

McKownville Church News

Volume 7 No.3

LOVE GOD, FOLLOW JESUS AND PASS IT ON!

March 2016

Articles for the April Newsletter are due by March 15.

Spirit Filled, Mission Driven



REMINDER



It's that time of year! Get your Easter Memorial Plant Order Forms in ASAP...only 2 weeks left before the deadline! You will find Order Forms (inserts) in each Sunday's weekly bulletin.

**See pg.4 for details*

JUBILATION SUNDAY is scheduled for **March 13, 2016** this year! This is the day we will celebrate the commitment of our pledges. Please remember to bring a dish to pass around for coffee hour between services.

HOLY WEEK & LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday —March 20th

Holy Thursday—March 24th at 7:30pm

Good Friday —March 25th at 7:30pm

Easter Sunday—March 27th

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Pastor's Message

Faith sharing is the most important and challenging ministry in our ministry and personal faith journey. But faith sharing is only one possible way to grow in your faith and relationship with God and others.

Growing in our faith in God is on-going task and goal for every Christian believer. There are many ways to grown in faith. Our commitment to growing in faith should be intentional, focused, and joyful. Only when we put energy, effort, and time into tending our faith, we will grow. Nobody will grow in faith if they don't want to see growth. On the other side, if you really want to see your faith grow, it takes intentional work; focused thought, and joyous celebration.

My desire as a pastor is to see everyone here in our church to take their faith seriously and to be on a continual journey to grow in faith. Here are some ways to grow in faith. There is no secret or short cut or easy way in our faith journey.

Attending worship regularly. We experience the presence of God when we become part of a body of Christ, in other words church. Worship is an opportunity to fully give ourselves to the transforming power of God. We experience of God through gathering and praising and praying God together, through listening to the message proclaimed from the pulpit.

Participating in the Bible study. Without knowing the God who is revealed to us through the Bible we cannot grow in our faith. Learning and growing take place through an intentional, purposeful participation in group study. I want to encourage you to be a part of Adult Forum (Bible Study) on Sunday 9:30 and Monday 7 pm.

Reading the Bible daily. I have observed that many American Christians do not read the Bible. I was also surprised by many American Christians' lack of biblical knowledge. When we read the Bible we develop a clearer picture of who and what God has meant to people of faith in the past and through this God will speak to you today. There are many Bible reading plans (you can find many on the google). I suggest begin by reading the gospel of Matthew or the Psalms.

Praying every day. Being alone with God daily is very important spiritual step in your growing in faith. Prayer is not only a privilege but also a duty, if we want to walk with God through Christ. Prayer is an opportunity to grow in our faith. It is free, easy, and available to all of us at any moment. Open your heart and your mind and listen to God's thought and will for you.

Reading the faith-related books. There are many books that you can read for your faith growth. You can borrow books from our church library or buy books—I very often buy used books through internet book stores—or share books with other Christians.

Sharing faith with others. It is easy to think that only when you know everything about the Bible can you share your faith with others. The Bible is full of heroes who at first weren't even sure God was truly powerful enough to do what he promised. However, time and time again through sharing their faith with others their faith was strengthened and reinforced.

By Charlie Yang

These Days.....

Things sure are different these days. When we hear ourselves saying that, what do we really mean by “*these days*”? Is there a definite time frame we’re referring to, or is it just a general statement meaning that things weren’t the way they are now compared to some time ago??

Well, maybe we never really gave it much thought, and probably didn’t have to. The phrase “*these days*” really just refers to sometime relatively close to “*now*” give or take a few years. It’s the point we make around these words that’s important. For example, we might hear someone say, “Kids *these days* just don’t have the same kind of fun we had when we were young.” Of course the point being, adults today spent their free time much differently than the way kids today spend their time.

It’s just so easy to reference what’s happening now as *these days* while every other time frame belongs in some other category. But what about these days right now? We’ve just begun another Lenten Season, is there something special about these days?? Yes, there is.

There’s something very special about *these days*. Just like everything else Jesus did in His lifetime, He also took the commonality and routine use of *these days* and made them into the most special days of the year. And, to add to that, as we use the phrase to compare all the changes that have occurred over time, Jesus reminds us that He has remained *unchanged* since the beginning of time.

We face changes every day, *especially these days!!* Jesus remains steadfast in His watch over us and blesses us with His grace every day. His love for us never changes, His words never change, His promise of eternal life never changes.

Lent is a very special time of year. It’s these forty days that we actually can walk with Jesus as He takes His last walk on this earth to forgive us our sins and lead us to everlasting life.

Through prayer, we can live with Jesus each day. All the days of the year are special when we live them with our Lord, but there’s no better time than now to reflect on what Jesus did for us on the Cross centuries ago. The Lenten Season is here now, and it’s time for us to pray and thank the Lord for taking that long, lonely walk for each of us.

Whether it was 2000 years ago, 20 year ago, or this year, now is the time each to seek the Lord and draw closer to Him. It’s the special days between Ash Wednesday and Easter, it’s *these days*.

Have a Blessed Lenten Season,

Dom Perfetti



EASTER MEMORIAL PLANTS

Please make your checks payable to **McKownville United Methodist Church** and mail to **Angela Stott, 65 Willow Street, Guilderland, N.Y. 12084**, or hand them to Angela after church.

Please do not send cash.

Deadline is March 13, 2016



- _____ \$11.50 Lily
- _____ \$27.00 Azalea
- _____ \$12.00 Mum ___ Yellow ___ White ___ Lavender
- _____ \$11.50 Hyacinth ___ Blue ___ Pink
- _____ \$11.50 Tulip
- _____ \$27.00 Hydrangea

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

I will pick up my plant on Easter Sunday _____.

If you do not wish to keep your plant, please give it to a shut-in, friend or family member.



150th ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL PATIO



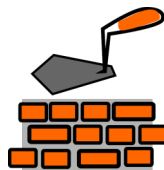
We are moving forward with the Memorial Patio you have been hearing about for the past few months. As you know, our Church first opened its doors in 1866. Since that time it has been not only a place of Worship and Spirituality, but has provided the opportunity for hundreds of members and area residents to meet on a weekly or monthly basis for dance and yoga classes as well as for Cub and Boy Scouts, Brownies and Girl Scouts. Our Church has been a welcoming, private location, enabling many recovering alcoholics, drug addicts and gamblers to get back on their feet and become, or continue being, productive members of our community. Throughout the past 150 years our Church has been used for showers, weddings and end-of life celebrations. We host a Chicken BBQ twice a year, a Fish Fry and sell Pumpkins each fall. We have hosted Christmas tree sales, roast beef and spaghetti dinners, as well as Lost Radio Rounder's concerts. In addition, our Church is a designated voting/polling location.

Our Church has touched the lives of each and every one of you, as well as many of your friends and neighbors and we hope you will show your support for all the Church has done for you and the Community by purchasing a brick for our Memorial Patio. In the back of the Sanctuary is a sample brick and a sign-up sheet. If you previously signed up to purchase a brick, you will be contacted shortly to firm up your order. Each brick is 12" x 12" and can be inscribed with your name or the name of your loved ones either in memory or in honor of their lives. Each brick can hold up to 10 lines with 23 characters.

Each brick costs \$150 and we need to sell 400 bricks to build this Memorial Patio! When considering your purchase, please remember that the message contained within each brick you purchase, whatever it may be, will be enjoyed for generations to come. The Memorial Patio will be built outside the back of the Sanctuary and will always be available for viewing by you, your friends and family, as well as all of your descendants. Think of the smiles your Memorial Patio brick will create when your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, etc., read your name and message in the future.

If you are interested in creating a memory for generations to come by purchasing one or more bricks, fill out your contact information on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary and you will be contacted to obtain details on your inscription. If you are unable to fill out that form, send an email to Trustee Noreen VanDoren at Norvandoren@yahoo.com with your contact information and she will assist you.

If you know of others in the community, whether they be former church members, friends, relatives or community members, who may be interested in purchasing a Memorial Brick, feel free to share Noreen's email address with them to start the process to join in this historical event. Let's start creating memories!



Historical Note:

Church dinners are the constant; food and cost have varied over time.

In McKownville's 1898 church building, the kitchen and dining room were originally in the basement where there was also a stage. A recipe for *Manhattan Clam Chowder* noted as used by the Women's Society of Christian Society about 1880 was included in the 1996 **McKownville's Time Old Recipes** cook book. The recipe used 200 clams, ground onions, ground carrots, diced celery, diced potatoes, salt pork (two pounds), and tomato soup and made 40 quarts.

Early days featured meals at prices unimaginable today. In McKownville, the Ladies' Sewing society held a Thursday and Friday evening sale and supper (25¢) in November 1894, a benefit *oyster supper* was held at a home near the Western Avenue toll gate in February 1896, a *clam bake* was held a Wednesday evening in September 1898 on the church grounds for 50¢, and the "Memorial M.E. church" ladies held a Holiday Festival and sale with supper (25¢) in the basement and Sunday school room of the church [old section] a Wednesday evening in November 1899. In March 1909 the price of admission to a *hot chicken supper* and entertainment held by the ladies in the McKownville church on a Thursday evening was 35¢.

In March 1928 a *fish supper* was served by the ladies of the M.E. church Friday evening from 6:30 to 8 o'clock for 50¢. The menu of homemade food was: Codfish croquettes, tomato sauce, escalloped potatoes, tuna and macaroni salad, baked beans, hot buttered beets, pickles, rolls and butter, cakes, jello, coffee. There were also *turkey dinners* in the 1940's.

Louise Vedder who joined the church in 1920 wrote on the **clam bakes** as did Bill Seim who worked on them as a young boy in the early 1940's. *We really begged for two weeks before the clambake. Many non-members contributed to these affairs. The day before the clambake we spent at the church setting tables, cleaning chicken, seasoning and wrapping it in cheesecloth; washing clams in a barrel with a crank on it, or in a water bucket; and husking corn. Then on Saturday we made three pies per person, and went to church and served three clambakes with 2-hour intervals between each bake to wash dishes and set up tables – and we always sold out. We came home exhausted but with money in our treasury. We used to serve all the chicken and clams they wished, till we found out they were bringing bags and filling them to take home for their Sunday dinner.*

In the 1930's the men cleaned about 3000 clams (in 1930 was 6000 plus 300 chickens) in back of the old church and the women were busy in the kitchen fixing the corn and the potatoes, wrapping each individual dinner or "bake" in cheese cloth. The clams were wrapped separately with about a dozen clams in a bunch. When all was ready the 150 bakes were put into the steamer set on concrete blocks. A large white potato was put on top. This was the tester as to when the whole steamer full of food would be ready to serve. It took at least two hours for everything to cook. When it was time to serve, the fire was put out and the individual dinners and packages of clams were removed and passed through the small windows of the kitchen to the women inside who then served the dinners to the people who were eagerly awaiting their food in the dining room. The clambake price in fall 1933 was \$1.50 for adults and 75¢ for children.

The remodeling finished in 1986 of the old church section moved the kitchen and dining upstairs. For many years the men ran *roast beef dinners*. Now *chicken barbeques* catered by Brooks' Barbeque of Oneonta are offered twice a year. Also, the youth have sponsored *Lenten fish fries*.



YOUTH NEWS – March 2016

Sunday, March 6th Murder Mystery Event!! (7pm – 8:30pm)

Sunday March 13th NO MEETING

Sunday March 20th The Prayer Labyrinth revisited (7pm)

EASTER SUNDAY – March 27th NO MEETING

Sunday April 3rd Labyrinth project work (7pm)



Holy Week
& Easter

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – THANK YOU!!!! McKownville UMC's generous donations totaled \$140 in cash and 60 Food Items for the Guilderland Food Pantry! Thank you for your support!

MISSION PROJECT – during the week of school break 6 members of the Guilderland Youth Group visited the Ronald McDonald House of Albany. We participated in baking for the guests providing cupcakes, pretzels, cookies and brownies for a fresh treat that day and accomplished ALL of their odd jobs for the week including moving a safe and hanging a TV on the wall as well as some sorting and cleaning. We were offered a tour of the facility and interacted with some of the guests as well as the regular volunteers. It made quite an impression!

March Challenge – Saint Patrick's Day is a common celebration in March, but how many people know why?!?!? Who was Saint Patrick? Research who the United Methodist Church recognizes as our saints and tell me when you see me or by text. Each correct answer gets a free Ice Cream Cone from Stewarts shops.



Thanks!

Angela





Announcements



A new Adult Forum Series Will Start Sunday March 6th@9:30am & Monday March 7th@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

Sun 3/13 & Mon 3/14

Sun 3/20 & Mon 3/21

Sun 4/3 & Mon 4/4

Sun 4/10 & Mon 4/11

Sun 4/17 & Mon 4/18

Sun 4/24 & Mon 4/25

Sun 5/1 & Mon 5/2

Sun 5/8 & Mon 5/9

Sun 5/15 & Mon 5/16

1: What Is Faith?

2: Big Bang: Before the World Existed

3: Big Bang: The Beginning of Time

4: Big Bang: A Finely Tuned Universe

5: DNA by Design: Surprises in the Cell

6: DNA by Design: What Are the Chances?

7: DNA by Design: Mind behind the Matter

8: So It Was God after All

9: The Moral Evidence: Right and Wrong

10: The Moral Evidence: Failure of Relativism

Easter Service Volunteers:

Friends, if you are interested in volunteering to be a Greeter/Usher during our Easter Service at 11am, please contact Pauline Martin at blundyP379@aol.com. Thank you for your commitment to serve our church community.

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!

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 herendeen@nycap.rr.com if you are interested in joining.

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.

MARCH DUTIES CALENDAR

| DATE | GREETERS | USHERS | LAY WORSHIP LEADER |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| March 6 | Kelly Visker | Christopher Visker | Doug Arnott |
| March 13 | Bud Davies | Gene Gee | Noreen Van Doren |
| March 20 | Bob Griffin | Todd Nemec | Tom Meyers |
| March 27 EASTER | NEEDED | NEEDED | Henry Walter |
| April 3 | Linda Faulkner | Pauline Martin | Steve DiDonna |
| | | | |

Greeters & Ushers Coordinator: Pauline Martin - 456-3784

Coffee Hour Coordinator: Chris Steffens - 608-5300

Lay Worship Leader Coordinator: Nancy Rutenber - 456-0412

March Anniversaries & Birthdays

Anniversaries

8—John & Carolyn Jacobs
15—David & Cathy Wells
17—David & Emily Juda



1—Casey O'Hare
2—Pamela Weis
2—Daniel Smith
4—Ashley McDonald
5—Colin Scolaro
7—Nancy Clarke
7—Terrence O'Neill
8—Edwina Krausse
8—Christopher Visker
9—M. Doreen Moore
9—Marguerite Quintyne
9—Emily Burns
10—Brett Hoenig
12—Candace Goodman
12—Carol Barre
12—Patricia Schambach
12—Arthur Stott
13—Stephen DiDonna
13—Lela Berger

Birthdays

14—Marilynn Avery
15—Emma Swartzendruber
16—Natalie Scolaro
17—Delores Campbell
17—John Fox
17—Jacob Swartzendruber
18—Scott Lutz
18—Brian Liotta
19—Kathleen Desjardins
19—Nicholas Bailly
20—Scott Jones
22—Jennifer Gish
23—Connie Stott
23—Jeremiah Goodman
24—Lauren Jones
25—Carlie Van Patten
26—Corey Arnott
26—Rommel Dass
27—Beverly Davies
29—Jennifer Grupe



March 2016



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| Sunday's | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 9:30a- Praise | 4:00pm— Quintessence | A.A. 4:30P–5:30P | Yoga 5:30p– 6:45p | TOT Hill Gang 9:30a-12p | Narcotics Anonymous 6:30p– 8:30p | A.A. 7a– 9:30a |
| 9:45a-Sunday School | 4:30pm— Wesley Ringers | Yoga 6p– 7:15p | Narcotics Anonymous 7p | Yoga 5:30p–6:45p | | |
| 11:00a—Worship | 5:45pm—New Song | WORSHIP TEAM 7PM | Choir Rehearsal 7p | AA 7:00p– 10:00p | | |
| 2:45 pm— Praise Team Practice | 6:30pm— Higher Up | | G. A. 6p– 8:30p | N.A. ABCD | | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Adult Forum 9:30 a | | A.A. 4:30P–5:30P | Narcotics Anonymous 7p | TOT Hill Gang 9:30a-12p | Narcotics Anonymous 6:30p– 8:30p | A.A. 7a– 9:30a |
| Praise Service 9:30a | | NO YOGA | Choir Rehearsal 7p | AA 7:00p– 10:00p | | |
| Communion 11am | Adult Forum 7p | | G. A. 6p– 8:30p | NO YOGA | | |
| G. A. 6p -8:30p | | | NO YOGA | | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Adult Forum 9:30a | | A.A. 4:30P–5:30P | Narcotics Anonymous 7p | TOT Hill Gang 9:30a-12p | Narcotics Anonymous 6:30p– 8:30p | A.A. 7a– 9:30a |
| Praise Service 9:30a | | NO YOGA | Choir Rehearsal 7p | ASG 12:30-3:30P | | |
| Worship Service 11a | Adult Forum 7p | | G. A. 6p– 8:30p | AA 7:00-10:00p | | |
| G. A. 6p– 8:30p | | | NO YOGA | NO YOGA | | |
| Daylight savings | | | | St. Patricks' Day | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| PALM SUNDAY | | A.A. 4:30P–5:30P | Yoga 5:30p– 6:45p | TOT Hill Gang 9:30a-12p | Narcotics Anonymous 6:30p– 8:30p | A.A. 7a– 9:30a |
| Adult Forum 9:30a | | Yoga 6p– 7:15p | Narcotics Anonymous 7p | ASG 12:30-3:30P | | |
| Praise Service 9:30a | Adult Forum 7p | | Choir Rehearsal 7p | Yoga 5:30p–6:45p | GOOD FRIDAY 7:30PM SERVICE | |
| Worship Service 11a | | | G. A. 6p– 8:30p | AA 7:00p– 10:00p | | |
| G. A. 6p– 8:30p | | | | HOLY THURSDAY 7:30PM SERVICE | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| EASTER | | A.A. 4:30P–5:30P | Yoga 5:30p– 6:45p | TOT Hill Gang 9:30a-12p | | |
| Adult Forum 9:30a | | Yoga 6p– 7:15p | Narcotics Anonymous 7p | ASG 12:30-3:30P | | |
| Praise Service 9:30a | Adult Forum 7p | | Choir Rehearsal 7p | Yoga 5:30p–6:45p | | |
| Worship Service 11a | | | G. A. 6p– 8:30p | AA 7:00p– 10:00p | | |
| G. A. 6p– 8:30p | | | | | | |

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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