

## Christmas Eve Service

The Christmas Eve candlelight service at the United Presbyterian Church of McConnellsburg, located at the corner of south Second and Maple streets, will be held at 11:00 p.m., December 24.

The service with scripture and a meditation, will include carol singing, anthems from the Chancel Choir, a youth choir, soloists and guest musicians. The music prelude begins at 10:30 p.m.

Rev. Ellen Crawford True is pastor, Richard Rotz, choir director, and Carolyn Kerlin is organist. Please join in worship on this holy night as we meditate on His bounty and love in sending His son to be our Savior.

## Christmas Program

Sideling Hill Christian Church, 10424 Sipes Mill Road, Needmore, will hold its annual Christmas program on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 7:00 p.m.

There will be recitations, a Christmas play entitled "Angel Alert," followed by a candlelight service.

All are welcome.

## Celebrates First



Gracie Maye Shives celebrated her first birthday on December 10, 2008. She is the daughter of Jason and Stephanie Shives.

Grandparents are Douglas and Rebecca Mellott and Gary and Penny Shives. Great-grandparents are Howard and Bonnie Sipes, Dorothy and the late Pete Shives, Charles and Catherine Palmer, and Cecil and Thelma Mellott.

Gracie celebrated her first birthday with her family and cousins.

## Marriage Licenses

The following couples applied for marriage licenses at the local courthouse during the past week.

Jeffrey Robert Sherman, 41, McConnellsburg, and Rochelle Sue Scurlock, 40, McConnellsburg.

Bill Foster Shoop, 47, Spring Run, and Kriste Diane Parker, 35, Spring Run.

## Without The Stand, The Tree Wouldn't Be The Same

The best foundations, often left unseen, can still make mighty impressions

By **Bethany Broadwell**

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

I know when people marvel at our Christmas tree, their eyes rarely, if ever, head directly to its absolute bottom.

First, its sheer size causes onlookers to lift their gaze to its surprisingly high angel-topped pinnacle.

"Is that tree 10 or 12 feet?" they ask of the artificial pine we bought at a department store during a sale in the late 1980s.

Then, the admirers continue with the queries: "Who does the ladder duty?"

And, "How long does it take you to decorate that baby?"

We selected the tree because it was tall and spindly, meaning we would have the maximum possible hanging places for the ornament collection of our lifetime. The tree was also just the right size for the staircase area of the home it initially decorated. Since then, the tree has stood in two

other houses, and much to our delight, it always seems to fit.

The donning of the eight strings of multicolored lights is probably the only time the tree hears harsh remarks uttered in her direction. I understand the popularity of the newer prelit models, but I have convinced myself our tree is a charmer because of her old-fashioned dazzle.

The ornaments adorning her are too numerous to count. We definitely have hundreds; most likely we have more than a thousand. Observers who scan the tree each admire a different delicate beauty. Among the most surprising, perhaps, are a Yankee Doodle, a pickle, a pineapple, a grandfather clock, a bumblebee, Olive Oyl, the Phantom of the Opera, and a table lamp.

Dad likes the ship-in-the-bottle ornament. Mom says the mini teakettle makes her think of how her mother treasured the dishware ornaments. My favorite is a bright orange smiley face. It reminds me of a special cup that I used to drink orange juice from during a sunshiny family vacation in Florida when I was a little girl.

By the time the pine masterpiece is fully trimmed, it is

weighted with glass baubles and priceless memories.

If our tree toppled, the ear-piercing shatter would be the terrifying sound of our history crashing. In fact, our decorated tree is so heavy, we have a custom base to support its immensity.

A welder friend fabricated the stand out of green metal. I didn't see him make it, but I love to imagine him using his glowing tradesman flame to make the holder. His work is really why our tree's bottom is worth particular notice.

When we begin our decorating effort each season, we think of his purposeful gift and how much it means to us.

"I wonder what Billy is doing this holiday?" one of us will ask. "He sure did us a favor," we always agree when the three stages of our tree slip securely into place.

I don't recall him presenting his creation with any fanfare. Considering how important it is to us now, I feel like we should have had a ceremony to recognize the receipt of such a thoughtfully engineered item.

We could have expressed our appreciation in a more prestigious manner with a grand speech and a hearty

handshake. Instead, we merely gave a simple, sincere thanks and put the stand to immediate use.

I suppose it doesn't look all that remarkable. The stand has the usual cross design, but it is industrial strength. It was crafted specifically to uphold a hefty responsibility. Not only that, but each of the stand's four points can be adjusted if our tree is listing unnaturally in any one direction. We inevitably need to compensate for a slight, but obvious imbalance of ornaments on one side (or is the floor uneven?) As soon as the tree is entirely ready, the final step of the decorating process includes covering the custom base with white cotton batting to resemble snow. I always think it's a shame to hide the stand, because my family feels such affection toward it.

After all, the gift from our welder friend many years ago has reinforced a heartfelt lesson for me.

The best foundations may be unseen, but they can still make mighty impressions. The most eye-catching Christmas tree ever only sparkles and stands in full splendor when a strong base is at its core.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

## BEATTY'S AUTO SALES

Warfordsburg, PA - 717-294-3990

The Last GOOD, CLEAN, CHEAP Cars On This Planet

VEHICLE	FULL PRICE	\$ DOWN +	VEHICLE	FULL PRICE	\$ DOWN +
'04 Kia Optima	\$5,950	\$1,950	'95 Chevy Lumina	\$2,450	\$825
'02 Kia Spectra	\$3,450	\$1,250	'94 Saturn 5 Sp.	\$1,450	\$500
'02 Chevy Malibu	\$4,950	\$1,650			
'01 Hyundai Accent	\$2,875	\$975	-VANS & 4X4s-		
'01 Dodge Stratus	\$4,950	\$1,650	'02 Ford Windstar	\$5,750	\$1,950
'00 Chevy Sebring Convertible			'00 Chrysler Town & Country		
	\$4,750	\$1,600		\$3,950	\$1,325
'00 Ford Taurus	\$3,750	\$1,250	'00 Ford Windstar	\$4,450	\$1,450
'99 Ford Escort	\$3,250	\$1,100	'97 Chevy Blazer	\$3,450	\$1,150
'98 Mercury Tracer,			'97 Chrysler Town & Country		
24k on motor	\$3,250	\$1,075		\$3,950	\$1,150
'98 Saturn	\$2,350	\$775	'97 Jeep Cherokee		
'98 Ford Contour	\$1,950	\$650	4X4	\$4,750	\$1,600
'97 Mitsubishi Galant	\$2,750	\$950	'96 Isuzi Trooper	\$2,750	\$925
'97 Chevy Lumina	\$2,250	\$750	'95 Ford Aerostar	\$975	\$325
'96 Ford Taurus	\$2,450	\$825	'95 Ford Explorer	\$3,750	\$1,250
'95 Mercury Sable S/W			'94 Ford F150 Ext. Cab		
	\$1,575	\$525	4 x 4	\$2,950	\$1,000
'95 Mercury Tracer	\$2,250	\$825	'93 Mercury Villager	\$2,250	\$750
'95 Subaru S/W, 4x4	\$2,750	\$925	'84 Ford F600		
'95 Ford Escort	\$2,150	\$725	Box Farm Truck	\$1,575	\$525

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF

McCONNELLSBURG  
S. Second & Maple Sts.  
McConnellsburg

DECEMBER 24  
1 1:00 p.m.

Please join us in worship on this Holy Night as we meditate on His bounty and love in sending His Son to be our saviour.

## AREA CHURCH SERVICES

### Amaranth Church of the Brethren, Freeman Snair, Pastor.

Sunday School service at 9:30 a.m. Worship service at 10:30 a.m. Ambersson United Methodist Church, Pastor Ed Sharpe.

Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.; Sunday School at 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Antioch Christian Church, Rev. Marion Nesselrodt, Pastor.

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. every other Sunday; Bible study Wed. eve. at 7 p.m. Call 573-2865 for information.

The Assembly of God, Amaranth, Rev. Delmas F. Bard, Pastor.

Sunday School at 10:00. Worship at 10:45. Wednesday Bible study at 7:14 p.m. Sunday evening service at 6:00 p.m.

Bedford Chapel Church, Rev. Carl Sipes

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Bethel Cito African Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Diane L. Jefferson

Sunday Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. Every Tuesday Evening Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

Bethel Community Church, Pastors: Gary Quackenbos and Dale Lehman

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. Every Sunday there is a fellowship meal, everyone welcome to stay.

Black Oak Mennonite Church, 5 miles west of Warfordsburg, Richard Rutherford, Pastor.

Sunday School at 9:45. Worship at 10:45.

Blairs Mills Brethren in Christ Church, Rev. Harold E. Bowers, Pastor.

Worship Service at 9:00, Sunday School 10:00, Wed. eve. Prayer & Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.

Bt. Cabins Presbyterian Church, Grist Mill Rd., Bt. Cabins (Off of Rt. 522), Interim Pastor Robert L. Rhoades

Church Service at 9:30 a.m.

Buck Valley Christian Church (Congregational) 2281 Harmonia Rd., Warfordsburg, Pastor Scott Gibbs. Phone 294-3940.

Sunday School at 9:30. Worship Service at 10:30.

The Buck Valley New Testament Church, Independent Non-Denominational-Fundamental, R. Bobby Layman.

Sunday School at 10:00. Worship Service at 11:00. Wed. eve. service at 7:00 p.m.

Burnt Cabins Independent Bible Church Burnt Cabins, Robert H. Benson, Pastor.

Sunday School, 9 a.m. Church services, 10 a.m. Sunday evening services, 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer Wed. evening, 7:30 p.m.

Burnt Cabins United Presbyterian Church

Contemporary Summer Worship at 9:54 a.m. July 7 thru Labor Day, Calvary Independent Baptist Church, 522 N. of McChg., 140 McGovern Lane. Phone 485-4745.

David Carroll, Pastor, phone 485-5447.

Sunday School at 9:00; Morning Worship at 10:00; Evening service at 6:30. Wed. Prayer and Bible study at 7:00. (Patch the Pirate for 1st-8th grades and TEAM teen program at 7:00 on Wednesday nights)

Cedar Grove Christian Church, Routes 643 at 522 near Dott, Pastor Timothy B. Close, Phone 304-258-

4855.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Center United Methodist Church, Pastor Michael Baumgardner, 717-595-0156.

Sunday Worship Service at 8:15 a.m., Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Chapel of Praise, Rt. 523, Warfordsburg, Pa., Pastor Jack and Lola Hiles.

Sunday morning worship at 10:00. Sunday evening service at 7:00. Wed. evening Bible study at 7:00.

Charlestown United Methodist Church, 13826 Buchanan Trail West, Mercersburg, Pastor Terry Brosius, 717-328-9151

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. Church School at 10:00 a.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Hancock Ward, Bishop Larry Hartman, 294-3963, Douglas Street, Hancock, MD.

Sacrament Meeting at 10:00. Sunday School at 10:20. Priesthood/Relief Society at 11:10.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, McConnellsburg Branch, Branch President Gerald Hendershot

Penns Village Shopping Center, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Cito United Methodist Church, Rev. John A. Godissart, Pastor. Phone 485-4318, Parish 485-4815.

Worship at 9:15 a.m., Church School at 10:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study Thurs. 9-11:30 a.m.

Clear Ridge United Methodist Church, Clear Ridge, Pastor Michael Baumgardner, 717-369-3856.

Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Corner Independent Church, Big Cove Tannery.

Worship at 9:30. Sunday School at 10:00.

Damascus Christian Church, Thompson Township.

Sunday School every Sunday at 10:00. Morning Worship every two weeks at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Loy Garber.

Dublin Mills Community Church, Rev. Sam Stoeby, Pastor.

Sunday School beginning at 9:00 a.m. Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m. Evening worship beginning at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening services at 7:00 p.m.

Evangel Assembly of God, Rev. William H. McCommons, Pastor. Located across from the Medical Center, McConnellsburg. Phone 485-4667.

Combined Sunday School and Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m. Evening Evangelistic Service at 6:30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday. Handicapped accessible.

Fair Ridge Assembly of God, Piper Lane, S. of Shade Gap off Rt. 522. Pastor Daniel Fox.

Combined Sunday School and Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m. Evening Worship and Praise, 6:30 p.m. Family night including activities for all ages, 7:00 P.M. Wednesday.

Fairview United Methodist Church, Harrisonville, Pastor William Kuhn, 717-987-3215.

Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m., Sunday School at 8:30 a.m.

First Pentecostal Assembly of God, 20 N. Park Ave., Mercersburg, Pa. Pastor Roger L. Murray. 717-328-5424.

Morning Service at 9:30, (Sunday School for youth and Children), Evening Praise at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

Freedom Worship Center, Pastor Kevin Wade,

HCR 75, Box 340, Ft. Littleton, Pa., 7 miles north of McConnellsburg on Route 522.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Morning Service at 10:15 a.m. Evening Service at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday services at 7:00 p.m. 987-3490. An associate church of Rhema Bible Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Ft. Littleton Bible Church, held at the former Fraker's Store, Rev. Deborah Strait.

Sunday School at 9:30. Morning Worship at 10:30. Sunday night service at 7:00. Wednesday Night Bible Study at 7:00.

Grace Christian Fellowship, Rev. Edward Guyer, Pastor, 131 Pennsylvania Ave., Hancock, Md.

Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Evening Prayer and Bible Service 7:00 p.m. A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. For information or spiritual assistance, phone 301-678-6036.

Harrisonville Holiness Church, Pastor Rev. Paul Eckert

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Eve. Service at 7:00 p.m.

Harrisonville United Methodist Charge, Parsonage 485-9416, Pastor William Bair

Ebenezer: Worship - 8:30. Sun. School - 9:45. Siloam: Worship 9:50; Church School 8:45.

Charge-wide Bible Study, second and fourth Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at Siloam Church.

Asbury: Worship at 11:00. Church School at 9:45.

Hustontown Church of God Pentecostal, one mile north on Route 475, Hustontown, Pa., 17229.

Donald Rowe, Pastor.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome, come let us worship together.

Immanuel Bible Church, Three Springs, located 3.5 mi. S. of Three Springs, opposite Cherry Grove Cemetery. Pastor Steve Heaster, 814-448-9893.

Sunday School at 9 a.m., Morning Worship at 10 a.m., Sunday eve., 7 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m.

Jehovah's Witnesses, Route 30, west of McConnellsburg.

Sunday, Public Talk at 10:00 a.m. Watch Tower at 11:00.

Knobsville Church of the Brethren, Christian W. Elliott, Pastor.

Sunday School at 9:30. Morning Worship every Sunday starting at 10:30. Wed. evening services at 7:30 p.m.

Knobsville United Methodist Church, 11048 Waterfall Rd., McConnellsburg, Pastor William Kuhn, 717-987-3215.

Sunday Worship Service at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Children's church and staffed nursery provided.

Laurel Ridge Christian Church, Big Cove Tannery, Rev. David Hamilton, Pastor.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship at 10:30 a.m. Thursday Night Worship at 7:00 p.m.

McConnellsburg, Fort Loudon, Parish, United Church of Christ. Rev. Thomas R. Degnitz, Interim Pastor, Phone 485-5554.

St. Paul, McConnellsburg: Worship Service at 11:00. Sunday School at 9:45.

Trinity United Church of Christ, Ft. Loudon: Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

McConnellsburg Lutheran Parish, Interim Pastor Hank Mansell.

St. Paul's, Big Cove Tannery: Worship Service at 8:45 a.m. Sun-

day School at 10:00 a.m.

St. Paul, McConnellsburg: Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Worship Services at 10 a.m.

Mt. Zion, Little Cove: Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. Worship Service at 11:30 a.m.

McConnellsburg United Methodist Church, Rev. John A. Godissart, Pastor. Phone 485-4815, Parish 485-4318.

Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Church School at 9:45 a.m. Bible study and Youth meeting Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church, S. Second & Maple Sts., McCbg., 485-4400, Rev. Ellen Crawford True, Pastor.

Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Fellowship Time at 10:30 a.m. Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

Mountain View Mennonite Church, Pastors Warren Clugston and Keith Clugston. Located 12 mile west on Old Route 30, 485-4594.

Sunday School at 9:30. Morning Worship at 10:30. Evening worship at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Bible study at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings.

Mt. Calvary Tabernacle of Williamson, Pa., Reuben Eglif, Pastor, Phone 717-597-1149

Sunday morning services, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday evening services, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evening services, 7:00 p.m.

Mt. Tabor Nazarene Church, Waterfall, Pa., Pastor Duane Williams, 717-294-3944.

Sunday School at 9:30. Worship at 11:00. Bible Study Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

My Father's House Ministries, Pastor Bill Chilcote, phone 485-4680, 1653 Lincoln Way East, Old Route 30

Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. Friday Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Needmore Bible Church, Pastor Doug Poffenberger, phone 573-2212.

Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Morning Worship at 9:45 a.m. Sunday evening in-home small groups. Tuesday evening prayer at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m., Awana for children and youth and Bible study for adults.

Needmore Full Gospel Church, W.P.M., 6 mi. north of Hancock, MD, on State Rd. 655, Phone 717-294-3100, Pastor James W. Gheen.

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Night Service at 5:00 p.m.

Needmore Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Corner Rts. 522 & Pigeon Cove Rd., Needmore. Frank VanDerhoof, Pastor, 301-678-5857.