



State Street United Methodist Church

E-Newsletter

300 West Valley Drive
Bristol, VA 24201

276-669-2101

www.state-street.org

What's Happening at State Street ...

Greetings!

There is a lot going on here at SSUMC. This newsletter is designed to keep you up-to-date with our activities and schedules.

Cosmic City VBS is coming June 21-24-Three nights of activities, learning and FUN, followed by a fourth night which will be Family Pool Night at Spring Lake Pool. ! Children ages 3 through sixth grade are invited to participate. Youth activities will also be offered. Join the fun as small group leaders, station leaders, registration helpers and a variety of other ways! Please contact Rebecca Bennett at 276-591-5253 or email: rebeccabennett@gmail.com. There will be a VBS meeting this Sunday after 11:00 worship.



Annual Conference is coming June 13 through 16 in Lake Junaluska. The Pre-Conference briefing session will be held this Thursday, the 20th, at Abingdon UMC, at 7:00 p.m. It is important that lay members to Annual Conference, any at-large members, church treasurers and finance committee persons be present. There are several important issues that will be addressed by John Tate, Conference Treasurer, at this meeting. Direct billing, the way the Askings will be handled in 2011, issues to be voted on at Annual Conference this year are among the items to be discussed. To get all information, to register, to print off forms and books, go to <http://www.holston.org/about/annual-conference/>

The Pentecost Sunday Celebration will be held this Sunday, May 23, 4:00 p.m. at Pleasant View. Please try to join this special celebration of baptism... If you know of persons who would like to be baptized, encourage them to come. Facilities will be available for an immersion baptism.

Other Notes of Importance:

- Church Council will meet Tuesday, May 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fidelis.
- Spring Garden Preschool will have their Spring Carnival and Fundraiser Wednesday, May 26th at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the evening. A special dunking booth will be available with Rev. Jackson. Auction, kids activities, food and prizes!!!
- Spring Garden Preschool and the church offices will be closed May 31st for Memorial Day.

Mission Projects/Opportunities

Costa Rica Mission Trip - Anyone interested in volunteering one week (September 25 through October 3) of their time to participate in a mission trip to Costa Rica, please attend an informational meeting on Saturday, June 6th at 5:59 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Any questions may be directed to Angie Gent at 276-608-2923 or email angielcg@yahoo.com

We are asking that everyone please help with the 2010 Hands-On Mission Project for Liberia and Zimbabwe. The Abingdon District churches are being asked to prepare school supply kits for Liberia with a goal of 300 kits. This is a wonderful way to bring folks together for mission and fellowship. Organize a group or class for this project today.

Each kit will contain:
3 spiral notebooks (70 count) ;
1 pr. Flip flops (M-L);
1 med./lg Poncho;
1 - 10 pack of pencils;
1 10 pk. of pens (blue or black);
1 protractor; 1 small dictionary (new or used);
1 small calculator;
1 compass;
1 small Bible (new or used);
1 12" ruler;
and \$5 for packing/shipping.

Place all items in 2-gal. Zip-loc bag or secure plastic bag. Please tape \$5 to THE OUTSIDE of each kit or write a check for the total BUT DO NOT PUT MONEY IN THE BAG!!! Checks should be made payable to Treasurer, Holston Conference. Please leave completed kits in the church office. Deadline is May 28th.

Or you can contribute to the Tennessee Flood Buckets:

Note: if the requested item size is not available, go down to the next available size. If nothing is available in the requested or smaller size, put masking tape on the outside of the bucket saying, "This bucket contains no _____"

5-gallon bucket with resealable lid
Bleach (two 1-quart or one 82 oz. bottle.
5 scouring pads, 7 Sponges, 1 scrub brush
18 cleaning towels (reusable wipes)
Liquid laundry detergent (two 25 oz. or one 50 oz. bottle)
1 household cleaner, 12-16 oz. bottle
Disinfectant dish soap, 16-28 oz. bottle
5 dust masks and Clothes line (two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.)
50 clothes, 2 pair latex gloves, 1 pair work gloves
24-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags, 33-45 gallon (remove roll from box before placing in bucket)
1 Insect repellent spray, 6-14 oz. can
1 Air freshener, 8 or 9 oz. can

Important Kit Assembly Information: All items included in kits must be NEW items. All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items-nothing more. Do NOT include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.

New Faces and Several Goodbyes - Staff Changes

We welcome Beverly Baker to our SSUMC staff. Beverly will be taking the Financial Administrator position soon to be vacated by Wrenda Hull. Many of you know Beverly as she has been a member of SSUMC for many years. Beverly and her husband, Carter have two daughters, Karter Beth and Gracie. Wrenda will be leaving at the end of May and we are praying for her success as she plans to begin working in a new ministry in the Fall. We appreciate her hard work here at SSUMC and wish her and her family many blessings in the future.

Also we are sad to lose Sharon, Greg, Shelly and Shane Wright to a new appointment in Galax. June 6th will be Rev. Wright's last sermon here. We hope you come that Sunday and wish them well as they transition to new church. On March 23rd (Moving Day for Ministers) we will be welcoming Rev. Mark Hicks as our new Associate Pastor. As he settles in, we hope you will help us make his transition as painless as possible.

Although Steve Sieck and family will be moving very soon, they continue to worship here on Sundays. The Staff Parish Relations committee are continuing the search for a new Music Director. We are thankful Gary Stewart has volunteered to direct until someone is hired. Also, we are hoping to find a Summer Intern for our Youth program this summer. So look for new faces and welcome them all to the SSUMC church family.

Summer Studies

Summer is just around the corner and that means it's time to think about Summer Studies! We'll be offering at least two (and possibly a third) summer study. See below for more information! Contact me if you have questions. Be sure to call or email if you want to participate so we can order a book for you! Summer is also a great time to invite a friend to come along!

Need childcare? We're happy to provide childcare for studies, but as a courtesy to our childcare providers, we do ask that you notify us in the event you will not be needing it with at least 2-3 hours notice.

Do You Think I'm Beautiful by Angela Thomas

This video-based study combines practical Bible teaching and real-world advice. Through her warm and intimate style of teaching, Angela Thomas touches women with personal stories that will resonate in their own lives and draw them closer to their loving Father. Learn to awaken your passion for the Spirit-filled life and embrace the One who calls you beautiful! Study includes weekly group sessions with discussion and DVD presentation and short daily homework.

Wednesday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Begins June 9th with 7 sessions
Cost of participant book is \$20.00. Please register by May 19! (call the church or email Jaymie dce@state-street.org). Please indicate if you need childcare and the number and ages of your children.

When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor.... and Yourself

Despite good intentions, churches and individual Christians often have faulty assumptions about the causes of poverty - assumptions that can lead to ministry strategies that do considerable harm to poor people as well as to themselves. "When Helping Hurts" addresses these assumptions and offers several principles and strategies for poverty alleviation, including: the distinction between relief, rehabilitation, and development; the difference between asset-based and needs-based strategies, and; the advantages of participatory over blueprint approaches. This is a must read book for those ministering to the poor!

Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Particip June 2 with 6 sessions
Participant book is \$15.00. Please register by May 17! Please indicate if you need childcare and the number and ages of your children.

New Sunday School Class in CrossTalk: **Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity** by Adam Hamilton

Money has great power in our lives. Used wisely, it is one key to accomplishing our goals, providing for our needs, and fulfilling our life purpose. In recent years, many of us ignored the wisdom of the past when it came to managing and spending our money. Credit card debt soared, savings rates plummeted, and our home equity became something to be tapped into and spent rather than a source of security in retirement. We felt an insatiable desire for more. And we found ourselves spending tomorrow's money today in order to have what we hoped would satisfy. The result of all of this was not greater happiness and satisfaction, but greater stress and anxiety.

Enough is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. Find the keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. This study could change your life, by changing your relationship with money.

Holston Conference Camps are sacred places where children, youth and adults experience the love of Christ. Last year over 3,000 children attended summer camp. Of these, 1,150+ made a significant faith decision. At camp, children and youth meet Christ. Looking for camping information? Go to <http://holston.org/ministries/camp-retreats/programs/summer-camp/> or <http://www.holstonconference.com/camping/campsessions2010.html> and see all that is offered by the Camps located in the Holston District. Everything you need to know, forms required and on-line registration.

Children in Need -- Many want to come to camp to experience God's creation and love, but are unable to afford it. Local churches and individuals give generously so that children may experience camp.

We currently have 18 children and youth from our Wednesday night F.I.S.H. Club ministry who are awaiting sponsorships so they can attend Buffalo Mountain Camp this summer. Won't you please help provide a life-changing experience for one of these young people? A full scholarship is \$350. However you can give any amount by making checks payable to State Street UMC and mark "Camp Scholarships" and place in offering envelope or return to church office. Thank you!

We appreciate your support of the ministries provided by State Street UMC. Thank you for joining us in our many activities, ministry efforts and worship. We hope you will bring your family, friends and associates to visit with you as much as possible.

Renee LaMon
State Street United Methodist Church

P.S. For everyone who helped with our Hospice House ministry, one of several cards received is below:

Our sister was at Hospice House for 48 days. Words cannot express how much the meals you provided for us during this time meant to our family. Reva Hutton