

SUMC Weekly Prayer Page

JOYS/BLESSINGS/PRAISES/HOPE

- *When you are feeling down, God is always there to life you up.
- *No storm is too big when you have Faith in God.
- *It's a new day. I am alive. I am blessed. I am thankful. God is good. Amen.
- *New Beginnings found in spring, marriage, health and new adventures
- *Spend your days pleasing God --- not people. I want to hear God say, "Well done my good and faithful servant."
- *Every morning is a Miracle that we are given another chance to live in the world, so Thank God who lent us a life we just borrowed from Him and in return offer Him a life according to His will.

CONCERNS

- *Prayers for friends from the food pantry, Virginia and John
- *Prayers for Jennifer deFontes
- *Pray for All God's Children, especially those having medical conditions. Be with my grandson, Alistair, Sandy's granddaughter Charlotte and Ed and Monica's granddaughter, Gracyn. And many others throughout the world.
- *Prayers for Joy Stoermer for the loss of her sister-in-law, Pamela Scarff. She was a teacher for many years and became assistant principal before she retired. Pam had a history of heart problems which was what she succumbed to. Prayers for the Scarff family, especially, Pam's father, Harold Stewart who at age 100 is deeply grieving the loss of his daughter Pam. And prayers for the rest of her family that she leaves behind.
- *Continued prayers for Esther Willwert who lost her brother, Bert Schmuck on December 17th of last year.
- *Please keep the family of Gary Tarbert, who passed away February 21, in your prayers. Gary was a brother to Mary Boyer. Please also remember Mary and Ron in your prayers in their loss.
- *Please also lift Kevin and Heather Walker's family in prayer at the passing of their dear friend.
- *Prayers for all those families who recently had a loved one pass away.
- *Prayers for June Bowers now in HOSPICE care.
- *Continued prayers for the complete healing of Dennis McCleary. Be with Jean as his caregiver.
- *Continued prayers for Mark & Betty Starck, John Malachowski, Dan Leckrone, Steve Freeman and Pauline Biggley.
- *Prayers for Esther's friend, Dan who has a blood disease.
- *Prayers for all COVID and Cancer Patients and others with medical problems.
- *Pray for all those receiving their 1st or 2nd shorts and those still attempting to get theirs.
- *Prayers for the Medical Staff - Doctors, Nurses, Technicians, etc. in Hospitals and Nursing Homes, etc.
- *Prayers for all those in jobs performing cleaning and maintenance projects in the hospitals and nursing homes.
- *Prayer for all those hurting – physically, spiritually or mentally.
- *Prayer for all the many other Religious activities (Baptisms, Birthdays, Burials, Communion, etc.) that cannot be fully celebrated and attended due to conditions and results from the virus.
- *Prayers for all upcoming weddings - Allison & Tyler in June and Chris & Emily and many others.
- *Prayer for the family having a house fire, thankfully not much damage.
- *Prayers for all the essential and healthcare workers.
- *Pray for all the little ones around the world.
- *Pray for small businesses.
- *Prayers for the Kids Connection.
- *Pray for the Food Ministry now serving about 55 households in Stewartstown.
- *Prayers for the elderly. When the elderly die, a library is lost and volumes of wisdom and knowledge are gone.



Any new prayer requests or updates, please call or text Ev Barrows at 717-818-2874, or email: ebarrows@zoominternet.net. Please inform the church office of those hospitalized or at home recuperating so that we are able to *connect* and *care* for them during their time of healing.

STEWARTSTOWN SENIOR CENTER MEALS

The Senior Center here in town, provides meals on Wednesday every week. You get a hot meal for Wednesday, and a frozen meal (TV dinner) for Thursday and one for Friday. With every hot meal you get a slice of bread or roll and a dessert. With every frozen meal you get a slice of bread, a half pint carton of milk, a 4 oz. container of juice and a cookie. They ask for a donation of \$1.00 per meal. The meals are made and delivered to the Senior Center by The Nutrition Group.

You must be 60 years of age to get the meals. You need to fill out an intake form and provide a copy of your photo ID. Please call the Senior Center at 717-993-3488 for more details.



We have received the license to stage Jesus Christ Superstar during Holy Week of 2022 culminating in a community Easter worship. The events will be held at Allegro Winery.

We are asking the entire church to be involved in this outreach ministry that we believe will impact our church for years to come. If you wish to help in any way, from prayer to food prep to setting up chairs, contact the music ministry office 717-993-2507 x11 or musicministry@stewartstownumc.org



ANOTHER WAY TO HEAR
GOD'S WORD EACH WEEK

Call 717-200-1380

To hear our latest services

Financial Giving Update \$ 77,077 YTD (83.0 % of Budget) as of March 14, 2021

Making a financial donation can be done in several ways:

Mailing a check to SUMC, 26 S Main Street, Stewartstown, PA 17363

Set up online giving through our website link sumc.churchcenter.com/giving

Text the amount that you wish to give in a message to 84321

Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting Stewartstown United Methodist Church.

Drive up Food pantry
distributions are
available for those in
need every
Saturday morning
from 10 am – 12 pm



Thank you to all the volunteers who have kept the food ministry running smoothly, and for the generous donations of food as well.

At this time, we are asking for limited food donations, but asking for people to volunteer to assist with the distribution of the food. [Sign up for food donations.](#)

Please [sign up to assist](#) with the food distribution

<https://www.signupgeenius.com/go/8050e44aba623abf85-sumc1>



Hi Kids!
GOOD NEWS!
9:30 – 10:45 am
Kids Connection
is back in session
and IN PERSON

Library Home Delivery
 Need a book to read, but you don't want to venture out? Problem solved! The Stewartstown U.M. Church library will deliver books to your home & pick them up when you are finished. All you have to do is ask! Books will be selected by someone wearing a mask & gloves and put into a sealed bag to keep them safe. Deliveries and pickups will be made on Thursdays. You can select a specific book by looking on our church's library website, or just give us the name of a favorite author or subject you are interested in and we will select a book or two for you. Please call Jo Ann Cooper at 717-927-9225. Just give us your name, address & phone # and we will take it from there.



Holy Week Worship
Palm Sunday, 3/28
worship 9 & 11 am
Maundy Thursday, 4/1
worship at 7 pm
Good Friday, 4/2
worship at 7 pm
Easter Sunday, April 4
10:30 am Outside Worship (weather permitting) OR
9:00 am & 11:00 am Inside Worship

Birthdays

Mar 19
 Denise Rosado
 Ricardo Pearce
Mar 20
 Jennifer deFontes

Mar 21
 Ginger Babcock

Mar 22
 Owen Stiffler

Mar 26
 Pearl Carson
 Ryan Herbert
 Shirley Little

Mar 27
 Stella Ferraiuolo

Mar 28
 Christina Wagner
 Karen Starr
 Mary McSorley

Mar 30
 Carol Knepley
 Charles Cadden
 Olivia Leatherman



*Welcome to Stewartstown
 United Methodist Church
 Sunday, March 21, 2021
 Making Disciples of Jesus Christ
 for the transformation of the World*

The Well Worship 9:00 am

Praise Songs
 Scriptures
 Time of Sharing
 Message
 Closing Song

Open The Eyes of My Heart
 Draw Me Close
 Jeremiah 31:31-34

Covenant: Like Marriage Vows
 Pastor Keith
 Hallelujah (Your Love Is Amazing)

Kids Connection 9:30-10:45 Adult Sunday School Class 9:45 – 10:45

Traditional Worship 11:00 am

Prelude
 Welcome to Worship
 Hymn #98
 Prayer Hymn #351
 Psalm 51
 Prayer
 Ministry Moment
 Scriptures
 Message
 Hymn #140
 Blessing and Dismissal

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
 arr. Martin
 Valerie Houghton
 To God Be the Glory
 Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior
 Prayer for Cleansing and Pardon

Covenant: Like Marriage Vows
 Pastor Keith
 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Worship will be held in the sanctuary following all CDC guidelines. Important reminders:
 Masks are required at all times. Face shields may be worn, in addition, to a mask as an additional precaution.
 Social distancing of at least 6 feet using the marked seating areas. Please be sure to sign the COVID screening log as you enter the building. No congregational singing when inside.

Stewartstown United Methodist Church 26 South Main Street, Stewartstown, PA 17363
 (717) 993-2507 info@stewartstownumc.org www.stewartstownumc.org
 Please call and leave a message to schedule an appointment with staff members or to gain access to the facility.

Friday, March 26, 2021

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-24 - A Song of Victory

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Notes and Prayer

As you pray the Psalm you may remember being taught the song - This Is the Day - you know you want to sing it. If you don't remember there are a variety of versions on Youtube.

Saturday, March 27, 2021

Mark 10:46-52 - The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." 50 So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. 51 Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." 52 Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Notes

Put yourself in the story. Pick a character.

What do you see, hear, taste, touch, smell?

What is like sternly order Bartimaeus to be quiet?

To be Jesus and here the desperate call of a blind beggar?

To be blind and then to see?

Prayer

Lord, open my eyes, heal my spiritual blindness, let me see what only you can help me see.



**Daily Devotional Readings
for the week of
March 22 – March 27, 2021**

Monday, March 22, 2021

Psalm 119:9-16

9 How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

10 With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments.

11 I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

13 With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

14 I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.

15 I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways.

16 I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

Notes

Purity is important. How do you guard it according to God's word? Do as the Psalmist says. Seeking God with your whole heart and you will find that God's words are invaluable.

Think back over the last 6 months how often did you typically spend time by yourself reading and reflecting on scripture? Rarely - Less than weekly - 1-3 times per week - 4-6 times per week - Every day?

How do you want to answer that question 6 months from now?

Prayer

Pray the prayer. Many of the Psalms are words of aspiration. We say it and do it until we become it.

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Isaiah 44:1-8 - God's Blessing on Israel

44 But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen!

2 Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you in the womb and will help you:

Do not fear, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen.

3 For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground;

I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring.

4 They shall spring up like a green tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams.

5 This one will say, "I am the Lord's," another will be called by the name of Jacob, yet another will write on the hand, "The Lord's," and adopt the name of Israel.

6 Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

7 Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be.

8 Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Notes and Prayer

Consider what Isaiah is saying about God's nature and relationship with the people.

Chosen, formed in the womb, poured out blessings.

Pray the Psalm substituting your name for Jacob, Israel, Jeshuran.



"From Easter to Pentecost: The Emerging Church in Toxic Times"

Beginning on Wednesday, April 14th and concluding on Wednesday May 12th, Pastor Ed Zeiders will lead **Part One** of the study and will explore the early chapters of the Book of Acts. The focus will explore the challenges and conflicts the early Christians and congregations faced. What does it mean to be "In the world, but not of the world?" Beginning on May 26th and concluding on June 16th, **Part Two** of the class will look at the Pentecost experience with a focus on both the personal and congregational nature of "Life in the Power of the Spirit." Classes will be held in the sanctuary from 10:00AM until 11:30AM. Social distancing will be observed. Please contact Connie Zetterman to enroll in the classes. Register for either or both parts as desired.

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

John 12:44-50 - Summary of Jesus' Teaching

44 Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. 45 And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. 46 I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. 47 I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. 48 The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, 49 for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me."

Notes

It is interesting to note that Jesus did not come to judge the world but to save it. It is the Word that comes from God that is the judge. How does that work? Choose to believe, choose light or you are choosing darkness. Maybe the final judgment is simply an acknowledgment of your choice - do you choose to live in relationship with God living God's way or choose not to. Either way there is a place for you in your choice.

Prayer

Lord, I want to know and keep your words. They are light and life for me and for eternity.

Thursday, March 25, 2021

Philippians 2:1-11 - Imitating Christ's Humility

2 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Notes and Prayer

This is put in verse form because it is actually an early hymn of the church. The Greek word "kenosis" or "self-emptying" is used in verse 7. When we empty ourselves of personal or selfish concerns as described in vss. 3 and 4 we make room to be filled entirely with God's divine will. Prayerfully read the hymn several times. What do you need to self-empty? Allowing the space, how has God filled you?