

Two Sides of the Road...



If I had been taking a sip of my morning coffee at the wrong time during my morning commute on Monday, you might not be reading this message...

Round about 5:00AM that day, I was the first car to come upon this scene... no police, no lights, just an overturned tractor trailer in the road.

As traffic started to back up, a number of drivers, including me, got out of our cars to assess the situation.

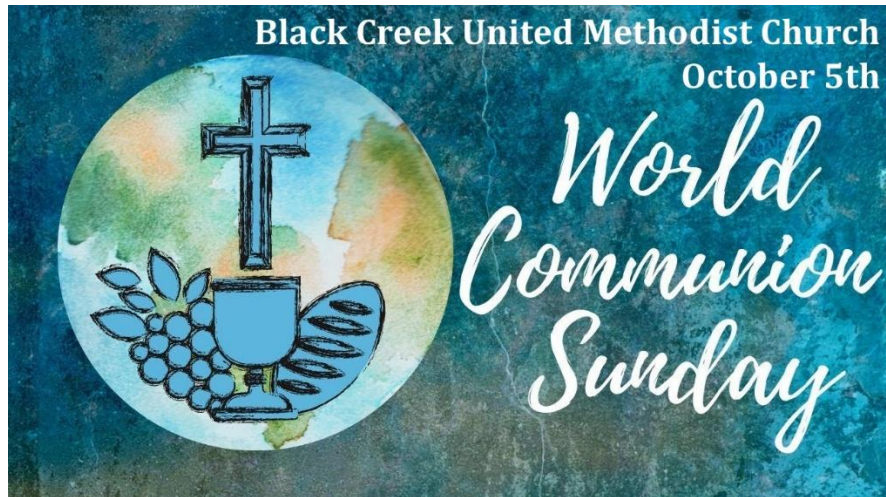
Here is what struck me about this scene. I noticed that those who left their cars kind of split evenly between those who went to the left side of the road and those who went to the right. Those who chose to go to the right went to check on the driver (who praise God was not seriously hurt) and those who went to the left went to see if there was any way that they could get their cars around the wreck so that they could continue on with their days.

Friends, as children of a Risen Lord, I pray that you always, ALWAYS, choose the right side of the road.

See Ya Sunday (or Saturday at our new 4PM worship service).

Pastor John

This Sunday (October 5th)



This Sunday is World Communion Sunday. Each year, United Methodists join Christians of different traditions throughout the world to celebrate this special day on the first Sunday in October. This commemoration began in 1936 as a way to recognize our oneness in Christ across our many denominations and to bring Christians together in a spirit of unity and peace.



Lives of Prayer and Faith, Part One: The Mustard Seed

Luke 17:5-10

In addition to celebrating this special day, we begin a new sermon series, where we learn directly from our one true teacher, Jesus Christ. We will spend the next month studying some of Jesus's words in the Book of Luke and we will apply them to our lives today and always.

In our scripture for this week, as the Disciples realize that living a life devoted to Christ isn't going to be easy, they cry out to Jesus "Increase our faith!"

Jesus doesn't reply the way that we expect him to, but he replies with words that can help us grow as Christians and truly increase our faith!

I hope you will join us for this special Sunday.

There are **four** ways to participate in worship at Black Creek UMC.

Our service begins at 9:30.

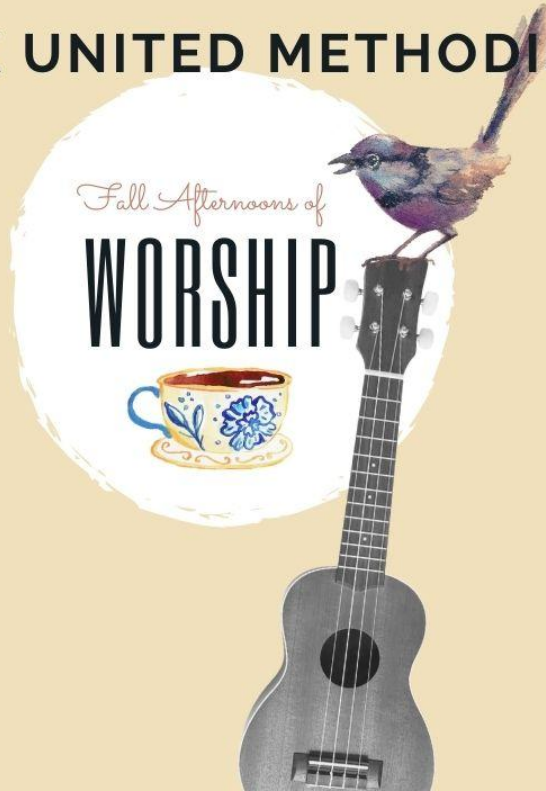
- In person – All are welcome, come as you are!
- On Facebook Live.
- Right at the top of our website, www.blackcreekumc.org
- Livestreamed on our YouTube Channel. Just go to YouTube and type in @backpewbelievers and our channel will come right up! Don't forget to subscribe for new updates.

Ready or Not... Here comes our New Outdoor Worship Experience...

Our fall outdoor worship series begins this coming Saturday! We are racing the clock to get our outdoor space ready, but even if we don't this will be a powerful worship experience! We have great live music, free coffee and hot chocolate, and most importantly, a truly meaningful worship experience that is completely different from our worship services on Sunday mornings. I hope you will join us for this awesome experience! Anything you can do to help us get the word out would be much appreciated.

BLACK CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A NEW, FUN,
INFORMAL,
FAMILY-
FRIENDLY
WORSHIP
EXPERIENCE
FEATURING
POWERFUL
PREACHING,
LIVE MUSIC, AND
FREE COFFEE
AND HOT
CHOCOLATE.



OCTOBER 4TH
OCTOBER 11TH
OCTOBER 18TH

4:00PM - 5:00PM

IN OUR NEW
OUTDOOR
WORSHIP
SPACE!

Election Day Food Sale

Election day is coming up in just about a month. This year, it falls on November 4th. As in previous years, Black Creek will hold an Election Day Food Sale throughout the day. If you are available to help with this awesome fundraiser, please let Donna know, and even if you can't be sure to stop in for for some awesome food!



Upcoming Meeting

Wednesday, October 8th 6:00PM – Church Council Meeting. All are welcome!

Everything Below This Line Was in Last Week's Email. You can stop here if you are caught up!!

This Year's Chicken and Waffle Dinner is Coming Up!

Help us get the word out!!! All of the details are below. Cards and flyers are available at the church. Also, this is an all hands on deck type of event. If you can help, please let Bud and Donna know as soon as possible.

**BLACK CREEK
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

Chicken and Waffle Dinner

**DISCOVER WHY BLACK
CREEK UMC HAS BEEN
KNOWN FOR THIS EVENT
FOR DECADES!!**

October 25th

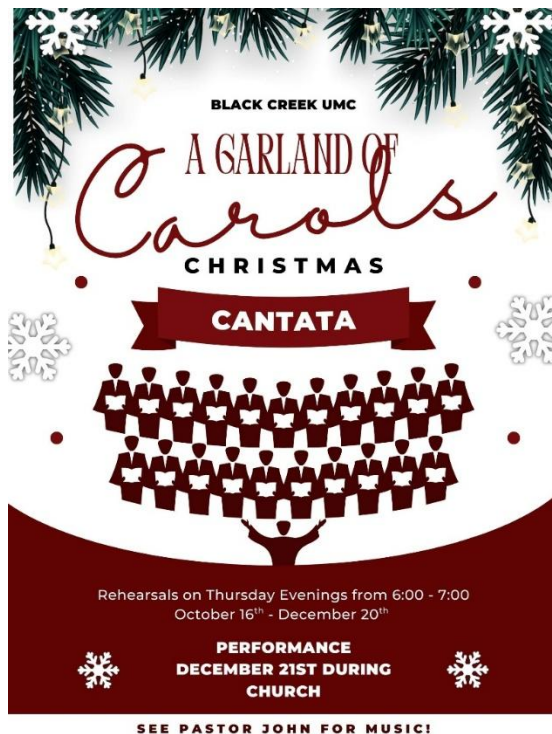
3:00PM - 7:00PM

158 Golf Course Road, Sugarloaf PA

blackcreekumc.org 570-384-4087

**RESERVATIONS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
CALL 570-751-3426 OR 570-384-4087**

Christmas Cantata



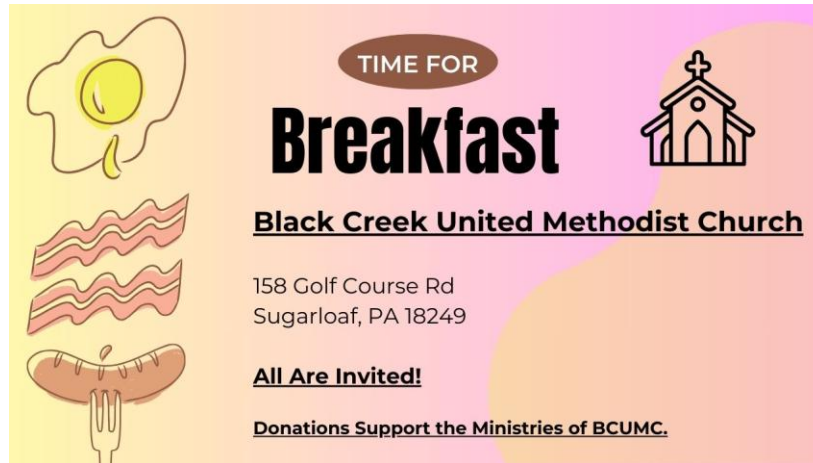
Choir rehearsals for our Christmas Cantata, *A Garland of Carols*, will begin on Thursday evenings beginning on October 16th. No experience or musical ability needed! If you would like to join us, please see Pastor John for music and a practice CD!

New Stickers and Keychains on our New Coffee Cart



Be sure to check out our new coffee cart at our outdoor worship services. In addition to coffee and hot chocolate, we have a bunch of new stickers and keychains with this new design! I think it really expresses who we are with very few words!

Mark Your Calendars Now



Our fall community breakfast is coming up on **November 9th**. Help us to spread the word. All funds that we receive at these breakfasts go directly to helping others in need in our community! The breakfast is from **11AM to 1PM**.

Christian Outreach Project

If you know any high school age students who would be interested in an awesome worship and community building experience, please let me know. The Christian Outreach Project is a one week camp where Methodist Youth from throughout our conference and the Greater New Jersey Conference work to help make home improvements for those in need.

Liturgists Needed

We have a couple of openings coming up for a liturgist during our church services. If you are not familiar with that term, liturgists read the scriptures and prayers during our worship services. We are all set for October, but we have a few other openings coming up.

This is a great way to grow closer to God and to the scripture, and it is a great way for anyone to get involved at Black Creek UMC. If you might be interested, please let me know via email, phone call, or just let me know on Sunday morning.

Community Announcements

Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway

The CEO Weinberg Food Bank, the organization that runs the Black Creek Community Food Bank at our church and a large number of other food banks throughout the region, will be hosting a free Thanksgiving Turkey giveaway for residents of Luzerne and Wyoming County. Our local pickup location is City View Park in Hazleton on November 22nd from 9:30AM – 4:00PM.

Registration information is on the flyer below.



CEO
Commission on Economic Opportunity
People Helping People.

WEINBERG
THE NORTH EAST REGIONAL FOOD BANK

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING PROJECT

CEO's 2025 Thanksgiving event is an in-person food pick-up event with three location options –
Tunkhannock, Wilkes-Barre Township and Hazleton.
Participants must be Luzerne or Wyoming County residents.

Advanced registration is required.
Registration closes Friday, October 24, 2025

Register online
www.ceopeoplehelpingpeople.org

Register by phone
570-825-0968 or
570-208-7017

Register in-person
At a CEO office or CEO food pantry

Building Connections

When it comes to good coffee, I always thought that it was all about the beans! Well it is... but as Sheena and I have been preparing for our outdoor worship service, I have learned that it is also about the way that the coffee is produced. I recently connected with an awesome business, Grateful Coffee Roasters in Nanticoke. They not only roast their own beans, but they purchase them from small farmers in ethically traded, ethically sourced manner. I also have to say it is the best coffee I have ever tasted.

We are proud to be serving their coffee from our coffee cart, below is a description of the coffee we will be serving Saturday and a picture of the farm where it was grown in Brazil.





An Opportunity at Black Creek



SHEENA MAE YOGA, LLC

JOIN ME MONDAYS
THIS
SEPTEMBER!

Christ-Centered Yoga
Classes

Now offering Two Monday Yoga Practices!

9 AM -Gentle Morning Flow:

Begin your week with intention, movement, and the loving presence of God. This gentle morning yoga practice invites you to awaken both body and spirit through breath-led movement, Scripture reflection, and centering prayer. Whether you're seeking peace, clarity, or simply a sacred space to start your day, this class offers a renewing refuge to rise in grace and move with God-led purpose.

6 PM -Sacred Stillness Evening Flow:

Unwind and reconnect in this gentle evening yoga practice designed to quiet the body, calm the mind, and open the heart to God's loving presence. This class blends gentle, restorative postures with Scripture meditation, (Lectio Divina) and prayer, helping you foster a peaceful, Christ-centered evening that nurtures body, mind, and Spirit.

What to Bring?

All you need to bring is yourself and a mat!

Also if you have yoga blocks and/or a blanket those can be helpful as well.

Check out our new yoga space located in the Choir room!



Contact me for more information:

 973-234-7540

 sheenamaeyoga@gmail.com



**Classes are
45 minutes /
\$10 a class**

These classes are up and running and growing every week. You can start any time... All ability levels are welcome. This is a wonderful chance to find peace and grow closer to Christ. – Pastor John