

may newsletter

Newsletter Article | May 2020

It's been a while since I've done a trust fall. That's that team building exercise where you close your eyes and fall backwards into the waiting arms of a teammate. Some consultants will up the level of trust you have to have in others by having a person stand on a chair and fall back into the collective arms of the team.

One time a consultant asked for a volunteer to climb the ladder of a short playground slide and do a trust fall. I volunteered (am I dumb or what?). My teammates tightened up behind me, and on the count of three, I fell backwards into their arms.

If you want a good laugh, go to YouTube and search for "trust fall fails." There's one I watched a few times where a man was standing on a chair, with his eyes closed, and when the consultant counted to three, the man fell ... forwards, instead of backwards. To the man's credit, the consultant didn't tell him which way to fall.

We're right in the middle of a trust fall exercise. COVID-19 has upended life as usual. We've been under a stay-at-home order for a month. When we do venture out, we're encouraged to wear masks. Many of us haven't seen loved ones for six weeks. We're worried about their health and safety. There's great uncertainty about when West Virginia will open back up. The economy has tanked, which has taken our personal treasuries with it.

What gives me hope is that God is there for us; God is on our side. Each one of us can pray with confidence, "Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge" (Psalm 16:1). A refuge is a place of safety, even while trouble swirls around those in need.

Soon the stay-at-home order will be lifted, and we'll be able to move around as before. Until then, we need not fret, for God in Christ is with us through the Spirit. The Lord will lead us on, and we need only follow where he leads.

~Pastor Mark †



***Stealey and Duff
Street Churches Food
Pantry is open each
Tuesday in the
MultiMinistries Bldg.***

9:30 a.m.–

1:00 p.m.



LENDING A
HELPING HAND



The Food Pantry is open at the Duff Street UM Church Multimministries Building on the first floor.

If you know someone who is struggling to feed their family, refer them to the Food Pantry. We are here to help and will offer them a hand up at this difficult time.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, extra precautions and social distancing is observed. We have prebagged food and are not able to offer them a selection at this time but have food that will help feed their family.

If they have been to the Food Pantry before, all we need is their name as we have their essential information. We bring the food to the door and they will not need to come into the building.

New families should bring an ID, proof of residency if not on ID and birthdates of all family members.

We have food from the Mountaineer Food Bank, but stores are still limiting some items. When shopping if you are allowed 2 loaves of bread or 2 dozen eggs and you only need one, consider buying extra for the Food Pantry. The Food Pantry can use dish soap, cleaner, shampoo, bath soap, and toothpaste. Money donations will help us purchase needed items.

Check updates about the Food Pantry and Backpack Program on the Facebook page, "Stealey & Duff Street Churches Food Pantry."

Duff Street UM Women We miss seeing you and miss meeting together!

The Duff Street UM Women Meetings will resume when restrictions are eased and we can meet following the guidelines. Watch for a **NEW** facebook page for "Duff Street UM Women" in the next few days. There will be updates and announcements.



We will see you soon!

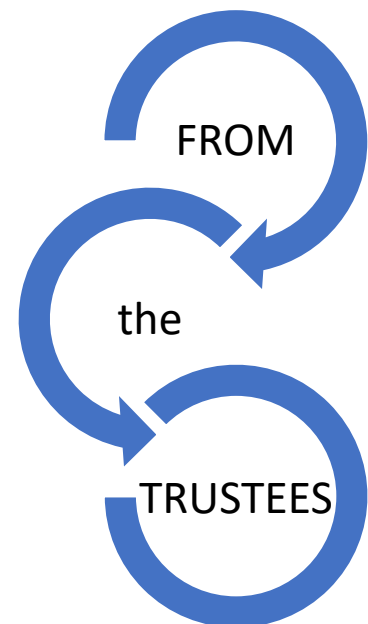


Are you enjoying your bedtime Bible stories? We sure hope so because we are having fun spending this time with you and getting to share God's word!

Anyone wishing to read to the kids please send your video to Kerry Dean or Rob Murphy and they will add you to the rotation and put your video on the Facebook Group for the kids to watch. Thanks to all that have shared so far – keep the stories coming! We sure do miss our kids and can't wait to be back together when it's safe to do so ~love, hugs and prayers to all ♥☺

The Trustees have decided to use this downtime to complete some much needed repairs to our kitchen. We've had some on-going plumbing concerns over the last several years that we knew would mean shutting the kitchen down and tearing up the floor to resolve. It's hard to do that when it is ALWAYS in use (this is a good thing !!)

An improvement and renovation fund (separate from our general budget giving) was set up many years ago from funds received from both the Ramsey and Gattrell Estates. Two years ago, money was added from Peggy Morris' Estate and the Trustees earmarked some of that money specifically to the kitchen repairs. In addition, private donations and Relay for Life rummage sale monies are coming together to complete the kitchen renovations. A new grease trap was installed, flooring was updated, new counters are being installed and the walls are being updated to make some areas waterproof and the others more easily cleaned and maintained. We are also looking at purchasing new equipment as needed. As always, if you have questions or would like to help, please contact any member of the Trustee Team. (Bruce Nutter, Chairman, Phil Green, Susan McMichael, Tyler Spear, Eric Simmons, Tony Bowers, Eric Gumm, Rickie Holmes or Ron Campbell)



fulfilling our committments to Christ & His Church



through our presence:

Thank you for subscribing to our YouTube Channel and continuing to worship with us on Sunday Morning! You can also participate in our Wednesday evening Bible Study and Monday morning prayers through FaceBook Live. "SEE" you there



through our service to others:

with all services currently postponed and hospitals and nursing homes closed to visitors – if you have an immediate prayer concern you can call the church office at 304-624-7951, email us at duffstreet@gmail.com, send it via our website at <http://www.duffstreetchurch.org/need-prayer.html> call the Telephone Prayer Chain: Wayne & MaryAnn Moore – 304-623-3155 or contact Pastor Mark on his cell phone – 304-380-2002.

through our prayers:

for our First Responders and Medical Personnel on the front lines of the COVID-19 Pandemic

for our military: Jeremy Glass, Jared Hammitt, Sgt. J R Hinkle, Matt Hoalcraft, Amanda Landers, Int'l Security Guard Stephen Lindsey, Sgts. 1st Class Nate & Bryanna Moccia, Kiersten Posey, Mstr. Sgt. James Queen and Pvt. Zachary Shields

for our shut-ins: Chuck Arnett, Rose Carr, Ron Channel, Mary Cunningham, Lois Glass, Marlene Glover, Martha Hammitt, Robbie Hood, Elaine LeBenne, Charles Pratt, Jean Stalnaker and Helen Stutler

for healing: Regina Arnett, James Cash, Charlene, Kay Connor, Tom Corathers, Wayne Devericks, Pat Hardman, Kathy Holmes, Dr. Kessel, Bonnie King, Susan McMichael, Tenley Miller, Jim Payne, Ben Plemmons and April Wallace



through our gifts:

General Fund

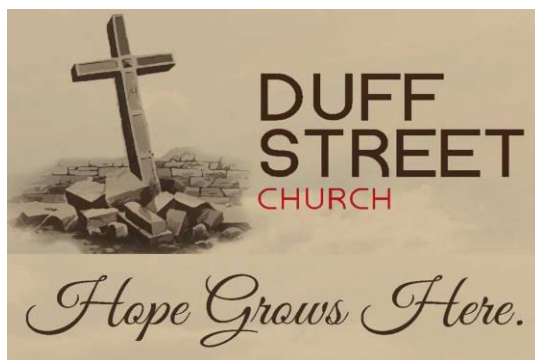
Income \$23,877.35
Expenses: 23,778.55
Difference \$98.80

corrected March 2020

Building Fund

Income \$17,216.45
Loan Disbursements 202,458.60
Expenses 211,946.10
Building Fund Balance \$7,728.94

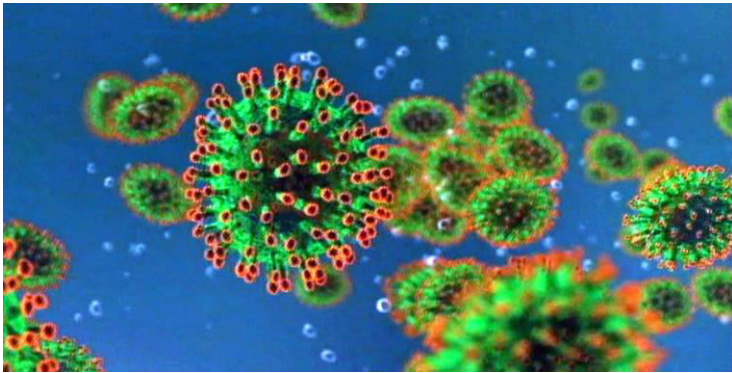
2020 Budget - \$303,958 Monthly - \$25,330



Duff Street Calendar of Events
office hours: Mon-Thur 9am-3pm

- Sundays:** 11:00am - E-Service via YouTube
6:00pm - Youth Group via FaceBook
- Mondays:** 10:30am - Guided Prayer Time
via FaceBook Live
- Tuesdays:** 9:30am-Food Pantry (MMB)
- Wednesdays:** 7:00pm - Bible Study
Adults & Youth via FaceBook Live

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS



There are no in-person activities currently scheduled. We will continue to follow the guidelines of our Governor, the CDC and our Bishop in keeping our congregation safe.

Rescheduled activities include:

- The remaining stained glass pieces will be available for viewing and purchase in the MMB beginning the 1st of June
- The annual Rummage Sale has been moved to the week of June 22nd. Please contact Mary Adkins or a member of the Relay for Life Team for information on when to bring your donations.

- Jimmy & Heather Kirby ~ 7
Brian & Kari Smith ~ 14
Scott & Alison Sommerville ~ 16
Eric & Lindsey Gumm ~ 18
David & Terri Waxman ~ 20
George & Crystal McIntyre ~ 21
Steven & Pat Williams ~ 25
Ron & Lois Gilmore ~ 26
Larry & Carol Norris ~ 29
Chuck & Pearl Arnett ~ 30



- Curt Keesee 1
Robert Freeman 2
Riley Sell 3
Jackson Nardella 4
Bill Lance 5
Robbie Hood 6
Ashley George 8
Joshua Jabbour 8
Brian Smith 8
Crystal Johnson 8
Jonah Jabbour 9
Danielle Sprouse 9
Amy Keesee 10
Eric Gumm 10
Grant Dean 11
Nancy Harvey 11
Susie Lance 11
Madelynn Eakle 15
Jay Waxman 15
Jim Payne 16
Phillip Green II 21
Luke Harding 21
Margaret Rogers 22
David Kennedy 23
Tony Correro 24
Megan Dean 24
Martha Hammitt 24
Susan Jenkins 24
Carson Webster 24
Kim Spear 25
Matthew Dean 26
Hunter Kirby 26
Greg Rebrook 26
Susan Seders 27
Pat Williams 27
Dustin McCune 29

DUFFSTREETUNITEDMETHODISTCHURCH

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Mark Smith, Pastor rev.markesmith@gmail.com

Michelle Campbell, Admin.Ast. duffstreet@gmail.com

Rob Murphy, Director of Youth & Childrens' Ministry
robmurphy3@yahoo.com

Candace Walker, Music Director

Alex Hoskinson, Contemporary Worship Leader

Winnie Smith, VIP Music Leader

Jim Fleming, Custodian

Kari Smith & Kayla Radcliff, Nursery

Sunday's @Duff Street

7:45 am Breakfast

8:45 am Contemporary Service

*10 am Sunday School
for ALL ages*

11 am Traditional Worship

6 pm – Youth Group



400 Duff Avenue
Clarksburg, WV 26301