

## Success & The Next Thing

SUMC's mission trip to Philippi, West Virginia was a huge success! Ten of us traveled to Appalachia to help Vicki and her daughter, Samantha. We finished installing new shingles on her roof, fixed some broken screens, installed a water heater vent, stained the back deck and steps, repainted the back screen door, and repainted their front steps, among a few other odds and ends.

Another added benefit was getting to know each other as we stayed together at the Philippi Baptist Church in town, eating meals together, and planning for the next day of work. It really was a great group to work with and I had a fantastic time with everyone!

As I was driving home from the church on Monday, my mind traveled faster than my truck as I began thinking about the next thing. Perhaps my mind wanders too much, but I was thinking about our worship attendance. I know we are nearing the dog days of summer, but we do have air conditioning in our sanctuary. So, there is no excuse here. Anyone can get out of the heat for an hour and come to worship!

When I first came here in 2002, we had 172 on average each Sunday in worship that year. Last year we only had 109. I know we have had quite a few deaths in our congregation and have lost some very faithful and good people. I also know that we are no different from just about every other mainline church in America. However, I cannot help but take this a little personally and wonder what am I doing wrong or not doing right to bring more people to worship.

I believe I need your help on this.

I do not believe there is a magic bullet to change the tide of less committed people these days. Some of our so called church experts are suggesting all kinds of gimmicks that I want nothing to do with. There are some who are even saying that maybe this thinning of attendance is God's plan. I don't know, but when I see the numbers falling in our worship attendance I worry about our future.

I've always believed that when worship attendance is doing well, just about everything else in the church, including the budget, will work out, too. The health of any church depends on its worship attendance.

I am asking you to think about this and pray about it. I am not interested in any knee-jerk or quick gimmicks to fix it. Rather, I'd like some well thought out and reasonable thinking and prayer on this.

What can SUMC do to shift the tide and begin increasing our worship attendance?

Please pray and think about this.



Bob Shank

# Daily Scripture Readings

**August 1**  
Matthew 1

**August 2**  
Matthew 2

**August 3**  
Matthew 3

**August 4**  
Matthew 4

**August 5**  
Matthew 5

**August 6**  
Matthew 6

**August 7**  
Matthew 7

**August 8**  
Matthew 8

**August 9**  
Matthew 9

**August 10**  
Matthew 10

**August 11**  
Matthew 11

**August 12**  
Matthew 12

**August 13**  
Matthew 13

**August 14**  
Matthew 14

**August 15**  
Matthew 15

**August 16**  
Matthew 16

**August 17**  
Matthew 17

**August 18**  
Matthew 18

**August 19**  
Matthew 19

**August 20**  
Matthew 20

**August 21**  
Matthew 21

**August 22**  
Matthew 22

**August 23**  
Matthew 23

**August 24**  
Matthew 24

**August 25**  
Matthew 25

**August 26**  
Matthew 26

**August 27**  
Matthew 27

**August 28**  
Matthew 28

**August 29**  
Ecclesiastes 1

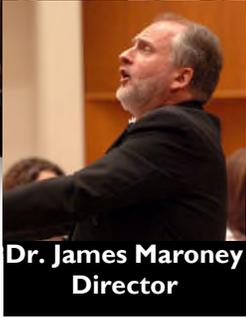
**August 30**  
Ecclesiastes 2

**August 31**  
Ecclesiastes 3

**Gather! Grow! Make a Difference!**



Pocono Summer Chorus



Dr. James Maroney  
Director



Marti Lunn Lantz  
Accompanist

# 2017 Pocono Summer Chorus

*Presents its*

## Summer Choral Concert

*to benefit Meals on Wheels of Monroe County*

*Folk songs, pop, sacred, secular, classical and Broadway selections*

**Admission: FREE**

**Donations will be accepted by Meals on Wheels of Monroe Country**



**Wednesday, August 2  
7:30 PM**

**At Stroudsburg United Methodist Church  
547 Main Street**

Monroe County Meals on Wheels, Inc. is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation governed by a volunteer board of directors.  
www.monroemeals.com • mcmow@ptd.net • 570-424-8794

This event is being supported by the Stroudsburg United Methodist Church as a community outreach project. The church is accessible.  
Please contact Krista Montgomery at 570-460-0307 or [krismont@ptd.net](mailto:krismont@ptd.net) for more information.



# Church Picnic

Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>  
Everyone is Welcome!  
11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Swimming – Softball – Horseshoes – Volleyball  
Relaxing in the shade, and of course there will be food!

**We will start with a brief worship service at 11:00 am**  
(There will not be an 11 o'clock service at church that day)

**We plan to eat about 12:30 pm.**

**Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship,  
including our traditional “Cake Walk\*”**

**Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages provided**  
(we'll have paper plates, cups and plastic ware too!)

**If you are able, please bring a Salad, Side, or Dessert to share**  
Suggestions: potato, macaroni, pasta or fruit salads, coleslaw, baked beans, sliced tomatoes, deviled eggs, pickles, chips, brownies, cookies, pies or cakes.  
(serving size 8-10)

**Don't forget an extra dessert for the “Cake Walk”**

(\*bring a dessert, stand in a circle; spin a spinner, 'winner' chooses a dessert\*)

To help us plan, **please sign up** at the back of the sanctuary and give us an idea of what you'll be bringing.

**Questions, contact:**  
**Peggy Stewart 570-424-0625 or**  
**bpstew@juno.com**

There is a pavilion with lots of picnic tables and chairs, but feel free to bring a folding chair if you wish to relax in the shade of the many trees or around the pool.

#### **Directions from Church:**

Route 80 West to exit 304 (Route 209 So)  
merge with Route 33 South.

Take the Lehighton/209 S. Exit. Take first exit (Sciota). Turn left at end of exit onto Hamilton South.

Go about ½ mile, turn right onto Brick Church Road, go about ¼ mile turn right onto Jacobsen Way (this is the driveway). Follow until you see the pool on your left and then a ball field on your right.

Parking is just past the ball field.

You can avoid the highway by taking West Main St (Business 209) all the way to Sciota.

Please note the following address changes:

Ray & Alice Singer  
5 Village Circle  
Apt. 1308  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Dorothy Baldwin  
1127 Kemmertown Road  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360



Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. (Romans 5:1-2 NIV)



Pastor Bob will be leading a new members class on Sunday, August 20 at 9:45 am. We will meet in the small Conference Room. Class will continue the following week on August 27. If you received an invitation letter in the mail, please contact the church office ([sumc@stroudsburgumc.com](mailto:sumc@stroudsburgumc.com) or 570-421-6020) if you will be attending the classes. If you haven't received an invitation but want to join SUMC, please either contact the church office, Pastor Bob or just come to the new member class on August 20! Hope to see you there!



### August Birthdays

- 1 Kim Kopec
- 2 Natalie Hardy
- 8 Anna Maroney
- 9 Kelly Edinger
- 14 Susan Sheeley
- 21 Krista Montgomery
- 23 Kermit Chamberlin
- 24 Gale Butz
- 27 Evan Hardy
- 27 Eva Knight
- 31 Paul Edinger

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



### StroudFest 2017 Saturday, September 2

Once again, SUMC will be setup on Main Street to participate in StroudFest.

We will be selling hotdogs and drinks as well as a few new items such as sausage sandwiches and macaroni & cheese.

Please let me know if you can help out in **any** way. Monetary donations to purchase food would be appreciated. Any questions, please call me in the church office - 570-421-6020 or email the church - [jackieherrero@stroudsburgumc.com](mailto:jackieherrero@stroudsburgumc.com)

Thank you! Jackie

*(All proceeds will benefit the remaining bell tower repair fund)*

COFFEE

-Karen Vaughn

Come have some coffee

With me today

We'll sit and talk

And maybe pray.

Sharing with you

All I hold dear

What's that in your eye

A tiny tear

Strength via coffee

Help from above

A miraculous drink

Receiving Your love

Ain't coffee great!

“Thou preparest a table before me”

Psalm 23:5a RSV

PRAYER

Jesus, thank you for inviting me to have coffee with you at Your table. Your coffee is the best I have ever tasted. Do you use a specific brand? Come to think, it's Your Father brand. It really does not need any additives like cream or sugar or even Splenda. So delicious. When I drink it I feel warm inside and ready to start the day.

I have some things on my mind that I would like to share with You. My problem is, I think too much and it turns to worry. It is like a merry go 'round and I don't get anywhere. Thoughts just go 'round and 'round.

I believe what You say in your Book about sharing everything with You. So, here goes. There are things I can't control like people, places and things. I would like to fix everything including the sick and suffering and the world situation.

I give this all to you because You promised to heal, comfort and save. Thanks for for this promise and now I will go and do the dishes in peace.

AMEN

Written by Karen Vaughn



# AUGUST



## To Serve You in August

**Greeters** 8:30

BJ Bachman (all month)

11:00

6 Bob and Joanne Reed

13 Church Picnic

20 Martie

27 Mandy Cunard

**Ushers** 8:30

DeAnn Harris

Cliff Rogell

Diane Rogell

11:00

Dick Seip

Bob Dellicker

Sue Gouger

Kelly Edinger

Eva Knight

Beth Armitage

### Counters

C.J. Penwell & Pam Price

### Altar Guild

Jenny Bogart & Marina Maroney

### Soup Kitchen

Sunday afternoon at 4:00 pm

All Month

Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church



## OUR CHURCH STAFF:

<b>Ministers</b>	Everyone
<b>Pastors</b>	Bob Shank & Ted Good
<b>Pastor Emeritus</b>	Tom Anderman
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Jackie Herrero
<b>Choir Director</b>	David Lantz
<b>Organist</b>	Marti Lantz
<b>Youth Leader</b>	Bill Hardy
<b>Handbell Director</b>	Lynn Seip
<b>Cherub Choir Director</b>	Kim Kopec
<b>Custodian</b>	Matt Parton

## OUR CHURCH LEADERS:

### Daniel's Dream Team

Chairperson, Sue Scarborough

suese4@aol.com

### 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

Chairpersons, Ruth Weber & Kathy Cook

### Membership & Evangelism

Chairperson, Peggy Stewart bpstew@juno.com

### Lay Leader

Beryl Hellgren

### Audio Visual Assistant

Beth Armitage

**SUMC'S ANNUAL  
MISSIONS YARD SALE  
Friday, August 4, 2017  
9am-3pm  
Saturday, August 5, 2017  
9am-1pm**

Lots of items for sale including:

Furniture

Toys

Holiday Decorations

Golf clubs

Beanie Babies collectibles

Hess truck collectibles

Kitchen appliances

Kitchenware

Baskets

Knick knacks and much, much more!



Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

547 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA

(Please use the Ann Street entrance located directly behind the front of  
the church - free parking!)

*\*\*\*All proceeds benefit Missions projects within the church\*\*\**

## AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship-Sanctuary <b>9:45 AM</b> Adult Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship/Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	<b>31</b> Set up for Yard Sale <b>7:00 PM</b> Nar Anon - Dining Room	<b>1</b> Dress Rehearsal for Pocono Summer Chorus Choral Concert Set up for Yard Sale	<b>2</b> Set up for Yard Sale <b>12:00 PM</b> Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary <b>2:00 PM</b> Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge <b>7:30 PM</b> Pocono Summer Chorus Choral Concert-Sanctuary	<b>3</b> Set up for Yard Sale <b>10:00 AM</b> My Brothers' Keepers Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Scouts	<b>4</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Yard Sale	<b>5</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Yard Sale
<b>6</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship/Communion-Sanctuary <b>9:45 AM</b> Adult Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship/Communion-Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	<b>7</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Nar Anon - Dining Room	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	<b>10</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> My Brothers' Keepers Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Scouts	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship-Sanctuary <b>9:45 AM</b> Adult Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Brief Worship Service followed by Church Picnic <b>2:00 PM</b> Wedding-Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	<b>14</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Nar Anon - Dining Room	<b>15</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge	<b>16</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	<b>17</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> My Brothers' Keepers Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Scouts	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship-Sanctuary <b>9:45 AM</b> Adult Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship/Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	<b>21</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Nar Anon - Dining Room	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	<b>24</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> My Brothers' Keepers Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Scouts	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship-Sanctuary <b>9:45 AM</b> Adult Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship/Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	<b>28</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Nar Anon - Dining Room	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary	<b>31</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> My Brothers' Keepers Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Scouts	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

STROUDSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
547 MAIN STREET  
STROUDSBURG PA 18360  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
**August 2017**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**PERMIT No. 122**  
**Stroudsburg, PA**



August