

SUM eNews
Stroudsburg United Methodist Church
March 6, 2020

Gather

Sunday, March 8, 2020

This Sunday is the second Sunday in Lent. Daylight savings time starts on Sunday so don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour. The scripture reading this Sunday is John 3:1-17 and Pastor Bob's sermon title is "How To Be Born Again." See you Sunday!

2020 Community Lenten Services

March 11, 7pm at Wooddale UMC. A complete list of all Lenten Services is available at the back of the sanctuary or please call the church office.

St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 22

Our church will be open for visitors during the parade. We will be selling hot dogs in the courtyard as a church fundraiser. Monetary donations to purchase supplies would be appreciated. You can place your donation in the offering plate; mark for "St. Patrick's Day Parade." Baked goods would also be appreciated. Any questions, please contact me in the church office. Thank you! Jackie

Kitchen Clean Up Day

On Saturday, April 4, from 9am-3pm, there will be a kitchen clean up day. Looking for anyone willing to help during this time, even if you can only come for one hour. There will be cleaning equipment and supplies available so we can do a thorough cleaning. If you are able to come for even part of the day, please contact Jeff Weber at jweber@ptd.net or 570-402-0931.

Helping Hands Ministry

Volunteers are needed! The Helping Hands Ministry exists to utilize our God given gifts and talents to assist member of the body of Christ. We grow together in Christ's love by helping each other and just by being there for each other in times of need. Please contact the church office or speak with Cathy Doane if you would like to volunteer. The areas of service where assistance is needed are: Making meals, grocery shopping, making phone calls, praying, visiting, giving rides, light housekeeping and responding to emergencies. If you are in need of assistance from the Helping Hands Ministry, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Blood Drive Update

At last week's blood drive, 19 donations were collected which will help 57 people. The American Red Cross is very appreciative of our church opening its doors to the community for needed blood drives throughout the year!

Basic Security Guidelines for Church Ushers/Greeters

Saturday, March 21, 10am-12:15pm at East Stroudsburg UMC. The workshop will be presented by Don Ernst, a certified Crime Prevention Specialist with specialized training and expertise in the protection of houses of worship. Don is a founder of the Pocono Mountains Houses of Worship Security Task Force. This is a free workshop to gain further insights on ways to keep our sanctuaries and worshipers safe. All who are interested in working with a safety team in their local church are invited to attend. Please contact Kathy Hinkey of ESUMC at 570-236-8183 to register.

Upcoming Events at East Stroudsburg UMC

Youth Program: Thursday, March 12, 5-6:30pm. Free dinner for all followed by a powerful testimony/program from guest speaker Gene McGuire. Gene McGuire is a former prisoner whom God has used in powerful ways! All youth, young adults and parents are invited to participate.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, March 14, 8:30-10:00am. Free breakfast for all and powerful testimony from guest speaker Gene McGuire. All men are welcome! Invite your friends, neighbors, coworkers. Visit genemcguire.org for more information.

Community Service Day

Volunteers are needed to participate in a Community Service Day this spring, being organized by the Membership & Evangelism Committee. This would be a project to benefit our community, such as cleaning up a park, doing yard work for seniors that need help, helping with a community garden, helping with Habitat for Humanity, etc. The project and date will be decided by the volunteer group. Please call Brenda Rambo at 570-872-4181 or Jackie in the church office – 570-421-6020, if you are interested in participating. Thank you for your willingness to help share our faith by improving our community.

2020 Mission Trip

This year's Mission Trip will take place July 5-July 11. Adults and youth are encouraged to sign up. If you're interested or have questions, please speak with Rick Felch, Peggy Stewart or Pastor Bob.

Weekly sermons at SUMC

Do you enjoy listening to the weekly sermons here at SUMC? Would you like to listen to them even when you are on vacation or out of town? Well, we do have all the sermons available for you to listen to and they are typically posted to our church website each Sunday.

Our Special Person of the Week:

Carol Romansky, 425 Kuntz Street, Apt. 104, Slatington, PA 18080. Please remember her in prayer and if possible, please send a card.

Sanctuary Open for Prayer

The church sanctuary is open to the public for prayer and/or quiet reflection on Wednesdays from noon to 1 pm. You are invited to take advantage of this time if you are in town during the week, and please let your friends know also. Years ago churches were open during the week for anyone to wander in to pray, however now, because of safety concerns, most churches stay locked. We would like the community to know we are an active and "alive" church and offer this opportunity to anyone who needs a quiet space, even if it is only for one hour a week. Please share with your friends and family.

Memorial Tree Leaves

We are still taking orders for memorial tree leaves. So far we have a total of 49 leaves on our Memorial Tree. Each leaf costs \$25.00 and will be imprinted with the name and year of your choice. Pet names can be added, too! Order forms are in the back of the sanctuary. Please make your check payable to SUMC and note for "Memorial Tree Leaf" in the memo portion. Completed order forms and payment may be left in the box outside Jackie's office or placed in the offering plate. Please contact the church office with any questions. Proceeds from the sale of memorial leaves will be put toward the remaining bell tower repair bill. Thank you!

Prayer Chain Email and Phone List

If you would like to be part of either the email or phone prayer chain list, please contact me in the church office. Jackie

Grow!

Small Groups

Do you belong to a Small Group? If not, you really should seriously consider doing so. There are a variety of opportunities available which you can see on our website. You will be able to see a brief description of each Small Group, view when and where they meet, and see if there are openings to join the groups. Check out our active Small Groups and consider joining one of them. Alternatively, do you have a passion or interest? Then maybe you can start a brand new Small Group. Contact Pastor Bob for more information.

Stitch & Pray Small Group

This group is for beginner and experienced knitters and crocheters. The compassion and love of knitting and crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy through prayer shawls. We welcome all levels of experience from beginner to those wanting to increase their knowledge or to share their expertise with others while experiencing the companionship of a small group. No materials are required. Current members will share their equipment. Meets the first Wednesday of every month at 1:30 pm in the church Lounge and the third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm (*please note: the evening meetings are canceled until Spring*) also in the Lounge; if scheduling conflicts arise - the Fellowship Room or the conference room.

Update: We have prayer shawls and lap blankets available. Please contact me in the church office if you, or someone you know, is in need. Thank you. Jackie

Bible Study

Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in the church lounge. A Pastor led discussion for men and women focusing on books of the Bible or select study topics. A time of learning applicable to a wide span of ages and life situations. If interested please contact Pastor Bob - bobshank@epix.net or call the church office - 570-421-6020. All are welcome, just bring your Bible.

Digging Deeper Small Group

Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. This small group meets in the Conference Room beside Pastor Bob's study.

Mostly Mondays Small Group

We study various books of the Bible and learn about the character of God. We meet Mondays at 6:30pm in the church Lounge. Any women interested in joining please contact Peggy Stewart – bpstewart59@gmail.com or call 570-350-8589. You may also call the church office.

Make a Difference!

Give to a Mission

A variety of missions are supported in our church. You can make a difference both locally and around the world by giving to these missions. A list of missions we support is posted in the Fellowship Room. You can also suggest a new mission that interests you by providing the name and address of the mission, as well as some details about what this particular mission does. Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions, please see a member of the Missions Team or call the church office.

The Item of the Month for the Christmas Totes is: March – a toothbrush and toothpaste.

Please leave your donations in the box wrapped in Christmas paper located in the Fellowship Room near the Missions display. Thank you!

Soup Kitchen

A long time mission outreach of Stroudsburg United Methodist Church has been the Soup Kitchen which serves a hot meal at 4pm every Sunday. Last Sunday, Scout Troop 94 from Mt. Pocono prepared and served the meal. They served 45 adults and 2 children. This Sunday, Business Professional Women will be preparing and serving the meal. There are only 4 Sundays left in 2020, where we are looking for a group willing to prepare and serve the meal: July 19, September 6, October 25 and November 29. For more information contact Jeff Weber at jweber@ptd.net or 570-402-0931.

Lenten Giving Boxes

Lenten giving boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Room. Please take a box home, fill it with loose change and/or bills and bring back to church by Easter Sunday, April 12. All proceeds benefit Missions projects within the church.

Family Promise

Our next host week is March 22-March 29. Volunteer sign up sheets are posted in the Fellowship Room. All help is appreciated! If you are interested in volunteering but don't know about the Family Promise program, please contact Kathy Cook or the church office.

Annual Book Sale – Please Note the Change in Dates

The book sale will be held Friday, April 17, 4-8pm and Saturday, April 18, 8am-1pm. Collection of books has begun. Please bring books to church and leave in the Blue Room downstairs. There is also a box in the Fellowship Room and one in the Narthex. Books in good condition and appropriate for church sale. No encyclopedias, text books, condensed books or magazines.

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

www.stroudsburgumc.com

Facebook

sumc@stroudsburgumc.com

570-421-6020

547 Main Street

Stroudsburg, PA 18360

