

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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March 11, 2018

Good Morning Everyone!

“But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is stilled called Today..... (Hebrews 3:13)

I have many favorite verses in Scripture. This is one of them because it reminds me I do not travel alone in my spiritual journey. God's plan is that we be surrounded by the community faith – brothers and sisters who will “encourage” us in our faith, hold us accountable, provide resources for our growth, and travel with us as spiritual partners.

I am constantly reminded that I cannot live out my faith as if on an island by myself. When I attempt to ‘go it alone’, I fall short. I need the support, the trust, the love, and the encouragement of my Christian brothers and sisters around me.

As a church we are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ – committed to creating and growing faithful followers of God. To accomplish this – we need each other. I encourage you to get involved with others in the journey of faith through a Sunday School class, a Bible study, a ministry opportunity, a mission project, the prayer team, or any one of the many opportunities to learn and grow. And, I encourage you to encourage one another “day after day.”

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

**Helen Love, Neveah Stout, Janet Michael, Paul Melhorn,
Ann Sullivan, Sandra Weber, Carl Courtney**

CHURCH FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Andrew and Jill Mallon
Tuesday	Steve and Brenda Malnick
Wednesday	Jane Mann
Thursday	Samantha Mann
Friday	Tom and Carol Mann
Saturday	Lisa Mannion

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY: At today's 10:45 Worship service, we are celebrating Girl Scout Sunday. Two Girl Scout troops meet regularly here at SUMC. Many scouts and leaders of these troops attend SUMC and live in our community. We welcome them today.

EASTER EGG HUNT TIME AGAIN... Shepherdstown will host it's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31st, starting at 1pm. Kids from age 1 to 5th grade are invited to attend. There will be crafts and ice cream offered after the egg hunt. ***We are in need of candy donations for the event.*** Any bite-size wrapped candy that the congregation can help supply us with will be greatly appreciated. Look for the basket in the Narthex to place your donations in the next few weeks. Thanks again for your support!





On July 1, 2018 we will be welcoming the Rev. Dr. Dennis Otto and his wife Mona as our new Pastor family. Please keep Shepherdstown UMC, the Baer's (as they retire) and the Otto's (as they come) in your prayers as we all move through this transition together.

CALLING ALL ELEMENTARY CAMPERS: Kids going into grades 4-7 next school year are old enough to go to church camp for a week of fun and friendship. Some fellow Shepherdstown UMC campers are already signed up for Wesley Forest's "Camp Splash" during the week of July 8 - 13, 2018 (camp is listed as code WF12 in the camping brochure). We would love to have you join us for the week. Remember the church will pay 1/2 of the registration fee for campers and if you register before 5/1/18 you can get an early bird discount! Camp booklets are available in the Children's Center or in the Narthex. Feel free to send any questions to the church office.



INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH HERE AT SHEPHERDSTOWN UMC? This Spring, Pastor Baer will be receiving new members during worship. In preparation, two membership classes will be held on April 8 and 15. Then on April 22, new members will join the church during either Worship service. Please contact the church office at 766-3076 or admin.sumc@comcast.net if you have questions or to find out more about becoming a member.

PRAYER GARDEN PAVER ORDER FORM: Prayer Garden Paver order forms are available at the Distribution Center in the Narthex. The order form is fairly straightforward, but if you have questions please contact Deb in the Church Office or Dick Beaty, a co-chair of the Trustee Board. Please return your form and payment to a Response Box, the Offering Plate, or the Church Office, by March 15, 2018.

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 Narthex. We are setting as our goal for this year 200 boxes. Items for the month of March include:

Hair accessories – bows, headbands, clips

Jewelry – friendship bracelets, necklaces, watches

Other -Sunglasses, glow sticks, socks

Just as a reminder the age categories are 2-4, 5-9, 10-14 for both sexes. Thanks for your help in this endeavor.

BIRTHDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Stay and eat following worship on March 18th and celebrate your birthday month with your Shepherdstown family. Birthday tables will be set up and decorated with monthly themes.

There will be door prizes, counting games and guessing games. The menu includes cheese/pepperoni pizza, salad & veggies, applesauce and or course – **BIRTHDAY CAKE!!!!** Pre-registration is needed to ensure proper seating and food ordering so please fill out a registration form found in the Narthex. Check out the pictures from the last Birthday Dinner in 2001. Please specify any dietary needs on your form and we will contact you so we can provide alternatives. Hope to see you there!

Celebrate Shepherdstown Birthdays
March 18th following 10:45 Worship
In the Fellowship Hall!

LENTEN SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES/ASSISTANCE! *Central Pennsylvania Operation Warm Hearts* provides knitted items for local shelters with donations being made every October including hats, blankets and sleeping mats. The sleeping mats are crocheted from “yarn” made from plastic shopping bags. A container to collect the plastic shopping bags is in the Narthex. At a later date, we will be cutting clean bags to create the balls of “yarn”. Watch the newsletter calendar for that date. For more information, check the organization out on Facebook at Operationwarmhearts or their website at operationwarmhearts.org.



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:

March 14.....Mechanicsburg Brethren 717-766-8880

March 21.....Shiremanstown UMC 717-737-6621

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 show support to our college students with a card or care package. Check out this month’s sign-up sheets for both groups on the table in the Narthex. Lists with their birthdates and addresses are also available on the clipboard there.

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.**

TODAY'S MISSION BASKET: Bishop's Partners in Mission. The Mission vision of the Susquehanna Conference is a church alive in Christ for mission and that together we make a difference in our community and the world. Bishop Park is asking for all churches to participate. This fund will support World Service, Volunteers in Mission, Mission Central, Imagine No Malaria and other local, national and global missions.

NOTE OF THANKS: We are so grateful to everyone for the Birthday cards, Valentine cards and Get Well cards and notes we have recently received. Also, thank you to Pastor Tim for his visits to the hospital and to Homeland. We are both on the mend and hoping to be back together in our apartment here at Homeland soon.

Bob and Jenine Lane

SPECIAL DAYS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH THIS WEEK

MARCH

- *** 11 Kevin Morrison,**
- *** 12 Janice Barry,**
- *** 12 Kris Langer,**
- *** 13 Ed Hopple,**
- *** 13 Nathan Trimmer,**
- *** 14 Terry Neyhart,**
- *** 16 Bruce Benton,**
- *** 16 Lori Mainhart,**
- *** 16 Pat Lippert**
- *** 16 Larry Shoop,**
- *** 18 Ron Gruver,**

MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS

- Today.....Bishop's Partners in Mission
- March 18.....North Star Initiative
- March 25.....HUUMM (Harrisburg Uptown UM Ministries)
- April 1The Seminary Debt Fund

JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM

By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. Proverbs 24:3-4

One of the first projects I wanted to take on after retirement was giving my house a really good cleaning. There were a variety of tasks that I had put off for a long time that I no longer had an excuse for. My closets and drawers were on my list along with pulling out the thousands of books we have for a good dusting. I don't mind cleaning. I like the sense of accomplishment it gives me to put things in order (yes, I am a little OCD). I'm sure all of you can relate to the number of things we put aside for future use and then never touch again. I found a multitude of "treasures" tucked away. There were cards my kids made when they were little for me, stones from places visited, snippets of newspaper or magazine articles my mom had clipped to give to me containing nuggets of wisdom. I also found clothing that didn't fit, duplicates books that need to go the next library sale, and Patriot News editions with headlines shouting 9/11 and our entry into Afghanistan. We all collect things. It made me think about what things are we holding on to that need pitched - envy, greed, anger, impulsiveness, ego. We sometimes hold on to things that clutter our minds and hearts and homes and reduce our ability to connect with our most important treasure - Jesus Christ. Let's pray this week about those things that keep us from a clear path. Let's de-clutter!

Join the Prayer Team as we search for the treasures that are truly important. Third Thursdays of the month, 6:30P, in the parlor.

Deb Kenes

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

Today.....Elective Class
March 18Bible Explorers
March 25LIFE Class
April 1Helping Hands

BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND

TodayAnn Baer
March 18Hersh and Annetta Simington
March 25Lori Weicht
April 1Worship Team

GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE: Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,061,960.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$53,098.00 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 – 79

Sunday School – 94

Late Worship – 157

Membership – 514

Dinner and Devotions for Lent 2018

Theme – WAYS WE ENCOUNTER GOD!

During Lent, 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!

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

Last Sunday	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	+ or (-)
\$11,468	\$93,900	\$83,193	\$10,707

UMCOR - Mission Offering- \$429.98

Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses

Current Balance - \$46,516.19

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.

SOS FIELDTRIP: Folks going to the Tuesday, March 20th trip to Longwood Gardens, please meet in the church parking lot at 8:00 am. Approximate time of return to the church is 5:00 pm.

WANT YOUR EASTER EGGS THIS WEEK? If you want your eggs this week, please fill out a green order sheet (found at Distribution Center in Narthex) ***TODAY*** and leave it in the Response Box. Supplies are becoming very limited so, if we don't have your order today for this week, you may not get your full order. Orders for each week are planned for on Monday and are filled on a first come first serve basis. Ordering ahead ensures that you get exactly what you want because the different varieties go fast! You can pick up your egg orders three different ways:

1. Thursday nights after the eggs are dipped between 7:00-8:00 in Fellowship Hall (Please use back Fellowship Hall entrance)
2. Friday mornings from 9:00-noon in the Narthex
3. Sunday mornings outside the kitchen immediately following the first or second service.

"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(3/11/18) – Jesus Clears Merchants From the Temple (John 2:13-22)



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.



JR. CHOIR NEWS...

On Sunday, March 18th, there will be a brief **Jr. and Chancel Choir rehearsal** after the 10:45am service. This will be to practice for the March 25th anthem.



TODAY!! VBS DECORATING BEGINS 3/11



It is already time to start projects for VBS. We always can use all the help we can get. You **DO NOT** have to be a "Master" craftsman. Most projects include cutting, taping, and painting. We always have a lot of laughs as well. **Please plan on joining us.**

FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:

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

- 1. 3/11 & 3/25-VBS Decorating- 2pm**
- 2. 3/31- Egg Hunt-1pm (Please fill out a sign up sheet and return by 3/25)**



March 11th, 2018
"Fusion" Youth Ministries
Shawn Gray - Director
youth@shepherdstownumc.org / 570-460-8132

Wing night is coming up this Tuesday night. The cost is \$12 and its all you can eat wings and nacho's at Quaker Steak and Lube. This is a time of fellowship for all 6th-12th graders and parents and also young adults alumni's of the program. For Fusion tonight we will get back to some more adventurous games like Zombie, Capture the Flag, etc.

Fusion Tonight!!!

We are going back to Gary West Virginia as there is still much good work to do their and many kiddo's that would love to see us again. We are planning on going 6/10 – 6/16. The church that we connected with last year will be their again. If you have not gone this is a great experience with construction, VBS, and visits to a retirement home. Gary is one of the poorest areas in the US. It is for 6th – 12th grade and I also need some adults to man the different sites. If you have any questions see Shawn Gray.

Upcoming Dates/Events:
March 11 – Fusion Youth Group
March 13 – Wing Night
March 18 – Fusion Youth Group
March 25 – Fusion Youth Group
April 1 – Easter and Sunrise Service
April 7 – Outpost