

Make a "Connection" with



The Connection

Newville
First Church of God

May 2021



Our Freedom to Serve

Thomas Jefferson once said, *"The God who gave us life . . . gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, and that His justice cannot sleep forever."*

We have just celebrated Easter, and as followers of Jesus Christ, we can shout with joy because **"He is risen . . . He is Risen indeed!"** If it wasn't for His death and resurrection, there would be no hope for America today. If it wasn't for the hope that comes to us through our Savior, I would be in despair because of the wickedness that is flooding our nation. I am certainly not a prophet, but I believe that divine judgment is falling on the land where we live.

It seems like Satan is unleashing a massive assault on our culture (but a reminder, he is only able to operate within parameters permitted by God, ex. Job 1:7, 12). He is creating chaos in our cities and schools, and is stalking the halls of government. Every day, there seems to be more truth being replaced with lies as the leaders of our country are making decisions and proposing laws that clearly go against the truth we find in God's Holy Word. The Apostle Paul reminds us in **Romans 1:25, "They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator, who is forever praised. Amen."**

Why do I think this to be true? Because we continue to allow the murder of the unborn child through abortion. We have allowed our government to take prayer and Bible reading from our schools, and in turn are allowing them to infiltrate the young minds of our children by requiring schools to teach on topics that promote the lifestyle of the LGBTQ society and things such as gender identification (letting young children decide if they are a male or female). Moral decay continues to pour in day by day, and it will have a major impact on our children if we are not instilling Godly values in their lives.

In my message on April 19th, I shared from God's Word the parable of the talents and how each one of us are given different gifts and abilities we can use to grow God's Kingdom here on earth. As I concluded the message, I put out the challenge asking each person to consider how they can be a part of guiding our children to a relationship with Jesus Christ and to live by the values set in God's Word.

I am excited to say that over 50 individuals signed up and made a commitment to help with our Children's ministry throughout the year. What a positive impact this will have in helping our children learn about the love of Jesus.

I praise God for the exciting things that are happening in both our children and youth ministries and I am looking forward to how God will be using our staff and volunteers as they touch the hearts of these boys and girls to help them live a life for Jesus.

God gave us life and God gave us liberty. I invite you to use your life to serve Him as He leads you. If you feel the "Call" to help out in these ministries, reach out to Katie (for children's ministry) at katie@tcp.church or to Shawn (for youth ministry) at shawn@tcp.church. You will be blessed as you serve.

Loving You and Praying for You!

Pastor Wayne



Set
free
to
serve

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 Friday's from 3-5 pm.

Parents can sign up for the program at 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

**The next Paw Pack Meeting will be Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 6:30pm.
May the Lord continue to Bless You as you have blessed this Ministry!**



Do you order online items from Amazon Smiles? PAW Packs is now listed as one of the charities that you can choose. If you already have chosen a charity and want to make a switch, there is a link to do so under your account info. Thanks to Kevin Miller for setting this up.



Remember Your Offerings

Beginning on Sunday, May 2nd, we are adding an additional way for you to give your offerings to the Lord. There will be an offering plate located at each of the entrance doors to the sanctuary where you can place your offering when you enter before the service. You may also continue to place your offering in any of the three offering boxes in the foyer, give on-line through our web page, or send in the mail. **Thank you for your faithfulness in giving.**



Bonnie Bitner is one of the oldest members of this church, both age wise and time as a member. Bonnie is now living at Green Ridge Village. She likes it but is in the process of getting used to a new way of life. If anyone would like to let her know that she is being thought of, her address is 210 Big Spring Road, Newville, Pa. 17241. She is allowed visitors now, but you must call ahead to set up a time. That number is 717-776-8200. Thank you!!



The Shoebox Supply House in Shippensburg will tentatively be open the following dates in May and June from 9am -12 each day:
May 6, 15, 20 & 29 and June 3, 12, 17 & 26.



A Thank Offering service, hosted by Women's Ministry will be held Sunday May 16th during both 8:30 and 10:30 services.



**April 25 - Take A Stand,
Colossians 2:8, Matthew 7:24-27**

May 2 - Be Transformed, Romans 12:2

May 9 - Get the Truth, Proverbs 23:23

**May 23 - Love What Matters,
1 John 2:15-17**

"The Christian Faith is on a collision course with the culture of the world we live in!" Do the values of the world we live in align with the values of our Faith?"



We are in need of VOLUNTEERS to help with Promise Kids! Contact Katie Kane for info about teaching, helping, or substituting in Children's Ministry for ages 3 thru 5th grade.



THANK YOU to Katie Kane, the Happy Helpers, and many other volunteers who helped make the Easter Egg Hunt a great success. Thanks to all those who donated all the candy and the financial gifts to make up all the eggs and prizes for the children. You all put many smiles on lots of children's faces as we were able to share not just the eggs, but the gospel message to these families as well.



Many children have been born into our church family in the past year. Pastor Wayne will be offering Child Dedication services during the month of May for any family who would like to dedicate their child to the care of the Lord. We will limit the number of families each week for the dedication service. If you would like to dedicate your child, please contact the church office at 717-776-5223 or office@tcp.church, or Pastor Wayne at 717-448-6994 or pastorwayne@tcp.church.

On Sunday, May 9th, we will be having Kennedy Camp Sunday. Attending summer camp at Camp YoLIJIWa is a wonderful experience for our children and teens. As a church, we offer financial assistance to families to make camp affordable. The church will pay 1/2 of the weekly cost for your student to attend a week of camp. We also offer additional assistance as needed through the Kennedy Camp Fund for families who need additional financial help for their child to attend camp. If you would like to contribute to the Kennedy camp fund, you may place your gift in an envelope and mark it "Camp." Thank you for your support.





ANNIVERSARIES



Josh & Abby Stitt	5/2
Tom & Vicki Griffie	5/3
Bruce & Evelyn Hockensmith	5/11
Rodger & Sharon Diehl	5/12
Glenn & Cindy Finkenbinder	5/13
Zach & Andrea Dubbs	5/14
Bob & Fran Shoemaker	5/15
Chris & Amanda Weaver	5/19
Kevin & Laura Lay	5/19
Chuck & Jo Adams	5/20
Chuck & Linda Martin	5/21
Kevin & Mary Beth Miller	5/22
Dick & Sharon Reese	5/26
Tom & Lois West	5/27
Philip & Ashley Warehime	5/28
Wayne & Stacie Nickel	5/30
Jim & Terri Elliott	5/31
Ed & Rhonda Hall	6/4
Brian & Heather Fickel	6/13
Garry & Stephanie Wall	6/13
Larry & Vickie Ocker	6/15
Ed & Linda Webber	6/16
Lloyd & Lisa Newswanger	6/17
Amos & Deb Yohe	6/17
Edwin & Deborah Wakefield	6/18
Roger & Jen Thrush	6/19
Travis & Kristy Warren	6/20
Will & Janelle Lloyd	6/22
David & Laura Fleagle	6/23
Michael & Brooke Bobb	6/23
Andy & Alison Brown	6/24
Richard & Becky Mentzer	6/26
David & Carissa Roberts	6/27
Marlin & Barb Hoover	6/27
Mike & Julie Conner	6/27
Tom & Debbie Barkley	6/28
Jim & Barb Witter	6/29
Eber & Nancy Leisher	6/30
Steve & Linda Morris	6/30

BIRTHDAYS

Bud Bitner	5/1	Julia Chapman	6/2
Dot Boudier	5/1	Michael Renee Copenhaver	6/3
Nick Greenawalt	5/1	Austin Halac	6/4
Amber Bostick	5/4	Chloe Fogal	6/7
Teresa Hockenberry	5/4	Bill Lloyd	6/7
Stephanie McCullough	5/4	Dain Lustig	6/7
Cody Greenawalt	5/5	Ronald Rinehart	6/7
Amos Yohe	5/5	Lo Barrick	6/8
Benjamin Fickel	5/7	Travis Tennant	6/8
Harlyn Metcalf	5/7	Wendy Bullock	6/9
Lloyd Newswanger	5/8	Rylan Good	6/11
Rylei Anderson	5/10	Donald Heishman	6/11
Emma Dubbs	5/10	Travis Warren	6/11
Bob Burns	5/11	Barbara Witter	6/11
Travis Garner, II	5/11	Tom Bailey	6/12
Norman Miller	5/12	Doug Bixler	6/12
Jeff Shughart	5/12	Nicholas Walter	6/12
Kathy Biscuit	5/14	David Forney	6/13
Hannah Jones	5/14	Elaine Good	6/13
William Brobst	5/15	Bradley Meals	6/14
Patricia Stake	5/15	Tim Johnson	6/15
Daniel Bender	5/16	Dana Hockenberry	6/17
Michael Witter	5/16	Dale Hollenbaugh	6/17
Brenden Newswanger	5/17	Grant Michaels	6/17
Dan Rhinehart	5/17	Shirley McDonald	6/18
Kelsey Hinkle	5/18	Evan Long	6/20
Brent Witter	5/18	Cameren Rhinehart	6/20
Sara Witter	5/18	G. Miles Willhide	6/23
Norma Barrick	5/19	Amy Forney	6/24
Kennedy Sheriff	5/19	Tobey Lay	6/26
Bill Drawbaugh	5/20	Lindsay Barrick	6/27
Laura Fleagle	5/20	Tom Barkley	6/29
Debbie Bigler	5/26	Sharon Reese	6/29
Joyce Shannon	5/26	Anthony li Walker	6/29
Jo Adams	5/29		
Jerry Hershey	5/29		
Crystal Faker	5/30		
Lance Jones	5/30		
Breanna Tennant	5/31		





1. Pray for all the women in our church, for good health and that each one will develop a deeper relationship with Jesus. Also, a praise for those participating in nurturing others.
2. Praise God for the way He has answered the fervent prayers of our church in begging for many children and their families to start attending here. WOW!! Did He ever answer! Now, is He asking YOU to help with ministering to these kiddos? Maybe teaching or maybe just sitting in and helping them with memory verses or any other way He will direct you. Do not fear. God will never ask you to do something that He won't give you direction to accomplish. Try it, you will be amazed at the way it feels to step out of your comfort zone, at least occasionally. Who knows, YOU may be the one to plant a seed that will lead a child to salvation. all you need is to pray for an honest direction from Him.
3. Pray for those who are feeling so discouraged that they are giving up on life and their dreams. Pray they can find God's perfect will for their life and achieve their goals.
4. Pray for missionaries wherever they are and whoever they are witnessing to, that lives will be changed and turned to Christ forever. This includes local missionaries like the Gathering, Connection groups and other ministries led by true Christian believers, preachers and teachers.
5. Praise God for the people and animals He has blessed you with, to love and be loved by. It is one of the greatest gifts He has given. Remember there are many different kinds of love.
6. Pray for our teens and young adults as they develop their independence, that they will realize that relationship with Christ brings real freedom. This is especially important as many will soon be graduating and making major life decisions.
7. Pray for our soldiers who are still away from home, for safety and wisdom in dealing with stressful situations. Also, for EMTs, police, firefighters, anyone who puts themselves in danger to save and protect others - the true heroes. Pray for their families, too. And don't forget the dispatchers who need to know how to direct the calls quickly and keep the callers calm. They have some horribly stressful situations, too.
8. Pray for those who are dealing with relationship problems, especially where one partner wants out and the other one is feeling heartbroken. If it can be salvaged, pray for God's will to be done. If it is not according to God's will, pray that the very sad one will be able to pick up the pieces and move on with their life.
9. Praise God for the mother and other nurturers He has placed in your life. Without a doubt, being a mother is something to be celebrated, one of the most important roles a woman can have. But there are many other circumstances where a father must take on that role or some women who have a difficult time having "their own" children, but they take on other kids who need a positive influence and make a huge difference in their lives and future generations. Praise God for those biological or otherwise who stand up and take on the challenge.
10. Pray for our church council, for kindness and wisdom in all things discussed and voted on. Pray the Holy Spirit will be their making all choices clear.
11. Pray for all the babies and children of our church, that they will grow up with a real hunger for Jesus in their lives. Pray for babies all over the world who have not been born yet, that they will have a chance at life and not be considered an "inconvenience".
12. Pray for 3 unsaved people you know today. Also, if you happen to read about a total stranger, pray for them and their salvation. YOU may be the only one who has ever prayed for them.
13. Praise God for stamping our debt of sin "Paid in full" when we receive Christ as our Lord.
14. Pray for those who are going through medical procedures, that they will receive healing and not suffer from side effects. Pray specifically for those started chemo, radiation or dialysis. Pray God will use it to heal or greatly improve the lives of those needing it.
15. Pray for those who are fighting addictions. It's on the calendar often, but it is a daily battle. If the only way they can beat it is to get physically ill at the temptation, maybe that is God's way of helping them to not want that item. But they need to get to the point where they choose to reject the substances/behavior and they need Jesus to help them overcome.
16. Pray for Pastor Wayne, Elaine and their family for safety, good health, happiness and overall well being. Please pray for the other pastors/leaders of our church and their families. It is an awesome responsibility they have and sometimes not much thanks.
17. Pray for those on our church committees/commissions, that God's will is crystal clear to them and they will have the means to carry out those missions.
18. Pray for those contemplating suicide, that they will feel Christ's presence and get help before it is too late.
19. Pray for all the men of our church, that they'll experience God's grace in their life, in a new way.
20. Pray for those now running our country, that God's wisdom will break through and they will choose to do His will. We can criticize their behavior and ideas. Only God can change their hearts.
21. Pray for people who have gotten caught up in cults, that someone will reach them for Jesus before it's too late. Likewise, those who think joining terrorist groups is any kind of a good idea, that they will be snapped back to reality before any more harm is done.
22. Praise God for the beautiful sunrises and sunsets. Only He could have come up with that kind of beauty. Likewise for all the different wildlife.
23. Pray for all the pastors in our area of Bible preaching/believing churches, their continued devotion to God and their specific ministries as they reach out to the community.



I would like to say "thank you" to the many wonderful people who sent birthday wishes to me through cards and Facebook messages. I was blessed by each one. I can truly say that Newville Church of God is a loving and caring family. God bless you for your kindness.
Edie Kitzmiller (Wayne Good's favorite Mother-in-Law)

The Shippensburg Area 73 EMS would like to wholeheartedly thank us for the donation of gift certificates for their staff. They were elated to receive them and it definitely made everyone's holiday. Times have been challenging for our team and we really appreciate your kind gestures. Our family is committed to protecting the community. If there is anything we can do to help during these trying teams, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. God Bless and thank you again.

Chief Shawn Hartsock



69 and 70 years ago, Joann and I were born 6 days and one year apart. She was born in Carlisle and I in Wellsboro PA. Coming together at Big Spring High School. We eventually dated and married at the tender ages of 19 and 20, shortly thereafter turned 20 and 21. Because of the timing of our wedding to coincide with term break while I was in college, our wedding date fell right before our birthdays. It's been notable that we can hold joint celebrations of these dates, and subsequently we are blessed with a bevy of cards and greetings on our special occasions. We thank all who were thoughtful to remember us on this past occurrence.

Dave and Jo Schoonover



Thank you for all the prayers in the past month. There was a lot going on and we have been very blessed to know that we were lifted up in prayer. God is in control but it helps to know you were reminding Him of our needs. Thank you. And may each of you have the knowledge that others are praying for YOU, too.

Sharon and Bud Bitner



Prayers and sympathy go out to the families of Edie Kitzmiller and Elaine Good as their sister/aunt, Rose L Bender, went home to be with her Lord on Tuesday, April 6, 2021.



Prayer Calendar Continued from page 5

24. Pray for those suffering from brain trauma or other head injuries. Sometimes it is not obvious to see, but the effects can range from scary to catastrophic.
25. Pray for people who are harboring bad feelings or grudges, that they will find a way to forgive those who have hurt them and get some inner peace.
26. Praise God for the reaction from local churches, businesses and others to the Paw Pack ministry. It is wonderful there is so much excitement to helping these children who would be hungry otherwise. Pray that there will be a way to continue this program as long as the need lasts. It's hard to imagine hungry people in this area, but the need is definitely there.
27. Praise God for Neighbors in Christ and all the volunteers who work to make it a successful ministry for helping those in need. Sometimes it would be hard to know the best way to handle who should receive the help when funds are limited.
28. Pray for the new church plants in this country and around the world, that unchurched people will be drawn to them and find out what they have been missing, by not knowing Jesus as their Savior.
29. Pray that we can attack the problems in our lives, not the people around us. Pray for patience, kindness and love in all of our actions, words and deeds. Maybe just try to do an unexpected blessing to someone else.
30. Praise God that there are some warmer days coming along and more chances for outside activities. Praise God that we can enjoy the outdoors and soak up some of that natural Vitamin D from the sunshine. What a wonderful blessing that is.
31. As we celebrate the first summer holiday weekend, pray that people will be responsible in their actions, so there are fewer accidents and mischief. Pray also for those who may be dealing with PTSD or others who have a hard problem with loud noises. While we enjoy fireworks, others may have very bad reactions to the sudden loud noises that may remind them of battles they have dealt with.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT



	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 21</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>% Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
General Fund Income				
 Birthday Gift for Jesus Income	0.00	305.00		
 Envelopes Income	10,725.00	29,353.00		
 Interest on Account	3.23	11.20		
 Loose Offering Income	7,642.01	18,084.26		
 Miscellaneous Income	200.00	342.00		
 Missions Income	1,070.00	1,565.00		
 Online giving	5,473.31	14,223.84		
 The Gathering Income	150.00	925.00		
Total General Fund Income	<u>25,263.55</u>	<u>64,809.30</u>		
Money Market Income				
 CCDR Income	5,226.07	15,013.66		
 Memorial Fund Income	150.00	2,680.00		
 Money Market Interest Account	0.49	1.00		
Total Money Market Income	<u>5,376.56</u>	<u>17,694.66</u>		
Total Income	30,640.11	82,503.96		
Expense				
Total Administration - Other	856.56	2,726.37	13,625.00	20.01%
Total Administration - Staffing	13,597.54	41,356.60	178,476.50	23.17%
Total Benevolences	3,898.28	11,275.74	66,900.00	16.85%
Total Christian Education	367.52	1,753.13	13,800.00	12.70%
Total Church Life Activities	0.00	358.95	3,300.00	10.88%
Total Mortgage	5,920.98	17,762.94	71,051.76	25.00%
Total Property Management	2,526.24	8,755.51	47,900.00	18.28%
Total Stewardship & Finance	53.65	303.65	1,375.00	22.08%
Total Worship & Evangelism	182.54	383.85	3,200.00	12.00%
Total Expense	<u>27,403.31</u>	<u>84,676.74</u>	<u>399,628.26</u>	<u>21.19%</u>

The Church Council will meet on Monday, May 10th at 7:00 pm.


Community Events & Senior Center News is on the Welcome Center bulletin board.

Council Minutes & detailed Financial Report copies are in the Welcome Center.

CAMP YOLIJWA NEWS

(717) 776-5281 www.campyolijwa.org Facebook Page: *Doubling Gap Center, Camp Yolijwa*

HIKE-N-ROCK
And BBQ Chicken
Saturday, May 8th
Hike 6 miles or
rock 4 hours to
support the camp.
You could earn up
to a free week of
2020 camp when
you
participate!



YOLIJWA Staff
Workshop
For 2021
Volunteer Staff

June 4-5

Be a volunteer!
Contact the camp
for more
information!

CAMP HOPE
June 6-11

A Christian camping
ministry for persons
with intellectual
disabilities
Call the camp for a
brochure.

33rd ANNUAL
OPEN HOUSE
June 12, 1-5 pm

Activities for all ages!
**Don't miss the
Camp's famous BBQ
chicken!**
Plus lots of fun and
more!



YOUTH CAMP
June 13-19
For those entering
10th - 12th Grade





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

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5/1 Men's Prayer Group meets each Saturday at 8:00 am
- 5/3 Trustee Meeting at 7:00 pm
- 5/4 Paw Packs Ministry meeting at 6:30 pm
- 5/5 Promise Kids zoom at 6 & 7 pm; Adult & Youth Connection Groups meet at 7 pm.
- 5/8 Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby meeting at 7:00 am
- 5/8 Youth Hike and Rock at Doubling Gap
- 5/9 HAPPY MOTHERS DAY
- 5/9 Kennedy Camp Fund Sunday
- 5/10 Elders' Meeting at 6:00 pm; Church Council meeting at 7:00 pm.
- 5/11 Women's Ministries meeting at 6:30 pm
- 5/16 Thank Offering Services at both 8:30 and 10:30 services
- 5/17 Mission Meeting at 6:30 pm
- 5/23 Items for May newsletter due to church office
- 5/26 NO CONNECTION GROUPS
- 5/31 HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY



**Wednesday Nights:
 May 5th, 12th and 19th.
 will be the same schedule as May 5th!*

Sunday Services

**Worship Service
 8:30 am
 Junior Church
 Ages 3-Grade 5**

**Connection Groups
 9:30 am
 Adult Electives
 Children's Classes
 Ages 3 - Grade 5
 Youth Connection**

**Worship Service
 10:30 am
 Junior Church
 Grade K-5
 Toddler Church
 Pre-school**

Karate School every Monday and Thursday at 6:00 pm; Cub Scout group meets each Tuesday at 6:00 pm;
 Good News Club meets each Tuesday and Thursday at 4:15 pm