

Make a "Connection" with



# The Connection

Newville  
First Church of God

February 2021

## O Be Careful!

The Pastor's Corner



I remember as a child growing up (yes, that was a long time ago!), I remember a song titled, **"O Be Careful, Little Eyes."** *A simple, yet profound song for a child to learn, but even great wisdom for each of us as adults.*

***O be careful little eyes what you see  
O be careful little eyes what you see  
There's a Father up above  
And He's looking down in love  
So, be careful little eyes what you see***



The verses of the song continue on with how we should be careful with; "what our ears hear, what our hands do, where our feet go, and what our mouth says!"

**Proverbs 4:23 says, "Be careful what you think, because your thoughts run your life" (New Century Version).** That verse is so true!

Our inner thoughts, the words we speak, they greatly affect how we live. **For what comes from the mind has the power to greatly influence our lives and dictate our choices.** All the more reason to make sure we are careful that our "thinking" is based on Godly truths and wisdom.

When we fill our minds, our thoughts, our hearts with the right things, the wrong things won't have any room to enter. Remember the old saying, *"Garbage in, Garbage out!"* What is it that you fill your mind with? Do you fill it with the truths we find in God's Word . . . or with the garbage of this world?

**Another translation of Proverbs 4:23 says it like this, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." (NIV).** So which is correct? Is it your thinking or your heart that controls what flows from you? I believe they are both correct. *What flows from the heart affects what your mind is thinking, and what your mind is thinking affects the feelings of your heart!*

God has uniquely linked our mind and heart to work together . . . not just in a physical sense, but emotionally and spiritually as well.

Let me go back to my opening song, O Be Careful, Little Eyes (ears, hands, feet, and mouth). The song goes on to say, **"For the Father up above is looking down ....."** As He is looking down over you, He is not watching you to punish you when you do something wrong, but as the song says, **"He is looking down in love!"** He watches over you to lovingly guide you and protect you.

When you are living your life in a relationship with Jesus, it is the Holy Spirit that will speak into your mind and into your heart and guide you to live the way God wants you to live.

As you journey through 2021, I pray you will take the words of this little children's song and make it your theme song for this coming year . . . that in everything you do, you will allow the Holy Spirit to help you *"be careful what you think and to guard your heart."*

**You Are Loved, Live Loved,**

*Pastor Wayne and Elaine*



The PAW Packs Program provides supplemental food for weekends to families in the Big Spring School District who could use a little extra help. Until school is back in session on a five day schedule, the food is being picked up at the Newville First Church of God on each Friday from 3-5 pm. We currently are passing out food to approx. 45 families representing about 130 students.



Parents can sign up for the program at [www.pawpacks.org](http://www.pawpacks.org)

On the back burner for now is the discussion of moving into the High School this year in the form of a "Grab and Go".

We ask for your continued prayers as we continue to provide food to the families during this difficult time and continue to grow our program by reaching into the High School this year. This would then mean that we are helping out in all 5 buildings.

**May the Lord continue to Bless You as you have blessed this Ministry!**



*Dear Church, I want to thank you for the recognition and the planter. It was really appreciated. Vicki Griffie*



*Thank you for your generous \$500 donation to the Big Spring Senior Center. It is gratifying to know that you recognize and support our work. Your gift will be used to provide programming that enhances the independence and supports the dignity of the senior citizens of the Big Spring Area. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and encouragement. Cathy Graver, Executive Director, Big Spring Senior Center.*

## Milk, Bread and Eggs



Come to the  
**Plainfield First Church of God**  
**Friday February 5th**

A team of dedicated Volunteers will be waiting to serve you.  
**11am to 1pm** at our drive-thru free distribution!

2089 Newville Road, (717) 243-8053



For God so lo**V**ed the world  
th**A**t he gave his  
on**L**y  
begott**E**n  
So**N**,  
tha**T** whoever  
bel**I**eves  
i**N** him should not perish  
but hav**E** everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)



**PLEASE NOTE:**  
The cell phone number for our Youth Director, Shawn Peale, is:  
**856-689-7736.**




**Saturday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**Ski Roundtop in Lewisberry, PA**  
**Cost: \$20      Time: 7 pm**

Parents are responsible for transportation.  
Contact Shawn at [shawn@tcp.church](mailto:shawn@tcp.church) for more details.



## Connection Youth Retreat

### April 2021



**Hosted By: Newville First Church of God**

**When: April 23-25, 2021**

**Register By: April 7th, 2021**

**Cost: \$75 per person (Checks made payable to NFCOG)**

**FOR MORE DETAILS, contact:**

**Shawn Peale**  
**Director of Youth Ministry**  
**Newville First Church of God**  
[shawn@tcp.church](mailto:shawn@tcp.church)  
**856-689-7736**



**OR Visit**  
<https://tcp.church/church/connection-youth> page for where an online registration can be filled out

### What To Expect

- Camp style lodging
- A time to rediscover and understand who God says we are
- Growing in our relationship with God and others
- Worshiping the Lord through Song (REMIX)
- Pizza
- Items for purchase at the Camp Store
- Electives and free time
- Awesome camp food
- Devotions with counselors
- Games and campfires

### What To Bring

- Bible
- Pencil/Pen/Highlighter/ Notebook
- Sleeping Bag/Bedding/Pillow
- Clothing
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- Soap/Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Towels/Washcloth
- Flashlight
- Cash for Camp Store

ATTENTION

Promise Kids & Families

# Get Wild with God!



.....  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13 AT 10:30 AM  
COLONEL DENNING STATE PARK

Join Katie for a short devotion and hike.

Questions or to sign up - see Katie.



**PROMISE KIDS**

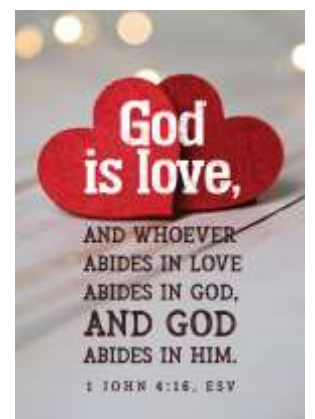
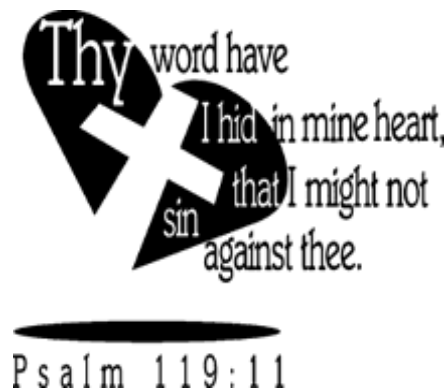
**AGES BIRTH TO 5TH GRADE AND FAMILIES!**

Would you like to explore God's creation, get some fresh air and enjoy a change of scenery? Join Katie for a devotion and short hike around Colonel Denning State Park on

*Saturday, February 13 at 10:30 am*

*Meet in the main parking lot of Colonel Denning State Park*

We will begin with a brief devotion and then take a 30-40 minute hike. Be sure to dress for the weather. **Contact Katie (717) 448-9218 or [Katie@tcp.church](mailto:Katie@tcp.church)** to sign up or with any questions. In case of inclement, weather, call Katie to confirm that this event is on.



## ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Shirley Heishman	2/3
Jeremy & Linda Gehrett	2/11
Melvin & Debbie Bigler	2/14
Jason & Crystal Fraker	2/14
Larry & Janis Jones	2/18
Jerry & Phyllis Hershey	2/27



Tom & Kim Bailey	3/18
Stephanie & Shawn McCullough	3/18
Terry & Michelle Snyder	3/19
Dave & Jo Schoonover	3/25
Dennis & Debbie McLaughlin	3/30



**Congratulations** to Mark and Chandra Fogal on the birth of their daughter, **Sarah**, who was born on January 4th, 2021 weighing 6.5 pounds and stretching to 19.3 inches. Congrats to big sister, Chloe and brother Isaac and the entire family!



## BIRTHDAYS

Michelle Snyder	2/2	Cody Barrick	3/1
Michael Conner III	2/2	Richard Mentzer	3/3
Ciarah Elder	2/3	Sharon Diehl	3/5
Lynn Finkenbinder	2/4	Linda Gehrett	3/5
Abby Stitt	2/4	Sam Howell	3/5
Robert Woltz	2/4	Scott Parthemore	3/5
Melvin Bigler	2/5	Suzanne Lloyd	3/6
Keara Burns	2/5	Danielle Rinehart	3/6
Tiffany Lehman	2/6	Dick Reese	3/8
Philip Warehime	2/6	Greg Clelan	3/9
Tammy Barrick	2/7	Brandon Lehman	3/9
Brodie Alleman	2/7	Dixie Nickel	3/9
Pat Shughart	2/7	Janis Jones	3/11
Cherie Darhower	2/8	Addison Lay	3/12
Wyatt Jones	2/8	Ashton Thrush	3/13
Sharon Bitner	2/10	Mason Burkholder	3/14
Helen Fisher	2/10	Danna Howell	3/14
Steven Lehman	2/10	Tyler Witter	3/15
Jason Weller	2/14	Erica Diep	3/16
Edward Hall	2/15	John Ickes	3/16
Edward Kessler	2/15	Charles Johnson	3/16
Braxton Allen Stitt	2/16	Micah Weaver	3/16
Karter Kane	2/18	Larry Wilhide	3/17
Brayden Mentzer	2/18	Evan Diep	3/18
Tom Griffie	2/19	Linda Woltz	3/21
Rebekah Nickel	2/19	Tracey Cook	3/22
Lisa Baer	2/21	Faith Burkholder	3/24
Bailey Barnhart	2/21	Jason Fraker	3/24
Thelma Isaac	2/21	Twyla Stouffer	3/26
Mark Long	2/21	Dave Schoonover	3/27
Richard Shriner	2/21	Christopher Lloyd	3/28
Katie Kane	2/25	Norma Dexter	3/29
Linda Martin	2/25	Carson Lay	3/29
Stacie Nickel	2/25	Janelle Lloyd	3/29
Bradley Lay	2/26	Debbie McLaughlin	3/30
Kaylee Conner	2/27	Branson Cook	3/31
Ryland Darr	2/27		

**Continue to pray for Gary Lay and family on the passing of wife, Vonnie Lay, who passed away on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

**Prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Kenny Ott Sr. who went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

**Our sympathy to Lester and Edie Kitzmiller and Elaine Good as family member Charles Kelso went home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

**Pray for the family of Tasha Wallace who went home to be with the Lord on January 26, 2021. Tasha attended our church in the past and along with her husband Jesse and so Nick, was an active member in the community as an ambulance driver for Friendship Hose Company. Tasha was also a bus driver for the Big Spring school district.**



1. Pray for those dealing with flu, colds and other health issues. Pray there will soon be an end to these epidemics.
2. Praise God that we can enjoy things without owning them. Seeing things, whether it's an object or a beautiful sunset, etc. is a priceless gift.
3. Pray for those with eye/vision problems, that they will be healed, if possible and no other injuries occur.
4. Pray for criticizers, that they will stop breaking down the spirits of others. There may be a reason they feel the need to put others down to makes themselves feel better, but no excuse for hurting others.
5. Praise God for giving each person one or more special spiritual gifts, even if we don't recognize it. Don't be afraid to use it to serve God.
6. Pray for the children's ministries as they set the foundations for our young people to grow their Christian faith on. Pray for creativity and stamina for all involved. That a love and thirst will be ignited in these children that will last their entire lives.
7. Praise God for the Bible, His written word, People who can't read or can't possess a Bible, hunger for it's message. We are so blessed, but take it for granted.
8. Pray for our council as they meet to work on solutions to make our church more intriguing to the unchurched and helping the saved to grow in their relationship with Jesus.
9. Pray for all the men and boys of our church, that each one will grow up in Christ's likeness and bring others to Him.
10. Praise God that He does listen to our prayers and does answer even if it's not always the way we wish. He is God, not a magic genie. He has much more info and insight than we do.
11. Pray for those contemplating abortion, that they will realize they are killing innocent babies, before they go through with it. Pray they will be helped through the circumstances and be blessed. Pray that those who have gone through it will come to Jesus and find peace, and that the doctors. who perform the killings, will be deeply convicted by guilt and will quit doing this atrocity.
12. Pray for those addicted to alcohol, drugs and other substances or behaviors. Pray they will get through the time until they don't need these these things to be happy. God will help, if He is asked.
13. Praise God that there are people who love you. You may not realize who they all are, but you are truly more special to others than you think.
14. Pray for all of your loved ones, for good health and their salvation. While you are at it, pray for someone who is lonely and for someone you really don't care for all that much.
15. Pray for those who have received transplants, that there will not be any rejections or complications, but great health for all. Pray for the donors and their families, too.
16. Pray for all the women and girls of our church, no matter what age. Each one is important to Jesus and has a part to do in His plan for now and eternity.
17. Pray that as Christians, we will be good witnesses for Christ and not fall into the traps that some non-Christians set. We do not want to disappoint Christ or to give others reason to call us hypocrites, using us as an excuse to turn away from God.
18. Praise God for those who do small kindnesses each day. Has someone helped you in the past? Can you do a small unexpected favor for someone else today?
19. Everyone has some unspoken prayer need. Pray that those righteous needs will be answered.
20. In this day when there is so little thought for others, pray that those in our church and community can feel loved and accepted and will radiate that peace out to others. We all sin, and that needs to stop, but there are people out there who feel defeated, deserted and hopeless that anyone will ever care for them. They need Jesus, but they need someone to show Him to them.
21. Praise God if you can eat and enjoy anything that you want. Some people have digestive issues or allergies. Some have no access to food for different reasons. We take our meals for granted. To many in this world, our small snack would seem like a feast.
22. Pray for Pastor Wayne, Elaine and their family, along with all the other pastors and their families, especially in our church. They all have the same needs as the rest of us, plus the burdens they face in leading us as God directs. We never want to make them feel like Moses did when he came off the mountain with the 10 commandments the first time. We are blessed to have so many, serving in various capacities.
23. Praise Jesus for sending the Holy Spirit. We don't always think of that aspect as much as God the Father and Jesus the Son. But what would we do without the power of conviction that tells us to stop the behaviors we know are wrong, and to tell us when we need to do some action (in a very strong way that lets no room for knowing that WHO is prompting that).
24. Pray that our government leaders will follow our constitution and not make choices that get them what they want personally, at the expense of the citizens. Pray for their salvation and conviction to do -what is right in God's sight.
25. Pray for Christians in countries where they are persecuted. Some are imprisoned and others persecuted. All are living in fear, all because they believe and are preaching/living the Gospel. Pray for these people to stay strong and be released unharmed. You never know when that can be occurring more frequently here in our own country.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT



	<u>Dec 20</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 20</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>% Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>General Fund Income</b>				
Birthday Gift for Jesus Income	7,307.09	7,902.09		
Building Rental Income	0.00	562.00		
Christmas Offering	0.00	442.00		
Envelopes Income	13,168.00	143,676.56		
Helping Hand Income	200.00	400.00		
Interest on Account	0.00	66.37		
Junior Church Income	0.00	6.00		
Loose Offering Income	4,753.01	82,145.20		
Miscellaneous Income	100.00	9,771.92		
Missions Income	395.00	4,477.00		
Online giving	0.00	42,568.21		
Sunday School Income	49.00	2,375.05		
The Gathering Income	425.00	3,190.00		
<b>Total General Fund Income</b>	<u>26,397.10</u>	<u>297,582.40</u>		
<b>Money Market Income</b>				
CCDR Income	3,459.09	52,588.20		
Memorial Fund Income	525.00	2,480.00		
Money Market Interest Account	0.25	7.55		
<b>Total Money Market Income</b>	<u>3,984.34</u>	<u>55,075.75</u>		
<b>Total Income</b>	30,381.44	352,658.15		
<b>Expense</b>				
Total Administration - Other	2,185.74	12,395.29	13,225.00	93.73%
Total Administration - Staffing	14,699.01	156,975.53	163,356.50	96.09%
Total Benevolences	6,846.96	57,023.70	66,900.00	85.24%
Total Christian Education	475.75	5,425.77	13,800.00	39.32%
Total Church Life Activities	0.00	1,613.82	3,300.00	48.90%
Total Property Management	3,132.79	37,499.91	47,900.00	78.29%
Total Stewardship & Finance	0.00	1,257.15	1,375.00	91.43%
Total Worship & Evangelism	192.78	1,863.58	3,200.00	58.24%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>27,533.03</u>	<u>274,054.75</u>	<u>313,056.50</u>	<u>87.54%</u>

**Elders will meet on Monday, February 8th at 6:00 p.m. followed by Church Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Council Minutes & detailed Financial Report copies are in the Welcome Center. Copies can also be mailed on request.**



## PRAYER CALENDAR

Continued from page 6

- Pray for our church leaders. Everyone who preaches, teaches or leads in some other way. Pray they will be able to communicate important truths to others. They also get a lot of hard questions to answer and a lot of studying to do. Pray for their wisdom and willingness to find the answers if they don't already know.
- Pray for our troops and First Responders as they work and put their lives on the line to keep us all safe. Pray for their safety and total well being, especially in these crazy times.
- Pray for mean people, that God will stop them from all abuse and change their hearts. He changed Saul into Paul and He can do unimaginable things with people today, too.



**Newsletter DEADLINE**  
The office needs your input for March 2021  
"The Connection"  
Newsletter by February 21, 2021!

**CCDR Offering Envelopes**  
If you would like to continue using the monthly CCDR envelopes to give towards our debt reduction, you can pick up a set in the mailroom or one of the entrance doors.



Newville First Church of God  
 475 Shippensburg Road  
 Newville, PA 17241  
 E-mail: office@tcp.church  
 Website: www.tcp.church

Postage  
 Required



## Newville First Church of God

www.tcp.church 717-776-5223 Church office hours: Mon-Thurs, 9 am to noon

*The Newville First Church of God exists to exalt God by showing His love through the fellowship of believers for the purpose of making more and better disciples.*

NORMAL SERVICES HAVE BEEN RESCHEDULED DUE TO COVID REGULATIONS. Please check Facebook and tcp.church for updates!

### Sunday Services

#### Worship Services

**8:30 am**

**Children's Church (8:30 am)**

Ages 3 and up with Linda Webber,  
 Jenn Shutt, Betsy Shughart

**10:30 am**

**Children's Church (10:30 am)**

Ages 3 and up with Pastor Heidi

**Nursery Care**—At this time, the nursery is open for parents to use but will not be staffed.

#### Connection Groups

**9:30 am**

**New Life Group  
 Young Adults**

**Friendship Class, Genesis Class,  
 Prayer & Bible Study  
 Middle & High School Connection**

#### Children's Classes

**Kindergarten—2nd grade  
 with Jeff & Natalie Miller**

**3rd-5th Grade  
 with Wayne & Stacie Nickel**

### Weekday Connection Groups

#### Wednesday 7 pm

**Bible Connection, Couples  
 Connection & The Power  
 Connection**

**Ladies Connection Circle  
 Young Adults**

**Middle & High School  
 Connection**

**The Gathering  
 with Pastor Kelly & Kris  
 Hall**

**Nursery Care**—At this time, the nursery is open for parents to use but will not be staffed.

#### Tuesday Evening:

**Men's Connection  
 with Jeff Miller**

#### Thursday Evening:

**Rooted  
 with Bradley & Ashley Lay**

Church Office Hours:

Mon - Thursday 9 am - 12 noon.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2/1 Karate school meets each Monday and Thursday at 6 pm, Trustee meeting at 7 pm
- 2/2 Cub Scouts meet each Tuesday at 6 pm; Groundhog day
- 2/3 \*Children's Zoom meeting at 6:30 pm; Interim Adult Group meets in Sanctuary and on line at 7 pm; Ladies Connection Zoom at 7 pm; Youth meets at 7 pm
- 2/5 Free milk, bread & eggs distributed by Plainfield First Church of God
- 2/6 Men's Prayer meets each Saturday at 8 am
- 2/8 Elders' meeting at 6 pm, Church Council meeting at 7 pm
- 2/13 Promise Kids & Families at Col Denning at 10:30 am
- 2/14 **Happy Valentine's Day**
- 2/15 President's Day
- 2/17 Ash Wednesday
- 2/20 Youth Snowtubing at Ski Roundtop at 7 pm
- 2/21 Items for March newsletter due to church office.

\* Wednesday Nights: February 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th see 2/3 schedule above!

### STORM WATCH &

#### CANCELLATION OF SERVICES:

Please listen carefully to the cancellation announcements to see if one or all of the services are being cancelled on a particular day. As always you can call Pastor Wayne at 448-6994 or Buz Anderson at 776-4734. As always, please use sound judgment as to whether or not to attend services during inclement weather. BE SAFE!

