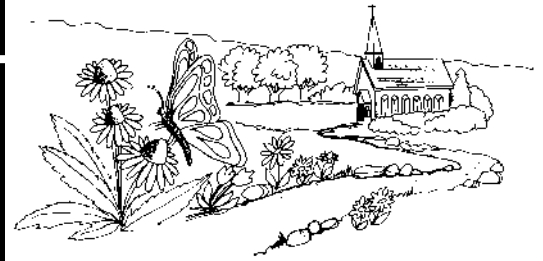


# Valley Views



VOLUME 23, NUMBER 5

MAY 2016



Pastor Mike Hill

I recently came across a recipe for Mississippi Mud Cake by Paula Deen. Many of us know of her because she is a celebrity chef on a popular cooking show on television. She also operates her own restaurant with her sons and has published fourteen cookbooks. Now you would say she is credible and knows her stuff. What would you do if you were watching her show and she was teaching how to make Mississippi Mud Cake and told you to add 2 cups of mud? Would you just do it or would you double check the recipe to see if she was correct. After all, isn't it called Mississippi "Mud" Cake? Maybe you heard her wrong. Maybe you had made this cake before and don't remember the recipe saying to add mud. Surely you would double-check the recipe to make sure and maybe even check some other recipes to see if they agree.

Today our culture and the Christian church often times puts mud in the Word of God simply because someone tells them to. What I'm talking about is, false teaching that clouds the Word of God and is really not part of the truth of the Bible. No matter whether we are in front of the television or sitting in church, we should have our Bibles open and be aware of what is being taught to us. Most Bibles today have study notes in them that help us to understand what is in the Bible. There are also commentaries galore for us to examine. These are the only surefire ways to know that what we are hearing is true so that we don't just listen to the teacher and believe. If we just simply listen and believe, it will be like putting mud in the recipe and the end result will be a sickening error. We might think that just because she's Paula Deen she knows what she is talking about and in turn we put mud in our mix because we foolishly believe her. However, this is a dangerous way to bake. We are all human and sometimes we are just wrong.

Peter deals with this kind of problem in 2 Peter chapter 2. False teachers had become a problem for the early church because of the selfish motives of those false teachers who were trying to divide the church and gain popularity for themselves. Peter really comes down hard on false teachers and rightly so. Today, we can't be as harsh as Peter or others point fingers and accuse us of being mean and Un-Christian.

God's Word was not written to be spacers sitting in our pews or on our book shelves, it's there so we can open it and make sure that what we are hearing is true. That's why Paul taught from the scriptures, as did every true teacher since. Every time we sit before someone teaching about God's Word, we should open our Bibles and read the text, read the study notes and make sure, like someone double-checking the recipe for Mississippi Mud Cake. As your pastor, I don't want you to get the recipe wrong, even when I am teaching. I urge you all to read your Bibles, read your notes in your Bibles, and follow along in your Bibles when we worship. There is nothing sweeter than God's Word taught and understood correctly. Well, maybe I'm wrong about that. Maybe Mississippi Mud Cake is sweeter. Let's see what the Bible says about that in **Psalm 119:103-104 (KJV)**

<sup>103</sup> How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

<sup>104</sup> Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

Grace through God's Word

Pastor Mike



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### **An Invitation to Celebrate the Ministry of Our District Superintendent**

*"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up..." – Ephesians 4:11-12*

**Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!**

The Apostle Paul's words to the Ephesians stand as a living reminder to the Church that God has gifted us with leaders to empower us for ministry in a fallen world. The burden of leadership is often a thankless one, and as many of us can attest: the more responsibility a leader has, the less likely he or she is to be properly thanked.

God has graced the clergy and laity of the Lewisburg District for the last eight years with the leadership of Tom Salsgiver. On Sunday, May 1, 2016 we will have the opportunity to properly express our thanksgiving for Tom's ministry among us, as we gather for worship at Wesley United Methodist Church in Bloomsburg, PA. Together we will encounter God's grace through song, Scripture, witness, and Holy Communion.

As part of our celebration, a mass choir comprised of clergy and laity from our district will offer one of Tom's favorite anthems. Likewise, Mr. Dan Stokes, a renowned musician and clinician (and long-time friend of Tom's) will be joining in the celebration from the organ.

Below you will find all the specific information for this event. We look forward to a meaningful and inspirational time of worship as we celebrate Tom's ministry as the Lewisburg Area District Superintendent.

In Christ's Service,  
Rev. Randall G. Bennett, Jr.  
Christ Community U.M.C., Selinsgrove

**Event: Celebration of Ministry for Rev. Dr. Thomas Salsgiver**

**When: Sunday, May 1, 2016 at 3:00p.m.**

**Where: Wesley United Methodist Church located at the corner of Market and Third Streets in Bloomsburg, PA 17815**

**Attire: Business Casual**

**\*\*\* Reception to follow. Information regarding Tom and Joanne's gift is forthcoming in a separate announcement.**



Grab your scuba gear and snorkel because our VBS Deep Sea Discovery is just around the corner! This year, our young divers will be jumping into the sea for an adventure of a lifetime. They will dive into God's word to learn that God KNOWS me, God HEARS me, God STRENGTHENS me, God LOVES me, and God SENDS me. This deep sea adventure will be taking place July 11-15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am- 11:30 am. Please

send out deep sea signals to any young divers to let them know we need their help for our adventure! We are also sending out an S.O.S. for diving instructors to join our discovery crew. If interested in helping in any way, please contact Crew Leaders Shayna Rourke or Taryn Myers or speak with Pastor Mike. You can also fill out your crew member interest form in your bulletin, and return it to any of the above crew members.

If you have any questions, please contact Crew Leaders Shayna Rourke and Taryn Myers, or Pastor Mike.



#### JOB DESCRIPTION:

YOUTH COORDINATOR OF ELIMSPORT VALLEY PARISH, MARCH 17, 2016

The Director of Youth/Children ministries of the ElimSPORT Valley Parish is an extension of the pastor in providing leadership within the parish.

#### Qualifications:

The Director of Youth ministries must possess exceptional communication and interpersonal skills, be able to work with the pastor and other staff or volunteers within the parish. This person should have the gifts and graces to minister to children and youth. They must maintain a high regard for the mission of the church and Christian discipleship.

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

- Coordinate the youth ministry (grades 6 – 12) of the Parish.
- Plan, organize and lead a youth program.
- Organize field trips and service projects with the youth.
- Be available to youth in a nurturing and supportive role.
- Plan, organize, and lead an annual Youth Sunday worship service.
- Publicize the programs.
- Appropriate Act clearances would need to be obtained.
- Salary per year: \$3,388.
- Active member of either church and present in weekly worship service and fellowship events

## Be Flexible

Be flexible, was not a truer statement than the week of April 9<sup>th</sup> thru April 16<sup>th</sup> 2016. Twenty-eight Williamsport District Volunteers in Mission applying in January, paying \$250.00, traveling for 12 hours, arrived in Sumter, South Carolina expecting to help repair a few of the 2,000 homes damaged in a recent storm.

April 7<sup>th</sup> we were notified the disaster relief office was just handed our applications from the main office. You will be replacing four roofs. "WHAT???" Please, look at the roster, average ages 60-74, sixteen are women, look at our abilities; 1 certified electrician; 3 retired contractors; experienced plumbers; experienced in dry wall, experienced painters; AND we stated, we would do NO roofs." From past experience, Sumter Disaster Relief committee does not take stock in applications. They claim the abilities written were glorified as to the actual capabilities.

Sunday: for those who were able to travel Saturday, headed early for Myrtle Beach, which was 125 miles away. We watched our kids (34) meet the ocean and Praise God for it and the sand, had morning devotions, and walked the boardwalk, returning to Sumter to visit with the 7 varieties of swans at Swan Lake.

Monday: we were divided in to Crews 1 and 2 to do roofs, Crew 3 replacing a small piece of flooring, Crew 4 dry walling and etc. Crews 1 & 2 worked quite late to secure covering for where old roof was removed. Crew 3 discovered a large part of the floor needed replaced. On top of that, the sewage was emptying into the crawl space under the trailer. Two of our men volunteered to put on hazmat suits and dip the raw sewage out.

Thursday: a third man volunteered to crawl under and GLUE the pipes together.

Tuesday: we woke up to pouring rain. Crews were divided into projects 3 & 4, a crew drove miles to look at sites requiring only a day's work; and 1 person cleaned at our host church.

Tuesday afternoon: four of our crew went to help a lady remove books from her home into storage. The owner and her husband bought an old plantation house in 1975. She woke up one morning after the storm, very ill. It was discovered surface water had flowed under the house and had taken out a pillar. The illness came from the mold that had started underneath and had gone to the third floor.

Monday thru Wednesday: I was on Crew 1 doing roof and seeking out sites. Although I did go on the roof, I was 95% of the time on the ground with the cleanup crew and visiting with the owner and her son, Robert. Robert was in a car acci-

dent at the age of 15. Now fifteen years later, he is still in a wheel chair. Because of his disabilities, he has not been able to hold onto any jobs for any period of time. His mother works at Wal-Mart.

#### NO WORK SITES:

Wednesday: 2 of our team found a men's shelter near our host U.M. church and volunteered to clean their kitchen. After that they purchased the food for Thursday night's "Thank You" for allowing us into your home to serve you.

Thursday: 4 (including me) did more shopping, cooking, and setting up of tables and chairs.

Friday: my birthday, 3 of us removed our leftovers from the kitchen and took them to the men's shelter where we divided it into smaller portions. (It was food distribution day,) then we handed out T-shirts from the U.M. Albright Care Center in PA. After lunch, we just hung out until the rest of the crews returned and showed.

It was, in ways, like we were on vacation. Every morning instead of the usual cereals and toast, etc., we were guests at Shoney's breakfast buffet. Two evening meals were provided by the Presbyterian Church. Friday we expected to return to the Presbyterian Church only to have J. D., who met us every morning at Shoney's, come at 5:30 to give us directions to a cabin belonging to the Shoney's owner. After watching the alligators swim, we were treated to a delicious meal of brisket, coleslaw, baked beans, rolls, ice cream and cake.

The second floor of the cabin, which is rented out for weddings, was all open space looking out over first floor. It had sitting room furniture and a screen for brides to dress. Cabins were taxed by the number of bedrooms in them.

The best part of the trip was the fellowship of 28 people becoming brothers and sisters, like family, in Christ. And the love and gratefulness shown to us by the homeowners, we got to work for.

For those who questioned me about going, my only problem was the odor of all the new air mattress provided for us. I was immediately given a cot and my own sleeping quarters. And I stood in the rain while the other 5 went into the plantation house with the owner to see if any of our crew could help remove items.

Kay E. Showers





### **Youth Fellowship Happenings**

May 1	7:00pm	Meeting at Tweet's. Beach commitment sign up.
May 7	10:00am	Meet at the church or at community service home in Montgomery to stain deck.
May 8		No meeting. Mother's Day
May 15	6:30pm	Meeting at Tweet's. Beach commitment/permission sheets and money due.
May 22	7:00pm	Meeting at Tweet's
May 29		No meeting. Memorial Day Weekend

### **Acolyte Schedule**

5/1/16 Jenna & Laura

5/8/16 Jackson & Mitchell

5/15/16 Mallorie & Clara

5/22/16 Kendall & Elizabeth

5/29/16 Ben & Tyler

6/5/16 Jenna & Laura

6/12/16 Elizabeth & Mallorie

6/19/16 Clara & Kendall

6/26/16 Mitchell & Jackson

7/3/16 Ben & Tyler



The Youth will be having Fundraisers at Wendy's in Muncy on the following dates:

June 21st

September 20th

December 13th

All times are 5:00 - 8:00 pm.



Come and help support our Youth!

Call or email Tweet with any questions.





Like Mother  
Like Daughter

There will be a Mother/Daughter Banquet at St. John's Church on Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:30 pm. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy a fun evening.



The scheduling of the church sidewalk and parking lot project is progressing. The concrete work is scheduled for the 2nd or 3rd week of May and the paving work is scheduled for the 3rd or 4th week of May. Your continued prayerful consideration of this project and your continued contributing toward this project is requested.

Dear Church family,

Thank you for your prayers and all the beautiful cards since my last surgery.



Michele Drick



Blood Drives: All 2-7 pm

- Tues., June 9th, 2016 @ Fire Hall
- Tues., August 9th, 2016 @ Fire Hall
- Tues., October 11th, 2016 @ Elimsport UMC

Debbie Salvatori's sister, Pam is sponsoring a bus trip to Longwood Gardens on May 14th. She is raising money toward the fight for Breast Cancer. She will be walking in NYC in October in an event called AVON39. Each participant must raise \$1,800.00. Please consider helping her reach her goal by joining us! Call Debbie with any questions at (570) 772-2443.



Hello Patty, (St. John's Wednesday's Ladies) Thanks for the beautiful green cover. Frank was always cold, so he liked to snuggle under the cover when he sat in his rocking chair. Its wonderful what you ladies do, making things for others to use. Thanks again and keep up the good work.

Lots of Love,

Irene Nonemaker

## Elimsport Volunteers

### **Greeters for May**

May 1	Retta Moore
May 8	Keith McCormick
May 15	Frank Voneida
May 22	Bob & Renie Kahley
May 29	Les & Elenora Lutz



- Items for June's newsletter are due May 20th.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by Thursday morning each week.  
(Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)



*Jesus Brings Salvation*



# **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)



### **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.