



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 10, 2026



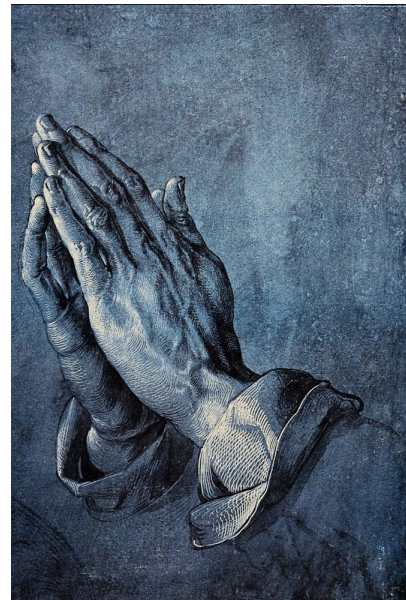
"Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil.: Ecclesiastes 4:9

There is an old story told about the artist, Albrecht Dürer. He lived in the 15th century in a village near Nuremberg in what is today, Germany. The family had 18 children. Two of the children had artistic talent and dreamed of pursuing it through schooling and dedicated time to create art. These brothers knew that the family only had enough resources to send one of them to school. The boys made a deal to toss a coin. The brother who won would go to school, and the one who lost would work in the mines to support his brother's education, and then they would switch places.

Albrecht won the toss, and he went off to study art, while his brother went to the mines to support his education. He studied for four years. At the conclusion of the four years, they gathered with family and friends to celebrate the occasion. Albrecht wanted to toast his brother, who made it all possible. As he lifted his glass, he noticed that his brother could hardly hold a glass for a toast. The years of hard work in the mines had left him with broken fingers and arthritis. He would not be able to hold a pencil or pursue his dream of art. Albrecht began to cry.

To honor his brother's incredible sacrifice, Albrecht sketched his brother's broken hands with his palms pressed together. The picture is here and is known as "The Praying Hands."

Like Albrecht, we often have relationships with those for whom we make sacrifices and who make sacrifices for us. The image has been a source of strength and comfort for many seeking reassurance from God.



Lord, none of us ever finds success by ourselves.
Thank you for the friends, the family, and the strangers, too.
who have helped us along the way.
May we be available to help others as we meet them today,
We pray. Amen.

(Story contained in "April 7th" as written by Craig Gardiner in Prayer for the Day:
365 Inspiring Daily Reflections produced by BBC Radio 4, Watkins Publications,
2005, page 109)

In God's Love,
Pastor Monica

GATHER!

Coming up this Sunday, April 12, 2026

Our worship leaders are Roz Evans and Pastor
Margie Good

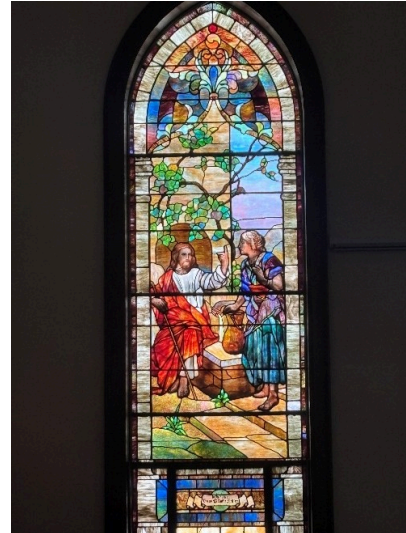
The praise song is "We Will Glorify the King of
Kings"

The Old Testament Lesson is Psalm 32

The Gospel Lesson is John 4:1-30

Pastor Carmen's sermon is "Broken Glass"

(I want my listeners to return to Jesus, ready for the
wisdom of Christ.)



Sometimes, we lose our way and go our own way. This message was intended for February 22nd when the weather prevented us from being together. Pastor Carmen will offer this message on coming back to Jesus. Like the woman at the well, Jesus already knows all that has transpired and offers grace. There is a spot for you!

Join us in person at 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

Join us live at 8:30 a.m.:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LvUchdlfUhE>

Join us live at 11:00 a.m.:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQjUM3w-Kvg>

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

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

[SUMC Calendar](#)

Save the Date

This year, the Pocono Interfaith Council will hold its 3rd Annual Interfaith Celebration of the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 7, beginning at 6:00 PM. As in previous years, the event is planned to take place at Courthouse Square, and further logistical details will be finalized in the coming weeks.

FUNDRAISER DINNER & SILENT AUCTION **NEPA GIVES**

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER REVITALIZATION

We invite our community partners - and all who share our passion for serving those in need - to join us for an evening of connection, compassion, and giving back. We are raising funds to support the finalization of renovations for the Community Resource Center at Stroudsburg United Methodist Church. This event marks the end of the 24 Hour NEPA Day of Giving, a online fundraising effort for non-profits across Northeast PA.

When: Friday June 5th
Time: 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Where: Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center | 304 Pocono Plateau Road, Cresco

We warmly invite you to attend our Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction at Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center on Friday June 5th from 5pm - 8pm.

Tickets for the dinner are \$25 per person. If you are interested in reserving tickets for the evening or learning more, go to the following link: <https://forms.gle/ANNwEJbHyANtfGBy6>.

INTERFAITH CELEBRATION

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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

Thursday, May 7 6.00 pm

Stroudsburg Courthouse Square

POCONO INTERFAITH COUNCIL



FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Saturday, April 18th at 5:00 pm.

Come join your fellow church members for a time of good food and fellowship. To help us plan, please either sign up at the rear of the sanctuary or let the church office know you plan to attend. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact Peggy Stewart (570-350-8589 or pegstewart59@gmail.com)



SCOUT TROOP 86 INVITES YOU TO OUR

Annual Spring Pancake Breakfast

*BREAKFAST INCLUDES PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, JUICE, COFFEE OR TEA

ADULTS \$10, CHILDREN 4-12 \$5, UNDER 3 FREE

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH
7AM-12PM

STROUDSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
530 ANN STREET
STROUDSBURG, PA 18360



Spring Clean Up!

Saturday, April 25th
9am-noon

Join us as we -

- Clean windows in the Scout Room
- Pick up litter around the outside
- And More!

and more...

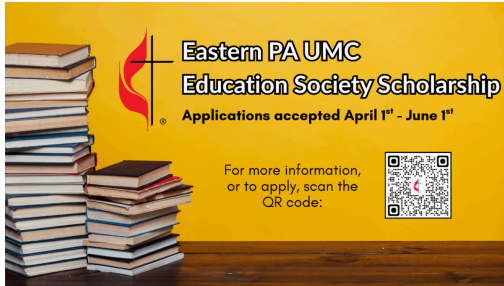
From your Conference Trustees:

A Call for Service

The EPA Conference is prayerfully seeking a dedicated individual to serve on the Conference Board of Trustees.

This is a meaningful opportunity to help steward the mission, property, and resources of the church while supporting ministries that impact communities

and future generations. [Learn about the role here](#) and prayerfully consider nominating yourself or another.



EPA Education Society Scholarship - accepting applications

The Education Society of EPA invites college-age youth to apply for our annual scholarship. This scholarship is open to those who will be undergraduate students

in 2026-2027. Applications will be accepted via email between April 1 and June 1, 2026. [Learn more](#). Questions? Contact [Jen Hopple](#) or [Frances Whittington](#).

2026 District Conferences

Celebrate the ministries of your district, worship together, and prepare for Annual Conference at your District Conference!

North District
May 2, 10am
Allentown: Asbury UMC

Cherry Lane UMC: Celebrating 160 Years of Community & Faith

By Leaders at Cherry Lane UMC

Cherry Lane United Methodist Church has been a beacon of warmth, service and fellowship since 1866. Our story is woven from generations of caring neighbors, joyful gatherings, and a spirit that connects us to United Methodist churches throughout the Poconos. This year, we're celebrating our story in creative ways! [Go deeper \(3 min read\)](#)



28 Days of Prayer: Preparing our hearts for Annual Conference 2026

As we prepare for Annual Conference 2026—centered on the theme of PRAYER—join Bishop Moore-Koikoi, laity, and clergy across EPA & GNJ for a 28-day prayer journey. We will begin on April 8 and continue through May 15. Set aside just 20 minutes each weekday morning from 7:00-7:20am to connect

with God, reflect in community, and listen for the Spirit's leading. Join as often as you're able.

We will feature the transformative book [Dynamite Prayer](#) by Rev. Dr. Rosario "Roz" Picardo and Rev. Dr. Sue Nilson Kibbey. To receive the Zoom link, [register here](#). Let us know you're ready to pray boldly, listen deeply, and move forward together in love!

Note: You may choose to purchase a copy of [Dynamite Prayer](#) (if ordering 10 or more books, use code INNOVATE50 for 50% off your order). The book is also available from other booksellers.

Saving the Soul of Our Nation, State, and Church - Faith Forum & Historical Tour

Mark your calendars! On May 12 from 1-6:30pm, attend a faith forum "Striving to End the Sin of Racism in Church and State: Contemporary and Historical Methodist Perspectives" featuring keynote speakers Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Bishop Ernest S. Lyght, Rupert Hall, Jr., and Kevin Dusenberry. The forum will be held at Pennington UMC (60 South Main Street, Pennington, NJ).

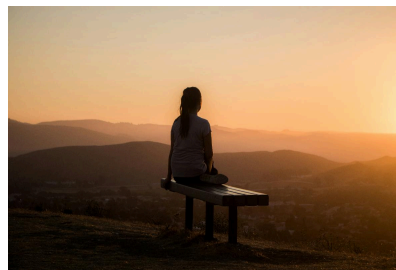
Then, on May 13, plan to attend the "Historical Tour: Saving the Soul of Our Nation and State" featuring keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Kevin Newburg and visiting such sights as Washington's Crossing State Park, Princeton Battlefield, Historic Tenant Church and more. Buses leave from the Courtyard by Marriott Ewing Princeton at 8:30am.

These events are open to all and form part of the Northeastern Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History (NEJCAH) Annual Meeting and Program. Get all the details [here](#). Register online [here](#) or print out a paper registration form [here](#). Need accommodations? [Register](#) for the conference hotel, Courtyard Marriott Ewing Princeton.

Living a Contemplative Life in a World That Isn't

By Sarah Borgstrom Lee

In April 2026, a dream seven years in the making will come to life. A five-day Academy for Spiritual Formation, titled "Living a Contemplative Life in a World That Isn't," will be held in the Northeastern Jurisdiction. This experience is designed to help participants deepen their faith and become rooted and grounded in the love of God—a love that never lets them go. [Go deeper \(2 min read\)](#)



COMING SUMMER 2026
V.B.S.
Analomink UMC, Christ Episcopal Stroudsburg,
Stroudsburg UMC, Wooddale UMC
June 22, 2026 - June 26, 2026
Evening Session: 5:30pm-8:00pm
More details will follow - for now - Save the dates!

Save the dates for 2026 VBS here at
SUMC!
June 22nd through June 26th
5:30pm-8:00pm



COMING SUMMER 2026
V.B.S.
Zion UCC - Stroudsburg
July 27, 2026 - July 31, 2026
Morning Session - Time: TBD
More details will follow - for now - Save the dates!

Save the dates for 2026 VBS at Zion UCC
July 27th through July 31st
Morning session time TBD



Happy
**BIRTHDAY
WISHES**

April Birthdays

1 Tim Harris
4 David Montgomery
5 Dominik Emerson
7 Felicity Guepet

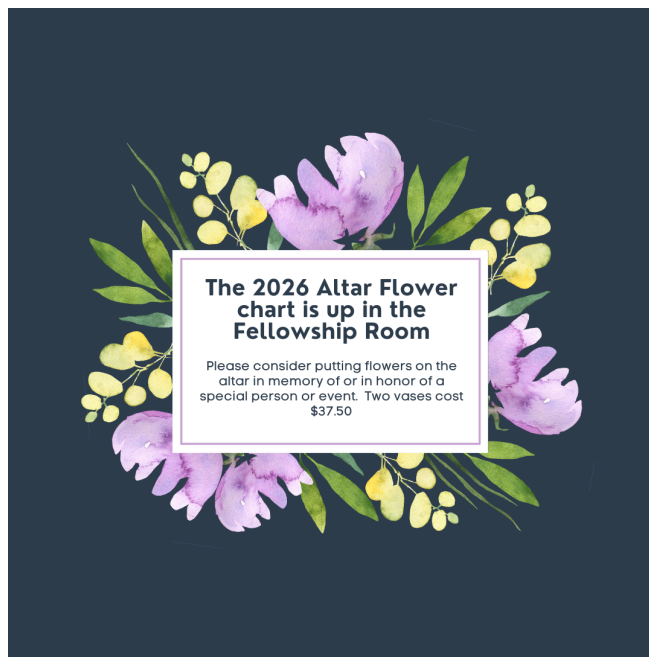
Special Person of the Week:

Trevor Corey
2720 Monacacy Road
Nazareth, PA 18064

Please remember him in prayer and if possible, please send a card.

JUST SOCIAL

2ND AND 4TH TUESDAYS FROM 1:30-3:00PM
COME JOIN US! PLAY CARDS, BOARD GAMES OR JUST
CHAT. DO YOU HAVE A HOBBY INTEREST YOU'D LIKE
TO SHARE? HAVE YOU READ A BOOK THAT WAS SO
GOOD YOU JUST HAVE TO TELL SOMEONE ABOUT IT? IF
THIS IS YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, WE WOULD
LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US!
USE THE ANN STREET ENTRANCE



JOIN US LIVE

SUNDAYS AT 8:30 AND 11:00 AM

LIVE STREAM



STROUDSBURGUMC.COM

YouTube: @stroudsburgumc3087

GROW!

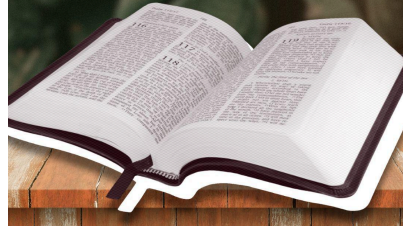
Bible Study

In this busy season, our Bible Study will resume meeting with the ebook of Judges and the story of Gideon, who had lots of questions. Join us online or in person on Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the lounge. No preparation required.

Judges Spiral

NO BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1



Monroe County Area Agency on Aging
&
Eastern Monroe Public Library
present

Monroe County's Senior Spelling

BEE



Wednesday, April 22, 2026
1pm to 3pm

at the Hughes Library
(1002 N. 9th Street in Stroudsburg)

We are seeking adults who are 55 and older to participate.
First prize winner will receive \$100, and runner-up will receive \$50.
Please contact the Monroe County Area Agency on Aging
at (570) 420-3735, or email ddunkelberger@monroecountypa.gov.

Registration deadline is April 20th!

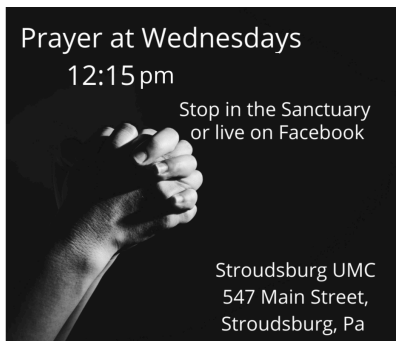


Church Women United Stocking Donations 2026

April: Small Note pads

Please put all donations in the bin in the Fellowship Room. All donations needs to be received by November 1.

COUNTERS NEEDED Our church is in need of additional counters of Sunday collections. If you have a couple of hours free on Monday mornings, please let the office know or call C.J. Penwell at 570-656-3993. You will work with a head counter who will train you on the procedures used. It is not difficult and is a casual atmosphere. Counters are scheduled for each Monday for a month and then rotate to another month throughout the year. Please consider volunteering to help the church in this way.



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.

As a result of your generosity, we are originating a grant for families seeking basic necessities at the Re-Store. We have established a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, Family Promise, and Safe Monroe, so that all families under case management seeking necessities (beds, tables, chairs) will receive them free of cost. The purchase will be funded from the Housing Families Grant. We are working with other faith organizations to support this effort. Thank you for caring for others. If at any point you would like to contribute to this grant, please mark your donation, Housing Families Grant, and we will be sure to administer the funds.



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

Thanks to your generosity, we have already assisted dozens of families with rental assistance, utilities, food, and other essential needs. With changes to federal, state, and county funding, we are seeing an increase in the number of those coming for assistance. While we work with other agencies, the impact of funding shortages is affecting a lot of organizations. If you are able to contribute to our pastor's discretionary fund at any point and any amount, please place your contribution in the offering plate with the designation. You can also give on our website stroudsburgumc.com/donate Thank you for helping us care for others.



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!

Thank you to everyone who faithfully contributes their Weis Markets receipts into the can in the Fellowship Room. Because of your receipts, we have received \$150.84 from Weis's receipt program.

These funds are contributed to our General Fund and allow us to continue the ministries of our church. Please continue to bring in your receipts!



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.

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



Soup Kitchen
Sit down meals
being served
Sunday afternoons
2-3 pm
Ann Street Entrance

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 - April 2026

As of April 2 we have served over 6,000 meals. If you have questions, please contact the office.

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

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