



State Line UMC

December 2018

# Without Borders

## Message from Pastor Kris

For many years, I dreaded the Christmas season and looked forward to it ending quickly! I wasn't too excited about putting up a Christmas tree, hearing Christmas music, or enjoying Christmas activities. Last Christmas with Hannah, I began to treasure and really appreciate the Christmas season. It became a special time for us, not just to prepare for the actual holiday, but to remember the incredible act that God did for us.

The temptation will be for us to focus solely on the thrills or disappointments of the Christmas season. Our focus will center on time with family, gifts, and the best Hallmark movie. I invite you (or urge you) to not miss the miracle and story of Christmas that the God who created this entire world, the God who gave us life, sent His son Jesus to live among us. As the gospel of Matthew proclaims, "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." (Matthew 1:23). This Advent and Christmas season, I invite you to be intentional in remembering that God is with us, through the life and person of Jesus. This is better news than anything we can read, learn, or hear today! God chose to love us by being with us! And so, maybe you'll choose to spend significant time reading through an Advent Scripture reading plan that is being printed in the bulletin each Sunday. Maybe each day, you'll spend more time praying and reflecting upon this scripture. Maybe you'll choose to give more this Christmas than receive. Maybe you'll choose to be more present with family and friends. I invite us to choose something this Advent season that help you not miss out on the true meaning of the season.



### 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. 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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

- December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Ellen Avey  
Acolyte: Hunter T.  
Greeters: Judy E. & Rob S.  
Nursery: Christy G. & Hillary G.  
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- December 9<sup>th</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Matt Ellis  
Acolyte: Hunter T.  
Greeters: Mark S. & Angie B.  
Nursery: Tabitha H. & Gwenelle T.  
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- December 16<sup>th</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Keric Ellis  
Acolyte: Hunter T.  
Greeters: John C. & Curtis B.  
Nursery: Julia S. & Ellen A.  
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- December 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Ellen Avey  
Acolyte: Hunter T.  
Greeters: Sherrill C. & Matt E.  
Nursery: Christy G. & Hillary G.  
Tech Booth: Jonathan
- December 30<sup>th</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Mark Semler  
Acolyte: Hunter T.  
Greeters: Darlene H. & Gary R.  
Nursery: Bonnie C. & Dixie E.  
Tech Booth: Jonathan

### Church Calendar

- December 1<sup>st</sup>  
9:00AM – Leadership Team Retreat
- December 5<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Women meet to quilt  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- December 6<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Bible Study with  
Pastor Ruth
- December 7<sup>th</sup>  
2:00PM – Faith and Health
- December 8<sup>th</sup>  
2:00PM – Ladies' Fellowship  
Christmas Party
- December 9<sup>th</sup>  
12:00PM – Safe Sanctuaries Training
- December 11<sup>th</sup>  
6:30PM – Leadership Team Meeting
- December 12<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Women meet to quilt  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- December 13<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Bible Study with  
Pastor Ruth
- December 14<sup>th</sup>  
2:00PM – Faith and Health  
6:00PM – Church Christmas Party

- December 19<sup>th</sup>  
6:00PM - Outreach meets  
to pack & deliver food  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band  
Practice
- December 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Bible Study with  
Pastor Ruth
- December 21<sup>st</sup>  
2:00PM – Faith and Health
- December 24<sup>th</sup>  
7:00PM – Christmas Eve  
Worship Service
- December 25<sup>th</sup>  
CHRISTMAS DAY!



### Anniversaries

- 18 Denny & Jacqueline Simmons  
20 Jonathan & Gwenelle Trivette  
29 Terrin & Trey Altland  
31 Matt & Bonnie Courtney  
31 Steve & Denise Boyer



### Birthdays



- 7 Ruth Hollister  
9 Christy Garner  
16 Molly Llyod  
19 Sarah Beth Garner  
19 Curtis Barr  
20 Harry Kelley  
26 Mary Thomas  
29 Connor Socks  
29 Ellen Kennedy  
29 Jeffrey Wine  
29 Connie Barr

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I'M SORRY GUY, I KNOW THAT YOU'VE GOT A GOOD HEALTH PLAN AND YOU GIVE OUT FREE GIFTS AND ALL, BUT JESUS REALLY DOES HAVE A MUCH BETTER PLAN

# For Fellowship & Community

## Community Free Meal



The Outreach Team would like to thank the congregation for donations of food, time and prayer to make our first community meal a huge success! Over 100 meals were served, prayers were shared, and connections made with those in need right here in State Line.



## 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)

## What We, as the UMC, Can Do About Bullying

- Recognize the scope of the problem, especially online bullying, which is wide-spread and easily reaches young people.
  - Learn what bullying is and also what it is not.
  - Pay attention to warning signs.
  - Emphasize empathy.
  - Keep the conversation going and encourage kids to find activities they enjoy.
  - Support anti-bullying groups and learn steps to take.
  - Remember this is our call as Christians.
1. The UMC has a zero tolerance policy for bullying.
  2. Model love and respect within and outside the church walls.
  3. Church should always be a safe space.

For more information:

<http://www.umc.org/how-we-serve/what-church-members-can-do-about-bullying>



## Pumpkin Roll Sale

Thank you to all those who helped make the pumpkin roll sale a success.

The Ladies' Fellowship is grateful to have funds to continue their missions.

## Ladies' Fellowship Christmas Party!

State Line United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM

Please bring:

- Finger food to share with the others
- A gift to swap (max. \$10 value)
- Canned goods to donate to the Outreach efforts

Look for a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary!



# CHURCH NEWS

## Leadership Team Highlights

The team met on Tuesday, November 13:

- Recently worshiping with us have been the Berkley family and Michelle and Luiz Martinez.
- Youth are actively involved in a number of ways including making table decorations for the community dinner.
- Final details about the community dinner were given.
- A discussion/evaluation of Vision Day took place. It was agreed that an all-church gathering should be held 1-2 times annually to consider our vision and how we are working together to share the love of Jesus and His story.
- The budget-making process was explained. Anyone (non-team members welcome) interested in helping prepare the 2019 budget should contact Pastor Kris by Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>
- The team completed a church profile as required by the District Superintendent.
- The team reviewed the building concept to be presented after worship on Nov. 18.
- Dec. 1 is the date for a day-long team meeting with the regular December meeting set for Dec. 11 at 6:30pm. Anyone interested is welcome to attend the meeting.



## Prayer Pals

The Children's Ministry team has initiated an innovative way to enhance the spiritual experience of our children. Prayer Pals is a program to connect our children with adults in the congregation who become partners in prayer.

Don't forget to ask your Prayer Pal to pray for any special needs you have!



## Mingle & Jingle Church Christmas Party

While you're making your list and checking it twice,  
Plan to attend the Christmas party . . . it's sure to be nice!

Fun starts at 6:00 with a fun happy half-hour,  
With some tasty appetizers you'll want to devour.

Then on to the meal, already prepared;  
Baked ham, meatballs and more-you'll be glad you're there!

There'll be lots of desserts - you're gonna bring 'em,  
And carols with Travis - we're all gonna sing 'em!

Bring a tree decoration to add to our tree  
To make it look festive, in fact, quite lovely.

Last but not least, the exchange of presents;  
Might get a great gift or go home with stuffed pheasants!

So mark your calendar for the 14th of December,  
That way the date you're sure to remember!



**STATE LINE UMC**  
**287 EAST AVENUE**  
**STATE LINE, PA 17263**  
**717-597-4217**

**Sunday Worship:**  
10:15AM

**Fellowship Time:**  
10:00AM

**All-Ages Sunday School:**  
9:00AM

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00AM-2:00PM

**Pastor Kristopher Sledge**  
570-556-0395

ksledge@susumc.org

**Administrative Assistant:** Mary Thomas

**Email:** StateLineUMChurch@gmail.com

**Website:** www.statelineumc.com