

Kids grades K – 5th are invited to Kings Kids Club
January 13th – March 3rd / 3:45 – 5:30 pm
(If school is canceled, there is no Kings Kids Club.)



**Kings
Kids
Club**

Upcoming Dates

March 12 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 22 – Deadline for the next Beacon
April 16th – Easter sunrise service at 7:00 a.m. with
the adult cantata with breakfast
following
April 29th – ABWM Calendar Party

God's Tots Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:00 am
Ladies' Bible Study 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 6:45 – 8:15
p.m.

Note from the outgoing Baptist Beacon editor...

I have enjoyed working on the Baptist Beacon for the last couple of years. I am thankful that Amy McLaughlin is now taking over editing and sending out the Beacon. You can continue to send address changes or information for the Beacon to her at the address below. Blessings, Hope Dull

The Baptist Beacon is sponsored by the ICBC Couples Class. The next Beacon will come out at the beginning of April and will include activities from January, February, and March, as well as upcoming dates. Any submissions for the Beacon should be sent as Word Documents or in the body of an email to Amy McLaughlin by Wednesday, March 22.

Mail: Attn Beacon
311 Baptist Church Rd
Mill Run PA 15464
Email: icbcbeacon@gmail.com

Please send any address changes to this address.

If you no longer want to receive the Beacon or would rather get it by email, please let us know also.



INDIAN CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
311 Baptist Church Road
Mill Run PA 15464-1058

The Baptist Beacon

October, November, December 2016

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Mill Run, PA
15464-1058
Permit No. 7

Address Service Requested

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We live in a fast-paced culture. As Americans, we rush through traffic to make it to work (Well, you do- I walk across the street), rush through the store to avoid the next wave of urgent shoppers, and we try to pack as much into our schedules as possible. We have many families within our church who are involved in several organizations and/or teams, and faithfully serve within our church whenever possible. And, just in case one thinks it slows down as we age, some of the retired individuals I know tell me they are busier than when they were working forty hours a week. The “American way” seems to involve a constant cycle of trying to get enough sleep (or drink enough coffee to compensate), while completely draining oneself physically, emotionally, and spiritually daily. This is not sustainable. We know that. And then the holidays arrive.

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, you probably visited family members you had not seen much over the previous year. You spent time with co-workers in company parties. You were eager to see many of those individuals- you were less enthusiastic to see others. You spent more time shopping, less time sleeping, and more time in your vehicle driving back and forth to all those things. In addition to all of that, Christmas was on Sunday this year, meaning that many people who attended church on Christmas Eve turned right around and came back to church 12 hours later. Is this how Christians are called to live? Did Christ come to make us busier? What if I told you that Christ came to preach a theology of rest? If that is true, how does it fit in with our *American Way*?

In the Old Testament, we find that God ordained one day a week for His people to rest from their labor. He called that day *The Sabbath*. It was a day the Hebrews were to treat as sacred (Deut. 5:12-15). While some have confused it with a day of worship, it is notable that sacrifices were made every day of the week, and so worship was continual in Israel. Further, there is no stipulation for corporate worship to be held on the Sabbath, and Christians in the New Testament worshiped on Sunday, as we still do. Regardless, the day was meaningful even for the New Testament saint because of the fulfillment of the Sabbath as a type for the completed work of Christ:

There remains then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from His. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their (disobedient Hebrews who did not enter the Promised Land) example of disobedience. (Heb. 4:9-11).

Christ came to preach a message of faith, not works... reminding a fallen world that it was incapable of earning its way to heaven: that the only way to enter the true Promised Land (Heaven) is to place one’s faith in Jesus Christ. This is fantastic news regarding our salvation... what does it have to do with our busy schedules though? Much.

As Christians, we are supposed to model God’s redemptive plan through our lives. Too often, we try to do that by allowing ourselves to be stretched too thin: running on the fumes of the last cup of coffee we drank. This is how the world lives. This isn’t how Christians are called to live. Now, am I recommending Christians stop coaching, leading/joining other organizations, or diminish family time? Absolutely not. We are called to be people of influence, and so we must be leaders... we must use our gifting to serve others. But only an unhealthy view of one’s stewardship allows one to believe the only way to accomplish those tasks is through disobedience. God wants us to be refreshed, and He wants our refreshed selves to be fully given over to His purposes. Are we sensitive to the lost around us if we are rushing around like chickens with our heads cut off? Are we emotionally available to hurting spouses or coworkers if we are completely drained? No.

Christmas is a reminder that Christ came to save the lost and to bring those who receive Him into the eternal rest. He had established a program of rest to typify this eternal rest, and He calls Christians to strive for this rest. We strive for that rest by boldly serving Him. If you are going to boldly serve the Lord, you must be refreshed and fully given over to His purposes. In the busiest time of the year, we are reminded that we are incapable of fulfilling the mission for which Christ has called us if we allow ourselves to follow the pattern of the world we are trying to reach.

In Christ,
Pastor Chris

News Around the Church

by Donna Crider

Pastor: Chris McLaughlin

Sr Choir Director: John Tressler / Pam Hughes

Jr Choir Director: Janet Grimm / Shannon Bryner

Pianist: Vicki Tressler / Bonita Warrick

Organist: Nanette Miller / Bonita Warrick

Sunday October 2, 2016:

- Responsive Reading: Proverbs 11 (Mark Kemp)
- Sr Choir: *Jesus Paid It All*
- Sermon: *The Issues: Character Matters*
- The Lord's Supper observed

Sunday October 9:

- Responsive Reading: Ephesians 5 (Cody Adanitsch)
- Mission Moment: World Mission Offering
- Sr Choir: *When They Call My Name*
- Sermon: *The Issues: Male and Female, He Created Them*

Sunday October 16:

- Responsive Reading: Ephesians 5 (Vic Strunk)
- Mission Moment – World Mission Offering (DVD)
- Jr Choir: *God is Bigger/It's October*
- Youth Choir: *In His Time*
- Message: *The Issues: Marriage as a Picture of the Gospel*

Sunday October 23:

- Mission Moment: Salvation Army Gifts – Sharon Weible
- Responsive Reading: Ephesians 5 (Tyler Broadwater)
- Mission Moment: Operation Christmas Child – Pam Hughes
- Sr Choir: *The Lord is My Light (based on Psalm 27)*
- Message: *The Issues: Is Marriage Worth the Cost*

Sunday October 30: (ABW Sunday)

- Responsive Reading: Psalms 67 (Damaris Oldham)
- Ladies Choir: *Love Lifted Me*
- Message: Guest Speaker-Stan De La Cour: *Getting Out of the Boat*

Sunday November 6:

- Responsive Reading – 1 Peter 2 (Brian Dull)
- Sr Choir: *The Next Time He Comes*
- Message: *The Issues: Submitting to Authority*

Sunday November 13:

- Responsive Reading – Proverbs 4 (John Tressler)
- Sr Choir: *Have You Thanked Him?*
- Message: Guest Speaker – Frank Dean

ICBC Verse for October:
***Direct my footsteps according
to Your word;
let no sin rule over me.***
Psalm 119:133

If you would like to receive the bulletin electronically each week, please send an email to Amy McLaughlin and let her know. Amy.McLaughlin.2010@gmail.com

Because we are able to send the bulletin out weekly, we will no longer need to include this information in the Beacon.

Thank you to Donna Crider for faithfully compiling this over the years.

ICBC Verse for Nov:
***Blessed are those who act justly,
who always do what is right.***
Psalm 106:3

Sunday November 20: (International Day of Prayer)

- Video: *Church Clock*
- Reflection: Hope Dull
- Lighting of Candles: Mission Committee and Pastor Chris
- Video: *Displaced Iraqi Believer*
- Message: *Never Alone*

Sunday November 27:

- Responsive Reading – Psalm 85 (Todd Fullem)
- Jr Choir: *Thanksgiving Songs*
- Youth Choir: *W.W.J.D*
- Message: *The Issues: Revival*

The following special offerings were received this quarter:

- ICBC Family Christmas Greetings raised \$270 for our missionaries
- Stan & Faith De La Cour (SIM) spoke at ICBC in October and \$410.50 was given to SIM.
- World Missions Offering was \$1006.28
- RMMO (Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering) was \$664.00

Sunday December 4:

- Lighting of the Advent Candle-Preparation (Dara Pritts/Luke Warrick)
- Special Music: Faith Firestone - *Do You Hear What I Hear?*
- Sr Choir: *When I Kneel At the Manger Tonight*
- Message: *The Nunc Dimittis*
- Communion Service

ICBC Verse for Dec:
***Glory to God in the highest
 heaven, and on earth peace to
 those on whom His favor rests.***
Luke 2:14

Sunday December 11:

- Lighting of the Advent Candle-Expectation (Madison Kinneer/Rachael Grimm)
- Jr Choir Christmas Musical – *Special Delivery*

Sunday December 18:

- Lighting of the Advent Candle-Proclamation (Kenzie Mowry/Shawn Dipaoli)
- Special Music: Katie Stoots – *Mary Did You Know?*
- Sr Choir: *Hallelujah Song*
- Additional Offering – Retired Ministers and Missionaries
- Message: *The Nunc Dimittis*

Sunday December 25:

- 2 Hymns Selected by the Congregation: *Silent Night/Beautiful Star of Bethlehem*
- Lighting of the Advent Candle – Prophecy Fulfilled (Derek Orndorff/Cade Warrick)
- Children’s Message – Pastor Chris
- 2 Hymns Selected by the Congregation: *What Child is This?/The First Noel*
- Christmas Devotional: *Joyfully Sharing the Good News of Christmas*

Compiled by Mike Bigam

ATTENDANCE	10/2	10/9	10/16	10/23	10/30	11/6	11/13	11/20	11/27	12/4	12/11	12/18	12/25
<i>Sunday School</i>	98	95	121	103	111	115	91	102	100	107	101	103	69
<i>Morning Church</i>	130	147	169	132	116	169	132	153	144	166	242	133	153
<i>Evening Church</i>	53	*	53	*	50	55	*	~	*	--	+	53	--

(* Service at Mill Run UMC; + Sunday School Rally; ~ Thanksgiving Dinner; -- No service)

YEARS GONE BY - by Pam Hughes

Members in previous years: EVA B COWGILL, LAURA AND CASSIE B. PAUL, CARRIE GIBSON, FRED KOONTZ, MINNIE BAIRD, SADIE JOSEPH, ANNIE WILLIAMS, PHEBE BISEL, DORA HULL, MINNIE WELLS, EFFA SHEARER- SHOWMAN

MINUTES FROM CHURCH MEETINGS IN THE PAST:

NOV 9, 1901 After prayer, the minutes of the previous meeting was read and approved. J.S. Dull reports stove pipe repaired at a cost of \$2.00, with \$1.00 being paid by the S.School, report on fence material, no lumber to be had until the mill starts. S.Shearer reports that \$109 on subscription of Pastor's salary. Committee to report on the purchase of cemetery ground. Adjourned

Dec 28, 1904 At a call meeting of the church, Wm. Kern was chosen moderator. Opened meeting with scripture reading and prayer by John Dull. Motion made by John Shearer to call Rev F.S. Wortman for full time, second by Wm Scarlet (He declined the call in March of 1905) Motion by John Dull that Bro. Ed Scarlet, John Shearer and Mrs. Skinner act as committee to collect salary, seconded by Dennie Shearer. Vote carried. Adjourn

Jan 30, 1910 Lucy Rugg, Rebecca Rugg and Bessie Krepps presented themselves for baptism and H.C.Krepps and E. Hider were received to full membership and received the right hand of fellowship.

District 11 Sunday School Association Rally

On Sunday evening December 11, 2016 the District 11 Sunday School Association Rally was held at the Mill Run United Methodist Church. A total of 65 people attended. ICBC won the red banner for having the most in attendance, and the Mill Run United Methodist won the blue banner for having the highest percentage of their total Sunday School roll in attendance.

John Tressler led the singing and pianist was Vicki Tressler. Marie Nagy opened with scripture reading taken from Luke 2: 1 - 20. The program included a reading by Virginia Work entitled "The Night Jesus Came". Children from the Mill Run United Methodist Church provided special music in the Bell Choir.

An offering was collected with half designated to go to the Normalville Food Bank and half designated to go to Connellsville Ministries.

The Sunday School Rally was an enjoyable time that included congregational singing and Christian fellowship. The next rally will be held in March at the Normalville United Methodist Church. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Brian Dull

Please join us...

Sunday:

Sunday School Canteen in the Social Room – 9:15 – 9:40 am / Sunday School Opening – 9:30 am – 9:45 am
Sunday School for all ages – 9:45 am – 10:30 am
Morning Worship (with nursery care and junior church) – 10:45 am
Jr and Sr BYF – 6:30 pm
Evening Worship – 7:30 pm (Note – every other Sunday services are generally at Mill Run UM Church)

Wednesday:

Mid-week Prayer & Bible Study with Pastor Chris – 7:00 pm
7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Jr. Choir Practice / 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. Youth Choir Practice
Adult Choir Practice – 8:15 – 9:00 pm

On November 10,11 and 12 a group of about 20 men and women came together meeting at the Connellsville Baptist Church to begin 3 days of work on a house and trailer and their yard which had been flooded in the Connellsville flood. There were men and women from PA and Delaware led by Paula Sommerfeldt who is Mission Coordinator for Pa and Delaware ABW. Paula did a great job organizing the team.

On August 28, nearly 4 inches of rain fell in a short time to the Connellsville Area mainly flooding streams in the Breakneck and Dutch Bottom area.

So, the project for this Mission Team was to travel out to the Breakneck area to a mom's house, who had received major damage with 4 feet of water to her 1st floor. It had already been gutted and was being put back together. Her daughters trailer had been on the property and it had been swept away with flood waters. It was a complete loss, but a used trailer had been brought to the property when we arrived which needed to be gutted and repaired. Also the yard needed much work done, trees cut up, burned, and also lots of leaves to be raked and burned. The team rented a log splitter, so the men on the team made good use of it and split logs into pieces that could be burned. Some of the men put new flooring in the trailer and tore out insulation from under the trailer.

As we worked together we became friends.....yes brothers and sisters in Christ. Some came from Delaware, Williamsport, Belle Vernon. Waynesburg, Indiana, PA. State College, and Mill Run.

We would meet each morning over breakfast at the Connellsville Bapt. with volunteer coordinator Amy Price who represents the Connellsville Flood Recovery Center. She would give us direction and details of the work that needed done that day. Also Paula would lead us. We would meet in the parking lot and have prayer for the days work before leaving for the site. Thanks to several of our American Baptist Churches in the area: Olive Branch, Indian Creek Baptist and Connellsville Bapt. who supplied our meals for the day. We appreciated that and they were good too!

It was special on the day we left, the team gathered in a circle holding hands along with the young girl whose trailer we were working on and had prayer. We had 3 beautiful weather days and did as much as we could and how great it was to be the hands and feet of Christ.

97 shoeboxes were packed and sent to Samaritan's Purse!



Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. Samaritan's Purse currently works in more than 100 countries to provide aid to victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty, famine and persecution. To find out more, visit www.samaritanspurse.org. (Information taken their website.)

In Sympathy

Our sympathy to the family of Olive Scarlett from Mill Run who passed away Monday, November 21, 2016. She was the mother of William (Will) Scarlett and Elizabeth (Betsy) Chisnell. She was predeceased by her husband William (Bill). She was a member of ICBC.

**Did you know that there are at least 3 international children sponsored by our church?
If you don't already sponsor a child, you might want to consider one of these organizations and help to bless a child, their family, and community:**

www.compassion.com
www.worldvision.org

www.biblesfortheworld.org
www.hopehouseperu.org

Couples Class – Patty Dull

Through *World Vision* the Couples' Sunday School Class has been supporting Erika Daquilema Guaraca, in Ecuador, since July 2013. It is a joy to receive updates on her progress and thanks from her family. Besides our \$35 monthly support, we send funds for birthday parties for her and her friends. They receive fun and the Gospel.

We have supported several other children through the years in poverty stricken areas. Prior to our present commitment, we'd supported a different girl in Ecuador, and in June 2013 her community was discharged from sponsorship, since they had completed goals for enough improvement to be self-reliant. Back in 2012, we'd sent a \$100 gift for her family, channeled through World Vision, so the workers there could get something the family needed. We received a beautiful, heart-stirring photo of our little girl with her mother, Zoila, standing with a new bed frame and mattress. Their expressions of gratitude brought happy tears for us.

Folks at *World Vision* are working hard to improve life for impoverished families.

ABW - Dee Miner

The American Baptist Women's Ministries has supported a child through *Bibles for the World* since April of 2013. Our child, Joseph M. Sanate was born June 29, 2002 and is a member of the Hmar tribe in a very remote village in Northeast India. Here most of the people are farmers who are solely dependent upon the harvest their crops produce. Living conditions are hard, making education for the children nearly impossible. Because of our sponsorship, Joseph is currently attending a mission school where he can gain an education to break the cycle of poverty. He is also becoming deeply rooted in Godly teaching and valuable life skills. Each month we send him a postcard. The ladies take turns in writing the message. Joseph regularly sends us the sweetest letters. He calls us "Parents in Christ" and thanks us for the support and birthday gift money we send. He asks us to pray for him to do well at his studies and tests and give us updates on his progress. He assures us that he and his family pray for us as well. We also receive handmade greeting cards, drawings and photos to help us stay connected. The monthly support is just \$34 and it is a blessing to our group to see how this can meet the physical and spiritual needs of a child and his family. You can learn more about *Bibles for the World* at www.BFTW.org

Child sponsor –World Vision –ICBC

Since May of 1994, ICBC, through the Mission Committee, has monthly been sponsoring a child through World Vision. We have had several children that we sponsored monthly since 1994. World Vision goes into a community and not only cares for the child that we have been assigned to, but also for that community. They have goals to improve education, nutrition, hygiene and medical care. They also help out with vocational training and loans for people to start small businesses. Once these goals have been met, they will move to another community. Then we would be assigned a new child in that community. We have had that happen at least once and also once the child and family moved from that community so then we were assigned another child.

Our most recent child we sponsor now is: Johann Nahum Cocotle X. He was born On May 11, 2010. He would be 6 years old now. He lives in a poor rural community in Mexico. His parents struggle to provide for the family. Homes are small and cramped and made with whatever materials are available. Most families live on maize (grain or cornmeal) beans, peppers and occasionally meat. In some area eggs and cheese are available. He likes to play soccer.

ICBC sponsors him for \$35 a month.

Youth News by Tiza Dunaway

The Christmas Season fills hearts of believers with gratefulness for the gift of Baby Jesus. Not only did Jesus give Himself as a gift, but He also placed special gifts within each of us. As we use our gifts we discover activities we enjoy while placing ourselves in different circles where we have the opportunity to represent Jesus. I am happy to share with you some of the activities ICBC's youth are participating in. Let's pray for their success in these activities & also that they have opportunities to represent Jesus well.

Christian & Andrew Firestone play ICV Football. They also played in Bullskin Fall Ball & are on the Connellsville Youth Basketball Team.

Faith Firestone is on the Connellsville High School Cheer Squad & is a Competition Dancer for Premier Dance.

Grace Firestone is an ICV Cheerleader & dances at Premier Dance.

Gabriel Kemp earned a Varsity Letter for the Connellsville High School Soccer Team. He also achieved High Honors.

Logan Kemp shot his 1st buck...a 6 point! He also achieved High Honors.

Teran Kemp played for Connellsville Boys U12 Soccer in the Hempfield Indoor League. They placed 2nd in the League. He also made All-Star Band & earned Highest Honors.

Madison Kinneer played on the Connellsville Middle School Basketball Team. She achieved Highest Honors.

Meredith Kinneer is competing as a Level 4 gymnast. She finished 1st place in 2 competitions so far this season.

Kenzie Mowry placed 2nd at the State level for her T-shirt design at the PA State Sunday School Association Youth Poster and T-shirt contest. She also received highest honors for the 1st nine weeks.

Greetings from Mill Run and Thank you

Patty Ann Dull

We had to give up on our dreams for a white Christmas this year. But it's fairly easy to call up memories of Christmas-past and to enjoy them again. I like to bring back the chill of holding the flashlight for Dad, as he put chains on his tires during a Christmas snowstorm. The cold hands were compensated for later-as we took a ride and enjoyed the clanging and rattling chains, which made us feel like we were taking a sleigh ride. Another great recall is when we'd have the kind of blowing snowstorm that pelted against the windows and stuck in various patterns. As little kids, we pretended that snow fairies were playing a game through our blustery yard. Merry white Christmas memories!

Our Sunday School Class is grateful for donations to help with costs of printing and mailing. If you would like to help, checks are to "I.C.B.C. Couples' Class". Thanks to Della Mae Bittner, Connellsville,PA.;Karen Pochiba, Scenery Hill, PA.;Ron and Glenda (Work) King, Elderton, PA.;Edgar & Marie Friend,Albuquerque, N.M.

Until next time, keep in touch and in prayer.