



State Line UMC

November 2020

Without Borders

Message from the Pastor

Dear State Line Church family,

Here we are in November already. What a year it has been. We will never forget the adventures of 2020. The world is a different place because of COVID-19 and we as a church must learn how to function in this time of change. No matter what happens, God has a plan and a purpose for us until he calls us home to Glory. There is nothing wrong with longing for yesterday unless it keeps us from doing today what God is asking of us. Every generation has heard the term “those were the good old days” yet each generation finds its purpose.

As we take time to look back over the year, even though we were not in our building for six full months, we can see some projects that have been done in our absence. The parking lot has been sealed and painted, the front of the building has a new handicap ramp and railing. These are things that needed to be done to our facility for the benefit of all. We have been blessed with grant monies for our food pantry ministry and to upgrade our equipment to be able to live-stream. This is all an example of how God has provided as we are faithful to go where he leads us.

We are beginning to plan for the Advent Season. There will be two Sunday School classes offered for the 5 weeks of Advent. More details will come before Thanksgiving. Speaking of Thanksgiving, we will be serving a take-out Thanksgiving meal and will need some helpers to pack to-go container and a few for the meal preparation on November 21, 2020. We will need items donated for the meal. There will be a sign-up sheet if you would like to come and pick up a meal for your family.

We are still doing the work of the church even with the precautionary measures for COVID-19. Like I already said, things may not look the same, but the mission remains the same. As we refocus on our mission, God will continue to reveal His plan for us. As we wind down this interesting year, may we regain our hope, and may it lead to a fruitful season that produces abundant blessings from the Lord.

*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

November

- 1 Jacob Scheide
- 13 Joanne Walck
- 14 Shari Houdeshell
- 26 Ty Small
- 27 Matt Ellis
- 30 Dale Hostetter



Anniversaries

November

- 13 Ernie & Shari Houdeshell



Thanksgiving Meal

We can't let the virus stop us from a vital mission in the church. Our community has come to appreciate the Thanksgiving Meal we have held for many years through the Outreach Team's planning and our family volunteer efforts.

This year, we will be making food and packaging it "To Go". Community members will be able to pick up meals. We are also taking orders from the residents of State Line Inn and will deliver to them, as many do not have transportation to the church.

Please consider any way you can help with this effort. We will be collecting food, preparing food, packing, distributing and delivering. It will take many from our family to accomplish this. Please look for sign-ups and instructions in the next week. Food will be due to the church by the 18th so that we can purchase any missing items.

We will be collecting the following:

- Turkeys
- Canned Corn
- Canned Cranberry Sauce
- Loaves of White Bread



Saturday, November 21st

Save the date!

Important Dates

Tuesday, 11/3/2020 – Election Day
Please pray for our country

Sunday, 11/8/2020 – 11:30am
Church Conference following
worship

Wednesday, 11/11/2020 – Veterans Day
Please pray for all who have served

Tuesday, 11/17/2020 – 6:30pm
Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday, 11/18/2020 – 5:50 pm
Outreach pack & deliver food

****Also, all food donations for the**
Thanksgiving Meal are due to the
church

Saturday, 11/21/2020 – 4:00-5:00 PM pick up
Community Thanksgiving Meal

Thursday, 11/26/2020 – Thanksgiving Day



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

For Fellowship & Community

Tithes & Offerings

Week of October 4 th :	\$3172.00
Week of October 11 th :	\$1431.00
Week of October 18 th :	\$562.00
Week of October 25 th :	\$1241.00



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

Congregational Meeting

Twenty-three people attended the October 24 meeting held to provide facts, financial and otherwise, to make known the status of our church and its ministries. Led by Pastor Steven, information was presented and many of those present shared in discussion, question-asking, opinion-sharing, and visioning.

A number of members/families have decided to attend or transfer membership elsewhere. These relationships are missed as part of our family has left. Worship attendance averages about 25 weekly. Ten of that number are from two families.

Giving is down as well. Financially we are behind on some obligations including our apportionments and pastor's insurance. Apportionments can be put on hold, but the insurance is essential. Once again water entered the church basement but in a different location. A leak has sprung in the pastor's office ceiling. Recently repaired was the coupling about 50 feet down on the church well. Focusing on God, living out our faith can see us through this financial challenge.

Grants have been received to cover costs of enhancing sound/video to add quality to livestreaming and help with supplying food for our ministry to folks living at State Line Inn/Motel. The food ministry also counts on donations from members. The pantry is currently rather bare. (See a shopping list elsewhere in the newsletter.) How blessed we are to have food and housing!

Thoughts were shared re mask-wearing and inclusion of singing in worship. Singing will be gradually brought back into worship starting in November. Masks continue to be required from entry into the church until seated. Livestreaming of worship is an option for those who not to wear masks or are uncomfortable attending in person. Ultimately, worship is meant to be pleasing to God which sometimes means compromising without having each of our individual preferences accommodated.

Active participation is still vital despite the pandemic. Opportunities to help include serving as worship assistant, greeter, after-worship cleaning (takes about 10 minutes), once-a-month packing and delivery of food to the Inn, providing food for the ministry by placing it in marked totes, Advent planners, manpower to relocate the large sign now hard-to-see behind the new railing, and help of all kinds to prepare, package and deliver Nov. 21 meal to the Inn and shut-ins.

A number of important ideas came from group brainstorming and include these:

- *more positive attitudes are needed
- *purposeful fellowship such as working together on the Nov. 21 meal to strengthen relationships
- *adding an inspirational flyer monthly to food delivery to begin discipleship efforts to those served
- *delivery of Thanksgiving-type meal to Inn residents, our shut-ins and pick-up by others who want a meal
- *revitalize our ministries to children and youth
- *have volunteers ready (clearances and materials/lessons) ready for nursery and Sunday School
- *intentionally bridge the generation gap so all who worship feel included in our family

Some of the above ideas require us to get out of our comfort zones. Isn't that what we're called to do to bring Christ's love to others? We need to seek God's help through purposeful prayer and count on him to show us the way to reach others and build His kingdom.

If you have questions or seek more information based on what you've read, please speak to Pastor Steven or a member of the leadership team (Ellen Avey, Gary Baer, John Courtney, Elyssa Hevner, Ellen Kennedy, Gwenelle Trivette, or Dick Walck)

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



OUTREACH FOOD NEEDS: Our pantry and Mother Hubbard's cupboard are similarly bare! Help is needed to fill our monthly delivery to our friends at State Line Motel/Inn. With gratitude for our many blessings, let's restock our shelves with the following:

**heat & eat food such as soup, baked beans, pastas
individual portions of applesauce, fruit, pudding**

**pop tarts, breakfast bars, oatmeal in individual servings
peanut butter jelly ramen in flat packs**

We fill 36-40 bags monthly. The need is real. The recipients look forward to and are thankful for our deliveries. An inspirational reading is included in each bag. Please help us continue this much-needed ministry.

PLEASE - NO GLASS CONTAINERS

Leadership Team Meeting Highlights

The Leadership Team met Tuesday, October 20, 2020. The team welcomed Admin Assistant Mary Thomas to the meeting. She has assumed the treasurer's duty as Linda Junkins asked to step down after serving in this role for many years. Linda's faithful service has been greatly appreciated.

Also at the meeting:

- Approval given for T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) to meet at the church on Monday mornings for a donation of \$100 monthly
- Volunteers are needed in the following areas - food delivery to the Inn once a month; food prep, packaging, and delivery of a Thanksgiving meal to the Inn/shut-ins on Nov. 21; worship assistants; Advent/Christmas planning **THESE NEEDS ARE NOT MEANT TO BE MET BY LEADERSHIP TEAM ONLY**
- Recent property issues include water in the basement again but in a different location; new coupler installed on well pump; leak from roof into pastor's office
- Large entrance sign near the ramp needs to be placed in front of the railing; **COULD YOU HELP WITH THIS?**
- A financial secretary is needed to count offering (with another person) and record giving to provide year-end reports to individuals; **WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE IN THIS WAY?**
- Online giving will be offered in the near future; stay tuned
- The PPP loan which covered salaries for several months will be forgiven meaning we will not be required to repay the loan amount
- A \$1000 sound system/technology grant was received, part to be used for livestreaming

The next leadership team meeting is on Nov. 17. All are welcome to attend.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSIONS!

Ladies' Fellowship leaders have chosen 4 recipients of \$200 each to be given from the group's treasury. Receiving the gifts are Fahrney-Keedy Home and Village, New Hope Shelter, UM Children's Home, and Hagerstown Pregnancy Ministries. Fundraisers include the sale of quilted items, Rada cutlery, and pumpkin rolls generated the funds being dispersed.

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