



*Echoes from the Hills*  
MAY 2018  
*Shepherd of the Hills UMC*  
*St. George, Utah*



***Knowing Christ and Making Him Known, Serving Christ by Serving Others***

*"You cannot be spiritually healthy while being emotionally unhealthy."*

Pastor Pete Scazzero

*"Bear fruit worthy of repentance....Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree that does not bring forth good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."*

Jesus, Matthew 3:8a, 10

**MICHAEL'S MUSINGS**

I am enjoying my time with some of my colleagues in a wonderful book study called *The Emotionally Healthy Leader* by Pete Scazzero. It has been very eye opening, challenging me in ways that strike at the heart of what I think ministry is all about. **Too often the veneer of ministry is colorful and beautiful, but when peeled away, all the reasons we do the things we do for the church are terribly self-interested.** Our motives are not unconditional, gracious or pure. We really want to do the work, not for others, but to gain power, prestige or recompense. We want God to owe us, we expect the church to cater to us and demand the church and its people respond to unspoken needs. And that is where the emotionally healthy portion of the spiritual life really hits the road. **I have been influenced by a spiritual tradition (charismatic) that proclaimed "God will take away all of your problems," and when my bad behavior or tendencies didn't go away, I got to blame the Lord or the pastor or the church for not fixing the problem. Turns out that God doesn't make the problems go away; rather, God calls me to wrestle with the portions of my soul that are unhealthy.** God will help, not by making it go away, but by supporting me and standing by me as I take responsibility for who I am to be. **God doesn't make my problems through bad choices and unhealthy decisions, I do.** And with God's help, I am the only one that can fix them.

We are emotional people and when channeled into a joy-filled passion or a raucous celebration, that is a wonderful thing! **But when anger fuels our words, when sadness drives us to madness, when kneejerk reactions guide our thoughts and frustrations, then we only have ourselves to blame for the results.** Not the church, not the pastor, not God. Galatians 6 speaks of the totality of our responsibility to be responsible for who we are: *"Bear one another's burdens and in doing so you will fulfill the law of Christ."* This one we are familiar with as a descriptor of the church; when things are all messed up, the church is supposed to help me. But that is only half the idea that Paul is presenting. He continues *"test your own work, rather than the work of others so that your own work will be a cause for gratitude. For each will have to carry their own loads."* **Our reaction to the situations and circumstances around us is our responsibility, and Jesus is very clear that our reactions will claim a price on our soul.**

Ephesians 4:31-32 states it plainly: ***"Put away all bitterness, wrath, anger and slander, wrangling and malice and be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as Christ has forgiven you."*** If these negative feelings are the characteristics that guide our lives, our relationships will suffer, our work and play will suffer and most importantly, our spirit will die on the vine and the fruit will be cut off and cast into the fire.

These are days of challenge, days of struggle and days of difficulty, As our nation and the rest of the world struggle with good and terrible behavior, words of derision and selfishness and exclusion, the scriptures remind us that God is expecting more than such profane living from his people. **Let us seek higher things, born anew to do more than be a church that "meets my needs."** Trust me, if it is about your needs, then we will fail to meet them at some point! **Instead, be a church that lives, breathes and manifests in all things the ministry, the reflection, and yes, the very manifestation of the Kingdom of God, a spiritually healthy kingdom that embodies peace, joy and grace.**

See you in worship,  
Rev. Michael

## **MESSAGE FROM OUR LAY LEADER**

With the current rapid growth of southern Utah, I would expect the numbers in worship each Sunday will be following suit in the years to come. It is important for you to know that your leadership team is currently busy learning, studying, and preparing to meet the needs and lifestyles of those who will be visiting and looking for a place to worship.

The United Methodist Church is not McDonalds. UMC is made up of local churches and SHUMC may or may not look like churches we have been part of in the past. I do know that the congregation at SHUMC is a loving, caring, and sharing community and the results can be seen in our activities at SHUMC and strong missions that are performed, not only in the St George community, but internationally as well.

We have a strong relationship with Jesus Christ and we do not exist for ourselves, but rather for others. Our Pastor is not charged with doing everything for 'me.' As a congregation, we ask him to help us learn about Christ and equip us so that we can be disciples of Christ. Our dedicated staff and team leaders do an outstanding job of fulfilling this mission while still looking for ways to improve and make it better.

As new faces appear on our campus, I know that you will continue to connect with them as you have in the past. This is probably the strongest attribute of SHUMC. It comes because of the efforts and preparations of our current and past clergy and leaders of SHUMC. So, seek out a new face each Sunday, invite them to coffee or breakfast. Connect with them, learn about their interests and what they like to do. That connection just might lead to a long-lasting friendship and help encourage the development of disciples in Christ.

Steve Fassler, Lay Leader

## **LAY SERVANT TRAINING**

On May 18 and 19 Hilltop UMC (985 East 10600 South, Sandy, Utah) is hosting both a Basic Lay Servants course (cost \$25) and an Advanced Lay Servants course (cost \$30). There will be a gathering from 5:30-6:00 pm on Friday with class from 6:00-8:00 pm, and on Saturday at 8:45 am with four classes lasting about 1.5 hours and lunch served at Noon (a casserole, of course) we should be done by about 3:45 or so.

**If you have never done this before it is a golden opportunity to serve (arff!) your SHUMC community.** Current Lay Servants may take either class as a refresher or as their first course. Cost covers instructional materials and food/snacks/beverages. If you are interested in attending, please let Sandi know **by Monday May 7 since we need to know how many books to order.** When we know who and how many, you will be notified of transportation and other accommodations.

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known  
Serving Christ by Serving Others*



## **FUN FOR LUNCH BUNCH**

Meeting for Mexican at Don Pedro's was a fun and friendly gathering of 14 lovely women. Thanks to all who attended. This month we will be heading to **Chuck A Rama** (corner of Red Cliffs and St. George Blvd) on **Wednesday, May 16 at 11:30**. Please reserve a space....so we know who to expect. This restaurant is less structured than some others, but we need to know how many seats and the table size we will need. Kathy Nied 435-632-9321.

## CONDENSED FINANCE REPORT – March 2018

### CONDENSED FINANCE REPORT

<b>INCOME:</b>	<b><u>March 2018</u></b>	<b><u>YTD 2018</u></b>
Pledges & Loose Plate	22,068.00	65,843.00
Designated UMCOR	35.00	144.00
Income-- Other	670.48	3,665.83
<b>Total Ordinary Income</b>	<b>22,103.00</b>	<b>65,987.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,605.47</b>	<b>69,652.83</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Finance	3,776.09	20,814.23
Stephen Ministry	0.00	0.00
Education	0.00	1,134.06
Evangelism	0.00	728.76
Missions	0.00	669.85
Music	110.00	459.01
Worship	195.46	1,337.57
Staff Parish	11,718.96	46,933.30
Trustees	3,632.78	17,364.41
Uncategorized Expenses	161.24	161.24
Other Expense	1,706.50	6,127.68
<b>Total Ordinary Expense</b>	<b>19,594.53</b>	<b>90,842.43</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>21,301.03</b>	<b>92,548.93</b>
<b>NET ORDINARY INCOME</b>	<b>2,508.47</b>	<b>- 24,855.43</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>1,472.45</b>	<b>- 27,317.28</b>
<b>MORTGAGE BALANCE</b>	<b>\$289,203.68</b>	

### SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2018 NARRATIVE BUDGET

The Finance Ministry Team supports the Mission of SHUMC by developing and implementing plans for sufficient congregational giving to express our gratitude to God for all we have received, as well as distributing our bounty to make a positive difference in our church, community, and the world

Our mission is built on the foundation of the Holy Trinity. It is coordinated by the efforts of our administration and supported by five “pillars” – Sharing, Serving, Celebrating, Learning, and Sustaining. These are the key elements of who we are and what we do at SHUMC. This narrative budget reveals how your pledges and offerings are used in the work of the church.

#### **SHARING GOD’S WORD -- \$77,653\***

In the Great Commission, Jesus said, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” He made it clear that one of our greatest tasks is to share the good news of God’s amazing love.

We want to make an impact on people from our own neighborhoods to those scattered throughout the world. Your generosity helps support missionaries in all the continents of the world as well as giving support to the work of the Methodist Church in our own country.

Within the boundaries of SHUMC, we coordinate programs that help welcome new attendees and members into our church and help them find a place of interest to share their talents. We reach out to

those in need of extra help and encouragement. We strive to welcome people to the church and invite them to experience the Grace of Jesus Christ.

**SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE -- \$57,353\***

Your continued donations to SHUMC support local and larger ministries of discipleship, compassion, advocacy, and caring for those in need – e.g. Dove Center, The Learning Center for Families, Switchpoint, the Food Bank, the Prison Ministry, the Soup Kitchen, Erin Kimball House, and many others. SHUMC also provides support for struggling new churches, giving them the opportunity to fulfill their missions of worship and service to others. Our Stephen Ministers are laypeople who are trained to provide one-to-one care

to people experiencing a difficult time – grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, separation from family, etc. Stephen Ministers share a commonality of passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

**CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE -- \$69,841\***

A vital part of the life of SHUMC is when we gather each Sunday to celebrate the greatness of God's love. It is our time together as the people of God. Before each worship time begins, we have already been hard at work to insure each person a place where everyone is welcomed and loved. The goal is to create a place where we can connect with God.

Each week the Praise Band, the choir, our organist/pianist lead us into a musical worship experience. We hear a message which makes God's word come alive in a way that can help us in our everyday lives. Together we remember Jesus's sacrifice and we connect with God and each other in many ways. Your giving provides the means to make this happen – from the video and sound, to the lighting, the air conditioning and heating, the bulletins, sheet music for our musicians, flowers, banners, special worship experiences and spiritual growth experiences. All of this and so much more happens because of the faithful gifts of each person.

**LEARNING GOD'S MESSAGE -- \$32,963\***

Spiritual growth does not happen in a vacuum. It happens when we interact with others in an educational experience that creates the opportunity to grow. At SHUMC, the Education Ministry Team coordinates the planning and implementation of a comprehensive Christian education ministry for all ages – children, youth, and adults. We have learning experiences in our nursery, classes for older children, youth education each Sunday, as well as two adult Sunday School classes. We have Bible Study classes for adults during the week and special education programs such as Confirmation Classes and Vacation Bible School.

**SUSTAINING GOD'S HOUSE – \$171,190\***

Your gifts help the Trustees and the Church Administration to sustain and implement the works of God inside SHUMC. They are in the business of caring for the church's property and assets so the congregation can be in the business of God's work.

The Trustees manage all the church's property, equipment, and investments in order to support the mission of the church. They supervise, oversee, care and provide proper maintenance of church property and equipment. They make plans for future development and help establish policies for proper use of church facilities. They represent the church in all legal matters. Sustaining the church for the future is a massive responsibility that requires many volunteer hours and a large part of our gifts and pledges.

- \*The figures shown are not as exact as the line item budget. The line-item budget is available at the Finance Administrator's Office.

Blended Worship: 8:30 am      Traditional Worship: 11:00 am

Office: 435-627-8638

Office Hours 9 am-2 pm

Email: shumcsg@yahoo.com

## LIVING LAST SUPPER PRESENTED ON MAUNDY THURSDAY IN APRIL



### **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - WEDNESDAY, May 9, 2018**

Please join us in Fellowship Hall on **May 9 at 1:00 pm** for the last official UMW meeting until September. Come and learn about some of the sites around the world that hold special significance for United Methodists. Refreshments will be served, and you are encouraged to bring along a canned good for the Utah Food Bank. Call Karen at 925-708-3655 for more information.



The next meeting of the United Methodist Men is scheduled for Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 8:00 am at the Village Inn.

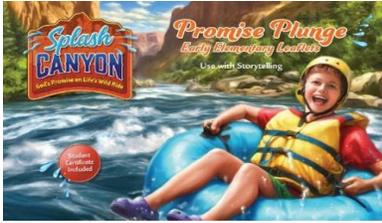
### **CINCO DE MAYO MINISTRY TEAM GATHERING!**

On Saturday morning, **May 5 from 9 - 10 am**, there will be a **Ministry Team gathering for all members of each ministry and Ministry teams**. We will begin the morning with some fellowship and churros and then Rev. Michael will have an important presentation about Servant Leadership. **All who are on a ministry team are expected to join us for this morning so please set aside this hour to come together and help us build a glorious foundation of service and grace for SHUMC!** See all ministry team members on May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9 am!!!

### **USHER TRAINING**

**GOOD NEWS** for all of you who have been tempted to sign up to serve as an usher, but think you don't know what to do! The Worship Team has scheduled an **Usher Training Meeting at 9:45 AM on Sunday, May 6,**

**2018** in the Sanctuary. We need **ALL** interested people to attend, whether experienced or not, and no matter which worship time you attend. You can even partner with an experienced usher at first!



## **2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

We are pleased to announce that Vacation Bible School will be held the **first full week of June (4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) from 9:00 am until Noon**. Bryan and Brenda Lewis will head up this activity. Signup sheets are in the narthex for those interested in volunteering to help. The theme for the week is "Splash Canyon." All children beginning school-age through Sixth Grade are invited to attend. Older youth are welcome to volunteer as assistant leaders.

Each morning, from 9-12, the participants will have an opportunity to learn more about the Bible and enjoy group activities, snacks and games. On Friday they will have an opportunity to "Splash" and play in the water for fun. Plan to bring your children and their friends for a very special week.



Prepping the New SHUMC Community Garden  
Bryan Lange , Willis & Ginny Digman and Linda Earls

## **MISSIONS NEWS**

**Pinecliff:** Be sure to sign up for Pinecliff before you leave on your summer travels. Save the date on your calendar: **August 24-August 30**. A signup sheet is available in the narthex. Watch for more information in May and June, or contact Gregg Freeman at [sreggly@gmail.com](mailto:sreggly@gmail.com).

### **UPCOMING MISSIONS ACTIVITIES:**

Switchpoint Food Distribution	Wednesdays	May 2 & May 16
Short Creek Food Pantry	Wednesdays	May 9 & May 23

**MAY TIDBITS FROM KIM RILEY**

Earth Day was April 22, passing without much fanfare, but highlighted by PBS with a documentary about Rachel Carlson. Born March 27, 1907, she died April 14, 1964. Her book *Silent Spring*, published in September 1962, ignited the environmental movement that eventually resulted in the formation of the EPA. Rachel was born on the outskirts of Pittsburg and attended Pennsylvania College for Women to develop her love of writing. However, she became a biologist doing grad work at Johns Hopkins. Her moral struggle was not with Monsanto but with the overuse of the pesticide DDT. Studies from her observations eventually led to the banning of DDT.

For Earth Day, Natural Grocer issued a challenge: I pledge to never use chemicals that harm ladybugs or other beneficial insects on my lawn or garden and to support 100% organic produce. They have a brochure as to many safe pest-deterrent alternatives.

Dr. Mercola’s April newsletter detailed a lost study from 40 years ago that discusses how we got side-tracked from using healthy saturated fats instead of corn oil. Corn upsets the healthy Omega-3 to Omega-6 ratios in our bodies. Current thinking is a 1 to 1 ratio is safe. Corn oil ratio is about 36 Omega-6 to Omega-3, causing higher risks of heart attacks. Monsanto’s Round Up, found in all GMO corn products, further exposes us to carcinogenic compounds. Round up has a longer half-life than DDT and is found throughout our environment. Switch to organic foods and protect your health. There is a major struggle with Monsanto today as the company opposes labeling that will inform you. The ever-present silent spring—half truth.



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Joel Toquero.....	4
Brenda Lewis.....	6
Mary Kelly.....	7
Kent Matheny.....	15
Anne Chamness.....	16
Carter Hugunin.....	18
Jan Blain.....	19
Florence Moffitt.....	20
Betty Reed.....	21
Frank Browne.....	22
Steve Fassler.....	26
John Lakner.....	26
Penny Watkins.....	26
Phyllis Jines.....	28
Tell Wade.....	29



***Happy Anniversary***

<i>Bill &amp; Penny Watkins.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>David &amp; Jean Elmer.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Robert &amp; Diane Moffitt.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Frank &amp; Linda Browne.....</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>Ed &amp; Sue Karchinsky.....</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Thomas &amp; LeAnn Sawyer.....</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>Gregg &amp; Toni Freeman.....</i>	<i>31</i>

MAY 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  6p Praise 7p Choir	2 9a Stitchin' Bunch  4p Evangelism 5:45 Education 7p Bells	3  1p Prayer/Med	4  10a Crafters	5  9a Ministry Team Leadership Training
6 Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am  Holy Communion Wesley Ringers  9:45am Usher Training	7 9a Sewing Session	8  4p Worship  6p Praise 7p Choir	9 9a Stitchin' Bunch  1p UMW 3p Missions 4p SPR  7p Bells	10  1p Prayer/Med	11	12
13 Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am  Wesley Ringers  Mother's Day	14 NO Sewing Session	15  6p Praise 7p Choir	16 9a Stitchin' Bunch  11:30 Lunch Bunch  3p ERT	17  1p Prayer/Med  4p Trustees  5p DSUMC joint meeting with SHUMC Leaders	18  10a Crafters	19  8am UMM
20 Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am	21 9a Sewing Session  1p Care Group  5p Finance	22  6p Praise 7p Choir	23 9a Stitchin' Bunch	24  1p Prayer/Med	25	26
27 Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am	28 OFFICE CLOSED  NO Sewing Session	29  6p Praise	30 9a Stitchin' Bunch  6p Ad Council	31  1p Prayer/Med		