Nicoal McNair | Nov. 19—Marilee McFadden, Barb Striner and Scott Driscoll |
| Oct. 6—Rick Luckey | |
| Oct. 8—Jack Crislip | Nov. 26—Alma Courtley |

- Nov. 28—Rylee Johnson and John Arzbacher

Anniversaries

- Sept. 2—Deanna and Scott Brooks
- Oct. 2—Colleen and Dale Kooser
- Oct. 12—Melissa and Jon Ferencuha
- Oct. 17—Gail and Lawrence Schmidle
- Oct. 29—Marilee and Gene McFadden
- Nov. 14—Joan and Chris Conn
- Nov. 22—Carol and Jeff Kelley



Faith Finders begins Wednesday September 10th!

Faith Finders is our mid-week worship program for all area children, aged 4 to 14. We meet every Wednesday evening for food, fun, prayers and worship.

5:30 pm—Light dinner

6:00 pm— Programs

Please bring your children and their friends for this wonderful way to worship and make friends in God.



Regular Worship Hours

resume Sept. 7

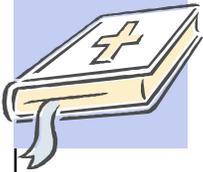
Sunday Schedule

Adult Sunday School—10:00 am

Children's Sunday School - 10:00am

Worship—11:00 am

New time for Youth Sunday Worship



Sunday School will now begin at 10:00 am for all school age kids. **The Sunday School Kickoff Day is Sept. 7th.** Please bring your children to worship with our wonderful Sunday School teachers.

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL GAIL AND LAWRENCE SCHMIDLE

If we ever crowned a King and Queen of the Apple Dumpling Gang for dedication and years of service, the couple would have to be Gail and Lawrence Schmidle. They have been with us from the very beginning and always have come to both sessions for at least 30 years. Gail is still faithfully attending the machine that rolls out the dough both morning and evening shifts. Lawrence sat and peeled apples and Gail stands and runs the machine that has replaced those who rolled the dough in the past. Their dedication to this project is amazing.

Lawrence is a lifelong member of Connellsville Presbyterian Church. He graduated from Connellsville High School, Class of 1944. Soon after graduation, Lawrence enlisted in the Army Air Corps and was sent to the Pacific during the final days of World War II. After the war, Lawrence went to work at his father's lumber yard, Back Creek Lumber. Eventually, he and his brother, Earle, owned the business. It was sold in 2001.

Gail is from the Indian Head area and went to school there. Before she met Lawrence, she worked as a waitress. One place she worked was at Mom's in the mountains. Some of us remember eating at Mom's. She met Lawrence after he returned from the service. They were married in 1949. They are proud parents of Sandi, Barb, Bill and Nancy.

Both Gail and Lawrence have served on the Boards of the church, Gail as a Deacon, and Lawrence on Session and Trustees. Lawrence was also very active in the Boy Scout Troop located in our church. They remain very faithful members of the Fellowship Sunday School Class. Gail is a very generous person. If help is needed with any dinners or projects, she is always there to help.

You can't mention the Schmidle family without mentioning football from the Cokers-Falcons to Penn State to the Pittsburgh Steelers. We are great fans of Gail and Lawrence.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CONNELLSVILLEPRESBYTERIAN.ORG

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

Adult Class on the Basics of Faith

What is the chief purpose of mankind? Join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm as we work through the Westminster Confession and talk about God, the church, the creeds, the Bible and all the basics. The curriculum is made for high school, but our discussions might take us anywhere! I strongly encourage Elders, whether on session or not; and anyone interested in learning more about what Presbyterians have historically professed, to come join the conversation!

Christianity
EXPLORED

Christianity Explored Sundays Oct 26 to Dec 7

Christianity Explored is an informal 7-week course for people who'd like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics. Looking at Mark's gospel, it explores who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him.

The course is for anyone who wants to investigate Christianity informally with a group of other people. Whether you have previous experience of Church, Christians and the Bible, or none at all, this course is for you. Everyone is welcome - from the most knowledgeable *Sunday schooler* to the convinced *atheist*. **Invite a friend** and join us on Sunday evenings at 6pm, for a simple dinner, a video and conversation.

Annual Apple Dumpling Festival

On Thursday, October 2, 2014 our church basement will be open to the public for our Annual Apple Dumpling Festival. What a great opportunity to invite people to our church. We will have a special price of \$5.00 for an apple dumpling, ice cream and beverage. Sandwiches will also be available at a reasonable price. Come and make this your Thursday night dinner. Extra dumplings will be available for those who would like to take some home.

November Apple Dumpling Sale

Once again, we will have a November sale of Apple Dumplings for Thanksgiving. You can place your orders with the church office between November 10—19. You will be informed as to the date when you can pick your order up. Please tell your friends that the church does have Apple Dumplings available for the holidays.