THUSE NEWS
October 2026

South Parkersburg Traditional Methodist Church

To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known

Edgelawn UMC

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

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Message from the Pastor

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all goodliness and dignity (1 Timothy 2:1-2, NRSV).

If we're keeping tabs on the news, it's obvious that there's a lot of upset, contention, strife, a lot of ugliness. We're in an election season and there's a lot of rhetoric…and we're all trying to sort out fact from fiction.

I'm reminded of St. Paul, writing to Timothy, a young man that he seems to have been mentoring in ministry. Paul places a high regard on prayer.

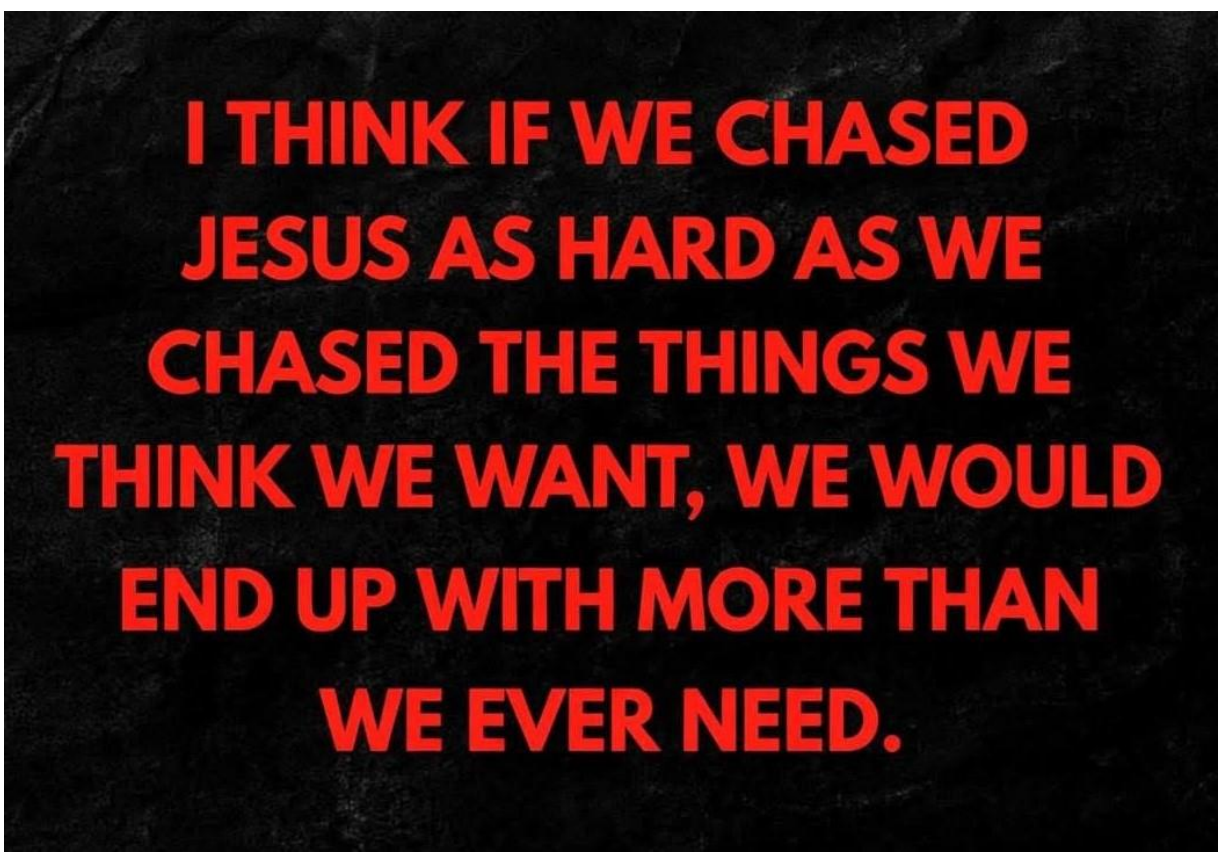
As I read Paul to young Timothy, it's almost as if he is saying, "First things first…pray! Pray for those in positions of authority!" We pray to God in the hope that we can lead a life with these four qualities—quiet, peace, godliness, dignity (the KJV says, "godliness and honesty").

I often include in my daily personal prayers and our corporate prayer on Sunday a mention for our national, state and local leaders—especially during times of crisis. I pray that God will help our leaders with the decisions they face. I pray, too, for peace and an end to the division within our nation and the world. I believe that only God can change hearts and minds. No matter the situation, pray!

God's richest blessings to all…enjoy the autumn months…have fun!

Mark

Words to Live By



Youth's Kings Island Trip

SPTMC Youth trip to King's Island! A great time of fun and fellowship was had by all!

Baked Potato Bar

The Baked Potato Bar was a HUGE success with food, fun, and fellowship… A total of **$577** was raised for our General Operating Fund!!!

Melissa Kuhl-Hupp

Notes from the Choir

Thank you to Carolyn and Frank Kesterson who hosted a cookout for the Chancel Choir and friends at their beautiful farm. Great food and great fellowship!! And although the rain prevented hot dog roasting and marshmallow toasting, we had fun!!

The choir has resumed Sunday evening rehearsals at 5:00 as we practice anthems for the first and third Sundays. We are also working on our Christmas cantata, "Come, Let Us Worship the King", and we have invited our sister churches, Edgelawn and Washington UMC, as well. If you love to sing, come join us as we "Make a joyful noise!"

Jan Kinder

Edgelawn Block Party

The Edgelawn Block Party was filled with food, fun, fellowship, worship, and singing… A GREAT evening planned and run by the folks at Edgelawn UMC… Thanks to all of you!!!

Fall Festival – Sunday, October 25th in the CFC starting at 6:00PM

Sign-Up sheets are located downstairs on the Information Desk for items needed from our church family for the Fall Festival… You will find pumpkin and Fall leaf signs for the following items – Pepperoni rolls, two kinds of ½ sandwiches, cookies, water, and cakes for the cake walk… A sign-up sheet for Trunk or Treat vehicles is also available…

The Spooky Spaghetti Event

The "Spooky Spaghetti" Fundraiser meal will be held in the CFC on Sunday, October 18th starting at 11:00AM… Come and enjoy the food and fun after Worship Service or following Sunday School… Eat in or Take out is available… Stop in and support our Youth group!!!

Girl Scout Update

Day camp was held at Katooga this year in August. The girls got a taste of tent camping- archery- wall climbing and swimming. Theme was back to basics. It rained some but no complaints. Nothing but fun and don't want to go home.

Ruth

SPTMC Financial Report through August 31, 2026

General Operating Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2026	$ 9,557.77
Total **Revenue** through August 31, 2026	$96,161.65
Total **Expenses** through August 31, 2026	$99,975.45
Balance as of August 31, 2026	$ 5,743.97

Major Revenue in 2026 = Gold Plate Offerings, Big Sale, & Reimbursement of Parsonage Utilities from Little Kanawha District

Major Expenses Paid so far in 2026 = Paid Property & Liability Insurance in Full, Parsonage Screened-in-Porch Screens Re-secured**,** New Laptop for Church Treasurer was Purchased, *Elevette Inspection & Repair,* Employees paid, as well as general operations and upkeep of the Church, CFC, & Parsonage

Building & Improvement Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2026	$17,592.97
Total **Revenue** through August 31, 2026	$19,876.00
Total **Expenses** through August 31, 2026	$26,207.00
Balance as of August 31, 2026	$11,261.97

Major Revenue in 2026 = *Parsonage Rent*, Stain Glass Silver Platein May

Major Expenses Paid so far in 2026 = New HVAC System (Oldest unit), Stain Glass Preservation Work

Silver Plate Contributions

January = Latrobe Street Mission = $91.05
February = Women's Care Center = $88.00
March = HVAC System = $788.00
April = COME = $96.00
May = Stain Glass Preservation = $13,060.00
June = Old Man Rivers = $141.00
July = Grace of God Food Pantry = $182.00
August = Wood County Society = $147.00

Other Church Finance News

As shared in April, the Benevolence Fund (WesBanco Office Account) and United Methodist Men Checking Accounts have been closed. The Church still maintains a Money Market Account and 2 CDs at United Bank. The CDs were re-invested or rolled over in June until January 2027.

2027 Church Budget Input Deadline!!!

2027 Budget Requests due to Melissa Kuhl-Hupp or her folder by October 11!

The 2027 Budget will be finalized at the October Finance Meeting. That meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Thanks to our Finance Committee members who work to ensure we are good stewards of the many gifts the Church is given!

Do you have questions about church finance? Talk with any member of your Finance Committee. Chairperson is Melissa Kuhl-Hupp. Members are Valma Adams, Beth Baker, Jan Barnes, Jerry Baum, Kelly Bell, Lois Boise, Anna Deem, Rick Deem, Stan Epler, and Assistant Pastor Nick Reed.

Submitted by *Melissa Kuhl-Hupp*

Don't Forget to RSVP Your Invitation

Ever been invited to a wedding and you have to RSVP? Before you know it, the wedding date is here and you forgot. You figure I'll just go and surely, they'll let me in. After all, I was invited. So, you clean yourself up and put on your best clothes. You look in the mirror and think, I look so good, there's no way I'm not getting in. The wedding is at a beautiful gated private estate. You can't wait to see what's on the inside. This is going to be a special night and it costs you nothing.

Then, there's a problem. At the gate, they ask your name and tell you that you're not on the list. You tell them, but I was invited. No matter how much you argue, they send you away, telling you that it was your responsibility to accept the invitation….

- That's Heaven –

God wants you there. He sent you the invitation. All you have to do is accept it. Not after you clean yourself up. Not when you "look" presentable, the way you think you're expected to look. No, you have to accept before it's too late. Otherwise, you're not getting in. Don't wait until it's too late to respond.

Prayer in Time of Grief

Father of Love, In this hour of deep grief comfort us.
Wrap us in Your strong embrace
and shelter us from the storm.

Take us into Your tender care as we
Pour out our heartbreak to You.

Be our place of refuge.

As we look toward the future, calm
Our hearts O God and still our anxious minds.

For all life if found in You.

All our being is given to You.

And all our hope begins with You.

Hear us and heal us, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Prayer for Hope

Today I feel helpless and weak,
And I need your strength.

My God, I pray You will touch my spirit
And remind me that with You all things
Are possible.

Show me once again, now, in my hour of weakness.
That through You I will find hope for a better future.

Through You, I will find a more meaningful life.

Help me to grasp Your strong hand
And find my own strength therein.

In the name of Your Son Jesus Christ
Please hear my prayer.

Amen.

Edmundite Missions

Prayer List

* Long Term

*Dora Jean Gumm-Kim
*Douglas Dudrow
*Logan
*Betty Kerr
*Josh Dermont
*Jeanie Wade
*Rick DeQuasie
*Cheryl Galland
*Charlie Elliott
*Ralph McNemar
*John Hayton
*Gary Shears
*Carol Sears
*Donnie Bartlett
*Holbert McEndree
*Carlene Frederick
*Vicky Shuman
*Cathy Smith
*Chase Larry Gordon
*Marie Williamson
*Gene Williams
*Tammy Kerns
*Megan Kesterson
*Tony Evans
*Helen Hance
*Amy & Pat Hazelette
*Larissa Horner
*Roger & Tia Ohse
*Fred Hardman
*Ron Pearson
*Frank Kesterson
*Helen Lamm
*Stanley Hunt
*Kinsley Wagner
*Carl McNeely
*Robert McIntire
*June Eakins
*Evelyn Duckworth
*Tina Goontz
*Mary Anne Daggett
*Doug Prince
*Roger Bennett
*Susan Aufdenkampe
*Jennifer Hupp
*Edna June Barnes

*Janet Brookover
*Jennifer Spencer
*Shirley Mae Blosser
*Junior Tennant
*Sandra Sidwell
*Katie Patton
*Betty Yeager
*Weston Jarvis
*Donna & Bob Galland
*Sheila Burdette
*Sue Roberts
*Sarah Griffel
*Linda Harris
*Roger Bennett
*Jan Houghton
*Helen McAfee
* Helen Hance
Anita Hughes
Sandy Hall
Susie DeQuasie
Sara Thompson
Pat Tucker
Vicki Tucker Smith
Aryn Smith
Kevin Tice
Rick Queen
Lakin Hupp

Remember the Family of:

Scott Deems
Pastor Everett Snyder
Tina Lang
David Fryfogle
Sue Campbell
Darin Crites
Alice Williams

Rebecca Barnett
Joe Sinnett
Sequoyah Milhoan
Melanie Cutright
Braden McCumbers
Christina Huffman
Tammie Moser
Ingrid Isklea
Mark McCullough
Bill Scott
Anita Baum
Betty Neal
Keith Spencer
Terry Parsons
Lisa Fergusan
Philip McKown & Family
Larry Minx
Sandy Sinnett
Richard Tucker
Matt Spencer
Jack Sinnett
Kristy Fox
Arnold Kuhl
Steve Carmichael
Shellie Leeson
Sara Thompson
Shane Wigal
Katy Roberts
Melissa Roberts Hupp
Dani Reed
Keith Spencer
The Carr Family

Bible Quiz

This month's Bible Quiz asks "How well do you know Noah and the Ark" from the Book of Genesis… Good Luck!!!

1. Who were Noah's 3 sons? (Genesis 6:10)
2. What type of wood was the Ark built from? (Genesis 6:14)
3. The Ark was covered in & out with what? (Genesis 6:14)
4. What were the units of measurement that the length, width, and heigth of the Ark were measured in? (Genesis 6:15)
5. How old was Noah when the floodwaters came? (Genesis 7:6)
6. How many people were saved in the Ark? (Genesis 7:13)
7. How many days did the waters prevail upon the earth? (Genesis 7:24)
8. How many years did Noah live after the flood? (Genesis 9:28-29)