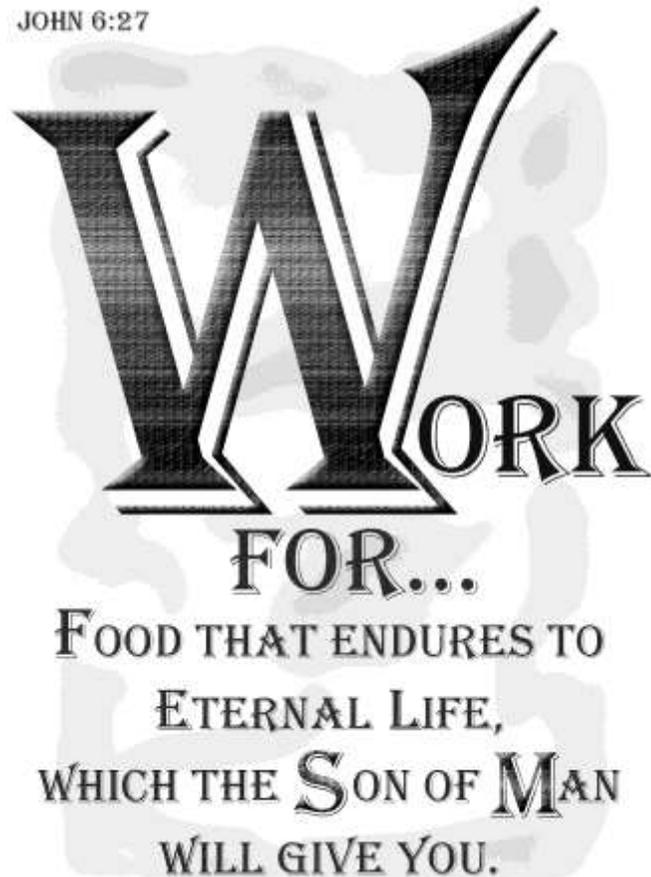


JOHN 6:27



THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
"a community of believers, called by God, led by the Holy Spirit
to know Christ and to make Christ known"
Rev. Timothy R. Monroe
137 N. Walnut Street - Blairsville, PA 15717-1349
Church office 724-459-7991
e-mail: upchurch@r-church.com; website: www.r-church.com
Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
August 2, 2015 ~ 10:00 AM
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Alice Santoro, Liturgist
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude Marilyn Neal, Organist
Lighting of the Candles Cole Stuchal, Acolyte
Call to Worship (*Psalm 51*)
Leader: Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
**People: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**
Leader: You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
**People: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**
Leader: Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
**People: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.**
Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
**People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

*Hymn # 461 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way.
You show us the wrong we have done, yet we point fingers at
others. You offer us the bread of heaven, yet we hunger for the
things of earth. Forgive us, God of grace. Speak your truth to
us in love, so that we may return to you in peace, and grow
more and more in grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

THE PRAYER CHAIN is coordinated by the Adult Sunday School Class. If you have a prayer request or know of someone's need for prayer, please contact Shirley McLaughlin.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH will sponsor a vaccination clinics at the Blairsville Community Center August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18 and December 16 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. You are eligible for vaccines at low or no cost if you are underinsured or uninsured. Please call the PA Dept. of Health at 724-357-2995 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

THE FOOD BANK will distribute groceries Tuesday, August 4th from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Those signing up for the first time should bring proof of residence in the Blairsville borough.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY will hold their meeting Wednesday, August 5th at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The community is invited to attend.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, August 6th at 3:00 p.m. in the parlor. Bring your own project and join us for a time of fellowship and stitching.

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who volunteered their time and talents during the week of Family Promise. Many hands prepared meals, stayed overnight, set-up and cleaned-up, transported families, laundered linens, scheduled volunteers and other tasks.

A WYOTECH LUNCHEON is planned for Tuesday, August 11th at 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. The luncheons are an outreach ministry of the Mission Committee and friends.

AN EVENING OF PRAYER & PRAISE will be held at the bandstand Friday, August 14th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Join several of the pastors and praise bands from Blairsville Area churches as we enjoy an evening of music, worship and prayer! Bring a chair and join family and friends. The event is sponsored by the Blairsville Ministerium.

GUEST MUSICIANS are being invited to come and share their talents with us during worship. The schedule to date is listed.

Today Vicky Westley & Amy Yackuboskey
August 9 Angela Lyons
August 16 Jessica Clayton
August 23 Adam Loucks
August 30 Nightengals

Mission Moment – Homelessness / Affordable Housing

Along with clean air, food, and water, shelter is a necessity for survival. Beyond providing protection from the elements, housing provides the stability and safety needed for individuals and families to thrive. Unfortunately, according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, on any given night 610,042 people in the United States experience homelessness. In addition, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, there are 10.16 million extremely low-income renter households that struggle to find affordable rental properties. The shortage of affordable and safe housing is just one example of a structural flaw that traps individuals and families in chronic states of homelessness and housing instability, making it impossible for them to escape the cycle of poverty. Barbara Brooks, whose story is told in the PBS documentary *Waging a Living*, is a single mother living in Freeport, New York. She worked full-time and put herself through college to earn an associate degree. Her new degree and strong work ethic led to a promotion, but the additional income meant she would lose much of her housing subsidy from the government. Despite doing everything right—seeking higher education and working full-time—she was faced with the unthinkable choice of losing her home or furthering her career. Studies and anecdotes show that affordable, stable, safe housing generally means children are healthier and perform better in school, adults are able to find more stable employment, and individuals and families can get out of poverty and lead more fulfilling lives. When it comes to fighting poverty, one of our most fundamental goals must be to ensure that all individuals and families have access to such housing. From policy advocacy at all levels of government to the local and global missions of congregations and presbyteries, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) can work to make safe, affordable housing a reality for everyone.

—Anne Fyffe, summer fellow, PC(USA) Office of Public Witness, 2014

