



State Line UMC

January 2019

Without Borders

Message from the Pastor

Words cannot adequately express the various emotions I am feeling right now as I write this! I write this on one of my last days as your pastor, and wonder what it is like to say good bye. There are various phrases we use: Farewell. 'Til we meet again. Later. Go with God. Saying goodbye is a spiritual practice. And like many spiritual practices, it is not always easy. Even though life is full of goodbyes, it does not mean that it is easier with practice. It is a time of confusion for some, anger for others, hope for others, and intense grief for others still.

I will forever remember you, the faithful people of State Line UMC. I am grateful for the times we have laughed together, times when we talked and studied scripture together, times when we grieved together during difficult moments, and times when we ate meals together! I have been blessed by you all, and you will forever be a part of my life and pastoral journey. Know Hannah and I have been blessed to meet and be a part of your lives for the past few years.

I want to leave you with two Bible passages. These two passages are foundational for my understanding of faith, life, and the church. These two scripture passages continue to convict me in my own spiritual journey with God.

Stop reading this right now, open up your Bible and read Matthew 25:31-46. Really, I'm being serious! Here's what I do not want you to forget – **continuing loving people without inquiring if they deserve it or not.** God is honored when we care and love other people, even when we don't think they deserve it! Our role is not to judge whether someone deserves our attention or care, our role is to love and care for people period! Some of my favorite memories at State Line are doing this beside and with you all. Thanks for sharing in this with me!

The second scripture that I want to leave with you is Matthew 28:18-20. Here's what I do not want you to forget – **keep telling other people about Jesus.** Jesus is the hope and light of the world, and it's our responsibility to tell others about Jesus. Jesus is the best news that we can share with the world right now! Please remain committed to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and keep that as a focus in your life!

My hope is that if you eventually forget about me, you won't forget about the love of Jesus, the Bible and these two powerful scriptures. Keep loving people and telling others about Jesus. So... farewell, go with God, God be with you all. Thanks for being faithful people of Jesus Christ.

Encounter God

Share God's love with our church family and invite friends and neighbors.

Wednesday mornings at 9:30, ladies meet to **quilt and sew** together. Contact Linda Baker for more details.

Sunday Morning
9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Fellowship Time
10:15am Worship

Grow in Faith

You must be intentional in growing your faith and in helping others do the same.

The **State Line UMC Youth Group** meets each Wednesday evening at 6:30pm. 7th through 12th grade students throughout the community are invited to participate.

Bible Study with Pastor Ruth is held Thursday mornings at 9:30am.

Serve in Christ's Love

Jesus gave us the example of helping others and charged us with sharing the faith.

Our **Outreach Team** is committed to help those most in need in our community. The entire congregation is gathering food to assist those living at the State Line Inn.

Our Mission To make new disciples of Jesus Christ

Our Vision To invite and reach out to our neighbors to encounter God, grow in faith and serve in Christ's love

Worship Service Volunteers

- January 6th
Worship Assistant: Matt Ellis
Acolyte: Hunter T.
Greeters: Mark S. & Rob S.
Nursery: Tabitha H. & Gwenelle T.
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- January 13th
Worship Assistant: Mark Semler
Acolyte: Hunter T.
Greeters: Darlene H. & Matt E.
Nursery: Julia S. & Dixie E.
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- January 20th
Worship Assistant: Keric Ellis
Acolyte: Hunter T.
Greeters: Judy E. & Gary R.
Nursery: Christy G. & Hillary G.
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- January 27th
Worship Assistant: Ellen Avey
Acolyte: Hunter T.
Greeters: Mark S. & Rob S.
Nursery: Tabitha H. & Gwenelle T.
Tech Booth: Jonathan



Anniversaries

- 23 Gary & Sherry Rhoe
25 Dale & Darlene Hostetter
25 Renee & Russell Crouse



Birthdays

- 4 Timothy "TJ" Scheide
14 Angie Baer
21 Linda Junkins
22 Sebastian Socks
24 Ellen Avey
25 Patty Goins
30 Jacqueline Simmons

Church Calendar

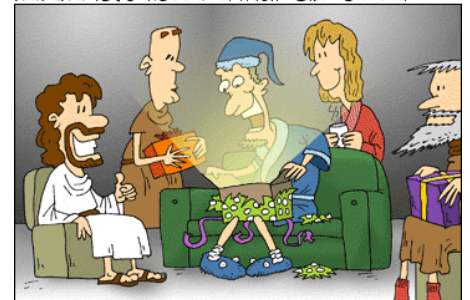
- January 1st
New Year's Day
- January 2nd
9:00AM-2:00PM – Office Hours
9:30AM – Women meet to quilt
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- January 3rd
Normal office hours resume
9:30AM – Bible Study with Pastor Ruth
- January 4th
2:00PM – Faith and Health
- January 9th
9:30AM – Women meet to quilt
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- January 10th
9:30AM – Bible Study with Pastor Ruth
- January 11th
2:00PM – Faith and Health
- January 12th
8:00AM – Men's Breakfast at Brother's Pizza
- January 15th
6:30PM – Leadership Team Meeting
- January 16th
9:30AM Women meet to quilt
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice

- January 17th
9:30AM – Bible Study with Pastor Ruth
- January 18th
2:00PM – Faith and Health
- January 21st
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 23rd
9:30AM Women meet to Quilt
6:00PM – Outreach Team Pack and Deliver food
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- January 24th
9:30AM – Bible Study with Pastor Ruth
- January 25th
2:00PM – Faith and Health
- January 30th
9:30AM Women meet to quilt
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- January 31st
9:30AM – Bible Study with Pastor Ruth



Pastors Hap and Ruth Hollister as well as Pastor Kris would like to extend a warm Thank You to the congregation for honoring them during Pastor Appreciation Month.

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Thanks to Andrew S.
ETERNAL LIFE, MY FAVORITE ... THANKS JESUS!

For Fellowship & Community

Mingle & Jingle Church Christmas Party



The Mingle & Jingle Christmas Party was a ton of fun! Thank you to all those who worked to make it a special gathering for our church family. The food was great, the presents were fun, but the company was the best part!

Wishing everyone a blessed New Year!



Outreach Monthly Food Needs

Jar of peanut butter (1)
Canister of quick oats (1)
Bottle of syrup (1)
Chicken or Tuna Helper boxed meals (1)

Jar of jelly (1)
Pasta sides packet (1)
Complete pancake mix (1)

Canned chicken or tuna (2)
Box of pasta (1)
6-pack Ramen Noodle Soup (1)

Can of soup (1)
Jar of pasta sauce (1)
Can of vegetables(1)

The Christmas Conference: 10 Days that Started a Church



Excerpt from A UMC.org Feature by Joe Iovino

For those who started the Methodist church in America, their Christmas Eve in 1784 was the first of ten days of serious church business. In the end, their gift to us was the formation of a new denomination that would change history. When Thomas Coke bumped into Francis Asbury after a worship service at Barratt's Chapel in Frederica, Delaware, he shared important news. John Wesley had sent him to ordain Asbury and appoint him superintendent of a new, Methodist church in the United States. The Christmas Conference at Lovely Lane Chapel in Baltimore, Maryland, began on Christmas Eve 1784.

Church of England priests serving in America returned to England during the American Revolutionary War, leaving no one to administer the sacraments to the Methodists. Lay preachers kept the societies going with meetings and love feasts, but they needed ordained clergy. When the Church of England continued to refuse Wesley's requests to ordain some of his Methodist preachers and send them across the Atlantic, he took matters into his own hands. Wesley ordained two Methodist lay preachers to serve in the U.S., and appointed Coke a general superintendent. ... The 10 days they spent together would later become known as the Christmas Conference. ... According to Coke, 81 people met at Lovely Lane. "Nearly 60 of them" were "American Preachers," he notes, "most of them young." As the conference to found the Methodist Episcopal Church began, only Coke, Richard Whatcoat, and Thomas Vasey—the two Wesley had ordained in England a few weeks earlier—were clergy. All other members of the Conference, including Asbury, were lay preachers. Coke would soon rectify that. Beginning on Christmas Day, Francis Asbury was ordained a deacon, ordained an elder, and consecrated as a general superintendent on three consecutive days—a record that will never be broken. Asbury, who had served as the de facto leader of the Methodists in America for years, refused to accept the role of superintendent solely by Wesley's appointment. He insisted the preachers elect him to serve in that capacity. Soon after the Christmas Conference, Methodists began to refer to Coke and Asbury as bishops, despite Wesley's objections to the term. The United Methodist Church still elects our bishops today. No minutes of the Christmas Conference survive, but based on the journals of those present and the Discipline they produced, historians can piece together much of what happened. Twelve lay preachers were elected and ordained as elders (clergy). The Sunday Service John Wesley sent with Coke was approved for use in the new church—a forerunner of today's Book of Worship. The conference also talked about forming Cokesbury College, and made a host of other decisions necessary for the formation of the new denomination.

Read the full article at <http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/the-christmas-conference-10-days-that-started-a-church>

CHURCH NEWS

Excerpt from the State Line UMC Guiding Principles Financial Guiding Principles

- Once the budget is approved, those responsible (i.e. staff, ministry leaders) for the various ministry areas have the authority to spend their budget to align with the objective for their ministry approved by the pastor. Staff and ministry leaders can spend up to \$100 without any approval, as long as it aligns with their ministry goals. Any purchase between \$100-500 can be spent with the approval of the Senior Pastor. Any single expense above \$500 must be approved by the Leadership Team in consultation with the Senior Pastor and Treasurer.
- Only persons who have authority may incur an expense for the church according to the approved spending limit. Any person wishing to accrue an expense for the congregation must receive permission from the pastor.
- Any person who incurs an expense without permission on behalf of the church will be required to meet with the pastor and entire Leadership Team to rectify the situation.
- All account holders are requested to keep all receipts and bank statements for their respective account. A financial audit is required each year with additional audits proposed throughout the year at the discretion of the Leadership Team and/or Senior Pastor.
- The Leadership Team will receive a complete financial review quarterly.

Leadership Team Highlights

The team met on Thursday, December 13th:

- 2019 budget prepared by Linda Junkins and Pastor Kris was presented, discussed, and approved.
- Bobby Norris and leadership team members will review building improvement plans on Dec. 14 with a representative of Waynesboro Construction who will visit our church in order to prepare cost estimate for consideration.
- Exiting team members Bonnie Courtney and Bobby Norris were thanked for their participation on the Leadership Team.
- Dist. Supt. Charlie Salisbury met with the team to provide details relevant to Pastor Kris's announcement of his residency with The Gathering (St. Louis, MO) from Jan. through June 2019. The team will meet on Dec. 20 with the potential interim pastor.
- The first leadership team meeting of 2019 will be at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 15. Anyone interested in the team's work to live out and fulfill our mission and vision are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Leadership Team for 2019

Class of 2019:

Angie Baer
John Courtney
Ellen Kennedy

Class of 2020:

Ellen Avey, *Chairperson*
Dick Walck
Robbie Socks

Class of 2021:

Judy Ellis
Keric Ellis, *Lay Delegate to AC*
Gwenelle Trivette

Ministry Leaders

Encounter God

Worship Coordinator: Ellen Avey
Praise Team Leader: Travis Ware
Hospitality/Safe Sanct.: Sherry Rhoe

Grow in Faith

Children's Ministry: Dixie Ellis
Youth Ministry: Jonathan Trivette

Serve in Christ's Love

Outreach Team: Gary Baer
Building & Grounds: Ed Fiery
Ladies' Fellowship: Dianne Socks

Sunday Worship: 10:15AM
Fellowship Time: 10:00AM
All-Ages Sunday School: 9:00AM
Office Hours: 9:00AM-2:00PM
Tuesday & Thursday

Interim Pastor: Chris Renner
Administrative Assistant: Mary Thomas
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Website: www.statelineumc.com

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