

MCKOWNVILLE CHURCH NEWS

Volume 7 No.4

LOVE GOD, FOLLOW JESUS AND PASS IT ON!
Spirit Filled, Mission Driven

April 2016

*Articles for
the May
Newsletter
are due by
April 15.*



Pastor Charlie's
New
Sermon Series

*"Building a Marriage
that Stands Solid"*



Sundays beginning
April 10th, through
May 1st

Day of Prayer

Saturday April 23rd is our denomination's Day of Prayer. We are one of many church 'hubs' holding prayer services as well as other planned activities. Our church's time slot is 8-11 a.m.



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Help Needed for Brooks BBQ May 7th

Once again it is time for McKownville United Methodist Church Brooks BBQ. This year's event will take place on Saturday, May 7th. This has been a major fundraiser for the last 30 years and this will be the 60th BBQ the church will hold. The success of this event depends on our church members volunteering. Of course, more hands make the job easier. Please consider volunteering by signing up on the sheets in the back of the Sanctuary or by saying "yes" to committee members requesting your help.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

While I was reading articles on the terrorist attacks in Brussels, Belgium, my heart was deeply troubled again. My heart goes out to the people in Brussels, who are suffering from the attacks of terrorists. It is sad to see that our world has been enshrouded not by hope, joy, and peace, but beleaguered by fear, hate, anger, and violence. And some Christians douse us with more fear, hate, and violence.

Anger and fear are natural responses to cruel and inhuman acts but we are not overwhelmed by those negative emotions. It seems we are living in an almost uncontrollable world, I feel this way for the moment and think of being and living as a Christian. Being a Christian means following Jesus' teachings and his footsteps. No Christians is perfect, but we're expected to live out the criteria that Jesus had lived and taught us, when we confessed Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior.

We Christians are to acknowledge and embrace differences and diversity as our principled values in all circumstances. A mosaic is a good illustration for this motto. A mosaic is a design made up of small pieces which makes a beautiful picture only when each piece embraces and acknowledges one another. Harper Leer chimes with this in her book, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, "If you can learn a simple trick, Scout," Atticus advises his daughter, "you'll get along a lot better with all kinds of folks. You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." What he said is in line with the words that Paul the apostle of the Bible wrote to the church in Rome, "For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law... so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law... so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings" (Romans 9:19-23).

We just celebrated Easter this past week. Easter teaches us that life prevails by defeating death, light by defeating darkness, love by defeating hatred, hope by defeating despair...

Let me provide some more biblical passages for our moral, spiritual discernment and judgements. I feel we need to hear these verses now more than ever.

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer... Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another... Do not repay anyone evil for evil... No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:14-21).

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven ... For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:38-48).

By Charlie Yang



What is Senior Ministries and How Can You Help?

By Darcianne Leizer

I am so glad you asked. While the Senior Ministries could be expanded, right now, it is a visiting program. Members of the Senior Ministries Team visit seniors from our church, at least once a month, that are in nursing homes, rehabilitation centers or not able to leave their home. We want to let them know they are not forgot and are a part of our church even if they cannot attend services anymore. We need more people to join our team. If you are interested in bringing a little joy to someone's day and meeting some amazing seniors, please contact me. We especially need male visitors.

Also, there will be a brief meeting of the Senior Ministries Team on Sunday, April 10th at noon or right after the 11am church service to touch base with everyone. Anyone interested in the Senior Ministries is welcome to attend.

Thank you,
Darcianne Leizer
ennaicrad@juno.com
456-1063



HISTORICAL NOTE:

50 Years Ago: McKownville Methodist Church celebrated "*A Century of Faith*" in 1966.

1966 was McKownville's centennial year and the church also celebrated 200 years of Methodism in America. A contemporary sanctuary and educational wing had been built 1959/1960.

In 1966 the *pastors* were James E. Beskin assisted part-time by Ralton M. Speers. The *Church Secretary* worked Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 until noon. The *Chancel Choir* rehearsed Thursday evenings from 7 - 8:30 p.m. *Methodist Youth Fellowship* met Sunday evenings in two age divisions for grades 7-9 and 10 - 12. The *Woman's Society of Christian Service* met the second Wednesday of each month. *Methodist Men* met the second Monday of each school month starting with a supper. There was also a *Couples Club* and a *Faith and Friendship Group*.

Can you recognize the 1966 McKownville church members who attend 50 years later?



Audrey (+ Henry) Beaver



Ann + James Bowen



Emma (+ Charles) Herendeen



Nancy Pullen (Humphrey)



Marion Leizer



(Marilyn +) Julian LeVine



Ildra + Carl Morse



(Barb +) Robert Mosall



Ruth ("Muff") O'Hare



William
Seim



Connie + George
Stott



(Shirley +) Norman
Swanson



Florence
Willey



Kerry Ann + Harold
Williams

YOUTH NEWS – APRIL 2016

Sunday, April 3rd God's Not Dead 2 – Movie Theater Trip (meet at theater at 12:45 pm, the movie starts at 1.)

Sunday April 10th Labyrinth project work (7pm)

Sunday April 17th Labyrinth project work (7pm)

Sunday April 24th Finish Labyrinth project work and talk about dedication ceremony (7pm)



30 Hour Famine Update: 6 youth and two adults participated in our 30 Hour Famine Lock In (and Pastor Charlie fasted along with us in support! Thanks Charlie) During the event, youth learned first-hand what it feels like to be truly hungry, what challenges can come from not knowing where your next meal is coming from, and saw interactive video of a child in Kenya facing the challenges of Hunger and Poverty. Through pledge support and our First Ever Spaghetti Dinner, the group raised \$450 which will be sent to World Vision. We go hungry to help hungry kids. Our students were encouraged to grow closer to Christ and each other as they fast together for 30 hours and raise funds to fight hunger. What's more, when we did the Famine we were challenging our students to be part of something bigger than themselves. To take action for God's kingdom. To help save the lives of hungry kids. To permanently change the way your students see the world.

April Challenge: April 1st is known widely as April Fool's Day. But why would we celebrate such a day? And why does the celebration involve tricking other people. Do a little research on your own and text me or tell me in person if you can figure out where this silly holiday came from. Each correct answer gets a free Ice Cream Cone from Stewarts shops. *You do not need to be a member of the youth group to participate.

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETING: Candidates for Confirmation will be meeting as a group on Sunday April 24th at 12 noon in the celebration center for our monthly meeting. Those who have not yet done so will be asked to witness a baptism as part of the program, a baptism will be held during worship on April 17th. Make a point to be there if possible. Mark your calendars! A Wrap It Up retreat and Service Project will take place on Saturday, May 21st 9am – 4pm. Stay tuned for details. This project is intended for both Mentors and Candidates.

CROP WALK FOR HUNGER: Congratulations McKownville UMC! With the efforts of McKownville's Crop Coordinator Arthur Stott and youth group assistants Jack Steffens and Emily Burns, our church earned a MOST IMPROVED Award in the Albany Arena Crop Walk! Congratulations!!! Arthur, Emily and Jack put their heads together and decided to increase support through opening a webpage for donations online, collecting donations for foot steps on our Stomp Out Hunger banner at the Brooks BBQ, and seeking support in match of pledges raised from our church's outreach team! What great creative fundraising for these guys! Thank you for getting behind the effort and sponsoring walkers with your pledges. And a big shout out to the walkers who took (many) steps to Stomp Out Hunger! The 2016 walk will take place on May 1st - see Arthur Stott for Pledge cards for walkers or to sponsor a walker.

To make a donation through our online website visit:
<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/albanyny/McKownville>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Forum Series Sundays at 9:30am & Mondays at 7pm

Does God Exist? Building the Scientific Case

Can we prove the existence of God, or are we left to grapple in the dark and take blind leaps of faith about what we believe?

Everyone asks these questions, and maybe you think you have the answers. But can you defend your beliefs when peers and professors are challenging your worldview?

In *True U: Does God Exist?* Dr. Stephen Meyer plays a sort of "philosophical survival" game pitting four worldviews against one another in the quest to decide which one gives the best answers. Dr. Meyer helps you examine the evidence and provides the tools needed to defend your faith and make it your own.

Sun 3/6 & Mon 3/7	1: What Is Faith?
Sun 3/13 & Mon 3/14	2: Big Bang: Before the World Existed
Sun 3/20 & Mon 3/21	3: Big Bang: The Beginning of Time
Sun 4/3 & Mon 4/4	4: Big Bang: A Finely Tuned Universe
Sun 4/10 & Mon 4/11	5: DNA by Design: Surprises in the Cell
Sun 4/17 & Mon 4/18	6: DNA by Design: What Are the Chances?
Sun 4/24 & Mon 4/25	7: DNA by Design: Mind behind the Matter
Sun 5/1 & Mon 5/2	8: So It Was God after All
Sun 5/8 & Mon 5/9	9: The Moral Evidence: Right and Wrong
Sun 5/15 & Mon 5/16	10: The Moral Evidence: Failure of Relativism



150 Years Celebration

The 150 years since McKownville UMC's founding will be especially celebrated in November. Sunday, November 6 will be a special combined worship service with past pastors participating. Saturday, November 19th will be a special dinner and program.

Women Together

This group continues to meet monthly and is a small group of older women who are alone for some reason or another. We support each other because we enjoy getting together (fellowship), eating of course, considering a small spiritual topic, and occasionally doing a small service project. Contact Emma Herendeen at eherendeen@nycap.rr.com if you are interested in joining.

Old Magazines

Bring in your old magazines and deposit them into the container found in the rear of the sanctuary. They are taken to Albany Medical Center for use by patients & in waiting areas. We have done this for over 20 years!

Pictures For Our Sesquicentennial

Do you have pictures of activities at church? We plan to display pictures during September, October, and November. Any photos from 1866 through present day will be appreciated and used along with those we already have in our historical files. If you only want to LOAN them please inform us. See Emma Herendeen for further details or call (518) 765-4099.

Brooks Chicken BBQ

SATURDAY, May 7th

11AM-7PM

Full dinner includes: Brooks BBQ famous barbeque chicken, baked potato, fresh coleslaw, and dessert. MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

Adult Chicken Dinner

\$11.00

(take out or eat in)

Child's Dinner

\$8.00

(eat in only)

Chicken Only

\$8.50

(take out only)



MCKOWNVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1565 WESTERN AVE.

ALBANY, NY 12203

(near Crossgates Mall)

April 15, 2016 • 7:00PM
McKownville United Methodist Church
1565 Western Avenue, Albany, NY

Scholarship Fund Raiser



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APRIL DUTIES CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LAY WORSHIP LEADER</u>
April 3	Steve DiDonna
April 10	Elizabeth Mensah
April 17	Eugene Gee
April 24	Todd Nemec
May 1	Diane Steffens

Greeters & Ushers Coordinator: Pauline Martin - 456-3784

Coffee Hour Coordinator: Chris Steffens - 608-5300

Lay Worship Leader Coordinator: Nancy Rutenber - 456-0412

* *Please note that Greeters and Ushers duties are now combined.*

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries

8—Dianne & Chris Steffens
 11—Carol & David Martin
 11—Beth Lela & Paul Berger
 17—JoAnna & Stephen DiDonna
 20—Barbara & Paul Cullen



1—Darcianne Leizer
 1—Robert Schambach
 1—Nicholas Jones
 2—Teri Scoville
 4—Jill Eistertz
 4—Kim Keane
 5—Jane Domaracki
 7—William Seim
 8—Susan Burns
 11—David Gooding
 12—Morgan Jones
 13—Eric Mastrogiovanni
 14—Liam Keane
 15—Paul Cullen
 15—Kim Atwood
 15—Joanna Nicole Polcyn
 16—Kathryn Liotta
 17—Meagan Van den Wouden

Birthdays

17—Matthew Steffens
 18—Dorris Walter
 18—Laura Marotta
 18—Marc Barre
 19—Richard O'Hare
 19—Emily Juda
 20—Julie Evans
 22—Matthew Daigler
 23—Isabella Wu
 24—Donna Bender
 25—Stephen Butler
 26—Evan DeFrancisco
 27—Ann Bowen
 28—Kenneth Bent
 29—Christopher Devall
 29—Emily Gray
 30—Melissa Berger



APRIL 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sundays						1	2	
9:30a- Praise 9:45a-Sunday School 11:00a—Worship 2:45 pm— Praise Team Practice				4:00pm— Quintessence 4:30pm— Wesley Ringers 5:45pm—New Song 6:30pm— Higher Up			Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	A.A. 7:00 am
3 Adult Forum 9:30 am Praise Service 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am	4 Adult Forum 7:00 pm	5 A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm	6 Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm	7 TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am	8 Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	9 A.A. 7:00 am		
10 Adult Forum 9:30 am Praise Service 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am	11 Adult Forum 7:00 pm	12 A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm	13 Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm	14 TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am	15 Scholarship Fundraiser 7 pm Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	16 A.A. 7:00 am		
17 Adult Forum 9:30 am Praise Service 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am (Baptism: Liam Alexander Goutos)	18 Adult Forum 7:00 pm	19 A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm	20 Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm	21 TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am American Sewing Guild 12:30 pm	22 Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	23 Day of Prayer 8-11 am A.A. 7:00 am		
24 Adult Forum 9:30 am Praise Service 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am	25 Adult Forum 7:00 pm	26 A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm	27 Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm	28 TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am	29 Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	30 A.A. 7:00 am		



Spring Word Scramble

WBNI AOR _____
 BLLAMURE _____
 WFLORE _____
 PLITU _____
 NERGE _____
 MLOBO _____
 PLRIA _____
 LFBTUTREY _____
 NIAR _____
 DREGNA _____
 EBE _____
 YMA _____
 GNRIPS _____
 HSSNIEUN _____
 YBNUN _____
 CAMHR _____
 EDES _____

WORD BANK

APRIL | BEE | BLOOM | BUNNY
 BUTTERFLY | FLOWER | GARDEN
 GREEN | MARCH | MAY | RAIN | RAINBOW
 SEED | SPRING | SUNSHINE | TULIP
 UMBRELLA



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Phone: 518-456-1148
Fax: 518-869-5250
E-mail: mckownumc@verizon.net
Web: www.McKownvilleChurch.com
Facebook: RedDoorsChurch
Twitter: McKownville Church
@MckownvilleUMC

The Rev. Charlie Yang, Pastor
E-mail: pastorcyang@gmail.com

Office Hours:
Monday—Friday: 9am-1pm

Ministry and Team Leaders of the McKownville United Methodist Church

Board of Trustees:

James Stott: Chair & Sexton Liaison
Kelly Visker: Vice-Chair & Furnishings
Whitney Daigler: Building Use Coordinator
Chris Brewer, Frank Benjamin, Chris Spencer:
Grounds & Planned Maintenance
Steve DiDonna: Secretary
Matt Gillam: Insurance
Noreen Van Doren: Leases & Legal Affairs

Ministry Teams:

Leadership Council: Paul Krekeler, Team Leader
Staff/Parish Relations: Leith Mead, Team Leader
Douglass Arnott, Tara Brewer, Michelle Clark, Michael
Keane, Alan Longshore, Oakley Neitzel, Scott
Rosecrans, Nancy Rutenber Patti Krekeler.
Finance: Paul Scoville, Team Leader
Treasurer & Payroll: Tim Pierce
Finance Secretary: Barbara O'Neill
Worship: Charlie Yang, Team Leader
Evangelism through Outreach: Jim Bowen,
Team Leader
Christian Education: Kim Keane, Team Leader
Memorials & Gifts: Nancy Pullen, Team Leader