



Stroudsburg UMC

547 Main Street, Stroudsburg Pa

www.stroudsburgumc.com

sumc@stroudsburgumc.com

570-421-6020

Worship Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Weekly eNews

*The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, M. Div.,
Lead Pastor*

Gather, Grow, Make a Difference!

Our Mission: Share the love of Jesus in welcoming and compassionate ways.

A note from the Pastor - April 11, 2025

"As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it." Luke 19:33-35

Sometimes, we talk about faith practices as aspirational. "I will pray more when I have more time." "When I have children, I will go to Sunday School." "As soon as things quiet down, I will..." That which has not been a part of our practice, we hope it may in the future. As we enter this Holy Week, we acknowledge that we do not need to wait for the perfect moment to follow Jesus more fully. Right now is good enough. Now is the future that you have been waiting for. You are the one that you have been waiting for.



It occurs to me that we only hear one portion of the disciples' conversation with the donkey owner. All we hear is the owner's initial question and the disciples' response as instructed. We may surmise that the owner was open to this arrangement. It is possible that the owner had other plans for the day and for the donkey. There could have been disruption, confusion, and even frustration in the owner's day. The donkey owner could have easily set up roadblocks to this plan, and even reasonable ones. Instead, the owner supports logistically the Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. The second parade in contrast to the Roman Empire entry of Pilate is done on a borrowed donkey from an unnamed owner who was open to the movement of the Holy Spirit, even when it was not the plan when awoken in the morning.

This week, Richard Rohr, writer and theologian, shared a devotion about the role of early mystics and hermits in the life of the church. Rohr wrote: "The desert fathers and mothers withdrew from cities to the desert to live freely, apart from the economic, cultural, and political structure of the Roman Empire. The abbas (church fathers) and ammas (church mothers) knew, as should we, that the empire would be an unreliable partner. They recognized that they had to find inner freedom from the system before they could return to it with true love, wisdom, and helpfulness. By solitude, the desert mystics didn't mean mere privacy or protected space, although there is a need for that too. The desert mystics saw solitude, in Henri Nouwen's words, as "the place of conversion, the place where the old self dies and the new self is born, the place where the emergence of the new man and the new woman occurs." [3] Solitude is a courageous encounter with our naked, most raw and real self, in the presence of pure love. Quite often, this can happen right in the midst of human relationships and busy lives." (<https://cac.org/daily-meditations/cultivating-inner-freedom/>)

Interruptions can be divine appointments. We do not need to live in the desert, commit ourselves to silence, or wait until things calm down to hear and listen to God. It is a perspective that allows us to ask with each interruption: "God, is this of you?" and then be open to the answer. The

donkey keeper's openness in the center of a busy day and busy life is our example.

May this Holy Week be fertile ground for experimenting with being open to the movement of God.

In God's Love,
Pastor Monica

GATHER!

Coming up this Sunday, April 13th -

It's Palm Sunday

Our worship leaders are Pastor Margie and Crista

The choir anthem is "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

The praise song is "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

The Psalter Lesson is Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Gospel Lesson is Luke 19:29-40

The Holy Week Lesson is Philippians 2:5-11

Pastor Monica's sermon is "I Am Humbled" (I want my listeners to be humbled to exalt the Messiah.)



It's Palm Sunday! Palm Sunday is a big celebration of Jesus astride a donkey entering Jerusalem. Jesus' humble entrance, in contrast to Pilate's pompous occasion, was made possible by an even more lowly helper, the donkey keeper. Join us as we celebrate Christ and examine our call to humility. You wouldn't want to miss the palms, the music, and the beginning of Holy Week.

Join us in person at 8:30 or 11:00 am or

[Join us live at 8:30 am](#)

[Join us live at 11:00 am](#)

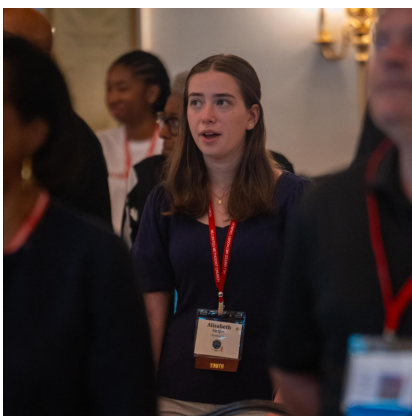
The bulletin is available on the church website: stroudsburgumc.com

SUMC 2025 Approved Budget - A copy is also available in the church office.

[2025 Budget](#)

Stay up to date on church events - click the link below for our Google calendar:

[SUMC Calendar](#)



Are you a young person in EPA? Do you have big thoughts about the church? We want to hear your voice. This year's meeting is at Wildwood, May 20-22, sign up here to communicate your interest. [Register here](#)

District Conferences Mark your Calendar & Plan to Attend

East District April 27 3pm

- Lehman Memorial Methodist Church (300 S York Rd, Hatboro, PA 19040)

North District April 27 3pm

- Effort United Methodist Church (178 Merwinsburg Rd, Effort, PA 18330, United States)

South District April 27 3pm

- Lima Church (209 N Middletown Rd, Media, PA 19063)

West District May 4 3pm

- Cornwall United Methodist Church (50 Freeman Dr, Lebanon, PA 17042-9090, United States)

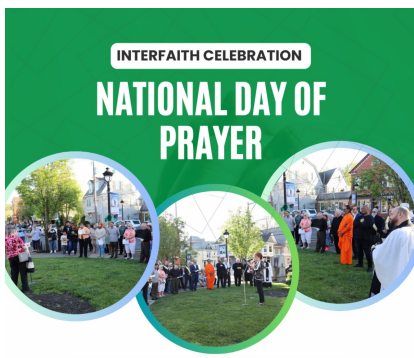
Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 17th, 7pm
 Good Friday: Cross Walk Starts at 11am at St. John's Lutheran and ends at SUMC
 Good Friday Service: Faith UMC at 7pm
 Holy Saturday, April 19th, 5:30pm
 Easter Sunday, April 20th
 Sunrise Service 7am
 Resurrection Celebration 8:30 & 11am

Holy Week

SCHEDULE	
Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
Good Friday Crosswalk (starts at St. John's Lutheran) Service - Faith UMC	11:00 AM 7:00 PM
Holy Saturday	5:30 PM
Easter Sunday Sunrise Service Resurrection Celebration	7:00 AM 8:30 & 11:00 AM

STROUDSBURG UMC
 547 Main Street
www.stroodsborgumc.com



Join us as voices from various faith communities come together for a special evening of prayer and reflection.

Thursday, May 1st 6:00 pm
 Stroudsburg Courthouse Square



Join us for a moving evening as we celebrate the National Day of Prayer. On Thursday, May 1st, faith leaders will gather at Stroudsburg Courthouse Square at 6:00 PM for a special moment of prayer and reflection. Let's come together to reaffirm our commitment to community and compassion. Everyone is welcome!

Do you enjoy meeting others who are different from you? Join our community lay faith leaders in a reflective conversation among people of faith about what we can do together to serve the needy among us in the Poconos. It will be on Saturday, May 3, 2025, 10 AM - 3:30

Inter-Faith Retreat



A reflective conversation among people of faith about what we can do together to serve the needy among us in the Poconos

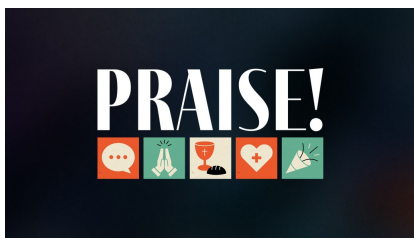
Saturday May 3, 2025
 10 AM - 3:30 PM

Chestnut Retreat Center
 7554 Mt. Eaton Rd, Saylorsburg, PA

Reservations recommended by April 28th
 To RSVP scan the QR code
 or text to 570 856 9880



PM. Register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfEQQgSaUaBLITmBMbgBgBzKKdc9fF8XpTGq_jm2oWL21Y3aA/viewform



Annual Conference Registration is Now Open

Register today for the May 20-22 meeting. Don't wait! The cost of registration increases on April 1.

Register for Display Space at Annual Conference

Spaces will be granted in the order requests are received, however, UMC organizations will be given priority. Vendor registration requests must be submitted by March 31. Click [here](#) to submit your request. Questions? Please contact Andy Chan at achan@epagnj.org.

Volunteers are always needed: [Sign up to volunteer today](#)

Graduation Day is coming for many in seminaries, colleges, universities, high schools, and trade schools. Is someone in your family graduating? If so, share the information with the office so we can celebrate with you in worship. We will plan to do so



on June 1st.



Do you speak a language in addition to English? We are looking for volunteers to work with us on a project for Pentecost Sunday (June 8th). If you are interested, let the office know. We are preparing for the coming of the Holy Spirit and many languages!

COFFEE CANS NEEDED FOR DELIVERING ALTAR FLOWERS

We are in need of empty coffee cans (without the lids) to deliver altar flowers to our shut ins. Please bring in clean, empty coffee cans and leave them in the kitchenette upstairs. Thank you!

Thank you for allowing me to sell Girl Scout cookies at the church. It helped me get past my goal. I sold 800 plus cookie boxes. My Troop sent over 200 donated boxes to the military. I really appreciate your help.

Thank you,
Allie Zelizo

Dear SUMC Sunday School,
Pastor Margie sent me a copy of the card that Peter and his teacher Rachael made for me. I loved the drawing and the thoughtfulness. It brightened my day! God bless you!
Debbie Hardy

Dear Pastor Monica,
Thanks so much for your nice note. I really appreciate being cared about. And thank you for the Lenten booklet - I am enjoying it daily. As you may know, I'm at my home in Florida now and I expect to return to Stroudsburg in April. Hoping to come and join you for Sunday service.
Fondly,
Candice Ace



Save the dates: Vacation Bible School is coming!
June 23rd – 27th from 5:30 pm -8:00pm. More information will be forthcoming about organization and registration. For now, please save the date!



The Education Society of EPA offers Higher Education Grants

Applications open April 28- May12th

On April 28, 2025 the Education Society of EPA will begin accepting grant applications for students pursuing higher education. You can find the [application here](#). All applications received in the Conference Office from April 28 to May 12 will be considered for a grant. Like last year, all applications will be considered. Unless there is some disqualification, grant recipients will be randomly selected.

Grants are available to students attending undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Please communicate this grant opportunity to your congregation as soon as possible. Contact Education Society Chairperson, Al Adey at ahadey@verizon.net with any questions.



April Birthdays

1 Tim Harris
4 David Montgomery
7 Felicity Guepet



Special Person of the Week:

Address Update:

Irene Goforth
2925 Western Hills Drive
Nashville, TN 37214

JOIN US LIVE

SUNDAYS AT 8:30 AND 11:00 AM

LIVE STREAM



STROUDSBURGUMC.COM

YouTube: @stroudsburgumc3087



THRIVING TOGETHER

Workshops Empowering Seniors to Live Well and Age Confidently

3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

1PM TO 2PM


Zion UCC
14 No 8th Street
Stroudsburg, PA

OPEN TO ALL

RUNDOWN

These sessions are open to anyone in the community, not just members of our church. Please consider joining us in these one-hour sessions where you can connect with professionals and others like you.

MARCH 17 MENTAL HEALTH & AGING with Dr. Raj Isaria, a Neurology specialist with St. Luke's Hospital. Alzheimer's, dementia, and other cognitive issues: understanding and managing them. 

APRIL 21 UNDERSTANDING ADDICTION with Emily B and Christiansa L. from the Nicotinic Intergroup of AA. An insightful course exploring the complexities, causes, and impacts of addiction on individuals and society. 

MAY 19 MAINTAINING MENTAL WELLNESS with Rev. Dr. Erica-Adams Finney. Techniques and practices to promote mental well-being, holistic mindfulness, social connections, and physical activity. 

JUNE 16 CAN YOU TOUCH YOUR TOES? Stretching is a great way to relieve muscle aches, increase blood flow, and refresh the oxygen in your body. Come learn how to stretch without hurting yourself! 



LEAF-IT-TO-US YARD CLEANUP

Sponsored by Troop 86 of Stroudsburg, PA

We Do:

- First Mow of the Season
- Leaf Raking
- Weed and Shrub Trimming
- Mulching
- Fertilizing
- Garden Weeding
- Gutters

If you would like a quote,
email us at Troop86PA@yahoo.com
or call Tim at 570-269-3187





Become a St. Luke's Volunteer Today!

Our most popular roles allow you to ...

Interact with patients and clinical teams:

- Socialize with patients and guests
- Provide comfort items
- Stock and prep materials for staff

Support patients and guests as a:

- Lobby Greeter
- Gift Shop Volunteer
- Family Advocate in our OR Waiting Rooms

Provide support in areas including:

- Pharmacy
- Nutrition Services
- Human Resources
- Mailroom

St. Luke's Volunteers have access to:
St. Luke's Fitness Center Discounts
Volunteer Recognition's
Complimentary Meal Ticket, AND MORE!



Volunteers are integral to St. Luke's University Health Network! At St. Luke's, we work hard to connect you to an area of interest where you can make a difference utilizing your skills and talents.

Begin your application today at www.stlukes.org/volunteers
A Volunteer Engagement Specialist is available at each campus to assist you with next steps.





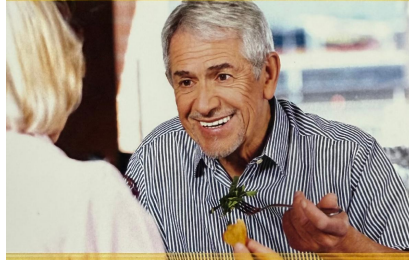
For more information ...
Volunteers@stlukes.org • 484-526-4600



UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK
www.stlukes.org • 1-866-STLUKES (786-8377)



Older Adult Meal at St. Luke's Monroe Campus



A Healthy Meal & A Healthy Lifestyle

For Adults age 65 and older

Monday through Friday

Lunch: 11 am – 2 pm

Dinner: 4 – 6 pm

\$3.99 dinner includes entree, soup or salad,
side, vegetable, dessert and 12 oz. drink.

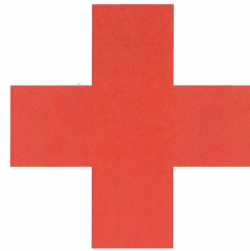
For more information please contact 1-866-STLUKES.

St Luke's
MONROE CAMPUS

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Community Blood Drive Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

Dining Room - Enter on Ann Street
547 Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Tuesday, April 15, 2025
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org
and enter: Stroudsburg to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting
RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history
questions on the day of your appointment.



Come give 4/14 to 4/30 for a Red Cross T-shirt, 14. qty
+ chance to win \$5K prize: rclblood.org/hope



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

©2014 The American National Red Cross

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES/ALAMY

IN ITS 44TH YEAR OF PERFORMING
HOLY WEEK CONCERTS,

Pocono Mountain Community Chorus

presents

ONCE UPON A TREE

WORDS AND MUSIC BY PEPPER CHOPLIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025 | 7:00 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
9 NORTH NINTH STREET
STROUDSBURG, PA

Featuring over 50 voices

Directed by Bob Riday

Accompanied by:
Ruth Kochera, piano
Gary Raish, organ
Orchestra

For more information,
please call
570-460-3816



The concert is open to the public and admission is free.
Freewill Offering

A collection of colorful Easter eggs with various patterns and a central white Easter Bunny head. The background is a teal color.

SCOUT TROOP 86 INVITES YOU TO A

*Pancake Breakfast** *with the Easter Bunny*

*BREAKFAST INCLUDES FREE PHOTO WITH THE EASTER BUNNY,
PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, JUICE, COFFEE OR TEA
ADULTS \$10, CHILDREN 4-12 \$5, UNDER 3 FREE
TRICKY TRAY RAFFLE BASKETS
SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH
7AM-12PM
STROUDSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
530 ANN STREET
STROUDSBURG, PA 18360

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S
ONGOING **CLOTHING SHED DRIVE**

CLOTHING ONLY!	CHECK OUT OUR NEW CLOTHING SHED ON OUR CAMPUS!	NO OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ACCEPTED
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NO DUMPING! **BRING CLOTHES IN TIED PLASTIC BAGS!**

GENERATES FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH! **HELPS LOCAL NON-PROFITS!**

Two clothing sheds, one white and one grey, with yellow accents. They are located outdoors on a grassy area.

LOCATED ON OUR CAMPUS:
1160 Clause Drive
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

SHED PROVIDED BY:
TurnKey Enterprises, LLC



GROW!



UMC 101 COURSES Save the Dates!

January 27th: Theology 101 -
It's All About Grace

April 28th: Worship 101 -
Singing and Sacraments

June 30th: Ecumenism 101 -
Similar and Distinct from Other
Christians

Mondays at 6:30pm in the Fellowship
Room - Snacks provided.

Save the dates!

April 28th: Worship 101: Singing and Sacraments
June 30th: Ecumenism 101: Similar and Distinct from Other
Christians

We will meet in the Fellowship Room. Snacks provided.
Please let the office of your interest in joining.

Laity Academy Announces Spring 2025 Events

By Brenda Binns



You asked...we listened! The Laity Academy will hold in-person classes at two different locations in opposite ends of the conference on April 26, in addition to the 2-day training in August. Learn about Servant Leadership from Joe Skarbowsky at St. Paul's UMC in Pine Grove, PA or join Rev. Monica Guepet for Prayer for Our Times at Stroudsburg UMC. [Learn more and register](#)

Save the Date!

April 26th, we will be hosting the Lay Academy class on prayer.

If you are a Christ Servant Minister, a Certified Lay Minister, or someone interested in

Prayer for Our Times: Personal, Congregational, and Community Prayer

Rejoice Always; Pray Constantly; Give thanks in all
circumstances; this is Christ's will for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

growing in your faith. This may be the class for you. Pastor Monica will be teaching on prayer for our times. Here is the description:

HELP. THANKS. WOW. The most common prayers we utter are single words. Personal prayer is often instinctive and private communication with God. Public prayer invites a group of people into a prayer space in which to together engage with God. Leading prayer in a congregation or communal setting requires reflection, awareness, and information to incorporate the needs and theological basis for

a community's prayer. Join us for inspiration and equipping to pray personally and publicly. This class will provide participants with reflection on personal prayer as well equip those called to pray in congregational and community settings with skills for leading public prayer.

[Register here](#)

Bible Study -

Want to study the Bible, but you are not sure how? Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:15 am in person or on Zoom. We are beginning a new topic on March 12th. We will be studying the book of Judges. If you have heard the names Deborah, Samson, Barak or Gideon, they are all in the book of Judges. We will take a look at the time before Israel had a king. What can we learn about our own world today from how God called the Israelites to live with one another? Join us one week or every week. Contact the office for the Zoom information.

Judges Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:15 am

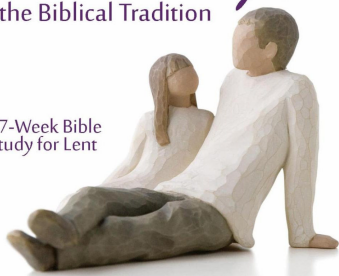


In the Spiral

We repeat what we
don't repair.

Fathers & Daughters In the Biblical Tradition

A 7-Week Bible
Study for Lent



Join us for a Lenten study led (via recorded video) by district clergy focusing on the rarely explored topic of biblical relationships between fathers and daughters. The study will be held on Thursdays from 6:30 – 7:30 pm and requires no homework! It will run through April 24th (skipping Maundy Thursday on April 17th). Contact Peggy (570-350-8589) with any questions. To help with planning, let the office or Peggy know if you plan to attend, although you can just show up for any of the sessions that work for you.

Have you been thinking about joining Sunday School? Our Adult Class, held at 9:45 am in the Adult Sunday School room behind the Fellowship Room, just concluded their study of Revelation. We will begin a new study on Ezra-Nehemiah on Sunday, February 16th. The 23 chapters of Ezra and Nehemiah make up one scroll of the Old Testament. They contain the story of starting again after a difficult event. The Israelites have been in exile, and now they are discovering how to be faithful when they have been discouraged and

disheartened. Join us for one week or every week as we learn how to rediscover our faith after times of difficulty.



POCONO PLATEAU
CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

- Toilet Paper Rolls
- Old Crayons or Candles
- Newspapers

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

We are in need of the following supplies. Save these at home and bring them up when you visit!

Fellowship Hall renovations are underway!

We replaced the stained, old carpet tiles with vinyl plank flooring and painted to brighten up the room. Next up for 2025 is replacing the windows and installing HVAC split units. The later renovation phase will provide handicap accessibility for this space along with additional bathrooms.

Summer 2025 Camp Registration is OPEN!

We currently have 162 registrations and are already deep in planning for the summer. Please help us share the news!

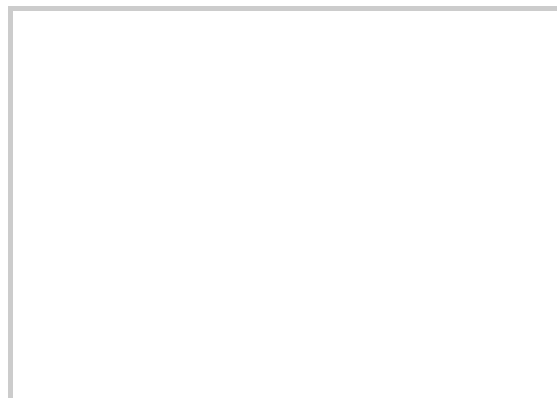
We are amazed at the dedication of so many volunteers who commit themselves to a week (or more!) of summer camp. Our summer ministry relies heavily on our volunteers and we are grateful for those who give of their time.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are thrilled that all of our program leader, chaplain, and nurse volunteer roles are filled! **We still need summer camp counselors each week during our overnight**

The camp counselor role is perfect for someone who loves working with children or youth and wants to help them grow in their faith formation. If you were a camper in the past, consider helping to build up the next generation of campers!


If you are interested, please email director@poconoplateau.org.





Prayer at Wednesdays
12:15 pm

Stop in the Sanctuary
or live on Facebook



Stroudsburg UMC
547 Main Street,
Stroudsburg, Pa

OPEN SANCTUARY Every Wednesday, our church is open from noon to 1pm for prayer. We have a devotion and live prayer at 12:15. You can join us live in person, online or view it later on Facebook. You do not need a Facebook account to participate. Join us for Open Sanctuary.



**COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
REVITALIZATION PROJECT**

Did you know that our church is a resource for our community? In addition to our weekly Soup Kitchen, Boy Scout Troop and Cub Pack, we partner with community organizations like Red Cross blood drives and emergency shelter, and others to make a difference in our community. Our building and property team has been working on revitalization plans for our downstairs to reflect our needs and growth.

Updates and alignments to the kitchen, improvements, and accessibility to the bathrooms and refreshing to the dining room are included. Plans will be available for viewing after each service in the Fellowship Room. Ask our building and property team for more information.

UPDATE: As we are pondering donations to the Community Resource Center Revitalization Project keep this in your thoughts: Donations of \$10,000 or more will be recognized on a bronze plaque which will be unveiled at a dedication ceremony. Families might consider joining together to memorialize or honor a loved one.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Give to a Mission

A variety of missions are supported by our church. You can make a difference both locally and around the world by giving to these missions. If there is a particular mission that interests you, please provide the information to the office. Thank you for your continued support! If you have questions, please contact the office.



DID YOU KNOW?

The IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows you, once you have reached the age of 70½, to donate up to \$100,000 within each tax year directly from your IRA without treating the distribution as taxable income. The contribution can be counted toward satisfying your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

Give to the church and care for your financial health.

Church Women United - Items for Christmas Stockings
Items for April are pens, pencils and notepads. Please bring your donations in and place them in the bin located in the Fellowship Room near the Missions display. Thank you!



Safe Monroe Plant the Town Red

Safe Monroe's annual flower sale to support their mission and end domestic and sexual abuse in Monroe County.

Order deadline is Friday, April 25th. Delivery and pick up: Friday, May 9th

For more information contact Deb Bowman at Safe Monroe: dbowman@safemonroe.org; 570-424-2093 x 119



Plant the Town Red

Safe Monroe's
ANNUAL FLOWER SALE
to support our mission to end domestic & sexual abuse in Monroe County!

Geraniums
(available in single pots or in flats of 12 plants)
\$5.00 per plant
\$4.50 each for 3 or more
\$54.00 flat of 12 plants

Impatiens!
(available in hanging baskets)
\$20.00 10" hanging impatiens basket
\$50.00 for 3 hanging impatiens baskets

Scan to Order:

Deadline to Order is Friday, April 25th
safemonroe.org/ways-to-plant-the-town-red
safemonroe.org/ways-to-plant-the-town-red



Delivery and Pick-Up: Friday, May 9th

Safe Monroe • 225 J. Wilson Drive, P.O. Box 843 • Delaware Water Gap, PA 18227 • www.safemonroe.org
For more information contact Deborah Bowman • dbowman@safemonroe.org • 570-424-2003 x119 • 24-hour hotline: 570-421-4200

Lenten Missions Boxes

Lenten boxes are included in the Lenten bags or you can pick one up from the back of the sanctuary. This year, we are supporting the efforts of Monroe County Habitat for Humanity. In addition to rehabilitating homes in need, they run the Re-Store with donated home items at low cost and collaborate with other agencies to work on housing for all those in our area. Pastor Monica has a vision that every new homeowner working under casework can cover the cost of essential household items with a grant from the churches. Help us realize that vision by caring for our neighbors.

Lenten bags and devotionals are available in the Fellowship Room.



Join the Board of the Stroudsburg Community Food Resource Center and Shape Our Community!

About Us:

This developing non-profit in Stroudsburg, PA is dedicated to helping end food insecurity one person at a time. Our unity in this matter is our uniqueness— we are working to bring together the local government, the Pocono Interfaith Council, other non-profits, and community members who want to come to the table to streamline and make resources more accessible to the community. We envision a future where folks can come to a centralized space for food and other human resource needs, without putting the burden on one organization but sharing the weight of the need for the betterment of our community.

Our Need:

We seek passionate and dedicated individuals to join our Board of Directors to guide our organization's growth and impact.

What We're Looking For:

We are particularly interested in individuals with expertise in business, marketing, fundraising, interfaith and cultural diversity comprehension, and community engagement.

What You'll Gain:

Be a part of a new and exciting non-profit organization.
Contribute your skills and experience to a meaningful cause.
Make a tangible difference in the Stroudsburg community.
Develop your leadership skills and network within the non-profit sector.

Board Responsibilities:

Board members would be expected to attend board meetings, participate in committees, and participate in fundraising and strategic planning to help guide the focus group's vision for this Community resource to the concrete operation.

To Apply:

Interested individuals are encouraged to submit their resumes and a brief statement of interest to Josh Loomis at jloomis6712@gmail.com by April 11th, 2025.

Leftover Soup is Available!

We have some leftover soup from our Missions Soup Sale - 2 quarts of vegetable soup are available and 9 1/2 quarts of ham/potato soup are available. Quarts are \$10.00 each; 1/2 quart = \$5.00. Please see a member of our Missions Team or contact the office. All proceeds benefit Missions projects in our church.



Do you have an extra coat? Have you ever noticed that the townspeople laid out their coats for Jesus and the donkey as he entered the city? Offer one of your coats to share with someone else to care for Jesus. Bring your coat on Palm Sunday (April 13th) and lay it on the altar.

Giving is easier than ever. Use this QR code to give to the general fund or special ministry. Contact the office for more information.



Pastor's Discretionary Fund -

Thank you so much for supporting our community members in need. Because of your generosity, we have been able to help folks with rent, utilities, transportation, and other unique needs. We also connect people with resources in our area. Our need has increased in the last few months. We are committed to only helping based on the funds we received. We're just asking if you feel called to give additional to the PDF on the first Sunday or through the month so that you might help us make a difference in our community. You can place donations to the PDF in the



offering with a note in the memo field or on the envelope. Alternatively, you can send donations to the church through your bank with the same note. Thank you for making a difference in our community.

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Do you like serving behind the scenes? Do you like preparation and making sure everything is ready? We are switching to Communion with fresh bread and cups of juice (yes, we will still have prepackaged as well). We can use some more hands to prepare the bread and fill the cups. Please let us know in the office if you are interested. We are hoping to prepare a rotating schedule.



We are still collecting Weis receipts. Weis Markets gives back 1% of the total of each receipt submitted. It all adds up! Please continue to bring your Weis receipts to church and place them in the large canister in the Fellowship Room. Please note: the entire receipt needs to be submitted. Please do not cut the bottom of the receipt off. If the bottom portion of the receipt is cut off, we cannot submit it to Weis. Receipts for prescriptions and gift cards can also be submitted. Thank you for helping to make a difference!



SUMC's Amazon Wish Lists

Soup Kitchen Needs

[Amazon Wish List - Soup Kitchen](#)

Building Our Library

[Amazon Wish List - Building Our Library](#)

Soup Kitchen

Our Soup Kitchen is a vital ministry feeding our neighbors every Sunday. We continue to serve take-out meals as well as offer our guests the option to sit down in the dining room and eat. Food stability remains a vital part of our community. Meals are served every Sunday from 2-3pm. We are always looking for additional volunteers to prepare and serve the meals. ***We have started filling in the 2025 calendar. Please contact Jackie in the office with your interest and availability to serve.***

Are you looking for how you can help the Soup Kitchen if you are unable to prepare and serve meals? When you are shopping, we need the



following. Cases of water and Styrofoam take out containers. Check out our Amazon Wish List for Soup Kitchen and have items sent directly to the church! [Amazon Wish List - Soup Kitchen](#)
Thanks for serving our neighbors.

SOUP KITCHEN UPDATE - JANUARY 2025

For the last year, we have seen the number of hungry people increase. Our Soup Kitchen has been feeding hungry people for decades. We also notice that often, towards the end of the month, the number of meals served increases. Many people receive their compensation at the beginning of the month. Stretching into the end of month with rent, utilities, and unforeseen expenses can be difficult. What began as a vital way to include our neighbors and affirm their dignity shifted in pandemic times to a drive-by meal and has returned to a sit-down, eat-in meal with community connections. Each week, different groups prepare and serve a meal. From the scouts to local churches, food pantries, family groups, and friends, plan a meal and serve it on Sunday from 2pm - 3pm. Sometimes, we can smell Sunday dinner from the sanctuary as we conclude the 11:00 service. I am so thankful for each of the groups that serve our neighbors. I am grateful for each one of our neighbors who has come in. In 2024, we shared over 4,300 meals with our neighbors.

If you are interested in preparing or serving a meal, don't hesitate to contact the church office at sumc@stroudsburgumc.com or 570-421-6020. If you are in need of a meal, please join us at 2:00 pm every Sunday afternoon in the Dining Room.

Thank you for making a difference in our community.

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church | 547 Main St | Stroudsburg, PA 18360 US

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