



St. Marys Methodist Church Family News

March 2026 Volume 52 Issue 3

Rev. Robert F. Zilhaver

SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULTS 8:45 AM

CHILDREN/YOUTH 9:00 AM

WORSHIP 10:15 AM



— THE SEASON OF —
LENT



Easter Sunday April 5, 2026

Easter Sunrise Service 7:30 AM at Pavilion

Easter Breakfast in Asbury Hall

Easter Service in Sanctuary 10:15 AM

March Message

March 2026

THE GIFT OF BEAUTY

I ran across this statement recently: “Every home needs a bouquet as surely as it needs cabbage.” It was the author’s way of saying that beauty is as important as food.

It reminded me of an incident recorded in the New Testament (Matthew 26:6-13, Mark 14:3-9, John 12:1-8). A woman broke an elegant vase and used its expensive contents to anoint Jesus. The disciples, let by Judas, protested the act as a useless waste of money. After all, the vase and ointment could have been sold and the money used to feed the poor.

Jesus, however, challenged the disciples to consider another meaning of the woman’s act. They reduced her act of devotion to its economic value. Jesus affirmed, “She has done a beautiful thing.” He went on to suggest that her unselfish, lavish expression of devotion was also a symbol that pointed beyond monetary matters.

We are becoming increasingly utilitarian in our approach to life. The principal criteria of evaluation is cost and utility. Such a world has little place for bouquets, only cabbages.

In a utilitarian world, education is reduced to a means of increasing earning power rather than a search for truth and wisdom. Careers are chosen according to the salary available rather than the opportunities for service afforded. Music, art, literature, and even worship become slaves of the marketplace. Will it sell? That often becomes the only deciding director. The ability to lift the spirit, inspire noble living, and cleanse the soul seldom enters the equation.

What if God had decided to limit creation to what sells or to what has mere utilitarian value? There would be no multi-colored landscapes or blooming rose gardens to decorate the earth. There would be no music sung by chanting birds or flowing fountains or played as symphonies. Art and literature and even worship would not be.

But the fact is, we humans need beauty expressed in art and music and poetry and nature as certainly as we need bread and oxygen. We need symbols as surely as we need sunshine.

God is beauty, truth, goodness, love. To be insensitive to beauty, unappreciative of truth, blind to goodness, and calloused to love is to miss God. On the other hand, to cultivate an awareness of beauty, to be committed to truth, to strive for goodness, and to grow in love is to know God.

Worship is a means of countering utilitarianism. Worship is never self-serving. It is an expression of adoration of God. Worship can sensitize us to goodness and surround us with love. When it does, it is “a beautiful thing” which transcends economics and pragmatics.

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 5
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		
Steve Zimmert	Nelsons Golden Years	137 Oklahoma Cemetery Rd	Dubois	PA	15801	

Men's Prayer Group

The men meet on
Wednesday **6:00 PM**
In Conference Room
All Men Welcome!

March Meetings

SPPRC Meeting
Tuesday March 3 @
6:30

MOE Meeting
Tuesday March 10 @
6:30

Sunday March 8, 2026



Time to
Spring Ahead

SPREAD
kindness
WHEREVER
you go

2026 Methodist Women

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

Looking Ahead

Rummage Sale—Friday & Saturday, June 12 & 13
***Please remember as you are spring cleaning to save items
for the sale!**

Picnic at church pavilion Monday June 29
Annual Holiday Bazaar Saturday, November 22
Women's Christmas Party Monday, December 8

SMALL GROUPS

Meet

9:00 AM Monday in conference room

6:30 AM Monday

3:00 PM Thursday in conference room

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

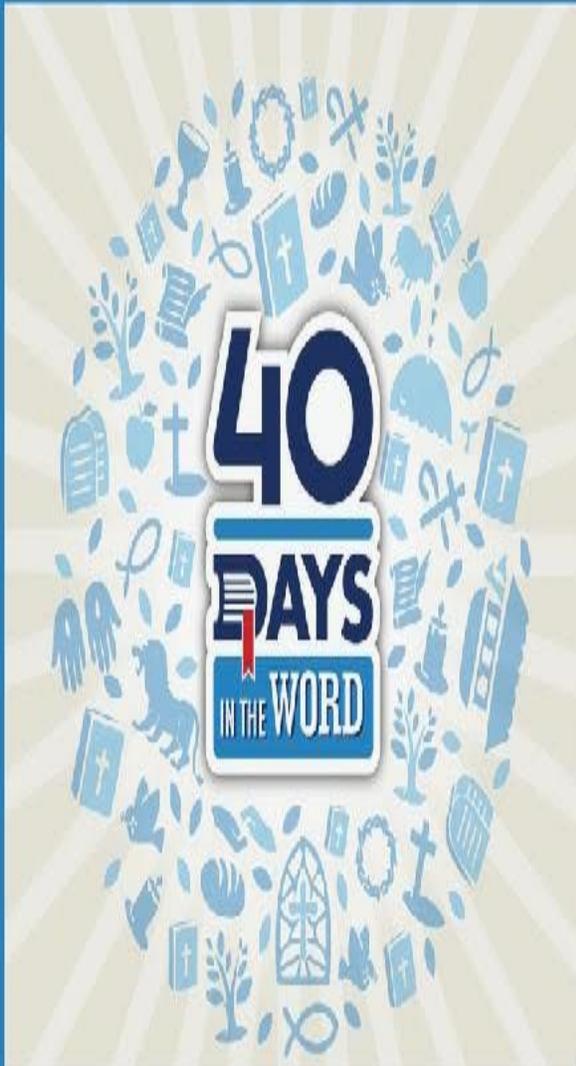
BIBLE STUDY

Monday in

Conference Room

Bring your bible and join in to

Contact Cyndi Rippy for more information



WEDNESDAYS

6:00-7:30 PM

FEB. 11 – MARCH 18, 2026

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BUILDING

217 Washington Street, St. Marys, PA 15857

Rev. Scott Wiest, 814-512-3888

LOVE THE WORD, LEARN THE WORD. LIVE THE WORD.

SHILOH EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Showing Off God

Women's Gathering

St. Marys Methodist Church

140 N St, Marys St St. Marys, Pa 15857

Saturday, March 14, 2026

A special time for women to gather together to share, learn, grow, pray, and worship as well as enjoy friendships and fun!

9:30 AM-3:00 PM--Doors open at 9:15 AM

Reservations 814-834-3016

\$25 Paid by Feb 28, 2026

Includes morning refreshments, lunch,
gift bag and childcare

www.showingoffgod.com

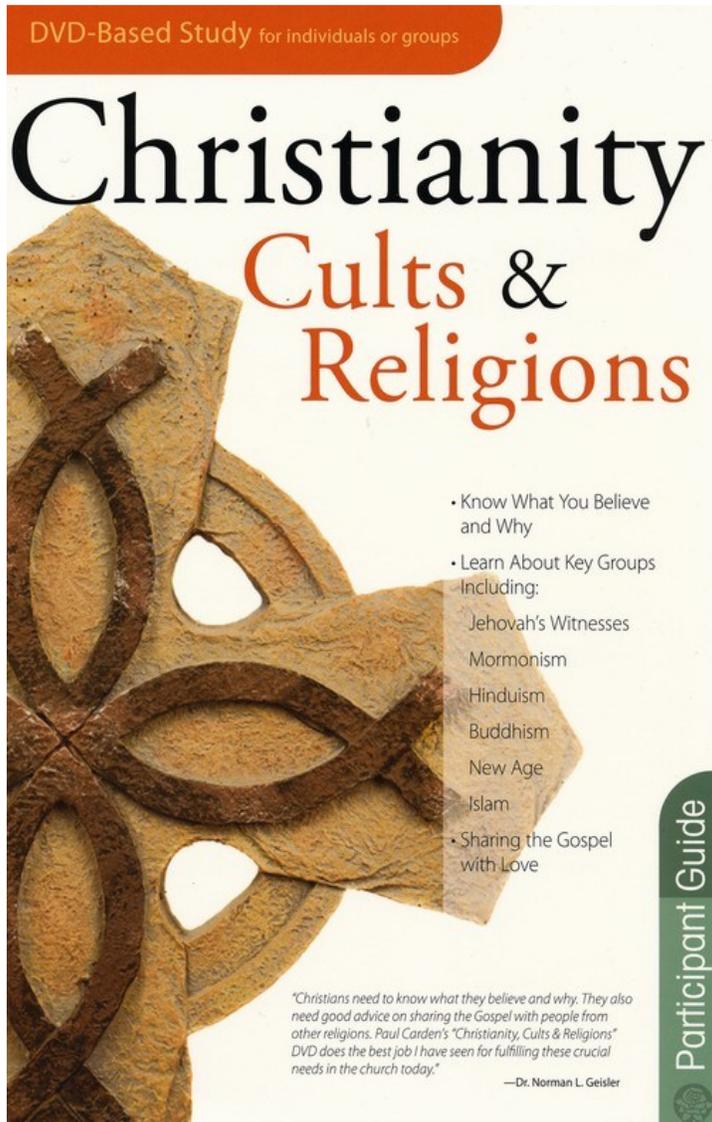


ADULT CLASS

BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1, 2026, 8:45 TO 9:45 A.M.

ASBURY HALL

LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM



Christianity, Cults & Religions

As the title implies, this study addresses Christianity in relation to cults, the occult and other religions. Comparisons of the other belief systems are set beside Christianity to illustrate the differences between them. In-depth examinations of Islam, Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses are included, as these belief systems are very relevant to Christians today. Topics include:

- Definitions, Discernment, and Defending the Faith
- Essential Christian Doctrine
- Jehovah's Witnesses (Watchtower Society)
- Mormonism (Latter-day Saints)
- Eastern Religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, and New Age
- Islam

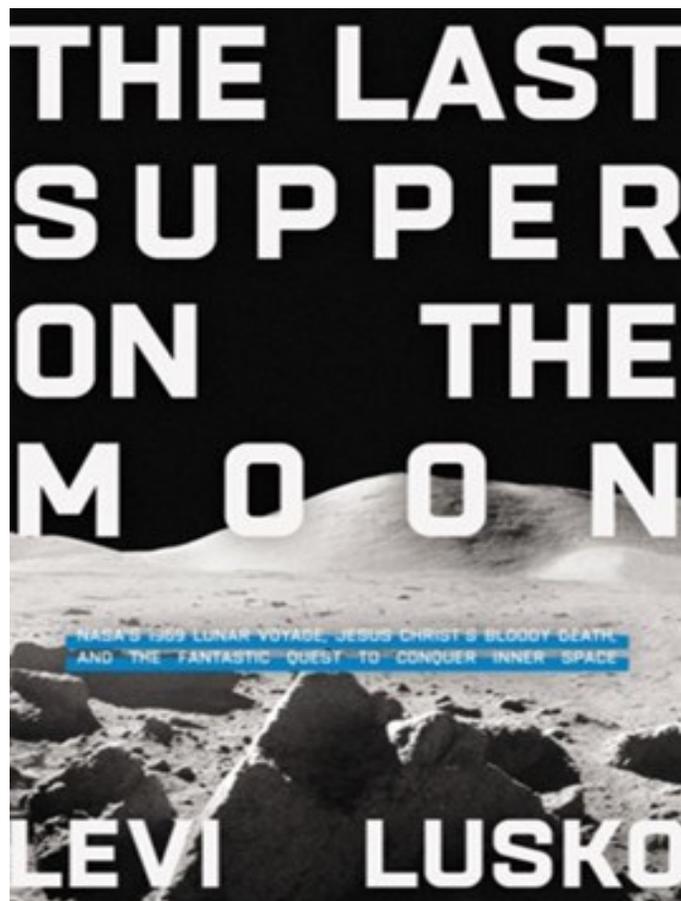
Please join us for this study. Sign up for the class and materials in the old kitchen.

ADULT CLASS

BEGINNING MARCH 22, 2026, 8:45 TO 9:45 A.M.

ASBURY HALL

LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM



Please join us for this study. Sign up for the class and materials in the old kitchen.

The Last Supper On the Moon

If there are places in your heart and corners of your mind that feel just as deep and dark and inaccessible as outer space, this study is for you. Fight as you may, unearthing the happiness and fulfillment you long for can feel nearly impossible.

In Psalm 8 David urges us to consider the heavens, to look up at the night sky. Doing so will help you discover fundamental truths about God. Namely, that—even though his love for you is as beyond comprehension as the farthest corners of the universe—through his Son, you can grab hold of it, and it has the power to transform your inner space.

Bestselling author Levi Lusko shares how you can:

- learn that life is not about "finding yourself" but discovering who Jesus is
- believe that God's love and forgiveness is grander than even your greatest failure
- buck the mundane of everyday life and start dreaming again

Embark on an adventure tracing the words and wonders of Jesus on his trek to the cross. Let *The Last Supper on the Moon* compel you to live with a more profound sense of purpose and a grander view of Jesus, and set you on a trajectory to life, and life more abundantly.

In *The Last Supper on the Moon* video study, bestselling author and pastor Levi Lusko uses 1969 lunar mission as an analogy of God's mission of salvation. This five-session study explores God's love for us by sending Jesus to die for our sins and how the letters to the Revelation churches can help us live with purpose and hope.

In 1969, Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin ate the first food and drink ever consumed on the moon---the bread and wine of communion. Using Aldrin's sacred meal as a launching point, Lusko explores how Christ's last words, "I Am" statements, and letters to the Revelation churches can help us live with purpose and hope.

Bowls of Love

Every Wednesday 4 PM-4:30 PM

MONETARY DONATIONS APPRECIATED

BAKERS FOR MARCH

7 CAKES NEEDED EACH WEEK

EACH 9 X 13 CAKE IS CUT INTO 20 PIECES

March 4— Dee C., Diane D., Linda D., Margie F., Joyce F., Marie F.

March 11—Mindy G., Cassie H., Carolyn H., Sandy H., Kris K., Diane K.

March 18 —Susan K., Nancy M., Janet M., Paula M., Sally M., Cathy N.

March 25— Patty P., Marlene P., Jean P., Cyndi R., Marci R., Jenny S.



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.

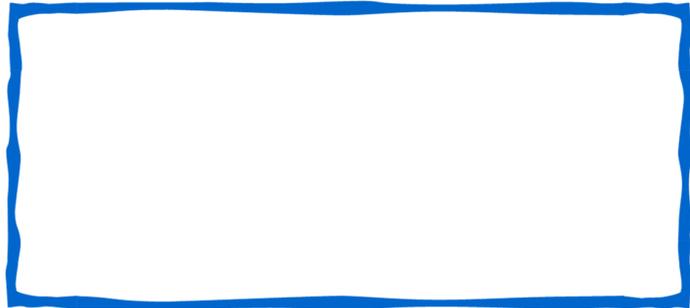
Our counselors are experts in the field of clinical mental health and highly trained from accredited institutions. They are active in their local faith communities, have a heart for God, and are gifted in serving those who struggle with cognitive, emotional, and spiritual issues.

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

Phone: 814.834.3016
Email: smmethodistchurch@gmail.com
Web: www.stmarysmethodistchurch.com
facebook.com/FUMC15857



Rev. Robert F. Zilhaver

WORSHIP

Sunday School Adults 8:45 am

Children/Youth 9:00 am

Worship 10:15 am