



Why Connect?

“Connecting people to the life changing power of God” is our church’s purpose. Why is this important for you? Because it is life changing! How do you connect? Here are several ways.

Connecting to God through worship: Have you ever had a moment when you realized how much bigger God is than you, your worries, your problems, even your successes? Isn’t it refreshing? Do you know that you are in God’s hands and He is trustworthy? You connect to God through worship when you acknowledge, proclaim, and rely upon these truths. Celebrating God’s sovereignty, trustworthiness, and love makes times of uncertainty more stable. When we come together and worship, we gain strength from our awesome God and our shared faith. All it takes for you to benefit is your participation. In your private moments and in corporate worship, know that God will be blessed when you lift Him up, and He wants to connect with and energize you.

Connecting to God through His Word: We have talked in Sunday school about meditating on scripture and aligning our perspective with God’s truth. One of the scriptures we discussed is Psalm 1, which speaks of scripture meditation. “...*his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers...*” To sum it up stable, fruitful, and successful living comes from finding delight in and meditating on the Word of God. How energizing and freeing it is to gain the perspective of scripture. We all have access to the life change God’s Word brings.

Connecting to God through His people: As a former introvert, I’ve come to greatly value how much I can gain and give through simple conversation. Even more valuable are the times I can sit with others and talk about Scripture, a book, or godly principles. Small groups and classes are a primary way to learn and implement scriptural principles into your life. And there’s more, have you ever gotten to know someone so well you were moved to compassion when they had a need or a struggle? How powerful our prayers for one another are when we really know and love each other! How much greater are our joys when we have others to share them with! Our recent efforts to provide small group opportunities are aimed at helping you connect in this way. Today we live much more individualized lives than generations ago, and we often miss out on the blessing of personal connection. Challenge yourself to find and connect to the most appropriate small group for you.

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Connecting to God through our common mission: We have witnessed untold personal and church growth as we have joined together in mission and outreach opportunities. It seems there is always something demanding your time, but God truly blesses time we take to come together for a common purpose. This year, we have several opportunities available. There are local and short term mission trips being planned, as well as Vacation Bible School, and our 2nd annual community Summer Celebration. Through these efforts we get to know one another, learn to work together, fulfill our purpose, and see first hand the work God can do in others as He connects them to His life-changing power.

“I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe.” Ephesians 1:17-19a.

Pastor Todd

Youth Group

For you have been my hope, O Sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth. Psalm 71:5.

Pastor Paul and Jenny Carter would like to welcome all young people between the ages of 12 and 18 to attend the youth services held on Sunday evenings at 7:00. While there you will have fellowship with other young people, you will worship the Lord through songs and music and Pastor Paul will teach you how to have a meaningful relationship with God by teaching you practical ways to live the spiritual truths of the Bible.

Every so often, Pastor Paul and Jenny have a Bring Your Friends to Church night. This is where you can invite your friends to hear a good Christian band, eat some good pizza and hear a good salvation message.

So if you are between the ages of 12 and 18 come and have a good time fellowshiping with other young people and learn what wonderful plans the Lord has in store for you.

Diane Swank

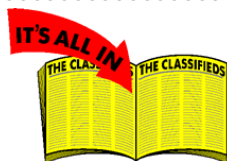
Come Yarn With Us!



Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn?

A new group is meeting at 10:00 a.m. on the 3rd Saturday of every month to make items for the babies of Tri-City Life Center clients and nursing home residents. Call the church for details!

**Peace starts
with a smile**



John Crise is available to work as a handyman. He's got lots of construction experience. 724-845-2698.

Joe & Dayna Rearick are available for odd jobs. They are raising money for a summer mission trip to Nicaragua. 724-845-6036.

Free to whomever can use them: Starlet Comfort Thin/Extra Lancets or Vialcare Lancets.

If you have a need or a blessing and would like it advertised, please submit it to one of the newsletter team members: Bill Bell, Ruth Hazley, Tina Pugh, Jim Montgomery, Diane Swank, or Bernice Wolfe.

Things to Thank God For

Rose Shearer (Randy's mom) is now cancer free!

Joann Brzezinski was finally successful in obtaining affordable Health Insurance.

Adam Klanica, truck driver, made it safely thru Kansas's snow storms. He's happy Spring is here.

Joshua Hilty has been blessed with a new type of procedure to abate severe back pain.

Dan Swank was eligible for and started to receive checks from SSI within 3 weeks, a process that usually takes months!

Did you know...

Twice the Jordan River was parted. First for the Israelites when they fled Egypt. The second time was for Joshua and the Israelites at a town called Adam near Zarethen (The river below that point flowed into the Dead Sea)The river was at flood stage, but God held the river back until all the Israelites crossed over near the town of Jericho. Read Joshua 3:13-17

Bernice Wolfe

God's Resolve

COL.1:23 *"If indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast (resolute) and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven."*

Here we are well into the new year. I can't help but wonder how many of us have a New Year's Resolution, or any other resolutions throughout the year. Resolution: determination, solution.... Resolute: Determined, steadfast. Resolve; to solve, state firmly, to clear away, to remain steadfast.

Many New Year's Resolutions probably have failed by now or have been forgotten and laid aside. I'm sure there are many; to quit smoking, lose weight, exercise more, spend more time with our families, attend church more regularly, look for a new job, improve our marriage, and the list goes on! Resolutions in themselves are not bad, but most set us up for disappointment, falling short of expectations, and failure. Most resolutions rely on "us" or others to see them through to completion, to the solution, or being resolved.

We need look no further than God's Word, the Bible, and His "resolve" to seek help and determination. It took Noah until his 600th birthday to complete the ark and fill it with animals! I'm sure he had to seek out God's resolve through faith and prayer for this resolution. How about Moses who led God's chosen people, over 1-million, to the Promised Land? He wandered around the desert for 40 years, only to seek God on behalf of the people every time they turned to their sinful evil ways! This too required God's resolve. We also see God's resolve through His Son Jesus who came to earth fully God yet fully man having the determination to see the Father's plan through to resolution. His crucifixion on the cross paid for man's sins! Yes, He had the "resolve" of the Father!

So as you seek resolutions to whatever life throws your way; I urge you to remain determined to seek "God's resolve" through prayer, faith, and His Word, the Bible, and your resolutions will be seen in a new light, God's light!

God's resolve, as stated firmly in His Word is the plan of "Man's Redemption." He determined to succeed through the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus, so that man could be redeemed from his sinfulness. Now that's a resolution we all can live with....Eternally!

In Christ's love, Bill Bell



May 4-5 – ATF – Acquire the Fire!

May 12 – Girl’s Day Out to Smicksburg @ 9:00 a.m.

May 19 – Car Wash & Bake Sale to help send Joe and Dayna Rearick on their mission trip.

June 30 – 2nd annual Summer Celebration Benefit

July 23-27 – Vacation Bible School

Small Groups (*Feel free to join in. They will continue to meet through the summer.*)

The Wednesday night study continues with “The Way of Agape” through April. Watch for a money management course to begin in September.

Study of Revelation every Thursday night at the Gaillot home, 7:00 (3176 Vermont Drive, Lower Burrell, 724-339-3049)

“God is Closer Than You Think” 1st & 3rd Tuesday morning at the Goughenour/Hackley home, 9:30 (707 Seventh St., W. Leechburg, 724-845-4261)

Young adults – at the Scrimshaw home every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Ages 18-30. 472 Canal St. Leechburg.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:

Prayer	9:00 a.m.
Sunday school	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Nursery Provided	
Children’s Church ages 4 – 12	
Youth Service	7:00 p.m.
Women’s Book Study & Men’s Meeting are the First Sunday at 6:30 p.m.	

Tuesday:

Celebrate Recovery	7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
For all kinds of hurts, habits, and hang-ups – Free babysitting provided.	

Wednesday: (*May 16 will be the last meeting for Wednesday night activities. They will resume in the fall.*)

Boys & Girls Clubs	7:00 – 8:15 p.m.
Adult Worship & Study	7:00 – 8:15 p.m.

2nd Sunday of Every Month:

Benevolence Offering – Used to help those within the church body or those referred.



**219 Market Street
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