MCKOWNVILLE CHURCH NEWS

MARCH 2025

Volume 16 No. 3

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

- Ashes will be given out at McKownville UMC from 10:00 pm until 3:00 pm—or by appointment
- Ash Wednesday service will be held at Pine Grove UMC at 7:00 pm

Spirit Filled, Mission Driven

Articles for the April Newsletter are due by March 15th.

Love God, Follow Jesus, And Pass it On

Articles Inside

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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



WORSHIP SERVICES

- Sunday worship services are held every Sunday at 10:00 am
- The first Sunday of every month is communion Sunday
- Everyone is welcome to worship with us in person or watch the service on Facebook or on YouTube.



COFFEE HOUR



We are having coffee hour in the back of the sanctuary once again. This is a great time to build fellowship and get to know one another on a more personal level. Currently coffee hour is being run by the different ministry teams at the church, but you can help! If you would like to contribute to coffee hour either by making coffee and tea or bringing food, please let Kelly Visker know and she can hook you up with the team of the month. You can reach Kelly either at church at (518-456-1148) or via text at: (518-312-6396.)

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

We are very excited that we now have assisted listening devices in the sanctuary that anyone can use. These devices allow people to better hear the service. Each device has a receiver and a set of headphones. Currently located in the back of the sanctuary. You can pick up a receiver from the charging station and

a set of headphones from a clean bag. The receivers are already programed so you just need to plug the headphones into the receiver and put the headphones on.

If you have your set own of headphones or earbuds that you prefer, you can use them instead. At the end of the service please use the sanitizing wipes to wipe down the headphones and place them in the basket. We currently have 8 sets and will evaluate in the future if we need more. If you have questions, please see Kelly

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Palm Sunday, April 13: Worship Service at 10:00 am Holy Thursday, April 17: Worship Service at 7:30 pm Good Friday, April 18: Worship Service at 7:30 pm Easter Sunday, April 20: Worship Service at 10:00 am



SEASON OF LENT



Ash Wednesday: March 5th.

• First Sunday of Lent: March 9th

Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 13th

Holy Thursday: April 17thGood Friday: April 18th

Easter Sunday: April 20th

SUNDAY SHOOL

The children had great fun celebrating Advent and will continue to learn and grow in 2025. We continue to take a hands-on learning approach and are committed to serving our community by preparing items for the coffee hour and celebration in song during Children's Chat monthly.





THANK YOU!!

Thank you all again for your donations to be taken on the Christian Medical Mission to Gambia in Africa. Your support is greatly appreciated.

ADDRESS CHANGE

- Dorothy Ellinwood and Henry Walter have moved.
- Their new address is as follows:

 Parkland Garden Apartments
 325 Kings Road
 Apartment 23
 Schenectady, NY 12304





From the Desk of Dom Perfetti...

Let the Son Shine Through



Sitting in the Church Sanctuary early in the morning before the Service can be very peaceful. A few weeks ago, just at the right time, sitting in the right spot and looking from the ideal angle, the sun was peering through the stained glass directly through the halo above Jesus's head as He was praying in the garden prior to His Crucifixion. The light beam was intense, and although it only lasted a few minutes until the sun rose higher, the memory of it is still sharp. *The sun was shining and the Son was shining!*

With the Lenten Season upon us once again, we will be revisiting Jesus' last walk and last words prior to His resurrection. Throughout these days we'll recall the uncon-

ditional love and forgiveness He freely offered each of us. It's these days, more so than ever that we see the Light of God shining through His Son, brightening the path for all of us. Jesus' death on the Cross was a dark day for His disciples but three days later they were filled with hope and rejoicing when they learned of the empty tomb and His rising to be united with His Father in Heaven.

The Light of the Son has shown through death on the Cross and can show through our lives as well. Just as the sun shined brightly through the stained glass at the Church, the Son can also shine brightly in our lives as we open our hearts and minds to Him. The stained glass was designed to allow for sunlight to shine through and brighten the Church, and God designed us to allow for the Son to shine through us and brighten the lives of others.

The Light of the Son is stronger than any other and can brighten the darkest times. As we accept Jesus into our hearts, let's enjoy the light of the Son and let it shine wherever we go.

Dear Lord we pray – As we enter another season of Lent, we pray that the Light of Your Son Jesus can shine brightly in and through each of us. Help us to have the courage and strength to bring ourselves and others closer to You as You continue to shine Your Light upon us through our days of joy as well as the days of our greatest trials. We know you are always with us.

Have a blessed Lenten Season, Dom Perfetti



Welcome everyone to our Ministry of Healing. Let us offer our thanks to God for this new month. God almighty guided me to remember the farm lands and the farmers and their families. When we go grocery shopping,

In our bible, Genesis 1:11, describes how God Almighty created the farms. The first farm was created by Him. Then God said, "let the land produce vegetation, seed bearing plants, and trees. Let them be fruit bearing with seeds of various kinds. And it was so." Then God created the man, Adam, Genesis 1:18 says, "Then Lord took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. God created a man first to be the farmer and gardener. Genesis 1:29 says, "The first farmers were Adam and Eve. God said to them, "I give you every seed bearing plant on the face of the earth, and every tree has fruits with seeds. They will be yours for food. " Adam's son, Cain, was offered the first offering to God (Genesis:4:3) some of the fruits of the soil.

A farmer's life is not an easy one. The harvest workers come from all different locations. No matter how hot or cold it is, they work hard to support their families. The farmer's daily goal is to cultivate fresh produce and send it to the markets for the consumers. I had a good a experience learning about growing rice from the farmers.



My father was one of the richest men in the town and had some farm land. During our high school summer holidays, my father would schedule our summer activities for three weeks to his farm where we lived with the farmer's family. The farmer and his wife taught us about the farm work. They woke us upearly in the morning and gave us a list of work to do. We harvested vegetables along with other harvest workers. So when we saw the food on our plates, we understood the hard work and sweat of the harvest workers.



The famers and their families need our daily prayer support. Let us bow our heads, say a prayer for them, and thank God for his creation:

"God almighty, creator of all, we are offering our thanks for all the blessings given for us and for our families. We are praying for all the farmers, their Families, and for all the harvest workers and their families. Lord God by your mercy and grace may the rain and sun shine on it. During their harvest, may your hand help them. Lord God provide what they need for their cultivation. Pour your presence in them and all their families. If any one in a farmer's family is suffering with sickness, may your healing hand touch them and give them full healing. If any farmer is suffering any financial losses, Lord God pour your mighty financial blessings upon them. May all the farm lands be blessed by your mercy and grace. May all the farmers and the harvest worker's families be blessed now and forever. In Your name we are praying. Amen. Amen.



Olive Ezekiel, Minister for Healing



McKownville UMC Sanctuary &

Chapel Memorials in 1970's and 1980's

Major memorials during this time included twelve stained glass memorial windows installed from 1973 to 1985 in the 1960 sanctuary.

Full pictures of these windows are in McKownville books (see at church or buy at Lulu.com).

<u>1971</u> – chancel carpeting (\$525, over \$4000 in 2025 monies) [There were also other *rug* expenditures at various times.]

<u>1973</u> – two *Edward C. Wise memorial windows* – cross & crown, open Bible (\$785 + \$785)

1974 – chapel furnishings in Wesley Chapel donated by the Meek family in memory of John Meek: worship center (\$1616.04 + \$71.20 freight charges) & drapes + rods (\$308.45) material + linings (\$78.23) & lumber for chapel (\$102.94) & paneling for chapel (\$22.10) & carpet runner (\$165) = \$2363.96



Wesley Chapel Worship Center (as seem September 1999)



Mary Ellen Hall in 2002 by the window for her husband

<u>1974</u> – Robert Hall memorial window – cross in chalice (\$1045, about \$6690 in 2025 monies)

1974 - C. O. Palmer memorial window - pomegranate (\$1045)

<u>1975</u> – *Brig. Gen. Arthur G. Eckert memorial window* – eagle on fleur-de-lis (\$1240)

<u>1975</u> – Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Helme and family memorial window (his 3rd daughter Sarah died in 1973) – dove (\$1240) – in book as <u>Smith Family Memorial Window</u> (presumably that of his living 2nd daughter Lulu Helme Smith)

<u>1975</u> – memorials towards *chimes* \$407.40 & tapes (cartridges for chimes (\$180)

Dedicated 1977 – Ella Alice (Smith) Ostrander memorial window – lily

Dedicated June 3, 1979 - Lucien "Doc" Bowen memorial window – Jesus + children

Dedicated Thanksgiving Sunday **Nov. 18, 1979** – *Blanche L. Frost memorial window* (front right of sanctuary)

Dedicated Nov. 26, 1979 – Frederic Parker Clifton memorial window – the earth is the Lord's



Pastors Charlie Yang, Steve Butler, Rich Weihing & Terry O'Neill were all part of the November 6, 2016 celebratory worship service for the church's 150th anniversary. Here they are by memorial windows for Edward C. Wise & Marie Acker and son.

Dedicated 1983 – Harold and Emma Lapham memorial window - crown of thorns

Dedicated **1984**, **March 3**, **1985** – *Florence Marie & Arthur Chester Acker memorial window* (listed as in memory of Marie Acker who died 1983) – Lord is my shepherd

Dedicated **November 19, 1989,** - Memorial funds toward purchase of the United Methodist Hymnals in pews

- Nancy Rutenber, Church Historian



Adult Forum



Sessions Held: Monday Evenings at 7:00 pm

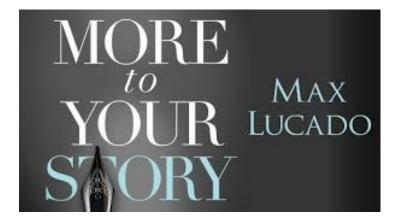
"God's story is glorious, surprising, victorious, and beautiful. His story, when we really listen closely, is our story."

March 3, 2025 - 3. You Hear a Voice You Can Trust

March 10, 2025 - 4. You Won't Be Forsaken

March 17, 2025 - 5. Your Final Chapter Becomes a Preface

March 24, 2025 - 6. You Will Finally Graduate





Bold Women Transforming Communities with a focus on women, children and youth

Albany/Adirondack Districts United Women in Faith Spring Meeting, Saturday, March 15, Jonesville UMC

All women are invited. You do not need to be part of a UWF group or be United Methodist. The Albany/Adirondack Districts United Women in Faith Spring meeting will be held on Saturday, March 15 at the Jonesville United Methodist Church, 963 Main Street, Clifton Park. The theme is "Golden Years: Helping the Elderly." NY Connects is a trusted place to go for free, unbiased information about long term services and supports in New York State for people of all ages or with any type of disability. At the meeting, there will be information available from Albany, Saratoga, Schenectady, Rensselaer, and Fulton Counties as well as CAPTAIN Community Human Services and AARP.

The **offering** will go half to UMCOR toward Flood Buckets in response to the recent hurricanes and half to CAPTAIN Community Human Services (which serves in Saratoga, Fulton, and Montgomery Counties, with a Safe Harbour program also in Schenectady County).

Registration begins at 8:45 AM with **Fellowship Time** from 9 – 9:30 AM. The registration cost is \$12, which includes Breakfast and Lunch. Registrations need to be mailed by March 8 or sent electronically by March 10. You can used the form posted in church, the one online at https://files.constantcontact.com/c9938041501/7d08ebe3-5a1a-4190-9cd3- 617fe6f00ec2.pdf, or contact Nancy Rutenber by March 5 to be included on her form.

There will also be awards presented, a Memorial Service for deceased church women, donations of pill bottles and UMCOR items, and a book swap table available. You can read The Burning Bush at https://mailchi.mp/3a83973f46d4/pledge-17459383?e=9dc416d1bf.

Volume 16 No.2



This works like the reverse of an advent calendar. Each day during the 40 days of Lent (remember no Sundays! Those are the days you donate) gather from your pantry or add to your grocery list the suggested items in the below calendar. Instead of getting something each day like on an advent calendar, you GIVE something each day. At

the end of the week, bring your donations to church. At the end of the collection the items will be blessed and then donated to the Guilderland Food Pantry. Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025, starts Lent and should be the first day of your donations.

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Х	Х	X	Peanut Butter	Box of Cereal	Macaroni and Cheese	Canned Tomatoes
X	Canned Vegetable Soup	Jar of Applesauce	Canned Sweet Potatoes	Jam or Jelly	Canned Chicken	Box of Crackers
X	Spaghetti Sauce	Box of Oatmeal	Package of Pasta	Chicken Noodle Soup	Canned Corn	Tomato Soup
X	Canned Carrots	Canned Oranges	Canned Green Beans	Container of Ketchup	Canned Tuna	Package of Rice
Х	Canned Pineapple	Jar of Mayonnaise	Cake Mix	Cooking Oil	Canned Chili	Canned Baked Beans
Х	Bag of Cookies	Brownie Mix	Canned Stew (Dinty Moore)	Canned Peaches	Can Mixed Vegetables	Box of Tea
X	Jar of Juice	Can of Fruit Cocktail	Pancake Mix	Bag of Coffee	Canned Creamed Soup	Jar of Mustard

Worship Services



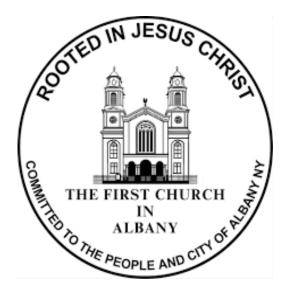
Ash Wednesday	March 5, 2025
First Sunday of Lent	March 9, 2025
Palm Sunday	April 13, 2025
Holy Thursday	April 17, 2025
Good Friday	April 18, 2025
Easter Sunday	April 20, 2025

Meals for the Homeless Shelter

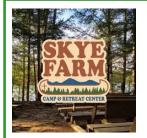
The new location for the Capital District Area Council of Churches' Homeless Shelter in Albany finally opened on February 1, 2025. The shelter is now located at **THE FIRST CHURCH OF AL-BANY**, **111 NORTH PEARL STREET**. Apparently, there were many more Building Code requirements that needed to be satisfied in this location, than originally planned for, which resulted in the delay in opening.

In addition, the Shelter advised that they needed assistance in purchasing security cameras for their new location and our church was able to use the money we received for the Christmas Eve Offering to pay for the cost of one security camera. The Leadership Council advised that our Christmas Eve offering is typically used to support an "outside the church" mission and since the 2024 offering had not yet been designated, the Council voted to use the Christmas offering to support the Shelter's request.

A big *thank you* to all who have volunteered to provide meals on the second and fourth Wednesdays for February through April this year and for those who have stepped up to provide meals on some Thursdays. Your help is a blessing to the shelter.







Summer is Coming! Looking for Something Fun to do this Summer?

How about going to Skye Farm Camp in the Adirondacks for a week? Located on 400+ acres of woods and on a lake, it is ideal for swimming, boating, hiking, and many other fun activities.

At an Adventure camp, you can swim, try out a corcl tube, canoe, kayak, experience a rope course, or explore camp on a new-fangled diggler scooter. Or perhaps creativity or artist camp is more your style. Enjoy creating through improv, skits, plays, dance, art, photography, or music. Skye farm also has a Hook, Line and Sinker camp, a Rocks, Ropes and River camp, a Games camp, a Night Owl camp, and other specialty camps. These are all one-week camps, for ages 6 through young adult, with sessions in July and August.

No matter what camp you choose, you will make new friends, sing songs, play games, have camp fires and eat smores. However, what makes the Skye Farm experience unique is that it is a United Methodist Christian camp. This means campers have opportunities to grow in their faith and build lifelong connections through living out Christian values, reading the bible, and prayer. Short daily morning chapel services and singing grace at every meal is also part of everyday camp life.

To learn more about all the Skye Farm camps and programs, visit the Skye Farm Camp web page at: https://skyefarmcamp.org/ where there is also information about schedules, registration, costs, directions, and contact info. Camper scholarships are also available from McKownville UMC and Skye Farm. For an application, contact the church office or Pastor Jeff. Have more questions? Contact Paul Krekeler at 518-456-6785.





"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

John Wesley



DONATE FOOD TO THE GUILDERLAND FOOD PANTRY

Canned Carrots Canned Peas Canned Corn **Diced Tomatoes** Spaghetti Sauce Canned Tuna Fish Canned Chicken **Baked Beans** Corned Beef Hash Canned Fruits **Canned Beets** Mayonnaise (small jars) **Boxed Potatoes** Canned Pineapple Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix Creamed Corn

Items listed above may be left in the back of the sanctuary on the cart in the "Mission Corner."

MAGAZINES NEED

- Donate your magazines
- These magazines are used for patients at the Albany Medical Center Hospital.
- Please leave your magazines in the back of the sanctuary on the cart in the "Mission Corner."
- Thank you



UMCOR SUNDAY—MARCH 30, 2025



The UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable. For all donations put in the offering plates need to be labeled for UMCOR Sunday, either on the memo line of the check or on envelope with cash.

MONTHLY TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE

Finance Team Leadership Mission/Outreach Team Faith Journey Group Trustees Team Worship Team Second Tuesday at 5:30 pm Third Tuesday at 7:00 pm Fourth Thursday at 7:00 pm First Wednesday at 6:30 pm Fourth Sunday after Worship Service Fourth Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Please Note the Following

(Some of our monthly church meetings are being held using ZOOM)





- Sunday worship services are held at 10:00 am.
- The first Sunday of every month is Communion Sunday.
- Everyone is welcome to worship with us in person, or watch the service on Facebook or YouTube.



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).

<u>INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO FIND</u> 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.



MARCH DUTIES



<u>DATES</u>	<u>USHERS/GREETERS</u>	WORSHIP LEADERS
March 2	Persons Needed	Tricia Stott
March 9 (First Sunday of Lent & Daylight Savings Begins)	Persons Needed	Nancy Rutenber
March 15	Persons Needed	Frank D'Ambrosio
March 23	Persons Needed	Nancy Rhodes
March 30	Persons Needed	Nan Pullen

Currently there is no bulletin. If you are not on the distribution list for the emailed worship service outline, I (or some else) will forward it to you.

If you find your date inconvenient, please attempt to switch with someone else and then let the church know (518-456-1148 or email mckownumc@verizon.net) as well as myself (518-456-0412 or email at: nancy e rutenber@yahoo.com.

As Worship Leaders, you help set the tone that prepares the congregation for worship. Worship leader notes with service guidelines are in the attached document. (If you cannot open, let me know.)

One copy of the Worship Leader Reference is ke+pt in the pulpit/lectern. The pastor or guest speaker can inform you if there are any changes.

Aids to being Worship Leader:

Service outline and scripture: Look at a copy or email of the worship outline to familiarize yourself with the service for which you will be Lay Worship Leader. This includes the church policy about wearing masks.

Be early and get ready: On Sunday, please arrive at the church fifteen minutes prior to the service for which you are serving and check up front.

The microphone will be turned on; if you are tall or short, you may need to move it closer to your mouth. The visuals team started a 5-minute timer on the monitors to help get the services started on time. The worship leader can begin the greetings to the congregation after the timer counts down to zero and the organist/pianist is seated. In the fall, the Pastor may start handling this and announcements again.

Remember that worship is to God. Thank you for helping the congregants worship.

Nancy Rutenber, Worship Leader Coordinator "May your life sing." - NR

Please Note...

Greeters/Ushers & Acolyte Coordinator: Stephanie DeVall at (518) 925-0160
Lay Worship Leader Coordinator: Nancy Rutenber at (518) 456-0412
Please Note that Greeter and Ushers duties are now combined.



<u>MARCH</u> ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



<u>MARCH</u> <u>ANNIVERSARIES</u>

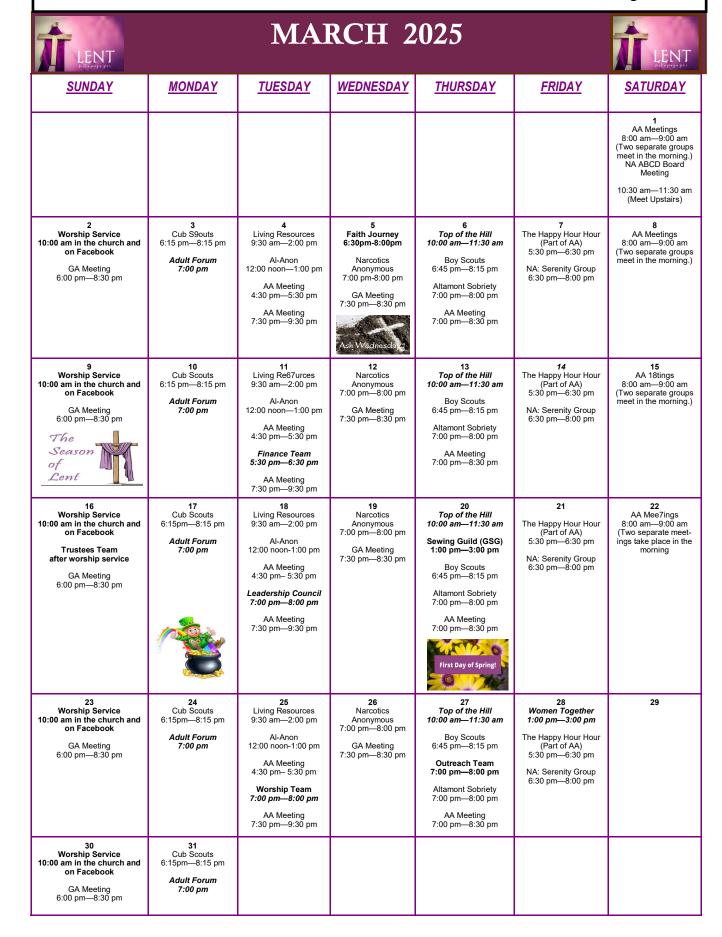
11	David & Sarah Hunt
15	David & Cathy Wells
16	Bill & Jackie Tureby
19	Robert Bates & Thyra Gilbert
28	Jerry & Vicki Lockman

<u>MARCH</u> <u>BIRTHDAYS</u>

2	Pamela Weis
7	Nancy Clarke
7	Terrence O'Neill
8	Christoper Visker
12	Arthur Stott
15	Anthony Esposito
17	John Fox
27	Beverly Davies
31	Robert Hallenbeck







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: disciplemaker56@gmail.com

Phone: (765) 652-0265

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday: 9:30 am to 1:30pm Christine Gould, Church Secretary

Leases & Legal Affairs:

Ministry and Team Leaders of the McKownville United Methodist Church

Board of Trustees:

<u> Ministry Teams:</u>

<u>Leadership Council</u>: Paul Krekeler, Team Leader

<u>Chair & Sexton Liaison:</u>

James Stott

<u>Staff/Parish Relations</u>: Pat Beauregard, Frank
D'Ambrosio, Alan Longshore, Monte Waters, Beth

<u>Vice-Chair & Furnishings.</u>
Spencer, Cathy Wells and Nancy Rutenber
<u>Building Use Coordinators:</u> Kelly Visker

Nancy Rhodes <u>Finance:</u> Team Leader—To Be Determined

Noreen Treasurer & Payroll: Tim Pierce
Finance Secretary: Tom Myers

VanDoren

Worship: Jeff Landon, Team Leader

Grounds & Planned

<u>Maintenance:</u>
Tom Myers

<u>Evangelism through Outreach</u>: Darcianne Leizer,
Team Leader

Insurance: Nancy Pullen Christian Education: Kim Keane, Team Leader

<u>Furniture:</u>
Kelly Visker

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