

The Shepherd's Voice

The Weekly Church Newsletter of

Shepherdstown United Methodist Church

1934 South York Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-5102

Church Office Hours (Mon. – Fri. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

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April 28, 2019

CONFIRMATION:

THE BEGINNING NOT THE END

Confirmation sometimes looks a lot like life graduation. After completing classes those in the group invite family and friends to join them. They are brought up front and we say some words after which they are presented with a Certificate of Membership much like a graduation ceremony. Grads take off and never look back. That's mostly the way it should be with grads, but with confirmands, it really is the beginning of something not the end.

For the group of youth today, it is the beginning of making adult decisions. Many of those decisions will not be their choice for years yet but this is their time when they are making an independent decision to follow Jesus as Lord.

Most everyone in the church today made that same decision. For some it is recent. For others, it is decades past, but for each, those joining today and those who did it years ago; it is an individual and independent choice to follow Jesus on the adventure of a lifetime.

In Christ service, Dennis L. Otto, pastor

STAFFED TO SERVE

Pastor	Rev. Dr . Dennis L. Otto
Directors of Children’s Ministries	Janice Deveney Charlene Kapp
Director of Youth Ministries	Shawn Gray
Organists	Cathy Fauber (8:15) Mindy Martz (10:45)
Hand Bell Choir Director	Rita Spicher
Junior Choir Director	Periann Smith
Chancel Choir Director	Mindy Martz
Kitchen Coordinator	Jeanie Hershey
Administrative Assistant	Debra Buterbaugh
Custodian	Jeffery Forester

SICK OR RECUPERATING AT HOME THIS WEEK

Paul Klase, Tom Walker, Cathy Hought, Phyllis Dromgold, Dolores Walker, Michele Kreitman,

TODAY’S CONFIRMANDS

**Everett Roland Blakesley
Ryan Douglas Lauver
Reghan Alexandra Little
Avery Susan McAllister
Gracen Marie Nutt
Colin Samuel Snyder
Tyler Robert Weicht**

PARENTS

Stu and Andrea Blakesley
Doug and Michelle Lauver
Angela Ross
Clay and Alexis McAllister
Kevin and Ruth Nutt
John and Stephanie Snyder
Jack and Lori Weicht

CONGREGATIONAL MEAL CELEBRATING CONFIRMANDS TODAY, APRIL 28, 2019

Catch the spirit, come in fellowship together and welcome the newest members of Shepherdstown UMC at a celebration dinner following the 10:45 service today. Bring your appetites for BBQ and/or Italian chicken tenders, au gratin potatoes, veggies, apple sauce, and salad with a special cake to celebrate with the Confirmands! There is no cost but a basket will be available for donations. Reservations are not required, so we hope to see you all there!

OUR CONDOLENCES: Our Community of Faith mourns with the family and friends of **Susan P. Wagner**, who entered the Church Triumphant on April 25, 2019. Funeral/Memorial Service arrangements had not been completed at time of print. During this time of grief, we remember the sure hope we have as Christians: "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life". (Revelation 2:10, NRSV)



**Called Home
to Heaven**

A NEW MINISTRY PLANNED AT SUMC: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." In response to this teaching of Jesus, a new ministry, **Partners in Care**, is to be put in place. It will be dedicated to sharing the love of Christ with our members who have limited mobility. As we age we experience a loss of control, mobility, and friends. Partners in Care will provide visits and a caring relationship to those who are unable to attend church but will benefit from the care and support of their church family. As a member of this ministry you will be paired with a home bound member as a visitor and friend. Your visits will be a welcome respite in a home bound member's life! If you are interested in bringing joy and encouragement to our aging brothers and sisters in Christ, please contact the church office. **Also, you're invited to attend a brief information meeting where you can get more details on Monday, May 6 at 7:00 pm in the Life Center.**

NOTE OF THANKS: Thanks to everyone for your kindness and concern during my recent medical treatment. It was a comfort to know that I was in your thoughts and prayers. **Marie Scott**

Keep in touch!



Like and Follow Us!

Are you a facebook user? Do you want to stay up to date with any events and posts from Shepherdstown? Like our page!

Search for Shepherdstown United Methodist Church on facebook and click on the Like option under the church photo. You can also reach this page from the church website home page. By liking the page, you will automatically be set up to *follow* the page and any updates to the church website will appear in your feed notifying you immediately. This is different than just liking an event or a post that you happen to see (but that is good too!) We hope you take a moment to like our page and our events and positive reviews are welcome too!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

The following lists the numerous current adult Sunday School class opportunities here at Shepherdstown UMC. The classes begin at 9:30 and are located in various classrooms throughout the church. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Please see an information desk volunteer in the Lobby on Sunday mornings if you need directions to find a specific classroom.

The Elective Class, which meets downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, will be finishing a Lenten study on April 28th. We will then be starting on May 5th, a series called Grace, More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine by Max Lucado. It will cover 10 Chapters with 6 videos. Please join us if you desire to learn more about God's wonderful Grace.

The LIFE Class meets in Classroom 9, the LIFE Class currently finishing study on Revelations, and will be following up with a review and discussion of the "Left Behind" movies, and discussions tied directly to current events throughout the summer. We will be assisting with preparations for VBS as it approaches. We welcome anyone who would like to join the discussion.

The Helping Hand Class which meets in Classroom 11, continues to use the International Lessons series, newcomers are welcome.

The Bible Explorers, is taught by Pastor Otto. They meet in the Fellowship near the kitchen.

MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS

- April 28Bingman Scholarship Fund
- May 5Cup of Water Fund
- May 12Benevolent Homes
- May 19Peace With Justice

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

- April 28Helping Hand Class
- May 5Elective Class
- May 12Bible Explorers
- May 19LIFE Class

BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND

- April 28The Blaksley family
- May 5Volunteer Needed
- May 12Volunteer Needed
- May 19Volunteer Needed

GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE: Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,146,475.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$57,323.75. Purchase your cards immediately following the worship service or on weekdays from 10 am – 12 pm in the church office.

GATHERING GROUND “Come Early – Stay Late”: Don’t forget to join us Sundays between the 8:15 service and Sunday School for a time of fellowship and light refreshment at Gathering Ground located in the Life Center.

LAST WEEK’S ATTENDANCE

- Sunrise Service - 80
- Early Worship at 8:15 - 122
- Late Morning Worship at 10:45 – 259
- Sunday School – 67
- Membership – 509

Our Financial Support of Christ's Ministry

Through Shepherdstown Church:

Beginning January 1, 2019

Last Sunday	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	+ or (-)
\$11,017	\$167,605	\$155,938	\$11,667

New Hope Ministries Mission Basket- \$616.18

Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses

Current Balance - \$35,731.31

SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOX DONATIONS: As in previous years the Elective Class will publish the suggested items for donation each month. These items can then be placed in the box at the poster board informational display in the Lobby. Items for the month of May will be ***small etch a sketch, games, puzzles, peg games, flashlights & batteries, playing cards***. Just as a reminder the age categories are 2-4, 5-9, 10-14 for both sexes. Thanks for your help in this endeavor.

GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE: Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,147,725.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$57,386.25. Purchase your cards immediately following the worship service or on weekdays from 10 am – 12 pm in the church office.

TODAY'S MISSION BASKET: The Stewart and Mary Bingman Scholarship Fund at SUMC is established for those pursuing a career in Ordained Ministry or in the education field.

CHURCH FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Patricia McGuire
Tuesday	Bonnie Shields-Mehls
Wednesday	Kelton Mehls
Thursday	Linnea Mehls
Friday	Paul and Joyce Shoemaker-Melhorn
Saturday	Janet Michael

SPECIAL DAYS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH THIS WEEK

(*child; **youth; ***adult; A=Anniversary; SI=shut-in; CS=College Student;
MI=Missionary)

[All Mechanicsburg 17055 addresses, unless otherwise noted.]

APRIL

- *** 28 Cathy Crownover,
- A 28 Paul and Kathy Ries,
- A 28 Craig and Joni Warner,
- *** 28 Ken Love
- *** 29 Jen Patterson
- *** 29 Sue Reday
- *** 30 Corbin Trimmer
- *** 30 Kyra Malnick
- * 30 Shaun Evans,

MAY

- A 1 Michael & Dixie Trinen
- A 2 Bill and Jill Evans
- *** 2 Sarah Crone,
- *** 2 Lucas Squire,
- A 3 Jeff and Ashley Carr,
- *** 4 Yana Dilman
- A 5 Doug and Michelle Lauver,
- *** 5 Milt Loyer,
- *** 5 Jim Tewell,
- *** 5 Linda Myers,
- A 5 Lester and Eleanor Weber,

BEREAVEMENT RESOURCES PROVIDED AT SUMC: The Cultivate and Nurture Team provides a resource for those who have lost a loved one. It is a set of four booklets in the series *Journeying through Grief* that will be sent over an 11 month period following the death. If you have suffered a loss and feel these booklets would help your journey through grief, please contact the church office.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: SHEPHERDSTOWN, join the nation this Thursday, May 2nd as we pray for our country. You are welcome to come to the church (between 10:00A and 2:00P) to pray... in the sanctuary...or feel free to pray from home, work or school. God has given us prayer as the vehicle to use to communicate with Him. Let's USE IT to lift our concerns, our praises, our hearts. Let's fill the heavens with our prayers for our country, for our world. There are prayer points included on the flyer in today's newsletter. We will also leave copies of the same guide on the front pews on Thursday to help guide you. SUMC Prayer Team

FIRST QUARTER 2019 GIVING STATEMENTS AVAILABLE IN LOBBY: You can save the church postage today by stopping for a moment in the Lobby and picking up your first quarter 2019 giving statement. Statements are visibly marked and sorted in alphabetical order by last name. ***Also, please remember to pick up the statement for your church member child, college student, adult child living at home or shut in parent.*** All statements that are not picked up today will be mailed this week. Thank you!

SUMC YARD SALE AND BAKE SALE. Saturday, May 18 from 7 am – 1 pm. A display board indicating how SUMC members can assist with set up, donating baked goods, sodas, hot dogs and rolls and bagged snacks is located in the lobby. Space rental information can be found on the lobby bulletin board and the side entrance bulletin board. Space rental is \$10.00 for a parking space size. For additional information, contact the church office.



JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM

I'm sitting in my kitchen staring at my plant table. I have two poinsettias that are still blooming from December. Isn't it funny how some years they drop all their leaves/blooms so early and the next year they stay into Spring. Poinsettias are perennial flowering shrubs that came from Mexico and can grow to 10-15 feet. They were once considered weeds. We associate poinsettias with Christmas but in Spain they are known as "Flor de Pascua" or Easter flower. There are about 100 varieties and over 70% of them come from a ranch in California for the US Christmas holidays. What gives them their staying power and others not? Is it our home temperatures or how we water them? Does keeping them in darkness add to their life span? Knowing as much about them as possible helps us take care of them. Doesn't God use that same kind of knowledge in regards to us also? He knows everything about us. He knows what we need and what we should stay away from. He understands our emotions and our anxieties. He uses our circumstances to grow us and pull us to Him. He knows what will make us thrive. What we need to do is allow Him to work within us. Have you thought about giving Him quiet time to share his plan with you? Have you been praying and reading his word? Just like my poinsettias this year, you too can have staying power when you are undergirded by faith and hope and love.

Father in Heaven, you are my gardener. You are who prunes me and shapes me and encourages me to grow. Help me to lift my face to your son. Keep me planted in your word and encouraged by the Holy Spirit. Share with me what will give me staying power that I might bloom for you! I pray this in your son's name. Amen.

Prayer Team is the third Monday of the month at 12:30P in the Parlor.

Deb Kenes

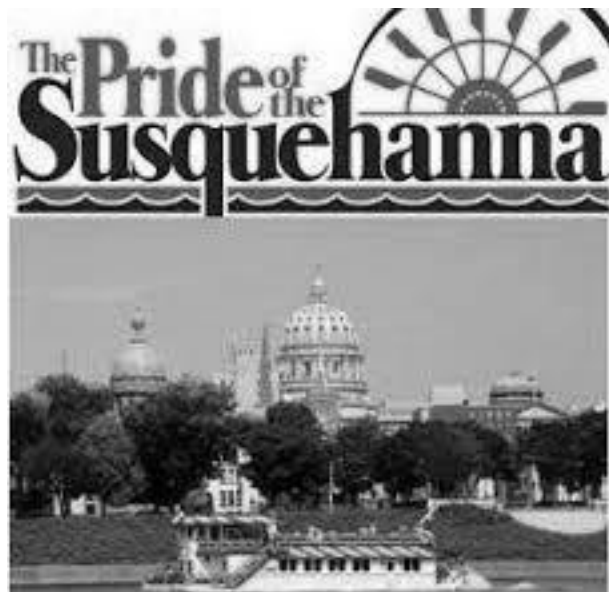
***PRIDE OF THE SUSQUEHANNA CRUISE
PLANNED!***

Meet us on City Island on May 19th at 1:20 to embark on a 45 minute voyage on the Susquehanna River. The Pride will leave promptly at 1:30 pm.

Registration is needed and to encourage that, we are charging \$1 per person to ensure we have contact information and space for all who plan to come. Any money collected will go towards Shoebox Ministry Mailings. There are river conditions where the cruise could need to be cancelled for safety reasons. The riverboat holds 110 people. 80 spots are covered in case of inclement weather.

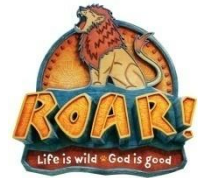
We'd love to fill the boat – bring friends and neighbors! Sign up online or in the lobby between worship services. *See any Cultivate and Nurture Member with questions.*

FOOD PANTRY FOR NEW HOPE MINISTRIES: This month's Food Pantry Collection is for New Hope Ministries. The following staple items are currently needed: **Canned chicken, tuna or beef stew, canned vegetables, fruit or soup, peanut butter. Laundry detergent, shampoo, toilet paper.** These items may be brought to the Food Pantry table in the Lobby. **Please keep in mind, any opened containers or expired items cannot be used.**





“THE FLOCK” Children’s Ministries
Janice Deveney and Charlene Kapp
 (Directors of Children’s Ministries)



E-mail: childrens.sumc@comcast.net



LITTLE LAMBS NURSERY
 9:30AM Sunday School
8:15 & 10:45AM Worship



LIFETIME(Sunday School) FOR KIDS

9:30-10:30AM for Age 3 – 5th Grade



Today(4/28/19)- Apostles Defend Their Faith (Acts 5:12-42)



Today is Family Sunday! There there will be Children’s Church for ages 3yrs.-5yrs. ONLY. These kids will be dismissed after the Children’s sermon in the 10:45am service. Please fill out a **GREEN Children’s Church consent card** found in the pew. Elementary kids will worship with their families today.



JR CHOIR NEWS...

1. 4/28- Practice 8:45am-9:25am
2. 4/28- Singing in the 10:45am service.
3. 5/5, 5/12, 5/19- Practice 9:00am- 9:25am
4. 5/19- last practice, and Singing in 10:45am service

FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:

Love God, Love Others, Serve All!

1. 4/28- VBS Decorating/Prep-6pm (Note time change)
2. 5/10- Kids Club- Making Muffins for Moms- come and help make the muffins we’ll use the Muffins for Moms event. Signup today!
3. 5/19- Muffins for Mom/Grandmoms(those important women in your life). Please see the signups sheet outside Children Center or Lobby
- 4.5/19- Pride of the Susquehanna Boat ride- All from church and community are invited. So, please bring a friend. Signup required.

VBS 2019- June 23rd-27th

6pm-8:30pm

Now that spring has sprung, and you begin to think about warmer weather, please consider volunteering during our week of VBS. There are so many opportunities for people of **ALL** ages to get involved. We are always thankful for the outpouring of monetary and material donations, however, we need **YOUR TIME** just as much! As we try to organize all the details necessary to make this another successful outreach to our community, we cannot make it happen without your help. Below are descriptions of areas where we need volunteers to signup and help assist with the kids involved:

1. Preschool Bible Adventures Leader- volunteer will teach the bible story of the day to a group of about 10 kids at a time, with 3 different rotations during the evening. Each rotation is about 20 minutes in length. All material needed (scripted lesson and supplies) is provided for this area .

2. Elementary Games Leader-volunteer will engage the kids in fun games through the evening. There will be 4 rotations throughout the night, and each one lasting about 20 minutes. There is a lesson book provided that gives suggestions for games, and all material will be provided. This leader will have the help of 4 Crew Leaders and numerous youth each rotation.



3. Preschool and Elementary Crew Leaders- volunteer walks a group of kids around from station to station. There is NO TEACHING involved. **We are in need of 4 more Preschool Crew leaders, and 10 more Elementary Crew leaders.**

4. Preschool and Elementary Helpers- volunteer assists the leader position above.

5. Registration table helpers- volunteer helps sign kids in for the evening, and hand out info to parents.

**Check out the VBS Volunteer Board located in the Lobby today,
and signup where you can help!**



Any more questions? See Charlene  nice or email us at childrens.sumc@comcast.net or 766-  for more information.

****Also, there are numerous small projects that we could use assistance with in completing. For now, there are posters that need to be cut and taped together. If anyone is interested in helping with this, please come down to the Children's Center and sign out a "Take Home" envelope that has the project in it. Simply take the envelope home, assemble the poster in your free time, and then return back to church. Thank you!**



April 28, 2019
"Fusion" Youth Ministries
Shawn Gray - Director
youth@shepherdstownumc.org / 570-460-8132

Tonight we are going to discuss the meaning of Easter. The past couple weeks we have been preparing for the Sunrise Service and playing miniature golf. Tonight will be when we really try to understand and appreciate what it meant for Christ to die for us and rise for us. We are also going to get the volleyball court up and running and play some Nukem and Volleyball.

Fusion

The week for the upcoming Mission Trip to Gary West Virginia are June 16 – 21. Mark your calendars. We are also in charge of Kids Club this year. An informational meeting for the Mission Trip will be Today April 28 at 5:30pm. We will go over the trip details and have a time for questions.

Upcoming Dates/Events:

April 28 – Fusion
April 28– Mission Trip Meeting 5:30pm
May 5 – Fusion
May 12 – No Fusion (Happy Mothers Day)
May 19 - Fusion