

SUM eNews  
Stroudsburg United Methodist Church  
August 7, 2020

## **Gather**

### **Sunday, August 9, 2020**

For this Sunday, scripture readings will be Isaiah 55:10-13 and Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. Pastor Monica's sermon series on Parables for Today continues with "The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...Paper Clips." 'Never have I bought paper clips, and yet I always have more than enough to give away. Join us on Sunday as we discover the mystery of God's abundance in extravagance.'

Join us live at 8:30am -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=q\\_cRuUfwmMk&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=q_cRuUfwmMk&feature=youtu.be)

### **Subscribe to the SUMC YouTube Channel**

Please 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 attending 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.

### **Blessing of Backpacks/Devices and Teacher Blessing**

As our students and teachers prepare for the school year, our community is aware that nothing looks like it did last year. Almost everything is different. Some of our teachers and students will be in person, some will be remote. All will be spending more time on their computers, laptops, and other devices. Some details are determined; others are yet to be determined.

One thing remains the same, God loves you, and so do we! You are loved!

On August 30th, we will bless our teachers and students, administrators and paraprofessionals, bus drivers and support staff. In a different year, I have invited students and staff to bring in backpacks and work bags to be blessed as a reminder that the prayers of the congregation go with them.

This year is unique in every way. But the love of God and

support of the family at Stroudsburg UMC remains the same. We will have vinyl stickers in

addition to our prayers as a visual reminder that you are loved. For those who worship with us online, we will have the stickers available ahead as you join us for worship online on August 30th. Watch our website and Facebook page for more details.

Blessings also available for others as well.

You wouldn't want to miss this!

-Pastor Monica

### **Perfect Vision 2020 Youth Rally**

August 21<sup>st</sup> from 8-9:30pm & August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3-4pm via Zoom. Register at

<https://na.eventscLOUD.com/perfectvision2020>

Does the pandemic have you down? Feeling disconnected from what life used to be like? Having emotions that are hard to manage during this time? Have you missed your youth group and youth activities at Church? If you have answered yes to any of the questions then you need Perfect Vision 2020! 2 Corinthians 5:7: We walk by faith and not by sight. Flyers with all details are available at the back of the sanctuary or please call the church office – 570-421-6020.

### **Worship Returns to Two Services**

Whether you are worshipping in the sanctuary or in your kitchen, we love when our church family gathers for worship. Starting on September 13, we return to two worship services at 8:30am and 11:00am. You can continue to worship with us in the sanctuary or online.

### **Children's Bulletins Available**

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

### **Complimentary Gift Bags Available**

Complimentary gift bags from Pocono Community Pharmacy are available at the back of the sanctuary. Additional bags are available in the church Lounge. Each bag contains a flyer, business card, pen, masks and latex gloves. Feel free to help yourself! A limited number of bags for children are also available.

### **Name Tags**

In order for Pastor Monica to get to know our names (and faces!), please remember to wear your name tag during worship on Sundays. If you are in need of a new name tag, please write your name on the sheet located in the back of the sanctuary or call me in the church office. Thank you!

### **Meet & Greet Small Groups**

Following are additional opportunities to Meet & Greet Pastor Monica:

Wednesday, August 19 @ 7:00 pm via Zoom

Sunday, August 23 @ 11:00 in person

Monday, August 24 @ 7:00 pm in person

Tuesday, August 25 @ 9:30 am via Zoom

There are sign up sheets in the Fellowship Room – or you may contact Peggy Stewart - 570-350-8589 or [pegstewart59@gmail.com](mailto:pegstewart59@gmail.com)

### **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](http://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. Please make a note of the date. Thank you!

### **Weekly Bulletin**

The weekly bulletin is now available on the church website: [stroudsburgumc.com](http://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:**

Helen Ann Edinger, 4 South Kistler Street, Apt. 426, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301. Please remember her in prayer and if possible, please send a card.

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

Thursday, August 27, 11am-4pm in the dining room downstairs. Scheduled appointments are strongly recommended. Please call 800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

### **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](mailto:pastor@stroudsburgumc.com).

### **Jeff Weber's Sunday School Class**

Jeff Weber's adult Sunday School class will now be taught by Kathy Burnett and Dave Cook. We will begin with a study on Romans and will begin via Zoom on Sunday, September 13 at 10:00 am. If you would like to join the class please notify Kathy Burnett at [kathygodshalk@yahoo.com](mailto:kathygodshalk@yahoo.com) or call or text 570-801-3025.

### **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.

**UPDATE:** Due to the pandemic and social distancing guidelines, we are currently not scheduling any Small Group meetings. Please check back periodically for updates or feel free to call the church office - 570-421-6020.

## **Bible Study**

Wednesday Bible Study will resume on September 9 at 10am in the church lounge. Bible Study via Zoom will be available. Please contact the church office for the Zoom invitation link.

## **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.

### **Family Promise**

Family Promise is seeking donations of grocery store gift cards, UBER and Lyft gift cards and monetary donations. If you can help, please place donations in the offering plate if you are in church on Sunday; otherwise please mail your donation to the church. Please note for Family Promise. Thank you!

### **Christmas Totes**

August's item for the Christmas totes is lotion. Please leave your donations in the box wrapped in Christmas paper located in the Fellowship Room. Thank you!

### **Yard Sale Update**

It has been decided to postpone the Yard Sale from the originally scheduled dates of August 7 & 8. Watch for new dates possibly this fall. Hold on to the items you want to donate for the sale. The new dates will be announced once we see how things are progressing after August. Any questions, please contact the church office.

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

[www.stroudsburgumc.com](http://www.stroudsburgumc.com)

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