



State Line UMC

September 2020

Without Borders

Message from the Pastor

Dear State Line Church family,

Here we are and it is September. Who would have ever thought that church buildings across the country would be closed for an extended period of time? Throughout this pandemic I pray that you have been able to continue to trust God in your faith journey. I know it has been tough for everyone. God promises that he will never leave us or forsake us.

The weather has been wonderful over the past two months as we have gathered outside for worship. That is about to change with the season. We are planning to return to the building for worship on September 13th. The leadership team will continue to monitor recommendations and guidelines from our Conference and our government.

We do plan to only use the sanctuary at this time and will be addressing what will take place during our worship time together when we arrive that first Sunday. We ask that you continue to have an open mind and remember that patience and understanding is appreciate as we continue to figure out what needs to be adjusted as we move forward. We will continue to live stream to Facebook and put a recording on YouTube for those who may not be able to or choose not to worship in person at this time.

Romans chapter 14:19 "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification." This specific verse is talking about what food is considered clean or unclean, but the chapter is talking about God's grace and how we should treat others and how we live out our own faith journey as we do not cause other to stumble. Let us focus on the positives and be gentle with our own personal thoughts and desires as we proceed with caution. Are we willing to be part of the solution and not cause more problems?

1. Wear a mask
2. Please use hand sanitizer as you enter the sanctuary (mounted at both entrances of the sanctuary)
3. Doors will be open at 10am and not before
4. No Sunday school at least for the first few weeks.
5. Social distancing while in the building
6. Please go directly to a pew (every other pew will be blocked off)
7. THERE WILL BE NO SINGING AT THIS TIME. (re-evaluated weekly)
8. We will dismiss by rows and we ask that you exit the building and not linger inside.
9. Basement will be off limits for the time being.
10. There will be a team to sanitize the space after the service. (help would be appreciated)
11. Bring a positive attitude that shows we appreciate being back together in our building for worship.
12. Everything is subject to change (except your positive attitude)

*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

September

7 Greg Berkley
13 Ginny Mongan
15 Pat Reese
16 Keric Ellis
17 Ed Fiery
17 James Pickett
20 Lincoln Berkley
23 Sherry Rhoe
23 Calla Small
28 Shaylene Small
29 Steven Small
30 Elizabeth Divel



Anniversaries

September

11 Thomas & Joanne Rozansky
11 Tim & Terry Berkley
23 Chuck & Ginny Mongan



Important Dates

Monday, 9/8/2020

Labor Day

Sunday, 9/13/2020 – 10:15 am

Return to Sanctuary for Worship.

Tuesday, 9/16/2020 – 6:30 pm

Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday, 9/23/2020 – 6:00 pm

Outreach pack & deliver food

Welcome Home!

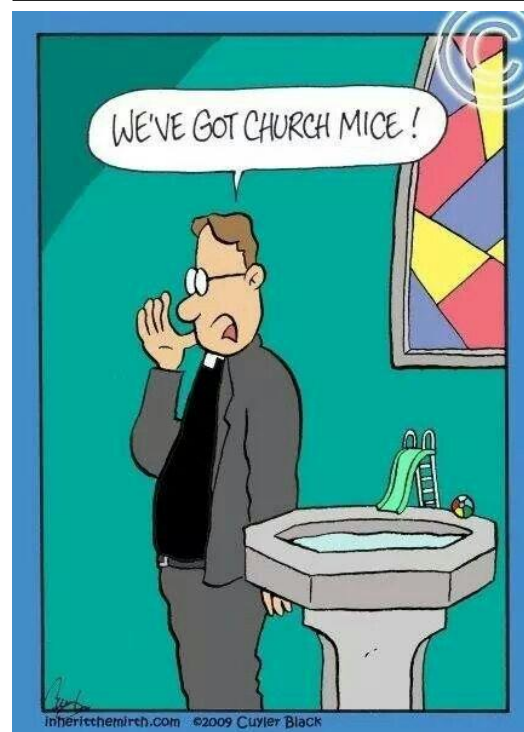
We are very excited to announce that we will be returning to worship in our building on Sunday, September 13th!

We want to prepare everyone with the guidelines we must follow so that we can focus on our worship and the Word when we gather on Sundays. Please understand that is new for us all. The Leadership may change procedures as needed for safety.

- The basement will be closed on Sundays at least through September. There will be no nursery access and no Sunday school classes at this time. We have our upgraded family bathroom available with a changing table.
- Masks will be worn at all times the first Sunday. If you must remove your mask for medical reasons, please do so once you are in your pew.
- There will be no singing at least for the first Sunday. Please be open to the changes and know they may change week to week.
- Greeters will be at the doors to guide you through the procedures.
- Doors will open at 10:00 am. We ask that when you are dismissed as instructed, that you depart from the building.

Please pray for the Leadership Team as they continually reassess to keep our church family healthy.

(And no, we don't have church mice. 😊)



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

For Fellowship & Community

Tithes & Offerings

Week of August 2nd: \$1370.00

Week of August 9th: \$1410.00

Week of August 16th: \$430.00

Week of August 23rd: \$808.00

Week of August 30th: TBA



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

OUTREACH MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP

The need for groceries for the monthly delivery to State Line Inn continues, perhaps now more than ever. By all means, take care of your family's needs. But if you can graciously provide a few things to help others, it will be so much appreciated. There but by the grace of God go we.

Totes have been placed near the main (parking lot) entrance to the church for your convenience in dropping off items from the following list:

- ramen
- heat & eat food (pasta such as spaghetti & meatballs, beef stew, hearty soup . . . look around and pick up what you'd like to enjoy for a quick meal)
- applesauce/fruit in individual servings
- pop tarts/breakfast bars/granola bars

Thank you in advance for helping to keep this vital ministry going.

You can be a life saver! The Outreach efforts over the last several years have fed many in need of physical food and shown that God and his people care for them.

The Outreach Team needs more people to help with the ministry. The commitment is one evening a month as well as occasional meetings and special events. If you are called to help out, please contact Pastor Steven.



Back-to-School Blessing

by the Rev. Marilyn E. Thornton

**Bless my paper and my pen.
Guide my spirit deep within.
Help me think and help me play,
This whole school year, day by day.**

**As I move from class to class,
Guide my footsteps; clear my path.
Keep my tongue to speak your words.
Let your will for me be heard.**

**In every subject high or low,
May God's excellence be shown!
Keep me strong to reach the prize,
To grow in grace, becoming wise.**

**Whether far from home or near,
May I hold God's precepts dear.
To do my best at every task;
For this blessing, I do ask.**

**Help my family be a part
As I lift my mind and heart.
As I study, work, and pray,
Be with them throughout the day.**

**Of whom much is given, much is required.
May learning be your greatest desire!**

Let us keep children, teachers, supports and families in our prayers for this exceptionally difficult school year.



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 was blessed with pleasant weather on the evening of August 18 and met in the yard to the east of the church. The following were discussed:

- The team agreed that worship near the band shell in Jerome R. King Playground has been a positive experience. This location will be utilized through Sept., 6. It was noted that if rain forces the service to be online only, members not using social media/email need to be called to alert them of the cancellation of gathering outdoors.
- Worship will be held in our sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. on Sept. 13th. Protocol will be shared with membership after finalization of necessary adjustments at a meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m. on Sun., Aug. 30.
- The sidewalk replacement/improvements at the street side of the church are underway. The handrail will be put in place after the concrete has dried and cured. As mentioned last month, a memorial donation will cover much of the project's cost. Donations from individuals are welcomed to help with the amount not covered by the donation.
- Consideration was given to developing a way we might be able to offer internet access at the church to students who don't have it at home. It was agreed to see what the need may be after school is in session for a few weeks.
- It was noted that a number of people's Safe Sanctuaries certification needs to be renewed. Anyone who helps with or may be interested in helping with children, youth, and/or vulnerable adults is required to have the clearances. See Mary Thomas in the church office to submit the information needed for the certification.
- Providing food to residents of the State Line Inn continues monthly. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED to provide food items and/or to pack and deliver the food to the Inn on the last Wednesday of the month. The food blesses those who receive it, and those who help with this outreach are blessed by seeing the joy it brings to the recipients. See Ellen Kennedy, Jonathan Trivette, Ellen Avey, or Pastor Steven for more details.

The next leadership team meeting will be held at 6:30 on Sept. 15. All are welcome to attend.

A POST-MEETING REQUEST FROM ELLEN AVEY: In his message on Aug. 23, Pastor Steven spoke of how important one's outlook is in life. That's true about returning to worship in our sanctuary on Sept. 13. We have no control over the changes brought about by the pandemic. As a leadership team, we want everyone to be safe and as comfortable as possible. We may not be able to sit in 'our pew', we will be required to wear a mask, we will be directed into and from the sanctuary without lingering inside to chat, hug, and socialize, we won't be able to have coffee fellowship, and the list goes on. HOWEVER, we can once again gather with our church family, we can be in the sanctuary, we can praise God together, we can chat in the parking lot following worship, we can be happy that we've had a wonderful worship experience, and the list of positives continues. THE REQUEST: please keep any grumbles to yourself so as not to bring others down and instead, focus on what's good about the day, our church family, and the ways we can serve God even in the midst of the pandemic.

All are welcome to attend the meeting.

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