

# THUSE NEWS

## OCTOBER 2019

### SOUTH PARKERSBURG UMC

*To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known*

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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

As I am writing this, the calendar says "Autumn", but the weather still says "Summer" with the expected high today, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, to reach 93 degrees F (expecting 94 on October 3<sup>rd</sup>). This record heat is expected to give way to much cooler, and more seasonable, temperatures by the time you read this article. As the seasons change I am reminded of the verse of Scripture from Ecclesiastes that states, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NRSV). God created the seasons, and I enjoy each season for different reasons. Autumn, or Fall, bring relief to the heat of Summer and the leaves turn beautiful colors. In the Winter I love to listen to the silence of the falling snow, and watch as it blankets everything in a layer of pure white. Spring brings relief to the cold of Winter and a return of the flowers and buds in the trees. Summer is a time of vacations to the beach or the pool to cool off from the heat. Each season is different, but I enjoy them all.

The change of the seasons reminds me of another verse of Scripture from Hebrews, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever". While change is a part of our life, Jesus Christ will never change. He will continue to be the loving, compassionate, forgiving Savior of the World that He has always been. Jesus loves you, yesterday and today and forever!

(continued on next page)

Speaking of Fall, our Fall Revival is just a few weeks away. Plan now to attend the revival beginning on Sunday, October 27, 2019 and continuing on Monday, October 28 and Tuesday, October 29. The Rev. Jake Steele, Pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Wheeling, WV, will be our preacher each evening, with special music each evening. We are especially excited to have “Render the Hearts” returning to SPUMC on Sunday evening to provide the special music as we kick off our revival. This revival is for the Youth and the Young-at-heart, so join us, and bring your family and friends, each evening as we ask the Lord to “Revive Us Again”!

Blessings and Prayers,

*Pastor Jim*

## THE PRIVILEGE OF GIVING

### [2 Corinthians 8:1-15](#)

When the offering plate is passed, do you enthusiastically support God’s work, or are you a reluctant giver? Just as our heavenly Father wants us to be full of faith, wisdom, and love, He also desires that we abound in gracious, cheerful generosity ([2 Corinthians 8:7](#); [2 Corinthians 9:7](#)).

We could all learn from the Macedonian Christians of Paul’s day. Despite their own poverty, these believers begged for the privilege of giving to the needs of the Jerusalem church ([2 Corinthians 8:4](#)). They apparently saw the weekly offering the way God does—not as a separate event from the worship service but as an essential part of following Jesus.

For many believers, the tithe has been seen as the standard for giving. This concept originated in the Old Testament when Abraham gave Melchizedek a tenth of the spoils from battle ([Gen. 14:18-20](#)). Tithing, which was God’s requirement for the Israelites, was like a national tax. In fact, the nation had three tithes—one for support of the priests and Levites ([Num. 18:24](#)), one for the temple and feasts ([Deut. 14:22-27](#)), and one given every three years to benefit the poor ([Deut. 14:28-29](#)). Today this would be equivalent to our offerings that pay the pastors and staff, provide for the ministry and maintenance of the church, and help those in financial need.

Abounding in generosity looks different for each person. What’s important is that giving is voluntary ([2 Corinthians 8:8](#)), modeled after Christ’s example ([2 Corinthians 8:9](#)), motivated by a desire to give ([2 Corinthians 8:10](#)), and based on what one has ([2 Corinthians 8:12](#)). As you give yourself fully to the Lord, generosity will overflow.

Source: Daily Devotion. In Touch Ministries. Charles F. Stanley.

Submitted By *Jill Youell*

## IN MEMORY



A Saint of our church, Eugene “Bud” Roberts, passed away on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at Camden Clark Medical Center. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Katy, and his two daughters, Juli Thompson and Kim Reynolds.



A Saint of our church, Welden Owel Spencer, passed away on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Camden Clark Medical Center. Owel had been a member of our church since 1949 – 70 years.

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”*

*Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life.”*

John 14:1-6

### **Remember Me** by Margaret Mead

To the living, I am gone,  
To the sorrowful, I will never return,  
To the angry, I was cheated,  
But to the happy, I am at peace,  
And to the faithful, I have never left.  
I cannot speak, but I can listen.  
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.  
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at a beautiful sea,  
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity,  
Remember me.

Remember me in your heart:  
Your thoughts, and your memories,  
Of the times we loved,  
The times we cried,  
The times we fought,  
The times we laughed.  
For if you always think of me, I will never have gone

## SWEETAPPLE FARM



Our church family will gather for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at SWEETAPPLE FARM on **Sunday, October 13th**. A picnic shelter will be available for our use from 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. Bring your own food or buy concessions there. Tickets will be provided for the hayride. Purchase corn maze tickets, buy a pumpkin, or stuff a scarecrow on your own. Plan to come enjoy the fun on the farm! See you there...

*Jennifer*

## SPUMC REVIVAL – OCT 27<sup>TH</sup>, 28<sup>TH</sup>, & 29<sup>TH</sup>



Rev. Jake Steele & Family



Render the Hearts

RENDER THE HEARTS will be IN CONCERT on **Sunday, October 27th at 7:00 P.M.** with Rev. Jake Steele bringing the message. A covered dish fellowship dinner will be held in the CFC beginning at 5:30 P.M. Please plan to attend and invite your family, friends, and neighbors! The revival continues on **Monday and Tuesday, October 28th and 29th at 7:00 P.M.** with Rev. Jake Steele and special music each evening.

*Jennifer*

## ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL



Our annual FALL FESTIVAL will be held on **Wednesday evening, October 30th from 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. in the CFC.** There will be food, fun, and fellowship for kids of all ages! Crafts, Costume Parade, BINGO, Treats, and Country Kitchen will be featured. Donations appreciated to support our Youth Group.

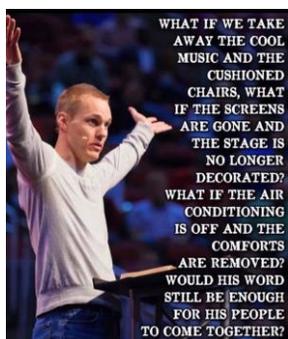
*Jennifer*

## NEW CHURCH MEMBER



In September we welcomed Al Adkins as a new member of South Parkersburg United Methodist Church

Al, we joyfully welcome you into the common life of our church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share in the hopes and labors of this church. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we grow together in faith and be witnesses to the love of God and the peace of Jesus Christ.



## WHAT IF???

Submitted by; *Anita Baum*

## DID YOU KNOW???

On Sundays only, Country Boy Restaurant in Vienna, located at 2000 Grand Central Ave. in the old Pizza Hut building across from Holl's Chocolates, donates 10% of the cost of your meal to any church if you put the name and address of the church on the back of your receipt.

# STEWARDSHIP ALERT !!!

## Stewardship Alert !

Stewardship Committee Members - *Jan Barnes, Jerry Baum, Jim Braden, Anna Deem, Stephanie Gibbs, Michaela Hupp, Mike Kidd, Pastor Jim Plyburn, Sam Sams, Kay & Brent Wilhelm*  
*Ex officio – Tammy Lewis – non-attending*

1. Total revenue versus total expenses year-to-date is negative \$750, so very close; however, the revenue includes the Big Sale and Ice Cream Social fundraisers, plus miscellaneous income such as CFC rental, etc. Thus, we are dependent on fundraisers and miscellaneous income to cover the void left by the shortfall in our Gold plate tithes and offerings.
2. We have gained no ground in 2019 in increasing our tithes and offerings, thus giving us no room to raise the budget for 2020. There will need to be some shifting between line items to hold our budget in line with our revenue, because certain line items will increase without our control, making it necessary to eliminate or reduce certain other line items in order to hold the bottom line to a balanced budget.
3. To fund building and improvement projects, or additional ministries, those expenses would likewise have to be covered by fundraisers, memorial gifts, or individual funding through 2<sup>nd</sup> mile giving.
4. Silver Plate 2<sup>nd</sup> mile giving has continued to be supported generously with over \$22,000 total-to-date received for our Local Outreach ministries.
5. Additionally, a number of anonymous 2<sup>nd</sup> mile donations have been received for various building and improvement projects in the Church, parsonage, and CFC. The next project, with no cost to the church, will be upgrading the CFC restrooms and hallway. Materials have been donated and volunteers are being solicited to help with that project Oct. 8 – 18<sup>th</sup>. \*We need YOU !
6. The church front porch carpets have been re-glued and cleaned and the plan is to hold off on replacement of those carpets until spring, unless they should become a safety issue.
7. Memorial Funds have been used for one safety and one energy saving project so far this year, so, to date, we have kept our pledge to the congregation last fall not to spend church funds for “nice to have” projects while we are getting the financial health of our church back on a more solid foundation. Additionally, several smaller projects have been completed with anonymous 2<sup>nd</sup> mile giving.
8. We do have a contingency fund of \$30,000 to cover emergency funding of, for instance, a new furnace-A/C. However, this would be like borrowing from ourselves, with urgent refunding beginning immediately.
9. The church van, due to its age and the expensive repairs needed, has been sold. Currently volunteers are using personal vehicles to bring approximately 3-5 individuals without transportation to church.

Report by Kay Wilhelm

\*Approval was given by church council to proceed with upgrading the first floor CFC bathrooms and hallway using donated materials and volunteer labor, thus no cost to the church. The vinyl floor tiles are to be removed, the walls and ceilings painted. A new men's commode and ceramic flooring is to be installed. Work days will be Oct. 8 – Oct. 18, excluding Sunday. Please call or text Kay or Brent Wilhelm for details and/or to sign up to work one or more days. THANK YOU !!

## DIVERSITY – THE ASSIGNMENT OF LOVE

Most people do not find it too difficult to love nice people in an atmosphere of unity. But when their assignment is to love someone who is different, someone with whom they have nothing in common, then love can be a challenge. I am reminded of the well-worn poem that goes like this:

To love the whole world for me is no chore.  
My only real problem is the guy next door.

The description of the establishment of the church in Philippi (Acts 16) makes it very clear that the membership of the church was very diverse. Along with a Jewish proselyte businesswoman who traded purple cloth from Asia, there was a violent jailer who would have committed suicide if it had not been for Paul. And then there was the slave girl who had been delivered from a demon. They did not have much in common, but they were bound together by God's love. Judson Edwards reminds us that our diversity is a gift from God:

If everybody was just like me...  
The world would sure be a better place to be.  
There would be no murder, for I'm not violent.  
No stealing, for I'm not a thief.  
No adultery, for I'm happily wed.  
No atheism, for I believe in God.  
No ignorance, for I've been to school.  
If only the world was more like me...  
Surely it would be a better place to be.

### ***Or would it?***

For if everybody was just like me...  
There would be no merry-go-rounds, for I get dizzy.  
No clowns, for I'm self-conscious.  
No doctors, for I hate blood.  
No painters, for I'm color blind.  
No mechanics, for I can't fix anything.  
No elevator operators, for I'm claustrophobic.  
No home run kings, for I can't hit a curve.  
No balloon riders, for I'm afraid of heights.

Come to think of it,  
If the world was just like me  
It would be an awfully boring place to be!

Excerpt from "Count it All Joy" by Dr. David Jeremiah

Submitted by: *Tammy Lewis*

## BIBLE QUIZ

The questions in this month's newsletter are all about Moses and Egypt... After each question, there are parenthesis showing you where you can find, or check, your answers. Good Luck!!!

1. Who adopted Moses? (Exodus 2:1-10)
2. Why did Moses kill the Egyptian? (Exodus 2:11-12)
3. Where did Moses flee to after killing the Egyptian? (Exodus 2:15)
4. Who was Moses' wife? (Exodus 2:21)
5. What did God tell Moses to do before approaching the burning bush? (Exodus 3:5)
6. What was Moses' concern about his ability to lead the children of Israel? (Exodus 4:10)
7. Who was to be Moses' spokesperson? (Exodus 4:14-16)
8. Which line of Israel's family bore Moses? (Exodus 2:1-4)
9. What was the first plague sent upon the Egyptians? (Exodus 7:20)
10. What did the children of Israel do to protect their firstborn sons from being killed in the Lord's last plague on Egypt? (Exodus 12:22)

## ACTIVITIES/EVENTS CALENDAR

- **Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** – SPRC Meeting at 6:30...
- **Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** – World Communion Sunday...
- **Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** – UMW meeting at 6:30 in the CFC...
- **Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** – UMM meeting at 6:30 at Napolis Restaurant...
- **Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>** – Stewardship meeting at 6:30...
- **Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** – Christian Education Team meeting at 6:30...
- **Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Church Council meeting at 6:30...
- **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> thru Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>** – Church Revival starting at 7:00...
- **Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>** – THUSE News Deadline...
- **Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>** – Fall Festival in the CFC from 6:00 – 8:00...
- **Every Wednesday in October (except October 30<sup>th</sup>)** Bible Study and SPARK at 6:30...
- **October** is Pastor Appreciation Month...
- **October** is Undie Sunday Month...

# LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST

## Long Term Prayer List

Acosta, Eberly—Eli's Mom  
Archer, Anna—brain tumor—Lois Boise  
Baker, Julia—leukemia—Mike Miller  
Baker, Oren—cancer  
Beeson, Jeff  
Bennett, Michelle—cancer—B. Terrell's daughter  
Blair, Margaret—cancer—Carol McMahan  
Bonner, Dan—lung cancer—Kathryn Miller  
Bradley, Raymond—cancer—R. Bradley  
Branch Family  
Brooks, Joli—ALS  
Brown, Emma—liver/thyroid—Linda Knopp  
Buffington, Dave—stroke—Terry Jeffreys  
Burgard, Jeff—stroke—(The Willows 217) Jim Whitlatch  
Burdette, Jenifer—cancer—P. Bradley  
Burns, Chuck—Mary Miller  
Butler, Kevin—mass in stomach—V. Shuman  
Carpenter, Carol—cancer—Jill Youell  
Carpenter, Trenton  
Cosner, Brenda—heart—A. Dotson  
Cremeans, Beulah—Vickie Pritchard's Mom  
Cunningham, Alan—leukemia—Mike Miller  
Daggott, Carter—brain cancer—M. Hupp  
Davis, Carrie—stroke—B. Pratt  
Dent, Kara  
Dickson, Bill—cancer—Pastor Jim Plyburn  
Dotson, Larry—cancer—Mary Knotts  
Durst, Erica—MS—Brad Lewis  
Elliott, Charlie—throat cancer—June Hupp  
Enoch, Allison & Matthew—cystic fibrosis—De Hoover  
Enoch, Jessie (5 years old)—leukemia—K. Lucas  
Flinn, Ruth—Eleanor Wilcox Sister  
Fortney, Amy—T. Lewis  
Full, Larry—bone cancer—Betty Neal  
Gains, Sharon—Judy Jonas  
Galland, Fred & Sue  
Gilmore, Cara—Niemann-Pick Disease—Jan Kinder  
Gilmore, Eddie—cancer—Beth Baker  
Goodrich, John & Lois  
Grimm, Andrea—colon cancer—J. McNemar  
Gross, Donna—T. Jeffreys  
Hendricks, Peggy—cancer—Jennifer Hupp  
Hickman, Sonny—cancer—Steve Stanley  
Higgins, Terri—cancer—Jan Barnes  
Hobbs, Darlinea—breast cancer—B. Rowe  
Hudson, Sharon—stroke—Jill Youell  
Jefferson, Betsy—heart—Carolyn Kesterson  
Jones, Glenda—at the Willows—B. Terrell  
Kirk, Greg—rare cancer—Phyllis Bradley  
Leasure, Barb—Judy Jonas  
Lowe, Ed—cancer—Pastor/ Sand Hill UMC  
Lowthers, Rev. John—cancer—St. Johns UMC  
Lucas, Shelly—cancer—J. Whitlatch  
Luck, Greg—cancer—T. Jeffreys  
Matthess, Hunter—leukemia—B. Lewis  
Mayer, Beckett (baby)—meningitis—Bruce & Neva's grandson  
Mayes, Vic—cancer—Jill Youell  
McCoy, Randy—cancer—A. Baum  
McMahan, Dale & Carol  
Milhoan, Dave—cancer—Mark's Brother  
Morris, Ray—m/c accident—Kathy Kidd's brother  
Morrison, Bill—CHF—Kestersons  
Morrison, Tammy—breast cancer—Jill Youell  
Mugrage, Linda—esophagus—Jennifer Hupp  
Nutter, Betty—lung cancer  
Ogden, Sherry—cancer—Tiffany Dowler  
Parsons, Gary—lung condition—A. Deem  
Phillips, Cheryl Ann—rec. from surgery  
Phillips, Paul—prayers to walk—M. Miller  
Poling, Duane (Beaver)—Marie Williamson's brother  
Radabaugh, Pam—needs a heart—Don Beeson  
Reed, Shelia—Jennifer Hupp  
Reese, Carol—brain tumor—Pat Tucker  
Rhodes, Beth—cancer—C. Wermter  
Roberts, Jennifer—Brad Lewis  
Rogers, Dale & April—cancer—Brent Wilhelm  
Ross, Kevin—parkinsons—Ken Pritchard  
Sayre, Alice—seizures—Jill Youell  
Settle, Tara—brain cancer—Anita Baum  
Sinnett, Jack—Sandy Sinnett's Brother  
Smith, Janet & David—Bruce Bumgarner/Ann Thorne  
Schollenberger, Rosalie—cancer—Becky Stephens  
Sprouse, Ashley—brain tumor—C. Barnes  
Stanojevic, Bessie—Pat Tucker  
Stallman, Mary—heart—Pat Tucker  
Stidham, Kenny—throat cancer—Ken Pritchard  
Talerico, Altha—rec. from surgery—Linda Knight  
Tallman, Phil—heart—Larry Sexauer  
Tanner, Adam—cancer—Hoover  
Terry, Faith—Jerry Baum  
Thomas, Caroline—brain surgery—Anita Baum  
Thorne, Roger & Ann  
Tibbs, April—cancer—Nancy Russell  
Tice, Kelly—Shirley Tice  
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  
Williams, Rich—kidney transplant—Linda Knopp  
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, Cece—Jan Barnes  
Wood, Gary  
Woolwine, Charlotte—rec. from liver transplant—Karen Sexauer  
Yoak, Tom—cancer  
Youell, Tom—stroke—Jim Youell's brother  
Zimmer, Dorothy—Judy Jonas  
**Military Personnel**—Joseph Harris, Dylan Potts, Maria Schade  
Travis Schade