

# Greetings from Snowy Black Creek!



It is my prayer that you are all staying warm and that you have managed to dig out after our busy weekend. It was a weekend where I was thankful for both the flexibility of our church and the wonders of worship technology.

It was great to worship in-person with our congregation on Saturday morning ahead of the storm, and it was also wonderful to be able to stream our Sunday morning service to all of you in the middle of a snowstorm! What an awesome reminder that our God is always doing new things in our lives.

Pastor John

## This Sunday at Black Creek UMC!



## The Servant Songs of Isaiah Part Three: Surrendered Confidence

### Isaiah 50:4-9

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. For the last two weeks, we have heard what Pastor John has to say about these powerful passages; this week, his wife Sheena is in the pulpit. Here is a little note she wrote about this week's message.

I am so thankful and honored to be leading worship this Sunday at Black Creek UMC! As we continue in our sermon series in the Servant Songs of Isaiah, this week we are reminded of what true confidence looks like, and how the practice of surrender is our greatest strength. I am excited for this chance to serve and share my love of preaching, a practice that I am continually learning to surrender to the Lord, each and every time I step into the pulpit.

See you Sunday!

Love, Sheena

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.

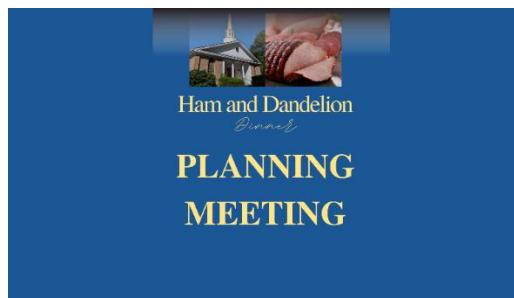


## Valentines for Our Church Friends

As a church, we will be providing some joy for our church members who maybe don't get out to church as often as they once did.

- Feel free to fill out Valentine Cards for our church friends and leave them in the Valentine Box in the back of the church. Pastor John and family will deliver them on February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Also, please feel free to bring in small, individually wrapped baked goods to be delivered. Please have them to church on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- A list of church members Pastor John will be visiting is at the church. There are ten people total if you would like to make something for everyone.

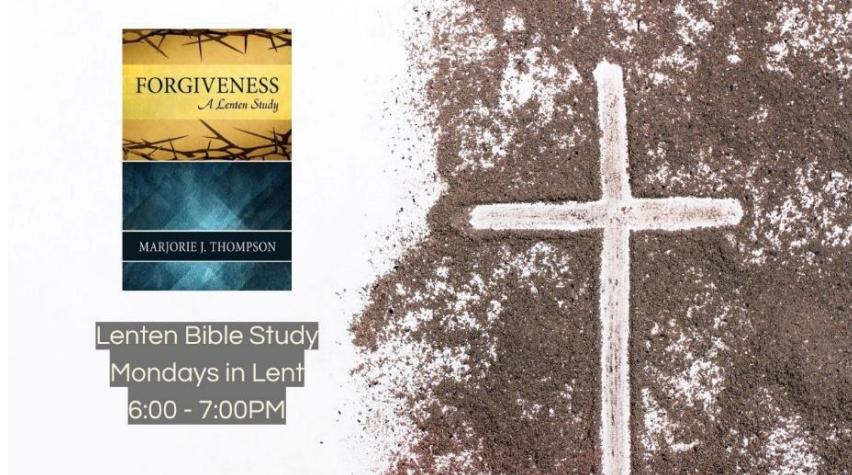
## Upcoming Church Meeting:



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

## 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).

## 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 photograph of a single white lily flower with green leaves, resting on a dark wooden surface. The image is partially visible at the bottom right of the purple box.



## 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.