

# THE MESSENGER

Zion Presbyterian Church, Helvetia  
Pickens Presbyterian Church,  
Pickens  
SUMMER 2017

Summer time in Helvetia is the most wonderful experience. The sounds of the birds' chirping each morning in the trees by the bubbling stream, mixed with the smell of freshly cut hay from the fields where the fawns play as their mommas watch from nearby in the warm sunshine of the new day is such a delight. Summer can fill one's senses like no other time. Along with all this beauty, everyone is very busy with the MANY chores of the season. I hope that all of our family and friends out there are enjoying their summer and making many happy memories for days to come.

Many thanks to Howard and Jackie Andrews, Clyde Miles, Henrietta Sanders, and Maxine Lehmann Fiorini, for their generous donations to The Messenger; and to Bill, Hope and Lena Umbright for the postage stamps for mailing. Again, I would like to remind everyone to send articles and news to me **anytime**. I know our readers look forward to you sharing your stories and hearing about the community events. Please email, Facebook message, or use the regular postal service anytime throughout the year to send me information. I usually keep a Messenger going and just add to it. Thank you so much to all who have contributed news and stories. Also, many, many thanks to Bruce Cressler at the Helvetia Public Library for printing the copies of the Messenger each time.

Diane M. Betler  
898 Metzner Hollow Rd.  
Helvetia, WV 26224  
Betlers3@frontier.com

## ZION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Each Sunday morning, the sound of the church bell ringing throughout the village welcomes everyone to Sunday service. Many thanks to Joe McInroy, who continues to make arrangements for supply pastors to preach each week for Sunday service which begins at 10 o'clock.

Everyone who attended bible school this summer had lots of fun participating in the Hero Central theme. The students learned about strength in God by having courage, hope, wisdom, and doing good. Much appreciation to Iris and Doug Davis and to Christy Malcomb for all their help with games, crafts, snacks, and cleanup. Again, many thanks to the Umbright family for donating more wonderful paper towels, cleaning supplies, paper plates,

cups, plastic silverware and much more that was used daily during Bible school.

Iris and Doug continue to have youth group meetings and community projects. Sunday school is being held two Sunday's each month. Everyone is always welcome. Please check the community bulletin board on the store porch to see dates and times.

Throughout the year, many folks donate time towards cleaning inside and out, doing odd jobs, and taking on beautification projects for the church. Many thanks to the Duke family for all their work, and to Nancy Gain for the beautiful flowers throughout the village.

## PICKENS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 156  
PICKENS WV 26230

June 16, 2017

To the family and friends of the Pickens Cemetery Association: we are asking for help with donations for the upkeep of the cemetery.

In past years, we have been able to use the accrued interest from our account plus donations from various individuals to pay for most mowing expenses and other costs as they arise. Also, the people here have donated much of the labor to do general repairs.

We currently have funds to cover the normal maintenance expenses. However, with lower interest rates and the inflation cost of services, we are concerned that in the future our funds will be depleted. This is especially true with the need to seal the driveways, do more extensive fence repairs, remove and trim several trees and in a few years purchase new lawn mowing equipment.

The past yearly expenses for general upkeep and maintenance are as follows: Mowing \$2,500, Gas, oil mowing blades, belts and weed eater string \$450, and garbage bags \$20. We recently paid \$125 to repair the fence and it is in need of more repairs. This total comes to \$3,095 and is just covers the necessary costs and no improvements.

We want to keep the cemetery in good repair for years to come and recognize the need to start addressing some of the bigger issues mentioned above before they become major problems. Therefore, we are asking that you please consider making a cash donation to help us keep the cemetery in fine repair, as we have always done, to honor your family and friends.

You can donate by sending a check to The Pickens Cemetery Association at the address above. Thank you very much for your continued support.

Respectfully,

The Pickens Cemetery Association Board

PS: Your contributions are tax deductible. Also, consider a bequest to the Pickens Cemetery in your estate.

## FOLLOW YOUR BLISS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Follow Your Bliss music festival celebrates its 6th year. With the return of consistent summer weather, Helvetia's

annual music festival brought together another diverse line up of musicians for two wild and wonderful days in the mountains. The annual event, which falls each year on the weekend following Father's Day in June, sets out to remember and celebrate the life of Rogers McAvoy, a longtime resident of the community. Attendees came from as far away as Portland, OR to share in the music and fellowship, to catch up with old friends, and to donate their time and resources to help raise funds for local community projects and Hospice care. With the help of local businesses like Kultur Haus Helvetia, Masterpiece Rentals, and Elkins Distributing, the festival was successful in raising over \$1,100.00 With the help of many volunteers, and of course the magic of the musicians, Helvetia is transformed into a place to visit old friends and meet new ones among the local artists and food vendors and campers who support us each year. It's a place for young and old, those who play, and those who listen. So, please consider joining us if you haven't yet, and, see you all next year to those who have!!! Follow Your Bliss 2018 June 22-24  
Submitted by: Phil McAvoy

### **HELVETIA RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION**

Helvetia Restoration and Development Org. continues to work towards finishing the playground project. The items that we will have are, a half- court basketball playing area, a chess/checker board, and a low level balance beam. Doug Davis is starting to work on repainting/placing the Swiss Canton Shields on the Community Hall and the Red Hall sign. HDRO has decided that they will replace and take care of the "Welcome to Helvetia" signs that seem to be the target vandals. The last remaining one was taken around the time of Fasnacht, and was found in the Tygart Valley River. Thankfully, it was found by a local descendant of Helvetia and returned to us. We are going to replace the sills at the Museum and next year we probably need to replace the shake roof. We may have to do some fund raisers to replace the roof. We have changed our meeting day to the second Thursday of the month starting at 2 pm in the Helvetia Library. Our next event will be the Swiss National Day to be held August 5, 2017 which will most likely occur before this newsletter is published.  
Submitted by: Woody Higginbotham, President

### **KULTUR HAUS HELVETIA**

The annual Open House was held on June 10, 2017 in conjunction with the Helvetia Winemakers Guild. It was a beautiful evening for sharing time with family and friends, eating good food, and listening to local music.

The annual business meeting of Kultur Haus Helvetia was held on June 11, 2017. Throughout the past year many improvements have been made to the community owned business, and plans for more projects are in the making. New balusters were cut and put in place on the accessibility ramp and front porch. The old garage portion of the building was renovated and made rainproof for a better storage area. The old store portion, in the rear of the building, which formally was the main store out by the road, but was moved to the back; has been structurally

secured by replacing the foundation posts and sills. The old store section still needs a new roof, and continued fund raising will be done to finance that part of the project. The plans are to use the back section has a small hardware store area, and also an artifact or farm museum area for tourists to visit. Much appreciation to the many volunteers who continue to donate their time to keep this old community structure as a functioning building in use by the community. Many, many, many thanks to all who have made the vital financial contributions to Kultur Haus Helvetia. This project would never happen without your help.

### **HELVETIA FARM WOMEN**

The Helvetia farm Women were busy in March and April. We helped prepare and get everything ready for the ramp suppers. Then we helped serve and clean up afterwards. Many of us worked both in Helvetia and Pickens.

In May we prepared a delicious meal for the Dare to Be Square group. There were many compliments on Sharon Rollin's recipe for vegetarian chili.

Since then we have had a break from work, but have had two fun meetings. The July meeting was held at Holly River State Park restaurant. The food was delicious.

We are starting to gear-up for the Helvetia Fair in September and other events to follow. Look for us where there is work to be done.

Submitted by: Cecelia Smith, President

### **FROM OUR FRIENDS**

**Norman Wesley Casseday** was born on September 15, 2016, weighing 6lb. 14oz., 21" and is the son Adam and Kadra (Kramer) Casseday.

Baby Norman joins his four-year-old "big" brother, Vernon Roy Casseday. Vernon and Norman Casseday's maternal Grandparents are Harry and Denise (Burky) Kramer, Great-Grandparents are Vernon John Burky and the late Virginia (Fincham) Burky and Helen (Vogel) Kramer and the late Harry H. Kramer. Their paternal Grandparents are Larry and Terry Casseday. Great-Grandparents are Junior Roy and Betty Casseday and the late Kermit "Bounce" and Betty Stuchell

**Bradley Thomas and Julie Stakem** of Frostburg, MD were united in marriage on May 20, 2017 at the Valley Bend Presbyterian Church in East Dailey, WV. Presiding at the ceremony was Dr. John O'Rorke; Cimarron and Adara Thomas – nieces of the groom were flower girls; and Wyatt Dare – nephew of the groom was ring bearer. Following the wedding ceremony a reception was held on the front lawn of the groom's grandmother, Jeanne Williams, in East Dailey, WV. After a honeymoon in Pigeon Forge, TN the couple will reside in Frostburg, MD

**The descendants of Oliver and Myrtle Williams** of the "Welsh Tract" at Fork Ridge on the Randolph/Webster County Line, gathered at the Pavilion in downtown Pickens, WV for their annual family reunion, on Sunday June 18, 2017. Following Decoration at the Pickens

Cemetery they meet at noon to enjoy delicious potluck meal followed by an auction and lots of visiting. Present were: Jeanne Williams, Steve and Arlene Williams of East Dailey, WV; Connie Shaw of Silver Spring, MD; Louise Nichols of Mannington, WV; Bette Ruth Baughman of Clarksburg, WV; Lois Martin, Tammy Anderson, Coy Anderson, Desirae Cochran, Cory and Tina Cochran, Katelyn Cochran and Kassie Cochran, Chuck and Donna Cochran of Webster Springs, WV; Clinton and Lisa Cochran, Kennedy Cochran and Carson Cochran of Clifton, WV; and Lori Lynch of Green Sulpher Springs, WV.

## **OBITUARIES**

**Paul Junior Williams, "Little Paul,"** 66, of Buckhannon, died Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017 at his home. He was born Feb. 4, 1950 in Pickens, a son of the late James and Eula Chidester Williams. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by three brothers, Bud, Ralph and Cecil Williams and one sister, Virginia Sears. He is survived by one son, Brian Williams and wife Libby, of Buckhannon; one daughter, Paula Johnson of Belington; four grandsons, Jeremy Jones and wife Amber, of Buckhannon, Ryan Brooks, of Belington, and Alex and Austin Williams, both of Buckhannon; one great-grandson, Jeremiah Jones of Buckhannon; two brothers, Bob Williams and wife Mary of Adrian, and Herb Williams and wife Jean of Grafton; three sisters, Kathy Eskew and husband Judd, of French Creek, JoAnn Casto and husband Mike, of Tallmansville, and Ruby Jane Williams, of Grafton, and several nieces and nephews. Friends were received Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017 from 11 a.m. until noon at the Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home. A funeral service was held at noon Tuesday at the funeral home with Pastor David Jessie officiating. Burial followed in the Buckwheat Cemetery in Pickens, W.Va.

**Billiejo Tenney,** age 43, of French Creek, the Brooks Hill Community, died Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. She was born April 9, 1973, in Erie, PA, a daughter of the late Roger Lee Silman. She is survived by her mother, Sharon Lee Herring Robinson and stepfather James Robinson of Philippi. She was united in marriage on December 14, 1991, to Allen F. Tenney, II, who survives. She is also survived by three brothers: Carl F. Bierig and Scott Allen Bierig, both of Ohio, and Roger Lee Silman, Jr. of Erie, PA; two sisters: Tiffany Cutlip of Philippi and Barbara Howard of North Carolina; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by one sister Pamela Ann Silman. Billiejo was a Christian by faith. Friends were received at the Heavner and Cutright Funeral Chapel on Saturday, February 25, 2017, from 10-11:00 AM, the funeral hour, with Rev. Mark Davis officiating. Interment followed in the Brooks Hill Cemetery

**Richard Lynn Wagner,** age 62, of Buckhannon, WV, died Monday, March 27, 2017, in the United Hospital Center in Bridgeport, WV. He was born March 23, 1955 in Buckhannon, a son of Shirley Mae Dulaney Wagner of High Point, NC and the late Billy Junior Wagner. On

November 6, 1982, he married Vanessa Kim Burgess who survives. In addition to his mother and wife he is survived by one son, Kenneth Neil Wagner of Buckhannon; one daughter, Lindsey Gail Wagner of Norlina, NC; one granddaughter, Melody Paige Kessler of Norlina; one brother, Daniel Wagner of High Point; three sisters, Teresa Borcheck and husband Michael of Maitland, FL, Lorna Johnson and husband Robin of Eustis, FL and Donna Woods of High Point; sister in law, Vicky Hauri and husband Edward of Springville, NY; special cousins, Frank and Terry Dulaney both of Jamestown, NY; several other special cousins, nieces and nephews; special friend, Diana Brookes of Jamestown; special aunt, Rosalie Lewis of Ravenswood, WV and special uncle, Maynard Wagner of Jamestown. In addition to his father he was preceded in death by his father in law and mother in law, Kenneth and Janet Roberts Burgess. Rick graduated in 1973 from Fillmore Central School in Fillmore, NY where he played varsity baseball, basketball and soccer. He attended Houghton College in Houghton, NY. He then moved back to Buckhannon, to be a maintenance supervisor at Ev Un Breth Acres for the United Methodist Youth Camp and to be with his family. He started his own business of Skylite Sattelite Systems which was the first business of its kind in WV. Rick enjoyed spending time with his family, friends, hunting and fishing. He was a member of the Flat Rock Hunting Club. Rick was instrumental in helping construct the Little League Baseball/Softball fields in Tennerton. He and his wife were members of the LL Board of Directors and Rick was active in mentoring kids and coaching baseball for 8 years. He was passionate about music, going to concerts with his family and being outdoors. He collected and restored American muscle cars. He fulfilled his dream of exploring to Alaska and spending time with his 14 month old granddaughter Melody Paige. Friends were received Wednesday, March 29, 2017 f at the Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held 11 AM Thursday at the funeral home with the Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Shreve officiating. Burial followed in the Mt. Zion Church Cemetery in Hodgesville, WV.

**Marv Ann McIe,** 71, of Cutright Chapel, passed away Wednesday, March 29, 2017 in the Crestview Manor at Jane Lew, WV. Born April 1, 1945 in Selbyville, WV, she was the daughter of the late Allen Ralph and Oleta E. Zickefoose Collins. On July 21, 1966 she married Russell William McIe, who preceded her in death on January 26, 2016. She is also preceded in death by a daughter, Brenda Sue McIe; one brother, Larry Collins. Mary loved being outside sitting on her front porch in the sun; she enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren. Survivors include her three sons, Thomas McIe of Cutright Chapel, Marvin McIe of Buckhannon, WV, and Roger McIe of Weston, WV; six daughters, Marylou Spencer and husband Danny, Lena Small and husband Harry, Janet McIe and boyfriend Robert Oliver, Loretta McIe and boyfriend Terry White, Patty Ware and husband David, and Connie Sipe and husband Paul all of Buckhannon, WV; four brothers, Ralph Collins, Orville Collins and wife Karen all of Selbyville, WV, James Collins and wife Melanie of Buckhannon, WV, and Michael Collins of Alexander, WV; Four sisters, Linda McIe, Betty Collins

both of Selbyville, WV, Barbara McIe of Buckhannon, and Susie Cobb of Fairmont, WV; eleven grandchildren, two grandson's whom she raised Mikey McIe and his wife Cathy, and Sam McIe and his wife Rachel of Charleston, WV; four great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 1, 2017, in the Tomblyn-Clutter Funeral & Cremation Chapel with Rev. William Kerns officiating. Interment followed in the Pickens Cemetery. Special thanks to all the staff and caregivers at Crestview Manor for the care they provided Mary over the past few months.

**SGM-Ret. Kermit Edgar "Jack" Fincham Sr.**, 84, a resident of Mill Creek, passed from this life Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg.

Jack was born Friday, August 19, 1932 in Adolph, a son of the late John Goldie Fincham and Ethel Gay Salisbury Fincham. On March 29, 1958, he married the former Mary "Ski" Armstrong, who survives in Mill Creek.

Also left to cherish Jack's memory are three children, Kermit "Bingo" Fincham Jr. and wife, Cathy of Winfield, Teresa "Kitty" Konesky and husband, Alex of Natrona Heights, PA, and Angie "Twinkles" McCauley and husband, Don of Huttonsville, three siblings, Jerry Fincham, Thelma Lanehart, and Bonnie Jett, seven grandchildren, Jeremy McCauley, Miranda Conard, Amanda Fincham, Ashley Nease, Jace McCauley, Brandon Konesky, and Jenna Konesky, three great grandchildren, Brionna McCauley, Athena McCauley, and Sadie Conard, and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding Jack in death were eight siblings, Luther, Roy, Andrew, Lloyd, Goldie, Ruby, Opal, and an infant sister. Jack attended the schools of Randolph County and had retired from the United States Army with twenty-three years of service having served two tours of duty in Vietnam and receiving numerous medals including The Bronze Star (Third Oak Leaf Cluster), The Army Commendation Medal (Second Oak Leaf Cluster), The Meritorious Service Medal, and others. After his Army Service, he excelled in various undertakings including work as a mine superintendent, and along with his wife were the owners and operators of J&S Gulf Service Stations in Huttonsville and Dailey. Lastly he opened Tygart Valley Plasticrafts which he operated until his retirement. With his wife at his side, Jack was an active participant in and coaching various sports. He had been an avid fast-pitch softball player and pitcher in his younger years, and followed that by coaching baseball at the Little League and Teener League levels, where he was able to serve as coach and mentor to his son. He loved spending time with all of his family and took pride in his son and daughters. He loved family get-togethers and during these proudly served as the family "Grill Master". He was meticulous with his yard care duties and maintaining all of his equipment from weed-eaters to his trucks and cars. He was a truly exceptional provider for his wife, with whom he recently celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. He accompanied her on adventurous trips, including to Las Vegas to renew their wedding vows of 47 years, and cruises to Alaska and Bermuda. He was a member of the Mill Creek United Methodist Church, was a

Christian by faith and has moved on to where he is now walking on the streets of gold and eating from the tree of life. A special "Thank You" to Jack's long-time fellow Army friend of State College, PA, Joseph Dilkes for his continued post-service friendship and concern, and to a special neighbor, Hollis "Preach" Farrar for the help and blessings that he provided during Jack's illness. Visitation was held at the Randolph Funeral Home Monday, April 10, 2017. Rev. Bonnie Starkey officiated and interment followed in American Legion's Little Arlington Cemetery in Cravensdale where members of the H.W. Daniels Post #29, American Legion, the Tygart Valley Post #3647, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and WV Honor Guard conducted full military honors.

**Lena Marie Sneberger**, 86, of the Czar Community, died Wednesday, May 10, 2017, at the Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. She was born on April 9, 1931, in Czar, W.Va., a daughter of the late Clark and Delia Ellen Cutright Smith. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by Anton Sneberger; one sister Doris Virginia Morgan; maternal grandparents: Joseph Dexter and Mary Jane Tenney Cutright; and paternal grandparents: William "Bill" and Electa Cutright Smith. She is survived by two daughters: Doris Diane Dulaney and husband Chuck of Helvetia and Christine Long and husband Randy of Mill Creek; one granddaughter Tiffany McCauley; one step granddaughter Morgan Long; one brother James Smith and wife Vada of Helvetia; several nieces and nephews; and her three beloved cats: Blackie, Angel and Inky. Lena was an avid quilter and seamstress and enjoyed researching family histories and genealogy. A graveside service was held on Monday, May 15, 2017, at the Pine Grove Cemetery at Czar, with the Rev. Randy Long officiating.

**Dana Ressie Cogar**, 69 of Webster Springs passed away on Friday, May 12, 2017 at Louis A. Johnson Medical Center in Clarksburg. He was born April 07, 1948 in Webster Springs to Lonnie and Rhoda McCoy Cogar and was a lifelong resident of Webster County. Dana attended the United States Army Intelligence School in Fort Holabird, MD where he became an Intelligent Analyst for the Military. He served two terms in the United States Army during the Vietnam Era of 1968 and 1969, receiving the bronze star. He was a member of the American Legion and a 1967 graduate of Webster Springs High School.

Dana is survived by his wife Doris L. Lewis Cogar; daughter "Jan" Jenette Lee (husband Jay) Johnston; grandchildren Sabrena Mathes, Jacob Malcomb, Cody Johnston and Bethany Johnston; great-grandchildren Braydon Malcomb, Rayna Malcomb, Jace Mathes, Bentley Johnston, and number five on the way; brother Bob (wife Maria) Cogar; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Rosalee (husband Clifford) Baughman, and brother-in-law Joseph Armentrout.

Friends joined the family for Graveside Services on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 1:00 PM at IOOF K of P Cemetery in Pickens with Rev. Curt Davis officiating.

**Daisy Virginia McClure Helmick**, 89, passed peacefully Friday, May 26, 2017 at Elkins Rehabilitation and Care Center following a difficult battle with pneumonia complications. She was surrounded by family and under the care of West Virginia Hospice.

Daisy was born Tuesday, April 24, 1928 in Helvetia, a daughter of the late Wade Hampton McClure and Daisy Mae Langdon McClure.

Left to cherish her memory are nine children, Wanda Smith and husband Woody of Valley Head, Connie Pratt and husband Robert Sr of Elkins, Norma Daniels and husband Rev. Lonnie Daniels Jr. of Huttonsville, Willard Arbogast and wife Shirley of Elkins, Kenny Arbogast and wife Debbie of Valley Bend, Ronnie Arbogast of Montrose, Glen Arbogast of Davis, Kevin Arbogast and wife Becky of St. George and Fred Bennett of Harman, twenty eight grandchildren, forty one great grandchildren, thirteen great great grandchildren and one sister, May Warner of Cleveland, OH.

Preceding Daisy in death besides her parents were nine siblings, Myrtle Cutright, Nora McClure, Mary Foster, Gracie Sanders, Coy, Fred, Edward, Frankie and Hessie McClure and three spouses Dempsey Arbogast, Guy Bennett and Dave Helmick.

Daisy was a lifelong homemaker and beloved mother and grandmother. Daisy was a storyteller, a harmonica player, and all around fun lady. She liked to cut up, tell jokes and have fun. Daisy enjoyed playing Rummy and Yahtzee for hours. She was known and loved by many people all over the area as Miss Daisy. If you were lucky enough to know her, you knew she loved you. Daisy was Pentecostal by faith and a devoted follower of Christ. She loved the Lord, His Word, and His people.

Visitation was held at the Randolph Funeral Home Tuesday, May 30, 2017 Rev. Rick Cooper and Rev. Lonnie Daniels Jr. officiated and interment followed in Mountain State Memorial Gardens in Elkins.

**Steven Gerald Carpenter**, age 65, of the Etna Community, French Creek, died Tuesday, May 30, 2017, at his home. He was born on September 8, 1951, in Upshur County, a son of Gerald O. Carpenter and stepmother Velta B. Carpenter of Buckhannon and the late Mildred Reeder Carpenter. On July 31, 1971, he was united in marriage to Marilyn S. Bunner Carpenter who survives. Also surviving are two sons: Travis Carpenter and wife Cristy of French Creek and Dustin Carpenter and wife Kay of French Creek; three grandchildren: Brady Hurst, Kyle Carpenter, and Breanna Carpenter; one aunt Shirley Reeder; many caring, loving in-laws; and countless nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. In addition to his mother, he was also preceded in death by one stepbrother Kenny Ervin; two uncles: Rex Reeder and Dean Byrd; and one aunt Kathleen Reeder Byrd.

Steve will long be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He was retired after 32 years of service as a gas well tender, was a lifetime member of the NRA, and loved to hunt. Chevy muscle cars were a favorite point of discussion with friends and family alike. He attended the Pleasant Dale Community Church.

The family received friends on Friday, June 2, 2017, from 4-8:00 PM, at the Heavner and Cutright Funeral Chapel.

The funeral was held on Saturday, June 3, 2017, at 10:00 AM, at the funeral chapel, with the Rev. Robert F. Heavner officiating. Interment followed in the Pleasant Dale Cemetery.

**William C. Eskew, Jr.**, 83, of Buckhannon, WV, went to be with his Lord and Savior Thursday, June 29, 2017 surrounded by his loving family following an extended illness. Born June 24, 1934 in Newlonton, WV, he was the son of the late Clark W. and Grace Geyer Eskew. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Anne Pringle and her husband, Charles. William whom was best known as "Bill" entered into ministry in June 1964, and faithfully served the United Methodist Church until his health began to fail. He was a Godly loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Survivors include his loving wife of 63 years, Lena Compton Eskew; two sons, Mark Eskew and wife Melanie, Kirby Eskew and wife Glenda all of Buckhannon, WV; three granddaughters, Amanda Snyder and husband Bryan of Buckhannon, WV, Brenda Everett of Morgantown, WV, Breanna Crede and husband Billy of Charleston, WV; one great granddaughter, Taegen Everett at home; one brother, Franklin Eskew and wife Charlotte of French Creek, WV; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, July 2, 2017 at the Tomblyn-Clutter Funeral & Cremation 21 Elnora Circle Buckhannon, WV with his loving son, Mark Eskew officiating. Interment followed in the Pleasant Dale Cemetery at Selbyville.

**William L. "Willie" Griffith, Sr.**, 84, of Denton, MD, died Tuesday, July 4, 2017, at the Compass Regional Hospice in Centreville, MD. He was a US Army veteran and did machinery repairs for many in his community. He was a father of eight and had several grandchildren. His wife, Catherine G. Griffith, died January 6, 2016. A chapel memorial service was held at 10 AM on Thursday, July 13th, at the Crownsville MD Veterans Cemetery located at 1080 Sunrise Beach Road, Crownsville, MD 21032.

**Jeff and Sandy Casto McDowell**, along with their family, would like to express their appreciation for the prayers from the communities of Pickens and Helvetia in the loss of their daughter **Lori Virginia McDowell**.

**James (Dolan) Lewis**, age 96, of Salem, and formerly of Selbyville, died Monday, July 31, 2017, at the River Oaks Nursing Home in Clarksburg. He was born on August 3, 1920, in Randolph County, a son of the late Sheridan Greenbrier and Connie Beulah Crites Lewis. On September 1, 1996, he was united in marriage to Veta M. Flanigan Balis Lewis, who survives. Also surviving are one daughter Connie and husband Kerry Crosby of Buckhannon; one step daughter Mary and husband Richard Earl of Tennessee; one stepson Edwin Balis and wife Garnett of Salem; three grandchildren: James Card and wife Sarah of Downingtown, PA, Wendy Dugas of Morgantown, WV and Dori and husband Rob Filippi of Frankfort, IL; one great granddaughter Sheridan Card of Downingtown; and one sister Hilda Long of Buckhannon. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother Denver

Lewis.

Mr. Lewis was a graduate of Pickens High School and entered a career in the U.S. Air Force which spanned 31 years, throughout WWII, and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He was a member of the American Legion and VFW, the CCC, the Beech Mountain Sportsmen's Club, and the Newlon United Methodist Church, where he was an avid churchgoer. He will long and lovingly be remembered as a cheerful, giving man, and a "people person" whose story- and joke-telling abilities were unmatched, and whose beautiful voice brought a blessing to many people who benefited from his love of singing.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, August 3, 2017, from 5-7:00 PM, at the Heavner and Cutright Funeral Chapel. The funeral will be held on Friday, August 4, 2017, at 11:00 AM, at the funeral chapel with Pastor Edwin Balis officiating. Interment will follow in the Pleasant Dale Cemetery where the Upshur County Honor Guard will conduct military rites.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

August 5, 2017----Swiss National Holiday

September 9 & 10, 2017----Helvetia Fair, 100 Year Celebration

October 21, 2017----Helvetia Day

November 5, 2017----Helvetia Town Meeting, Community Hall 2:00 PM

November 23, 2017----Thanksgiving Dinner, Helvetia Community Hall