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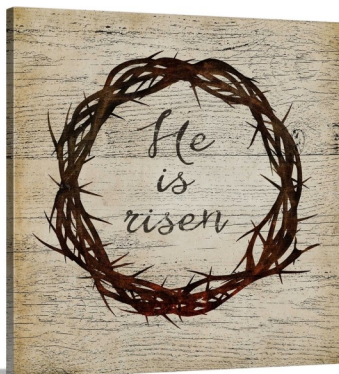
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**March Mission Project:**

**Heifer International**

Heifer International is a global nonprofit working to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable, values-based holistic community development.

Heifer International distributes animals, along with agricultural and value-based training, to families in need around the world as a means of providing self-sufficiency.



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Lent is meant to be a time when we evaluate our spiritual walk and how we are doing in regard to becoming more like Christ. The Lenten sermon series, *Respectable Sins...Confronting the Sins we Tolerate* has had us all squirming in our seats, or at least I hope it has. Please continue to pray that God will help you to see your sins and not always point fingers at others' sins.

With Easter being early this year, Holy Week and Easter will be in March. We will have a Seder meal on Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the Church Activities board so food can be prepared. Please sign up as soon as possible. We will have one Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m. on March 29.

I'm keeping my letter short this month because we are adding a new feature to the newsletter called *Volunteer Spotlight*.

Please read and see what our congregation members are doing inside and outside of the church.

Please join us in person or on Facebook throughout Lent to see how the Holy Spirit can help us to become more like Christ.

Blessings ~ Pastor Lori



## Lycoming County Brotherhood Alliance Unsung Hero...

Ed Souter, Sr

It was announced in church that Ed would be receiving the Unsung Hero award. He was nominated by his granddaughter, Alyssa, for this special award.

Ed is a volunteer both outside church and inside church. He is a member of the Warrensville Lions Club for 40 years serving as president, secretary, and helping raise funds for various non-profits.

He is a veteran volunteer who visits the home or hospital room of veterans in hospice care or experiencing other health issues. He serves on the volunteer honor team honoring veterans at a pinning ceremony.

He volunteers helping senior citizens with chores at their homes. His volunteering is vital to Saint John's-Newberry ministry as well. He serves on church council, as an usher, as the representative to annual conference, as a member of the safety and security team, and as a member of the congregational care team where he regularly visits shut-in members of the church.

I think we can agree with Alyssa, Ed is an unsung hero.

Thank you, Ed, for all of your service to God through the church and outside activities and congratulations on being chosen for the Lycoming County Brotherhood Alliance Unsung Hero award.





## The Ray Keyes Sports Award...Dave Bower

It was also announced in church that Dave Bower is the recipient of The Ray Keyes Sports Award. The award is named in honor of a long-time sportswriter and sports editor of the Williamsport Sun Gazette. He was involved in almost every aspect of sports and sports reporting in the North Central Pennsylvania scholastic and community contests. At the Lycoming County Brotherhood Alliances annual banquet, the Ray Keyes award is presented to a county resident. This prestigious sports honor is for individuals, male or female, for their commitment to the development of sports skills and sportsmanship of county athletes. The recipient of the award will demonstrate outstanding leadership in promoting the cause of goodwill and understanding among all county athletes. Each year the Lycoming County Brotherhood Alliance will seek to identify individuals for consideration by a selection committee. This group shall be comprised of all previous award winners, with the most recent recipient serving as chairperson.



### Award Criteria:

- Is recognized as a role model demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship, leadership qualities and a positive attitude.
- Is recognized as having demonstrated outstanding integrity in Lycoming County sports effectiveness through persistent hard work.
- Is recognized as having a commitment to the maintenance and continued development of sporting volunteers.
- Is recognized as a sports ambassador for all athletes in Lycoming County.

Both Ed and Dave will receive their awards and hear motivational speaker Earl Granville speak at the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Brotherhood Banquet on May 1, 2024 at the Genetti, contact Barry Rake.

## CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024

*The monthly meeting of the Church Council was held February 21, 2024. This report is submitted to communicate to our congregation the work of the Council. The Council serves as the Administrative Board, Trustees, Finance and Staff Parish Relations Committees in a governance and oversight role over all ministries. Church Council meetings are open meetings except when the Council deals with Staff Parish Relations matters.*

The following are the major items from the Council's agenda discussed at the February meeting:

- We are beginning a Leadership Development study. Renovate or Die by Bob Farr was distributed with instructions to read the Introduction for our March meeting.
- For Spiritual Development, Pastor Lori will be using the book Prayer: The Timeless Secret of High-Impact Leaders by Dave Early. The first chapter was highlighted, Value the Power of Prayer.
- Approved January Council meeting minutes.
- Reviewed January Council newsletter report.
- Financial information was reviewed. We are currently in the black thanks to contributions being gifted from RMD's. It was noted these are a one time contribution. The paper for our bulletins has significantly increased from our current vendor. Office Supply was found to have a much better price. The cost to sponsor a bulletin is \$25.00 per week.
- We have had 3 individuals visit us. One attends on a regular basis
- The Maintenance Team reported they are waiting on equipment for heat in the children's rooms. A circuit breaker that serves the roof top unit was replaced. There are numerous can lights not working. Our electrician suggested converting to LED lights to be more efficient and cost effective. Council approved having all can lights in our building replaced, starting with the main hallway by Fellowship Hall first.
- Gayle Page requested that a commercial carpet cleaner be either rented or purchased for her use. Council discussed the differences, but felt that purchasing was the better option. Purchase of a rug doctor, universal cleaning tool (for upholstery) and shampoo at a cost of approximately \$750.00 was approved.
- Safety and Security Team updated paperwork for emergency procedures, signed by Elaine Hinston and Pastor Lori.
- Council is looking into having our Web page updated. More to come at a later time.
- Finance Items – Insurance premiums have significantly increased to \$760.00 for the parsonage and \$18,680.44 for the church campus. This does not include WECCC.

- Congregational Care Team discussed events through December. There is a bulletin board in the hallway by the office listing all upcoming dates with 'Save the Date' items listed for future events.
- Monthly Mission Projects are currently being voted on.
- Council Town Hall was discussed with the positive things happening being highlighted. Lynn Girardi will be addressing our congregation on Sunday, February 25 to discuss what Staggered Starters Class is doing.
- Saturday morning Lenten breakfast/devotions started February 17.
- Election of officers: Scott Hall accepted the position as Vice-Chair for 2024. Ann Allison accepted the position of Assistant Secretary.
- The auditor will be here on March 5.

Next meeting will be on March 20, 2024 @ 6:30 pm.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about this report please talk to any member of Council. (Pastor Lori, Ann Allison, Pat Burkett, Bob Burns, Lee Ann Ditty, Mark Ertel, Lynne Girardi, Scott Hall, Nancy Jacobs, Cathy Prowant, Ed Souter, Sr., Elaine Hinston.)



Thursday, March 28th Seder Meal at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 29th Good Friday Worship service at 7pm (only 1 service this year)

Saturday, March 30th Egg Hunt beginning at Noon - rain or shine

Sunday, March 31st Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30am with breakfast following at 7:30am  
Easter Worship Service at 9am

July 21st –25th Vacation Bible School 5:30-6pm dinner, 6-8pm VBS

Sunday, September 8th Congregational Picnic @ Indian Park

Sunday, November 24th (time TBD) Thanksgiving Praise & Pie or soup and sandwich  
(this will be in place of the Thanksgiving Eve service)

Sunday, December 1st A Night in Bethlehem event from 5pm - 7pm

Saturday, December 21st Blue Christmas service at 7pm in the Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 24th Christmas Eve Worship services 3pm, 7pm, 10pm (times may change)

Tuesday, December 31st Watchnight at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall

## *A Word from the West End Christian Community Center*

First I would like to thank all of you who helped to make 2024 a record year for the WECCC. Thanks to the volunteers, patrons and financial supporters, we were able to assist more people this past year than at any other time in the life of the WECCC. Your continued prayerful support in 2024 is vital as we charge into the new year.

Just as some examples here are just a handful of our 2023 statistics: SK Café served 18,647 meals, up 3,000 from 2022, the Shoe Express provided 410 pairs of sneakers and distributed through the FOCUSED program to the children in the Williamsport Area School District, we had over 3,200 people pass through our Welcome Wagon beverage area, the Community Cupboard emergency food pantry served over 1,400 people in need of food and lastly the Clothes Closet/Thrift Shop served 12,000 customers and their Christmas sale had a banner year.

These are just numbers on a page until you see the lives they represent. The people who pass through our doors, be they volunteers or patrons, are absolutely amazing with incredible stories. Stories that we are invited to be a part of.

We live by the scripture “They will know you are my disciples by the way that you love one another.” This guides all that we do at the WECCC. Please stop by the office and allow me or other staff to show you around and possibly you might be called to join our team. We have some exciting fundraisers coming this year, so keep up to date on our social media pages to learn more or call the office (570 323-6297).

Until I get to see you face to face, know that we love you! But God loves you more!

Cal Phillips

## *Memorials and Honors*

The following have made contributions to the Memorial and Honor Fund to the Glory of God and in Memory of **Ray Mahaffey**: Lori Mahaffey; in Memory of **Mark Carlisle**: Saint John’s-Newberry UMC; in Memory of **Ethel (Sis) Gilbert**: Bob & Ann Burns

With the Easter Egg Hunt coming up on Saturday, March 30th, we are need of candy to fill the eggs. Please consider donating bags of wrapped candy that will fit in plastic Easter eggs. Your donations may be brought to the church office no later than March 21st. Thanks in advance for your support.



# March Celebrations...

Justine Cruz	1
Jenn Jacobs	1
Brandon DeArment	2
Tristan Tyler	2
Kendall Austin	3
Morgan Bennett	3
Daniel Turner	5
Jessica Bower	6
David Livermore	6
Lori Luna	7
Jamie Hepler	8
Jonathan Hunsinger	8
Ben Manetta	8
Cathy Prowant	8

Rachael Cohick	11
Nancy Colley	11
Pastor Lori Betsworth	12
Steele Britton	12
Lea Frymire	12
John Bubb	14
Shannon Frantz	14
Cade Lusk	16
Suzanne Richard	16
Brendan Kuriga	17
Ron Shireman	18
Tim Conklin	18
Larry Helminiak	18
Lindsay Cohick	19
Jennifer Foust	20
Alexander Ré	20
Liz Segraves	20
Stephanie Kennelley	21
Betty Rhone	21
Angelo Rupert	22
Marsha Bergman	24
Joanne Ameigh	25
Camille Snyder	26
Susanna Vogel	26
Kim Davis	27
Donna Helminiak	27
Juliana Cruz	30
Olivia Conklin	31

# Happy Birthday

# Happy Anniversary

Tyler & Angela Rhone      March 7, 2009  
 Larry & June Helminiak      March 30, 1973

Dan & Ellen Cero      March 31, 1990

**DEVORAH STRAUB**  
 MEZZO SOPRANO  
*and*  
**ELLEN BOLL**  
 PIANIST  
 INVITE YOU TO THEIR RECITAL  
*Spring!*  
**MARCH, 30TH 2024**  
 2:00 PM  
 TRACHTE MUSIC CENTER  
 LYCOMING COLLEGE

# 2024 Monthly Missions

January	We Care fund
February	Hope Made Real
March	Heifer International
April	Sojourner Truth Ministries
May	24hr. Food Pantry of STJN
June	West End Christian Community Center (WECCC)
July	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
August	Habitat for Humanity
September	Yokefellowship Prison Ministry
October	UMCOR
November	TransWorld Radio (TWR)
December	Central PA Food Bank

## Prayer Chain Report

Please pray for: Beth Ziegler, Cheryl Kontz, Patty Wehr, Vicki Schneider, Dan Walmer, Denny & Kim Davis, Danielle Fantaskey, Barb, Riley O'Connell, Nancy Sanders, Beth, Cody Michael, Art & Patty DeParlos, Merle Campbell, Bernie Helminiak, Frank Connor, Cindy Cybulski, Grant Fausey, Mark Lauchle, Nancy Hembree, Frounchetta Keller, Bob & Faye Thomas, Frank Sanders, Heather Council, Robert & Nancy Eiswert, Eric Barr, Paul Cohen, Jim Bufford, Debbie Helm, Stan Jacobs, Nancy Gair, Doris Hunsinger, Lew Litz, Jerre Paulhamus, Wendy Decker, Roberta Kupel, Dick & Della Mae Carothers, Denise Miller, Waylon Harlan, Lori Webb, Max Ameigh, Barb Breining, Cal & Darlene Phillips, Jane Lowery, Carol Eiswert, Tiffany, Lila Lauchle, Chris Rafter, Joy Connly, Rose, Marie Cummings, Kraig Faust, Abby Moyer, Winnie, The Gardner Family, Traci Dobson, Ken & Belle Larson, Nancy Johnston, Nancy Sanders Parsons

Our love, prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of:

*Mark Carlisle* upon his recent passing.

**The Prayer Chain contacts are Shirley Morris (570 323-4310). If unable to contact her, please call Ann Allison (570 326-4671).**

**The prayer chain team is asking that when you have someone added to the list that you keep them up to date on the situation. Prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for 2 months. If after that 2 month time period they need to remain on, please notify either Shirley Morris or Ann Allison. Thank you for your willingness to pray for others!**

## Prayer for Others

### Our Bishops

Cynthia Moore Koikoi &  
Sandra Steiner Ball

### Our Superintendent

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Amara

### Our Local United Methodist Churches

Ebenezer East Point

### †Those serving in the Military...

John Affield, Jeffrey Bache, Joel Barr, Josalyn Bradley, Nathan Byer, Chase Bower, Richard Campbell, Brian Clarkson, Joey Cummings, Robert Daugherty, Joe DeArment, Cameron Dickey, Aaron Fillman, Joe Fioreth, Ron Furman, Randy Hosier, Jeremy Johnson, Eric Miller, Andrew Pepperman, Taylor Prosba, Matthew Ricci, Jeffrey Richard, Sarah Sanner, Col. David Smith, Brett Snauffer Jr., Jason Starr, Charlie Wolf, Jason Work.

### † Our College Students...

Jocelyn Cruz, Juliana Cruz, Spencer Fogelman, Hannah Freezer, Maria Davis Johnson, Spencer Karasek, Makenzie Karasek, Kylie Kirkendall, Lydia Kirkendall, Ethan Kuriga, Sam Litz, Lane Lusk, Ben Manetta, Gabe Manetta, Alicia Meyer, Jordan Phillips, Gianna Rupert, Julia Yeagle







## Saint John's-Newberry, UMC

2101 Newberry Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701

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E-mail: [secretary@stjnumc.com](mailto:secretary@stjnumc.com)

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## Reminders

The **MARCH/APRIL UPPER ROOM** daily devotionals are now available on the literature rack located in the Lounge area. The cost is \$1.00 for the regular print, \$1.50 for the large print.

**Church Office Hours** are Monday - Thursday 9am to 1pm, **Please call before you come to make sure someone is here.**

During lunch breaks, staff meetings and after office hours you may leave messages on the voice mail answering system (570 326-5569).

**All general information and questions may be sent to:** [secretary@stjnumc.com](mailto:secretary@stjnumc.com)

Newsletter articles may be submitted  
via e-mail to:  
[secretary@stjnumc.com](mailto:secretary@stjnumc.com)

**Take a look at our website at:**  
<http://stjnumc.com>



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

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- Rev. Dr. Lori Betsworth, *Pastor* •
  - Joyce Paulhamus, *Office Assistant* • Kris Michael, *Secretary/Treasurer* •
  - Gayle Page, *Sexton* • Jennifer Jacobs & Vanessa Bennett *Child Care Providers* •
  - Cal Phillips, *Director of WECCC* •
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