



State Line UMC

July 2020

Without Borders

Message from the Pastor

Fifteen weeks of not gathering together for church! Who would have ever thought that this was even a possibility in today's world? No one knew this pandemic was coming and we still cannot agree on the severity of COVID-19. The state of the world has become a place of distrust. We are seeing conflicting information about everything that is happening in our nations. What is the truth and who can we trust when we can find facts that support opposing views?

We long to be together in our building and I understand that need for connection. We miss those that we have come to love. We are tired of being locked down and now as our communities begin to slowly open, we want to be able to gather together for worship. I am reminded by Paul's writing in Philippians chapter 2 where he says "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed - not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence - continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose. (Philippians 2:12-13). My hope is that we have made an effort to connect with each other because we are family. Expectations are not being met but maybe those expectations are too much? We entrust the Leadership Team with the decisions of our church and it is a daunting task as they try to do what is best for everybody. Whatever decisions are made in regards to worship will not please everyone and we acknowledge this as a team. Please keep me and the Leadership Team in your prayers as we continue to prayerfully consider each step moving forward.

Starting July 5th the Leadership team has decided to have in person worship services at Antrim Township Park for the entire month at 10 am. We will decide from there what the next step will be for August. These decisions are not made lightly and we have to keep in mind the safety of all of our members. It is better to err on the side of caution in an act of love than to rush back into our building and have someone become sick. Yes some churches have begun to gather again in their buildings but there are just as many that have already agreed not to gather until at least Labor Day. These are uncertain times and we must keep our eyes focused on the Lord. May the Fruit of the Spirit be evident in our response to the world and to those in our church family. May God continue to show us grace and may we reflect that grace to others.

In His Love,

Pastor Steven

Encounter God

Grow in Faith

Serve in Christ's Love

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

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

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



Birthdays

July

- 1 Cheyenne Eby
- 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

July

- 19 Bob & Alice Gregory



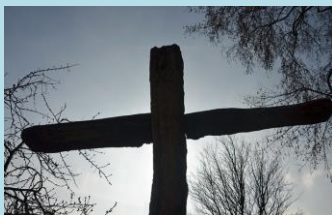
Repairs and Upgrades to Our Church Home



As you drive by the church, you will see some obvious changes now and in the near future.

Last fall, the Leadership team approved **repair and resurfacing of the parking lot** from the Repair & Maintenance fund. Cracks were filled, the large break at the entrance repaired and the parking lot resurfaced. New lines will be painted shortly.

The church has received a donation from an estate which the Leadership Team has voted to use to **repair and make handicapped accessible the East Avenue walkway** of the church. Bids are currently being obtained for the work. We are working with contractors to ensure the railing and sidewalk installed are both ADA-compliant.



Outdoor Worship!

Sundays starting July 5th

10:00 AM

Antrim Township Park
Large Pavilion



We will be having joint services with First UMC of Greencastle throughout the month of July.

Bring a lawn chair and an open heart!

Worship videos can also be found at the top of the church website in simple links.

For Fellowship & Community

Tithes & Offerings

Week of June 7 th :	\$932.00
Week of June 14 th :	\$1160.00
Week of June 21 st :	\$ 1303.00
Week of June 28 th :	\$1475.00



If you would like to send any tithes or offerings, they can be mailed to:

State Line United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 277
State Line, PA 17263



The Future

Stay tuned! Pastor Steven and the Leadership Team are keeping up-to-date on the latest medically-recommended closings and modifications. We will do what is best to keep those most vulnerable in our church family safe.

In the meantime...

We are hopeful and continue to plan for future gatherings!

Mark your calendars!

5th Sunday Celebration

August 30th – Trying to work out a safe social.

Community Thanksgiving Meal

November 21st – Plan to attend to welcome our community and give thanks together!

Church Christmas Party

December 5th – We will gather for fun and fellowship as a church family.



Deeply Rooted Marriage Ministry

We are continually re-evaluating the ministries that are on hold. We are tentatively planning to restart the Deeply Rooted Marriage Ministry in September. Blessed are the flexible, for they will not break.

Office News

Office Hours:

Mary is back in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 9:00 am. She will be happy to put on a mask without hesitation to help keep you well if you stop by. Just ask.

Vacations:

Mary will be out of the office from July 11th through July 18th.

Pastor Steven and his family will be on vacation July 18th through July 25th. Please reach out to Pastor Ruth for pastoral care during this time.

Pastor Ruth Hollister: 717-762-1806 (h)
717-582-1126 (m)



Our Church Family

Mrs. Margaret Davis
P.O. Box 51
State Line, PA 17263

Mr. Paul Smith
The Leland of Laurel Run
20 West Main Street
Waynesboro, PA 17268



Leadership Team Meeting Highlights

The Leadership Team's June meeting was held in the lawn on the church's east side due to the recent coating of the parking lot. It was wonderful to meet in person even though our seating circle was spaced to accommodate social distancing. Discussion and decision-making included the following:

- Starting July 5, all who want to worship in person from both State Line UMC and 1st UMC of Greencastle will gather at 10 a.m. at Antrim Township park at the big pavilion. Please bring lawn chairs and whatever you need to be comfortable. Pastors Steven and Ryan will alternate preaching duties with music by the praise team of the other pastor's church. The service will be available online as well. Offering can be placed in boxes designated for each church at the park or sent/delivered to church as is being done now. Look for balloons designating where to enter the park and meet.
- Discussion continues about worship being held in our church building based on new information and protocols around Covid 19.
- Cintas (supply company/service) will be supplier of cleaning and sanitizing products to be used at the church. They include hand sanitizer stations to be located near both entrances, cleaning solutions, soap/dispensers for all restrooms, and urinal mats and screens. Product dispensing is uniform so that concentration of solutions/soap/sanitizer is efficient.
- The parish house tenants are graciously mowing the church lawn regularly. A token of thanks will be given to them from the rental account later in the season.
- Major work to be done at the front of the church includes removal of sidewalk to the street, replacing current sidewalk, adding handrail and adjusting the concrete pad in front of the doorway to comply with ADA specifications. An \$8,000 memorial gift was approved to be used toward this. Bids are being sought for completion of the work.
- When we begin meeting together at church, you'll notice the fresh look of the parking lot. Cracks were sprayed with weed killer, growth removed and cracks filled prior to coating the whole area. Fresh lines will be painted to include handicap parking along the east side of the church, elimination of the handicap space in the main part of the lot, and a walkway from the sidewalk to the back part of the lot. Funding came from the Improvement Fund.
- VBS won't be happening this year as usual. A larger back-to-school event will be planned and held in August or September. Tentatively it will be a one-day (probably Saturday) opportunity for our kids and those from the community. Stay tuned for details and how you can help.
- Typically the Leadership Team doesn't meet in July. If a meeting is needed, notice will be given so any who want to may attend. Watch Facebook, email, and announcements on the weekly prayer list.

Enjoy these days of summer and be aware of and thankful for our many blessings.

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Administrative Assistant: Mary Thomas
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