

# The Steeple

April—May 2026

Dear Friends

Greetings in the name of Jesus! The season of Lent is coming to an end and Holy Week. We will soon be hearing again of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the disciples last supper with Jesus and the passion of our Lord. Palm Sunday is March 29<sup>th</sup>. Our Holy Thursday service is April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 PM and will be our communion service for the month of April. Our Good Friday service is based on the 7 last words or sayings of Jesus from the cross. This will be a service of songs by our choir and readings from the pastors. On Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> our sanctuary will be filled with the joyous sounds of resurrection at both of our services.

The meaningful church seasons of Lent and Holy Week lead us to the season of Easter. We often think of Easter as just one day, but it includes all the Sundays leading up until Pentecost, which is May 24<sup>th</sup> this year. Christ's resurrection makes a difference in our individual lives and in the life of the church throughout the year.

During the month of February and into the beginning of Lent, many of us participated in a 28-day Dynamite Prayer experiment using the book by Rosario Picardo and Sue Nilson Kibbey. We invited God's resurrection power into our lives and the life of our church. For the last several months we have been praying the breakthrough prayer written by our bishop in our weekly bulletin. Beginning on Easter Sunday, a new prayer will be in our bulletin that relates more closely to our setting.

I often describe our church as the one at the traffic lights on Rt. 8 and Dickey Road. In fact, I believe that I have spent a year of my life waiting for that light to change when leaving our building! Sue Nilson Kibbey encourages churches to create a breakthrough prayer with a prayer symbol. Our prayer was written with that in mind:

Loving God, breakthrough the busyness of our lives  
so that we might stop to hear your voice,  
discern where you are leading and  
go in the power of your Spirit in Jesus' name. Amen.

It is my hope that you will join me praying this prayer daily. Maybe when you leave our church building while you are waiting for the light to turn green or at other lights. It may be better for you to pray it when your day begins or ends. I hope you will pray along with those of us who will begin the Dream Table process with Sue Nilson Kibbey during the month of April and May. Your team for this discernment process is Andy Detar, Jennie Smith, Pastor Amanda and Pastor Keith. I am looking forward to the new things God will do as we pray and discern together.

Blessings,  
Pastor Keith

*Join Us for worship! ON Sundays at 8:30am and 11:00am*

*Adult small groups at 9:45am*

Nursery (available at 11:00am) Upper Education Wing **Nursery is available for infants and children up to 4 years old**

*Junior Church will be dismissed after the children's moment at 11:00am worship*

# April Happenings....

**The Neighborhood Table | Apr. 2 | Fellowship Hall**  
BUMC is continuing to partner with the Fox Chapel UMC to provide meals to the Sharpsburg Community.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare the meal at BUMC starting at 2:30 PM. The meals are then transported to Sharpsburg and volunteers are needed there to help serve and clean up afterwards. This has been a very rewarding ministry so far, so please consider volunteering by calling Roger Cramer at 724-443-2847.

**Good Friday Women's Breakfast | Friday, Apr. 3rd**  
Trinity Lutheran Church (724) 443-8110  
Please call Trinity Lutheran to RSVP \$10 at the door. Starts at 8:00am

Speakers information: **"Giving New Life"**.  
Cherie Peters has been an advocate for organ donation for more than 25 years.

Jackie Hutz and her husband, Bill, are the co-founders of the nonprofit Team Fishguy Transplant Foundation.

**Good Friday Men's Breakfast | Friday, April 3rd**  
First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown,  
5825 Heckert Rd — 724-443-1555  
Please call First Presbyterian to RSVP  
\$12 for adults, \$6 for boys 10 and under  
payable at the door **Starts at 7:30am**

**Speaker:** Chuck Ondo. Chuck is a US Marine Corp Veteran, was an undercover detective with the Pennsylvania State Police for ten years, and is now the Co-Founder and President of Semper Fi Mission.

**Men Doing Stuff | Mon., Apr. 6 | 6:30pm | Fellowship Hall**  
There will be a dinner starting at 6:30 pm followed by an activity at the church. As usual, the activity will be determined closer to the date of the event based on the needs of the church at the time! If you are not already included in the Men's group email sent out separately from church emails, please request being added by emailing: [bak-erstownnumm@gmail.com](mailto:bak-erstownnumm@gmail.com)

**Drive Thru Dinner | Apr. 7 | Fellowship Hall**  
The Mission Team has been serving a monthly meal for The Lighthouse. If the Lord is calling you to participate in this ministry either by helping with food prep in the kitchen, packing meals, delivering them to our church friends or to cars, please plan on coming to the fellowship hall at 2:30pm, or if you have any other questions, please contact Carol Skolnik at [cnikskol@gmail.com](mailto:cnikskol@gmail.com).

**DIGGING Deeper Into Judges | Apr. 12 | 9:45am | Wesley Room**  
Come join us as we study a book of the Old Testament that is often ignored. The book of Judges covers the period of the history of the Israelites from the death of Joshua to the first kings. It is a period of chaos, leader-

ship by flawed heroes, crime, violence and God's flawless faithfulness. Failure to follow God's commands was a constant during this period. While the author of Judges is unknown, the book was written to show the results of continued unfaithfulness and the need for a faithful king who would point the people back to God. While the stories of Judges are full of sinful acts, murder, violence, lust, adultery, the book also reminds us that God's grace endures forever.

**All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast! | Saturday, Apr. 18 | 8:00-11:00am | Fellowship Hall** \$8.00 for Adults, \$4.00 for ages 6-12 and under age 6 eat for free. Come and get your choice of Plain, Blueberry, Buckwheat or Chocolate Chip Pancakes and the options of eggs, bacon, sausage and/or home-fries to go with them. Wash it all down with coffee, tea or OJ.

**A Stitch and a Prayer | Saturday, Apr. 18 | 10am to 2pm | Old Fellowship Hall** Sewing, knitting and crocheting blankets and prayer shawls for Linus Project, baptisms and ill in our church. Need help sorting, sewing, ironing, pinning, cutting.....all hands welcome. Bring a lunch!!!!

If you sew, crochet, or knit your talent can be used in making quilts for Project Linus, shawls for shut-ins or even lap robes for people in nursing homes. If you are not able to join us when we meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10-2, please contact Louise Himes, Mary Pouchot or Marge Kirkpatrick if you have questions regarding how you can help.

**The Junque Sale Returns on Saturday, April 25th!**  
Junque Sale donations can be dropped off starting April 20th. **Please remember we do NOT take, TV'S, computers, printers, DVD players, or any other electronics, no encyclopedias or magazines, no clothing or shoes, or fitness equipment. All other donations are welcome. We would appreciate your donations be clean and in working order. Thank you!** If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 724-443-3184

Help is needed during the week to unload, sort, price, and display merchandise. Of course, food is needed to sustain our hungry workers as well! On the day of the sale we will need volunteers to work in the kitchen, and as cashiers, loaders, general help, and clean up. The Junque Sale is traditionally our biggest fundraiser. Please consider volunteering! Just use the link [Junque Sale Signup](#)

*Lighthouse Food Pantry Collection for the month of April*  
—pasta regular and gluten free, pasta sauces, tomato products, diced tomatoes

# May News...

## **Men Doing Stuff | Mon., May 4 | 6:30pm | Fellowship Hall**

There will be a dinner starting at 6:30 pm followed by an activity at the church. As usual, the activity will be determined closer to the date of the event based on the needs of the church at the time! If you are not already included in the Men's group email sent out separately from church emails, please request being added by emailing: [bak-erstownumm@gmail.com](mailto:bak-erstownumm@gmail.com)

## **The Neighborhood Table | May 7 | Fellowship Hall**

BUMC is continuing to partner with the Fox Chapel UMC to provide meals to the Sharpsburg Community.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare the meal at BUMC starting at 2:30 PM. The meals are then transported to Sharpsburg and volunteers are needed there to help serve and clean up afterwards. This has been a very rewarding ministry so far, so please consider volunteering by calling Roger Cramer at 724-443-2847.

## **Drive Thru Dinner | May 12 | Fellowship Hall**

The Mission Team has been serving a monthly meal for The Lighthouse. If the Lord is calling you to participate in this ministry either by helping with food prep in the kitchen, packing meals, delivering them to our church friends or to cars, please plan on coming to the fellowship hall at 2:30pm, or if you have any other questions, please contact Carol Skolnik at [cnikskol@gmail.com](mailto:cnikskol@gmail.com).

**The Bakerstown Book Club | Wednesday, May 13th | 1:00pm | Church Library.** Bring along a book you've read and enjoyed recently – and join us for a fun discussion of the books. Hope to see you on there. There's ALWAYS chocolate!!

## **GriefShare Outreach Ministry – Spring/Summer 2026**

**NEW** weekly meetings began on Wednesday evening March 4<sup>th</sup> and will continue through May 27<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm till 8:30pm in the Wesley Room.

GriefShare is a special support group designed to offer you help and encouragement after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. We know it hurts, and we want to help. Our GriefShare program is co-led by Rev. Bill Dambach, Marcia Shipley, Tim McDermott, Judy Moore, and Marge Kirkpatrick.

Please feel free to call the church office at 724-443-3184 if you have any questions or would like more information about GriefShare. GriefShare is a drop-in anytime group and open to anyone in the church or community. All are welcome.

**All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast! | Saturday, May 16 | 8:00-11:00am | Fellowship Hall** Breakfast will be served from 8:00 am to 11:00 am, \$8.00 for Adults, \$4.00 for ages 6-12 and under age 6 eat for free. Come and get your choice of Plain, Blueberry, Buckwheat or Chocolate Chip Pancakes and the options of eggs, bacon, sausage and/or home-fries to go with them. Wash it all down with coffee, tea or OJ.

**A Stitch and a Prayer | Saturday, May 16 | 10am to 2pm | Old Fellowship Hall** Sewing, knitting and crocheting blankets and prayer shawls for Linus Project, baptisms and ill in our church. Need help sorting, sewing, ironing, pinning, cutting.....all hands welcome. Bring a lunch!!!!

If you sew, crochet, or knit your talent can be used in making quilts for Project Linus, shawls for shut-ins or even lap robes for people in nursing homes. If you are not able to join us when we meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10-2, please contact Louise Himes, Mary Pouchot or Marge Kirkpatrick if you have questions regarding how you can help.

**Beginning in May, the Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study goes to "Third Thursdays @ 10am"** for the Summer. All women of the church are welcome. Please consider dropping in to Fellowship Hall at 10:00am to join in one of these morning sessions with us. The dates and teachers leading each class are:

May 21 – Pastor Amanda Mitchell

June 18 – Marcia Shipley

July 16 – Pastor Alyce Weaver Dunn

August 20 – Dawn Conroy



*Lighthouse Food Pantry Collection for the month of May—Taco shells, tortillas, taco seasoning, and salsa*

**Required Minimum Distribution and Qualified Charitable Distribution** With a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), a check goes directly from your IRA to your church. Many people who are facing RMDs that will have tax implications could pay all their annual tithing or offering at one time, hopefully early in the year, through their QCD and never have to show it as income.

If you're looking to make a lasting impact while maximizing your tax benefits, now is the time to act. Talk with your financial planner. Please advise your financial planner to put an identifier on the check sent to the church so I can let you know I received it. Thanks, Kay Cramer, Financial Secretary. 724-443-2847

# Children's Ministry News....



**Junior Church is held every week during the 11:00 AM service for kids in PreK through 5th grade.**

This spring, our focus will be on the New Testament with a specific look at the amazing emotions that God gives us and how we see those in the Bible. No sign-ups are needed ahead of time—just bring your kids, and they will be dismissed after the Children's Message.

**-THE LAST JUNIOR CHURCH OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE ON MAY 31ST.**

## **April Children's Ministry Event**

April's Children's Ministry Event will take place on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:15-1:45pm. Lunch will be provided, and this is a drop-off event, but volunteers are always welcome. To RSVP for your child or volunteer to help, please use this link: [April Event](#)

## **So Long Spring, Hello Summer Potluck**

Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> from 12:15-2pm we will hold our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual potluck for all ages! We are celebrating the end of spring and the beginning of summertime with fellowship (that means food and fun!). Games will be provided (but you can bring your own), some small decorations for VBS will be started, and a fun time will be had for all! This is for ALL AGES.

The event will take place in New Fellowship Hall. RSVP with the number of attendees and what you plan to bring [here](#).

If you forget to register, you can still come!

## **Volunteer for Junior Church**

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNIOR CHURCH! Signups will be available on paper in the Narthex, and a digital signup will be emailed to the congregation.

## **How to Get Involved**

**Children's ministry can't happen without your help! We have great opportunities to serve both directly with kids and behind the scenes.**

## **Join the Hearts & Hands Team**

- We will not meet in April.
- Our May team meeting is on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 PM. Food will be provided! The more the merrier! If we have finished prep for Junior Church and upcoming Children's Ministry Events, we will begin some prep work for stations for VBS!

## **Journey to the Cross**

Did you not make it, but wish you had? The participant guide is available for viewing and download [here](#). Feel free to still explore the topics on your own or with family and friends.

**Important Clearance Notice: In order to volunteer, the church will need to have copies of your clearances. If you are unsure if we have your clearances, please reach out and we will let you know.**

## **Contact Information**

**If you are interested in volunteering or coming to the Hearts and Hands team meeting, please email Jennie at [jsmith@bakerstownumc.org](mailto:jsmith@bakerstownumc.org).**

**Thank you so much for your support!**

# Mission Team News...

Thank you, thank you, thank you for providing the Girl Scout cookies for the March Drive Thru Dinner. You can't imagine the joy it brings to folks who have the opportunity to choose their own cookie variety! Your generosity also provided support to our own Lyla Kennah and her Girl Scout Troop. Thank you, Lyla, for organizing and delivering the cookies to the church!

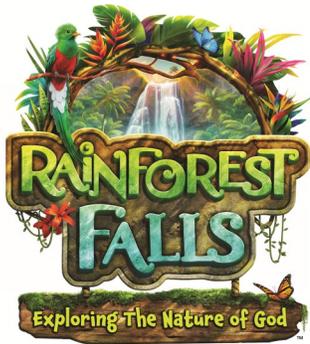
It's time to start spring cleaning! Our annual Junque Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. You can begin dropping your clean, sellable junque at the church beginning on Monday, April 20. Please remember that we cannot accept electronics, encyclopedias, magazines, exercise equipment, clothing, or broken/non-working items. Your generous support of the Junque Sale is a major source of funding for the mission team. Thank you for donating your junque, helping to organize and price junque, manning the sale and cleaning up afterward, and of course, buying new junque! The volunteer signup sheet will be coming out soon. Be on the lookout!

## **Sleep at Home Work Mission Week**

Have you ever wanted to be involved in a Mission Trip, but not been able to schedule a week off or been able to afford the cost of traveling with a church mission trip group? If that is the case, we have a solution for you! During the week of **Monday 7/20/26 through Friday 7/24/2026**, BUMC is planning our first ever "Sleep at Home Work Mission Week".

There will be several chances throughout the week for church members to be involved in a variety of local mission activities. We will be scheduling activities for each day of the week and you can pick and choose which one(s) you would like to be involved with. At the end of the week, all participants will be welcomed to join in a celebration dinner at the church. If you are interested, stay tuned for further details for the dates and places where we will step out and do the work of Christ in the communities around us!

## Vacation Bible School News



**Vacation Bible School Registration is open!**

**June 22nd-26th from 9:00am -12:00pm!**

We will journey from Creation through Revelation and explore the true nature of God at Rainforest Falls .

To register for your child, please use the link here: [VBS Registration](#)

**Want to help with VBS?** If you would like to volunteer for VBS, please register using the link here: [Volunteer RSVP](#)

Paper volunteer registration forms will be available at the Children's Ministry volunteer table in the Narthex.

**Important Clearance Notice: In order to volunteer, the church will need to have copies of your clearances. If you are unsure if we have your clearances, please reach out and we will let you know.**

**Contact Information**

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Jenie at [jsmith@bakerstownumc.org](mailto:jsmith@bakerstownumc.org).

**VBS Wishlists:**

Amazon wishlist [linked here](#)

Group publishing wishlist [linked here](#)



This year for VBS, participants will dive into the book of Psalms! They have an opportunity to go home with their very own copy! If you are interested in donating, it costs \$4.49 per copy.

At Rainforest Falls VBS, kids will learn about the nature of God. One way we learn about this is by exploring creatures He has created and linking stories to verses each day. Bible Buddies are a physical representation of what we have learned. If you'd like to donate to the Bible Buddies, we can get enough for 10 kids for \$37.99.



**VBS Donation requests:**

Have any fake greenery (not Christmas trees or Christmas items) you want to part with? Consider donating so we can turn our church into a Rainforest this summer! Greenery can be dropped off outside of the Children's ministry office, a box for donations will be placed there.

**Last year, we had a prize table that was a major hit! Children who brought offering money for the mission team were given tickets for a daily prize drawing. If you happen to see some small prizes while out and about and would like to donate to our prize table, please pick them up! Examples of great items are:**

- Sensory toys
- Small stuffed animals
- Small containers of slime or putty
- Other small novelty items

## Youth Group News...

**Bakerstown Youth Group meets on Sunday nights from 6:00-7:30pm.** Open to all kids from 6th-12th grade. Weekly meetings, which include Bible study, worship, games, and fellowship and give all youth an opportunity to explore their faith while developing lasting friendships. If you want to be involved in our Youth Ministry Program, or have questions concerning a program, please contact Pastor Amanda at [amitchell@bakerstownumc.org](mailto:amitchell@bakerstownumc.org) if you have any questions.

**April: Our theme is Another Look:**

Have you ever had a conversation that opened your eyes to something you'd never thought about before? Or maybe someone asked you a single question that completely shifted your perspective. Words have the power to change everything, and that's never been more true than with Jesus. He asked questions that changed people's perspectives and caused them to take another look at themselves, their lives, and what they believed about God. In this series from the book of Luke, we'll take a look at four big questions Jesus asked.

**No youth group April 5 due to Easter**

**May: Our theme is Unbelievable**

Whether you've gone to church your whole life or just started today, it's understandable if you have questions about God and the Bible, especially when some things seem unbelievable. But our doubts don't have to destroy our faith. We might just find our voice when we speak up about questions we have. In this series from the book of John, we'll look at how Jesus met people where they were, showing that when we have questions, he's always listening, and that even when we don't understand, we can trust God's character.

May 2: Go Karts from 11-1 at Throttle Adrenaline Park in Monroeville

No youth group May 10 due to Mother's Day. No youth group May 24 due to Memorial Day.

## From the Prayer Corner – Put Some Spring in Your Spirit!!

*“Sing to God a brand-new song, sing His praises all over the world! Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause, with all the far-flung islands joining in. Let the desert and its camps raise a tune, calling the Kedar nomads to join in. Let the villagers in Sela round up a choir and perform from the tops of the mountains. Make God’s glory resound; echo His praises from coast to coast.” Isaiah 42:10 (MSG)*

SPRING, SPRING, SPRING! Can you smell the fresh breeze through the open window? Ahhh! Don’t you love the freshness of spring each year? We seem to walk taller, feel healthier, enjoy more color in our faces and a boost in our energy. Everything about spring breathes of life and newness. Don’t you love seeing green fields with baby calves cavorting around the pasture or reaching up for a drink from Mama? Or watching your own children or grandchildren running coatless around your yard or the park, exploring each square foot as if it were brand-new. We can’t help but lift our faces to thank Jesus for the smile He gave us through His wonderful creation of springtime at the end of a long dark cold winter.

Perhaps that’s why we are drawn to Isaiah 42:10, which draws a picture of a world reveling in the joy of praising God. We can almost hear it. It’s amazing how God—the Ancient of Days, the Omega, the One Who Was and Is and Is to Come—is Lord not only of our past, but also of our future. He is Lord of all that will be new as He makes it beautiful in His time. (See Ecclesiastes 3:11.)

Imagine the newness experienced by people whose lives spanned the time before Jesus’ birth until after His death. The handful of His people who believed in Him back then felt not only the longing for the Messiah but also the new joy that He had arrived at last! And now, He is here for us too!!

Spring is a gentle reminder that no season lasts forever. What once seemed barren now bursts with color, fragrance, and new life. Just as the earth awakens from winter’s stillness, God can breathe renewal into the weary places of our hearts. If springlike praise has faded in your heart, ask Jesus during this new season to plant in you fresh seeds of joy and hope and praise. Let the budding trees and blooming flowers be a promise to you: God is still at work, even in the quiet seasons. Trust His timing, embrace His renewal, and step forward with hope.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank You for the beauty of new beginnings. Refresh my spirit, restore my joy, and help me see the signs of Your work all around me. Amen. 🌸  
(Portions taken from Guideposts.org)

## April & May Birthday’s & Anniversaries

04/03 Jim Werkmeister	04/17 Noah Pelusi	05/03 Gary Torick	05/27 Nancy Parris
04/04 Gabriel Khambatta	04/20 Rose Gagen	05/03 Nathan Perriello	05/30 Susan McGrath
04/05 Carl Stevens	04/22 Kellen McGrath	05/05 Tori Barrett	05/31 Roger Cramer
04/06 Mike Perriello	04/22 Howard Cope	05/10 Katie Lowell	
04/06 Charlotte Episcopo	04/23 Ben DeVore	05/14 Lindsey Soxman	
04/08 Olivia Gilligan	04/24 Benjamin Brown	05/14 Skip Lancaster	
04/09 Matthew Walker	04/24 Bob Conroy	05/15 Vicki Justus	
04/11 Daryl Sarver	04/24 Tenley Kennah	05/16 Jaison Rinker	
04/14 Bill Ometz	04/26 Diana Werkmeister	05/19 Mary Ann Wilson	
04/14 Jean Ferber	04/27 Sherry Swarmer	05/21 Jim Fergus	
04/14 Cathy Dambach	04/27 Michele Rossi	05/22 Joyce Gindlesperger	
04/15 Shawn Mankamyer	04/29 Nancy Hollinger	05/24 Lisa Cope	
04/16 Denise Grier	04/30 John Brumberg		
04/19 Eric Lunn			
04/30 Troy & Pam Lunn		05/05 Wally & Sherry Swarmer	
		05/13 Jim & Charlotte Episcopo	
		05/19 Parvez & Jamie Khambatta	
		05/26 Gary & Sherry Torick	
		05/27 Al & Marsha Kolbe	
		05/28 Lake & Camille Barrett	

Thank You!

Thank you for your donations for my trip to Ireland. I’m very excited about the trip and your support means a lot. Please keep the trip in your prayers as we travel in July. I know God will bless our time and I am amazed at your kindness and support! Olivia Gilligan

## Trustees News...

The Board of Trustees has been busy over the past few months. Some of their work has been related to ongoing maintenance, while other pieces of work have been complete replacements or upgrades. Many people and groups have supported the work of the Trustees. We are forever grateful for their donations of time, money, and energy that these individuals and groups have made on behalf of Bakerstown UMC.

This winter, we have focused on maintenance to our Lee Road parsonage. Below is a list of items that have been repaired or completed:

1. Upgraded safety devices were installed – Thanks to Bill Shepherd and Tim Jarosz
2. Yard lamp posts were repaired – Thanks to Bill Shepherd
3. Dishwasher and cabinet repairs – Thanks to Ben Devore
4. Concrete Slab releveling – Thanks to Bill Shepherd and Tim Jarosz
5. Basement Door Replacement – Thanks to Carl and Aaron Stevens
6. An old window in the basement was replaced with glass block resulting in both thermal and security improvements.
7. The rear railing from the church to the parsonage were replaced as part of an Eagle Scout project completed by Quenton Summer
8. Lastly, radon tests were performed in both the Lee Road and Hytyre Farms parsonages, which yielded satisfactory results that complied with the Pennsylvania DEP guidelines.

At the main church building, the following items have been repaired or completed:

1. Restoration of the front island areas
2. Repainting of the Junior Church Room – Thanks to Peggy Hill and Nancy Hollinger
3. Replacement of the privacy film in the Men's Restroom – Thanks to Tim Jarosz
4. Replacement of the Narthex water fountain with bottle filling capabilities – Thanks to Bill Shepherd for installing the new fountain.
5. Professional cleaning of the kitchen floor and installation of eight new kitchen floor mats.
6. Cleaning of the Sanctuary Carpet – Thanks to the UMM and the Men Doing Stuff Groups

The church had previously contracted for snow removal of the various parking lots. However, sidewalk snow removal had not been formally contracted as this work was being completed by the church staff and volunteers. Recently, the Trustees arranged for a professional snow removal service for our sidewalks. As winter conditions dictate, this firm will be activated for church services, events, and other meetings at our building.

Lastly, the heavy snows of late January covered many of our roof and building areas. The intermittent snow melts and deep freezes in early February caused ice dams and water intrusion throughout many areas of the church. These areas included the Day School wing, and the North and South Entrance Lobbies. A big thanks goes to Lora Stafura, Ben Devore, and Bob Grier for taking immediate action with rooftop snow removal, and installing rented air movers, and dehumidification to minimize the water intrusion damage.

Since this event on February 12, 2026, the Trustees have filed a claim with our insurance carrier and have successfully recovered money to complete the damage repairs and replacements. Thanks to Dave Meuschke for leading this project. This work is expected to occur after the Day School sessions are complete in May. It is hoped that all the work can be finished prior to the start of Vacation Bible School in later June. Another thank you goes out to the United Methodist Men for their donation towards the damage repairs and replacements.

Again, thank you to everyone who has contributed in many ways to support the physical plant of our church. The Trustees will continue to be stewards of our buildings and property to ensure the value of our assets is maintained.

Bakerstown United Methodist Church  
5760 William Flynn Highway  
Gibsonia, PA 15044  
724-443-3184  
www.bakerstownumc.org



*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.*

## Staff:

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Senior Pastor

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Associate Pastor/Youth Director

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Tracy Hefner

Worship Leader

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## Brother Stanley to Speak at BUMC

We have an exciting opportunity to hear the testimony of Stanley Praimnath, who was in the south tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. He will be speaking during both services on April 19<sup>th</sup>. He will have a longer time to share at 9:45 AM in the sanctuary as he talks more about how God spared him that day and how God continues to be at work in his life.

Stanley Praimnath gave his life to the Lord on Good Friday many years ago. He has experienced the miraculous, lifesaving touch of the Lord, having survived the 1993 bombing and 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center. He is married to Jennifer and has two daughters Stephanie and Caitlin. He is a motivational speaker, author, and the Men's Group leader at Bethel Church NYC. He currently serves as an Associate Pastor where he worships with his family.

We hope you will join us in church or online to hear Brother Stanley's amazing testimony!

## Financial Update

	January 2026	February 2026	YTD February 2026	YTD February 2025
Current fund giving	\$43,373.96	\$34,792.96	\$78,166.92	\$63,966.65
Current fund expenses	\$38,242.20	\$42,906.18	\$81,148.38	\$82,211.22

Hello church family...It's hard to believe spring is almost here. We have battled the harsh winter, and have the bills to show for it.

Thank you for your continued support of your church. We continue to stay current with our bills, with quarterly bills being paid in March.

As always, if you have questions about the finances of the church, please ask me. Kay Cramer, financial secretary. 724-443-2847