

*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

December 30, 2018

***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 directly to my cell unless I am out of town at some distance or for an extended amount of time. ***Put this # in your cell phone, for easy access during an emergency.***

**If you need information or a question answered, an email is a very good way to reach me – pastor.sumc@comcast.net or 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 from 10-2 Monday – Fridays most weeks.** If you can't call in those hours, leave a message and we'll get back with you.

**If you want to see me in person, it is best to call Deb at 717-766-3076 and 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. You can also 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. **Pastor Dennis**

## ***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***

**Vivian Weakland, John Mowery, Barbara Protas**

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

<b>Monday</b>	Bill and Adeline Gaydosh and family
<b>Tuesday</b>	Bruce and Nioma Gearhart
<b>Wednesday</b>	Randy and Betsy Gibney
<b>Thursday</b>	Dale Glacken
<b>Friday</b>	Jerry and Sandy Goodling
<b>Saturday</b>	Lena Goshorn

***SENIORS OF SHEPHERDSTOWN:*** On January 10, The SOS will be touring the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank at 3908 Corey Rd., Harrisburg. Our tour is at 11 am, so we will need to leave the church promptly at 10:15 am. We will have lunch after the tour at a local restaurant. A sign-up sheet for this tour is on the Senior's Bulletin Board in the upper rear hallway. Please contact Melvalene, Louise or JoAnn with any questions. If the weather is bad, our tour will be cancelled. We are asking each person or couple to donate a non-perishable food item.

**NOTE OF THANKS:** Dog TAGS would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$451.43 on 11-30-18. Your donation will allow us to further our program and help our Veterans face the challenges of everyday life. **John Salvadia**, President, Dog TAGS Program

***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.]*

***DECEMBER***

\*\*\* 30 Kerry Finley,

A 30 Ken and Linda Bechtel,

A 31 Scott and Darlene Lippert

***JANUARY***

\*\*\* 1 Doyle Ivey,

\*\*\* 1 Louise Henry,

\*\*\* 1 Barbara Protas,

\*\*\* 2 Sandra Loyer,

\*\*\* 2 Steve Runkle,

\*\*\* 2 Jakub Thurstin,

\*\* 3 Destinee Richard,

\*\*\* 4 Pat Mayberry

\*\*\* 5 Judy Brandt

\* 6 Colin Snyder

***SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL:*** If you would like to be included in an email church sidewalk snow removal chain, please call the church office.

***TODAY'S MISSION BASKET: Daystar Center for Spiritual Recovery***— Is an Advanced Special Mission opportunity (#64871) of our Susquehanna Conference. Daystar Center is located at 125 N. 18<sup>th</sup> St. in Harrisburg. The mission of Daystar Center for Spiritual Recovery is to empower persons to overcome the devastating effects of substance abuse through spiritual resources, positive relationships, therapeutic counseling and practical aid. Daystar 1. **Provides** inpatient non-hospital rehabilitation for adult males. (halfway house) 2. **Delivers** counseling ministry to young offenders and residents at Schaffner Detention Center for children between ages 8 and 18. 3. **Advises** outpatient families struggling with addiction or an addict in the home. 4. **Presents** educational seminars or lectures in churches, schools, or in community organizations. 5. **Trains** volunteers, missionaries, interns, and clergy interns who wish to counsel addicts and teach others. 6. **Offers** opportunities for volunteers (Star Associates) who wish to advocate for fund raising and renovation, or for volunteers to use their talents and skills, working with us in creating winning recovery programs for the addicts.

**MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS**

- December 30 .....Daystar Center
- January 6 .....Domestic Violence Services Cum./Perry Counties
- January 13 .....Bethesda Mission
- January 20 .....Human Relations Sunday

**SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS**

- December 30 .....LIFE Class
- January 6 .....Helping Hands Class
- January 13 .....Elective Class
- January 20 .....Bible Explorers

**BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND**

- December 30 .....Deb Kenes
- January 6 .....Lori Weicht
- January 13 .....Hersh and Annetta Simington
- January 20 .....Volunteer Needed

**GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE:** Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,126,815.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$56,340.75. 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 Worship at 8:15 - 77
- Late Morning Worship at 10:45 – 175
- Sunday School – 96
- Christmas Eve. 5:00 – 63
- Christmas Eve. 7:00 – 312
- Christmas Eve. 9:00 – 78
- Membership – 512

**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.**

**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>\$8,529</b>	<b>\$495,275</b>	<b>\$462,183</b>	<b>\$33,093</b>

**Beacon Clinic Offering- \$385.82**

**Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses**

**Current Balance - \$51,032.29**

***END OF YEAR GIVING:*** Shepherdstown Church always appreciates the financial gifts that are given to support and grow our ministries of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ! God bless you for your faithfulness and generosity again this year. Please note that the Internal Revenue Service has rules on when taxable year donations can be counted. The IRS (Internal Revenue Service) says that charitable donations to the church must be received and/or postmarked by 12/31/2018 to count as a donation in 2018. Following these IRS regulations, donations received and/or postmarked after 12/31/2018 must be counted as donations in 2019 (no matter what date may be associated with the gift).

***ELECTRONIC GIVING:*** We encourage you to give your tithes and offerings in support of God's work through automated giving. Your church, Shepherdstown UMC, relies on your consistent financial support for the many ministries for children, youth and adults. Electronic giving offers an easy and convenient way to give on a recurring or one time basis. Simply visit [shepherdstownumc.org](http://shepherdstownumc.org) and click the red "Online Giving" link then follow the directions. Thank you for your continued support.

***VAN DRIVER NEEDED FOR 2019:*** Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer to drive the church van to pick up Messiah College students for a few Sundays in 2019.

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

**I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5**



We planted a tree many years ago in the front of our house. It was in our brick walk and surrounded by an iron fence we thought would look cool. It was a type of tree that was not suppose to get that big. Years go by and in the beginning I could look out my second story window at the top of the tree. I watched birds and squirrels build nests in it. And then....I'm looking out the same window into the middle of the tree – it was now as tall as our house. How did that happen? Not only did it get bigger than we thought, it shed berries that were very sticky (and clung to the car), put out roots that interfered with our sewer and didn't drop its leaves until January. We changed what we put in our window boxes because now the front of the house was totally shaded. What had started out as a good thing changed to one of regret. We loved the tree but it now didn't fit the location. We face a lot of situations that are similar, don't we? Relationships that go sour, marriages that change, bad health habits, faith in the Creator. Many of us started out as gung-ho Christians only to morph in to part time believers. We believe in ourselves more than we believe in Christ. Truth is, we need broken down. We need to be replanted and re-branched. We need to replace weak roots with strong ones. Talking to God is an important part of that rebirth. Let's gather and pray. Prayer Team is the third Monday of the month, in the parlor at 12:30P.

**Deb Kenes**

***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.



# Save the Date

2019 is right around the corner and the Cultivate and Nurture Committee has already started planning events. The purpose of our committee is to provide opportunities for church members to build relationships with one another. We hope you can join us for some of the events we have planned and we are always looking for new ideas.

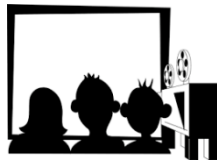
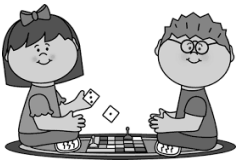
01/05 5-8pm Game Night in the Fellowship Hall (Pizza for dinner)

02/23 5-8pm Movie Night (hot dogs and mac&cheese for dinner)

05/19 1:30-2:30 Riverboat ride on the Pride of the Susquehanna

09/29 12:15 Church Picnic

Stay tuned for more details. If you have any suggestions or would like to be involved with any events, please see one of our committee members: Cynthia Barletta, Janice Deveney, Bob Gray, Michele Kreitman, Brian Rainey, Mary Rowland, Nancy Stout, and Curran Trimmer. We always welcome extra help!



**"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

**Happy  
New Year!**

**LIFETIME(Sunday School) FOR KIDS**  
9:30-10:30AM for Age 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Today(12/30/18)-The Gift of the Magi(Matthew 2), and assemble Valentine crafts for Messiah Lifeway Residents**



**Today is FAMILY SUNDAY! There will be Children's Church for PRESCHOOL ages 3yrs.-5yrs old.** 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. The **ELEMENTARY** kids will worship with their families.

**They bowed down,  
and worshipped Him!**



**JR CHOIR NEWS:**

1. 12/30- No Practice
2. 1/6/19- Practice resumes at 8:45am-9:25am

**FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:**

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

1. 12/30-9:30am-10:30am(during Sunday School)- make crafts to hand out to Messiah Village residents in February
2. 1/5-Churchwide game Night





December 30th, 2018

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

I hope all of you made some memories this year remembering why Christmas gave us the most important gift, Jesus. With all of the busyness that surrounds this time of year, I hope there were a couple moments where time paused and you experienced love, joy, wonder, peace which all come from Jesus. To make life just slightly less stressful there will be no Youth Group tonight.

### **No Fusion Tonight**

Zeteo is approaching. The theme this year is Architects which takes place in a post apocalyptic world. The deadline to sign up is January 13<sup>th</sup>. The cost for Zeteo is \$45 dollars and it's for 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders. If any 6<sup>th</sup> graders would like to go, see Shawn. It will be an amazing time of worship, dramas, and fellowship. If you have any questions feel free to call/text/email.

### **Upcoming Dates/Events:**

**December 30 – No Fusion**

**Jan 6 – Fusion**

**Jan 13- Fusion**

**Jan 20 - Fusion**

**Jan 27 - Fusion**

**Feb 1-3 – ZETEO!!!**