



State Line UMC June / July 2021 Without Borders

Message from Pastor Ruth

Summer 2021

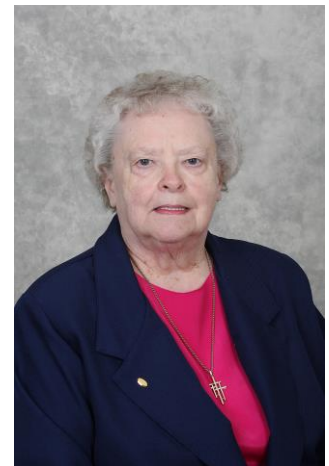
Summer is a beautiful time of the year, a time to do many things that bring joy to our families; picnics, family reunions, carnivals, vacations. It's a time of spending time with each other and sharing likes and dislikes, having fun, on a more relaxed schedule. While COVID 19 did not allow vacations last year, it looks like vaccinations have made this summer's vacations possible. Praise the Lord!

It is also a time for hard work, as we see farmers preparing ground for planting fields and harvesting crops.

It is time for us, as a church, to do some hard work to restore our faith and the faith of those who, though we do not know yet, may be the future of State Line Church.

Jesus left this world telling us to: ***"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."*** Matthew 28: 19-20

Pastor Ruth Hollister



Encounter God

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

Grow in Faith

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

Serve in Christ's Love

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

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



June

2nd Big John Courtney
2nd Zoe Trivette
17th Tabitha Houdeshell

July

5 Christine Reiber
12 Arrow Milena Trivette
15 Guy R. Johnston
16 Paul Smith
17 Alex Courtney
20 Jay Baker
22 Harold "Hap" Hollister
24 Ethan Houdeshell



Anniversaries



June

16th Harold & Ruth Hollister
19th Doc & Judy Ellis
30th Richard & Joanne Walck

July

19th Alice & Robert Gregory

Tithes & Offerings

Week of May 2nd: \$3173.00
Week of May 9th: **\$636.00**
Week of May 16th: \$1493.00
Week of May 23rd: **\$765.00**
Week of May 30th: \$2162.00



State Line United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 277
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~ OR ~

Mail slot at back door

~ OR ~

ONLINE GIVING on the website

Spiritual Enrichment

Bible Study with Pastor Ruth

Thursdays – 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Ruth is leading a Bible Study on Thursday mornings open to all. This is a study of the Scripture of John. Everyone is welcome to come as you are able. Rich discussion of the passages provides a wonderful deepening of spiritual understanding.



!!! CRITICAL !!!

Small Group Study

Sundays, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. & Mondays, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

The Leadership Team is leading small group discussions of the book I Will by Thom S. Rainer.

Participation in this group is vital for the health of our congregation. Please consider which study time you are able to attend. IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN.

Loving God,

We give thanks for the men of virtue who have touched our lives.

Those who have shown us kindness, courage, generosity, truth, compassion, faith, and love.

Bless all sons and brothers and fathers and grandfathers who reveal a glimpse of your loving presence on earth.

Amen

The Rev. Jane Sommers is a retired United Methodist pastor.



Blessings For and From the Inn



For a few years now, the Outreach Team has requested and received your generous food and cash donations to provide some groceries each month for the residents of the State Line Inn. Hopefully those who have helped in this way sense a blessing from being a cheerful giver above and beyond the usual collection plate deposits.

A few team members fill the bags each Monday, load them into the church van and a car on Wednesday evening, and see that they are set out for residents to pick up. Then any items left are loaded and returned to the church. The packers and deliverers aren't necessarily the same 4-5 people each month. They, too, should sense a blessing from their efforts to help others.

On May 26, Bibles and beautiful bookmarks (handcrafted by Gwenelle) were offered to the residents. Those of us from our church were instantly blessed by seeing the enthusiasm from quite a few residents when they were told they could choose a Bible and bookmark. Honestly, we weren't sure how well that offer would be received. The bookmarks said 'I am loved' or 'I am worthy'. A couple residents said they weren't worthy, didn't even know if they should take one of the others. We assured them they are worthy and loved. What a blessing to be able to offer a brief witness to them. Each month many words of thanks are received from those who are grateful for what we offer.

So, do we share what we have with these folks because it gives us a feel good moment? No. We share because we are called to humbly serve without judging others, meeting them where they are regardless of their situation, decisions made, help needed, whatever brings them to be housed in a motel room. As we have been immensely blessed, let us continue to share with others. As taken from words of 16th century evangelist John Bradford, 'There but by the grace of God go I'.



The Threshold Prayer



God, we lift this to you with our prayer. Please do what we cannot do ourselves. Change what we cannot change ourselves, including you changing us – without limits.

Amen.

Wesley's Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low by thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

Leadership Team Meeting Highlights

Much idea-sharing and discussion made for a very productive May 25 meeting. Here's the latest:

- The PPP loan is still keeping us afloat financially but will not be available beyond the beginning of September. Thankfully bills have been few/low; about \$1500 weekly is needed to meet the church's budget. Restrictions on what the loan can be used for mean not everything can be paid for from the loan. The team thanks those who are faithfully giving.
- A custodian needs to be hired. The revised job description was approved. Please pray for the right person to apply for this important position.
- Opening of the nursery will be in the near future! Most needed for that to happen is the updating of clearances as required to comply with the Safe Sanctuaries guidelines. Interested in taking a turn covering the nursery? Let Gwenelle know. Meanwhile, the nursery area is being prepped for the pitter-patter of little feet.
- The family renting the parsonage will be returning to the mission field by June 15. We pray for them as they serve others in Africa while sharing Jesus' love and salvation.
- The parsonage will be readied for use as a rental home. Several applicants are being considered with the goal of rental to begin on July 1.
- Now for the fun stuff! A number of activities/events/special programs are in the planning stages. These include a special speaker in worship one Sunday in August with a free spaghetti dinner to follow; the start of an adult fellowship opportunity; an event or events for children/community which could take the form of a yard sale or scaled-back VBS or Back to School fun fair. You can see that these are still being planned. More info will be shared as decisions are made.
- Pastor Chuck Sprengle was thanked for the guidance and wisdom he has provided since the first of the year. While he won't be attending our monthly meetings as Ruth has been appointed as our pastor, he will be a resource we can rely on. God bless you, Chuck.

The team's next meeting will be at 6:30 on JULY 20. All are welcome to attend and be part of the journey to move ahead after a challenging time.

Outreach Food Ministry

The immediate needs for our food pantry before June 20th are...

- Jelly
- peanut butter
- cereal
- pop-tarts
- Microwavable meals

1:00 p.m. – Monday, June 28th AND Monday, July 23rd

Join the Outreach Team to help pack food for delivery. No stairs or heavy lifting required.

5:55 p.m. – Wednesday, June 30th AND Wednesday, July 25th

Help take the food down the ramp from the front door and deliver to the Inn's parking lot.

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