

Valley Views



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 4

APRIL 2018



Pastor Mike Hill

As we reflect on the Resurrection of Jesus, let's take some time to praise Him and ask for even more of His Presence in our lives! Here's a simple Easter prayer you can reflect on:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gift of eternal salvation that we get to celebrate on Easter morning. Your love is so great! Come close to me and renew my mind to let go of everything I've held on to that hinders me and entangles me. I ask you to draw near to me as I draw near to you and purify my heart.

Thank you for being the example of mercy when you ministered to and saved a thief while you suffered your own death. Your love covers a multitude of sins! I repent of my sins and ask you to cover me with your love and help me love others deeply.

Help me to forgive those who have offended me and give me the courage to bless my enemies.

(cont. on p. 2)

(cont.)

Thank you for the anchoring of peace the Cross gives us. When difficult times find me, help me keep my eyes on you. Help me calm and quiet my soul so I can find full contentment in You alone.

Thank you for the promise of joy and the restoration to the Father through the work of the Cross. Let me remember to take active steps in rejoicing together in fellowship with family and friends. May we never forget the good works You have done in our lives.

I praise you that you are the gift of HOPE. Nothing can separate me from your love for not even death could do it. I love you, Jesus!

Amen!

God has showered many Blessings on St. John's U. M. Helping Hands. It is a joy to hear comments about the good tasting apple dumplings . BUT with your help GOD has Blessed us, so we could help others in his flock.

Since the 2017/2018 apple dumpling season started in September we supported:

Hurricane Relief

Footprints of Montgomery

Montgomery Christmas Committee

Russell Ranck's' fire

St. John's ramp entrance door

Paid electric bill for a mother with 3 small children

Community Easter egg hunt

United Methodist Home

THANK YOU

If God so blesses we will see you in September

Calling all Superheros interested in exploring epic adventures to discover their strength in God!!! VBS 2018 will be Sunday, July 29th thru Thursday, August 2nd from 6 to 8:30pm. Dinner will also be provided again this year. Closing Program and Carnival Friday, August 3rd at 6pm. Our Little Heroes will explore God's mission for their lives, encounter adventures alongside biblical heroes, as well discovering their own unique power and strength from God! Any questions please contact, Captain Church (AKA) Pastor Mike or Wonder Women Taryn Myers and Andrea Hetner. Let us all Discover our Strength in God!



A special thanks to the [7] women and [2] college girls who shared their Wednesday afternoon, March 14th, with me and Eleanor. It became a delightful, sunny day even with the wind howling. We enjoyed the lovely hymns, scripture reading, and a reading from different ladies. Also thanks to the lady who played the recorder. A special thanks to Patty Shaffer, who made the afghan given to me. The visit was a very nice gesture during this Easter Season. We are so thankful for all our Christian friends.

Fondly with love,

Dick and Eleanor Taylor



Thank you to everyone for your calls and cards after the loss of Aunt Alta Mae Whitmoyer. Thanks especially to Hilda and Bob for their thoughtfulness with food and Pastor Mike and Bishy for their support. We are so blessed in our Christian family.

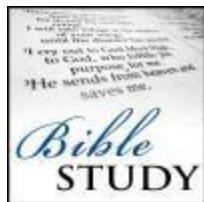


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God Bless,

Sandy & Larry Foresman

Parish Bible Study is Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm at the Elmsport church. All are invited. We will be studying how we got our Bible and its origins.



Community Breakfast is held Wednesday mornings from 7:00 - 9:00 am at the Elmsport Church.



There will be a Blood Drive on Tuesday, April 10th from 2 – 7 pm at the fellowship hall. Please donate!



Eleanor Hanley has moved in with her son. She can be reached at:

177 McIntyre Road
Catawissa, PA. 17820



Elmsport Volunteers

Greeters for April

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| April 1 | Bob & Hilda Sampsell |
| April 8 | Monte Temple |
| April 15 | Stu Seitzer |
| April 22 | Jennifer Springman & Family |
| April 29 | David & Jackie Klopp & Family |



- Items for May's newsletter are due April **20th**.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by **Wednesday** morning each week.

(Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)



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Ms. Marcia B. Rhone

1110 Ridge Rd

Montgomery PA 17752-8774



March 5, 2018

Dear Friends:

The United Methodist Home for Children (UMHC), located in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, is pleased to announce our plans to merge with the Board of Child Care (BCC), an organization that shares our tradition of serving children and families through the social justice ministry of the United Methodist Church. UMHc will become United Methodist Home for Children, a Program of the Board of Child Care.

UMHC was founded in 1917 by the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Church (now the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church) as an orphanage. Each day, our Mechanicsburg campus serves approximately 35 children between the ages of 12-20 using a collaborative trauma-informed approach to care. This merger will enable UMHc to leverage BCC's scale and deep expertise, thereby, continuing our 100-year legacy of providing exceptional care to young people and their families in Pennsylvania.

Similar to UMHc, BCC began as three orphanages operated by the United Methodist Church in Maryland and the District of Columbia during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Today, it is a highly-respected provider of early learning, mental health, and therapeutic residential services to more than 700 children and families across the mid-Atlantic.

BCC has invested in attaining national accreditations by both the Commission on Accreditation for Residential Facilities (CARF) and the United Methodist Association's Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence (EAGLE) Commission. Accreditations help ensure programs and operations meet and exceed industry best practices. In several cases, BCC has been nominated or won best practice awards from both groups.

The Bishops of each of the governing conferences, along with the boards of directors of BCC and UMHc, and our leadership teams, enthusiastically support this partnership. BCC is an excellent partner for UMHc due to its United Methodist history, traditions, core values, and methodology for delivering services.

Our next steps will be to work with the Pennsylvania State Attorney General and Cumberland County Orphan's Court to approve the transaction. It is anticipated that the merger will be completed in the fall of 2018.

We anticipate a smooth transition and will work collaboratively to ensure minimal disruption to our employees, children and operations. Select executive leadership positions at UMHC will be retired and new leadership positions will be announced in the coming weeks. For example, a new Director of Pennsylvania Programs will be added to align with BCC's regional leadership structure. As the current President and CEO of UHMC, I will be ending my tenure in the near future.

In addition, two Central Pennsylvania residents currently serving on the board of UMHC will become board members of BCC. The Bishop of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church also has the option to appoint a representative to the BCC Board to attend on behalf of the Conference.

As part of the merger, Laurie Anne Spagnola, President and CEO of BCC, will provide executive leadership to UMHC. Jackie Columbia, MS, LCSW, LCPC, a member of BCC's executive leadership team, will provide direct guidance and oversight to the Director of Pennsylvania Programs.

We will continue to share information as it becomes known with UMHC employees and key stakeholders. We are informing the children and families at UMHC in intentional ways so that any questions or concerns can be addressed.

Your continued support through this transition enables us to enrich our communities and serve Central Pennsylvania's children and families with the highest standards of care and support. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Brannen
President and CEO
United Methodist Home for Children

Son Light House
130 Carpenter Street
Muncy, Pa 17756

*Elmsport United Methodist Church
16145 S. Rt. 44 Hwy.
Allenwood, Pa 17810*

March 9, 2018

To: Members and Friends, Elmsport United Methodist Church:

On behalf of the Recipients, Volunteers and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, Thank You for your generous donation of "Cereal and Non-Perishable Food" received on March 8, 2018 at the Son Light House.

This donation will be distributed in March at the Son Light House.

The month of February, 431-Households received Food and Clothing or 971-Individuals, 244-Youth, 456-Adults, 271-Seniors and (5) New Households registered in February, 2018 at Son Light House.

Son Light House depends on the Community and local support with both Food and Monetary donations and not to forget our Volunteers making it possible to provide this service to the many families in need during the year.

Gratefully with God's Blessing,

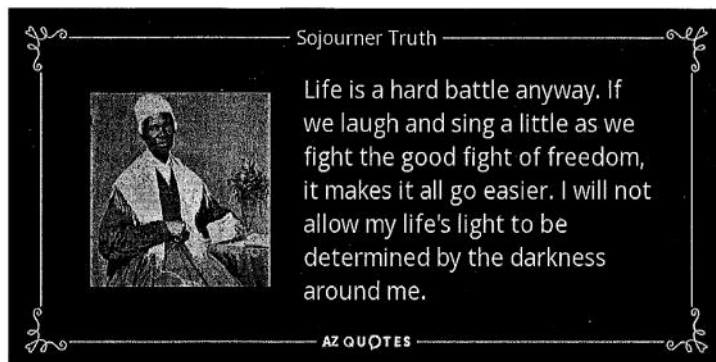
Ken & Delores Frey
Ken and Delores Frey
Directors, Son Light House
Muncy, Pa 17756

SPRING NEWSLETTER

2018

SOJOURNER TRUTH MINISTRIES, INC.

Reset Edition



Inside This Issue

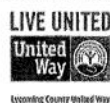
Explanation of Reset
Two New Events for "Kids"
Reset: Biblical perspective
Raise the Region

Vision Statement Sojourner Truth Ministries shall be a loving, spiritual, and inclusive Christian mission. **Mission Statement** Sojourner Truth Ministries loves all people, creates community, builds character, and equips us to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

S. T. M. Ministries is in reset mode. The Board, with heavy heart, felt it necessary to seek a new Director. While we are in reset, some things are on hold: weekday snacks, Bible and Prayer Study. Other things are still operating: Meals each day, distribution of fruits and vegetables on Tuesday, breads and pastries on Wednesdays and Sunday afternoon Worship (1:30 p.m.).

We heartily thank **Sister Velinda Webb-Smith** and her staff for their years of service to STM. Velinda has been involved from the foundation of the ministry. She has given heart and soul to "street/social ministry".

We also thank our supporting foundations:



Teacher: "Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?"
Glenn: "K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L"
Teacher: "No, that's wrong."
Glenn: "It may be wrong, but that's how I spell it."

There are many others who have given, served and provided since the last newsletter of January, 2018. This editor does not have a list, but the Ministry has benefitted greatly from the hand of Providence through YOU. Thank you all!!!

Ed. Note: This edition will be far from previous quality, but that's how I'm doing it!!!
-Jerry Cline, Ed.

Two new events

Just for **MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS**



Be a part of ending abuse and trafficking

Wednesdays **3:45-5:15** p.m.

Begins March 7 (12 weeks of activities, skill building, conversations, friendship, and learning your true value in God.)

Sojourner Truth Ministries 501 High St., Williamsport



PUPPY DOG "TALES"



– practice reading to a therapy dog!



Wednesdays 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16

Meet 'n Greet the dogs Wed. Feb 28, **3:30** p.m.!

Sojourner Truth Ministry, 501 High St., Williamsport

Change Agents empowers Middle School girls against abuse and trafficking through scripture stories, God's love and the value of each person. Parental permission required.

Dog Tales offers bi-weekly opportunity to "bone-up" on reading skills, reading to therapy dogs.

Please note: more volunteers are needed for these programs as support for child safety. Call Pastor Angelique at 610-428-5721

FROM THE EDITOR, JERRY CLINE

Psalm 102:16 NIV **For the LORD will rebuild Zion and appear in His glory.**

Many "resets" have been necessary in the community of believers from the time God called Abraham to establish those peculiar to the one true Lord. Sojourner Truth is in such a reset period. Not as earth-shaking as the period of rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile. And not quite as stressful as the rebuilding of the temple. But a reset just the same.

Nehemiah was given the privilege of rebuilding the walls. God used Cyrus (the Medo-Persian King prophesied by Isaiah 100 years earlier) and a host of Jews returning from exile to accomplish the work. And the tremendous statement is made, "the people had a mind to work". (Neh. 4:6) Work they did. With a sword in one hand and building equipment in the other, they finished the task in record time.

Neh. 6:16 "When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God."

The rebuilding isn't without it's sin, however. After the walls were rebuilt, and time was given to rebuild homes, the temple was to be started. But a strange thing happened. Materials were gathered, but the people said, "The time has not yet come to rebuild the LORD's house." (Haggai 1:2)

Meanwhile the paneling was disappearing from the temple area and reappearing in people's houses!

3 Then the LORD sent this message through the prophet Haggai: **4** "Why are you living in luxurious houses while my house lies in ruins? **5** This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: Look at what's happening to you! **6** You have planted much but harvest little. You eat but are not satisfied. You drink but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but cannot keep warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes! **7** "This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: Look at what's happening to you! **8** Now go up into the hills, bring down timber, and rebuild my house. Then I will take pleasure in it and be honored, says the LORD. **9** You hoped for rich harvests, but they were poor. And when you brought your harvest home, I blew it away. Why? Because my house lies in ruins, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, while all of you are busy building your own fine houses. **10** It's because of you that the heavens withhold the dew and the earth produces no crops. **11** I have called for a drought on your fields and hills—a drought to wither the grain and grapes and olive trees and all your other crops, a drought to starve you and your livestock and to ruin everything you have worked so hard to get." **12** Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of God's people began to obey the message from the LORD their God. When they heard the words of the prophet Haggai, whom the LORD their God had sent, the people feared the LORD. **13** Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, gave the people this message from the LORD: "I am with you, says the LORD!" **14** So the LORD sparked the enthusiasm of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the enthusiasm of Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the enthusiasm of the whole remnant of God's people. They began to work on the house of their God, the LORD of Heaven's Armies, **15** on September 21 of the second year of King Darius's reign. (Hag. 1 NLT)

Has Sojourner Truth Ministries been called and established by God? Is He calling us to "rebuild" His vision of this ministry? The Board thinks so and is in the process of doing just that in searching for a director and programs of ministry.

Anyone interested in the **Director's position** may log on the website (www.stmwilliamsport.org) or call President Len Richards at 570-323-8978.



March 14 and 15

We are encouraged to give funds through this means, as STM can earn extra money if we meet the criteria. One criterion is to have at least 10 different people/families give during the March 14-15 period.

See the next page for more information.

FROM OUR TREASURER, PHIL WOLF

Sojourner Truth Ministries Will Participate in the 2018 Raise the Region Fundraiser Event

The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) is sponsoring the Raise the Region 2018 event to support local non-profits' fundraising efforts. FCFP, in partnership with Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships will launch the 30-hour donation event for 501c3 qualified charities starting on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.

Sojourner Truth Ministries participated in this annual event in 2015, 2016 and 2017 and it has become a very important early year fundraising success and need for us.

So, on Wednesday, March 14 from 6:00 PM through 11:59PM on Thursday, March 15, you can visit www.raisetheregion.org, select the participating nonprofits of your choice, and gift by credit or debit card. Additionally, your gifts will be stretched by our share of a generous matching gift from Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships and various monetary prizes. We, of course, hope and pray that you will include Sojourner Truth for a generous gift. All gifts are tax deductible and you will receive documentation of your gift after the event.

For more information on how Raise the Region works, the sponsors, and event rules, please visit the www.raisetheregion.org website. Enter Sojourner Truth Ministries in the box to go to our site and to donate during the event. This is critical to the financial welfare of Sojourner Truth Ministries.

SOJOURNER TRUTH MINISTRIES
501 HIGH STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

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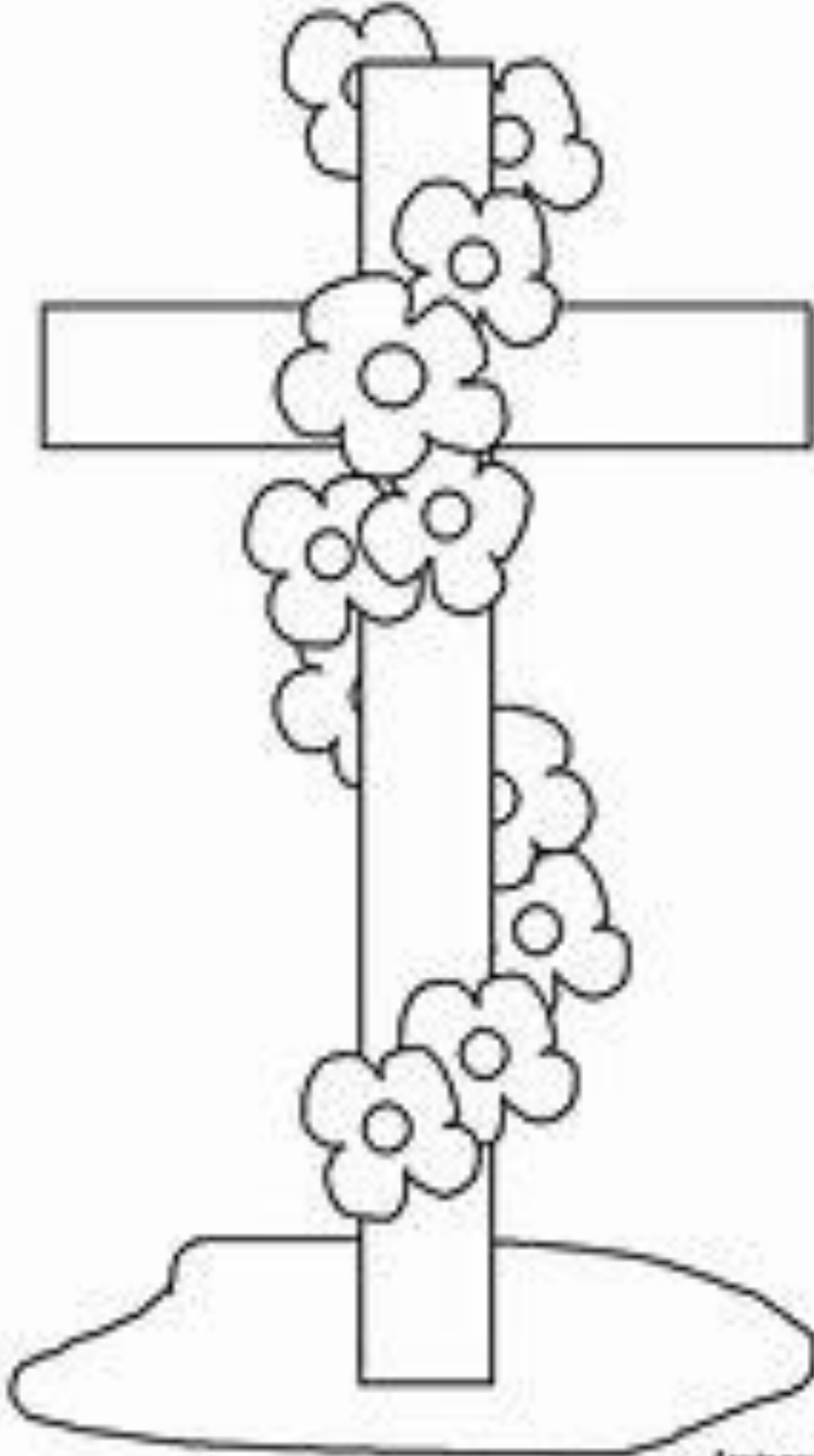
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MARCIA RHONE
ST JOHN'S UMC MISSION CHAIR
1110 RIDGE RD
MONTGOMERY PA 17752-8774

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Kid's Corner



ELIMSPORT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST PARISH

Worship Schedule:

Elimsport UMC

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

St. John's UMC

Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am

Parish Youth Group

Check weekly Bulletin for current schedule and events
(at Elimsport)

Parish Bible Study

Varies according to the season.

Parish Office:

16145S. RT 44 HWY
Allenwood, PA 17810

Parsonage Phone:

(570) 547-1386

Pastor Mike's Cell:

(570) 974-8590

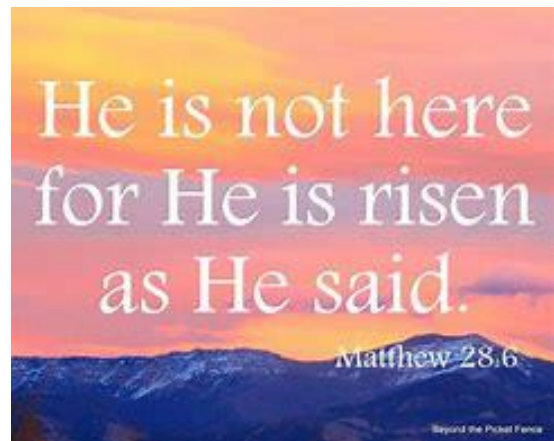
Parish Website:

www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org



Our Mission Statement at Elimsport UMC



We gather together as a community of Christian believers to worship, fellowship, and to learn more about God. By the unity of the Spirit and the support of each other, we are able to reach out to the community and the world.

Our Mission Statement at St. John's UMC



The purpose of St. John's is to both evangelize and nurture. We are called to show God's love in our world by giving aid and by spreading the Good News of Christ. We in turn provide an atmosphere for nurturing where Biblical truths are shared enabling people to become spiritually enriched. By providing this, people will learn and through learning, become more effective witnesses.