

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. 8:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m.)
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November 19, 2017

Good Morning Everyone!

Without doubt one of the foundational themes running through the Bible is God blesses to be a blessing. From the call and blessing of Abraham to the crowning completion of blessing in Revelation, God's people are blessed – to be a blessing. Pondering this over the last few weeks, I came across these words penned by the great Christian author – Henri Nouwen:



"A mosaic consists of thousands of little stones. Some are blue, some are green, some are yellow, some are gold. When we bring our faces close to the mosaic, we can admire the beauty of each stone. But when we step back from it, we can see that all these little stones reveal to us a beautiful picture, telling a story none of these stones can tell by itself.

That is what our life in the community (of faith) is about. Each of us is like a little stone, but together we reveal the face of God to the world. Nobody can say: 'I make God visible.' But others who see us together can say: 'They make God visible.' Community is where humility and glory touch."

Each of us just one very important stone in God's mosaic of blessing.....

Pastor Tim

STAFFED TO SERVE

Pastor	Rev. Dr . Timothy R. Baer
Directors of Children's Ministries	Mrs. Janice Deveney Mrs. Charlene Kapp
Director of Youth Ministries	Mr. Shawn Gray
Organists	Mrs. Cathy Fauber (8:15) Mrs. Mindy Martz (10:45)
Hand Bell Choir Director	Ms. Rita Spicher
Junior Choir Director	Mrs. Periann Smith
Chancel Choir Director	Mrs. Mindy Martz
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Debra Buterbaugh
Custodian	Mr. Jeffery Forester

SICK OR RECUPERATING AT HOME THIS WEEK

Doris Hofsass, Ted Trimmer, Myrtie Napier, Millie Lerew

BE A PART OF OUR SHUT-IN OUTREACH MINISTRY: It's easy to reach out to our Shut-Ins by simply stopping by the Ministry Opportunities Table in the Narthex and signing up to reach out to one or more of them, also by signing the Shut-in Thanksgiving cards while you're there. Over the years, many shut-ins have responded with gratitude over the cards they have received.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE! Practice is again tonight, Sunday, November 19th at 4pm. Meet in the Sanctuary where we will split up to practice sections of the play. We will be working on decorating bags for Meals on Wheels when not practicing. Chicken Corn Noodle Soup and toasted cheese or peanut butter & jelly sandwiches will be served for supper around 5:30. If you plan your day correctly, you can eat all your meals at church on Sunday!

Don't forget to save the date of the program on your calendars. The program officially starts at 4 pm on December 3rd but there will be special music prior to the program starting at 3:45. We hope you join us for a Fellowship meal following the program!



A BLESSING TO SHARE: During worship today, we will be passing out paper hearts via the greeters with ribbons attached as hangers. We would like you to write down a blessing that God has bestowed on you. As you bring your Estimate of Giving Card forward, we would ask you to also hang your "heart with a blessing" on the tree that will be up front. We are looking forward to a tree just blooming with blessings!

FOOD PANTRY FOR NEW HOPE MINISTRIES: This month's Food Pantry Collection is for New Hope Ministries. The following staple items are currently needed: **Stuffing mix, jars of gravy, canned cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, vegetables, fruit or soup.** These items may be brought to the Food Pantry table in the Narthex. **Please keep in mind, any opened containers or expired items cannot be used.**



CUMBERLAND SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT SHEPHERDSTOWN UMC: Join us at Shepherdstown UMC, Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 for the Cumberland Singers concert program, entitled Radiant Light! This is a program of holiday carols, sacred and secular, familiar and lesser-known. Concerts are free to the public; a free-will offering is taken at intermission. Music lovers of all ages are welcome to attend our concerts, and we look forward to seeing you!

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE FINAL REPORT: We would like to thank everyone who donated, helped set-up, helped sell, helped clean-up and bought at the sale. The White Elephant made a profit of \$1,668.75. In addition, the Food Stand made \$437.75 and the Bake Goods sale made \$388.85 for a combined total of \$2,495.35. Thank you one and all! **Hersh Simington and Ted Trimmer (Co-Chairs, White Elephant), Jeanie Hershey (Chair, Food Stand and Bake Sale).**

CHURCH FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Ray and Penny Erney
Tuesday	Bill and Jill Evans and family
Wednesday	Jon Fauber
Thursday	Mark and Kathy Fauber and family
Friday	Kirk and Kim Filer
Saturday	Ron and Pat Finkenbinder

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

- Sunday, November 26.....Christ the King Sunday
- Sunday, December 3.....First Sunday in Advent & Communion
- Sunday, December 10Second Sunday in Advent
- Sunday, December 17.....Third Sunday in Advent
- Sunday, December 24.....Fourth Sunday in Advent (Christmas Eve)
 - 8:15 and 10:45 Worship in Sanctuary
 - 5:00 Casual – Family Service in Life Center
 - 7:00 Carols and Candlelight Service in Sanctuary
 - 9:00 Candlelight and Communion Service in Sanctuary

JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained! Psalm 8:3

I was blessed to spend some quiet time, again, looking at the view from our church. It was the third Thursday of the month and I was waiting for my prayer warriors. Unlike the last time when it was overcast and cloudy, last night was crystal clear. I could see each mountain peak and a glorious array of colors as the sun started it's nightly ritual of setting. It is a Holy Place. It beckons to something in each of us that is innate and old and compelling. There was another person there taking pictures; at first with a tripod and then without. There were no cars in the parking lot so it must have been someone from nearby. He obviously was as taken with the sight as I was, had been there before and came looking for a chance to preserve it forever in picture form. What is it about beauty that just pulls at us? Why would the Creator go out of his way to paint the Heavens to take our breath away? I'm sure there is a multitude of answers but I think the best one is that He just loves us. Why not take a drive over to church in the next couple of nights - bring your kids, your neighbors, a stranger and let Him show you his wonders to behold. Remember to pray your gratitude for the show. ☺

Join the Prayer Team as we pray our thanks. The third Thursday of each month, 6:30P in the Parlor. All are invited. **Deb Kenes**

MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS

- November 19Harvest Home – World Hunger
- November 26United Methodist Student Day
- December 3Ecumenical Food Pantry
- December 10Benevolent Homes

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

- TodayElective Class
- November 26Bible Explorers
- December 3LIFE Class
- December 10Helping Hands

BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND

TodayJason and Robin Hall
November 26Lori Weicht
December 3Ann Baer
December 10Volunteer Needed

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.

GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE: Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,040,445.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$52,022.25 Purchase your cards immediately following the worship service or on weekdays from 9 am – 12 noon in the church office.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Early Service – 71
Sunday School – 130
Late Worship – 163
Membership – 519

SOS CHRISTMAS PARTY: On Thursday, December 7th, at 12:00 the Seniors of Shepherdstown will hold their annual Christmas Party in Fellowship Hall. The Grumpy Old Men Barbershop Quartet will present the program. The menu will be Roast Beef and all trimmings. The cost of the meal is \$11.00 per person. A sign-up sheet is posted on the SOS bulletin board in the upper hallway. Deadline to sign up is December 3, 2017.



Christmas Party

NOTE OF THANKS: Thank you to the Flock and Fusion for sending a care package to me while I am away at college. I really appreciate it. It is comforting to know that my church family is thinking about me when I am away from home. **Bryson Herb**

CHURCH HALLWAY CLOSURES ON NOVEMBER 22: A contractor will be in the church this coming Wednesday to renovate the floors in the halls on both levels. While work is underway, the side door will be locked, and there will be no access to the halls from the Fellowship Hall, the Sanctuary, the Life Center, the Children's Center, etc. Please use the front door or the rear door to the Fellowship Hall to enter the church until the work is finished. We expect it will be complete by 5:00 PM.

COOKIE BAKERS WANTED! Do you love to bake? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you! Sign up to donate cookies for our Youth Mission Cookie Walk which will be held on Saturday, December 2nd from 9 am -12 pm. A Cookie Walk is where we collect donated cookies and give the congregation and the community an opportunity to purchase Christmas cookies. The cookies will be sold by the pound.

We are in need of **cookie donations**. The suggested donation guidelines are as follows:

We ask that you sign up to donate between **4 and 5 dozen** of the same kind of cookie (you are welcome to donate more than one kind)

Be creative! You can donate traditional Christmas Cookies (Snickerdoodles, Sand tarts, Sugar Cutouts, Gingerbread men, etc.)

Or you can donate cookie bars, fudge or candy. The possibilities are endless. Variety is good! We recommend the cookies be made on the smaller side. Those purchasing cookies will do so by the pound, so if you have a heavier cookie, the smaller size is better.



Sign up at the cookie display in the Narthex.

When you bring your cookies to the church, you will fill out an index card with specific information about the kind of cookie.

Cookie Donations can be dropped off at the church office on Friday, December 1st (9 am-12:30 pm or 5 pm -7pm).



All proceeds will benefit the Youth Mission Trips.

**Our Financial Support of Christ's Ministry
through Shepherdstown Church:
Beginning January 2017**

Last Sunday	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	+ or (-)
\$9,087	\$429,764	\$414,904	\$14,860

Pink Hands of Hope Mission Offering- \$353.97

Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses

Current Balance - \$35,225.44

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY is today. The food items given today for our Harvest Home Cornucopia Table will be given to New Hope Ministries to help others have a Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you for your generosity!

CHURCH CONFERENCE IS TOMORROW November 20th:

Our annual Church Conference will be held here at Shepherdstown at 7:00 tomorrow night. Every member is encouraged to be present as we care for the annual business of receiving reports, approving pastoral compensation, electing our leadership for the coming year, etc.



SPECIAL DAYS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH THIS WEEK

- *** 19 Janet Shoop,**
- * 19 Emily Hall,**
- * 21 Ryley Kline,**
- *** 21 Shirley Haines,**
- *** 21 Tim White**
- *** 21 Gladys Venzlowsky**
- *** 22 RJ Finley,**
- A 23 Fred and Evelyn Hower,**
- *** 23 Ellen DeStefano**
- *** 24 Nate Douty**
- *** 25 Brianna Trimmer-Weigle**

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS COLLECTION: Share Christ's love for those in need. The Mission Committee is collecting \$20 Gift cards to Walmart or Target. **ALL DONATED GIFT CARDS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE RECEIPT.** This enables replacement of the card if it fails to work when used. All donated gift cards will be divided between New Hope Ministries and The United Methodist Home for Children. Please place your purchased gift cards in the Sunday Mission Basket during the mission collections or drop your cards off at the church office by **Sunday, November 26, 2017.**



"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(11/19/17)-God Makes a Covenant With Abram (Genesis 15;1-18)



Please Note: Today there will be Children's Church for AGES 3yrs-5th grade. Please make sure **ALL** kids have a **Children's Church Consent** Form found in the pew. They will be dismissed after the Children's sermon in the 10:45am service.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:

Being a Light! Love God, Love Others, Serve All!

- 1. 11/19, 11/26- Christmas Program Practice- 4pm
- 2. 11/26- 9:30am- Baking Cookies for Truck Stop Ministries



November 19th, 2017
"Fusion" Youth Ministries
Shawn Gray - Director
youth@shepherdstownumc.org / 570-460-8132

The Cookie Walk fundraiser is coming again. The date that this will take place is December 2nd. I will need help from the youth December 1st in the evening to get ready for the event. It has been a great event that has raised money for our mission program and was a crucial help this past summer as we went to West Virginia.

Fusion Tonight!!!

The Christmas program is coming again this year and we have practices. The Elves did such a great job last year that they were asked to return again this year. There will be silly string and pudding this time around. All are needed to help make this happen so please plan on attending the practices that begin at 4pm and end at 5:30pm. We will still have Fusion after.

The youth were asked to be a part of the Advent worship services this year by lighting the candles and reading a provided script. The sign up sheet is hanging on the white board in the Sunday School room. An individual or a group can participate in this and they can do more than one. We are still in need of 5 more slots being filled.

Upcoming Dates/Events:

November 19 – Fusion Youth Group
November 19 - Christmas Practice
November 26 – No Fusion Youth Group
November 26 – Christmas Practice
December 2 – Cookie Walk
December 3 – Christmas Program (No Fusion)