43rd Annual W. PA United Christian Ashram

 Greetings in the name of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ! We are so glad you are considering attending the Christian Ashram Retreat. If this is your first visit to Jumonville for a Christian Ashram, we trust you have come anticipating the marvelous blessing God is going to pour out this weekend. Although we may be strangers, we hope you feel like family after this retreat experience! If this is a return visit to the Ashram for you, then you know the transformation of life and defined faith that can take place on this mountain! In either case, if there is something you need, please do not hesitate to make your requests known to the Board of the Twelve. It's our honor to accommodate your needs; just ask!

 Registration begins Friday Oct. 13th at 2:30pm, allowing time to settle into rooms and explore the surroundings. Friday dinner is served at 5:30pm with our first meeting of the weekend at 6:30pm. A time of fellowship and an evening walk  to the cross may conclude your evening. Saturday brings teaching, Bible study, group prayer time, and **lots** of food affording numerous possibilities for God to bless your life! Saturday's events lead to a healing prayer service, a heart-touching God-centered worship where you can expect to be in the presence of the Lord. The event concludes Sunday morning with a communion service. Worship service allows each and every one of us to express how God has blessed us throughout the weekend!

What is a Christian Ashram?

 A disciplined Christian experience held in a retreat setting for the purpose of deeper spiritual growth which makes God more real in daily living. It provides a break from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and a move toward the grace and presence of Jesus Christ.

 While the concept of a Christian Ashram was born in the heart of the late Methodist missionary E. Stanley Jones, it was brought to the boundaries of Western PA by Bishop Roy C. Nichols more than a quarter of a century ago. The good bishop saw the Christian Ashram as an instrument for the spiritual renewal of the laity, clergy, and the local church.



**A Little About Jumonville**

**Nestled in the Laurel Highlands Mountains of Southwestern PA, Jumonville is an ideal place for a "mountain top" experience with God! Comfortable dormitory-style lodging and home-cooked meals add to the experience of fabulous fellowship and worship that you will enjoy atop the mountain with its beautiful fall foliage and breathtaking vistas.**

**On campus at Dunbar's Knob stands "The Cross of Christ"- a 60 foot high white steel cross. At the foot of this immense structure, one can see no less than 3 states and seven counties, and even a glimpse of the skyscrapers of Pittsburgh on a clear day.**

**Visit www.jumonville.org for more information**

**(Washington lodge is a handicap accessible facility that will accommodate most needs.)**

**Directions To Jumonville**

**From North:**

**Take I 79 South to PA Turnpike- PA Turnpike to Rt. 119 South (Exit 75, New Stanton)- Rt. 119 South through Connellsville- Continue on Rt. 119 South to Connellsville Rd. Ramp on right - Merge onto Connellsville Rd.- Continue South on Connellsville Rd.- Watch for Jumonville sign on right just past bridge (gas station also on right after bridge) - Turn left onto Jumonville Rd. which will lead to the camp**

**From Pittsburgh/Washington and other points South:**

**Take Route 40 East through Uniontown, PA to the Summit Hotel, then turn left (North) for 3 miles to Jumonville Camp.**



Western PA United Christian Ashram

**October 13-15, 2017**

*Jumonville Camp*

*and Retreat Center*

**887 Jumonville Road**

**Hopwood, PA 15445**

You are invited to spend 36 uninterrupted hours with God

"Upon this mountain I hear Christ Calling...to Me!"

**2017 Ashram Worship Leaders**

**Evangelist.................................N. Sanford Good**

 Dr. Good (Sandy) was born in Lancaster, PA and accepted Christ as his personal Lord and Savior at age 8. After graduating from high school, he attended Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester NY, where he played a lot of soccer and met his wife Diane. After college, they went to Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, IL where he received a Master of Divinity as well as a Master of Theology in missions and evangelism.

 Sandy and Diane spent 6 months in Rhodesia, Africa (now Zimbabwe) and also served as youth directors at a church in PA before going to Lancaster Bible College in Lancaster, PA where they served for 31 years in a variety of different capacities. Most recently, he served as Chair of Intercultural Studies Department and Director of the HIS Ministry Team Program. While at LBC, he earned his Doctor of Ministry degree in missions from Columbia Bible College & Graduate School of Missions in Columbia, SC.

 He and Diane started their own ministry, Live 10:27 Ministries in 2011. This past summer Sandy led his 73rd missions trip, a backpacking trip in Europe with 17 students.

 Sandy and Diane have been married for 42 years, have 3 daughters, 2 son-in-laws, 7 grandchildren and 1 Rottweiler named Rigby.

**Bible Teacher......................R. Wicks Stephens**

 Wicks was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. After attaining a Bachelor of Science Degree from UCLA, he went on to military service, and then law school at Stanford University where he was awarded a J.D. He and his wife Pam met each other while in high school and were married while in college. They have three children, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

 While engaged in the active practice of law in Los Angeles, Wicks and his wife Pam were very active in their church and in missionary outreach through various Christian organizations. In the 1990’s, they enrolled at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California where they pursued their interest in Christian missionary work. In 1998, while still engaged in their respective secular employments, they were each awarded a Masters of Arts Degree in Cross Cultural Studies from Fuller.

 As they discerned that God was calling them into full-time Kingdom work, Wicks and Pam left their secular employments in 2001 and moved to the Pittsburgh area to join the staff of Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. They continue to live and work in the Pittsburgh area as active members of their church and community for the sake of the gospel.

**Worship Musicians.....Dean & Wally Wells**

 Dean and Wally Wells have worked in the music ministry together for more than 20 years. Currently, they serve at Slippery Rock United Methodist Church where they lead the Worship and Arts Ministry. This is the seventh year Dean and Wally will be leading our music and worship times.
      In 1996 they formed *Wundabread Ministries Inc.,* a non-profit Christian organization. Their mission is to "reveal Jesus Christ to the church and the world through the arts". This mission is accomplished through the creation of original music and drama,  musical theater for children and adults, and by encouraging artists in the development of their craft. Their desire is to enable and empower God's people to identify and develop their gifts so they can use them to bless the local church and minister to the world.
     They have two grown children and live in Wintersville, OH with three cats, two dogs, their daughter, son-in-law, and six of their eight grandchildren (just ask and they'll explain). Seven of their grandchildren are boys, who embody "snips and snails and puppy dog tails." BUT - finally - in the summer of 2010, they were blessed with their first and only granddaughter. She is the pink ruffled joy of their lives, made of "sugar and spice and everything nice." Life is never boring in the Wells family and even though there's always a packed house, there is always room for more.

**Church in Action............................Paul Valasek**

 Paul was born in 1951 into a Slovak/Polish family and was raised in a small steel mill town in WPA. Sports were a big part of the area affording him the ability to excel in basketball at the local HS as well as a small liberal arts college in Central PA where he earned a Psychology Degree. After going through some ‘hippie’ stuff and a troubled first marriage, Paul gave his life to the Lord at the age of 31. Since then, he muddled through a divorce, got sober and married his best friend Jan in 1997. Jan was a widow who has 2 adult sons. Together, they have 6 grandkids. Paul retired in 2014 and is now a volunteer with the FCA [Fellowship of Christian Athletes] to help spread the Gospel to high school and college athletes. The Valaseks' home church is Trinity United Methodist Church in their hometown of Brackenridge, PA.

**Lay Witness............................Brandon Berkshire**

 Brandon grew up about 20 minutes south of Jumonville in Smithfield, PA where he attended Fairchance Free Methodist Church. He currently attends a nondenominational church in Uniontown, PA called The Journey. Additionally, Brandon is the drummer in a Christian band called *Still Waters*. This six member band, representing four different churches, has been spreading God's word through music since 2006 and will be releasing their first recorded album this November.

 This year, Brandon completed his 10th year as a high school math teacher. The phrase "They will know we are Christians by our love" has never been more prevalent than the everyday interactions with the students and staff he encounters. Through his work, he is committed to communicating the positive impacts of great student-teacher relationships and the importance of developing intentional efforts to educate the whole student.

 Brandon believes all have a story and God allows us to experience different life events that someday, someone will need to hear that story to better their life.

**Lay Witness.........................Renee Greenleaf**

*Important Items to Bring:*

*Full Sheet, pillow, blankets or sleeping bag, personal toiletries, towels (including bath mat), warm clothing, umbrella or rain gear, your Bible, a notebook or iPad, pen/pencil, a flashlight, cell phone charger, and a willing heart and teachable spirit.*

**Retreat Costs**

See additional sheet for more information!

**Something to Consider**

**If you are unable to come to the Ashram and would like to make it possible for someone who has a financial need attend, consider making a contribution to our scholarship fund. In this contribution, you are helping us make a difference in the lives of God's family.**

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Questions? Email us at:

**wpauc.ashram@gmail.com**