



State Line UMC

October 2020

# Without Borders

## Message from the Pastor

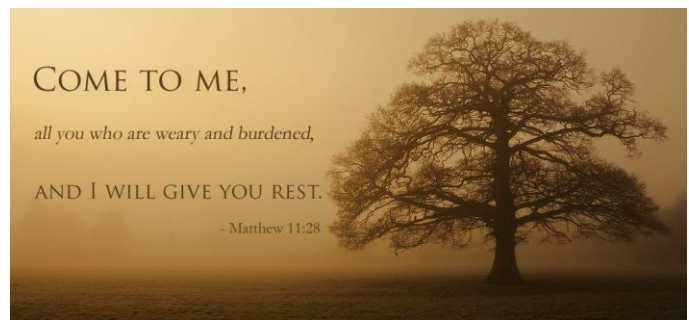
Dear State Line Church family,

Wow, here we are in October already. What an interesting year it has been so far. The weather has begun to change with the season, the leaves are falling. The scripture talks about there being a season for everything under heaven. Currently there we seem to be in a season of uncertainty. We are unsure of where we are in our nation when it comes to COVID or Politics. We are unsure if it is safe or not to sing as we gather for worship. We are unsure what will happen with the United Methodist Church. Everyone has their own "truth" that they are listening to. We continue to allow division instead of finding ways to come together as a people, let alone as a nation or as God's people.

There is no future for a divided people. Whether we are talking about a nation or a church. Mark 3:25 says "If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand." Matthew 12:25 says "Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand...'. Yet there is hope when we turn to the cross. When we focus on Jesus and keep our eyes on the mission, we can bring unity and get past the season of uncertainty and unrest. Jesus says in Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." When we rest in the Lord then we are able to have the strength to fight through whatever lies ahead of us as a church and as a nation.



*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**



#### **October**

4	Gwenelle Trivette
8	Jenni-Lynn Houdeshell
13	Jonathan Trivette
13	Judy Scott
18	Matt Courtney
22	Dianne Socks
24	Travis Ware
25	Jennifer Houdeshell
31	Richard Walck



### **Anniversaries**

#### **October**

2	Steven & Shaylene Small
4	Jason & Christine Reiber
14	Ed & Kate Fiery
17	Gary & Angie Baer
24	James & Mary Thomas

If any small groups would like to reconvene, please speak with Pastor Steven.

## Welcome Home!

We are now back to worshipping together in the sanctuary. We will continue to provide online options for worship, as some must remain apart due to medical conditions.

We have some 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.

- 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 on the first floor. The basement is not available.
- Masks will be worn at all times. If you must remove your mask for medical reasons, please do so once you are in your pew.
- The Leadership team is re-evaluating monthly the option of reintroducing singing. 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.

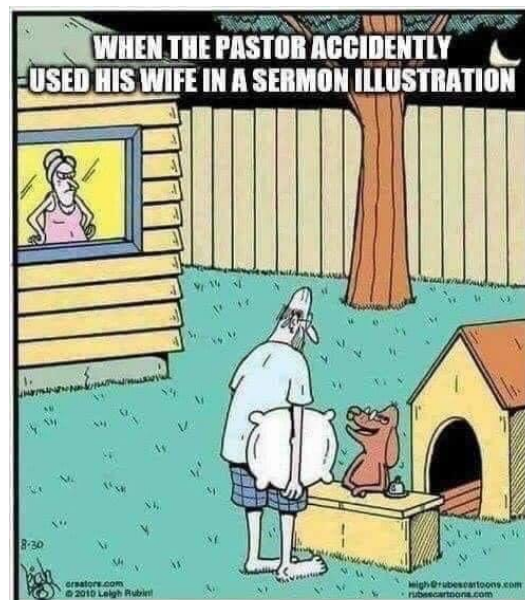
Please pray for the Leadership Team as they continually reassess to keep our church family healthy.

### **Important Dates**

Saturday, 10/3/2020 – Online  
Annual Conference

Tuesday, 10/20/2020 – 6:30 pm  
Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday, 10/28/2020 – 5:50 pm  
Outreach pack & deliver food



"Welcome back, sir. Are you planning on being our guest for one night only, or will this be your usual extended stay?"

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

# For Fellowship & Community

## Tithes & Offerings

Week of September 6 <sup>th</sup> :	\$1465.00
Week of September 13 <sup>th</sup> :	\$2361.00
Week of September 20 <sup>th</sup> :	\$1785.00
Week of September 27 <sup>th</sup> :	\$950.00



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

## LET'S GET BACK ON TRACK .....ALL ABOARD?!

Just as we were anticipating the arrival of springtime and celebrating Palm Sunday and Easter, the plans of everyone - including our church - were derailed by the far-reaching effects of Covid 19. We were sidetracked and tried various ways to get by this disruption. Hampering efforts were not knowing how to proceed, differing reports of the magnitude of the pandemic, and fears of individuals. All of these were justified. Being sidetracked, however, does not mean we are to wander along the path without moving forward.

It is time for us as a church family to get back on the train and back on track! Our ministries have all but disappeared, and as a result we are not reaching our vision to make new disciples for Jesus Christ. Now is the time to bravely come together, regroup, and recommit to how we want to actively pursue spreading Christ's love inside and more importantly outside our four walls.

Between now and Oct. 24, please pray that how you can support our ministries and help meet our needs be made known to you. Where are your talents and gifts? What do you enjoy doing, what are your skills? How can you put those to work in the realm of State Line UMC?

Need ideas? Could you commit to keeping up the church grounds/gardens as the seasons change, would you like to assist in worship by leading call to worship/scripture reading/praying or serving as greeter? Are you called to lead a small group that could even meet in your home? If children and youth are where your heart lies - lots of opportunity to help there! What are ways you'd like to be involved beyond those mentioned here?

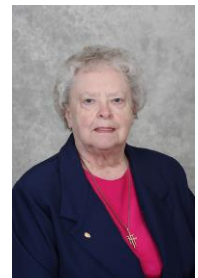
On Oct. 24, late morning exact time to be announced, please come forward to meet and discuss how we can board the train and get back on track with the destination of serving God in ways pleasing to Him. Information about the condition of the track will be presented so we can work together in facing what lies ahead and how we will face this journey together. The dining car will not be open for this trip, but light refreshments will be available.

Ellen Avey  
Leadership Team Chairperson



## October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor Steven and Pastor Ruth are appreciated all year, but we want to especially acknowledge their dedication in Pastor Appreciation Month.



“A pastor never gets to say “I’m off duty”. Never gets to punch out at 5. Never gets to have a normal schedule. We don’t know how many sleepless nights they spend on their knees praying for their church. How much opposition they face. How many family opportunities they miss to meet with hurting people. We can’t carry their burden for them but we can do what the Bible tells us to: **Pray for them. Encourage them. Support them.** By blessing them we will only be blessed in return.”



## 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 met Tuesday evening, September 15<sup>th</sup>. The following were discussed:

- Continuing to re-evaluate the worship service guidelines
- Continuing prepackaged communion for a while
- Commitment to focusing on our mission
- Discussed cleaning process and supplies
- Discussed more uses for the building and how to open up to more activities
- Outreach is in need of volunteers
- Possibility of delivering a Thanksgiving dinner to the Inn in take-out boxes
- Front porch is fixed. Handicapped ramp and railing in memory of Raymond and Betty Moats
- Unhappy with parking lot painting. This provider will not be used in the future.
- Finances are tight
- Will create list of priorities for bill paying
- Mary Thomas to take over treasury. Two-signature system will be set up. Linda will remain financial secretary for offering.
- Still waiting for bank to provide guidance on PPP loan forgiveness
- Discussed platforms for online giving. Still exploring options.
- Charge conference will be Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – worship then meeting then lunch
- Our tenant in the parish house will take care of snow removal.
- Youth group has been joining First UMC in Greencastle for activities and meetings.

The next leadership team meeting will be held at 6:30 on October 20<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend.



### THANK YOU!

We appreciate the efforts of the Leadership Team and Pastor Steven to decipher all the information provided by medical and conference staff, leading the congregation as best they can in this time of uncertainty.

A huge THANK YOU to Linda Junkins for keeping the team apprised of our financial health and making the best of a tough situation.

**Pastor:** Steven Small, Cell: 814-414-7505  
**Email:** [ssmall@susumc.org](mailto:ssmall@susumc.org)  
**Administrative Assistant:** Mary Thomas  
**Email:** [StateLineUMChurch@gmail.com](mailto:StateLineUMChurch@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.statelineumc.com](http://www.statelineumc.com)

STATE LINE UMC  
P.O. BOX 227  
287 EAST AVENUE  
STATE LINE, PA 17263  
717-597-4217