

Summertime!

Our family was blessed to be with friends for a weekend on Harvey's Lake in 2005. That year two country songs were released with the title "Summertime." Kenny Chesney released a song with that exact title and Faith Hill released a song entitled "Sunshine & Summertime."

The chorus of Hill's song went like this:
"Hey that's the way we do it
New friends and blue skies that never end
Hey that's the way we like it
Good times, sunshine and summertime"

There is just something special about summertime. It typically comes after a long winter and a damp and soggy spring. Picnics, hikes, fishing, camping, vacations, and other activities happen throughout the summer.

Summertime officially starts with Memorial Day Weekend and continues until Labor Day. Summertime is fun and relaxing. Will you be enjoying your summertime this year?

The scriptures remind us to take a Sabbath day and rest. Our culture has moved away from this habit. God created the universe in six days and rested on the seventh. One of the ten commandments reads like this: "Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it."

Exodus 20:8-11 (NRSV)

And Psalm 46:10 reads: "Be still, and know that I am God!"

Being still, taking a weekly Sabbath Day, and taking vacations are almost counter-culture today. We work to the bone and are so busy that we do not have time to be still... or so we think.

When was the last time you took a vacation? Do you have one scheduled this summer? When was the last time you had a picnic? Do you have one scheduled this summer? When was the last time you took a day off? Do you have one planned this week?

In your overly busy schedule, be sure to plan time for your family, yourself, and God. It is easy to get busy and be moving all the time, but God wants us to slow down and enjoy life. We should not feel guilty enjoying the summertime or our time off. It is good for the soul and is one of the commandments for goodness sake!

You are obeying the commandments, aren't you?



Bob Shank

Daily Scripture Readings

June 1

1 Chronicles 26

June 2

1 Chronicles 27

June 3

1 Chronicles 28

June 4

1 Chronicles 29

June 5

2 Chronicles 1

June 6

2 Chronicles 2

June 7

2 Chronicles 3

June 8

2 Chronicles 4

June 9

2 Chronicles 5

June 10

2 Chronicles 6

June 11

2 Chronicles 7

June 12

2 Chronicles 8

June 13

2 Chronicles 9

June 14

2 Chronicles 10

June 15

2 Chronicles 11

June 16

2 Chronicles 12

June 17

2 Chronicles 13

June 18

2 Chronicles 14

June 19

2 Chronicles 15

June 20

2 Chronicles 16

June 21

2 Chronicles 17

June 22

2 Chronicles 18

June 23

2 Chronicles 19

June 24

2 Chronicles 20

June 25

2 Chronicles 21

June 26

2 Chronicles 22

June 27

Chronicles 23

June 28

2 Chronicles 24

June 29

2 Chronicles 25

June 30

2 Chronicles 26

Gather! Grow! Make a Difference!

Your Property & Building Team has good news.

The broken toilets in the ladies rooms upstairs and downstairs have been replaced with new powerflush models. The men's room toilet behind the scout room has also been replaced. The cost for these is a little over \$1500.

We had the HVAC company, SuperHeat, here for 3 full days, servicing and correcting most of the issues with our furnace/boiler. We were very fortunate as sensors and float valves, which would shut off the burner if the water level were too low, were completely clogged with sludge and sediment from our steam heat system. We have established a weekly and/or monthly maintenance program to prevent this sediment buildup. They also repaired deteriorating gaskets on a steam pipe Y-Strainer and installed a flush valve for future maintenance. This all totaled at \$5200 of necessary repairs.

Stroudsburg Borough has issued the building permit for our parish hall roof repair. Keehn Commercial Roofing from Middleberg, PA, is expected to start the project in mid June. The new roof will have an 18 year warranty for \$17,214. They will also perform some sanctuary gutter and fascia repairs for an additional \$1,993.

The contractors we approached for upgrading the kitchen and bathrooms indicated they would need architectural plans and designs before providing adequate quotes. We approached the architectural firm of Schoonover & Vanderhoof who walked through the church and reviewed our ideas for a kitchen/bathrooms remodel. The cost for providing Schematic Design, Construction Documents, researching existing building codes and documentation of existing conditions is \$5800.

We hope you have been enjoying the clean and restored portion of our large, Good Shepherd window at the front of the building. As you are aware it was just under \$8000 to repair that one panel. We have received restoration quotes for each individual stained glass as well as replacement costs for insurance purposes. The restoration costs range from \$3200 for the small windows above the narthex to \$84000 for the Large Good Shepherd window. Each of the 6 Jesus windows is a \$28000 restoration estimate. The appraisal value for all our beautiful windows is \$1,133,400. We will be looking at long range plans to restore and preserve these valuable works of art for generations to come to enjoy.

As you can see, your Property and Building Team are working hard to repair, restore and rejuvenate our building. May our efforts inspire you to repair, restore and rejuvenate Stroudsburg United Methodist Church and your Christian life.

We thank you for your patience, your contributions and your support. If you have any suggestions or wish to volunteer on a project, please feel free to reach out to any of us on the team.

Sincerely,

Your Property and Building committee

Co-chairs: Kay Bucci & Boyd Butz

P&B Finance: Kevin Kopec

Secretary: Mike Seip

Committee Members: John Burrus, Dale Werkheiser, Jeremy Miller, Ray Singer, Dick Everitt



To Serve You in June

Greeters 8:30
Kay Bucci (all month)

11:00
2 Joni Singer
9 Annie & Bob Dellicker
16 Pam & Mike Hendrix
23 Debbie Hardy
30 Joanne Reed

Ushers 8:30
Bruce Miller
Kay Bucci
Carol Decker
Pam Price

11:00
Mike Weaver

Counters
C.J. Penwell and Mike & Vicki Weaver

Altar Guild
Jenny Bogart & Marina Maroney

Soup Kitchen
2 Christian & Missionary Alliance Church
Amaron & Group
9 GUMC-Tom Odenwelder
16 Cherry Valley UMC
23
30 McMichael's UMC-Pastor Ed



OUR CHURCH STAFF:

Ministers Everyone
Pastors Bob Shank & Ted Good
Pastor Emeritus Tom Anderman
Church Secretary Jackie Herrero
Choir Director David Lantz
Organist Marti Lantz
Youth Leader
Handbell Director Lynn Seip
Cherub Choir Director Kim Kopec
Custodian Matt Parton

OUR CHURCH LEADERS:

Daniel's Dream Team
Chairperson, Cathy Doane
catdoane9845@gmail.com

Worship
Chairperson, Pastor Bob Shank
bobshank@epix.net

Property & Building
Chairpersons, Kay Bucci & Boyd Butz

Servant Resource Team
Chairperson, Bill Weitzmann
weitzman@uplink.net

Stewardship
Chairperson, Paul Edinger
paul.edinger@stroudsburgumc.com

Missions
Chairpersons, Ruth Weber & Kathy Cook

Membership & Evangelism
Chairperson, Peggy Stewart
bpstewart59@gmail.com

Lay Leader
Beryl Hellgren
bykoh10@yahoo.com

Audio Visual Assistant
Beth Armitage

Church Yard Sale

Missions Annual Church Yard Sale
will be held on
Friday, August 2 & Saturday, August 3

Collection of items for the yard sale has begun. Please bring your items in and leave them in the blue room downstairs.

PLEASE *DO NOT* BRING IN:

TVs, computers, printers, etc.

Small kitchen appliances and gadgets are gladly accepted.

No clothing and no encyclopedias. Only bring in items that you no longer want but you think someone else would.

Most importantly, please make sure what you bring in is *clean* and in *good condition*.

Preparation for the sale will begin on July 29. Help is needed to unpack and sort items, pricing and setting items out for display. Help is also needed on the days of the sale, including clean up.

Please contact a member of the Missions Team or the church office if you are available to help out in any way.



June Birthdays

7	Marisa Seip
8	Adelle Kopec
8	Bella Kopec
13	Ethan Zelizo
17	Walter Roeckendorf
20	Kristi Harris
22	Allie Zelizo
26	Josh DeHaven
28	JoAnn Calkins
30	Janine Philips

If you would like a card on your special day, please contact the church office -
570-421-6020

You did it!
Congratulations



Congratulations 2019 Graduates!

Kacey Burrus

Josh DeHaven

Ryan DeHaven

Abby Lantz

James Shank

SUMC wishes you all the best in your future endeavors! If we missed anyone graduating, please contact the church office.

*Choir
Sunday*



Choir Sunday is June 9.

Please note there will be one service at 10:00 am on this day.

We hope you will join us!



Stroudsburg UMC will again be involved in a combined Youth/Adult mission trip to Philippi, West Virginia.

Heart and Hand House is one of our United Methodist missions in Appalachia.

We are looking for volunteers to join us for this fun and eventful week. We leave on Sunday, July 7 and return on Saturday, July 13.

There is a sign up board in the Fellowship Room. If you have questions, please speak with Rick Felch, Peggy Stewart or Pastor Bob.

Stretch yourself to get involved! It will be a trip you won't soon forget!



Shoe Drive Fundraiser

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser starting on August 18, 2019 to raise funds for the remaining Bell Tower Repair bill. SUMC will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Those dollars will benefit the remaining Bell Tower Repair bill. Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes to SUMC. Please bring shoes to the church and leave them in the old Youth Room upstairs.

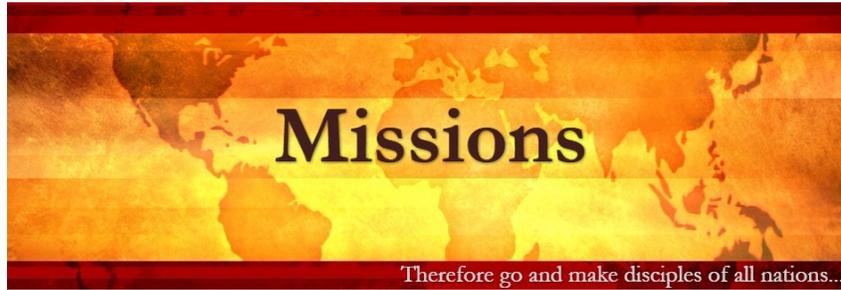
All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send her son to law school.

In the US alone, over 600 million pairs of shoes are thrown away per year. The materials used to manufacture a pair of shoes are created from chemical compounds that will create health hazards if left to disintegrate openly or in landfills. By donating your gently worn, used and new shoes to SUMC, your shoes are given a second chance to make a difference and in turn help the environment.

We have 60 days from our start date of August 18 - our goal is to collect 2500 pairs of shoes! Please help by donating shoes AND spreading the word.....everyone has shoes they no longer need.

If you have questions, please contact me in the church office. Thank you in advance for your support!

-Jackie



Missions Updates

The June item for the Christmas totes is puzzle books. Please leave your donations in the box wrapped in Christmas paper located in the Fellowship Room near the Missions display.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Book Sale in May. All help is appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with our most recent Family Promise host week. Our next week to host families is coming up the week of July 14. An announcement will be made letting you know when sign up sheets are up in the Fellowship Room. If you are interested in helping out with Family Promise but don't know much about the program, what is involved or what you can do to help, please contact Kathy Cook.

The annual Missions Yard Sale is coming up on August 2 & 3. Please see the announcement included elsewhere in this month's Courier.

Volunteer(s) Needed

BJ Bachman is willing to clean and paint the banisters and staircases in the church starting from the ground floor up. BJ would appreciate it if someone would be willing to help her.

Please reach out to BJ (570-421-5165) or contact the church office. Thank you.

WHEN WE PRAY- Standing in the gap -Intercession- (part 1)

What does this mean to “Stand in the Gap”? It is based on scripture found in Ezekiel 22:30.” And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.” -KJV

In the beginning verses in chapter 22, God describes his complaints against Israel to Ezekiel. He authorizes him to judge the people and warn them they will be destroyed because of their wickedness. Israel has filled up the measure of her iniquity, and her sins call for speedy vengeance. Children mock and despise parent’s; they make themselves rich by wronging the poor. Prophets in their midst, like a roaring lion prey on and devour souls, take the treasure and precious things, made many widows, violated God’s law and profaned holy things. They had no difference between clean and unclean, and hid their eyes from His Sabbaths. The princes (rulers) abused their power to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain, vanity, lies, they used oppression and exercised robbery, vexed the poor and oppressed the stranger wrongfully. God was searching for someone to be the “go-between” Himself and those he must destroy because of sin. Sin makes a gap in the hedge of protection that is about a people at which good things run out from them and evil things pour in upon them. He wanted to keep the evil out and restore the good of his beloved nation. There is a way of standing in the gap by repentance, and prayer and reformation. Moses stood in the gap when he made intercession for Israel to keep the wrath of God from destroying them. Psalm 106:23- See Matthew Henry’s Commentary of Ezekiel 22.

This was written about the time of 597 BC; a thought, compare this to our time 2019! The Message translation states God said “the wall continues to be whitewashed and still needs repair” Is God still looking for someone to stand in the gap for our families, communities, nation? Yes, and it is you and I.

Before going further, lets examine the meanings of a few words.

GAP: an opening, especially in a solid structure, an interval during which continuity is suspended. It may also relate to gaps in agreement, discrepancies, inconstancies, communication, or values as demonstrated by the ‘generation gap’.

INTERCEDE: The word “intercede” comes from the Latin “inter” meaning “between” and “cede” meaning “go”. So, it literally means “go between. “someone to stand in place of; to intercede, an intercessor: The verb is to act, intercede as a substitute or the noun a go- between, an intermediate agent in a transaction.

This brings us to the term ‘intercessory Prayer’ where one person (the intercessor) is the go- between a fellow person and God.

Rev Linda Smallwood suggests, (my redeemerlives.com) “Think of a brick wall, in particular, the mortar in the joints between the bricks. That mortar “goes between: or intercedes”, between the bricks to bind them together and strengthen them.

Without the mortar “going between” the bricks, the wall would collapse. If you want to break down the wall, start chipping at those mortar gaps and soon the entire wall will lack the support it needs and will fall.

That’s just what the enemy of our souls does. He and his cohorts look for those weaknesses in us—places where there are gaps or chinks in our personalities or spiritual armor. Even if we are not consciously aware of these areas, our enemies are! They have spent years studying us—Looking for those things that cause offence in us, or where we’ve compromised truth for self-advancement or exaltation. The enemy knows where the pride, contentions and resentful triggers are, or where we’re vulnerable to a religious spirit or divisive spirit. And they know which people, incidents and conditions are most likely to have the greatest impact and cause us to lose our spiritual balance.

They don’t target the areas where we’re strong; that would be spiritual suicide for them. They target our weaknesses, our vulnerabilities our most besetting sins (our friends and family members may not know about them but the spiritual forces in the heavenly places do! They look to the recently-healed or not-yet-healed emotional wounds or habits about which we feel some shame or guilt (bad decisions, past mistakes, addictive substances, addictive behaviors, gluttony, too much internet-tv social media etc. or those matters we’ve confessed to others as being weaknesses or problems in our lives.

So, when we intercede for one another, our chief purpose is to FILL IN THOSE GAPS IN ONE ANOTHERS SPIRITUAL ARMOR AND HOLD THAT PERSON SO THE ENEMY CAN’T GAIN AN ADVANTAGE OVER THEM. Likewise, when we fail to intercede for one another, we’re virtually giving the key to that person’s spiritual house to his her enemies for them to wreak havoc, to steal that person’s peace or joy or health or even their financial security. Just as we wouldn’t build a brick wall and intentionally leave gaping holes in the cement joint, we could go so far as to say it’s malicious for us to not “stand in the gap” for our brothers, sisters, our religious and political leaders. Jesus said, by this all shall know that you are my disciples, if you love toward one another John 13:35. How can we say we love one another and not pray for each other? It’s impossible! “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16

Part two: Who needs us to stand in the gap?

Part three: How can we be an effective intercessor?

Purpose of this series: to create/elevate our awareness of the power we have to assist others, to help carry their burdens, to change circumstances.

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN SUMC PRAYER MINISTRY

JoAnn Calkins

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Family Promise 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	27 Church Office Closed	28	29 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	30 7:00 PM Scouts 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 7:00 PM Movie Night - Sight & Sound's "Jonah"	1
2 8:30 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	3	4 7:00 PM M & E Meeting	5 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 1:30 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge	6 7:00 PM Scouts 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7	8
9 Marti-Recital 10:00 AM Worship-Choir Sunday-Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	10	11 6:30 PM Property & Building Meeting	12 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	13 7:00 PM Scouts	14	15
16 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	17	18 7:00 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge	19 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	20 7:00 PM Scouts	21 Church Office Closed	22
23 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adults 11:00 AM Baptism 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	24	25	26 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	27 7:00 PM Scouts	28	29 3:00 PM Eagle Scout Ceremony-Noah Miller
30 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	1	2	3 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	4 Church Office Closed	5	6

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