

McKownville Church News

Volume 12 No. 1

JANUARY 2021

*Happy
New
Year*

*Love God, Follow Jesus, and
Pass it On*

*Articles for the February 2021
News Letter are due by
January 15th*

Articles Inside

Spirit Filled, Mission Driven

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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>

Announcements



THANK YOU...

All of the staff here at the McKownville United Methodist Church would like to say **"THANK YOU"** for the Christmas Present we all received.

Your thoughtful and generosity were greatly appreciated.

We would also like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed New Year!!



PASTOR COVENANT

- Due to COVID19, this document is no longer available at the back of the sanctuary.
- This document can be obtained or viewed as follows:
Calling the church office at (518) 456-1146,
Emailing the church office at: mckownumc@verizon.net, or
Clicking on the following link:



2020Covenant-signed (2).pdf



DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS, THE FOLLOWING ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE...

- Sunday morning and Monday evening Adult Forums
- Choir Rehearsals
- Lunch with Friends

WORSHIP SERVICES

- Sunday worship services are held at 10:00 am
- Everyone is welcome to worship in person or watch the service on Facebook.



Announcements

YOUTH GROUP

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 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.



PARSONAGE UPDATE

The parsonage committee has retained a quote from a new contractor and will be meeting to discuss the contracting options. With the new quote, the committee is able to supply the bank with enough information to get a mortgage decision. We are very excited to obtain this information so that we can share it with the church. We have been so blessed by the generosity of the congregation and have raised/pledged to date over \$90,000 towards the parsonage. We are still looking for various church groups to host some type of fund raiser to help this project. The outreach committee kindly donated over \$400.00 from tips given at the Pumpkin Patch. While we realize it is difficult to host a fund raiser at this time, please be prayerful about what your group might be able to do in the future. Thank you all for your prayers, advice and donations towards this exciting project.



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. New Sunday school lesson has been posted to Facebook.



Announcements

FISCAL YEAR CHANGES

We are changing our fiscal year from what it is presently to a calendar year in order to line up with what the district and conference uses.

| January | | | | | | | 2021 |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| 31 | | | | | | | |

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: (51) 456-1148. 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.





Present Time



live in the present

Well, it's that time of the year, *present time!* We may all be thinking a bit differently this year, considering the challenges we've had with COVID-19 and a number of other difficult challenges; but, nevertheless, it is still the Christmas season. Despite one of the most difficult years coming to a close, it is the time for gift giving and being thankful for what we have, and the hopes of a happy and healthy New Year to come.

Needless to say, the thoughts of a New Year this year may have all of us thinking much differently than past years. It's safe to say that we've all have "had it" with 2020, and look forward to a better 2021. The health issues from COVID-19 along with the racial and political tensions have just made this year very difficult.

But as we look forward to the New Year, let's not let the precious moments of Christmas pass us by. We may not be able to visit all the family and friends we would like to, but we still have the opportunity to share our love, our gifts, and the most precious gift the world has ever seen – God Himself coming to us as the baby Jesus. It truly is present time!

The truth is, looking ahead, we don't know what next year will bring; and looking back, we do know exactly what this past year brought us. The bottom line is, we can only live in the present time! We can often find ourselves trying to relive a past experience, or feeling preoccupied with the days to come, and in doing so, we lose site of the present. With our Christian Faith, we carry the confidence that regardless of what happened in the past, God's plan is at work for us, and our future is also in the Hands of our Lord who we know will never let us down. And that leaves us with the present time. Each minute is a moment for us to be reminded that Jesus came into our lives so we can rely on his love and guidance, and do our best each moment of our lives, each present moment, to show our love to Him by following His example.

We worry, and we have anxieties about the future, but what Jesus tells us to do is the opposite. He wants us to live in the present, with Him. There's no need to look back, we can't change a thing. There's no need to worry or be overly concerned about the future, we cannot control what will happen tomorrow. We DO know that Jesus is with us right now, in this present time, and will be there for us in every future moment as well.

God offered us His greatest gift of all, His Son. We can enjoy His presence every moment of every day.

It's Christmas, enjoy the gift of God's presence among us, enjoy this *present time!*

Prayers for a healthy, holy and blessed Christmas Season,

Dom Perfetti



Healing Ministry

Welcome everyone! I want to wish all of you a Blessed, Happy, and Healthy New Year 2021!



We are entering into a New Year of 2021. You may all have lots of plans and agendas; and also a also a lot of questions about how this new year will be. Will this new year deliver us from the pandemic to the freedom of everyday life. If we look back at last year, it had many tragic stories and our life style was changed dramatically! Did God Almighty want us to live like this? NO. God Almighty wants us both physically and spiritually ready to receive our inheritances. But are we following the commands of our God? Around the world people are angry, depressed, disappointed, and complaining over and over again about this pandemic.

Let us sit in a quiet place, and take a moment with the Lord, Jesus Christ, and invite him into our lives by our prayers. He intervened in our world, wrapped in strips of old cloth, and took his very first nap on a bed of straw. Recently, archeologists found the house where he grew up. It had a muddy floor and stone walls. There was no living room filled with fashionable sofa sets and there was no comfortable bed for him as well. In his childhood, He grew up in Palestine, and spent His youthful life with Joseph at his woodworking shop.

He learned how to take an ordinary piece of wood and turn it into a polished piece of furniture. He found 12 men to work with him to help bring THE KINGDOM OF GOD THE FATHER in our world. Wherever He went, people hounded him and wanted to get rid of him from the world. Finally, he was handed over to foreign hands, they spat on his face, cursed, pierced with nails, and hung on the cross as a simple of cursed men. But Jesus, the Son Of God Almighty, gave his life completely so that we all might live not only in this world but also in the Internal life.

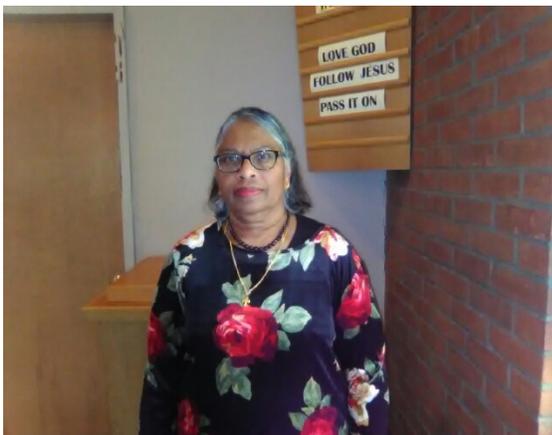
We make appointed time with our jobs and so many people. But God made the appointed time to raise His Son, Jesus Christ, to this world and to believe in Him. We thought our world was under attack with the virus, like a enemy; but, Christ will marshal the power of the virus with His armies in heaven. The Lord, Jesus Christ, is a humble servant and he is also powerful conquering The King of King.

Let us refresh our faith with Him, and take a look at what was said and written in the Book of Revelation by the Apostle John. Revelation is the book of hope and of warnings for us. The 7 warnings for 7 Churches in this world. It may fit to our present situation and teach how God wants us to be. Please read Revelation chapters 2 and the 3. Look more closely at all this giving a warning for us. Our personal choices and alternative life style will not be going to help us to reach the plan of God.

Present painful experiences are part of our life. Believers and non believers are also experiencing sickness. Remember what was he said in all the 4 Gospels: 1. I am the Bread of Life. 2. I am the true vine. 3. I am the way and truth. 4. I am the good shepherd. 5. I am the gate. 6. I am the Light of the world. 7. I am the Resurrection and Life. Amen.

Let us bow our heads and pray:

"God Almighty, we are standing in your presence. Fill us by your Holy presence and bless us and this New Year 2021. Let us keep your promises in our daily lives. Protect us from all the dangers and sickness. May all who need healing receive your healings. Make us to serve you and honor you in our lives. May our homes be a little heaven and enjoy our daily lives. We are praying this in the name of Your Son, 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

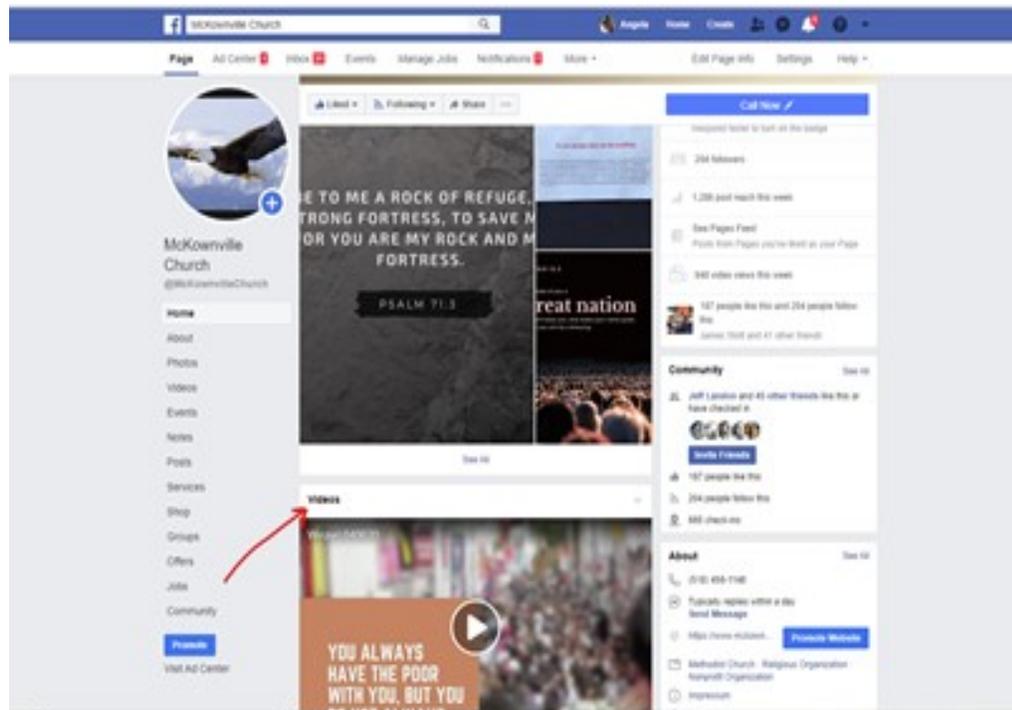
Step 1: Go to McKownville UMC's website at: <http://www.mckownvillechurch.com>

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.

| January | | | | | | | 2021 |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| 31 | | | | | | | |

CHANGE OF FISCAL YEAR FOR MCKOWNVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

McKownville United Methodist Church is changing its fiscal year from the current July-June pattern to a calendar year. This change will be effective January 1, 2021. It makes our fiscal year consistent with that of the Albany District and the Upper New York Conference. This change does not affect the giving report you will receive from the financial secretary. For calendar year 2020 you will receive two pages, one reporting your giving from January 1 to June 30, 2020 and one reporting your giving from July 1 to December 31, 2020. In future years you will receive a single statement for the entire year, January 1 to December 31.

This change was urged by Rev Debbie Earthrowl, Albany District Superintendent, discussed by the Finance Team, presented to Leadership Council in November, and approved unanimously by Leadership Council. Working out details was left to the Finance Team.

Each year our church must report to the Conference certain information regarding our programs and monies. To meet Conference practices now, our volunteer leaders must compile information from two different fiscal years to prepare reports. This change will make reporting easier. It will also impact how we schedule our budget process and our annual financial campaign.

For this to become a reality, the twelve month budget July 2020 – June 2021 approved by Leadership Council June 2020 will be extended another six months. Budgeted values for the added six months (July 1 through December 31, 2021) will be half those of the current budget. Some adjustments will be made for known reasons (for example, Ministry Shares will increase slightly in 2021). Details of this updated 2021 budget will be announced in January and presented to Leadership Council for approval.

This action has only one major impact on members. Because we are extending the current fiscal year by six months, we are asking members to extend their current pledge for another six months. Later this month each member and friend will receive a letter asking for support of this extension.

Prior to receiving that letter, do these two things. First pray for our church, for its presence on Western Avenue, and for its ministry in Guilderland. Second, reflect on the blessings you enjoy from God, even in these strange and stressful times, and the need to maintain our faithful presence right here. Ponder prayerfully what your response will be to this request. Be ready to respond when the letter arrives.

In future years, the annual financial campaign for the coming calendar year will be conducted in September-October. Using pledge information and cost information from Trustees and program leaders, the Finance Team will finalize a budget for presentation in December to Leadership Council for approval.



Emergency Overflow Homeless Shelter Dinners

I hope you are staying safe and virus free. I know many people are cooking a lot more than they did in the past, so maybe you would like to sign up to make a full meal for 15 homeless individuals for the Capital District Area Council of Churches' Homeless Shelter, or maybe to make just a soup, stew or a dessert that would feed 15 that you would like to donate towards a full meal prepared by others?

This shelter is operated in the belief that a ministry of hospitality and sanctuary is a mission of the Christian Church that scripture compels us to welcome and minister to the most vulnerable and needy in our society. This is illustrated by many bible stories including the Good Samaritan. Due to COVID restrictions, this shelter can only house 15 men this year and the McKownville United Methodist Church has committed to providing meals the second and fourth Mondays of November through April. The Shelter is located at the **First Lutheran Church at 626 State Street, Albany**. To get there, turn onto Cortland Place from Western Avenue and State Street is your first left. The church is on the left and the first entrance is for the First Lutheran Church and the second entrance is for the Shelter.

Meals should be dropped off between 6-6:30 p.m. at the Shelter entrance by placing the dinner on the small table at the entrance. Move at least 6 feet from the door and call the shelter at 518-426-1227 to tell them you have arrived. Shelter staff will come up and collect your meal. If you are unable to bring your dinner in the evening, please call Julie (the First Lutheran Church office manager) a few days in advance at 518-463-1326 to schedule a drop-off time when the church is open. Please remember to wear a mask.

Meals should serve 15 people and **should not include pork**. Meals should include an entrée, vegetables and dessert. Salad, bread and butter, and beverage mixes are optional. Salads should serve only 7, as they do not keep well. No need to provide salad dressing. Beverages are a nice addition and they would prefer a drink mix — lemonade, fruit punch, etc. for storage purposes. Please don't send carbonated drinks.

Meals must be delivered in containers you do not expect to have returned. The shelter suggests stews, casseroles, meatloaf, pasta, meat and gravy, roasted chicken, shepherd's pie, and chilis. Any meal you are able to prepare is welcome as this may be the only meal the guests will have that day. Thank you for taking on this very important ministry.

Please contact Noreen VanDoren at (518) 588-3009 or Norvandoren@yahoo.com to sign up to provide a meal, or to contribute to a meal for the homeless on the following dates: March 8 & 22, and April 12 & 26.

God Bless you!



CHURCH MEETINGS



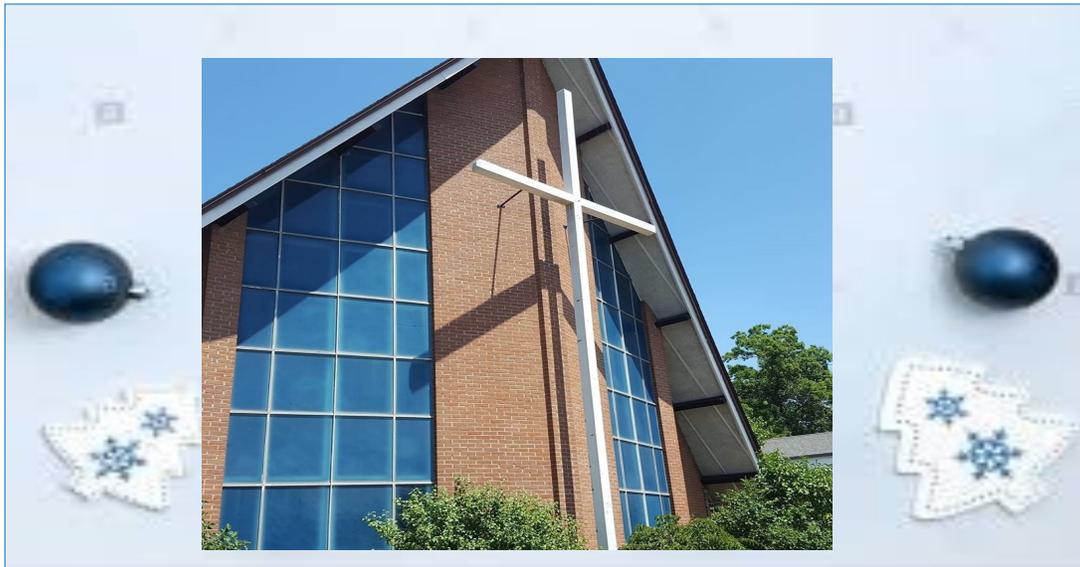
Monthly Church Meetings

Are as Follows:

Finance TeamSecond 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 Monday at 6:00 pm
 Worship Team.....Fourth Tuesday at 7:00 pm

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING...

- ◆ *The Trustee Meetings will now be held on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 pm.*
- ◆ *Due to COVID 19, our monthly church meetings are currently being held through ZOOM.*



JANUARY DUTIES CALENDAR

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>GREETERS/ USHERS</u> | <u>WORSHIP LEADERS</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| January 3rd | Not applicable at this time | Not applicable at this time |
| <i>January 10th</i> | Not applicable at this time | Not applicable at this time |
| January 17th | Not applicable at this time | Not applicable at this time |
| January 24th | Not applicable at this time | Not applicable at this time |
| January 31st | Not applicable at this time | Not applicable at this time |

Please note...

Due to COVID-19, we are currently not seeking volunteers to be ushers, greeters, or acolytes at this time. We will keep you updated...

Thank You...

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.***



USHERS & GREETERS
make our guests
WELCOME!

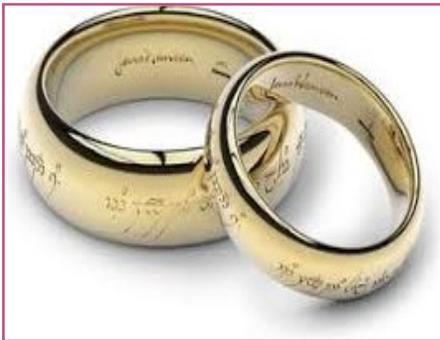
JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

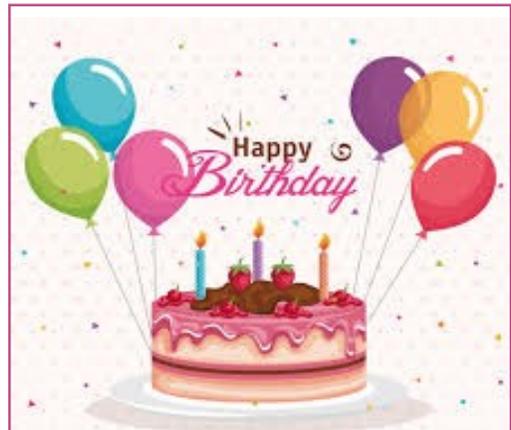
Anniversaries

12—Ken & Jennifer Grupe
30—Bob Barnard & Maria D'Ambrosio



Birthdays

2—Karen Tedesco
?—Nadia Jefferson
7—Pauline Martin
7—Kathryn Braun
7—Vera Lund
7—Monte Waters
11—Patti Krekeler
11—Joshua Scattareggia
15—Alexander Burns
16—Bill Colclough
16—Cathy Gee Jurek
29—Angela Stott
31—Patricia Stott



JANUARY 2021



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|----------|---|----------|
| | | | | | 1 <i>New Year's Day</i>  | 2 |
| 3 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am in the church and via Facebook Visuals Team 2:30 pm (via ZOOM) | 4 | 5 Living Resources 9:30 am | 6 Outreach Team 6:00 pm (via ZOOM) | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am in the church and via Facebook | 11 | 12 Living Resources 9:30 am Finance Team 7:00 pm (via ZOOM) | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am in the church and via Facebook | 18 Trustees Team 67:00 pm (via ZOOM)  | 19 Living Resources 9:30 am Leadership Council 7:00 pm (via ZOOM) | 20 <i>Inauguration Day</i>  | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Sunday Services are held at 10:00 am in the church and via Facebook | 25 | 26 Living Resources 9:30 am Worship Team 7:00 pm (via ZOOM) | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | 1 | | | | | |

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

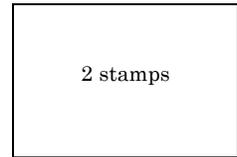
- 3:00 pm Ignite Rehearsal
- 4:30 pm Wesley Ringers
- 5:45 pm New Song Rehearsal
- 6:30 pm Reborn Rehearsal

ACTIVITY PAGE



MICROSOFT

1565 Western Avenue
Albany, New York 12203-4222



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

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:

Chair & Sexton Liaison: James Stott

Vice-Chair & Furnishings,
Building Use Coordinators: Kelly Visker
Nancy Rhodes

Leases & Legal Affairs: Noreen Van Doren

Grounds & Planned
Maintenance: Tom Myers

Insurance: Nancy Pullen

Furniture: Kelly Visker

Ministry Teams:

Leadership Council: Kim Keane, Team Leader

Staff/Parish Relations: Teri Scoville, George Jenczko,
Monte Waters, Sue Burns, Nancy Rutenber, Tricia Stott,
Diane Steffens, Frank D'Ambrosio & Pat Beauregard

Finance: Henry Walter, Team Leader
Treasurer & Payroll: Tim Pierce
Finance Secretary: To be Determined

Worship: Jeff Landon, Team Leader

Evangelism through Outreach: Darcianne Leizer,
Team Leader

Christian Education: Kim Keane, Team Leader

Memorials & Gifts: Nancy Pullen, Team Leader
Senior Ministries: Darcianne Leizer, Team Leader