



St. Marys Methodist Church Family News

October 2025 Volume 51 Issue 10

Rev. Robert F. Zilhaver

SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULTS 8:45 AM

CHILDREN/YOUTH 9:00 AM

WORSHIP 10:15 AM



Pastor Appreciation Day – Sunday, October 12, 2025

We will celebrate **Pastor Bob** after the worship service on
Sunday, October 12, with **cake and coffee** in **Asbury Hall**.

Pastor Bob has recently received a great honor—he has been selected as a **delegate to the GMC General Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa**, taking place **August 30 – September 5, 2026**.

This global gathering brings together lay leaders and delegates from around the world for worship, prayer, and important denominational decision-making.

It is especially exciting that this will be the **first GMC General Conference held on the African continent!**

This is not only a tremendous opportunity for Pastor Bob but also a point of pride for our entire church.

However, this trip does come with significant expenses.

Pastor Appreciation Day offers a perfect opportunity for us, as a congregation, to show our love and support by helping offset these travel costs. If you'd like to contribute, you may give **cash or checks made out to St. Marys Methodist Church**.

Please use the **envelopes provided in the bulletin** and drop them in the **offering plate** or bring them to the church office.

Let's come together to show Pastor Bob how much he is loved and appreciated!

October Message

Newsletter: October 2025

The Wonder of Change and the Certainty of God

There is something deeply sacred about autumn. As the air turns crisp and the days grow shorter, the trees burst into a final, fiery display of color before releasing their leaves. We watch as greens give way to golds, oranges, and reds—each leaf a brushstroke from the hand of our Creator. It's a season that reminds us of the beauty in letting go and the wonder of God's design in the rhythms of life.

Creation teaches us that change is a part of God's good order. The turning of the seasons, the rising and setting of the sun, the ebb and flow of tides—all speak of a God who has woven cycles of transformation into the very fabric of the world. As Genesis 8:22 declares, *"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."* These patterns are not chaotic but purposeful. They reveal a Creator who is both dynamic and dependable.

And yet, in the midst of change, we long for something constant. Life, like the seasons, is filled with transitions—new chapters, unexpected turns, moments of loss, and seasons of growth. We may find ourselves in a time of uncertainty, where what once felt stable now shifts beneath our feet. In these moments, we take heart in the truth that while everything else changes, God does not.

"I the Lord do not change," says Malachi 3:6. And Hebrews 13:8 reminds us, *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."* The God who painted the trees with color and calls each star by name is also the One who holds your life in His unshakable hands. His promises are as sure as the sunrise, and His love endures through every season.

When winter comes, it is easy to forget the vibrancy of fall or the promise of spring. But just as surely as the leaves fall, new buds will rise. In God's kingdom, change is not the end—it is part of the ongoing story of renewal. That is the promise of our faith: that even in dying, there is resurrection; even in cold, there is warmth on the horizon.

So as you watch the leaves drift to the ground, take a deep breath and give thanks. For in the midst of change, we serve a faithful God whose love never fails, whose Word endures forever, and whose mercy is new every morning.

God Bless,

Pastor Bob



Send a Note to Our Shut-Ins



Jean Dodrill	DuBois Nursing Home	212 South Eighth St.	Dubois,	PA	15801	Rm. 215-2
Patricia Johnson	Highland View Rehab	90 Main St.	Brockway	PA	15824	Rm 22
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	
Anita Vollmer	Elk Haven Nursing Home	St. Marys	PA	15857		

Memorials

In Memory of Joe Gasbarre

Lesa Lamb

Lori Burke

Cassidy & Bobby Stadelman

Jan McCoy

Bonnie & Bill Gausman

TO OUR PASTOR

In infinite wisdom
the Lord surely knew
that we need a Pastor
as Faithful as you.
A love of God's Word
& a Heart for His Flock,
you give of yourself
& you Stand on the Rock.

We Appreciate YOU

October Meetings

MOE Meeting

Tuesday Oct. 14 @ 6:30

SPPRC Meeting

Tuesday Oct. 21 @ 6:30

Finance Meeting

Wed., Oct. 22 @ 6:30

AD Council Meeting

Tuesday Oct. 28 @ 6:30



Man to Man

The men meet on
Wednesday **7:00 PM**
In Conference Room
All Men Welcome!

SMALL GROUPS

Meet

9:00 AM Monday in conference room

6:30 AM Monday in Asbury Hall

3:00 PM Thursday in Asbury Hall

Contact the church office or any small group member
for more information.

BIBLE STUDY

on the Book of Daniel

Will begin Monday October 13 in
Conference Room

Bring your bible and join in to
learn about this great man!

Contact Cyndi Rippey for more information

YOUTH MINISTRY

Pastor Bob is starting a Children/Youth Ministry

The first meeting will be

Tuesday, October 14

5:00 PM—6:30 PM — Children's Ministry

Tuesday October 21

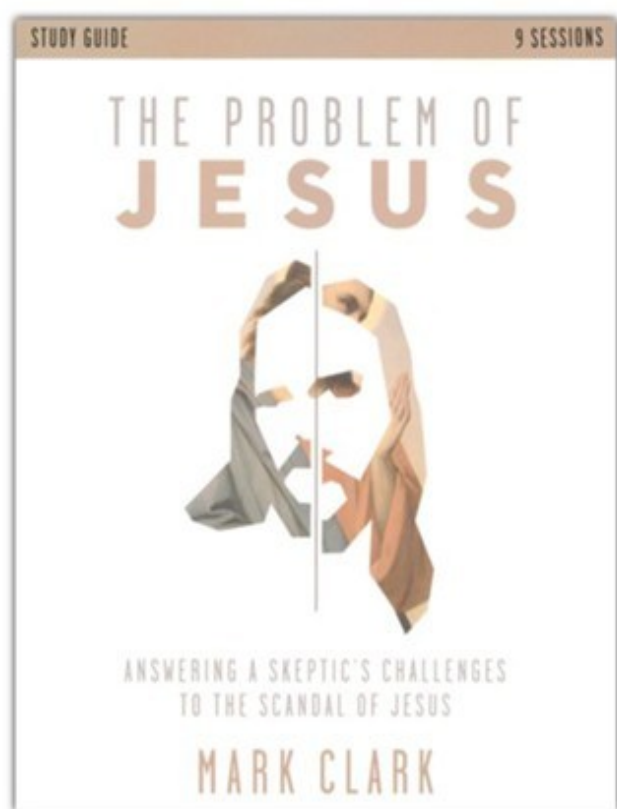
5:00 PM— 6:30 PM—Youth Group

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

CONFERENCE ROOM



THE PROBLEM OF JESUS

Some people applaud Jesus as a good teacher. Others find his words old-fashioned and narrow-minded. Many American churchgoers imagine him merely as a kindly best friend. In this 10-session study, Clark examines the historic Jesus of Scripture--including the evidence that he was real; the cost of following him; and his undeniable claim to be the exclusive path to God.

The Problem of Jesus is an exploration of the person and work of Jesus of Nazareth: his parables, his miracles, his controversial call to discipleship, politics, and challenge to love God above everything else in the world, his seemingly insane claim to be God, and what his death and resurrection actually mean if they did in fact happen - and what it all has to do with our lives. Award-winning author Mark Clark engages with ideas from all realms of study - from Malcolm Gladwell and Jordan Peterson to historians, scientists, and philosophers like N.T. Wright, John Polkinghorne, and C.S. Lewis; from Dallas Willard and Nancy Pearcey to *Star Wars* and *James Bond* and *Pretty Woman* - all to present a fresh and compelling portrait of Jesus, the man, the message, and the mission, who forever altered the course of human history.

Join us for this exciting study! Sign up for the class and materials in the old kitchen.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
BEGINS**

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 AT 9:00 AM .

2025 Methodist Women

Sharon Herzing—President
Melinda Gasbarre—Vice President
Marci Rogers—Secretary
Deanne McAfoose—Treasurer
Lesa Lamb—Public Relations

Looking Ahead

Fall Tureen—Monday, September 29
Planning Meeting—Monday, October 27
Annual Holiday Bazaar Saturday, November 22
Women's Christmas Party Monday, December 8

IT'S BAZAAR PREP TIME!

PLEASE WATCH FOR DATES AND TIMES.

LOTS OF HELP NEEDED NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!!

NOODLE MAKING

Tuesday Oct. 21 & 28, Nov. 4 & 11 at 8 am.

NO EXPERTS NEEDED!!!! On the job training provided.

See Linda Johnson with questions

PIES & COOKIES



The Ladies have begun making pies and cookies.
If you would like to help call Sharon for dates/times.

814-335-0984



Bowls of Love

Every Wednesday 4 PM-4:30 PM

MONETARY DONATIONS APPRECIATED

BAKERS FOR OCTOBER

7 CAKES NEEDED EACH WEEK

EACH 9 x 13 CAKE IS CUT INTO 20 PIECES

Oct. 1 Jenny S. Shirley S., Cindy S., Cheryl S., Michelle S., Carol S.

Oct. 8 Marie F., Dee C., Diane D., Linda D., Margie F., Joyce F.

Oct. 15 Mindy G., Mary Ann G., Carolyn H., Sandy H., Laura H., Kris K.

Oct. 23 Diane K., Nancy M., Janet M., Paula M., Sally M., Cathy N.

Oct. 29 Marlene P., Jean P., Cyndi R., Marci R., Sandy H.

The 2026 “bakers” list will be generated soon.

If you would like added or removed from the list please let the church office or Sandy Hoffman know.

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**

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

Please let us know if your address changes.



Contact Information

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Email: smmethodistchurch@gmail.com

Web: www.stmarysmethodistchurch.com
facebook.com/FUMC15857

Rev. Robert F. Zilhaver

WORSHIP

9:00 AM for Summer

Beginning Sept. 14

Sunday School Adults 8:45 am

Children/Youth 9:00 am

Worship 10:15 am



Let your light shine so
people everywhere may
see your good actions
and praise God in
heaven because of it.
Matthew 5:16