

# Sewickley United Methodist Church



## April 2024 Newsletter

### *The Pastor's Peace*

“On that happy note...” These are the words that I feel have been echoed at the end of most of the conversations I have had as of late. They are usually said with sarcasm and to lighten the tone of heaviness that has just preceded those words before departing from one another. Following one such conversation someone said, “is there really anything we can count on being good now a days.” My response was quick, “Easter is coming.” We can count on Easter; we can count on the cross and the resurrection and Jesus Christ and what he has done for us. That is something good that we can always look at no matter what we are facing. Easter is here and Easter is coming. We are living in Easter time.

Easter is a Christian holi(day) but it is also a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is a recognition of the defeat of sin and death that do not hold us captive unless we permit it to. Maybe instead of Easter we should call it Independence Day! We can choose each day to live as Easter people, focused on the victory that is ours. We can also choose to remember that Easter is still on its way. We feel the sting of death, we feel the heaviness of the sin of those who choose it instead of freedom, we feel the pain and sorrow of sickness and war and poverty, we feel the coldness of winter. BUT Easter is coming. Just as the flowers begin to bloom and hope is nestled into our hearts once again, Jesus has promised a return to his people. John 14:1-3 says, “Let not your heart be troubled...In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” And Revelation 21:4 tells us, “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” Easter has shown us the prophecies of old have come true, the life of Christ can be counted upon, and we can be sure his faithfulness did not end with his ascension to heaven. He said he will come again, and the old order will be made new. We can count on what he said to come true. Easter is here and Easter is coming.

In the meantime, you can count on Christ. You can count on Christ to get you through these uncertain days. You can count on Christ to help you find the hope in the hopeless. You can count on Christ to give you the strength you need, form the bonds to support you, grant you peace in the middle of the storms. You can count on Christ here and now, and beyond.

Happy Easter! Now go smell a flower. Amen!

From one light to another,

Pastor Hannah Loughman

Pastor Hannah's availability: I am available Monday—Wednesday and Friday, 9am—5pm. After 5pm, by appointment only. On Sundays I am available following the church service till 4pm. If I am not in the office, I can be reached via my cell phone. I am available after-hours on my cell phone for emergencies. My email address is open 24 hours a day and, with the exceptions of Thursdays, which is my day off, I will respond in a timely manner.

Church Office: (412) 741-9430  
Pastor's Office: (412) 741-9433  
Cell Phone: (412) 294-7587  
E Mail: [pastor@sewickleyumc.org](mailto:pastor@sewickleyumc.org)  
Website: [www.sewickleyumc.org](http://www.sewickleyumc.org)



**SAVE THE DATE  
CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC —  
SUNDAY, JUNE 23**



Please come to our annual church picnic where we break bread with our family at St. Matthews AME Zion Church. We will provide the beef and veggie burgers and hotdogs. There will be one service on this date at 10am

Time: Setup at noon; break bread at 12:30

Where: War Memorial Park, Shelter #1 (Blackburn Road, pass YMCA, make left into lot after paddle courts)

Bring: Lawn chairs (available seating is limited) and a side dish or dessert to share. If you have kids, there is playground & creek access so you may want to bring water shoes, sunscreen and towels as well

Expect: FUN!!! FOOD!!! and Bingo, of course

**CELEBRATING OUR  
GRADUATES**



Our records indicate the following church family members will graduate in May/June. Please forgive us for any errors in miscalculating a graduation date or if we missed your student - we want to celebrate all of our graduates. Reach out to Sandra Lane at slane819@yahoo.com or notify the church office (412)741-9430 with additions or corrections.

**High School**

**College**

- ◆ David McCombs
- ◆ Sebastian Cymbalak
- ◆ Patrick Gold
- ◆ Paige Lenhardt
- ◆ Hannah Gold
- ◆ Emily Erkert

**SUMMER CAMP 2024 - Registration is OPEN!**

The United Methodist Church has three great camps in Western Pennsylvania. SUMC has campership funds available to help your child attend one of these camps this summer. For more information, please contact Sandy Kuriger or Pastor Hannah.



Camp Allegheny, near Somerset, PA, offers campers excitement, energy and experience in the outdoors. Believe it or not, it is possible to have the best day ever, every day at Camp Allegheny! Through engaging Bible exploration time, fun activities, and exciting times of worship, campers will have fun, be safe, and grow more in their faith.



Jumonville, nestled on the outskirts of Hopwood, PA, is a place where your life will be changed by the power of God. The Cross of Christ will greet you before you even get

here. Jumonville summer camp is a fun, friendly, faith-building sleep-a-way program for all ages. Located about 50 miles south of Pittsburgh, Jumonville hosts 3-6 day programs for ages 6-18.



Wesley Woods, located in Grand Valley, PA, deepens your spiritual connection as you encounter God through fellowship and worship.

Wesley Woods Summer programs are centered around the ministry of Jesus Christ, and the ministry of Christianity. It is our goal to create a welcoming environment that is an echo of the embrace that we receive from Jesus. With programs like adventure, sports, fine arts, special interest camps, little camps for our junior campers, and exceptional persons camp, Wesley Woods has something to offer everyone.



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Thank you! And YES!!! The Fellowship of the Cross youth are sending a heartfelt "thank you" to the Operation Christmas Child benefactor who, every year, provides sunglasses for every shoe box. We found the donation in our collection bin in March. Sunglasses are fun, practical, thoughtful contributions to our ministry. We also send a "thank you" to God for all of you who keep OCC in mind throughout the year. The emphatic "YES" is for the mother from the young SUMC family who recently asked if we accept "gently-used" contributions. We like to think of them as "gently-loved" and they have been a key component of our OCC drives since the evening we first gathered in the church library in 2011.

The FOTC originals filled our first boxes with stuffed animals and jewelry and art supplies and school supplies from their personal collections. We have been blessed several times over the years by families who have donated stuffed animal collections. These are the furry companions who have been sitting on shelves, not the ones hugged through every bout with the flu. Children who like blocks and cars and rockets might donate the crayons and markers that went unused. Those who love art supplies might have dinosaurs or ball caps or bull dozers that have been untouched. We have been sorting gifts for 13 years. We're willing to do the work. If your spring cleaning has you clearing drawers and closets, and the space beneath the beds, we're willing to accept the treasure you find.

As always, we accept new gifts year-round. We're gathering toys, stuffed animals, school supplies, jewelry, combs and brushes, toothbrushes, ball caps, socks, T-shirts, puzzles and books. Our collection bins are located outside the church office and in the narthex. In 13 years, we have put more than 1,400 shoe boxes into the hands of children on four continents.



## Worship Opportunities - April 2024

Contemporary Worship Service: 9am  
 Traditional Worship Service: 11am  
 Our Worship Services are live streamed on  
[sewickleyumc.org](http://sewickleyumc.org) and [youtube.com](https://youtube.com)

The recorded services are also available later on Sunday afternoon

**April 7, 2024**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Liturgist:** Kristine Swaney

**Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 119:105-112

**Message:** "Here's My Heart"

"Though Peter's story does not end with the conclusion of the gospels, we finish our series with Peter's encounter with the risen Christ. In this final week, we come full circle with Peter. He has dropped his nets, walked on water, professed his faith, been rebuked, received foot washing, denied Jesus, and run to the tomb. And now, Jesus once again meets him at the shoreline where Peter is casting his nets. Jesus offers abundant nourishment and also a new command: "Feed my sheep." Then he turns to Peter and asks three times, "Do you love me?" It's as if Jesus says, "Here's my heart," which washes over Peter's three denials like a healing balm. No matter how far we wander, may we entrust our hearts to God. No matter if our faith is strong or weak, what we can give is our love."

**April 14, 2024**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**Liturgist:** Ron Smith

**Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 28

**Message:** "Jesus: My Strength"

When we measure strength, we often look at how much a person can lift. If we are not measuring physical strength but looking at mental strength it is often measured by how much stress a person can take. However, these measurements of strength are not Jesus' standards. Jesus' strength is found in his actions on the cross. Peter was a man of brute strength but through Christ he learned another way to deal with the difficulties he faced. When we say Jesus is our strength we understand there is another way to overcome the weight of this world and in our lives.

**April 21, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Liturgist:** Johnathan Burnett

**Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 33:6-22

**Message:** "Jesus: My Anchor"

Uncle Kracker once sang these awesome lyrics, "Give me the beat, boys, and free my soul, I wanna get lost in your rock n' roll and drift away." Who hasn't wanted to just drift away? As problems, trials, and expectations continue to pummel our lives sometimes drifting away seems like a good answer. Though we end up finding out, the problem is often us and we can't seem to escape them. Jesus is our anchor that keeps us tethered, bound, and able to see, "the light through the pourin rain."

**April 28, 2024**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Liturgist:** Jere Cowden

**Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 18:1-6

**Message:** "Jesus: My Savior"

Whenever you go to see a play you can be assured there are people working behind the scenes. They are actively getting the stage set for the next scene, waiting for their cue to do a quick on stage costume change. If they mess it up, it can throw the whole show off. Sometimes we might not recognize Jesus as our Savior because we might not feel like we need saving. But what is going on behind the scenes? Can we recognize that there is more to our story than meets the eye. How is Jesus your Savior?

**The United Women in Faith (UWF)** will meet on Sunday, April 14, 2024 in the Simpson Room following the traditional service.

Everyone is invited to attend our meetings. Please bring your own lunch; beverages and dessert will be provided. Again, all are welcome. Kristine Swaney, 412-716-5772 (cell) or 412-741-2092 (home).

**FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**—Contributions of non-perishable food items and paper products are always welcome. Donations may be placed in the grocery carts in the hallway by the library and by the sanctuary entrance in the Narthex. The Pantry (15 Chadwick St.) is open to all in the 15143, 15056 and 15108 zip codes every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 11:30am-1pm



**PITTSBURGH DISTRICT CONFERENCE**—The

Conference will be held on April 21st at Dutilh UMC at 3pm. All are welcome.

**NEWS FROM NURTURE!** - Thank you for supporting the chili and hummus sale. The \$550 profit supports church projects. Also:

- Please volunteer to help with the Walking Taco sale at May Mart on Saturday, May 13.
- Everyone is invited to a luncheon on Tuesday, May 14, at Sandy Kuriger's home.
- Another invitation is to a luncheon at the Christy House on Friday, June 7th

*Please see Sandy Kuriger or Donna Sawhill for more information.*

**WOMEN'S GROUP**—The Tuesday Women's Group has collected over \$150 in their birthday bank for the Nyadire. Please help them double this amount with a gift of any amount. The group is studying important women every Tuesday morning in April. The May study will concentrate on "The Chosen."



The Chapel

By: Bill Utterback

I received some discouraging news about a friend’s health and immediately lifted prayer for everyone involved. As I drifted through the day, I continued to cover them in prayer. In the kitchen. In the car. As the coffee machine in Get Go filled my cup. The prayers felt inadequate. The ache persisted.

Arriving at church to tend to some chores in late afternoon, I

went directly to the chapel. Our chapel. My chapel. The kids call it “the little prayer room.” I dropped to my knees on the padded rail and tearfully shared it all. I emptied myself. And He took it all, the news of the day and all the other aches I had been collecting for days and weeks and months, and slowly began to fill me again. He poured hope and peace and strength into my deep.

I texted a friend as I left the room: “I always feel better after praying in there.”

I like my time in the chapel. I visit for big prayers and for little prayers. I visit Sunday mornings before the church fills with life. Often, I stop to lift a “thank you” for church family and the love and light I have found here. I feel free as I step into the space. I cry. I rage. I rest.

Christian writer/speaker Rachel Held Evans, in her book “Searching for Sunday,” recalls finding a quiet alcove in a monastery in Alabama.

“It’s funny how, after all those years attending youth events with light shows and bands, after all the contemporary Christian music and contemporary Christian books, after all the updated technology and dynamic speakers and missional enterprises and relevant marketing strategies designed to make Christianity cool, all I wanted from the church ... was a quiet sanctuary and some

candles. All I wanted was a safe place to be. Like so many, I was in search of sanctuary.”

If you’re searching, I invite you to visit. The chapel sits behind the wooden doors in the rear corner of the sanctuary, stage left. The interior door is always unlocked (and it’s my dream to unlock the exterior door so anyone could visit and pray).

To your left is a grand staircase that leads to the bell tower (the rest of the climb is considerably less grand.) To your right, there’s a cross on the wall, a narrow altar and the padded prayer rail. There are six small pews and light pouring in through stained glass windows. On the altar sits the “Pulpit” bible, presented by the Rev. Charles Thorn to the Sewickley Methodist Episcopal Church in 1872 and used until 1909. You can flip through the pages and read all the things the Lord “saith.”

The room is not quiet – you can hear the traffic rumbling along Thorn and Beaver streets, or Erik coaxing joy from the organ – but it feels insulated, safe, sheltering. It is a place to sit and breathe and think, or not think.

Spring is a good time to visit. The space is not heated, and in some seasons, the chapel is a storage shed, a maintenance depot. Someone has recently restored the space (Thank you!). The morning light is brilliant. The afternoon light is soft. I’ve also spent time there in darkness. There are overhead lights, but darkness insulates and shelters, too. I visit before Bible studies or committee meetings.

When, after 10 days, I learned that my ailing friend was rebounding wonderfully, I returned to the chapel. I didn’t kneel. I flipped through the pulpit Bible, wondering how many people found peace and light in this space since 1872. I sat in the first pew, enjoying the light, sharing my gratitude with the one who provides. It was another long, unhurried conversation, flowing beyond my friend and his health.

I always feel better after praying in there. Please make arrangements with Pastor Hannah, Elizabeth or Ray if you’d like to visit the chapel outside of business hours.

Winston Clifford	4/3
Nancy Shuluga	4/3
Mandy Williams	4/4
David McCombs	4/7
Ed Cymbalak	4/9
Greg Lane	4/14



**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Jack Moffett	4/14
Lauren Roebuck	4/14
Charlie Brown	4/15
Ryan Roebuck	4/19
Eric Miller	4/20
Tracey Canfield	4/24

*If you or a family member is missing from our birthday or anniversary list, please let the office know*



**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Bill & Sandy Kuriger	4/10
Ed & Heather Cymbalak	4/11

**Picket Fence Order Form**



We are offering an opportunity to leave a lasting sign of your support towards the preschool/church playground with a personalized fence picket that will be installed this spring.

Engraving is limited to 20 characters including numbers and spaces (heart shaped symbol, no longer available). Complete the order form here or [online](#) and return with your check for \$50 made out to:

Learning Tree Playground Fund

For more information call Sandra Lane (412) 841-7169

Return no later than: April 17, 2024

**Order Form**

Use a separate form for each individual picket order.

Name of person placing the order:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Print the letters to be placed on the picket in each space below.

Leave a blank for a space. Heart shape no longer available.

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**Easter Flower Dedications**

- In memory of their Parents,  
by Joe and Martha Boward
- In memory of Bola Nicholson  
by Pam Honeychurch
- In memory of Robert and Barry Yant  
by Dana Yant
- In memory of The Maminski Family  
by Pat and Bill Ferguson
- In memory of her husband, David A Ford  
by Carole J M Ford
- In memory of all their family  
by Debbie and Joe Consoli
- In memory of Louie and Lucille Martin  
by Liz Martin Brown
- In memory of Mildred and Chester Tahl  
by Jere and Sharon Cowden
- In memory of Bettye and Clair V Cowden  
by Jere and Sharon Cowden
- In memory of Gordon's parents  
Tony and Mary Chesney  
by Gordon and Debbie Chesney
- In memory of Debbie's parents,  
Kenneth and Dixie Lemasters  
by Debbie and Gordon Chesney
- In memory of Eleanor Schmitt,  
by Jere and Sharon Cowden
- In memory of loved ones  
by Shawn and Lou Ann Scott

- In memory of Sun I Kim  
by The Dotterers
- In memory of Pat Leiphart  
by Pat and Steve Grossarth
- In memory of Emma D Fitzpatrick  
by The Dotterers
- In loving memory of Michael Grossarth  
and Jessica Hooper  
by Mom, Dad, Grandma and Grandpa
- In honor of all my family and friends  
at SUMC. Miss you!  
by Lou Ann Scott
- In honor of Debbie and Joe Consoli  
by Dorothy Jadlowiec
- In honor of all the youth  
in the SUMC family  
by Amanda Pelphrey
- In honor of their children  
by Joe and Martha Boward
- In honor of Grace Rogansky  
by Aunt Meg and Johnny
- In honor of Pat and Steve Grossarth  
by Pam Honeychurch
- In honor of Olive Chewing,  
by Dana Yant
- In honor of her three sons  
by Carole J M Ford
- In honor of Nancy and Russel Shuluga

- by Pam Honeychurch
- In honor of Dr. Alissa Wilmot  
and children  
by Jere and Sharon Cowden
- In honor of Elvira R Kinneer  
by Warren R Kinneer
- In honor of her grandchildren,  
Alexa and Daniel,  
by Carole J M Ford
- In honor of Laura and Pam Honeychurch  
by Pat and Steve Grossarth
- In honor of Michael Cowden  
and children  
by Jere and Sharon Cowden
- In honor of Hurst and Diane Bartley  
by Pam Honeychurch
- In honor of Alan and Kelly Honeychurch  
by Pat and Steve Grossarth
- In honor of Bethany Knicely and Avyn  
by Jere and Sharon Cowden
- To the Glory of God  
by Michael and Patti Ellis
- To the Glory of God  
by Sandra and Bill Kuriger
- To the Glory of God  
by Pat and Steve Grossarth

Through Lent, the 9 am Children's church kids took an extended walk through "Happy Day," a song suggested to us by Leap of Faith, our worship band. It gave us a new window into the Easter experience. It has a wonderful energy and lyrics that are global and personal, telling a story of God's presence in our past, present and future.

"Sing it out. Jesus is alive. He's alive ... Oh, happy day, happy day."

The song was written by Tim Hughes and has been shared by Leap of Faith for 10 years.

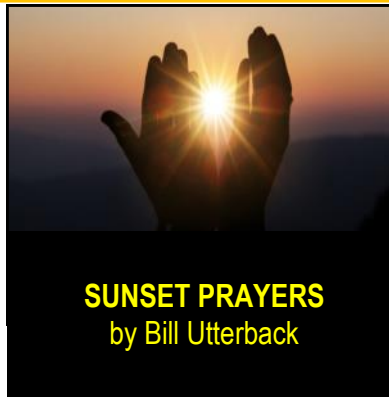
As we moved through it each week in Lent, one lyric filled my heart:

"I'll never be the same ... forever I am changed."

Band leader Hurst shared his thoughts with us, and called "I'll never be the same" a "brilliant closing declaration." I love Hurst's use of "declaration." As we're singing, we're declaring, telling each other and the world, we will never be the same.

I explained to the kids that the celebrations of Easter – worship, family, egg hunts, Easter baskets, new clothes – will fade, but the power of Jesus and His Resurrection is eternal and available and accessible beyond the holiday.

But as I shared, I started to get a little anxious.



Am I? Are we? Changed? Was it really a declaration this year? I want it to be more than a lyric. I want it to be a truth, an action.

As Easter fades this year, let's pray into change. Let's – individually and collectively - come through the 2024 Easter experience declaring our new energy and new imagination and new intention.

On April 7, as the sun sets around 7:52 p.m., from wherever you are, with whoever cares to join you, let's pray together into change.

Lord, thank you for creating this change in us.

Please help us use this change in ways that reflect

your love and light to more people, on more days.

Lord, help us share this change in the familiar places, in families and neighborhoods and workplaces and schools.

Lord, help us share this change in the ways we recognize new opportunities and new relationships.

Lord, help us share this change in the ways we see and respond to needs in our communities, our nation and the world. Lord, give us light on our path, leads us to people and place where we can continue to declare our hope and joy and love.

If we carry the change forward, there will be more happy days in more hearts. Celebrate, Jesus is alive. He's alive. Happy Day!



### VBS- SEEKERS IN SNEAKERS

Consider this an invitation to a planning meeting and a prayer initiative. The SUMC VBS team is holding its next planning meeting in the Simpson Room on April 21, shortly after the 11 am worship service ends. If you have committed to the project, or wondering if there is a place for you, please join us.

Our "Seekers in Sneakers" VBS will take place Aug. 5 through Aug. 8 on the SUMC campus. This is a collaborative effort with St. Matthews AME Zion and St. Paul's Lutheran churches, and is free and open to children from pre-school through middle school. Registration details will be shared soon. To register as a volunteer, [please click here.](#)

The April 21 planning meeting is where we begin building teams and sharing ideas. It is the forum to connect and explore and discover where you fit. Every idea tossed onto the table needs nourishment, and every voice at the table enhances the project. Topics on the table will include decorating, marketing, mission, storytelling, music, games, science, crafts and games/recreation, as well as pre-school and middle school possibilities.

The VBS team, recognizing our church family's extraordinary capacity for prayer, is also launching a new prayer initiative this year. Everyone's invited! We will provide a prayer focus each month from April through August, and we're asking you to consider fitting a VBS prayer into your daily or weekly prayer plans, or just wrap us in a single prayer anytime during the month. Our prayer focus for April will involve our volunteers, those who have come forward, and those who are wondering if there might be a place where they could help. Future prayer prompts will involve our parents, children, VBS church partners, mission and communities. As we lift our volunteers, and those considering joining the team, let's ask God to share His imagination and energy and love with them. Ask Him to provide the Light that will let them see how they might contribute in the weeks and months leading to VBS and/or during VBS week. Ask Him to let them know that their skills and talents, experience and creativity, are valued. Always, we will include prayers of thanksgiving for this opportunity and for all those who make it possible.

In June, we're hoping to assemble a prayer team that will lift specific prayer requests as we move closer to Seekers in Sneakers. If you are interested in being part of this prayer team, please contact Bill Utterback.

# APRIL 2024

\*Children's Church & Nursery offered during Sunday morning services

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service 9am Contemporary Service 10am Adult Sunday School 11am Fellowship of the Cross 11am Traditional Service	<b>1</b> 7pm AA	<b>2</b> 10am Women's Growth Group 6pm Growth Group Study 7pm AA	<b>3</b> 6:30pm Leap of Faith	<b>4</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir	<b>5</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9am Contemporary Service 10am Adult Sunday School 11am Fellowship of the Cross 11am Traditional Service 1pm Youth Group Meeting	<b>8</b> 7pm AA 7:30pm Council Meeting	<b>9</b> 10am Women's Growth Group 1pm Sewickely Music Club 7pm AA	<b>10</b> 10am SUMC Prayer Group 6:30pm Leap of Faith	<b>11</b> 8am Life Line Screening 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm SUMC Singers	<b>12</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9am Contemporary Service 10am Adult Sunday School 11am Fellowship of the Cross 11am Traditional Service 12pm UWF (UMW) Luncheon Meeting 1pm Youth Group Meeting	<b>15</b> 6:30pm Worship Committee Meeting 7pm AA	<b>16</b> 10am Women's Growth Group 6pm Growth Group Study 7pm AA	<b>17</b> 6:30pm - 7:30pm Leader Board Meeting 6:30pm Leap of Faith	<b>18</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm SUMC Singers	<b>19</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>20</b> 7pm Leap of Faith Concert
<b>21</b> 9am Contemporary Service 10am Adult Sunday School 11am Fellowship of the Cross 11am Traditional Service 12:30pm VBS Planning Meeting 1pm Youth Group Meeting	<b>22</b> 7pm AA	<b>23</b> 10am Women's Growth Group 6pm Growth Group Study 7pm AA	<b>24</b> 6:30pm Leap of Faith	<b>25</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm SUMC Singers	<b>26</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>27</b> 1:30pm - 5:30pm Music Recital
<b>28</b> 9am Contemporary Service 10am Adult Sunday School 11am Fellowship of the Cross 11am Traditional Service	<b>29</b> 7pm AA 7pm Marketing Committee	<b>30</b> 10am Women's Growth Group 6pm Growth Group Study 7pm AA	<b>1</b> 6:30pm Leap of Faith	<b>2</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm SUMC Singers	<b>3</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>4</b>

<p>Peace in the Holy Land Hurst Bartley Betty Burrows (Wilma Hamilton's sister-in-law) Sydni Canney Anne Clifford (Jenine Furry's sister-in-law) Bruno Crapis Mollie Devine (Renee Gittins' sister) Nick Devine (Renee Gittins' great nephew) Clyde Grossarth (Steve's brother) Steve Grossarth</p>	 <p>Candy Grudovich (Joe Boward's sister) Rev. Jim Hamilton Beate Henkel Lucas James (Sel Dean's brother) Matthew Kania Grace &amp; Murch King</p>	<p>Nikki and John Sandra Obeng Lorraine Offner Keith Pelphrey Jean Reed Jim Rogansky Jasmine Ross</p> <p>Megan Shong (Renee Gittins' great-niece) Nancy Shuluga C.R. &amp; Lorraine Simpson (Edie Erkert's parents) Jacqueline Stancil Bill T Lauren Tillman Morgan W. and Family Karen Yant Rich Zahrobsky Dennis Zeveny</p>
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## ANNUAL SHOE DRIVE

EUMA (Erie United Methodist Alliance) and All God's Children Ministries/Ramps of Hope are holding their Annual Shoe Drive to raise funds for their missions. Sewickley UMC will collect new and gently used, CLEAN shoes (pairs only) from now until June 2nd. Ask your friends, family, and neighbors to help collect shoes. It's a win, win, win situation! EUMA raises much needed funds for outreach ministries, shoes are kept out of landfills, and we support micro-enterprise in developing countries. In prior years, supporters helped to raise over \$11,000 per year for missions! Simply make sure each pair is connected, whether by the shoelaces or with rubber bands. A collection box will be in the narthex and in the hall by the restrooms. The more unwanted shoes cleared from closets, the more mission support is generated!



**NOTES FROM THE LEADERSHIP BOARD**—Dear Congregation, The Leadership Board met for the 3rd time this year March 20. We are still working on and finishing up some administrative things, as Pastor Hannah had mentioned previously. One of those things was an unexpected occurrence this year. After decades of having the same insurance provider, we were dropped by that company. This situation is not unique to our church, as many churches across the nation have also been dropped by their insurance carrier. A committee was formed to search for a new provider. That search was a process that took some time, but starting at the end of March we will have a different insurance company. We are still working on following the time schedule and format suggested in the SAS model, the new way of governance in our church. We have had productive meetings with good discussion, but it is a process in changing the system and it takes time. We are all onboard for that challenge and we will get there. The Leadership Board will schedule a town hall meeting and encourage the Congregation to attend. Thank you for your prayers and support. -Jenine Furry, Chair

Dear SUMC Family,

I want to thank all of you who have sent cards and letters and who have been praying for me while I have been working through my health issues in these last couple of months and especially the rally at our house with all the people and the signs everyone made. I just can't express my gratitude adequately. It really has been a very challenging period for Diane and myself and the support from our church family has been truly sustaining. What a difference it makes to know that we haven't been alone in all this and that what seems like the whole spiritual weight of the church has lifted us up when we really needed it. God bless all of you.

Yours in Christ, Hurst Bartley

Dear friends in Leap of Faith,

The 9 a.m. children's church kids would like to thank everyone in our praise band for sharing the song "Happy Day" with us during Lent and for inviting us to sing with you on Easter morning. You suggested the song and we spent several weeks exploring the lyrics and music. We appreciated your taking time to explain why you chose the song and the strengths in its lyrics and energy. We enjoyed our visit with Miss Kelly, Mr. Jack and Mr. Scott, and we especially appreciated the insights Mr. Hurst shared with us. You helped us understand and feel the joy of Easter through music. We look forward to sharing more music with you in the future.

Love, Jade, Arabella, Gideon, Jordyn, Amelie, Addie, Elle, Christian, Emma, Kat, Ava, Evarett, Sophia and Bill.

Dear Church Family,

The Education team would like to thank everyone who contributed candy, toys, Easter eggs and time to the Easter Egg hunt between worship services on March 31. Creating this opportunity for our children let's them know they are loved and valued and included in all that we do. We are grateful for the loving, generous hearts in our church family who support our initiatives throughout the year. We are blessed.

Sincerely, SUMC Education team

Let's shower Nancy Shuluga with cards as she celebrates her birthday on April 3. Please keep her and Russel, and their entire family, in your prayers as Nancy battles pancreatic cancer.

114 Bentley Down Dr.  
Coraopolis, PA 15108





Remember our Shut-ins

Please write to our shut-ins and keep them in your prayers. The church office can provide you with	Sylvia Bajsec	Shirley Graham
	Jim and Olive Chewning	Pat Rudy
	Renee Gittins	Lura Zaremba