

THUSE NEWS JANUARY 2019

SOUTH PARKERSBURG UMC

To KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN

Sr. Pastor – Reverend James Plyburn
DCE & Youth Ministries – Jennifer Plyburn
Church Office: 304-428-1195
Parsonage Phone: 304-834-3521
Pastor Jim's Cell: 304-360-3969
Jennifer's Cell: 304-360-1373
Church Email: spumc1813@gmail.com
Website: southparkersburgumc.org



FROM THE PASTOR

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year. I hope everyone has made a resolution to participate in church more in the new year!

A NEW YEARS PRAYER

The New Year can often bring a mixed bag of emotions and memories for many of us.

Some may have just experienced the best year ever and look forward to an even greater one looming ahead. Others may have just trudged through one deep struggle after another. The fresh calendar year brings desperate hope for things to be better, with an ache for the still-fresh wounds to slowly begin their process of healing.

Whether you've just walked through the greatest year of your life, or are incredibly glad to see this one finally over, one truth still rings clear amidst it all.

You are not alone... Not ever...

Our God is a "With Us" God. On the heels of the celebration of the birth of our King, that reminder has the power to carry us right into a fresh, new start. He is Immanuel, God With Us. And though things and people around us shift and change, our God never changes.

Dear God... Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day. We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

(continued on next page)

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you. We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways. We ask that you would keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us supernatural endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left, or being too easily distracted by other things that would seek to call us away from a close walk with you.

Forgive us for the times we have worked so hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for you, living independent of your spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing pride and selfishness to wreak havoc over our lives. We confess our need for you...fresh...new...again. We ask that you make all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, in our lives, for this coming year.

Keep your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we trust that your voice speaks louder and stronger, as you remind us we are safe with you and your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that you will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on your level ground.

We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own. Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. May we reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing.

To you be glory and honor in this New Year, and forever. In Jesus' name... Amen.

Debbie McDaniel

THE BIG SALE



Our church BIG SALE is less than a month away – **Friday & Saturday January 25th & 26th**. This event is a HUGE fundraiser for the church so we need everyone to contribute to the sale. Please search throughout your house for those items no longer of value to you, but possibly of great value to someone else. The BIG SALE is a lot of fun, but it is also a LOT of hard work. We need people to contribute their time and talents to help plan, set-up, sort & price items, work during the 2-day sale, and clean up after the sale is over. Below is a description of all the activities that need to be accomplished, when they occur, and who to contact to sign up for this event. Food & Beverage donations would be greatly appreciated for the kitchen, and financial contributions are also welcome to help cover the expenses necessary to coordinate and conduct the BIG SALE.

- **SET-UP OF THE CFC** – The set-up of the CFC will take place on **Tuesday, January 15th at 7:30PM** (following the Girl Scouts meeting).
Contacts: Terri Tice (304-482-6645) & Anna Deem (304-863-3747)
- **COLLECTION/DROP-OFF OF ITEMS** – Week days: **Wednesday thru Friday, January 16th to the 18th and Monday thru Wednesday, January 21st to the 23rd... 10AM to Noon & 6PM to 8PM in the evening**. You can also call Shirley Tice & Terri Tice for delivery of items other than times shown above...
Contacts: Shirley Tice (304-588-3569) & Terri Tice (304-482-6645)
- **TRANSPORTATION** – If you have large or heavy items, or just can't personally deliver donated items to the church, please contact Brad Lewis and he will arrange a pick-up time and day to come collect your items at your location.
Contact: Brad at 304-210-8698.

THE BIG SALE (CONTINUED)

- **ITEM DISTRIBUTION** – If you would like to volunteer to help distribute items in the CFC prior to the sale, please contact Shirley & Terri Tice (phone numbers listed above).
- **ITEM PRICING** – If you would like to help price the donated items for the sale, please contact Peggy Davis (740-423-9175).
- **KITCHEN HELP** – Food & drinks will be provided at the Sale. If you would like to help in the kitchen during the 2-day event, please contact Michaela Hupp (304-488-1385)...
- **SALES/BANKING** – If you would like to volunteer as a Cashier during the 2-day sale, please contact Randy Bradley (304-588-7929) or Kay Wilhelm (304-615-8303).
- **CLEAN-UP** – Clean up of the CFC will begin at approximately 4:00PM on Saturday, January 26th. Latrobe Street Mission, Essentially Yours, & the Salvation Army are being given access to the “leftovers” from the sale and the clean-up group will be responsible cleaning the CFC... Contact: Larry Sexauer (304-863-8654) or Pastor Jim (304-360-3969).

Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets will also be available in the church starting in January...

The BIG SALE will be on Friday and Saturday, January 25th & 26. Each day the sale will begin at 7:00AM and run until 4:00PM... Everyone is welcome to help make the BIG SALE a BIG SUCCESS for our Church... Come Join Us!!!

Big Sale Organizational Committee

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



A picture of all of our little angels and shepherds who participated in the children's Christmas program this year...

WOMEN'S CARE BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG



Sunday, January 20th, 2019 is celebrated as Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, a day to celebrate LIFE! It is the Kick-off of the Women's Care Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser where our church family will be involved with filling baby bottles with change, cash, and checks to support their ministry. The Baby Bottles will be available for distribution to the congregation on that Sunday

CELEBRATION!!!



On Sunday, December 16th, Pastor Jim performed one of his favorite duties in introducing Colten David Elliott, son of Brandon & Olivia Elliott, to our congregation. After a stroll around the sanctuary, the Pastor prayed for this new "Blessing" in our midst.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

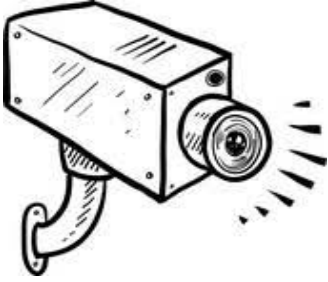
On Tuesday, January 8th at 6:30PM the United Methodist women will meet to discuss plans for 2019. Members will choose programs that they are interested in and vested in. We will put on a pot of coffee and attendees are invited to bring "finger food" for everyone to enjoy. Our goal is to plan a wonderfully eventful year, so come out and join us in sharing ideas that affect women, children, and teenagers in our community!!!

Sandy Sinnott

Stewardship Update !

Stewardship Committee Members

Jan Barnes, Jerry Baum, Jim Braden, Anna Deem, Stephanie Gibbs, Michaela Hupp, Pastor Jim Plyburn, Sam Sams, Larry Sexauer, Kay & Brent Wilhelm, Ex officio – Tammy Lewis – non-attending



Thank you congregation! Our church and CFC security system is fully funded. Thank you for your December Silver Plate Offerings! The contract has been signed and installation will begin in just a few weeks!! This is a key step toward offering a safe sanctuary environment for our church family. Thank you to the Trustees and all who participated in moving this project toward completion. Thank you Security Team for your dedication.

The 2019 BIG SALE will be January 25-26. Donations will be accepted beginning January 16th. Let's make this the BIGGEST BIG SALE ever! Records show our first annual BIG SALE was in 2009 and the proceeds paid off the balance on our sanctuary expansion. With everyone's participation, this year's proceeds can make a BIG impact on raising our General Operating Fund to an adequate balance. Expenses vs. revenue will be closely monitored in 2019, assuring close adherence to the balanced budget we have adopted as a guide.



Along with a focus on stabilizing our expense vs. revenue ratio in 2019, abundant opportunities for Outreach Ministry have been identified. A brochure, explaining each ministry, has been placed in your mail folder downstairs. Please read carefully and keep for reference throughout the year. There are numerous opportunities for volunteers to work at the various ministries and/or monetary gifts. Your donations may be placed in the 2nd Mile Silver Plates that follow the Gold Plates (tithes and offerings) weekly. During January the selected ministry is The Latrobe Street Mission (Please read corresponding section in your Ministry Brochure for details.)

There is a new opportunity for service at our own church in 2019. To establish a balanced budget, it was necessary to reduce many existing expenditures. One of those reductions was the number of hours our custodian will be working. We will have custodial services in the coming year for the church only. It is up to us, the people, to maintain the CFC. In years past we have been blessed to have conscientious individuals and groups using the CFC, cleaning effectively after events and leaving the facility ready for the next use. It is even more critical that this happen without fail during 2019. All groups/individuals scheduling the CFC will be expected to leave the building clean and orderly. When scheduling the building, you will be given a reminder checklist to follow, assuring appropriate care of the facility. A volunteer team from the church will periodically meet in the CFC to determine any action needed to keep a clean, orderly facility. If you are willing to participate with a team of volunteers, on a rotating basis, please see Brent Wilhelm. He will coordinate the team scheduling. Thank you for your participation!!!

Submitted by: *Kay Wilhelm*



LATROBE STREET MISSION

Driven by a mission of transforming the lives of the homeless from survival to success, the Latrobe Street Mission equips people in dire circumstances with the means and resources to re-establish their lives as productive members of our community in 8 weeks or less. Homelessness in our area has many different faces – Men, women, children, singles, families, young, old, retired, unemployed, veterans – and all of these people are in situations with unique challenges that must be overcome to successfully transition back into our community.

We provide a shelter in Parkersburg for the homeless and provide breakfast and lunch on a daily basis. Evening meals are provided by area churches and other local organizations who graciously support our ministry. We operate the “Twice is Good” Thrift store and all proceeds are reinvested back into the Latrobe Street Mission to meet expenses. Thrift Store donations are also used when residents are in need of clothing, especially in job-related circumstances. Donations may be dropped off at the store during store hours (Monday-Friday 10AM to 4PM) or by using the secure bins in front of the building. The donation needs are clothing, for all ages, that are in good or gently worn condition, household goods, small appliances, and gently used toys. Occasionally we receive clothing that is stained, worn, or in a condition that prevent us from being able to sell it in our store. These items are baled and sold for use in third-world countries which provides us with a very small profit. However, we are committed to being good stewards of all that we receive from our donors. We appreciated the opportunity to collect “leftovers” from your church’s “BIG SALE” last January, and we look forward to assisting again in your sale next month.

When you choose to make a financial gift to Latrobe Street Mission, your gift is immediately helping the less fortunate in our community transform their lives from survival to success. We also desperately need the donation of your time and talents to effectively serve our community. The heartbeat of any non-profit is their volunteers and opportunities are available in all facets of our operation - from the front desk... to the kitchen... to the Thrift Store..., and everything in between. Whether you can give one hour per month or one day per week, your time is an incredible gift to this ministry. You will be blessed by seeing the fruit of your labor in the lives that are changed.

Presented below is some data that reflects the nature and extent of the services offered by the Latrobe Street Mission in 2018 as of December 18th:

- 18,578 bed-nights year-to-date...
- 14,932 meals served year-to-date...
- Average Census: 50 people per night...
- Maximum this Year: 74 people which included 14 children...

We greatly appreciate South Parkersburg United Methodist Church choosing our ministry to support in 2019. Our success is based on our partnerships with both individuals and organizations in our community and we look forward to working with you in 2019 and beyond.

HOUSE FIRE



A house fire severely damaged the home of Sheila and Steve Mays, but they made it out of the home safely. Efforts at the church are currently underway to support Sheila and her family during this very difficult time.

BIBLE QUIZ

The questions in this month's newsletter are about Women in the New Testament... After each question, there are parenthesis showing you where you can find, or check, your answers. Good Luck!!!

1. My sister was Mary and my brother was Lazarus (John 11:1-2)
2. The wife of Zechariah and the mother of John (Luke 1:13)
3. The sister who sat at Jesus feet during his visit (Luke 10:38-39)
4. I took spices to Jesus' tomb along with Mary the mother of James (Mark 16:1-2)
5. I gave 2 copper coins as an offering (Mark 12:41-44)
6. Jesus told me about the "Living Water" (John 4:4-26)
7. I was a slave girl who heard Peter's voice at the outer gate door (Acts 12:13-14)
8. My dad was a synagogue ruler who asked Jesus to heal me (Mark 5:21-23)
9. Because of my faith and my ability to hide the spies, I was not killed (Hebrews 11:31)
10. I was one of the women along with Mary Magdalene and Mary mother of James who told the disciples about the resurrection of Jesus after visiting the tomb (Luke 24:10)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018 REPORT

Presented below are projects worked on by your Board of Trustees in 2018. We would like to thank everyone who assisted in the project work – Trustee members, Church volunteers, & Outside contractors.

- Installation of Water & Temperature Sensor
- AED Battery Replacement
- Spring Work Day
- 4 TV's installed in Sanctuary & downstairs
- Parsonage Counter Top & Sink Replacement
- 3 WIFI Thermometers installed in the church
- Brick cleaning in church garden
- Repairs to the Church mower
- New circuit breaker wiring for electric heaters in the nursery & pre-school rooms
- Repaired CFC tables
- Currently evaluating Church Security Systems
- New Garage Door Opener for the Parsonage
- Church A/C & Furnace Replacement
- New Ceiling Tiles in Church Men's Bathroom
- CFC Fence for Children's Area...
- WIFI Extension
- Repaired leak in CFC shower
- Clean up of Black Mold Issue
- Investigated options for replacing/repairing front church sign
- CFC furnace issue with a "ball" found in the exhaust line by Phil Prunty

Rick Deem

CHURCH ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

- **Tuesday, January 8th** – UMW/UMM meet in the CFC at 6:30PM...
- **Saturday, January 12th** – Calendar Planning Meeting from 10AM to 2PM...
- **Monday, January 14th** – Stewardship Committee Meeting at 6:30PM...
- **Tuesday, January 15th** – Set-up of the CFC for the BIG SALE at 7:30PM...
- **Wednesday, January 16th to Wednesday, January 23rd (Weekdays)** – Bring items to the CFC for the BIG SALE... 10AM to Noon & 6PM to 8PM...
- **Sunday, January 20th** – Sanctity of Life Sunday... Baby Bottles will be distributed for the Women's Care Boomerang Ministry in church...
- **Monday, January 21st** – Trustees meet at 5:30PM... Finance meets at 6:30PM...
- **Tuesday, January 22nd** – Church Council Meeting at 6:30PM...
- **Friday, January 25th & Saturday, January 26th** – The BIG SALE from 7AM to 4PM each day...
- **ALL MONTH** – 2nd Mile/Silver Plate Giving for Latrobe Street Mission...

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST

Long Term Prayer List

Ayers, LuAnn—Cancer—Mark Adams
Baker, Julia—leukemia—Mike Miller
Baker, Oren
Baker, Oren—cancer
Beatty, Jeff & Daughter—Garry Gumm
Beeson, Don & Jerry
Beha, Shelly—heart cond.—T. McCauley
Bennett, Michelle—cancer—B. Terrell
Bradley, Raymond—cancer—R. Bradley
Branch Family
Brandjes, Robert—cancer—B. Pratt
Brown, Emma—liver/thyroid—Linda Knopp
Burdette, Jenifer—cancer—P. Bradley
Butler, Kevin—mass in stomach—V. Shuman
Campbell, Randy—cancer—Nancy Russell
Carpenter, Trenton
Cosner, Brenda—heart—A. Dotson
Cunningham, Alan—leukemia—Mike Miller
Curtis, Allison—cancer—B. Swiger
Daggott, Carter—brain cancer—M. Hupp
Davis, Carrie—stroke—B. Pratt
Deem, Betty—lung cond.—A. Dotson
Deming, Marsha—cancer—Jennifer Hupp
Dent, Kara
Dick, Ashley
Dodd, Curtis—cancer—Pat Tucker
Durst, Erica—MS—Brad Lewis
Ellison, Karen—cancer—Randy Bradley
Enoch, Jessie (5)—leukemia—K. Lucas
Estep, Jody—cancer—Kathryn Miller
Estep, Rick—cancer—Kathryn Miller
Flinn, Ruth—Eleanor Wilcox Sister
Fridley, Paul—leukemia—Ken Pritchard
Fought, Loraine—cancer—K. Dent
Fortney, Amy—T. Lewis
Galland, Fred & Sue
Gerlach, Bob—Sandy Sinnett
Gilmore, Eddie—cancer—Beth Baker
Grimm, Andrea—colon cancer—J. McNemar
Gross, Donna—T. Jefferies
Hickman, Sandy
Hickman, Sonny—cancer—Steve Stanley
Hobbs, Darlinea—breast cancer—B. Rowe
Hoffman, John—cancer—Kestersons
Hudson, Sharon—stroke—Jill Youell
James, Teresa—cancer—T. Jefferies
Jones, Donda—cancer—A. Sexauer
Jones, Glenda—at the Willows—B. Terrell
Kidd, James—Worthington—Mike's Dad
Leach, Stella—dementia—Lynn Leach's Mom
Leasure, Barb—Judy Jonas
Levine, Baby Nolan—needs surgery—Jan Kinder
Lipscomb, Jodi—cancer—A. Sexauer
Lowther, Rev. John—cancer—St. John UMC
Lucas, Shelly—cancer—J. Whitlatch
Luck, Greg—cancer—T. Jefferies
Matthess, Hunter—leukemia—B. Lewis
McCoy, Randy—cancer—A. Baum
McDonald, Eldean—hospice care—M. Hupp

McNemar, George
Metz, Dennis & Nora
Miller, Carder—dive accident—Jennifer Plyburn
Miller, Curt—heart attack—Mike Miller
Moeck, Norm—blood disorder—M. Adams
Moore, Darrell—cancer—Sandy Sinnett
Morrison, Bill—CHF—Kestersons
Morrison, Tammy—breast cancer—Jill Youell
Mugrage, Linda—esophagus—Jennifer Hupp
Nutter, Betty—lung cancer
Ogden, Sherry—cancer—Tiffany Dowler
Packmire, Steve—cancer—T. Jefferies
Parsons, Gary—lung condition—A. Deem
Parsons, Pat—parkinsons—R. Deem
Parsons, Squire—ICU, Critical—Sandy Sinnett
Phillips, Paul—prayers to walk—M. Miller
Poling, Duane (Beaver)—Marie Williamson
Pope, Ed—cancer—S. Hupp
Radabaugh, Doris—Judy Jonas
Reed, Shelia—Jennifer Hupp
Reese, Carol—brain tumor—Pat Tucker
Roberts, Gary—cancer—A. Baum
Roberts, Jennifer—Brad Lewis
Robinette, William Ted—ALS—M. Moyers Dad
Sink, Danny—leukemia—Mark Adams
Sprouse, Ashley—brain tumor—C. Barnes
Stanley, Dirk—Steve Stanley's Brother
Stanojevic, Bessie—Pat Tucker
Stallman, Mary—heart—Pat Tucker
Summervill, Jim—Terry Jefferies
Tanner, Adam—cancer—Hoover
Tennant, David—leukemia—J. Braden
Tice, Kelly
Tice, Kim—cancer—Mike Miller
Tucker, Richard Sr.—cancer—P. Tucker
Turrill, John—cancer—Melissa Hupp
Walcutt, Larry—chemo—Melissa Hupp
Watts, Myke—blood pressure—Patti Morgan
White, Fred—cancer—Mitch Morgan
Whitehead, Jeanette—lung—J. Whitlatch
Whitlatch, JoAnn
Withum, Mary—fibrosis of the lungs—Nancy Russell
Wigal, Cole—B. Terrill
Wilson, Vivian—tumors—Jennifer Plyburn
Wolfe, Donna—cancer—J. McNemar
Wolfe, Gary—tumor—J. McNemar
Wolfe, Terry—lung cancer—N. Russell
Wood, Gary
Woolwine, Charlotte—liver cancer—Karen Sexauer
Yoak, Tom—cancer
Zimmer, Dorothy—Judy Jonas

Military Personnel

Joseph Harris	Travis Schade
Dylon Potts	Maria Schade
Terry Cox	Zac Wilson
Joshua McDaniel	Andrew Wilson
Lt. Matthew Spencer	