

Happy Easter, but Don't Forget Lent!

Happy Easter! We will already in the Easter season now in the month of March because Easter comes so early this year.

Easter is a season in the church calendar, not just a day. Our culture today likes to exploit the holidays and we end up thinking about just that holi-day. Look at that! Holi-day looks an awful lot like holy day, doesn't it? Anyway, Easter is a season not just a day. The season begins, obviously, on Easter Sunday, but continues up to the day of Pentecost.

Most of us are pretty good at celebrating Easter and even the season of Easter. We like to say that every Sunday is a mini-Easter and we sure like to celebrate in the church.

Even though Easter does begin this month, we cannot forget that we are still in the Lenten season. Lent is the time of spiritual preparation for Easter. I like to say that without a good Lent we cannot have a good Easter.

This time of preparation helps us to look inward at our own spiritual journey. Are we right with God? Are close to God or are we far away from God? Are we practicing the spiritual disciplines often enough every week? These are the right and proper questions to ask in the season of Lent.

More than just asking the right questions, we should also be ready to provide and live out the proper answers to these question. So, how is

your Lenten journey going so far? How can you improve on practicing the spiritual disciplines (prayer, meditation, Bible reading, fasting, etc.) this season?

Our current sermon series is examining some of the spiritual mentors who provide us with some tangible and helpful thoughts to help us grow in our spiritual journey. We are hearing quotes from their writings to see if they connect to us today. Some of these ideas are profound and I found them especially helpful on my spiritual journey.

The great men and women of faith have provided a training ground for us. Mentors are important to help us grow beyond what we could ever do on our own alone.

What are you reading? What are you thinking?
What are you praying? What are you believing?

These questions, and more like them, will help us not only prepare for Easter but celebrate Easter in an entirely new and extraordinary way!

Happy Easter, but don't forget Lent!



Bob Shank

Daily Scripture Readings

March 1
Joshua 14

March 2
Joshua 15

March 3
Joshua 16

March 4
Joshua 17

March 5
Joshua 18

March 6
Joshua 19

March 7
Joshua 20

March 8
Joshua 21

March 9
Joshua 22

March 10
Joshua 23

March 11
Joshua 24

March 12
John 1

March 13
John 2

March 14
John 3

March 15
John 4

March 16
John 5

March 17
John 6

March 18
John 7

March 19
John 8

March 20
John 9

March 21
John 10

March 22
John 11

March 23
John 12

March 24
John 13

March 25
John 14

March 26
John 15

March 27
John 16

March 28
John 17

March 29
John 18

March 30
John 19

March 31
John 20

Gather! Grow! Make a Difference!



To Serve You in March

Greeters 8:30
Ron & Jenny Bogart (all month)

11:00
6 Ana & Bob Dellicker
13 Sue & Ron Gouger
20 BJ Bachman
27 Joanne Reed

Ushers 8:30
Brad Hildabrant
Sue Scarborough
Kirsten Lee

11:00
Dick Seip
Bob Dellicker
Sue Gouger
Kelly Edinger
Eva Knight

Counters
Lynn Seip & Doris Philips

Altar Guild
Carole Everitt & Pam Cool

Soup Kitchen
Sunday afternoons at 4:00pm
6 East Stroudsburg Baptist Youth Group
13 Reeders UMC
20 ESU NSSLHA - Jeff Weber
27 Karina Thek

Tuesday evenings at 5:00pm



OUR CHURCH STAFF:

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

OUR CHURCH LEADERS:

Daniel's Dream Team
Chairperson, Sue Scarborough
admin@poconoymca.org

Worship
Chairperson, Pastor Bob Shank
bobshank@stroudsburgumc.com

Property & Building
Chairperson, Dick Seip
relseip@ptd.net

Servant Resource Team
Chairperson, C. J. Penwell
cjpen53@ptd.net

Stewardship
Chairperson, Paul Edinger
paul.edinger@stroudsburgumc.com

Missions
Chairperson, Elizabeth Miller
erm822@gmail.com

Membership & Evangelism
Chairperson, Peggy Stewart
bpstew@juno.com

Lay Leader
Beryl Hellgren
bykoh@verizon.net

MISSIONS

Welcome to March: The Month of UMCOR! The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a ministry of the United Methodist Church which is dedicated to alleviating human suffering around the globe. UMCOR supports programs and projects in disaster response, health, sustainable agriculture, food security, relief supplies, and more.

Each year, United Methodist Church designates a special Sunday offering to support UMCOR, called One Great Hour of Sharing. This year One Great Hour of Sharing will be on March 6. Mark your calendars and consider increasing your offering that day to serve this incredible, unique UMC ministry! To additionally support this ministry, we will be hosting a SERRV Sale from March 20 - April 3. UMCOR and SERRV have partnered to raise funds and support artisans and farmers around the world. As a nonprofit fair trade organization, SERRV works with artisans and farmers to sell their products in a global marketplace, guarantee payment for products, provide grants and low-interest loans to budding businesses, and create business education programs for participants. Keep an eye out for SERRV catalogs and more information on ordering!

During the season of Lent, we will once again be doing the Lenten Giving Boxes. Please feel free to take a box off the tables in the Fellowship Room, but return it full of change! If you would prefer to write a check, that is greatly appreciated as well. All money raised goes directly to the youth group's mission trip fund.

This year's annual Book Sale will be on April 16. If you have any books you would like to donate, please drop them off in the marked box in the Fellowship Room. We appreciate book donations, however, please be mindful of the condition of the books you are donating- nobody wants a moldy book. At this time, we cannot accept encyclopedias, magazines, or Reader's Digest Condensed books. Thank you for your continued support for this fundraiser!

Finally, Family Promise is hosting a Walk-a-Thon at the Stroud Mall on March 5 at 8am. We would love to have a good showing from SUMC and represent our host church! Registration is \$10, and there will be refreshments, a Tricky Tray, and much more at the event! To register, please visit FamilyPromisePA.org. For more information, contact Liz Miller or Kathy Cook. We hope to see you there!

Introducing the CORE Prayer System To Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

The Membership & Evangelism Committee, as part of the Prayer Ministry of our church has been led by the Holy Spirit to put together and implement a CORE Prayer System for the SUMC family.

The term “CORE” refers to the muscles that provide physical strength in our body and is compared to the strength of the spiritual body of SUMC. In the physical body, there must be exercise to obtain strength results; likewise for the church, we must exercise prayer to obtain spiritual strength results.

The intent then, of the CORE prayer system, in order to obtain results is to develop a praying church that prays consistently, in one accord, for the same issues, persons and concerns of our church family. We really do carry one another’s burdens and share by carrying them together to the Lord in prayer.

The basic scriptures the system is built upon are:

1. Love the Lord they God with all thy heart and mind and soul and your neighbor as yourself.
Matthew 22:37-39
2. Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.
Matthew 6:33
3. I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven...if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by your Father in heaven. Matthew 18:18-19

How it works:

- There are 31 Days of scripture based prayers for 3 sets of concerns; Pastors, Church Leaders and Worshiping individuals and their families, each personalized by naming their names before the Lord.
- This is our basic starting kit. Other sets are being developed to include 31 Days of Prayer for Missions-local and global, Praying for our Nation, Personal and corporate Stewardship, Spiritual Warfare and the Nation of Israel.
- These current three sets have been put together in booklets of different colors, red, blue and yellow
- Each of the 31 Day prayer sets have been copied on a different pastel color; Pastors-pink, Church leadership-blue and Worshipers and families-yellow.
- In this way the whole church is praying every month for all three units. There is a color code guide in each booklet and the bulletin will always announce if your book is this color, this month you are praying a specific color of 31 days of prayer.

The system will be presented to the congregation on several Sunday mornings during worship and the books can be picked up at After Church Fellowship time. Take one, read it, ask questions and decide if you want to commit to participate. If you decide to be a part of it, complete the tear out form in the back of the booklet and put in the offering plate. If you do not desire to participate, return the booklet to the church office.

What does commitment require?

- Participants are requested to commit for one year, 5 days a week
- Participants are encouraged to have a prayer partner/buddy who will pray together in person or by phone
- All participants sign the commitment form and put it in the offering plate. Single persons may participate or you can request to be paired with another prayer buddy. Having a buddy is an encouragement and has its own rewards of friendship and accountability
- **YOUR COMMITMENT IS BETWEEN YOU AND GOD, YOU DO NOT REPORT TO ANYONE. NO ONE ELSE KEEPS TRACK. IF YOU MISS A FEW DAYS, JUST GET GOING AGAIN.**
- The M&E Committee is the only one who knows who participates, and on occasion may ask for feedback/testimonies on your experience.

Here are some thoughts on prayer quoted from the book **THE KNEELING CHRISTIAN**. The author of this book never felt worthy to sign his name, but truly the Holy Spirit spoke through this person, the Unknown Christian.

“We may be assured of this; the secret of our failure is our failure in secret prayer.”

“Surely there is nothing as absolutely astonishing as a practically prayer less Christian.”

“We are never so high as when on our knees.”

“Let us never forget that the greatest thing we can do for God or for man is to pray, for we can accomplish far more by our prayers than by our work.”

Questions? Peggy Stewart 570-424-0625 JoAnn Calkins 570-402-1210

Following is the SUMW inventory of Rada Knives that is being liquidated at reduced pricing. All proceeds will go toward the kitchen renovations. Anyone interested in purchasing please contact Ruth Weber or Kathy Cook. Price in **bold** is sale price; number at end is quantity on hand. First come, first served.

R118	Bagel Knife	Silver	\$5.75	\$3.50	4
W212	Bread Slicer	Black	\$8.75	\$5.50	6
W208	Carver/Boner	Black	\$6.75	\$4.25	3
R108	Carver/Boner	Silver	\$6.75	\$4.25	1
W210	Carving Fork	Black	\$6.00	\$3.75	3
R110	Carving Fork	Silver	\$6.00	\$3.75	4
W239	Cheese Knife	Black	\$7.25	\$4.50	3
W234	Cook's Knife	Black	\$7.75	\$5.00	4
R134	Cook's Knife	Silver	\$7.75	\$5.00	2
W240	Cook's Utility Knife	Black	\$5.25	\$3.50	3
R140	Cook's Utility Knife	Silver	\$5.25	\$3.50	3
W231	French Chef Knife	Black	\$12.25	\$8.00	1
R131	French Chef Knife	Silver	\$12.25	\$8.00	1
W222	Granny Fork	Black	\$5.00	\$3.25	2
R122	Granny Fork	Silver	\$5.00	\$3.25	2
R100	Granny Parer	Silver	\$4.50	\$3.00	4
R130	Grapefruit Knife	Silver	\$4.75	\$3.00	1
W211	Ham Slicer	Black	\$8.75	\$5.50	3
R111	Ham Slicer	Silver	\$8.75	\$5.50	3
R235	Party Spreader	Black	\$4.50	\$2.75	2
W202	Peeling Parer	Black	\$4.50	\$2.75	3
R102	Peeling Parer	Silver	\$4.50	\$2.75	5
W221	Pizza Cutter	Black	\$9.75	\$6.25	2
R121	Pizza Cutter	Silver	\$9.75	\$6.25	1
W201	Regular Paring Knife	Black	\$4.50	\$2.75	7
R101	Regular Paring Knife	Silver	\$4.50	\$2.75	4
W205	Serrated Steak Knife	Black	\$4.75	\$3.25	1
R105	Serrated Steak Knife	Silver	\$4.75	\$3.25	1
W205	Serrated Steak Knife	Black	\$4.75	\$3.25	1
R105	Serrated Steak Knife	Silver	\$4.75	\$3.25	1
R107	Slicer	Silver	\$7.00	\$4.25	4
R104	Steak/Utility Knife	Silver	\$4.75	\$3.00	2
W206	Stubby Butcher Knife	Black	\$7.00	\$4.25	1
W227	Super Parer	Black	\$5.50	\$3.50	1
R127	Super Parer	Silver	\$5.50	\$3.50	6
W213	Super Spreader	Black	\$5.25	\$3.25	1
R113	Super Spreader	Silver	\$5.25	\$3.25	2
W226	Tomato Slicer	Black	\$5.00	\$3.25	2
R126	Tomato Slicer	Silver	\$5.00	\$3.25	5
W232	Vegetable Peeler	Black	\$5.75	\$3.75	2
G26S	Set - 6 Serrated Steak Knives	Black	\$29.00	\$18.00	2
G213	Set - Carving Kife & Fork	Black	\$18.25	\$9.00	3
S13	Set - Carving Kife & Fork	Silver	\$13.25	\$9.00	1
G239	Set - Cheese Kife & Party Spreader	Black	\$12.75	\$8.25	2
G218	Set - Parer, Vegetable Peeler, Tomato Slicer	Black	\$16.25	\$10.50	1
G246	Set - Paring Knife & Peeler	Black	\$11.00	\$7.50	1
G247	Set - Super Parer & Vegetable Peeler	Black	\$12.00	\$8.00	1
S15	Set - Super Parer & Vegetable Peeler	Silver	\$12.00	\$8.00	2
CB2	Flexible Cutting Board		\$2.25	\$1.50	2
R115P	Food Chopper		\$4.75	\$3.00	2
B300	Plastic Scraper (2 /bag) White		\$2.25	\$1.50	3
Q904	Dip Mix - Island Coconut Sweet		\$3.75	\$2.00	1
Q901	Dip Mix - White Chocolate with Raspberry		\$3.75	\$2.00	3
	Pampered Chef Citrus Peeler			\$0.75	4
	Pampered Chef Spoon		\$10.00	\$6.00	1



March Birthdays

1	Marge Chamberlin
1	Debbie Stanton
2	Karen Lewis
4	Richard Everitt
5	Zack Dougher
11	Allison Tucker
14	Hildegard Roeckendorf
17	Keeley Heller
20	Kirsten Lee
22	Lauryn Principe
26	Brad Hildabrant
28	Ronald Bogart, Jr.
31	Logan Decker

If you would like a card on your special day, please call the church office - 570-421-6020.



FAMILY PROMISE NEWS

The next Family Promise host week at SUMC is March 13-19. Four dinners will be needed and seven overnights need to be covered. Sign up sheets will be posted soon. Monroe County Walk-A-Thon will be held on Saturday, March 5th at Stroud Mall. Flyer and registration are in the Fellowship Room at church and also included in this issue of the Courier. An ongoing clothing drive is held on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Family Promise Day Center. Those wishing to view the new Family Promise video, please see Kathy Cook.

*2016 Remaining Pocono Cluster Lenten Services and
Holy Week Schedule*

All services begin at 7:00 pm

March 2, Healing & Anointing Service

Cherry Lane UMC: 191 N., Left at Analomink UMC, Cherry Lane Road 3 miles

March 9, Taize Service

Wooddale UMC: Wooddale Road, 3 miles from 191, Right on Barren Road

March 16, Featuring Early Hymns & Prayers

Cherry Valley UMC: On Kemmertown Road off Cherry Valley Road

March 20

Palm Sunday 8:30 & 11:00

March 24

Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 pm

March 25

Good Friday

Cross Walk on Main Street followed by
Good Friday Service at noon in our sanctuary

March 27

Sunrise Service 7:00 am in Ann Street Park
Easter Sunday 8:30 & 11:00-Sanctuary

Footsteps For Families

7th Annual Indoor Walk-A-Thon

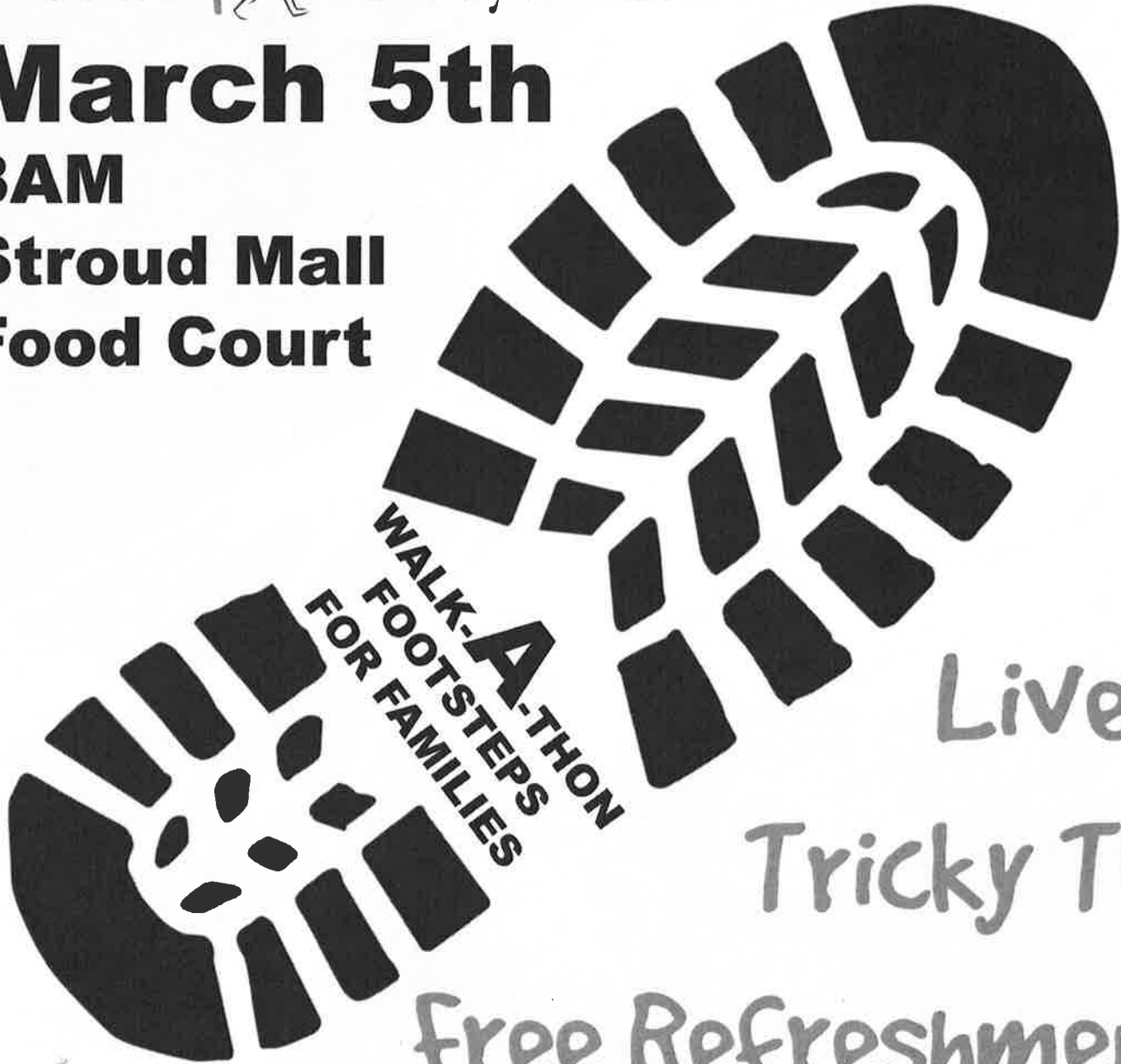
to Benefit  Family Promise®

March 5th

8AM

Stroud Mall

Food Court



Live DJ

Tricky Tray

Free Refreshments

**Register & Pledge at
FamilyPromisePA.org**

Family Promise of Monroe County

7th Annual 3k Indoor Walk-A-Thon

March 5, 2016 8AM

Stroud Mall Food Court

DJ! Free Gift!

Refreshments!

Tricky Tray!

Registration & Info at FamilyPromisePA.org



KEEP TOP  RETURN BOTTOM

REGISTRATION

Registration Fee \$10.00

(Children 12 and under free & must be accompanied by an Adult.)

Please Print all Information

Name _____ Telephone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unable to participate, but please accept my contribution of \$ _____

Make all checks payable to: Family Promise of Monroe County

Mail to: 1274 North Ninth Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360 570-420-8589

We raise funds through pledges so please encourage your family and friends to give.

Return collected pledge money and this sheet by mail to above address or

bring on the day of walk. Make extra copies if needed. A prize will be given for most pledges collected.

PLEDGES

Name	Email	Address	Pledge	Paid



Total \$ Pledged _____

Registration Fee _____ + _____

Total Amount Due _____

Additional Info: 570-420-8589 director@ptd.net

MARCH 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School - Children - Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	29 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Mostly Mondays Small Group	1 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen 6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	2 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 2:00 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Lenten Service-Cherry Lane UMC	3 10:00 AM My Brothers' Keepers Quilting & Little Quilts-Downstairs 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 8:30 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School - Children - Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	7 1:15 PM Monday Tea Time-Nancy Haase's Home 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Mostly Mondays Small Group	8 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen 6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	9 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Lenten Service-Wooddale UMC	10 10:00 AM My Brothers' Keepers Quilting & Little Quilts-Downstairs 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	11	12 8:00 AM Private Birthday Party (Cub Scouts)
13 Family Promise 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School - Children - Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	14 Family Promise 1:15 PM Monday Tea Time-Nancy Haase's Home 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Mostly Mondays Small Group	15 Family Promise 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen 6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	16 Family Promise 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Lenten Service-Cherry Valley UMC	17 Family Promise 10:00 AM My Brothers' Keepers Quilting & Little Quilts-Downstairs 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 Family Promise	19 Family Promise
20 Palm Sunday 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School - Children - Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	21 1:15 PM Monday Tea Time-Nancy Haase's Home 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Mostly Mondays Small Group	22 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen 6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room 7:00 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge	23 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Pack Meeting	24 10:00 AM My Brothers' Keepers Quilting & Little Quilts-Downstairs 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service	25 Good Friday Church Office Closed	26
27 Easter Sunday 7:00 AM Sunrise Service-Ann Street Park 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School - Children - Adults 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	28 1:15 PM Monday Tea Time-Nancy Haase's Home 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Mostly Mondays Small Group	29 5:00 PM Soup Kitchen 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	30 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	31 10:00 AM My Brothers' Keepers Quilting & Little Quilts-Downstairs 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	1	2

STROUDSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
547 MAIN STREET
STROUDSBURG PA 18360
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March 2016

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