

SUM eNews
Stroudsburg United Methodist Church
September 18, 2020

Gather

Sunday, September 20, 2020

This Sunday's scripture readings are Isaiah 56:6-8 and Matthew 15:10-19. Pastor Monica's sermon title is "You Are Teachers." 'Once you learn to tie your shoes, you can teach someone else. One you learn to drive stick shift, you can teach someone else. One you learn to listen for the voice of God, teach someone else. Join us on Sunday as we explore God's invitation for us to teach one another.'

Join us live at 8:30 am: https://youtu.be/ZbC-O2205_4

Or 11:00 am: <https://youtu.be/IVACCXTT6ac>

Subscribe to the SUMC YouTube Channel

Don't forget to subscribe to the SUMC YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMwaoyy6Ox2d8cGlrQes0Qw> so you don't miss a thing! Contact the church office if you need assistance.

Worship with Us Online

For those of you worshipping with us online, please comment with "Good Morning" or "Hello" at the beginning of worship so we can count you as having attended worship and keep our attendance records accurate. If you don't feel comfortable commenting, please contact Pastor Monica or Jackie in the church office and let us know you were 'present' during worship. Also, please feel free to stop by the church and pick up a hymnal so you can sing along while worshipping at home!

Children's Bulletins Available

There are children's bulletins available on Sunday at the back of the sanctuary.

Weekly Offering

You can send your weekly offering to the church electronically using PayPal or a credit/debit card. Visit the church website at stroudsburgumc.com and click on "Donate." You can also mail your offering to the church – SUMC, 547 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360, or you can have the church set up as a vendor through your bank account and have your offering check sent directly to the church. Any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Charge Conference

This year's Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, September 27 at 12:30pm, here at SUMC and on Zoom. Please make a note of the date and time.

You can join via Zoom on your computer, laptop, smart phone at this invitation:

Topic: Stroudsburg UMC Charge Conference

Time: Sep 27, 2020 12:30 PM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81323243870?pwd=YWhPdUtwbVpiUTM0K1pXVWtvTlVhQT09>

Meeting ID: 813 2324 3870 Password: 631247

You can also call this number and join by audio as well:

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 813 2324 3870 Password: 631247

See Pastor Monica if you have questions.

PUMA (Pocono United Methodist Academy) Class

Mark your calendars! PUMA (Pocono United Methodist Academy) class is coming soon.

"Jesus Brings Hope", 7-8:30pm Thursdays,

October 22, 29, November 5, 12.

Open to everyone looking for hope today! Two options to participate:

Attend in person at Faith UMC (limit 15) or join via Zoom.

More details coming soon.

Blessing of the Animals

Join us on Sunday, October 4th at 1:00pm in the courtyard for Blessing of the Animals. The animals in our lives, from the smallest fish to the largest horse, bring us great joy, comfort laughter and purpose. They are a part of our families and our hearts. God has a special blessing for them. Bring your furry, feathered, and scaly friends for prayer and blessings.

Dogs must be on leashes; smaller animals need to be in crates or cages.

Horses, sheep, and goats are welcome as well, under the attentive eyes of their owners.

Invite your fellow animal lovers to receive pet treats and God's blessings for their man's (and woman's!) best friends!

****We will adhere to current guidelines on health precautions for social distancing and mask wearing. If you would prefer a blessing over Zoom, please let the church office know and we will arrange that.**

Weekly Bulletin

The weekly bulletin is now available on the church website: <https://www.stroudsburgumc.com/>

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:

Rosemary Levy, 1644 North Fifth Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360. 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.

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!

Worship Leaders

Leading in worship is a gift to our faith community. Perhaps, you have not been a worship leader before or you are most comfortable worshipping at home and wonder how you can lead worship at this time. Pastor Monica would love to talk with you. She does teaching on worship leadership preparation for those who are feeling a tug. Through our technology, you can lead worship with video. Call the church office at 570-421-6020 or email Pastor Monica at pastor@stroudsburgumc.com.

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 Monica if interested.

Bible Study

Bible Study is back! Where in the Bible can you find sadness and joy, anger and weariness? The Book of Psalms! Wednesday mornings at 10:00am, join Pastor Monica in person or on Zoom for Bible Study in the Lounge. We will continue our study of the psalms. Here is the Zoom information for next week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81249690531?pwd=Nzd5QW4xc1FpRnhZRIRPOVBZSUVrdz09>

Meeting ID: 812 4969 0531

Passcode: 834644

Evening Bible Study?

For those unable to attend the Wednesday morning Bible Study, please contact Pastor Monica if an evening Bible Study would work for your schedule.

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.

Because things are still unsettled due to the pandemic, our Missions Team has had to make some changes in the way we offer assistance to the various community agencies we normally support. For now, we are going to be accepting food donations for our local food pantry, Oasis of Love. Please bring non-perishable items to the church. There is a box in the sanctuary for donations or you can leave items in the kitchen downstairs. Just be sure they are clearly marked for Oasis of Love.

As for the collection of items for the Christmas totes, again we are unsure if area nursing homes will be accepting the filled totes this year. Other churches have had the idea to donate \$10 per tote; volunteers will shop for items and fill the totes before they are delivered. A decision should be made by October 1. Once we know for sure the nursing homes will accept filled totes, we will let you all know.

Save the Date!

Our Mission Link has a history of together packing meals for those in need. We are looking into the best ways to continue that tradition right now. Here is a message from Pat Braun at East Stroudsburg UMC, who is taking the lead on this mission:

*Thank you for your interest in this year's **Meal Pack for Haiti**. At this point we do not have firm plans except for the dates - **Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7**. The ministry we are working with, **Lifeline Christian Mission**, has restarted their meal packs, so they have experience doing it safely. We will follow all coronavirus safety precautions that are in place in Monroe County at that time.*

We understand the constraints that are on us this year, but food insecurity in Haiti has become worse and we feel that God wants us to move forward with this year's meal pack. Because of these constraints, we will accept any funds and people that are willing to come help trusting that God will provide.

The meals cost 25 cents each, and it is estimated that each participant packs 150 meals, yielding an actual cost of \$37.50/packer.

The members of ESUMC has been challenged to set aside 25 cents every time they eat a meal from now until November 6 and donate that amount to the pack, even if they are unable to participate (It should add up to \$30-\$40). Perhaps your members will be willing to do the same.

Our Mission Team meets next week and we will further discuss logistics, so expect to hear from me again. I am happy to answer any questions that you may have and look forward to meeting those newly assigned to the area.

Look for more details to come! Pray about how God might be calling you to give of your financial gifts, your time and/or your prayers.

Operation Christmas Child

East Stroudsburg Baptist Church is not committing to being the drop off site at this time. They suggest to keep checking their website for updates: <https://www.fbces.org/>

Family Promise Update – 9/18/2020

We continue to provide emergency shelter to families in need. Our case managers are working with seven families -- three at Streamside Camp and four in hotels around the community.

We've been blessed to have the support of several churches who have been able to provide meals for our families at Streamside. Thank you again to the volunteers at St. Maximilian

Kolbe Parish, Zion UCC, Stroudsburg Wesleyan and East Stroudsburg for the meals provided (to be provided) to date!

Beginning Monday, Sept. 28 we are in need of meals for our families at Streamside. By then we will have two families at Streamside, single Moms with 4 girls (twin 10 year olds, 9 and 5) and the other family (13 years, 5 years and six months). None of the family members have any food allergies.

With the meals, plastic utensils, paper plates and bowls are needed, as well as bottled water or juice.

Meals can be dropped here at our offices at 905 Main St., Stroudsburg, by 4 p.m. or delivered directly to Streamside, whatever is more convenient.

If you are able to help, contact Cindy at Family Promise - 570-420-8589.

Yard Sale

We will not be having the sale this year. If you can, please hold on to the items you have to donate. Hopefully we will be able to hold our Yard Sale next year.

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

www.stroudsburgumc.com

[Facebook.com/StroudsburgUMC](https://www.facebook.com/StroudsburgUMC)

<mailto:sumc@stroudsburgumc.com>

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