

# Thinking Summer!

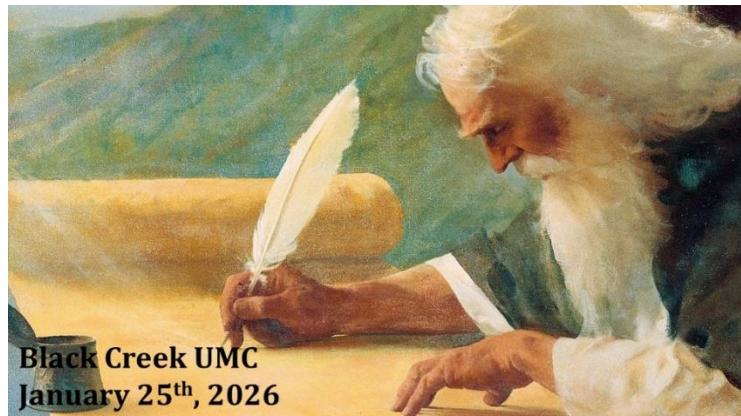


Maybe the single digit temperatures are starting to get to me, or maybe it is the time I spent this week booking the bands for our summer concert series... but I have to say, my mind is starting to wander to thoughts of the hazy, lazy days of summer...

So I do have to remind myself to enjoy every moment that God has given me... even the cold ones. Someone much smarter than me (Reverend Chuck Swindoll) once said, “Never wish away time.” What a great way of looking at the world! I pray that you are enjoying these winter months... even if we can’t help but look ahead to slightly warmer times. God Bless.

Pastor John

## This Sunday at Black Creek UMC!



## The Servant Songs of Isaiah Part Two: But We Are Called Anyway

Isaiah 49:1-7

This week, we continue our monthlong sermon series on the Servant Songs of Isaiah, glorious passages written by the prophet 700 years before the birth of Christ. Last week, the Servant of God that Isaiah described seemed to be pointing ahead to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

This week, Isaiah is pointing his finger right at us as God's servants. In our message, we answer a powerful and common question, what if we don't feel worthy of God's amazing blessing? I hope you will join us as we find some awesome reassurance from God that we are called and chosen to be servants of the Light!



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](http://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.

## **Soup Sale Order and Pickup Information**



The Black Creek United Methodist Church Annual Homemade Soup Sale is **this Saturday**, January 24<sup>th</sup> from 11AM – 1PM at the church (158 Golf Course Road, Sugarloaf PA).

**There is still time to order, but some varieties are selling out....** Soup is \$11 per quart. Varieties include Ham and Bean, Beef Vegetable, Chicken Noodle, Stuffed Pepper, Chicken Corn, and Chili! To reserve soups for pickup, call 384-4087 and leave a message or email [blackcreekumc158@gmail.com](mailto:blackcreekumc158@gmail.com).

All are handmade using our traditional church recipes!

## **Our Church Schedule for Lent**

The holy season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year is February 18<sup>th</sup>... This is a busy time at the church. Our complete Lenten schedule is here. There are also cards available at the church!

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> - Ash Wednesday Service, 6PM  
Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> - Forgiveness Bible Study, 6PM  
Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> - Informal Worship Service, 4PM  
Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> - Forgiveness Bible Study, 6PM  
Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> - Informal Worship Service, 4PM  
Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> - Forgiveness Bible Study, 6PM  
Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> - Informal Worship Service, 4PM  
Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> - Forgiveness Bible Study, 6PM  
Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> - Informal Worship Service, 4PM  
Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> - Forgiveness Bible Study, 6PM

### Holy Week

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> - Palm Sunday Worship, 9:30AM  
Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> - Forgiveness Bible Study, 6PM  
Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Maundy Thursday Worship, 6PM  
Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Good Friday Worship Service, 6PM  
Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> - Holy Saturday Vigil

**Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> -**  
**Easter Sunrise Service, 6AM**  
**Easter Worship Service, 9:30AM**



## A Couple of Events from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the UMC!

### Bishop's Day on the North District

- You are invited to attend a special worship service led by our Bishop, Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7PM at East Stroudsburg United Methodist Church. I hope you will consider joining churchgoers from across our district for this combined worship service!

## North District Tools for Ministry

- Tools for Ministry returns to Eastern PA with a leadership development event for lay and clergy leadership. Courses offered will offer practical advice, thought-provoking inspiration, and district/region-wide relationship building. This event is **Saturday, March 14 from 9-1 at Asbury UMC in Allentown**. Please see Pastor John for more information.

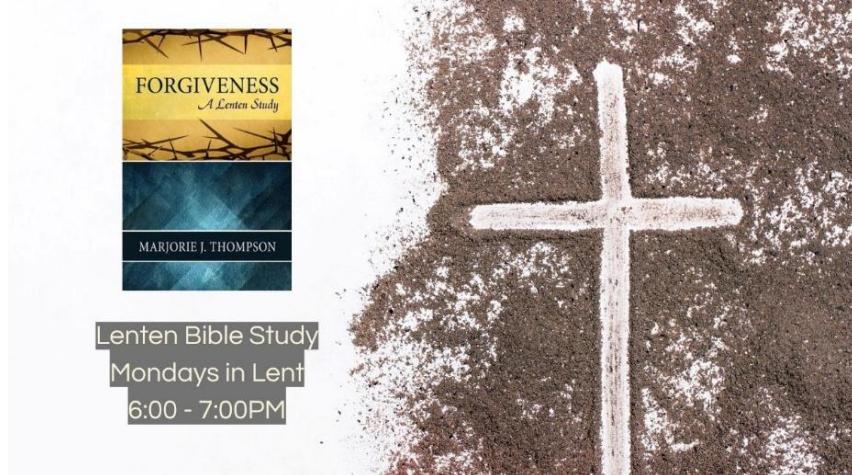
## **An Unfortunate Reminder**



Unfortunately, churches are a common target for scammers. As a quick reminder, please don't share personal information with anyone claiming to be from our church without speaking to me directly first. Quite a world in which we live...

## Messages that Were in Last Week's Bulletin

### Lenten Bible Study



Books are now available at the church for our upcoming Lenten Bible Study. Feel free to grab one any time. Our study, which focuses on the difficult but important topic of forgiveness, begins February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Liturgists and Ushers



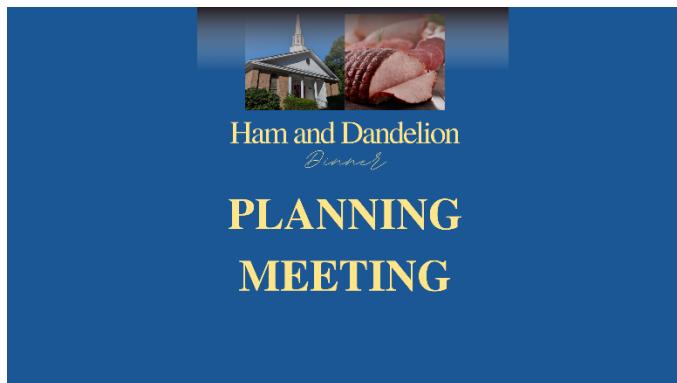
Signup sheets for ushers / greeters and liturgists are now available for the 2026 church year! These positions are open to everyone in the church, and they are a great way to grow closer to God and one another. Please consider signing up for a month for one or both these important roles!

## Bulletin Prayer List



Pastor John is currently working to update our bulletin prayer list. If you know anyone who should be added, please email him at [blackcreekpastor@gmail.com](mailto:blackcreekpastor@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Church Meeting:



We will have a Ham and Dandelion planning meeting on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. If you would like to help plan this important event, please feel free to join us!

## A Community Announcement

### Neighbors' Night Out



The first local Neighbors' Night Out event is scheduled for Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 4-6PM. This free community meal will be held monthly on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The event is at the Nuremberg Weston Volunteer Fire Company Hall. All are invited for this time of community togetherness!