

# McKownville Church News

*Volume 11 No. 9*

*September 2020*

*Articles for the October News Letter are due by September 15th*

*Spirit Filled, Mission*

*Articles Inside*

*Love God, Follow Jesus and Pass it On*

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## **Newcomers and Visitors: WELCOME!**

Look inside for interesting articles, church news and updates, youth events, mission opportunities, fun activities and more!

**“As United Methodist Christians, we are called to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”**

## **“Our Church Values**

**\*Christ Centered; Our thoughts and actions are centered on God, Christ and the Holy Spirit.**

**\*Love; We love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**\*Integrity; We live to be thankful to God through our actions matching our values.**

**Guest WiFi: LoveGod1565**



<https://www.facebook.com/McKownvilleChurch>

*Save this Date!*

## *Annual Pumpkin Patch*

The pumpkins will be delivered on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer to unload the truck, please contact Angela Stott.



For more information, please turn to page 11.

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### *A Special Announcement*

#### *A Star Went Out for a Special Person...*

A member of the McKownville United Methodist Church, Vera Brooks, had passed away on July 27, 2020. She had a happy, healthy life all the way up to the amazing age of 106. Pastor Stephen Butler officiated the service at the New Comer Funeral Home.



# Announcements

## DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS, THE FOLLOWING ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

- Sunday morning and Monday evening Adult Forums
- Thursday morning Top of the Hill gatherings
- Choir Rehearsals
- Lunch with Friends

Reminder!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

There are new videos, at home activities and coloring pages being posted on our church's website. Help continue your children's Christian Education while at home by sharing these Sunday School activities at home. Watch weekly for updates and additional activities.



## OUTREACH



If you are interested in being involved with community outreach and have a knack for technology, we are looking for someone to manage our church's online presence on platforms apart from Facebook. If you enjoy social media and are comfortable using Twitter, Snapchat or Instagram we are seeking an individual to send out updates and maintain an online presence! Updates would include inspirational quotes, upcoming events and announcements. Contact Angela Stott to get involved and we will share passwords for these accounts! You need not maintain all platforms if you wish. Reaching out from the safety of within!

## PRAYER CHAIN MESSAGE

Did you know that McKownville Methodist Church has a "Prayer Chain" available for anyone or anything that is in need of prayer. It was started many years ago by a ladies' organization called Faith Alive. We ask that everyone first call the church office at: 518-456-1148 who then calls Connie Stott as the first in line to be contacted when a prayer is needed. She then calls Marion Leizer and on it goes. There are about ten of us still on the list, but it is time that we opened the "Chain" up to anyone who would like to join us in praying. If you would like to join us, please call the church office at: (518) 456-1148 or Marion Leizer at (518) 456-0994 and we will add your name to our list.



## BALANCE POINT



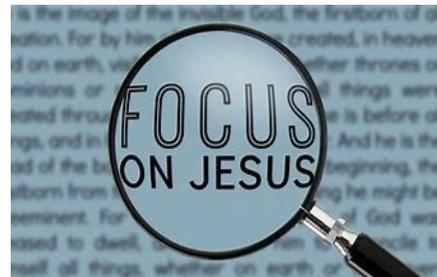
There's a little trick to keeping your balance when you're standing on one foot. Have you ever taken a yoga class and had to stand with one foot raised? Or perhaps you may have simply tried to put a shoe or sock on while standing, and not leaning against a wall or holding on to anything?? For some of us with natural balance, it might be easy; while for others, it can take quite an effort. But there is a simple trick to help stay balanced. All you need to do is focus on a fixed point. It doesn't matter which point it is, just pick a point, focus on it and don't let your eyes stray from it.

Maintaining balance as we navigate through our lives can be quite a different story. There are so many ways we can be tossed, pushed and pulled, that we may often wonder if it's possible to keep our balance in a world that changes so quickly; and throws so much at us from so many different angles. *How often do our plans get uprooted by the "unforeseeables?"*

We all face many challenges that make it difficult for us to stay on a steady course. Some we all face, like the current COVID-19 situation, while others are more specific to us individually, or within our families. But the unexpected will come our way in one form or another.

As we think about keeping our balance in a world that seems to have a never-ending supply of ways to knock us off course, can we apply the same single point of focus approach of standing on one foot to our entire lives? *Could the answer be that simple??* Well, although it may take a bit more time and focus than simply staring at a fixed point on the floor, the answer is YES, we can apply the same approach.

When our lives become a whirlwind of events, the key to staying steady and on course is to focus on a single point, and that single point is Jesus. As the storms come our way, and we begin to feel ourselves spinning out of control, there's always one surefire way to regain our balance, and that is to focus every bit of our strength and energy on the Lord. We may want to battle the winds of change and adversity on our own, and there may be times when we win. But in the long run, there's only One way to stand strong against whatever comes our way, and that's to first put our eyes, our minds and our hearts fully on Jesus, because it's His strength that can see is through any of life's difficult times.



On our own our efforts to maintain balance and a steady course will inevitably lead to frustration and exhaustion, while placing our cares and concerns in the Hands of our Lord will lead us to peace and stability. All the cares and concerns will still be there, they won't disappear, but they will be taken care of by the always reliable, dependable and trustworthy Source that has the power to calm every storm that comes our way.

There's plenty going on around us these days, we may be feeling like we're losing our balance. Let's stop and take a moment of prayer and focus everything we have on that Single Point of Focus – Jesus. He will always be there to help us keep both feet on solid and higher ground.

Have a very blessed month,

Dom Perfetti

# Healing Ministry

Welcome everyone again to our Ministry of Healing. By the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, may his safe arms be around everyone and be filled with his love. We are still facing difficulties due to the pandemic. But let us keep our faith and prayers for each other and encourage each other to move forward and focus our daily lives. I will continue to share ' *THE JOURNEY OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO DAMASCUS*'. (ACTS 9:1-22).



Paul fell from his horse onto the road to Damascus. He heard, "But get up enter the city and you will be told what you are to do." (ACTS 9:6). Paul was shocked and the men who were travelling stood speechless because they heard the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ but saw no one. (ACTS 9:7). We can only imagine Paul and his position and his power. But on the road to Damascus, the Lord took authority over Paul and his plan. Even the letter from higher authority to arrest the believers also changed in one split moment. We can remember what was told to the disciples at the Last Supper by the Lord. "If they persecute me, they will persecute you. If I had come and spoken to them, they would not have sinned, nor do they not have excuse for their sin." (John 15:20-22).

As per he said the Lord came to the road of Damascus and spoke to Paul. He changed Paul's whole plans. The powerful letter also become useless. Further, the Lord is saying to Paul, "Get up and enter the city." From this command of our Lord we can understand the power of Jesus Christ. Without his permission, Paul cannot enter to the city of Damascus. Then the Lord said, "You will be told what you to do." This was a more powerful command to the Roman Officer. Paul has no power and he was laying down on the road.

Let us think about our daily lives. Maybe some of you made a good plan for a project, a financial decision to purchase a home, an educational plan, planning for your son or daughter's wedding, or praying for your healing and you feel nothing is happening, You may be saying this, "What is this? Why are my plans not success and why I am not healed? ".In our four gospels, if e read the conversation of the Lord Jesus Christ between the disciples, people and the demons'. There is a secret guidance for our healing and for our future plans and for our blessings. Instead of trying to slave our struggle by our self, we can allow the resurrected Jesus Christ to work with us.

(Continued from the previous page.)

All of my life I was tested so much persecution because I am a converted Christian. the moment I face the persecution I will focus to our Lord and I will ask the Lord to guide me through the Scriptures. It gives me a help. Our struggle should not over take power over us but the Lord's power must take authority over our struggle . How was our Lord said to Paul, " You will be told what you to do." It is more confident assurance the Lord saying, through this Scripture, he will not let us down, but he will make us to do thing with peace and joy.

Let us pray:

"Lord, Jesus Christ, I am laying all my burden, plans, sickness, and my family, to your holy hands. Allow me to just learn on your chest to have a quiet moment with you. Many times in my weakness or with my own knowledge, I did not allow you and your power to work with me. Now here I am Lord, I surrender to you, tell me Lord what I have to do. Strengthen me, heal me, and lead me to a joyful and peace filled daily life. Protect me and my family from this pandemic, also protect everyone and around the world. I am praying my prayer in your sweet name of the Son of God Lord Jesus Christ. Amen, Amen, Amen.



Olive Ezekiel  
Minister For Healing

# SUNDAY WORSHIP

We will continue to broadcast worship live on Facebook for you to participate from the comfort and safety of your own home. Follow these instructions for watching worship – even if you do not have a Facebook account! Facebook will keep the recording of the livestream posted so that you can watch anytime and share as you wish even if you cannot join us on Sundays at 10:00 am. Worship is also posted on YouTube if you have trouble viewing on Facebook (but it is posted after live stream has ended).

## ***INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO FIND THE SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ON FACEBOOK***

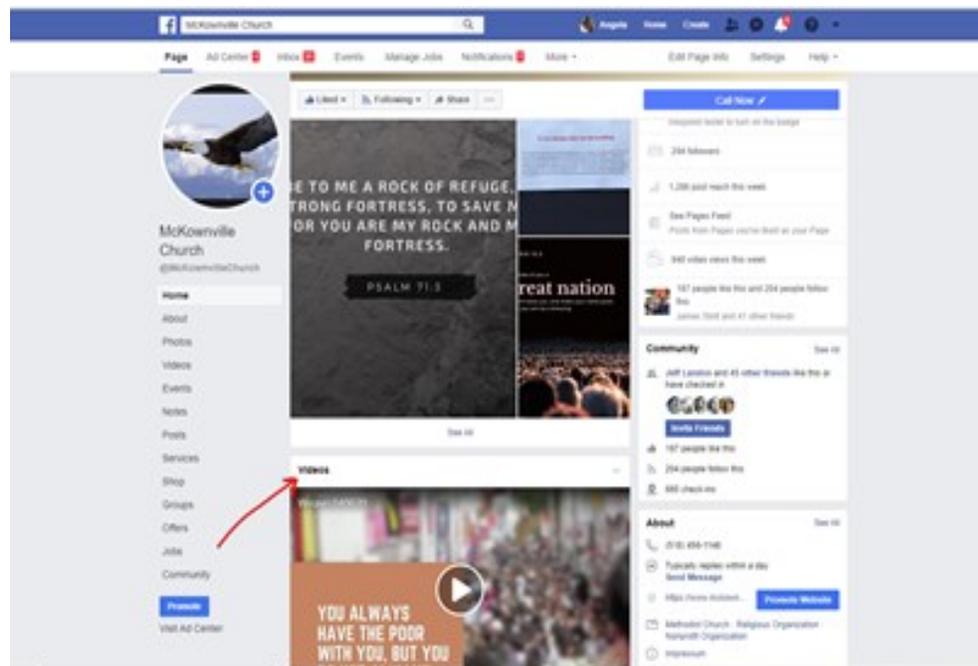
Step 1: Go to McKownville UMC's website at: <http://www.mckownvillechurch.com>

Step 2: On the bottom of the home page you will see the following Facebook link:  
Watch sermons live here!

Step 3: Click on the word here!

Step 4: Once you are on our Facebook page, scroll down and click on the most recent video on the page. (see orange arrow)

\*\*Please note: You do not need to log in or create an account to view the live steam.



Step 5: Enjoy the Worship Service.

joy

# Mission Opportunities

## *The Guilderland Food Pantry*



Guilderland Food Pantry is open for business...

If you or someone you know is food insecure, the food pantry is open and ready to help.

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF EMERGENCY FOOD SERVICE, AND LIVE IN GUILDERLAND, PLEASE CALL 518-930-1001 OR EMAIL : GUILDFOODPANTRY79@GMAIL.COM**

If you do not live in Guilderland, the Guilderland Food Pantry can assist with finding a food pantry near your home.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Guilderland Food Pantry, go to: <https://guilderlandfoodpantry.com/donate/> and there is a link to donate online.

You can also donate food, personal hygiene, household products, and diapers. They no longer take "Garage Sale" items. The space is needed for food. To donate items at this time, call the pantry for a delivery time.

The Guilderland Food Pantry is so grateful for your generosity! It is truly people like you who help feed the food insecure people in our community and help provide hope and peace in their lives. Thank you!

**Location:**  
**Guilderland Food Pantry**  
**4 Charles Park Boulevard**  
**Guilderland, NY 12084**  
**Phone: 518-930-1001**

## *YOUTH 2020*



The Guilderland Youth Group is a group of Youth in grades 7-12 who meet for a safe, fun place to learn and get hands on involved in spreading the Good News! We meet weekly September – June, mostly on Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm (some exceptions for special events may happen on other days).

“In person” meetings will resume soon. Please contact Angela Stott to be signed up for virtual events and online meeting activities.

If you want to get involved or have questions about upcoming events, see Angela Stott (coordinator) for details.

## *PARSONAGE UPDATE*

The parsonage committee has identified a house that they are pursuing for approval for purchase. The committee has visited and discussed this house in length, and has voted to move ahead with the process of obtaining the home. Approval from the conference has already been granted; and, we are currently seeking bank approval for a mortgage.

So what’s next? While the committee awaits approval for the loan, they will request a church conference be held for a vote. If the vote is favorable for the purchase, the committee will move forward with buying the home. There will be renovations that will be done to the house; and, the committee is consulting with several professionals to determine priorities and cost.

We are very excited that we have been able to move forward with this process and look forward to continue to serve on this committee. Please pray for us as we continue to make decisions and seek guidance.

Kelly Visker, Diane Steffens, Sue Burns, Nancy Rhodes, Noreen VanDoren, and James Stott





Women Together has been meeting monthly this summer. In this time of the covid virus, some of us did a zoom meeting and then planned to gather outside. We went to the small town park off Schoolhouse Road; and, we met at church in the grove near the west side of the parking lot. This is an excellent spot for other groups to meet because the traffic noise is less there. We modified plans and brought our own chair and own lunch.

Four times a year our project is to fill disaster buckets. We missed April; but, did fill them in July and delivered them to the Upper New York Albany District office at Newtonville UMC. From there they go to the church hub in Syracuse and they are ready when UMCOR needs them for people to use in cleanup from flood or other disasters.

This group started about 5 or 6 years ago when a few widows met for dinner. We have grown but remain a small group. If you are an older woman alone for some reason and wish to join us we will welcome you. Generally, we meet the fourth Friday of the month in the afternoon.

Emma Herendeen



# PUMPKIN PATCH

As of this writing, we do still have pumpkins ordered for delivery on Thursday, September 24th. We will continue to closely monitor government regulations on group gatherings, church events and agricultural market guidelines prior to opening the patch. But, if we are able to move forward to open the patch this year, extra safety measures will need to be put in place to ensure the safety and health of both our volunteers AND our customers. This will require a more structured volunteer system and advanced training. We will not be able to have spontaneous sign ups or last minute shift vacancies and in prior years as all volunteers must receive advanced training.



McKownville's Pumpkin Patch is a community fundraiser which supports our Mission Scholarship Fund. Providing service from seed to step, the pumpkins provide work to the Navajos who grow them, the independent truckers who transport them, the church who sells them, the community who decorate with them and the Capital City Rescue Mission who received fresh pumpkin pies for Thanksgiving after the sale is over. Our motto, "Changing the World, One Pumpkin at a Time," is based upon the premise that the pumpkin passes through many levels of service just to reach the customer, and all proceeds support a mission scholarship fund which enables young missionaries the chance to participate in short term mission opportunities without hindrance of cost. Each and every pumpkin contributes to a little bit of good in the world.

If you are interested in participating in a mission trip once the pandemic has passed, funds are available to offset 70% of the cost of a mission trip if needed.

Our expectation – to volunteer at the Pumpkin Patch, you are expected to sit in the sales tent for your assigned shift (likely 4 hour shifts this year) based upon your availability. Help customers select and price pumpkins. Interact with customers about the project and answer questions about the church programs. We will not be carrying pumpkins to people's car for them or bagging for people so as to limit contact. Limited use of cash as payment – we will be encouraging touchless payment systems and credit card sales.

Please sign up in advance for unloading day on September 24th with Angela Stott.

The more who sign up to help up front and receive training, the safer and easier it will be to continue this program. Please contact Angela Stott as soon as possible.

# CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Monthly Church Meetings

### Are as Follows:

- Finance Team .....Second Tuesday at 7:00 pm
- Leadership Council.....Third Tuesday at 7:00 pm
- Outreach Team.....First Wednesday at 6:00 pm
- Visuals Team.....First Sunday at 2:30 pm
- Trustees Team.....Third Sunday at 8:15 am
- Worship Team.....Fourth Tuesday at 7:00 pm

### PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING...

Special meetings will be on the calendar, in our monthly newsletters, and announced in the weekly bulletins.

Due to COVID 19, our monthly church meetings are currently being held through ZOOM.



## SEPTEMBER DUTIES CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GREETERS/ USHERS</u>	<u>WORSHIP LEADERS</u>
September 6th	Not applicable at this time	Not applicable at this time
<i>September 13th</i>	Not applicable at this time	Not applicable at this time
September 20th	Not applicable at this time	Not applicable at this time
September 27th	Not applicable at this time	Not applicable at this time

***Greeters/Ushers & Acolyte Coordinator: Stephanie DeVall at (518) 925-0160***

***Coffee Hour Coordinator: Chris Steffens at (518) 608-5300***

***Lay Worship Leader Coordinator: Nancy Rutenber at (518) 456-0412***

***\* Please Note that Greeter and Ushers duties are now combined.***



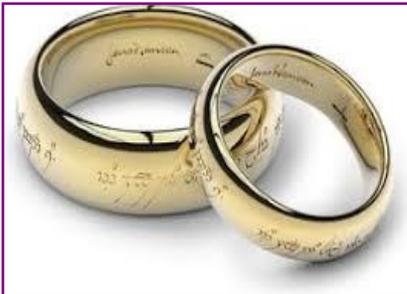
# SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIS & BIRTHAYS

## ANNIVERSARIES

## BIRTHDAYS

### Anniversaries

14—Rick & Jill Eistertz  
 19—Lucy & Gene Gee  
 27—Paul & Patti Krekeler



### Birthdays

5—Brandon Schambach  
 9—Norman Swanson  
 10—Alan Barre  
 11—Graham Clarke  
 12—Jeanette Wager  
 13—Sarah Moon  
 13—Chris Steffens  
 14—Curtis Grupe  
 15—Matthew Mead  
 15—Taylor Mead  
 16—Elizabeth Mensah  
 18—Emma Herendeen  
 19—Dennis Coon  
 21—Dexter Wells  
 25—Stephen Clarke  
 25—Justin Water  
 27—Mary Neitzel



# SEPTEMBER 2020



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am via Facebook	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am via Facebook	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am via Facebook	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am via Facebook	28	29	30			

**\*Due to COVID19, the following rehearsal times are as all on hold:**

3:00 pm Ignite Rehearsal  
 4:30 pm Wesley Ringers  
 5:45 pm New Song Rehearsal  
 6:30 pm Reborn Rehearsal

MICROSOFT

1565 Western Avenue  
Albany, New York 12203-4222

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE EXPEDITE

2 stamps

CONTACT:

Phone: (518) 456-1148  
E-mail: mckownumc@verizon.net

Website: www.McKownvilleChurch.com

Facebook: Facebook.com/McKownvilleChurch

The Rev. Jeff Landon, Pastor  
E-mail: pastorjeffumc@att.net  
Phone: (765) 652-0265

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Christine Gould, Church Secretary

## Ministry and Team Leaders of the McKownville United Methodist Church

### Board of Trustees:

<u>Chair &amp; Sexton Liaison:</u>	James Stott
<u>Vice-Chair &amp; Furnishings. Building Use Coordinators:</u>	Kelly Visker Nancy Rhodes
<u>Leases &amp; Legal Affairs:</u>	Noreen Van Doren
<u>Grounds &amp; Planned Maintenance:</u>	Tom Myers
<u>Insurance:</u>	Nancy Pullen
<u>Furniture:</u>	Kelly Visker

### Ministry Teams:

<u>Leadership Council:</u>	Kim Keane, Team Leader
<u>Staff/Parish Relations:</u>	Teri Scoville, George Jeneczko, Monte Waters, Sue Burns, Nancy Rutenber, Tricia Stott, Diane Steffens, and Frank D'Ambrosio
<u>Finance:</u>	Henry Walter, Team Leader Treasurer & Payroll: Tim Pierce Finance Secretary: To be Determined
<u>Worship:</u>	Jeff Landon, Team Leader
<u>Evangelism through Outreach:</u>	Darcianne Leizer, Team Leader
<u>Christian Education:</u>	Kim Keane, Team Leader
<u>Memorials &amp; Gifts:</u> <u>Senior Ministries:</u>	Nancy Pullen, Team Leader Darcianne Leizer, Team Leader