



State Line UMC

April 2019

Without Borders

Message from the Pastor

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As we're in the midst of the Lenten season, it has come to my realization that my time with you as your interim pastor is at the halfway point. Where has the time gone? I have so much more to share and do with you that I'm not sure I'll get it all done before your new pastor arrives by July 1st. My prayer and hope for our church is that together we become more and more "united with Christ, one in spirit and mind" and see what God will do. According to my early expectations, I envisioned more folks coming to worship each and every Sunday, being financially sound in meeting our monthly budget (spending plan for ministry) needs, and bearing more and more fruit for God's kingdom. We are bearing fruit (evidenced throughout this newsletter), but the potential for more is related to "having more hands on deck."

Did you notice a lot of usage of the words "I" and "my" in that first paragraph? Like so many of us, I often lack patience and expect instant results, in essence not allowing God's Spirit to work in and through us to bring about God's desired plan for our church in his time. Sometimes I forget my dear old pastor's wise counsel given to me at the beginning of my pastoral journey: "Love them and preach Christ!" God will do the rest, as we allow his Spirit to abide within and guide us. Consequently my primary focus has been doing just that – loving you and preaching Christ. Your response in faith and consistent prayer is of utmost importance to our church's future.

As we journey through Lent in anticipation of Easter Sunday morning, I encourage us all to make the Apostle Paul's prayer for the Ephesians our prayer here at State Line UMC (from Ephesians 3:14-21). "We kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. We pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen us with power through his Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And we pray that we, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

So as recipients of the Holy Spirit's power within us, are we willing and ready to see where God takes us? We need all hands on deck! Shalom! PC

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 are invited to participate.

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

Heart Opening Yoga is held Thursday evenings at **6:30pm**.

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

Church Calendar

April 7th

Worship Assistant: Matt Ellis
Acolyte: Hunter T.
Greeters: Alicia E. & Rob S.
Nursery: Tabitha H. & Gwenelle T.
Tech Booth: Jonathan

New
calendar!

April 14th

Worship Assistant: Ellen Avey
Acolyte: Cheyenne
Greeters: John C. & Angie B.
Nursery: Julia S. & Dixie E.
Tech Booth: Jonathan

NOW In
folders!

April 21st

Worship Assistant: Keric Ellis
Acolyte: Hunter T.
Greeters: Sherrill C. & Matt E.
Nursery: Christy G. & Hillary G.
Tech Booth: Jonathan

April 28th

Worship Assistant: Matt Ellis
Acolyte: Cheyenne
Greeters: Darlene H. & Curtis B.
Nursery: Tabitha H. & Gwenelle T.
Tech Booth: Jonathan



Anniversaries

- 17 Alicia & Justin Eby
- 22 Rodger & Ellen Kennedy



Birthdays

- 5 Rodger Kennedy
- 6 Sherrill Courtney
- 7 Michelle Scheide
- 8 Kate Fiery
- 12 Linda Baker
- 14 Hunter Rhoe
- 14 Hayden Rhoe
- 17 Robbie Gregory Jr
- 17 Gary Baer
- 22 Judy Ellis
- 29 Margaret Davis

April 3rd

9:30AM – Women meet to quilt
6:00PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice

April 4th

9:30AM – Bible Study with
Pastor Ruth
6:30PM – Heart Opening Yoga

April 6th

9:00AM – Women's Prayer Meeting

April 10th

9:30AM Women meet to quilt
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice

April 11th

9:30AM – Bible Study with
Pastor Ruth
6:30PM – Heart Opening Yoga

April 16th

6:30PM – Leadership Team Meeting

April 17th

9:30AM Women meet to quilt
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice

April 18th

9:30AM – Bible Study with
Pastor Ruth
6:30PM – Heart Opening Yoga
7:00PM – Maundy Thursday Service

April 19th

9:00AM – Good Friday
Service & Breakfast

April 21st

Easter Sunday!

April 24th

9:30AM Women meet to
quilt
6:00PM – Outreach Team
Pack and Deliver food
6:30PM – Youth Group
8:30PM – Praise Band
Practice

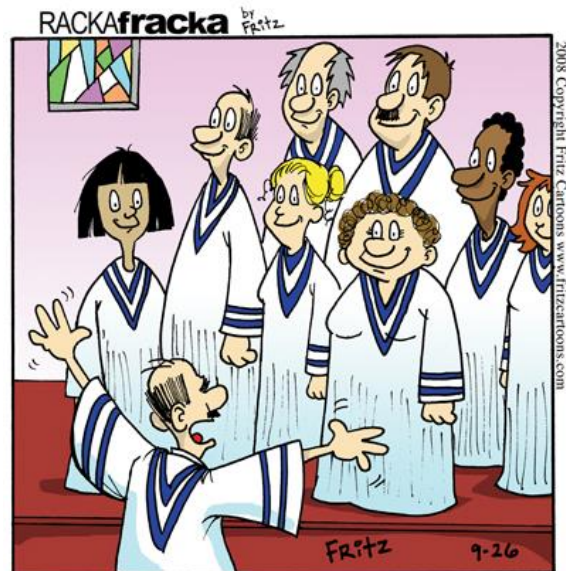
April 25th

9:30AM – Bible Study with
Pastor Ruth
6:30PM – Heart Opening
Yoga

Mary's Easter Season Office Hours

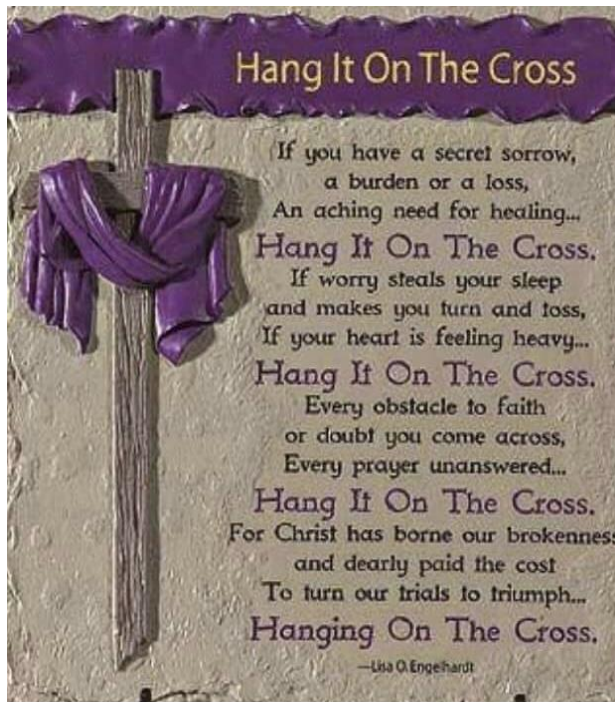
Monday, April 15th – 9:00AM-2:00PM

Friday, April 26th – 9:00AM-2:00PM



HALFWAY THROUGH PHILIPPIANS 2,
REVEREND PAUL MATTHEWS REALIZED
HE WAS PREACHING TO THE CHOIR.

For Fellowship & Community



Outreach Ministry

The Outreach Team had a meeting on March 20th. MANY plans were discussed to keep our church actively reaching out to our community. It's never too late to join the team – and you are always encouraged to participate in any of the efforts.

- ❖ 4/17/19 – Fill Easter Eggs for the Community Egg Hunt
- ❖ 4/20/19 – Help hide Easter Eggs at the Ruritan Park
- ❖ 6/12/19 – Cookout at the State Line Inn – Everyone is welcome to come, help, eat with and get to know the families living in the Inn.
- ❖ 8/-/19 – Back to School Breakfast – We will be inviting children from the State Line Inn to join us.
- ❖ 11/17/19 – Community Free Thanksgiving Meal in the fellowship hall.
- ❖ Continue with monthly bags of food to support the struggling families at the State Line Inn.
- ❖ LOTS more projects in the works!

Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 15th at 6:00pm – EVERYONE is welcome and encouraged to attend!

MINISTRY MATTERS

What's happening through ministry efforts these days? Glad you asked! Here's the answer:

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY follows *Bible Life* curriculum with weekly lesson and Bible study, memory verse, prayer, and kid-friendly activities to reinforce the truths learned. Some recently used hands-on methods include retelling of the day's story by blowing a ping pong ball from one student to another as each learner tells a part of the story, and unscrambling Bible verses written on cards or stacking cups. Sounds like teachers know what kids like AND what they need to learn to grow in their faith!

OUTREACH TEAM welcomed three more folks at their recent meeting. Ideas a-plenty are in the works for ways to interact with our neighbors in the community. April's big event is the egg hunt - help fill eggs on the 17th/ fill some on your own/bring to church and/or help drop eggs on the 20th. A June cook-out for folks at the inn, help with the Back-to-School Breakfast, and the Thanksgiving meal are in the long-range plans. The team applauds those who faithfully give food items for the monthly grocery deliveries. It indeed 'takes a church' to make this happen.



YOUTH TEAM keeps our teens involved with weekly meetings that include learning adventures, creative activities, and music. They meet each week to learn and grow in the teaching of the Bible with a different leader from week to week. The group recently visited church members unable to attend church, enjoying fellowship time and getting to know these 'mature' members of our congregation. This inter-generational activity included delivery of a goody bag to each one visited. At the last meeting, the group painted crosses on canvas and managed not to get paint all over themselves.

PLEASE continue to pray for our ministry leaders, their efforts, and those touched by their endeavors. There are many great things happening through them. If not actively involved in the ministries, prayerfully consider how your gifts and graces can be put into use. God can do great things through us!



MISSION CENTRAL PRAYER VIGIL

Spring 2019

Join us each Wednesday in April at noon as we surround Mission Central with prayer. We have a different prayer request each week, with a “Prayer Walk” at Mission Central on Wednesday, May 1, at noon.

————— **Week 1 (April 3)** —————

Pray for funding for the daily operation costs at Mission Central and that more and more people will be able to experience God’s glory at work as we begin to operate under our own 501(c)(3) designation.

————— **Week 2 (April 10)** —————

Pray for the facilities, that we will be able to properly maintain this amazing warehouse that God has provided.

————— **Week 3 (April 17)** —————

Pray for the many missions of Mission Central – the people and places we currently serve and those whom we still need to reach...
locally, nationally and globally.

————— **Week 4 (April 24)** —————

Pray for Mission Central Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and the Mission Central HUBs, that all may continue their important work in support of Mission Central.

————— **Week 5 (May 1)** —————

Join us at Mission Central for a prayer walk / vigil in the warehouse at noon.

Mission Central, 5 Pleasant View Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
717-766-1533 www.missioncentral.org

CHURCH NEWS

Leadership Team Highlights

The leadership team met on March 19th. The following may be of interest.

- Pastor Chris shared that Holy Week services will include Maundy Thursday (7 pm), Good Friday (9 am including a light breakfast), Easter Sunrise service at Ruritan Park (6:30 am) and worship at our usual time.
- The stove, hood, and small cupboard needed to replace those currently in the parsonage were agreed upon and will be in place for Pastor Steve and family's arrival. Fireplace repair/updated costs should be available for consideration at the April meeting.
- New leader(s) for the building concept plan to move forward are to be discerned as Bobby Norris stepped down from this position. Also being considered is a replacement for a team member who stepped down
- A review of church finances was presented and discussed. It is hoped that with winter behind us attendance and giving will return to 'normal' so that as we grow spiritually we will be able to meet the church's financial needs.
- Reasons to celebrate include the dedicated ministry team leaders and team members who put much time and effort into serving. Team leaders received notes of appreciation.
- Prayer and scripture/devotions are part of each leadership team meeting. Both are needed to center and guide the team.

The Leadership Team meets the third Tuesday of each month. Anyone is welcome to attend to see this group in action. The next meeting is April 16th.

*Do you feel "Spring" in your step on Sunday?
It might be the new vacuum taking care of business.
After many years of faithful service,
the old vacuum gave up and was replaced
by a powerful new one. Let's get it done!*



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
Email: CRenner@susumc.org
Administrative Assistant: Mary Thomas
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