



State Line UMC

November 2019

# Without Borders

## Message from the Pastor

The focus of the church will soon change to Christmas. The gift of salvation that is given to us in the form of a baby in manger. We take time this month to gather with friends and family to express our thanks for the blessings that we have and we begin to prepare for the celebration of the Christ child. When we begin, or for some, continue to make preparations for our Christmas celebration we must fight through the temptation of only celebrating as the world celebrates. Christmas is more than just having a Christmas Eve service where we light a candle. Christmas is about God's gift to us and we need to be able to share that gift with others in ways we may have never thought about before. Are we willing to invite someone into our home to share a meal with us? Are we willing to take a few of our Christmas dollars and help someone we might not even know? The holiday seasons that we are about to enter are a great time to reflect on our personal goals and be reminded that there are others around us that we can be a blessing to if we just take the time to notice. Recently I preached about Zacchaeus. Jesus made time for Zacchaeus and through that interaction, Zacchaeus' life was changed. Who has God put on your heart this season to make time for?

### Encounter God

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

#### Sunday Morning

9:00am Sunday School  
10:00am Fellowship Time  
10:15am Worship

**Dedicated Prayer Times** are held at 9:00am the first Saturday of the month.

### Grow in Faith

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

**Bible Study** with Pastor Ruth is held at 9:30am on Thursdays. Everyone is welcome to participate.

**Faith & Fitness Yoga** will not meet in the month of November. Watch the bulletin for updates.

**Youth Group** meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

**Deeply Rooted Marriage** ministry meets the first Friday of the month at 6:00pm.

### 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. Look for more details and ways to help in the newsletters and bulletins.

The **Outreach Team** is collecting socks for the needy through November and will provide two community meals in November.

*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*

## Serving in Worship

## Church Calendar

- November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Matt Ellis  
Acolyte: Eli  
Greeters: John C. & Curtis B.  
Nursery: Julia W. & Dixie E.  
Tech Booth: Hunter
- November 10<sup>th</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Ellen Avey  
Acolyte: Eli  
Greeters: Sherrill C. & Matt E.  
Nursery: Christy G. & Hillary G.  
Tech Booth: Hunter
- November 17<sup>th</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Keric Ellis  
Acolyte: Eli  
Greeters: Darlene H. & Gary R.  
Nursery: Tabitha H. & Gwenelle T.  
Tech Booth: Hunter
- November 24<sup>th</sup>  
Worship Assistant: Matt Ellis  
Acolyte: Eli  
Greeters: Judy E. & Rob S.  
Nursery: Julia W. & Dixie E.  
Tech Booth: Hunter

- November 1<sup>st</sup>  
6:00PM – Deeply Rooted Marriage  
Ministry
- November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7:00AM – Bake Pumpkin Rolls



- November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
All Saints Day  
Fall Back – End of Daylight Savings
- November 6<sup>th</sup>  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- November 7<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Bible Study with  
Pastor Ruth
- November 9<sup>th</sup>  
9:00AM – Prayer Time
- November 10<sup>th</sup>  
5:00PM – Pasta & Praise
- November 11<sup>th</sup>  
Veterans' Day
- November 13<sup>th</sup>  
6:30PM – Outreach Team Meeting  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- November 14<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM – Bible Study with  
Pastor Ruth

- November 17<sup>th</sup>  
2:30PM – Church Conference
- November 19<sup>th</sup>  
6:30PM – Leadership Team  
Meeting
- November 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:00AM – 2:00PM Office Hours  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice
- November 21<sup>st</sup>  
Church office closed  
9:30AM – Bible Study with  
Pastor Ruth
- November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
3:00PM – Thanksgiving Meal  
For the Community
- November 25<sup>th</sup>  
10:30AM – 2:00PM Office Hours
- November 26<sup>th</sup>  
9:00AM – 2:00PM Office Hours
- November 27<sup>th</sup>  
6:00PM – Outreach to pack &  
deliver food to the Inn  
6:30PM – Youth Group  
8:30PM – Praise Band Practice

OUR CALENDAR IS UPDATED WITH  
TO-THE-MINUTE CHANGES. VISIT  
[WWW.STATELINEUMC.COM](http://WWW.STATELINEUMC.COM)



## Anniversaries

### November

13 Ernie & Shari Houdeshell



## Birthdays

### November

1 Jacob Scheide  
10 Rob Socks  
11 Terrin Altland  
13 Joanne Walck  
14 Shari Houdeshell  
15 Ashley Pool  
27 Matt Ellis  
28 Shaylene Small  
29 Steven Small  
30 Dale Hostetter

### November Office Hours

Two weeks have  
modified office hours.

Tues, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>  
9am-2pm  
Wed, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>  
9am-2pm  
Mon, Nov 25<sup>th</sup>  
10:30am-2pm  
Tues, Nov 26<sup>th</sup>  
9am-2pm

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I SENSE THAT SOME OF YOU ARE FOCUSED  
MORE ON YOUR THANKSGIVING DINNERS THAN  
ON MY SERMON

# For Fellowship & Community



## Pasta & Praise



Let's stay connected to our community. They will get used to us being out in the community and open to embracing our neighbors.

The November Pasta and Praise is **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00pm until 7:00pm.  
Mark **December 15<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar as well!

## Christmas Preparation

Beginning December 1<sup>st</sup>...

Each evening, read one chapter of the Book of Luke in the Bible.

There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve, you will have read the whole account of Jesus' life and wake up on Christmas morning knowing

*Who and Why we Celebrate Christmas!*



## Praying For Your Pastor

### Part 2 of 3

Pastors specifically need prayer. The Enemy will do whatever he can to destroy the ministry of your pastor. Will you consider **praying for your pastor** in these specific areas?

5. **Pray against discouragement from comparison.** Before this week is over, a church member will likely tell your pastor to listen to a podcast by another pastor "to learn how to really preach" (actual words spoken to a pastor). Other pastors will hear numerous comments about the other great church in the community. The message is real and painful: **You don't measure up, pastor.**
6. **Pray against discouragement from members leaving.** It's hard for your pastor not to take it personally. It's really hard when the departing member tells your pastor to take it personally.
7. **Pray against discouragement from decline.** Two out of three congregations in North America are declining. That is a painful reality for your pastor. That is a discouraging reality for your pastor.
8. **Pray against discouragement from disunity.** "I wish I had every minute back I had to spend refereeing church members." Those are the actual words of one of the **Church Answers'** pastors I serve. The Enemy loves it when church members fight one another.

## Employee Spotlight

Pastor Ruth Hollister  
Associate Pastor

Pastor Ruth is a strong partner in prayer for our church congregation! Trained at Wesley Theological Seminary, Ruth has used her talents and faith to help guide the congregations of St. Paul's UMC in Mifflinburg, Quincy UMC in Quincy and the West Antietam Charge. We are blessed to have her guide our Thursday morning Bible Study.

Pastor Ruth provides us a remarkable example of God's love in the care of her own family. Through her prayers and availability to this congregation, she shares that love even further. We are grateful to have Pastor Ruth as part of this State Line family.



## A Gratitude Calendar

It's not always easy to be grateful and it's even harder during busy times like November and December. Despite the challenges, it is important to acknowledge the gifts God has given to you. Try thanking God for one thing each day during the month of November.

Start each prayer of gratitude with **“Thank you God for . . .”**

- November 1 – my family (*name family members*).
- November 2 – my job and for the blessing it is in my life.
- November 3 – the leaders in my church (*list at least two by name*).
- November 4 – the opportunity to worship you freely.
- November 5 – elected leaders who strive for peace.
- November 6 – forgiving me.
- November 7 – providing shelter and a home.
- November 8 – the people who serve in ministry and think they go unnoticed like (*name someone like this*).
- November 9 – reliable transportation that gets me where I need to go.
- November 10 – rest, even when it feels like I don't get enough.
- November 11 – servicemen and -women who serve in our armed forces.
- November 12 – food producers who labor so I can eat and be filled.
- November 13 – the administrators and staff who educate the children in my community.
- November 14 – clothes that keep me warm.
- November 15 – providing a paycheck so I can provide for others.
- November 16 – music that lifts me up and praises you.
- November 17 – a bed to sleep in.
- November 18 – heating and air-conditioning that keep me safe in all seasons.
- November 19 – technology that keeps me in contact with those I love.
- November 20 – laughter.
- November 21 – books and the freedom to read them.
- November 22 – undeserved grace in my life.
- November 23 – people who keep me humble.
- November 24 – challenging situations because they cause me to rely on you.
- November 25 – shoes that fit.
- November 26 – hot, running water.
- November 27 – quiet moments whenever and wherever they happen.
- November 28 – children and pets.
- November 29 – peace in my country.
- November 30 – the never-ending, unfailing love you have for me, even when I find it hard to be grateful.

*gratitude  
changes everything*

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*Thankful*

November

# CHURCH NEWS

## CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY!! PLEASE PLAN AHEAD

Take a look at your calendar and check it twice  
So you're at the church party, it's sure to be nice!

Plans are being made for our annual Christmas party to be held this year on Sat., Dec. 7. There'll be a happy half-hour starting at 5:30 followed by dinner, carol singing, and the ever-popular gift swap game. Anyone who likes to eat, sing, and/or steal gifts from others will have a fun-filled evening.

Provided for the meal will be roast pork loin, dessert, and beverages.

Watch the bulletin later in November and be sure to turn in your reservation slip (which you'll get mid-November) so ample tables are set. There will also be a space on the form to indicate what you'll bring to go with the pork.

Let's have a great turn-out to share in the joy of the season and show once again we're a group who knows how to mingle and jingle!



### Mission Central Trip!

Reserve Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> on your calendars! State Line UMC will be going to Mission Central. This is a great opportunity for congregants of all ages.

### Leadership Team Highlights

State Line UMC has lots going on, and that's a good thing! Some topics from the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting follow:

- Homemade breads will be given to the residents of the State Line Inn in December during food delivery.
- Our church will be participating in Greencastle Heritage Christmas on December 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm until 8:30pm both nights. We will hand out hot apple cider and information about our church community.
- The janitorial position is currently vacant. We are accepting applications in the office.
- Our Charge Conference is set for November 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm.
- Estimates are being obtained to seal the parking lot cracks.
- A live pine tree will be planted and dedicated at Trinity UCC on East Avenue & Rt. 11 on Black Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Fellowship and snacks will follow at the State Line Ruritan.
- At least one dehumidifier will be needed for the basement of the church. The Trustees are looking into that purchase.

As always, anyone can attend Leadership Team meetings. The next one will be on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday Worship:** 10:15AM  
**Fellowship Time:** 10:00AM  
**All-Ages Sunday School:** 9:00AM  
**Office Hours:** 9:00AM-2:00PM  
Tuesday & Thursday

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