

# Valley Views



VOLUME 27, NUMBER 3

MARCH 2020



Pastor Mike Hill

## Spiritual Spring Cleaning

When spring arrives, more sunlight brightens your home as the days grow longer, and fresh air blows in once the temperatures warm up enough to open your windows. But all the light and fresh air reveal what you may not have noticed during the dark, cold days of winter: Your house is a mess. It's not fun to see the clutter and dirt that needs to be cleaned up around your house, but the more light and air that flow in, the more motivated you are to do some spring cleaning.

Spring cleaning can be more than just a chore, however. It can actually be exciting if you use the time to start cleaning up something far greater than your house: your soul. The closer you get to Jesus – the Light of the world – and the more you invite the Holy Spirit to blow the fresh air of His love into your life, the more you become aware of how messy your soul has become. Thankfully, there's no sin too messy for God to clean up when you follow His divine cleaning plan of confession, repentance, and reconciliation.

So while you're spring cleaning your house, invite God to clean your soul. Here's how:

**Eliminate clutter.** Get rid of distractions that block your intimacy with God. Take an honest look at what might be interfering with making your relationship with God your top priority. Are you devoting more time and energy to working, watching TV, shopping, playing sports, socializing with friends, pursuing a hobby, or something else than you're devoting to time with God? How much time are you really

spending doing activities that nurture your connection with God, such as praying; participating in church; and reading, studying, and meditating on the Bible? Are frazzled thoughts cluttering your inner life, or are you making time regularly for quiet reflection, and asking the Holy Spirit to renew your mind? Eliminate clutter in your schedule and your mind to create space to focus on what's truly important.



**Scrub away dirt and disinfect.** Cleanse dirty attitudes and behaviors and purify your soul. What kinds of filthy attitudes are lurking in your soul? Are you harboring bitterness against people who have hurt you? Do you entertain judgmental thoughts about people you don't like? Are you infected with anger, fear, or selfishness? How do impure behaviors affect your life? Are you struggling with a bad habit or even an addiction that causes trouble whenever it rears its ugly head? Pray about each dirty attitude and behavior, asking God to help you clean up each specific one. Whenever negative thoughts enter your mind, purposefully replace them with positive ones that reflect biblical truth. Whenever you're tempted to slide back into a bad behavior, pray for God to empower you to resist and overcome temptation.

**Vacuum.** Suck up everyday annoyances and persistent resentments that will stain your soul if you let them accumulate. Keep short accounts with people rather than letting issues between you pile up and spill over into dirty arguments. Ask God to help you learn how to deal well with difficult people and those whose personalities differ significantly from yours. Whenever people offend you in minor ways, be willing to let the issues go. Whenever people offend you in major ways, be willing to forgive them and reconcile if possible. Remember that God expects you to forgive others since He has forgiven you. Trust Him to empower you through each step in the forgiveness process. Do all you can to live at peace with others and resolve conflicts quickly and wisely.

**Dust.** Wipe away vestiges of the past that are hindering you from moving into the future with confidence. Ask God to show you ways you need healing from past traumas and losses. Then patiently work through the healing process as God leads you, from prayer and journaling to support groups and counseling. Expect that each time you deal with one layer of dust from your past, you can see a bit more clearly as you move into the future.

**Polish.** Make your relationships shine by serving others as God leads you. Be creative about figuring out how often you can bless others through your words and actions. Remember that even a brief encouraging comment or small act of kindness can make a significant, positive difference in someone's life. Every day, look for opportunities to encourage or help the people with whom you come into contact. Be willing to commit to longer-term service (such as volunteering for special projects) when you sense God calling you to do so.

**Organize.** Rearrange your life so you can dream new dreams. Clear out your own agenda and invite God to show you His dreams for your life. Then build your decisions for how to use your resources (time, energy, talent, money, etc.) around pursuing those dreams, so you can focus on what's important without being sidetracked by what's urgent. Set specific and measurable goals to help you move closer to fulfilling God's dreams for you. Check your progress regularly, and make whatever adjustments you need to make to keep your life organized well.





January 27, 2020

Elimsport  
United Methodist Church  
16145 S Hwy 44  
Allenwood, PA 17810

*"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you"*  
**Matthew (28:19-20)**

Dear Friends in Mission,

**Thank you!**

Your financial support is enabling Global Ministries missionaries to fulfill the mission of the Church.

Through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in more than 60 countries around the world.

Nearly 400 United Methodist missionaries come from many places and backgrounds, witnessing and serving in dramatically different locales and cultures, engaging in a range of activities and professions as pastors, educators, congregational and leadership developers, regional coordinators for UMCOR, agriculturalists, health coordinators, and doctors.

On behalf of the people who are recipients of the love of God through the direct ministry of a Global Missions missionary – *Thank You!*

Grace and Peace,

Thomas G. Kemper, General Secretary

Roland Fernandes, COO and General Treasurer

**Supporting**

James Keech

James Keech

**Gift Amount**

\$ 83.33

\$ 83.33

**Total Gift Amount** \$ 166.66

Date Received 12-31-19

Account #17960

Please retain this letter as your receipt. In compliance with IRS regulations, no goods or services were provided by the General Board of Global Ministries in consideration of your contribution.

†  
SON  
LIGHT HOUSE  
**REFLECTIONS**

Son Light House – 130 Carpenter Street, Muncy, PA 17756 – Phone: 570-546-3585 February 2020

**Son Light House**, established in 1982, is a non-profit, ecumenical, and community-supported resource that distributes food, clothing, and limited furniture to individuals and families in need and that qualify on family income guidelines set up by state and federal policies. Son Light House serves individuals and families in eastern Lycoming County. Son Light House is an equal opportunity provider.

many individuals, families, churches, as well as business and civic organizations was heartwarming. "Thank you" was the constant refrain from the recipients.

**"Thank You" to These Recent Supporters**

**In Memory of Mary Ashkar:** from the Mary Ashkar estate; **in honor of Lynn and Mike Feller** from Norman and Gail Cobb.

He shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save (Psalm 72:12-13). The verses from Psalm 72 hopefully will inspire us to continue to rescue the poor when they are afflicted.

**Households and Individuals Served**

	Households	Individuals	New Hlds.
Nov	536	1,363	19
Dec	546	1,492	9
Jan	410	1,002	10

**Son Light House – for All Ages**

	Children	Adults	Seniors
Nov	415	647	301
Dec	501	696	295
Jan	304	446	252

**Monthly Average of Recipients in 2019**

The average number of households coming each month to Son Light House in 2019 was 430 representing 1,045 average monthly recipients.

**New Households in 2019**

A total of 103 new households came to Son Light House last year for assistance.

**Christmas – Many Helping Hands**

Many contributed in various ways to the Christmas distributions of food and gifts to families and individuals. Among those helping were Meagan Murray and those supporting Meagan's Box; and the volunteers and supporters of Touch a Heart. The support received from

**Individuals and Families** who have recently supported Son Light House include: LizAnn Barlett, Oliver Bartlett, Dean and Joy Barto, Ken Blessing, Kermit and Maryann Breon, Lou and Joanne Cromley, Joseph and Marian Deitrick, David and Sally Dunmire, Wilma Fish, Bob and Lana Forse, Alan and Bonnie Foust, Francis and Kathy Frantz, Dan and Amy Gardner, Rev. Mike and Sally Gardy, Ken and Tolanda Geromi, Nathan and Kathryn Grenoble, Richard and Rose Hafer, Lea Ann Hawk, Paul and Iva Heise, Ed and Sylvia Herman, Jeff and Helen Hiserman, Oliver and Patricia Holmes, Bonnie Houseknecht, Gary Jenney, John and Luanne Libbey, Dan and Melinda Ludwig, Roger and Lois Lupold, Gene and Carol McCarty, John and Pat Merrifield, Robert Mertz, Victoria Michael, Craig and Linda Miller, John and Barb Miller, Vivian Mills, Jim and Betsy Mothersbaugh, David Moyer, Meagan Murray, Anita Nagpal, Arlene Opp, Bob and Carol Perry, Mona Pettenger, Yvonne Poust, Bill and Margaret Ring, Paul Rovinski, Sandra Schreiber, Paul and Donna Shaner, Carla Sheets, Phil and Betty Soohy, Rodney and Karen Spring, Clara Wall, Richard and Jill Warg, Rev. Max and Diann Walters, Paul Wentzler, Delores Wolf.

**Churches and Church Organizations** for their recent support: Beacon United Methodist Church (UMC), Hughesville; Church of the Resurrection, Muncy; Clinton Baptist Church, Montgomery; Crossroads Church, Muncy; Elimsport UMC; Faith Church, Lairdsville; First UMC, Muncy; Franklin Fairview UMC, Unityville; Grace Presbyterian Church, Montgomery; Kedron UMC, Muncy Valley; Lungerville Christian Church, Unityville; Messiah St. James Lutheran Parish, Muncy; Mill Creek UMC, Montoursville; Moreland Baptist Church, Muncy; Mt. Zion

Lutheran Church, Hughesville; Muncy Presbyterian Church; New Life Church, Pennsdale; Picture Rocks Baptist Church; Pleasant View Wesleyan Church, Muncy; Route 405 Church of God, Hughesville; St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Muncy; St. James Episcopal Church, Exchange; St. James Lutheran Church, Muncy; St. John Lutheran Church, Montgomery; St. Marks Church, Lairdsville; Trinity Assembly of God, Montoursville; Trinity Lutheran Church, Hughesville; Trinity UMC, Pennsdale.

**Community Businesses and Organizations** that recently made generous donations of money, food, or services include: Construction Specialties, Muncy; Kiwanis Club of Muncy Area; Koppers Inc., Montgomery; Michael's Insurance Agency, Muncy; Muncy Garden Club; Roger Myers Insurance Company, Muncy; Paralegal Assist, LLC, Hughesville; Pennsdale Senior Citizens; Pepper Insurance, Pennsdale; Physicians Family Practice, Hughesville; Picture Rocks Senior Citizens; Preceptor Lambda Sorority, Montoursville; Spring Window Fashions, Montgomery; T J Market, Hughesville; Edward J Smith Post, VFW, Hughesville; Weis Markets, Muncy and Sunbury; Woodlands Bank, Pennsdale; 39+ Club, Hughesville.

**Schools and Youth Groups** for their recent support: Askar Elementary School, Hughesville; Pre-School at Beacon UMC, Hughesville; East Lycoming Junior/Senior High School, Hughesville; Robert Ferrell Elementary School, Picture Rocks; Muncy Junior/Senior High School; Myers Elementary School, Muncy; Nancy's Sunday School Class at St John Lutheran Church, Montgomery; Renn Elementary School, Lairdsville.

#### **Son Light House Hours of Operation:**

##### **Donations:**

Every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday 7:00 am – 10:00 am

Food, clean, usable, seasonable clothing, toys, and furniture may be donated only at this time.

##### **Distributions:**

Two weeks a month on Wednesday from 8:00 am – noon and Thursday 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm as follows:

##### Distribution Dates:

February 5+ - 6+, 19-20

March 4+ - 5+, 18-19

April 1+\* - 2+\*, 15-16 \*Easter distribution

May 6+ - 7+, 20-21

June 3+ - 4+, 17-18

+ Senior Boxes – for eligible seniors

##### **How Can I/We Help?**

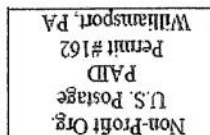
Prayers, volunteers, money, and food donations – especially cereal -- are always needed. For more information or to get involved, contact **Son Light House** by calling Ken and Delores Frey at 546-3585.

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St. John's Methodist Church  
715 Pikes Peak Rd  
Allenwood PA 17810

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Son Light House  
130 Carpenter Street  
Muncy, PA 17756





### Acolyte Schedule:

3/1 Mitchell & Mallorie  
3/8 Jackson & Samuel  
3/15 Elizabeth & Mitchell  
3/22 Mallorie & Garrett  
3/29 Jackson & Samuel



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



## Elimsport Volunteers

Weather permitting, Parish Bible  
Study is on Tuesday evenings at  
6:30 at the Elimsport church. We  
are continuing in the Book of  
Psalms.



- Items for April's newsletter are due March **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.)*

### Greeters for March

March 1	Bob & Hilda Sampsell
March 8	Joe & Lauren Bryson & family
March 15	Jennifer Springman & family
March 22	Deb Salvatori
March 29	Carlene Moore



## Confirmation Class



We are forming a confirmation class for any youth 12 - 18 yrs. old who has turned 12 or older in 2019. This class we be choosing a mentor to journey with them through the confirmation journey. The journey will begin and we will be presenting the students and their mentors on Palm Sunday, April 5th during worship at each church. Confirmation Sunday will tentatively be Sunday, November 22nd. If anyone is interested, please contact Pastor Mike.

A bulletin board (magnetic white board) is available in the Elimsport Fellowship Hall for posting of community events or items of interest. Please feel free to post your events or even items for sale. Everyone is encouraged to use it.



# MARCH

k25893150 fotosearch.com

There will be a meeting on Sunday, March 22nd at 6:00 at the Elimsport church for confirmands and their parents.



This will be a short informational meeting. If anyone cannot attend but wants to be confirmed, please let Pastor Mike know.

As the season of lent is approaching, so is the preparation for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. This year, the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 11th at 10am on the church softball field. If anybody would like to donate their time stuffing eggs, we will be doing this after church. We will gladly accept monetary donations or even candy. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jenn Springman at (570) 412-6141 or [jennray76@hotmail.com](mailto:jennray76@hotmail.com) Thank you in advance!

Anyone who would feel led to be a confirmation mentor to one of our confirmands, please let Pastor Mike or Christa McCormick know.





# Kid's Corner



# SPRING

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# **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](http://www.evpumc.org)

### **Parish email:**

[elimsportumc@gmail.com](mailto:elimsportumc@gmail.com)

[www.evpumc.org](http://www.evpumc.org)



*Sing*

the glory of His name,  
Make His praise  
glorious!  
Psalm 66:2

### **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.