

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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February 4, 2018

Good Morning Everyone!

In the first several verses of the second chapter of John's Revelation, some words of affirmation and challenge are written to the angel of the church in Ephesus. Here is the text: "...I know your deeds, your hard work and perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles and are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first."

God speaks a harsh word to the church at Ephesus because the church had forgotten its "first love"; namely, serving Christ and neighbor in love. Certainly, the church was doing lots of things: working hard, busy, withstanding wicked people, and various tests of faith. Yet, the church was judged harshly by God because in all they were doing they had forgotten to be loving, as Jesus had taught.

That gets me to thinking that it is not just a matter of us being busy and doing things (which we need to). God is much more concerned about how we do them. Our motives, what is behind what we are doing, is more important than what is being done. God sees and knows our hearts. That's for sure!

Take washing the dishes, for example (which I do from time to time!). It is not just a matter of washing and drying and putting them in the cupboard and moving on to something else. Job complete. It is a matter of washing and drying in love – with a sense that it is being done not just for the sake of doing it, but that the family will be served and blessed by it. That is where joy is found! When one remembers our "first love" we can wash and dry up a storm, joyfully, perhaps even whistling while we work. No one may even say "thanks", but even that really doesn't matter.

One of the saddest sights is to see someone doing something good with a mad, sad, disgruntled look on their face. Oh my, what is in the heart of that person? That is not how God calls us to serve. God calls us to "remember our first love," and in that remembrance find joy and love to do what God wants us to do. When you find yourself powerless, empty, wondering why in the world you are doing what you are doing (even the dishes), check out your "first love." Who are you serving? Why are you doing what you are doing? Where's the love? Friends, we are called to love God and neighbor with all our heart and soul and mind and strength. That is where joy is to be found!

Serving with love.....

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

Mercy Gray, Lester Weber, Barb Allen, Samantha Hall, Zack Schade, Paul Melhorn, Jenine Lane

TODAY is "SOUPER BOWL" SUNDAY: Today, churches all across the United States will ask people in their congregations to donate canned goods and give monetary donations to help fight hunger and poverty. ***FLOCK kids*** will be in the Narthex collecting donations today. All the money and canned goods collected will go to **New Hope Ministries** in Mechanicsburg. Together we can score big by helping fight hunger in our area!

NEW 2018 CHURCH DIRECTORIES are available in the Narthex today. Don't forget to stop and pick up yours, one per family please.

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION/REGISTRATION: The Susquehanna Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry has opened the registration for summer camps and retreats for 2018. The 2018 Camp Brochure and the link for online registration can be located on their webpage. <http://www.susumcamps.org/>. You can also pick up a copy of the Camp and Retreats information booklet at the Distribution Center in the Narthex.

MECHANICSBURG AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LENTEN LUNCHESES: This year MACC (Mechanicsburg Area Council of Churches) is sponsoring Wednesday Lenten Lunches. All lunches beginning at 12 noon will include a light meal and devotions led by the pastor of that day's host church. Each week, if you plan to attend, please use the phone numbers provided below to call in your reservation by the Monday prior. Thank you. Locations for the lunches are as follows:

- February 21.....St. Luke's Episcopal Church 717-766-5182
- February 28.....Grace UMC 717-766-3282
- March 7.....Shepherdstown UMC 717-766-3076
- March 15.....Mechanicsburg Brethren 717-766-8880
- March 21.....Shiremanstown UMC 717-737-6621

FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING NEXT WEEK (FEB. 11-18) Please prayerfully consider signing up to be a dinner provider, greeter/evening host, overnight host, van driver or doing the laundry during our next hosting week as we partner with St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Dillsburg and the Family Promise organization by providing temporary housing and meals to homeless families in our area. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Any questions contact Kathy Ries (717-691-5932) or karies5@yahoo.com.



Dinner Provider – Prepares and delivers a hot meal for the families to St. Paul's Church at 6:00 p.m. You are encouraged to stay and eat with the families, but you can just drop off the meal, if you prefer. **Homeless Outreach**

Greeter/Evening Host - (6:00-7:30 p.m.) This can be one person or a family. You need to unlock the church and be there to receive the donated meal from the dinner provider. You will eat with the families.

Overnight Hosts – (7:30 p.m. – departure time varies) We need 2 adults to sleep overnight.

Van Drivers – Pick up the families at the Day Center, 525 Hummel Ave., Lemoyne at 6:00 p.m. and drive them to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 201 S. Baltimore St., Dillsburg. Pick up the families at St. Paul's in the morning and drive them to the Day Center.

Laundry- Washes the sheets and blankets (at your home).

Monetary Donations – Money or Giant gift cards can be donated and will be used to purchase breakfast food and other supplies that are needed during the week. Please give them to the Church office.

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 vegetables, fruit or meat, peanut butter, cooking oil, salt and pepper, powdered milk, catsup, pancake mix and syrup, dishwashing liquid and clothes washing detergent.** 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.**

CHURCH FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Mark and Darlene King
Tuesday	Stan Kingsborough
Wednesday	Harry Kitzig
Thursday	Paul Klase
Friday	Ryan and Lindsey James Kline and Ryley
Saturday	Jesse and Kelsey Lippert Kraina

VALENTINE CARDS FOR SHUT INS: Please take time to sign the Valentine cards on the table in the Narthex for our shut-ins. They will be mailed in a few weeks as a service from our Outreach Committee.

SPECIAL DAYS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH THIS WEEK

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

FEBRUARY

***** 4 Robert Langer,**
***** 5 Tom Walker,**
***** 5 Dan Whitcomb,**
***** 5 Stephanie Snyder,**
***** 6 Steve Trimmer,**
***** 6 Sue Jackson,**
***** 8 Harrison Kitzig,**
*** 8 Avery McAllister,**
***** 8 Arnie Martz,**
***** 9 Jenine Lane,**

JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM

Colossians 4:6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

I love Facebook, I hate Facebook. It's fun to follow friends and family on their adventures. It's awful to read some of the comments people make. You remember the childhood chant "sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me". We all know that is not true. Especially as Christians, we are to watch our mouths and the words that come out of them. One of the hardest tasks we face is to lock those lips before a painful word is said. It's also hard to STOP...say a prayer and ask for God's help in the midst of anger. But, that is exactly what He wants. Let's get down on our knees this week and pray for patience in the face of anger and for kind, supportive words that build up rather than tear down. Come, help the Prayer Team pray for lips that love. The third Thursday of each month at 6:30P in the Parlor. **Deb Kenes**

Dinner and Devotions for Lent 2018

Theme – WAYS WE ENCOUNTER GOD!

Beginning February 21, everyone is invited for Dinner and Devotions in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evenings! We are journeying through the season of Lent focusing on ways we encounter the great God who created us and loves us! When we live, when we worship, when we pray, do we really encounter God? And if we encounter God, do we change by that experience? This Lenten study series (created by United Methodist Pastor Tom Berlin) invites us to focus on basic characteristics of God (majesty, fidelity, authority, righteousness, graciousness), and then challenges us to faithfully, in our living, respond to those characteristics. We begin at 5:45 with a light dinner, then share in a devotional and are on our way by 7:00. Sign up inserts are provided in the newsletter.



PLAN TO BE PRESENT THROUGH LENT: Lent is a time of preparing for the celebration of Easter. In life, great celebrations do not just happen. Foundations have to be laid and preparations must be made. The same is true as we spiritually approach Easter. How will you prepare your heart now, to celebrate in a few weeks the great Resurrection? Plan to take part during weeks of Lent as we worship on Sunday mornings and spiritually grow during Dinner and Devotions on Wednesday evenings. Gather yourself and your family. Invite a friend. Make the commitment to be faithful and not miss a single opportunity. Your spiritual life will deepen – absolutely!

ASH WEDNESDAY UMC CLUSTER SERVICE: The Ash Wednesday Service for the Mechanicsburg Cluster UMC will be held at 7:00 pm at Mt. Olivet UMC on Simpson Ferry Rd.

SOUP AND SANDWICH SALE Through today, the Flock is selling subs, pretzel sandwiches, and quarts of Homemade Chicken Corn Noodle soup and Beef Barley soup to help defray future Children’s Ministry program costs like VBS and Kids Clubs. The cost for a quart of the soup, subs, or pretzel sandwiches are \$5.00 each. **Orders are due in the Response Boxes TODAY, and all money is due with the order. Pickup times are from 3:30-6pm on Thursday, February 15th in the Children’s Center.** Any questions, please ask Charlene or Janice, or email us at childrens.sumc@comcast.net.

CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM: Looking for a way to get some fun exercise - meet new people and reconnect with old friends? If you are male and at least 14 years old, you are welcome to join the Men’s Softball team at Shepherdstown. Informational emails were sent out to those who played last year and those we have emails for. If you did not receive an email and are interested in playing, please see Janice Deveney or leave contact information on sign up sheets posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex and at the side entrance. We need to let the league know if we are planning to have a team.



SUMC CHURCH OFFICE NEWS: Our Administrative Assistant will be on personal leave 2/14 through 2/22. Volunteers will be answering the church office phone and managing messages on the answering system during office hours on those days. Pastor Tim will manage the Email Prayer Chain. All newsletter articles for the 2-18-18 newsletter will be due into the church office no later than morning of 2-12-18.

MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS

- TodaySouper Bowl
- February 11Family Promise
- February 18Youth/Children Offering
- February 25Mission Central

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

- Today.....Helping Hands
- February 11Elective Class
- February 18Bible Explorers
- February 25LIFE Class

BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND

- Today.....Rich and Pat Dixon
- February 11Peggy Reed
- February 18Keith and Charlene Kapp
- February 25Volunteer 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 \$1,055,500.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$52,775.00 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 – 65
 Sunday School – 99
 Late Worship – 168
 Membership – 516

CHI RHO SINGERS CONCERT: Hope United Methodist Church will be hosting a Chi Rho Singers Concert on **Thursday, February 22, at 7 p.m.,** (6260 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050). Hope UMC is celebrating their 200th anniversary of the Salem Chapel and hosting Chi Rho is one of many events they are having throughout the year to celebrate. Though the concert will take place in the Sanctuary, the Salem Chapel will be open for folks to see.

**Our Financial Support of Christ's Ministry
 Through Shepherdstown Church:
 Beginning January 2018**

Last Sunday	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	+ or (-)
\$14,016	\$45,710	\$36,975	\$8,736

Life Choices - Mission Offering- \$365.59
 Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses
 Current Balance - \$43,130.24

NEW EGG INFO FOR 2018 – We are asking all Egg Makers (Tuesday and Thursday) and Thursday Night Pickups, to enter the church at the Fellowship Hall back door, as the side door will now be kept locked for security reasons. We appreciate your cooperation. In addition, you may place egg orders two ways, by using an order form found in newsletters or in the Narthex (place in Response Box) or by calling Ken or Haddiee Spidle at 717-697-1335. (Online ordering will no longer be available).



**Easter Eggs
 2018**

HOW DO I GET EASTER EGGS? Green egg order forms are available in the Narthex or from the church office. **It is helpful that you use an order form each time you order eggs.** Ordering ahead ensures that you get exactly what you want because the different varieties go fast! You can pick up your eggs three different ways:

1. Thursday nights from 6:00-8:00 in Fellowship Hall (Please use back Fellowship Hall entrance)
2. Friday mornings from 9:00-noon in the Narthex

Sunday mornings outside the kitchen immediately following the first or second service.

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 and click the red "Online Giving" link then follow the directions. Thank you for your continued support.

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

PARKING LOT SNOW REMOVAL THIS WINTER: All parking lots will be plowed when the snow depth reaches 2" or more. In addition, we will salt both side lots, the lot across the street and the first three parking rows of the rear lot. We will salt the remainder of the rear lot if there is snow on Christmas Eve. The Trustees hope this will not inconvenience anyone and that you will use your own good judgment about parking on the rear parking lot when it snows.

WINTER WEATHER IS UPON US! SNOW CANCELLATION PROCEDURES

In the event of inclement weather, the Church Office will utilize the following options for notification of a cancellation. Sunday morning worship will not be cancelled. However, we ask you to use your own discretion in determining if the roads and sidewalks are safe for travel. When a team/committee/group meeting or group event (choir rehearsal, youth, egg making, etc.) needs to be cancelled, you will be contacted by the team/committee/group leader via a phone call, text or email. All group cancellations will be at the discretion of each group leader, and he/she will be responsible for contacting the members of that group. When a weekday Church activity needs to be cancelled, (Lenten meal, Game Night, etc.), please call the Church Office at 766-3076, and after five rings, you will be able to listen to an updated message concerning a cancellation, or go to the homepage on our Church Website at shepherdstownumc.org.



HOW DO I GET EASTER EGGS? Green egg order forms are available in the Narthex or from the church office. *It is helpful that you use an order form each time you order eggs.* Ordering ahead ensures that you get exactly what you want because the different varieties go fast! You can pick up your eggs three different ways:

3. Thursday nights from 6:00-8:00 in Fellowship Hall (Please use back Fellowship Hall entrance)(beginning 2-1)
4. Friday mornings from 9:00-noon in the Narthex (beginning 2-2)
5. Sunday mornings outside the kitchen immediately following the first or second service. (beginning 2-4)

LENT CHALLENGE! Many of us want to emulate Christ in a symbolic "giving up" of something during Lent. For years, Darryl and I gave up ALL sweets during this season. We were absolute shells of sugar deprivation by the time Easter arrived. Although it was hard for us to do, it was not spiritually fulfilling. There is certainly nothing wrong with giving something up for Lent. But this year perhaps we can add something as part of our commitment for Lent. The Worship Team is challenging the entire congregation to come up with a promise or pledge to serve others. On February 11th, we will have paper crosses with ties - similar to the Blessing Tree concept for Consecration Sunday - to write your promise/pledge on. Possibly your promise/pledge might look like 'I promise to visit my elderly neighbor once a week', or 'I promise to take a meal to a family in need', or 'I promise not to fight with my sibling during Lent'. It could be anything that supports our motto "Love God, Love Others, Serve All". I know we can do it!!! Let's start thinking.....**Deb Kenes, Worship Team Chairperson.**



"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(2/4/18) –Jesus Heals, Prays, and Preaches Mark 1;29-39)



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.

SOUPERBowl SUNDAY, February 4th, 2018



Thank you for your monetary donations and canned goods brought in today for New Hope Ministries. Christ asks us to help the needy, and hopefully together we can help Tackle Hunger.



VBS 2018: June 24th-28th, 6pm-8:30pm

If interested in volunteering, please see Janice or Charlene. There are lots of opportunities to serve!

FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:

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

1. 2/4- Soup/Sub Orders Due
2. 2/4- "SOUP"erbowl Sunday!
3. 2/10- Churchwide Movie Night-5pm-8pm
4. 2/11- Deliver Valentines to Messiah Village- 9:30am-10:30am. Please sign up TODAY if you haven't yet!
5. 2/15- Soup/Sub pickup-3:30pm-6pm



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

12 of our youth are coming back from a weekend long music/art/drama retreat as you are reading this. Make sure you ask them about their experience at Zeteo. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to go to this event as I have not seen any other ministries use the arts as effectively as Salt and Light Ministries.

No Fusion Tonight!!!

Battleball is coming this February. It will be at Messiah College the 25th of February. All are invited and the cost will be \$10 dollars. We have been doing awesome these past couple tournaments so mark you calendars and take off for this awesome time of dodge ball and worship. Check your email for permission forms and details I also have physical copies.

Upcoming Dates/Events:

February 2-4 – Zeteo
February 4 – No Fusion
February 11 – Fusion Youth Group
February 18 – Fusion Youth Group
February 25 - Battleball
March 3 – Fusion Youth Group
March 10 – Fusion Youth Group