

Summertime & the Beauty of Creation

Life in the Poconos is good, isn't it?

I love the outdoors and being outside any chance I get is always a blessing. I grew up in a rural section of Lancaster County right on the edge of two farms and next to a very large patch of woodland. My days growing up were spent in the fields, down by the creek, or back in the woods. Wow, that thought just brought back some very fond and wonderful memories for me!

My first two jobs were on farms: first on a dairy farm and then on a chicken farm. I learned to care for animals, harvest hay, and even drive tractors! Through it all I learned about the importance of hard work and the lesson that good ole hard work doesn't hurt anyone. I always learned to enjoy God's Creation. We are blessed in so many ways and the beauty we enjoy in Creation is a big example of this.

Maybe this is why I so enjoy the stories of Creation and how God made the earth for us to enjoy. Everything that God breathed life into was created for us. Imagine that!

Living here in the Poconos brings this all back home for me. Each day I have the chance to drive through mountains, see streams, and, yes, still smell a freshly mown hayfield! Sometimes I do take these blessings for granted, but usually I take a moment to thank God for the beauty of Creation I have the privilege of enjoying.

This all was the impetus of our current sermon series on "The Beauty of Creation." Over the next several weeks we will explore

what the Bible says about Creation and we will examine some of the beauty of the Creation through photographs on Sunday morning. All the photographs are ones that I captured over the years.

My hope is that you will join us whenever you can this summer as we present this sermon series on "The Beauty of Creation." I also hope you will take the opportunity to see and experience the beauty of Creation on your own firsthand.

We do live in a beautiful part of Pennsylvania. Do not take it for granted. Stop grumbling about how much it is changing, and take a look around at all the beauty right in front of us!

Psalm 121 is one of my favorite psalms. "When I lift my eyes to the hills..." is how it starts. Do you ever lift your eyes to the hills or mountains? What do you see? What do these sights evoke in your thinking?

I look to the hills and mountains and see the handiwork of a great, mighty, and imaginative God. One who can create a wonderful and beautiful world.

What do you see?



Bob Shank

Daily Scripture Readings

July 1
Numbers 31

July 2
Numbers 32

July 3
Numbers 33

July 4
Numbers 34

July 5
Numbers 35

July 6
Numbers 36

July 7
1 Thessalonians 1

July 8
1 Thessalonians 2

July 9
1 Thessalonians 3

July 10
1 Thessalonians 4

July 11
1 Thessalonians 5

July 12
2 Thessalonians 1

July 13
2 Thessalonians 2

July 14
2 Thessalonians 3

July 15
1 Timothy 1

July 16
1 Timothy 2

July 17
1 Timothy 3

July 18
1 Timothy 4

July 19
1 Timothy 5

July 20
1 Timothy 6

July 21
2 Timothy 1

July 22
2 Timothy 2

July 23
2 Timothy 3

July 24
2 Timothy 4

July 25
Titus 1

July 26
Titus 2

July 27
Titus 3

July 28
Jonah 1

July 29
Jonah 2

July 30
Jonah 3

July 31
Jonah 4

Gather! Grow! Make a Difference!



July Birthdays

2	Molly Maroney
2	Ralph Harrison
4	Bob Shank
5	Tori Principe
9	Bill Hardy
10	Nancy DeHaven Imgrund
12	Sally Edinger
16	Joni Singer
17	Keelyan Sheeley
19	Christopher Vail
21	Dick Seip
22	Gladys Doll
24	Jeremy Stoeckel
27	Brandon Fiedler

If you would like a card on your special day, please call the church office - 421-6020.

Missions Committee News

“Christmas in July” - Stop by the Fellowship Room after service, any Sunday in July to purchase an ornament to support Family Promise.

Reminder to college bound students: the deadline for SUMC Scholarship applications is July 15th.

The next Missions meeting is July 10th @ 7 pm in the Blue Room downstairs.

The Church Yard Sale to support church mission projects will be held Friday, August 10th from 8 am - 4 pm and Saturday, August 11th from 8 am - 1 pm. Bring your used treasures, in good condition, to the Blue Room beginning July 1st. The Missions Committee is looking for volunteers to help sort, set up, and work during the yard sale. Contact any member of the Missions Committee if you can help.

Family Promise

We will be hosting Family Promise the week of July 15-July 22. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Room.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering.

Thank you!

UMW NEWS

Item of the month for the Christmas Totes is: Toothbrushes. Please place your donations in the trunk located in the Fellowship Room. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

The good news is that to date all bills including our Conference Apportionment are paid even though our giving income through May is -0.9% or \$800.49 less than last year at this time. As vacations approach we ask that you remember your financial commitment to SUMC. The church's financial obligations continue through the summer just as your household expenses do.

Envelope giving toward the elevator fund for the month of May was \$400.00 for a YTD total of \$4,220.00. Memorial gifts toward the elevator YTD are \$15,260.00 for a grand total of all funding \$260,210.39. To date \$269,295.00 has been paid to Edinger Construction toward the elevator construction with an estimated balance of \$97,070.00 due upon completion, hopefully within the next month. To date \$106,000.00 is needed to fully fund the elevator project. Our current Property & Building or Trustee funds are \$629,133.52 with approximately \$360,000.00 of those funds unable to be spent due to directives from the donors and sale of the parsonage. We continue to draw about \$10,000.00 a year from these reserve funds to maintain general expenses of the church and if it is necessary to also complete the payment for the elevator from these funds we will be down to \$163,000.00 available for repairs and emergencies. This past month, around \$3,500.00 was spent for roof and gutter repair.

The Stewardship Committee asks that you pray for our church and its growth and that you give prayerful consideration of your financial support of SUMC - its programs as well as the elevator project.

Stewardship Committee: Carole Everitt, Fran Harrison, Paul Edinger, Dan Butz, Kirsten Lee, Ruth Weber



To Serve You in July

Greeters	8:30
1	Bonnie Cramsey
8	Janet Woolever
15	Norma Snow
22	Pam Price
29	Irene Goforth
	11:00
1	Sue Weitzmann
15	Ruth Bensinger
22	Gale Butz
29	Doris Philips
Ushers	8:30
Bruce Miller	
Nick Brenneisen	
Walter Roeckendorf	
Kirsten Lee	
	11:00
Dick Seip	
Kelly Edinger	
Bob Dellicker	
Sue Gouger	
Eva Knight	
Counters	
Ray Singer & Doris Philips	
Altar Guild	
Joni Singer & Betty Michelin	
Soup Kitchen	
1	BPOE/Antler's Youth Group Carol Hutson
8	Analomink UMC Nancy Shoemaker
15	Pen Argyl UMC Tom Odenwelder
22	Neola UMC Gail Glassmeier
29	SUMC Asst. Volunteers Marina Maroney



OUR CHURCH STAFF

Ministers	Everyone
Pastors	Bob Shank & Ted Good
Pastor Emeritus	Tom Anderman
Church Secretary	Jackie Herrero
Choir Director	Dave Lantz
Organist	Marti Lantz
Handbell Director	Lynn Seip
Custodian	Matt Parton

CHURCH LEADERS

Daniel's Dream Team
Chairperson, Boyd Butz
Worship
Chairpersons, Ralph Harrison, Pastor Bob Shank
Stewardship
Chairperson, Carole Everitt
Property & Building
Chairperson, Carl Karchner
Servant Resource Team
Chairperson, Beryl Hellgren
Missions
Chairperson, Alberta Weber
Membership & Evangelism
Chairperson, Peggy Stewart
Lay Leader
Beryl Hellgren

Dancing Lessons

Ted and Margie Good have been enjoying taking dancing lessons over the past year. They would like to invite anyone who would like to join them for the lessons, to be at the Dance Charisma Studio on Tuesday evenings, ready to begin the lesson at 7:30 P.M. You do not need a partner to take the lessons. The studio is at the intersection of Route 611 and Shafer's Schoolhouse Road. It is in the strip mall that houses the Good Shepherd Rehab Center and TCBY. The entrance is in the back section of the area, near the Meineke Muffler Shop. The lessons are at the Bronze level, which is for beginners. The lessons last about forty-five minutes. You will need to carry your leather-soled dancing shoes with you to protect the expensive dancing floor surface from pebbles and other debris that could remain on your street shoes. This practice is common at dance studios and some exercise ones as well. The last two weeks of June will feature the foxtrot. She teaches the basic movements each week, so you will not be out of place by starting now. She will teach the Cha-cha for the Tuesdays in July. The cost is \$12.00 per person.

Eileen Walden is the owner of the studio and is the teacher at the classes. She is one of the most patient and best teachers we have ever seen. In addition to having so many years of experience; she is positive, upbeat and encouraging. It is a pleasure to be in her company. You can see her website at www.dancecharismapa.com There are other dance possibilities shown on her calendar as well. Margie has been encouraging Ted to take the lessons for years. His comment was, "I wish I had started thirty years ago. I enjoy them so much." Please join us to have some summer fun and the studio is air conditioned. See you on the dance floor! If you have any questions, feel free to ask Ted or Margie or telephone them at 424-5251.



SUMC Softball Game Schedule - All Games Start at 6 pm

July 2nd - Zacharias Pond Park

July 5th - Zacharias Pond Park

July 10th - Zacharias Pond Park

July 17th - Pinebrook Park

July 25th - Pinebrook Park

Come out and cheer our team!

JULY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 8:30 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 12:15 PM Family Promise Training Meeting 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 1:30 PM Victory in Jesus Small Group-Lounge</p>	<p>4 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 Church Picnic-Jay Albertson Park 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship-Church Picnic 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 1:30 PM Victory in Jesus Small Group-Lounge 7:00 PM Missions Meeting-Downstairs Blue Room</p>	<p>11 10:00 AM Morning Bible Study-Lounge</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Family Promise 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship-Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room</p>	<p>16 Family Promise 7:00 PM Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p>17 Family Promise 1:30 PM Victory in Jesus Small Group-Lounge</p>	<p>18 Family Promise 10:00 AM Morning Bible Study-Lounge</p>	<p>19 Family Promise</p>	<p>20 Family Promise</p>	<p>21 Family Promise</p>
<p>22 Family Promise 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship-Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 1:30 PM Victory in Jesus Small Group-Lounge</p>	<p>25 10:00 AM Morning Bible Study-Lounge</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship-Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room</p>	<p>30 Church Office Closed 9:00 AM MusicCamp-Downstairs</p>	<p>31 Church Office Closed 9:00 AM MusicCamp-Downstairs 1:30 PM Victory in Jesus Small Group-Lounge</p>	<p>1 Church Office Closed 9:00 AM MusicCamp-Downstairs</p>	<p>2 Church Office Closed 9:00 AM MusicCamp-Downstairs</p>	<p>3 Church Office Closed 9:00 AM MusicCamp-Downstairs</p>	<p>4</p>

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

547 Main Street

Stroudsburg, PA 18360

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July 2012

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