

CONTACT

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

of the Churches of God, General Conference
1003 Logan Street
P.O. Box 102
McMechen, WV 26040
www.mcmechen-1churchofgod.-com

Elders: Tom Baum 304-639-7326
Dave Fox 304-238-3393 or 304-232-4669

August, 2025

Summer's End?!?!



Back to School?!?!



ELDER'S PAGE



What must I do to inherit eternal life? This was the question that the rich young ruler presented to Jesus. This encounter can be found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. This young man had everything on his side it seemed. He was young, rich, and he was in charge. Jesus said, in answer to this question; keep the commandments, and he listed them for this wealthy young man. We see the pride of the young man, when he replies to Jesus saying; “All these I have kept from my youth up.” Then Jesus tells him that if he wants to be perfect, go sell all that you have, distribute it to the poor and follow me. The scripture tells us that the young man went away sorrowful.

Now, part of the sadness was caused by the thought of getting rid of all his riches and possessions. But the greater part of the sadness is that he did not understand that there was nothing HE could DO to inherit eternal life. This young man, who could buy whatever he wanted or needed, did not understand that eternal life was something only God’s grace could provide through the sacrifice of His only Son on the cross of Calvary. This was not a question of supply, it was a question of surrender. This was not a question of what I can do, it was a question of what Jesus was going to do. Jesus said, “Blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven”.

Forsaking all we have and surrendering to Jesus brings us eternal life. Nothing, and no one else can.

Elder Dave Fox



We're almost there. Working on the finishing touches of the quilt and getting it ready to be given to it's new owner....whoever that may be!

Tickets are available and we would be very appreciative if anyone would like to take some to sell. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 6 for \$25.00. (See Patti, Dru or Donna)

All the materials for the quilt were donated, including the tickets, so ALL proceeds will be going to the new church building!

The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at noon at a free luncheon following our church service. The winner need not be present to win, but why not come and get in on the excitement *and* eat a good meal?!?

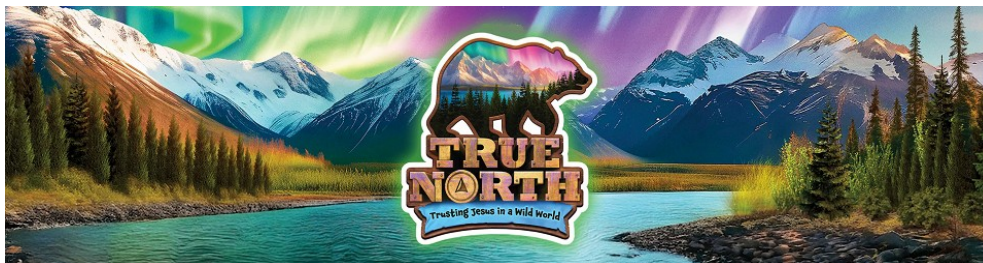
We would like to thank everyone who participated in this project and who prayed for us while we worked on it. It has been a real labor of love and will soon be coming to an exciting end.

So, mark your calendars for Sunday, September 28th and plan to attend! Looking forward to seeing you there!



Back to School!

With the kids going back to school soon, we would like to remind you that we would love to hear of their achievements and involvement in their respective schools. Articles, pictures or just "Proud Mom, Dad or Grandparent" moments!! Keep us in the loop! Share the joy!!



Vacation Bible School 2025 Is in the Books!!!

It's hard to believe that VBS for 2025 is already over!! It was a great week and the kids and volunteers had a great time learning and sharing how to Trust Jesus when we are wondering what to do, when we are lonely, when we are scared...just trusting Jesus all the time! We had a great time pouring the Gospel in to the kids in the community and dancing to VBS tunes!

This year it was a little different with a "science" station featuring the inventions of our very own "super scientist" John Martin. John explained how magnets work, the kids made volcanoes and slime, tried to keep balloons in the air...all kinds of things. They really enjoyed it.

Rebekah Martin shared the bible stories about people learning to trust Jesus and His mission. Sometimes we may not always see the whole picture but we can trust that Jesus wants only the best for us. He is with us always, even when we are lonely, afraid, or just confused about "life"!

Dru Fox took the kids on treks through the wilderness and re-emphasized the Bible Verses each night with "Sticky Scriptures" (so that the scriptures "stick" in our minds and hearts). The kids met bible buddies Ponder (a river otter), Clawdia (a king crab - or is she a "queen" crab?), Kody (a Kodiak bear), Earnest (an eagle) and Bruce (a moose)!

Even the snacks reflected the lessons. Cindy Brautigan and her helpers prepared a "Northern Lights" snack, Mini Mountains, Bear Bites, Snowball Snacks, and Log Cabin Crunchers!

We would like to thank everyone that helped in any way. And especially, Center McMechen School for allowing us to use their building for the week. It was a true blessing!!!

Thank you for all the prayers and support - we couldn't do it without you!



We are really looking forward to the Fall Women's Retreat the first weekend in October. We have more people going this year which promises to be a great time!!!

We are finalizing the details and will be having a meeting soon to go over what everyone will need to bring (or not bring)! Those of us who were there last year remember how much FOOD we had!!

The cost will be determined when we get the final number as to who is attending. As of right now, it's going to be about \$180.00 each. That is for all three nights. Please remember that this is non-refundable and it will need to be given to Dru Fox or Patti Fox by Sunday, August 3rd. We are staying in the same house as last year – the "Off the Wall Inn" on Route 39 between Walnut Creek and Berlin.

The actual retreat activities won't start until Thursday afternoon (October 3rd), but we are able to get into the house on Wednesday (October 2nd) after 4:00 pm so you are welcome to come Wednesday evening if you would like – we will be there.

We can't wait!!!! We hope you are as excited as we are!!!





Prayer List:

John Anderson
Kandy Burrall
Holly Cline
Sara Johnston Ebert
Kevin Goode
Craig Herron
Jim Hockney
Hannah Johnston Howard
Abigail Johnston
Benjamin Johnston
Gabriel Johnson
Pastor Mitch & Cate Johnston

Richie Lehew
Dr. Naum
Heather Neff
Donna Pegg
Sandy Sperling
Connie Wendel
Jeanette Ziegler

Women's Fall Retreat
Church Construction
Pastor Search

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Romans 12:12



Titus Women

The Titus Women group is starting back up on August 6th at 6:00 pm. We are starting a new video series on the book of Job. Come out and join us for this new adventure.



Hang Out Dinner Group!

On July 13th, the Hang Out Dinner Group went to Sunday Lunch at Mehlman's Cafeteria in St. Clairsville. As always, the food was great, but the company was even better. There were 20 people there!

Next month they will be going to the **Olive Garden** in Triadelphia on **Tuesday, August 12th** at 6:00 pm. If you would like to join them, please let Tom Baum know.



Sorry, we couldn't get everyone in the same picture!



New Small Group

We are looking at starting another "small group". While it's primarily for women, anyone can join. We understand that it's hard to commit to one night a week when you work so to begin we will only be meeting once a month.

The purpose of this group is to give everyone a chance to share their joys, sorrows, burdens, dreams – anything that's on your mind and heart that you just need to share with someone who won't judge! We will laugh with you or cry with you, but we will definitely PRAY with you!!

If you are interested in becoming a part of this group or just want more information, see Michelle Morris.



Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday dear...

Happy August Birthday to....

- 9 Isaac Howard
- 14 Pete Fisher
- 16 Phil McCabe
- 16 Andy McKenzie
- 17 Beth Wolfe
- 21 Cody Sperling
- 25 Dave Fox
- 29 Kim Hill

Happy Birthday to you!



Happy August Anniversary to....

- 1 Charles & Erin Howe
- 6 Jay & Michelle Morris
- 30 Gary & Debbie Rusen



August, 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pastoral Search Committee will hold their first meeting on Sunday, August 3rd at 6:00 pm. Be in prayer as we begin this very important process					1	2 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
3 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am Pastoral Search Mtg 6:00 pm	4 IronMen 6:00 pm	5 Piecemakers Quilt Club 5:00 pm	6 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm Titus Women 6:00 pm	7 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	8	9 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
10 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	11 IronMen 6:00 pm	12 Piecemakers Quilt Club 5:00 pm Hang Out Dinner Group 6:00 pm Olive Garden	13 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm Titus Women 6:00 pm	14	15	16 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
17 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	18 IronMen 6:00 pm	19	20 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm Titus Women 6:00 pm	21	22	23 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
24 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	25 IronMen 6:00 pm	26	27 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm Titus Women 6:00 pm	28	29	30
31 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am						

