



First Family News

May 2023 Volume 49 Issue 5



SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULT CLASS 8:45AM—9:45AM
CHILDREN/YOUTH 9:00AM

FELLOWSHIP TIME
9:45AM —10:05AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:10AM
LIVE STREAMING ON FACEBOOK

CHOIR PRACTICE
11:30AM —12:30PM

YOUTH GROUP 6:00 PM



SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

Tuesday May 23 @ 5:30 PM with guest speaker
Nancy Baker

Director of Elk County Children and Youth Services.

Wednesday May 31 @ 6:30 PM with guest speaker
Rhonda Skoken

from Elk County Children and Youth Services

ANYONE WHO VOLUNTEERS WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH OR
VOLNURABLE ADULTS SHOULD ATTEND

May Message From Pastor Lee

The Message of Spring

A few weeks ago, we started feeling the signs of spring in the air. No matter how cold it is outside, nothing can stop the signs of spring.

Each of the year's four seasons – spring, summer, fall, and winter - is a miracle from God. Even though humanity is getting smarter and our civilization is progressing, we cannot get out of God's hand. Even though we are very capable, anything we can do is a very small thing in this world if we compare God with us.

Obviously, humankind cannot stop the changes of seasons. In April, we sometimes felt that we were still in the middle of winter in the middle of April, but we now see various signs of spring. The first sign is the bright green of new leaf buds on trees. The second sign is the birds' singing in those trees.

Now, we are in spring. Even though we did not do anything to change the seasons, winter changed to spring. Summer will be here soon. Because of this rotation of four seasons, we feel God's grace. Even though we are sometimes not ready to receive the next season, we find ourselves there.

God unconditionally provides us His grace and mercy on His time, even though we don't realize or feel it. Even though our hearts are still cold, even though we still think we are always right, even though we still claim our ways of thinking to others - even to God - and even though we still place too much value on this world rather than the Kingdom of God, God gives us the warm spring. That is God's unconditional love for us. People who may not seem eligible to receive love are receiving God's love because He decided to love us unconditionally. He has never changed his decision.

This spring, we must realize God's will for us and try to have God's characteristics in our daily lives. At that time, we can feel the signs of spring and can be relaxed. So, we can have time to look around us and thank God for everything He provides us.

Although we did not do anything to receive this spring season, we are getting lots of benefits from the sense of spring.

I hope we all can be softened and can have more warm hearts this spring as everything that was frozen in winter begins to melt in spring. As God loves us unconditionally, we can practice loving others more this spring. I hope we always find ourselves in a spiritual spring, with warm love from God, to God and to others.

May God bless you!

Rev. Sang Hak Lee

Dear 1st United Methodist Church
We would like to thank everyone for their Prayers and
Condolences during this time of Tony's passing.
It is greatly appreciated.
Thank You
The Joyce Sorg Family



Man to Man

The men meet on
Wednesday evenings
at **7:00 PM** at Church
All Men Welcome!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Without help many aspects of the church are impossible. If you can volunteer your time for any of the following, please see Pastor Lee, or call the church office.

Screens—If you can send an email or click through social media you would be able to help with screens. With more volunteers you would only have to help out about once a month.. Training would be provided.

Audio— This area provides support of the Facebook Live. Many people who can not come to church enjoy watching online. You would also adjust the mic volume for pastor. Training would be provided and again the more volunteers we have would balance out how often you would be needed,

Scripture Readers—Each week Pastor Lee provides a scripture and it is made available to the reader on Wednesday. There is a sign up sheet in the old kitchen so you may choose the date that works best for you.

HISTORY OF MOTHERS DAY

Found on history.com

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

National Day of Prayer





Send a Note to Our Shut-Ins

Barb	Patterson	785 Johnsonburg Rd.	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Haven
Thressa	Brock	185 Center Street	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Towers, Apt. 404
Gary	Wonderly	185 Center Street	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Towers, Apt. 608
Alice	Steis	190 Taft Road	St. Marys	PA	15857	
Anita	Vollmer	Sunrise Road	St. Marys	PA	15857	

2023 United Methodist Women Looking Ahead

June 16-17—Ladies' Rummage, Bake Sale, & Lunch
June 26— Annual Picnic at Pavilion Bring a Tureen to share

UMW Rummage Sale Friday June 16 & Saturday June 17 in conjunction with the St. Marys Community Yard Sale

Time to get your items ready to donate for the UMW Rummage Sale. If you are spring cleaning and would like to donate items to the rummage sale, Sharon will store them until the sale.

Please call her to make arrangements

AFTER May 1. 814-335-0984

We will also need helpers for set up, clean up and bakers for the bake sale, and workers during the sale.





Bowls of Love

Every Wednesday 4 PM-4:30 PM

DONATIONS OF DESSERTS APPRECIATED

**For info or to volunteer please contact
Carol Cunningham 814-781-7401
Meals given in March—362**

Disaffiliation Update

On March 30, 2023, we sent an application to join the Global Methodist Church. On Monday, April 17, 2023, we received the exciting news that the Transitional Leadership Council of the GMC approved our request and we are now a member congregation of the Global Methodist Church. In the near future we will receive our charter. We will keep you updated. As to the disaffiliation process from the United Methodist Church, we have scheduled a meeting with the Western Conference on June 14, 2023 after the conference vote, where all paperwork concerning the UMC will be finalized. In addition, members of our committee have been busy with the NCLL taking care of all the legal documents, transferring deeds, new tax ids etc. We want to thank the congregation for the support we have received throughout the process.



MAY MEETING

SPPRC Tuesday May 2 @ 7:00 PM
SAFE SANCTURARY TRAINING
TUESDAY MAY 23 @ 5:30 PM OR
WEDNESDAY MAY 31 @ 6:30 PM

CURRENT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHAIRS

Ad Board Chair Dave Fitzgerald
PPRC Chair Joyce Fledderman
Finance Chair Laura Horchen
Christian Ed Chair Shawna Grim
Trustee Chair Bob Buerk
Worship Chair Carolyn Hockman
Lay Leader Cathy Nesbitt
UM Women President Sharon Herzing

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday Evening 6-7 PM

APRIL 30 AND MAY 7 AT THE PAVILION

GRADES 6-12

(MAY 7 WILL BE THE LAST MEETING UNTIL FALL)

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, GAMES,

DEVOTION AND SNACKS

WE WELCOME ALL MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS

BRING A FRIEND!

THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH IS

OUR CHURCH'S FUTURE!



May 28 will be the last Sunday School until Fall

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

9:00 AM—MONDAY IN Asbury Hall

6:30 PM— MONDAY IN Asbury Hall

4:00 PM— THURSDAY IN
Conference Room

CONTACT Carol Cunningham
or Joyce Fledderman

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kindergarten/1st grade,
2nd -5th grade & 6th,7th,8th grade.

These classes meet downstairs
at 9:00 AM

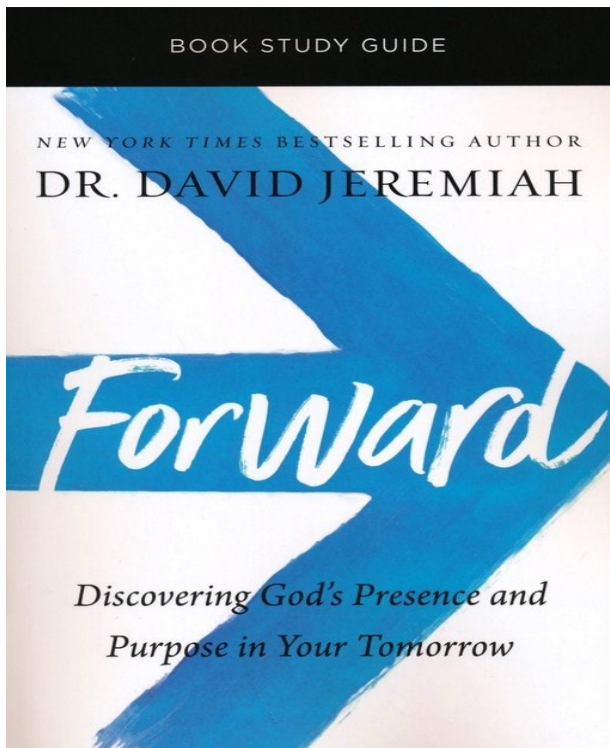
The Adult Class
meets in Asbury Hall at 8:45 AM

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM

BEGINNING April 23, 2023

ASBURY HALL



Forward by Dr. David Jeremiah

In *Forward*, Dr. David Jeremiah examines Philippians 3:12-14 and offers six practical insights with a step-by-step plan for letting go of what's behind you and discovering God's plan for seizing tomorrow.

Relying on previous good deeds or dwelling on past sins can be self-defeating. How can we put former things behind us and press on to the abundant life God promises us in Christ?

Anchored in Paul's words from Philippians 3, Jeremiah's strong biblical teaching coupled with real-life stories help you move toward a better future and learn how you can move past failures or sins and fulfill God's purpose for your life.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR GREAT DISCUSSION AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE GOD'S WORD TOGETHER! SIGN UP FOR THE CLASS AND MATERIALS IN THE OLD KITCHEN.

Exercise Class with Cindy

Cindy Schuster is currently having an exercise class each Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 am in Asbury Hall. Each class will begin with a devotion, then some warm up stretches. If you are new to exercise class you don't have to be intimidated. Everyone can work at their own level and she will make modifications for those who are unable to get down on the ground by doing chair exercises. (Please bring a mat or beach towel.) Everyone is welcome, all ages, male or female. You do not need to be a church member to attend, find a friend to attend with you or make a new friend! Come join in!!

You may contact Cindy with questions at 814-321-4256





Rocky Railway VBS begins Sunday, July 9th - Thursday, July 13th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the FUMC Pavilion.

At Rocky Railway VBS, kids will explore Jesus' power and how we can trust Jesus to pull us through life's ups and downs.

Registration Forms will be available May 1st in the Church Office.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for VBS please contact Sherri Cunningham at 814-541-8939 or cunninghamsa13@gmail.com.

Jesus' power pulls us through.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

OUR CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

First United Methodist Church of Saint Marys is Christ-centered with open doors. We extend our hands and hearts into the world to alter lives for God's Kingdom.



CHRISTIAN COUNSELING
ASSOCIATES OF
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The mission of Christian Counseling Associates (CCA) is to provide excellent, accessible, and comprehensive counseling from a Biblical worldview.

Our counselors are experts in the field of clinical mental health and highly trained from accredited institutions. They are active in their local faith communities, have a heart for God, and are gifted in serving those who struggle with cognitive, emotional, and spiritual issues. .

Ready to make an appointment?

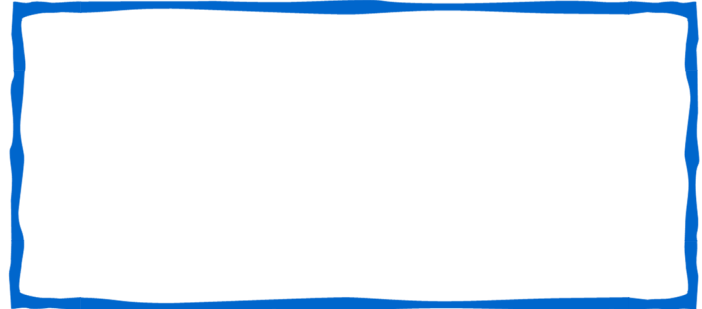
Call **724-396-1510** or CCAWPA@gmail.com



First United Methodist Church
140 N. Saint Marys Street
Saint Marys, PA 15857-1236

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
ST. MARYS, PA 15857
PERMIT NO. 38
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Please let us know if your address changes.



Contact Information

Phone: 814.834.3016
Email: fumchurchstmarys@gmail.com
Web: www.fumcstmarys.com
facebook.com/FUMC15857

MEMORIAL DAY



At Your Service

The Reverend Sang Lee

“PASTOR LEE”

Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8 AM to 4 PM

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & KEEP UP
WITH CURRENT EVENTS**

<https://www.facebook.com/FUMC15857/>

To Post anything on the Church's Facebook
page, please email or call
Pastor Lee or the Church Office.

