

*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.)  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Dennis L. Otto  
e-mail: pastor.sumc@comcast.net  
Directors of Children's Ministries:  
Janice Deveney & Charlene Kapp  
e-mail: childrens.sumc@comcast.net  
Director of Youth Ministries:  
Shawn Gray  
e-mail: youth@shepherdstownumc.org  
Administrative Asst.: Debra Buterbaugh  
e-mail: admin.sumc@comcast.net  
Custodian: Jeffery Forester  
e-mail: custodian.sumc@comcast.net  
Church Office: 766-3076 or 766-3251  
Fax – 766-1867  
November 4, 2018

**you for your clear commitment to prayer.** Two weeks ago I invited you to commit to praying in one of two ways. The first was to make time at 5:17pm daily to pray for God to connect new, younger and more diverse disciples to himself through Shepherdstown Church. Fifty-eight of you committed to that daily practice! That is amazing. I am sure that some of you will spend more time but I asked at least a minute. That means that there is now at least one hour of prayer everyday for those who do not yet know Jesus as Lord and God as the one who loves us most.



In my message I noted that in Korea, the growing congregation we observed had one third of the worshipers praying every morning. With fifty eight praying at 5:17 we now have about the same portion of our worshipers. Thank you for this great beginning.

Thirty-nine people responded to my request for prayer partners. I feel so very blessed to have this great number of people joining in prayer for and with me. I will be breaking this down into groups for each day and getting emails out to you about the day of the week on which you will be praying.

What a wonderful offering to God your prayers are!

In Christ's service,

*Dennis L. Otto, pastor*

***STAFFED TO SERVE***

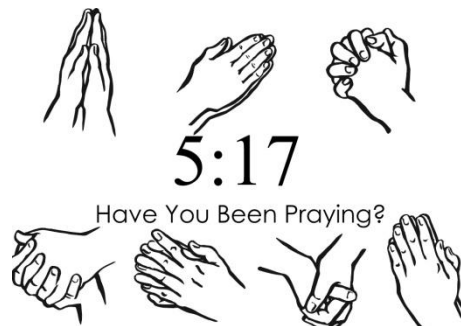
|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Pastor                             | Rev. Dr . Dennis L. Otto                   |
| Directors of Children's Ministries | Janice Deveney<br>Charlene Kapp            |
| Director of Youth Ministries       | Shawn Gray                                 |
| Organists                          | Cathy Fauber (8:15)<br>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***

**Lindsey James-Kline, Barb Weaver, Vivian Weakland**

***CHURCH FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK***

|                  |                                       |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Jeff and Kathy Cavalati               |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Carl and Rosemary Courtney            |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Denise Cox                            |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Erin and Michael Coy, Wyatt and Jacey |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Angela Craig and Michael              |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | Richard and Tricia Craig and Patricia |



**FOOD STAND DURING WHITE ELEPHANT:** Friday, Nov. 9 and Saturday, Nov. 10 during the White Elephant Sale, we will also conduct a Food Stand and Bake Sale. Many items are needed for the Food Stand. You can help by taking a slip from the list of needs poster, which will be provided in the Lobby soon. Simply remove a slip and return the item to the Church Office no later than the due date listed on the slip. Thank you!

**BAKED ITEMS ALSO NEEDED AT WHITE ELEPHANT SALE!** We will also be selling baked goods at the White Elephant Sale this Friday and Saturday and are asking for your help! All baked goods including, cookies, brownies, pies, and rice krispie treats, etc. can be dropped off to the Church Office on November 7 or 8 from



10:00 – 2:00., or in the Fellowship Hall on

WEDNESDAY, November 7 from 9:00 – 11:30 AM

1:00 – 4:00 PM and 6:00 - 8:00 PM

THURSDAY, November 8 from 9:00 – 11:30 AM, and

1:00 – 4:00 PM

6:00 – 8:00 pm

*(Please enter through downstairs Fellowship Hall doors)*

Thank you!

**FUTURE CULTIVATE AND NURTURE FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES!** Cultivate and Nurture will be meeting on November 6th and choosing/setting dates for future activities. If you have any ideas/suggestions, please share them with a team member or join us at the meeting at 7pm. We do have one activity/date set so mark your calendars. On May 19, 2019 we have reserved the Pride of the Susquehanna riverboat for a 45 minute cruise at 1:30pm. It will hold over 100 people. We will have more information closer to the event but **SAVE THE DATE!**

Team Members

Cynthia Barletta, Janice Deveney, Bob Gray, Jan James, Michele Kreitman, Brian Rainey, Nancy Stout, Curran Trimmer.

**FOOD PANTRY FOR NEW HOPE MINISTRIES:** This month's Food Pantry Collection is for New Hope Ministries. The following staple items are currently needed: **peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned tuna, canned chicken, canned soup, toilet paper, soap, shampoo.** 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.**

**A SIMPLE MINISTRY ALL OF US CAN SHARE:** You can help brighten the day of our **shut-ins** with something as simple as a card, a phone call, or a visit. You can also reach out to our **college students** with a card or care package. Check out this month's sign-up sheet on the table in the Lobby. Lists with their addresses and phone numbers are also available on the clipboard there.



## ***How Do I Get in Contact with the Pastor?***

Actually it is easier now to get in contact with the pastor than ever before!

**If there is an emergency call 717 458-8874.** It rings to my cell unless I am out of town at some distance or for an extended time.

**If you need information, a question answered or need a quick check, an email is a very good way to reach me – [pastor.sumc@comcast.net](mailto:pastor.sumc@comcast.net) or [dotto@susumc.org](mailto:dotto@susumc.org) .** I check my email probably 4 times a day. Even if you want a conversation you may reach me most quickly by sending a quick email asking me to call you. On days off I may not be in cell range and may not respond unless you state that it is urgent.

**You may also call the church office when it is open currently 10-2 Monday – Fridays most weeks.** I typically am off on Friday (which means I work about one Friday each month.) Remember even when the office is open, Deb, our Administrative Assistant may be on another line or in another part of the church. If you can't call in those hours or reach us during them, leave a message and we'll get back with you.

**If you want to see me in person, it is best to call to set an appointment.** While I am in the church much of the time during the day Monday – Thursday, I also go to meetings, visit hospitals or those who are shut in and may not be there for a host of other possible reasons. Deb has my electronic calendar so she can make appointments for me. You can email me to make an appointment. As a general rule I do not meet people when the church is empty, but there are activities most Sunday and Wednesday nights, from 10 – 2 Monday through Thursday. We can also schedule to meet in a public venue. So you can walk in and hope I am there and available when you do, but if you really want/need to connect call the church, the emergency number or email me. Pastor Dennis

***COME JOIN THE CHAOS TONIGHT!*** Practice for the Shepherdstown Christmas program will begin at 4pm today. This year's format is a variety show so let us know if you have a talent you would like to share. We also have a choir, short skits for all ages and a need for volunteers to help with crowd control, our mission project for the evening and the fellowship meal. The first practice will involve sorting out what acts we will be having and making care packages for college students.

Dinner will be spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread and there will always be peanut butter and jelly. If you are planning to come and have special dietary needs or you would like to be involved but can't make the first practice, please call the office, email [jsdeveney@gmail.com](mailto:jsdeveney@gmail.com) or let Janice or Charlene know. We will practice every Sunday evening in November at 4pm with supper at 5:30. *Next Week* - We will be serving hamburgers on 11/11 with a service project for Meals on Wheels. *Save the date for the Christmas program - 4 pm on December 2nd followed by a Fellowship Meal!*



**BREAKFAST AND AWARD PRESENTATIONS FOR OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND HELPERS...** On Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Discipleship Team will host a breakfast to honor **ALL the Sunday School teachers and helpers** of our church. The **entire congregation is invited** to attend this breakfast and show their support. The breakfast will be available around 9:30am. **(But, coffee will be available at 9:15am)** Then, for the rest of the Sunday School hour (10am-10:30am), we will enjoy our "Teacher Awards" program. We will be honoring our teachers and helpers for their specific traits and attributes. We will also be showcasing some other "local" entertainment. We look forward to seeing you!

**ADVENT ALL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY:** We will be having the Sunday school classes (adult, youth, and children) participate in the same study during this upcoming Advent season. We will be using All I Want for Christmas: Opening the Gifts of God's Grace by James W. Moore for this study. We did a study like this for the 2017 Lenten season. The series provides examples of churches and individuals being involved in sharing God's grace through various activities. We will learn about the gifts of Good News (week 1), a New Understanding, a Strong Foundation, a New Style of Living, and gifts we can pass on to Others in the other weeks.



The signup sheets for books will be in the classrooms and in the narthex starting Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be ordering the books on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> for delivery Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup>. The series starts Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> and runs through Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. If you do not attend a current Sunday school class sign up in the narthex and we will have you attend either one of the existing classes or we may have a new class if necessary. There is a devotional included in the book which we will be asking for a \$5.00 donation to cover some of the costs. Youth and Children materials are provided by the church. There will be combined classes to start each session to watch the DVD presentation. The Youth, L.I.F.E., and Helping Hands classes will watch in the Life Center and then go to their respective areas. The Bible Explorers, Elective, and potentially the new class will view together downstairs. **HARVEST HOME SUNDAY** is November 18<sup>th</sup>. That day, please bring fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, as well as canned goods to church to decorate the front of the Sanctuary. If carrying the food items across the parking lot is an issue, you may pull into the circle and place your food donation into a container that will be provided. Canned food items needed are cranberry sauce, green beans or corn, sweet potatoes or instant potatoes. Following worship, these items will be donated to New Hope Ministries to help other people have a Happy Thanksgiving.

**MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS**

- November 4 .....Dog Tags
- November 11 .....Pink Hands of Hope
- November 18 .....Harvest Home – World Hunger
- November 25 .....United Methodist Student Day

### ***SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS***

- November 4 .....LIFE Class
- November 11 .....Helping Hand Class
- November 18 .....Elective Class
- November 25 .....Bible Explorers Class

***TODAY'S MISSION BASKET: Dog T.A.G.S.,*** Dog T.A.G.S. (Train Assist Guide Serve), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is a service dog owner training program for veterans suffering from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) and/or MST (Military Sexual Trauma). The veteran trains his/her personal dog with the help of experienced dog trainers. We have veterans who have served in conflicts ranging from Vietnam to present day Iraq and Afghanistan. Dog T.A.G.S. was incorporated on December 6, 2012. The Founders of the organization were veterans suffering from combat caused PTSD who knew the need for a program like this to help them heal. The program meets every week at the OTCH Dog Training Club located at 1 Souder Court, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050. The veterans have the opportunity to share their thoughts in a group setting with a social worker and then train their dogs to become their service dogs with qualified trainers to instruct and review training tasks. The Dog T.A.G.S. program is entirely staffed by unpaid volunteers. Along with qualified trainers, each training program has at least one certified Social Worker present to discuss any of the veterans needs. [www.dogtagsprogram.org](http://www.dogtagsprogram.org)

### ***BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND***

- November 4 .....Brian and Angela Rainey
- November 11 .....Teacher Appreciation Breakfast
- November 18 .....Jason and Robin Hall
- November 25 .....Volunteer Needed

***GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE:*** Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,114,195.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$55,709.75. 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**

- Early Service – 74
- Sunday School – 85
- Late Worship – 168
- Membership – 513

**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.



**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES:**

**BIBLE EXPLORER CLASS:** This group is led by Pastor Otto and various volunteers. They meet in the Fellowship Hall in front of the church kitchen. Tidbit: This group loves to share personal stories that will encourage your spiritual growth. They will be studying the Gospel according to Mark.

**LIFE CLASS:** Led by Keith Kapp and Dave Schade, this class meets in Room 9 (upper rear hallway) and is currently studying the book of Psalms.

**THE ELECTIVE CLASS:** Led by Kim Simington and Rich Dixon, in the Fellowship Hall, this class uses materials that provide a forum for insightful and thoughtful discussion of relevant Christian topics using contemporary Christian materials. We view each other's positions with respect and grace. All adult age people are welcome as we have a diverse group. They are currently using *Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today* by Adam Hamilton. Next up in October: *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat* by John Ortberg.

**HELPING HANDS:** Meeting in Room 11 (upper rear hallway), this class is led by Darryl Kenes, Tom Mann and Janeann Runkle on a rotating basis. It follows the International Lesson Series. The class is a very welcoming group of mature adults.

**Our Financial Support of Christ's Ministry**

**Through Shepherdstown Church:**

**Beginning January 2018**

| <b>Last Sunday</b> | <b>YTD Actual</b> | <b>YTD Budgeted</b> | <b>+ or (-)</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>\$6,768</b>     | <b>\$429,303</b>  | <b>\$397,477</b>    | <b>\$31,826</b> |

**Red Bird Mission - Mission Offering- \$567.18**  
**Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses**  
**Current Balance - \$47,076**

## ***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.]***

### ***NOVEMBER***

- \*\*\* 4 Elwood Brandt,**
- \*\*\* 5 Kevin Kramer**
- \*\*\* 5 Joey Butera,**
- A 5 Ken and Pam Martz**
- \*\*\* 5 Matt James**
- \*\* 6 Logan Nutt,**
- \*\*\* 8 Wayne Mallon,**
- \*\*\* 9 Shirley Spertzel,**
- \*\*\* 10 Melvalene King**
- \*\*\* 11 Jan James**
- \*\*\* 11 Carl Courtney,**

***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 A 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 25, 2018.** Any questions should be directed to Kathy Ries at 717-691-5932 or [karies5@yahoo.com](mailto:karies5@yahoo.com).

***LAST SUNDAY'S SHOEBOXES AND WEINER ROAST WRAP UP:*** Thanks to the year long efforts of the Elective Class and supporting congregation, we began our evening assembling 125 boxes of goodies to brighten the Christmas of kids in need. The youth and kids then used chalk to express their creativity. Voting was close but Aidan Trimmer won the drawing competition. We enjoyed roasting hot dogs, making smore's and staying warm by the fire pits . Mona Otto won the apple dip competition and recieved a \$10 Giant gift card. Rachel Kapp had the closest guess and won the counting jar. With 8 teams participating, Dave and Brenda Buckwalter edged out Shawn Gray and Brian Rainey in the corn hole competition. In the minute to win it games, Ben Rainey won the elementary age (on the third tie breaker with Kayla Kreitman); Samantha Hall won the youth age and Sarah Bartlett won the adult category receiving Chick-fil-a gift cards. Special thanks to the Faubers, Kreitmans and Simingtons for use of their fire pits and utensils; Dale Glacken for the firewood; The Grays, Kreitmans, Buckwalters and Raineys for their games.





**CHURCH CONFERENCE IS November 29<sup>th</sup>:** Our annual Church Conference will be held here at Shepherdstown at 7:00. 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.



**CONSECRATION SUNDAY LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS:** Please take a moment to fill out a dinner reservation card for the Consecration Luncheon on November 18th! Reservation cards will be passed out by ushers today or they can be found at the Distribution Center in the Lobby. Please give your filled card to an usher or place it in a Response Box. The luncheon will be held immediately following the 10:45 service on November 18th in the Fellowship Hall. The menu will be ham, breaded chicken nuggets, potatoes, green beans, applesauce, salad and dessert. The food will be provided, so your registration is helpful as we plan how much food to prepare.

### ***JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM***

I have been writing invitations to you, my church family, for two years and two months now. God told me years ago that I was to use my strong loud voice for His glory. I wondered at the time what He meant I was to do. I was very shy and using my voice usually meant anxiety or an upset stomach. We changed churches in the midst of this and found a new home with you. God impressed upon me early in our relationship that prayer was going to be a part of my "voice". YIKES! Thus, my invitations to you to join the Prayer Team. I am not a stellar prayer nor are the other members of this group. We are people like you who are searching to connect in bigger and better ways with God. It is our heart's desire to talk to Him like we are talking with friends. To share with Him our concerns, our angsts, our pain but also our joy and adoration. Pain shared is pain divided. Love shared is love multiplied. We are better together than apart. I just want to offer to you again a place to come and be. A haven that offers you some peace. God said "***For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.***" I love the comfort of that, don't you?

Men, I especially appeal to you. There are no men in our group and I have wondered why. We know that you too have concerns and praises. We are not a group of catty gossip mongering women. We would love to have you join us as we are all God's children living in a chaotic world.

Pastor Dennis has been talking about the things we promised when we joined the church. The last two weeks have centered on prayer and presence. That is what this group is all about. Please think and pray about coming to Prayer Team. If you can't make it monthly, then come when you can. God is waiting.

Our group meets the third Monday of each month at 12:30P in the Parlor. Come.....**Deb Kenes**



November 4th, 2018  
"Fusion" Youth Ministries  
Shawn Gray - Director  
youth@shepherdstownumc.org / 570-460-8132

Today we have over 20 youth going to Camp Hill United Methodist Church to compete in Battleball. This is the even that we came in first two years ago. We will play dodgeball all day then at night we come together for a time of worship. It is a fun and awesome event that is always a worthwhile endeavor.

### **Battleball!!!**

Beginning next week we are going to start having Christmas Program Practice before youth. The youth are planning on doing a collective skit that will involve the elves from previous years. No parts are picked yet and we will flush out the content during these practices. We can make sure that we have space for all that want to participate. Meet at the church at 4:00pm and dinner will be provided. We will have youth as normal beginning at 6pm and ending at 8pm.

### Upcoming Dates/Events:

**November 4 - Battleball**  
**November 11 – Christmas Practice/Fusion**  
**November 18 - Christmas Practice/Fusion**  
**November 25 – No Fusion**  
**November 25 – Christmas Practice**

**"THE FLOCK" Children's Ministries**  
Janice Deveney and Charlene Kapp  
(Directors of Children's Ministries)  
E-mail: [childrens.sumc@comcast.net](mailto: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 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Today(11/4/18)-Balaam's Donkey Talks**  
**(Numbers 22:1-38)**



Last week we learned that Jesus is our Protector?  
Where did you see God show up this week to help you fight temptation?



**Today is there will be Children's Church for ages 3yrs-5<sup>th</sup> grade.** These kids will be dismissed after the Children's sermon in the 10:45am service. Please fill out a GREEN Children's Church consent form found in the pew.!



**rogram Practice Begins Today from 4pm-5:30pm!** Remember a light  
**ided for no cost after the practice. We hope to see you!**

**FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:**

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

1. **11/4, 11/11, 11/18/, 11/25-** Christmas Program practice- 4pm-6pm. A light meal will be provided around 5:30pm. Come and share a talent or act you would like to do. Encourage friends to join the fun!
2. **11/11-** Teacher Appreciation Breakfast- 9:30am-10:30am. Everyone welcome.
3. **11/25-** Truck Stop Ministries Cookie baking, and decorating the Flock Christmas tree-9:30am-10:30am