



PUMC

Updates....

Pennsboro United Methodist Church

MAY, 2025

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First Come, First Served!

Approximately 60 of the wooden folding chairs in the fellowship hall storage room are available to members of the congregation for a **minimum** donation of \$5 each until Sunday, June 15. A sheet will be provided on which to record your donation before loading up your chair(s) and a basket will be labeled for depositing your donation by cash or check. Make checks payable to PUMC, write *chair(s)* on the "For" line. Clearly identify your cash donation for this purpose. Proceeds will support church maintenance costs. See additional information under Stewardship on the back of this newsletter.

REACHING OUT AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE

May 11 - June 15

Support TLC Pregnancy Center – Remember to collect your change in TLC's baby bottles and return them to church on Father's Day! If you prefer to put a check in your bottle, make it payable to PUMC. The church will write one check to TLC for the total collected and will return all bottles to TLC.

June 2, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Pennsboro Fire Department

Blood Drive – Donate blood or volunteer your time! REGISTER for your appointment to give blood at www.redcrossblood.org/give. Helpers will be needed that day to register donors and serve refreshments. **Come in your red shirts to represent PUMC!**

June 3, 10:00 a.m.

Pineview Nursing Home

Birthday Party! – **Come in your red PUMC shirts as witnesses for Christ** and join residents and staff for birthday cake and informal conversation!

Month of June

Donate to Packs of Plenty

Several members of the PUMC congregation have been actively involved in supporting Packs of Plenty with our time and energy—unloading their food truck, packing food boxes, and serving the community as a distribution center. PUMC would like to support the organization financially as well. The collection box will be located at the ushers table in the back of the sanctuary throughout the month of June. Make checks payable to PUMC.

Month of July

Donate to Ritchie Co. Ministerial Association

PUMC is a member of this ecumenical organization that serves the needy in Ritchie County. While there is no obligation to pay membership dues, our church has supported the organization financially in the past by donating [REDACTED] each month from our general treasury. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The collection box will be located at the ushers table in the back of the sanctuary throughout the month of July. Make checks payable to PUMC.

Stewardship

Financial Snapshot: April deposits totaled [REDACTED] and total expenses were [REDACTED] for a [REDACTED] cash flow of [REDACTED]. Our investment accounts saw an overall gain of [REDACTED]. Our 2025 budget is once again being funded by tapping into investment resources.

EUB Cemetery: On the basis of an internal audit of bank deposits during 2024 and early 2025, it was discovered that \$3,406.63 intended for cemetery upkeep was incorrectly deposited to the church's general fund. Therefore, this amount will be transferred to the cemetery account to reconcile this error, and this reduction in the church's general fund will be reflected in future financial reports.

Mowing: Upon a review of bids for mowing and trimming PUMC properties, we have not only been able to avoid significant cost increases, but have been able to reduce projected costs for 2025. We have contracted with Valley View Lawn Service to mow and trim the cemetery and with Seth Cronin (Kim Lewis's 16-year-old grandson) to mow and trim the church lawn.

Building Maintenance Budget: The budget established for 2025 building maintenance expenses allocated [REDACTED] to be covered from the general fund and an additional [REDACTED] to be raised. It was noted at the May 18 Leadership Board meeting that year-to-date expenses have already exceeded the [REDACTED] allocated to the general fund.

As recommended during the May10 spring cleaning activity, the Leadership Board voted at its May 18 meeting to sell the 90 wooden folding chairs stored in the basement. The sale of 30 chairs at \$10 each to a nonprofit organization was approved and it was decided to offer the remaining 60 chairs to members of the congregation for a minimum donation of \$5 each until June 15.

An additional campaign to raise funds for building maintenance will be held in lieu of Statler Day this year with special offering envelopes to be provided to members of the congregation. Some of the anticipated expenses for the coming months are for lawn mowing, lava rock to complete the landscaping clean-up behind the building, new thermostats and new high chairs for toddlers attending events at PUMC.

2025-26 Priorities

In collaboration with Pastor Anna, the Leadership Board has established the following priorities for PUMC for the coming year as we strive to work together to meet our mission of "Growing Within, Reaching Out, and Making a Difference":

1. Expand the church's online presence.
2. Focus on financial planning and prioritization.
3. Expand outreach to nursing home residents.

Action steps identified for achieving these priorities are:

- Record sermons on YouTube and post a link on the church webpage.
- Activate a church Facebook page.
- Implement new fundraising strategies.
- Evaluate possible reallocation of existing resources.
- Provide opportunities for worship, Bible study and/or other social opportunities for [nursing home] residents according to needs identified by them.

I am pleased to report that we have made excellent progress in accomplishing the goals we set for 2024-25, and owe a debt of gratitude to all of you who have put forth so many valued efforts! We have fully implemented the Simplified Leadership Structure (and learning as we go!), initiated a monthly newsletter to enhance communications, adopted a Building Use Policy, and pursued new ways of reaching out to our community to let our light shine for the glorification of our Father in heaven. Our new webpage is already under construction and we are doing our very best to be good stewards of our resources.

We would love to hear your ideas for carrying out the priorities and action steps identified for 2025-26, especially if you have suggestions for feasible fundraising strategies and have talents or expertise that you can share!

Peace and grace,
Debbie Richards
Chair, Leadership Board

