

# SEPTEMBER 2023

# INSIGHTS

## The Newsletter of Mitchells Presbyterian Church

### THE PASTORS CORNER

#### Looking ahead:

**Sept 9**--Fall Festival &  
Community Steak Dinner

**Oct 1** -- World Communion  
(Guest Preacher)

**Oct 8** -- Outdoor Service

**Oct 29** --All Saints Day



Contact Us:

12229 Mitchell Road  
Mitchells, VA 22729

Office: 540-825-1079

Pastor's cell: 540-881-0201

Website:

[mitchellspresbyterian.org](http://mitchellspresbyterian.org)

YouTube:

[youtube.com/@mitchellspresbyterian](https://youtube.com/@mitchellspresbyterian)

Email:

[mitchellspresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellspresbyterian@gmail.com)

Pastor's Email:

[mitchellspcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellspcpastor@gmail.com)

Prayer Chain Email:

[prayersofmitchells@gmail.com](mailto:prayersofmitchells@gmail.com)

Hymns have been an integral part of the worship of God since the very beginning. The psalms are one of the earliest forms of these hymns, and from early on in my faith journey, I learned about hymns and the role that they played in our congregational worship. My grandmother, Kirk, taught piano and sang in the church choir throughout her life and that love of music was passed on to me. Often times, prior to her passing, I would call or message her to ask about what hymns would fit with a scripture passage or the overarching theme of my sermon. She'd always give me a few options, and I always loved that they were traditional hymns like 'Great is Thy Faithfulness'. She taught me about the power of music and lyrics in a hymn had to inspire people in worship.

The singing of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs is a vital and ancient form of prayer. Singing engages the whole person and helps to unite the body of Christ in common worship – Book of Order, W- 2.0202 Prayerful Participation.

We each have connections to different hymns that move and inspire us. No matter the hymn being sung, it allows us to join with each other as a congregation, and with the greater church universal as others sing hymns alongside of us. It is one of the greatest unifiers in all forms of worship, and we at MPC are blessed to enjoy many great hymns played and sung in our congregation.

One of the things that I have learned recently is to appreciate newer hymns and Christian music. I confess that I am not the biggest fan of the Christian music that is on the radio. However, while I do not seek it out, I recently have come to a different perspective about the newer, praise band style of worship music from a young couple I was talking with. They were (and perhaps still are) church hunting and being able to relate to what was happening in the service was of utmost importance to them. They related through music. One of the main things they liked about the more 'modern' (I use that term loosely here) church services, is that the songs sung could be heard on the radio as they drove around. I had not thought about that connection before and it has changed my outlook a bit as it relates to praise band music and the songs heard on Christian radio stations (I am still not a big fan of the music though, so oh well). But this connection brings the church out of the walls of the sanctuary and into their everyday lives. It is a reminder of their faith and dedication to God throughout all aspects of their life. On their way to work, to the grocery store, to the doctor's office, to visit family, they can hear the songs from church on the radio. This can help them frame their life with Christ.

Continued on Page 2

(Pastors Corner Continued)

I use the example of my grandmother and the young couple to highlight the different ways we all approach worship and the music that is sung before, during and after our hour together on Sunday mornings. There is beauty in the diversity of worship music that represents the diversity of experiences in our lives. Different hymns talk about the different ways that God supports humanity, the different ways we interact with God, and the different ways we grow in our faith. We can be inspired by these songs to grow in our faith and encounter God in new ways. Even in death there are hymns that unite us and remind us of our faith. One such hymn for my family is Faith of our Fathers (which cannot be found in the Presbyterian hymnal unfortunately). We sing this at every family member's funeral, and it is a hymn that reminds everyone of our loved one's dedication to their faith in God and how we too can move forward through a difficult time of loss. It is unifying in its communal act of singing and in its reaffirmation that our faith is passed from generation to generation.

We experience new life each and every day and our faith changes as life progresses. Our worship reflects that we both honor our traditions and open ourselves up to the new ways that the Holy Spirit inspires us. The Presbyterian Handbook offers a final tidbit in regard to singing hymns that I wish to leave you with. "Hymns are often sung in such a serious way that the congregation forgets to enjoy the music. Sing with energy and feeling." Our journey of faith is a song, an ever-evolving tune that rings with the echoes of the past and the dreams of the future. Therefore, I invite you to sing each hymn with passion as they inspire us time and time again, and with the knowledge that as we join together as the church universal, we celebrate the grace that sustains us and the hope that drives us forward. The LORD has always asked that you make a joyful noise 😊!

Joyful Blessings,  
Pastor Patrick

---

September Ushers:

*Kathy & Allison Thorpe*

Acolyte:

*Tommy Cuccherini*

**MITCHELLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SEPTEMBER 9TH**  
**FALL FESTIVAL**  
**&**  
**COMMUNITY STEAK**  
**DINNER**

**Menu**

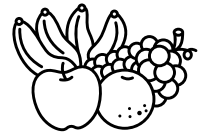
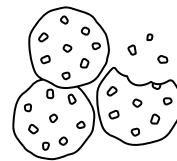
Steak	Salad
Potatoes	Rolls
Corn Pudding	Drinks
Green Beans	Dessert
Hot Dogs	

5 & Under: Free Hotdogs  
Ages 6-12: \$8  
Older than 12: \$17



**- HISTORICAL TOURS AND**  
**ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS START AT 3PM**  
**- STEAK DINNER SERVED 5-7PM**

12229 Mitchell Road Mitchells, Virginia 22729



Social Hour--Sundays after Service  
A great time to fellowship with others while enjoying  
delicious snacks and drinks.

---

### NEW MEMBERS CLASS

August 20th-September 24th, 2023. Classes are open to all who wish to become rostered members of MPC and those who wish to learn more about being Presbyterian. The classes will be held after worship and fellowship time on Sundays with lunch provided.

## Good Timers

Each month as the Good Timers meet, eat, and talk, it seems the food is wonderful, the conversations unending, the noise level (well, I am not going to address that). We do enjoy all aspects of these "get-togethers".

In July, we had such a wonderful time at the Dark Horse Irish Pub in Flint Hill with 23 attending and we are already looking forward to returning there next year. In August we went to Tim's on Lake Anna. In previous years that was always a favorite place for our group to meet and eat some good seafood.

Our September destination is Grave's Mountain Restaurant. Another one of our favorite gathering places! That is scheduled for Thursday, September 22.

Alice and I continue this "searching and tasting" adventure. We refer to this as our "tasting task" and someone has to do it! We have now completed plans for the rest of this 2023 year.

For October's lunch we will gather at the Blue Ridge Cafe on Route 29. We used to go there a long time ago, but there were a few problems, but Alice and I have discussed them with the manager and we believe our concerns have been remedied.

We tentatively have a plan for November and December. Discussion and decision making made during our meeting at Tim's will be announced soon.

It is wonderful that we have been able to return to this monthly gathering which dates back for many, many years. Good food, good friends, good times - that is why we are the Good Timers!

Looking forward to each month as we share such a fun time with one another!

---

## Presbyterian Women

The Mitchells Presbyterian Church Women enjoyed an uplifting time of fellowship at the Retreat on August 12th. Pastor "Jo" White of Waller Baptist Church lead the group with her "Chipped Cup" program and wonderful music.

There were 27 women in attendance, including the numerous guests. I want to thank all the MPW for their help in making this a success! Everyone enthusiastically participated!

We also want to give Graeme Tidman a big SHOUT OUT for being in the background taking care of the women...we could all enjoy the program without having to worry about the kitchen work. Thank you and we love you.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept 11th at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We are starting a new study book, so it is a good time to join in. All women who attend church are invited to our meetings and share in the good things we do for the church and community.

Kaye Inskeep  
Moderator



Thank you and blessings upon you!

To the Mitchells Family:

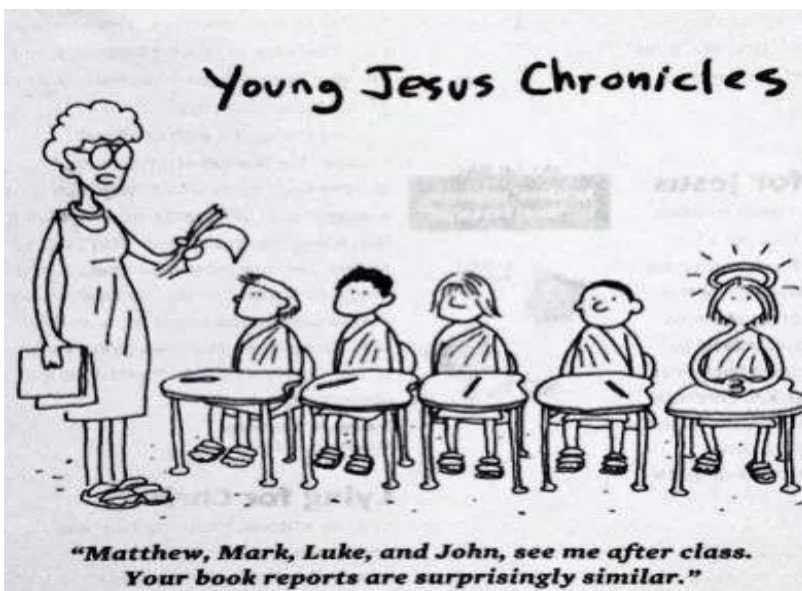
Please accept this note as my heartfelt thank you for all the prayers, cards, calls, and messages during my recovery from my recent surgery. They meant a lot coming from folks I call my family. Being in two hospitals for a total of 13 days (4 of which were simply waiting for my blood thinner to go away) gave me time to ponder, think, and pray. Many times I was thinking of Mitchells and each one of you. I'm not sure if there is a church family that has more talented people than Mitchells. It seems that no matter what needs to be done, someone has the talent to see it come to fruition: builders, singers, cooks, artists, craftsmen and women, educators and leaders, servants, humorists, and just downright good folks. You have been, are, and will continue to be a blessing to me and everyone who comes in contact with each of you.

May God continue to richly bless you,

Steve Hicks



Anonymous "shout-outs",  
congrats, words of wisdom, jokes,  
etc. When submitting, please clarify  
specific instructions as to which  
information to include or omit from  
print



**BACK TO COLLEGE**  
If you have college  
students that you would  
like to have our  
congregation pray for,  
send notes of inspiration  
or care packages, please  
submit information  
including their names and  
addresses by the 25th of  
the month.

Newsletter contact:  
mitchellspresbyterian@gmail.com,  
mskaffy2@gmail.com,  
or text 540-272-2982  
Deadline: 25th of the month

# September 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Jane Reed
3	4	5	6 Tom Cuccherini Luke Gyory	7	8	9 Perry Kinsey <b>STEAK DINNER</b>
10 Pastor Patrick Lane Raechel Squire	11	12	13	14	15 Bonnie Hitt Pat Payne Alex Tidman	16
17 Warren&Amber Gallahan	18 Diane Ray	19	20	21 Cindy Grotz Scott & Roxy Mitchell Jimmy Walker	22	23
24	25 Graeme Tidman	26 Bill Miller Michelle Cuccherini	27	28 Bonnie Putnam	29	30