

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 18, 2018

Good Morning Everyone!

Sometimes I wonder if anything will change for the better in the world in which we live. I know you wonder too, because I have heard many of you express the same kinds of thoughts. With violence all around us, especially the terror of children being killed in schools, we certainly live in frightening times! Even so, I find great hope in the words of Acts 16:31: "They answered, Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household."

The followers of Jesus were/are given a power and a message to change the world. Peter, John, Paul, and many others went from place to place offering the good news of Jesus Christ to a world in need of good news. They did it with boldness, with conviction, and with a great sense of urgency!

Throughout human history there have been times of great need when the Church needed to stand strong as a beacon of light in the darkness. I believe we find ourselves in one of those times! More than ever, it is a time for Church people to wake up, stand up, stir from our comfort, and move out with the power of Jesus – the Prince of Peace!

Let's be the Church! Imagine what would happen if we stopped allowing others to tell us what will bring change to the world; and start inviting those around us to meet the One who has changed us and promises to change the world – Jesus the Christ!

See you in Church and About in the World!

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

**Neveah Stout, Janet Michael, Paul Melhorn,
Ann Sullivan, Carl Courtney, Alice Gibney**

CHURCH FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Arnie Martz
Tuesday	Darl and Mindy Martz and family
Wednesday	Ken and Pam Martz
Thursday	Austin Martz
Friday	Scott Martz
Saturday	Joshua and Emilie Matthews and Layland

EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY NEEDED Shepherdstown UMC will host the 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.

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.



Thanks to all who signed up for the Birthday Luncheon today! See you in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:45 Service!



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. We will be collecting/cutting clean bags to create the balls of “yarn”. If you would like to help cut and roll the plastic bag “yarn”, meet in the Children’s Center on Wednesday, 3/21 at 5pm prior to the Lenten Dinners.

DECORATING MEALS ON WHEELS BAGS. Thanks to all who helped decorate the bags for St. Patrick’s Day. We will be decorating bags for Easter. 70 bags were taken already – 65 to go. What is involved? We decorate one side of the brown paper bags used to distribute meals each week by the Mechanicsburg Meals on Wheels. Help brighten someone’s day by decorating some bags. Bags must be returned by March 25 unless other arrangements are made.

VBS Take Home Projects Available, see Charlene Kapp.

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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: The North Star Initiative provides support to women who are survivors of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation by addressing their physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual needs through Christ-centered focus. Their vision is “Restoring women from trafficking. For Freedom, For life, Forever.” www.northstarinitiative.org. This ministry is based in Lancaster County.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 25:

8:15 and 10:45 - Our Worship will be a celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into the holy city of Jerusalem. Like the crowds who waved their palm branches as Jesus entered the city, we will wave our palm branches proclaiming his greatness.

Maundy Thursday, March 29:

7:00 - Be reminded of how Jesus shared a meal with his disciples on that night just before he was arrested and how he gave the disciples a way to remember him as they ate the bread and drank the cup. Come and join with Christian brothers and sisters all over the world as we experience Jesus' presence through music, scripture and sharing the bread and cup.



Easter Sunday, April 1:

6:50 - Sunrise Service - Come experience the joy of Christ's resurrection by praising him at the start of Easter Sunday. The Youth will be leading us in this service. We will be meeting to praise the Lord for his sacrifice and resurrection. Please bring your lawn chairs for this brief service. ***The service will be followed by a Continental Breakfast and fellowship in the Life Center.***



8:15 and 10:45 Worship Services - Gather all your friends and family! Flowers will brighten our worship space. Music, song, scripture, and the proclamation of the Easter message will combine to lead us into a celebration of the defeat of death, the resurrection of Jesus, and his offer of new and eternal life for all of us. Join the song of praise that will be raised by Christians throughout the world as we boldly affirm, "Christ is risen!"

JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1

I was at a church meeting last night where we spent some time discussing hospitality. Our goal, as a church, should always be to make sure that those who visit us feel like they are wrapped in Jesus' arms. Are we successful? Could we be better? We certainly don't want to overwhelm anyone and invade their space but we want them to know that we have spent time with the Father/Son/Holy Spirit. How do we do that? It begins with each of us individually. Do you believe you are a child of God? Do you act like you believe it? People can spot sincerity a mile away.....and are drawn to it. Let's have a church wide discussion on ways to welcome others to our family - perhaps for just a Sunday or as a member. As always, the way to start a project is with prayer. Let's pray that we each put away our insecurities and know who we are. Let's further pray that we ALL talk about how to do it and Shepherdstown becomes known as a church that welcomes with open arms and hearts.

The Prayer Team meets each third Thursday of the month at 6:30P in the Parlor. **Deb Kenes**

NOTE OF THANKS: I would like to thank everyone who helped set up, supported, and helped tear down the auction last Saturday. We made \$222.60 for the church. **Herh Simington**

Also thanks to all who provided food and helped in the kitchen. The Food Stand profited 204.28. **Jeanie Hershey**

SPECIAL DAYS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH THIS WEEK

MARCH

- *** 18 Ron Gruver**
- *** 19 Tyler Mallon**
- *** 20 Kathy Eberly**
- * 20 Luna Carr, 17 Surrey Lane, 17055**
- A 21 Corbin and Sara Trimmer**
- *** 21 Alexandria Branyan**
- *** 21 Evelyn Hower**
- A 21 Ray and Penny Erney**
- A 22 Doug and Mandy Brown**
- A 22 Elwood & Judy Brandt**
- *** 22 Andrew Mallon**
- *** 22 Jonathan Fauber**
- *** 22 Jean Crow**
- *** 23 Sherry Bruck**
- *** 23 Joe Venzlowsky**
- *** 24 René Murray**
- *** 24 Tim Ries**
- *** 24 Clay McAllister**
- *** 25 Richard Davis**
- *** 25 Emily Vance**
- ** 25 Elliot Bashore**

MISSION BASKETS IN THE COMING WEEKS

- March 18.....North Star Initiative
- March 25.....HUUMM (Harrisburg Uptown UM Ministries)
- April 1The Seminary Debt Fund
- April 8Native American Ministries

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

- March 18Bible Explorers
- March 25LIFE Class
- April 1Helping Hands
- April 8Elective Class

BREWERS AND BAKERS FOR GATHERING GROUND

- March 18Hersh and Annetta Simington
- March 25Lori Weicht
- April 1Worship Team
- April 8Volunteer Needed

GIANT CARD FUND RAISER UPDATE: Since October of 2001, we have sold \$1,062,645.00 worth of Giant cards with a profit to the church of \$53,132.25. Purchase your cards immediately following the worship service or on weekdays from 9 am – 12 noon 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 – 73
Sunday School – 82
Late Worship – 169
Membership – 514

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

Last Sunday	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	+ or (-)
\$8,855	\$102,755	\$92,437	\$10,318

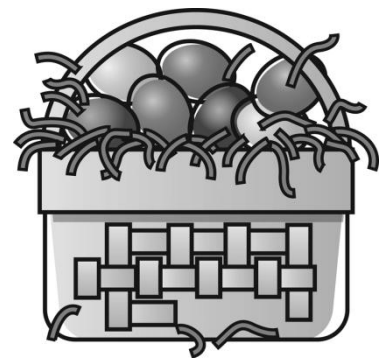
Bishop's Partners in Mission - Mission Offering- \$343.35
Capital/Special Projects & Related Expenses
Current Balance - \$47,021.08

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.

TODAY (3/18) IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER EGGS! Today is your last opportunity to order Easter Eggs. Please fill out a green order sheet (found in today's newsletter and at Distribution Center in Narthex) **TODAY** and leave it in the Response Box. 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 night after the eggs are dipped between 7:00-8:00 in Fellowship Hall (Please use back Fellowship Hall entrance)
2. Friday morning from 9:00-noon in the Narthex
3. Sunday morning outside the kitchen immediately following the first or second service.



**Easter
Eggs
2018**

"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(3/18/18) – Jesus Explains Why God Sent Him (John 3:12-21)



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.

VBS 2018- "SHIPWRECKED"



As we steadily grow closer to the start of VBS (6/24- 6/28) please keep close look in the newsletter for the various ways you can support our program. The Volunteer Board will be in the Narthex soon, along with the Donation Board. And, we can always use extra hands at our decorating meetings.



JR. CHOIR NEWS... TODAY!!!!

Today, 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.

FLOCK NEWS: Upcoming Events:

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

1. 3/25-VBS Decorating- 2pm
2. 3/31- Egg Hunt-1pm (Please fill out a sign up sheet and return by 3/25)
3. 4/1- Sunday School Easter Party-9:30am-10:30am
4. 4/8, 4/22- VBS Decorating- 2pm



March 18th, 2018
"Fusion" Youth Ministries
Shawn Gray - Director
youth@shepherdstownumc.org / 570-460-8132

We will conclude our series on identity and calling tonight at youth. With the sun light coming back I hope we can start going outside and get some soccer, ultimate, capture the flag in sooner than later. We are going to continue to practice for the Sunrise Service during Sunday School the next two weeks. We still have opportunities for you to be a part of the service. Just come to Sunday School and you can be a part of this meaningful worship experience on Easter.

Fusion Tonight!!!

We are going back to Gary, West Virginia as there is still much good work to do their and many kiddo's who 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. The Mission Trip 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 18 – Fusion Youth Group
March 25 – Fusion Youth Group
April 1 – Easter and Sunrise Service
April 7 – Outpost?
April 8 - Fusion Youth Group
April 15 - Fusion Youth Group