



**Jonestown United**  
**Methodist Church**

**February 2024 Newsletter**

From the Pastor:

I believe I understand Solomon – even though I am nowhere in the league of his wisdom – who once said “there is nothing new under the sun”... I will be using as an inspiration/guide a study by Magrey deVega for a Lenten series at Jonestown UMC entitled “*Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times*” starting February 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be a study with a title you might think was created “since-Covid”. But uncertainty, unsteady times are not new. I will be adding a bit of a different vantage point to the study than Magrey, but I think we as Christians need to consider that things may not be as different from times past when it comes to human personal challenges. The Bible indeed speaks to the times we live in with a profound relevance. Oh, to be sure, transportation, technology, teachings in science and math and the dangers of world as well as how we speak of them may be different, but the human heart, spiritual longings or aversions, capacity to do good or harm continue to bless or curse our lives across time spanning not only our individual lives – but also reaching into the past as well as the future. The Bible teaches us about the journey across time, speaking to the past, the future, and the for us – the present as a journey with God and among others as a journey of faith, joy, peace, hope, freedom... The sin of Adam and Eve is not less or more powerful than the root of sin we each face today or that which our children and grandchildren face. The glorious trust as well is the power of the love of God and the redemption and offer of new life He extends to us in Jesus continue to be able to reconnect us with God, set us free from the things that imprison us or empty us of the fulness of life God created us to have in union with Him. Jesus said, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10) and “... if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:36) Even in the presence and challenges and difficulties – He tells us and His disciples... “If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and remain in His love. I have told you these things so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you....” (John 15: 10-12) God desires for His people to live in the midst of a world filled with war, strife, dissention, antagonism, arrogant attacks, and fear – “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled; (Con’t next page...)”

**PONDER with  
Lewis....**

**Follow The  
Rules**



The Book of Leviticus is a book of rules and laws which show God’s tender concern for the health, safety and moral purity of His people.

Luke 2: 21-40 Tell us that after Jesus birth, Mary and Joseph did what Hebrew parents had done thousands of years. They followed The Law of Moses concerning circumcision and rites of purification. (see Leviticus 12). By choosing to follow these rules, Mary and Joseph are beginning the faithful work of raising Jesus according to the scriptures. However, what they don’t know is that there will be special events that will take place to give them special affirmation of who and what this child will be when they take Jesus to the temple when He is 40 days old,

[Con’t Next Page]

**Next News:**

***March Newsletter***

***Deadline***

***Sunday, Feb. 18th***

Jonestown United Methodist

109 West Market Street

PO Box 750

Jonestown, PA 17038

Phone: (717) 865-4369

Email:

[info@jonestownumc.org](mailto:info@jonestownumc.org)

Web: [www.jonestownumc.org](http://www.jonestownumc.org)

Facebook: Jonestown United  
Methodist Church

(Con't from the Pastor:

do not be afraid.” (John 14:27) When despair comes knocking, I hear Paul declaring... “... I (we!) glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” (Romans 5: 3-5).

You have heard me mention these verses over and over again simply because they are foundations I stand on during the uncertain times I and we face day after day. I pray them. I meditate on them. They are not a closet I crawl into during unsteady and uncertain times, they are a foundation I stand on in the midst of them. They’re the path I travel on. As we make our way to the profound declaration of Easter – “HE LIVES!”, I look forward to reminding myself and our congregation each week of the powerful faith that leads us through unsteady and uncertain times. ~Pastor Al.

### **February CARE TEAM**

#### ***Week of Feb. 4th***

**Pam Gray 717-865-3997**

#### ***Week of Feb. 11th***

**Jim and Judy Mowry 717-279-0809**

#### ***Week of Feb. 18th***

**Ingrid Steiner 717-585-4001**

#### ***Week of Feb. 25th***

**Karen Bene 717-673-2833**

“Tools for Ministry” – February 24<sup>th</sup> “Tools for Ministry” – a training opportunity for people serving in various ways in the local church will be held February 24<sup>th</sup> at Salem United Methodist Church in Manheim, PA. Details regarding what topics and ministries will be highlighted this year are still being formulated. Currently this is all the information we have, but trust that time (usually in the morning until noon) and topics will be forthcoming shortly. Watch the weekly bulletin for further information.

**YOGA STRETCHING** will resume again the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30am. Please see Lori Jackson for additional details if you are interested.

[PONDER Con't] they meet Simeon and Anna, who prophesy that Jesus is the Christ. Jesus is declared God’s plan of salvation for all nations. Furthermore, in Simeon’s meeting of Jesus, God fulfills His promise that Simeon would not die before seeing the Messiah.

In an article by Amy Bird Entitled- “God’s Miracles With Our Choices”, Amy states that recent studies suggest that, for the average person, they make around 35,000 choices per day. That seems unbelievable, but she states you need to consider-check your phone, put on clothing, pour a cup of coffee, etc. If so, consider these verses.

Psalm 119: 97 “Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.:

Psalm 119: 105 “Your word is a lamp to my feet and light for my path.”

“For whatever life holds for you and your family, weave the unfailing fabric of God’s Word through your heart and mind. It will hold strong, even if the rest of life unravels.” Gigi G. Tehividjian

### **PLAN NOW FOR A 2024 MISSION TRIP**

Plans are now beginning for a trip to Red Bird Mission in Henderson, KY next Summer:

**June 23-28, 2024**

See Steve Yeagley for information and also to help plan the trip if you are interested.

Souper Bowl Sunday: Since February 11<sup>th</sup> is Super Bowl Sunday, and since we need additional soup for JOY Food Pantry, we are doing some Souper Sundays before then, so you can bring in some additional soups to donate. They can use chicken rice and noodle, and stars, and cream soups, and tomato, also chunky soups. Please put these in the basket in the narthex. Thanks for your generous help!

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MOVIE MATINEE “Jesus”: Sunday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at Emmanuel UMC Indiantown Gap from 2:00pm-4:00pm

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BE OUR GUEST MEAL: Will be on February 24, the last Saturday of the month. All members of our congregation and the community are invited. As our Guest-you will be served a choice of various soups ( including chicken corn noodle), sides and desserts-seconds are welcome!! All at no cost to you our guest!! Please invite your family and friends to join us from 4:30pm-6:30pm. Please mark your calendar!!

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MID WINTER SOCIAL: on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm, buffet style dinner feat. Apricot chicken & glazed pork loin \$20 person. Everyone welcome - you don't need a partner! Don't know how to dance? We will help you learn! Or just come enjoy the food & fellowship! Please sign up asap - we need the total # of guests and payment by Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>. For payment, questions or special needs See Lori Jackson, Steve Clark or Pam Gray.

### Lenten/Easter Services:

2/14: ASH WEDNESDAY: Jonestown UMC: Pastor Brian Rhea *Creation*  
2/18: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: The Desperate Father : Uncertain Faith  
2/21: Ono UMC: Pastor Tom Robinson *Wrath of God*  
2/25: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Peter : Uncertain Forgiveness  
2/28: Bellegrove UMC: Pastor Rob Faller *Fallenness of Humanity*  
3/3: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: The Crowd : Uncertain Worry  
3/6: Immanuel UMC at the Gap: Pastor Alan Smith *The Cross*  
3/10: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Lazarus : Uncertain Mortality  
3/13: Trinity UMC Lickdale: Pastor Tim Smith *Sanctification*  
3/17: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Zacchaeus : Uncertain Surrender  
3/20: Fredericksburg UMC: Pastor W. Matthew Whayland *Full Redemption*  
3/24: Palm Sunday: Jesus : Uncertain Obedience  
3/28: Holy Thursday: The Upper Room Communion  
3/29: Good Friday: Tenebrae Service of the Cross  
3/31: Easter Sunday: He is Risen! A Certain Hope  
6:30AM: Sunrise Service  
8:45 and 11AM: Worship  
10AM: Sunday School

## **FEBRUARY MISSION PARTNER**

Special offering for February is for JOY Pantry.

## **DECEMBER FINANCIAL UPATE**

Budgeted for **December** = \$11, 650.00

Received in total for all categories =  
12, 482.00

Expenses \$11, 818.00

## **LCCM NOON MEAL**

**First Fridays, 10:00am**

**Jonestown UMC February Free  
Noon Meal will be on**

**Feb. 2nd and Mar. 1st**

JUMC is responsible for preparing the noon meal the first Friday of each month through volunteers from our congregation, adults in the winter, fall, and spring, and our Youth Ministry in the summer. Currently we make about 100 lunches distributed to those in need noon-1pm. If you are interested in helping, contact Howard Lee (717-228-7249) or Bob Hillegas (717-865-7478)

## **Free Food Box Distribution**

**February 10th @ 1PM**

Area United Methodist Churches have been distributing food boxes over the last two years to needy families in our area. You can help unload food Thursday 2/8 in the afternoon, late Friday morning 2/9, and help assemble boxes Friday evening at 6PM, and/or help distribute the boxes to those who come on Saturday 2/10 at 1PM. (Setup at ~12:30PM)



Friends and members of our church may activate the prayer chain by calling the pastor or one of the team leaders indicated by a star (\*).

Team 1: \*Lewis & Eleanor Artz

(717-865-3447)

John & Nancy Rhen (717-865-4317)

Teri Light (717-813-8347)

Annie Grant (717-462-9100)

Gary Miele (717-383-2941)

Team 2: \*Larry Major (717-865-3442)

Jeff & Diana Waltermeyer (717-865-5675)

Rick & Wendy Kline (865-4363)

Team 3: \*Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

Judy Mowry (717-279-0809)

Kay Horner (717-865-5538)

George/Nancy Rautzhan (717-865-3061)

Lewis Artz (717-865-3447)

Larry Major (717-865-3442)



**WANTED:** Individuals willing to learn some simple steps to follow and add perhaps add some creativity to our Live Streaming Worship Services.

We are always looking for persons willing to provide relief for those regularly serving in this area when they need a break or will be away OR share the load on a Sunday Morning with set-up or trouble shooting when needed. Please contact Pastor Al if you are interested in some simple instructions.

In response to some inquiries I am including the info on the church activity last years as to our support of missions. Some of these items are ongoing and some are monthly and some are budgeted items. In 2023 we gave the following to the missionaries that we support though budgeted amounts.

Heinsmans/Team	\$1300.00
Pahutskis/Pioneers	\$1300.00
Samuteb Hospital	700.00
Our Daily Bread	\$100.00

In addition these we support through our monthly special offerings, On these what comes during the month goes directly out to the mission.

January - AMMI	\$225.00
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February -JOY	\$998.00	(Some people give to this all year long and everything goes to JOY)
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March -Lenten Offering	\$205.00	(This is decided each year by the board to support a special need. In 2023 it went to Back to school blessing through the NL Ministerium.
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April – Camping	\$425.00	Usually on one of the months we get a special offering for what was Camping Scholarships. With the few campers we are supporting right now we have changed April, to NL Ministerium. We do have people that support Gretna Glenn on a regular basis and anything that comes in for Gretna or the Camping scholarships we give directly to the Camp.
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May -UMCOR	\$1058.00	Disaster relief through One Great Hour of Sharing
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June -Red Rose	\$6245.00	The Trustees are supposed to designate a project each year for this offering. None was designated in 2023.
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July-ALIGN	\$350.00
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August -LCCM	\$825.00
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September -Shoebox	\$1200.00	This is for the shoebox postage for the boxes we fill. This is handled through Samaritans Purse.
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October – Lebanon Rescue Mission	\$1735.00
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November -Bill Lovelace	\$330.00
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December -NL Ministerium	\$1294.00	Each year December is designated by the Ad. Board. In 2023 It was decided to give it to The newly formed Northern Lebanon Ministerium to help with start up costs.
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Usually on one of the months we get a special offering for what was Camping Scholarships. With the few campers we are supporting right now we have changed that to April, NL Ministerium. We do have people that support Gretna Glenn on a regular basis and anything that comes in for Gretna or the Camping scholarships we give directly to the Camp.

I hope this helps clear up any questions on the missions of JUMC and how the offerings are designated.

In the future I will try to update more often probably on a quarterly basis.

In the mean time pleas contact me with any questions you may have.

May God Bless JUMC and our endeavors.

Pat Sheehan





Thanks for contacting those we don't see in church to let them know we miss them. Calls or cards mean a lot, especially to those who are home bound. Annie Grant and Ellie Artz continue in nursing homes, and would love to hear from you or see you if you can visit. Frank and Jan Sebastian and Lewis are in their homes, as are Phil Lenge, and Nancy and John Rhen. Please check the JOY table for a list and addresses of these members. All would appreciate knowing you are thinking of them! Don't forget the Care Booklets in the circular rack available for you to take. If you know of a care concern, please contact anyone on the care team. Also, if you would like to be on the Care Team, please see Pam Gray. We would be happy to welcome new members as we are down to five. We send cards, make phone calls, and take meals to families when needed. We also serve a funeral luncheon when asked. It is a great way to extend God's love to others at a difficult time.



JOY clients may now shop once a week either on a Tuesday from 10-12, Thursday from 4-7, or Friday from 10-12. Thank you all for your generosity in donating to JOY. We are serving more families with the new schedule. We gave over 150 lbs. of food this past month.

Extra food items for a Christmas were given out during the week preceding Christmas. Some needed items are: canned pasta, chunky soup, Ramen soup, cream soups, canned fruit, canned chicken, juices, paper towels, dish liquid, other cleaning supplies, and shampoo. A complete list of needed items is on the JOY table to take along or check the website at [joypantry.org](http://joypantry.org). Please mail monetary donations to: JOY Food Pantry, P.O. Box 121,

Jonestown, PA 17038.



### **"Friends Together" - Tues., February 13th at the**

### **Eagle Hotel in Fredericksburg**

The next ladies meeting, "Friends Together", will be on Tuesday, February 13th at the

Eagle Hotel in Fredericksburg for lunch. Please sign up in the narthex if interested. We can car pool, meeting at the church by 12:00 or go directly there for a 12:30 reservation. Our ladies' group has volunteered to collect and sort clothes for the NL Clothes Closet by the Northern Lebanon Ministerium. We will continue to work on this project. We are using one of the Sunday School rooms by the basement kitchen. Have a look if you'd like. Please see the following articles for more details. All are welcome for our meetings and/or to help with our activities. So be looking for more information later.

Anyone can attend one group or the other. We are stronger together and need to support each other. If you have ideas about other small groups, please let Pam know. We can always start some others. We want to include everyone.

## **CHURCH EVENTS**

- **Tuesdays 6:30pm- Conversations with the Father**
- **Tuesdays 7:00pm-Creative Ministries**
- **Tuesdays 7:00pm-Praise Team Rehearsal**
- **Feb 2, 10:00am-LCCM Noon Meal**
- **Feb 2, 6:00pm—Ladies Night Out**
- **Feb 9, 6:00pm—Food Box Assembly**
- **Feb 10, 8:00—Men's Breakfast**
- **Feb 10, 1pm—Food Box Distribution.**
- **Feb 11, 2:00pm—Movie Matinee-Emmanuel UMC FTIG**
- **Feb 12, 5:30pm—Audit Meeting**
- **Feb 12, 6:30pm— Church Council**
- **Feb 13, 12:30pm—Friends Together @ Eagle Hotel Fredericksburg**
- **Feb 17, 5:30pm—Mid Winter Social**
- **Feb 19, 6:30pm—Trustee Meeting**
- **Feb 24, 4:30pm—Be Our Guest Meal**
- **Feb Thursdays, 4:00pm- 7:00pm-JOY Pantry**
- **Feb Tuesdays/Fridays, 10:00am-12:00pm-JOY Pantry**

## **CELEBRATE OUR GUESTS:**

We have seen a number of guests joining us for worship and at a variety of events sponsored by the ministries of Jonestown Church. There are some small bags to be handed out to our guests that include a brochure about our church, a refrigerator magnet with the contact information for our congregation, a pen, etc.

In addition to personally welcoming and getting to know people you are either meeting for the first time or are getting re-acquainted with, we are invited those normally attending to share one of the guest bags while introducing yourself and personally welcoming guests/visitors.

## **CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR HEAVENLY FATHER**

**Tuesday evenings starting February 6, 6:30-7:30pm**

Please join me for prayer. We will have a short devotion, and then we will spend time with our Father. Personal prayer, prayer for our country, our community, our church family, and each other. It will be ALL of our time with Him. Teri Light



**With Lori Jackson Tuesdays  
starting February 6, 7:00pm-  
8:00pm.**

This may or may not involve puppetry. 10 years old through adult are welcome to

join. Speakers, actors, writers, tailors, artists, interest in sound, lighting. No experience necessary. Text Lori 717-926-4572.



Ladies Night Out will be held on Friday, February 2nd starting at 6 p.m. This will be the time to work on individual projects. Bring craft projects you may currently be working on or engage in completing puzzles or coloring books. We will start at 6pm but join us when you can. Take out is ordered for those needing dinner. We wrap up for the night around 9pm. Join us in an evening of fellowship and fun. Call Karen Bene if you have any questions at 717-673-2833.

## **Northern Lebanon Clothes Closet:**

The Northern Lebanon Ministerium (the collection of churches in the Northern Lebanon School District) is starting this project for the school children and adults of the district. We plan to use some rooms in the Jonestown Elementary School (recently purchased by IU 13) for storage, sorting, and shopping. There will also be a room in the high school, monitored by the school social worker, to make available new or gently used, clean clothes for all ages of children and now adults too. There will be a collection container in our narthex for you to donate. Please have the clothes sorted in bags and labeled ( boy, girl, man, woman, size, type, such as pants, shirts, etc.) to make our job easier. Thank you for your help. Another volunteer opportunity is available to help at the Clothes Closet itself, either sorting and processing or serving clients. Please see Pam Gray if questions, or to find out how to sign up.



### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Bryan Rudy
- 2 Jan Rhen
- 5 Travis Unger
- 6 Shirley Fortna
- 6 Ryan Showers
- 6 Sawyer Showers-Mann
- 7 Maddox Showers
- 8 Doris Crouse
- 11 Amy Fahler
- 12 Debbie Adams
- 13 Malinda Kohr
- 16 Owen Heckman
- 23 Peg Fortna
- 23 Mike Rhen
- 23 Laura Eisenhauer
- 24 Connie Mentzer
- 25 Dawn Miele
- 25 Ernie Shuey
- 26 Judy Mowry

### **Psalm 28: 7-9**

**The Lord is my strength and my shield, in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped. My heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**



### **FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Frank & Jan Sebastian
- 12 Nathan & Amy Hillegas
- 14 Eric & Penny Fahler
- 14 Matthew & Dawn Krissingner

### **My Prayer List:**




# February 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	<b>2</b> LCCM Noon Meal 10:00 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Ladies Night Out 6:00	<b>3</b> Yoga Stretching 8:30
<b>4</b> Sunday Communion Worship 8:45/11:00 Sunday School 10:00	<b>5</b> AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	<b>6</b> JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Unload Trailer 4:00 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	<b>9</b> JOY Pantry 10-12:00 Food Box Assembly 6:00	<b>10</b> Men's Brkfst 8:00 Food Box Distribution 1:00
<b>11</b> Worship 8:45 11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Movie Matinee Emmanuel UMC FTIG 2:00-4:00	<b>12</b> Audit Meeting 5:30 AA Meeting 6:00 Church Council 6:30 Ripped 7:00	<b>13</b> JOY Pantry 10-12 "Friend's Together" 12:30- Eagle Hotel Fredericksburg Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	<b>14</b> Lenten Service Ash Wednesday: Jonestown UMC	<b>15</b> JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	<b>16</b> JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	<b>17</b> Yoga Stretching 8:30 Mid Winter Social Dinner/Dance 5:30
<b>18</b> Worship 8:45 11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Newsletter Articles Due Creation: 1st Sunday	<b>19</b> AA Meeting 6:00 Trustee 6:30 Ripped 7:00	<b>20</b> JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	<b>21</b> Creation Service: Ono UMC	<b>22</b> JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	<b>23</b> JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	<b>24</b> "Be Our Guest Meal" 4:30-6:00
<b>25</b> Worship 8:45 11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Creation: 2nd Sunday	<b>26</b> AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	<b>27</b> JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	<b>28</b> Creation Service: Bellegrove UMC	<b>29</b>		