



# AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

2018

SOJOURNER TRUTH MINISTRIES, INC. 501 High Street Williamsport, PA  
570-323-1797 **Rev. C. Angelique Labadie-Cihanowyz**, Director  
Website: [stmwilliamsport.org](http://stmwilliamsport.org)

**Vision Statement** Sojourner Truth Ministries shall be a loving, spiritual, and inclusive Christian mission. **Mission Statement** Sojourner Truth Ministries loves all people, creates community, builds character, and equips us to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are supported by these foundations:



*November 17: STM has been invited to participate in the Victorian Christmas Historical Church Tour. We will have refreshments, music, and historical exhibits showcasing the history of the building.*

### *New ministry .....*

Tuesday Testimonies: each week, we have been having someone share their personal testimony of how the Lord has brought them through struggle, or how their lives have changed as they gave their life over to Him. (11:45, Tuesdays) followed by lunch. This has been powerful and encouraging! To learn more, **contact Pastor Angelique at 610-428-5721.**

**Sojourner House-** We are preparing to transform the attached parsonage to use as transitional, community housing for highly motivated women coming out of a season of homelessness or incarceration. A selection panel will vet candidates for a successful program which will ultimately return to the community women who are well on their way in healing, wholeness, independence, and job security who are leading others who come behind them. Looking at spring, 2019 to open. Contact Angelique for more information! Room sponsorships available!! 610-428-5721

**Day of Hope:** Wednesday mornings at 11:00 area agencies and organizations will be presenting what they do, why they do it, how they help others, and how others might get involved. Beginning Aug 15. To get on that schedule, **contact Stephanie Shover at [stephjd@gmail.com](mailto:stephjd@gmail.com)**

### **FEATURING OUR COOK KEITH KING**

In a recent interview we learned Keith's early years were spent in Jersey City, NJ. Deciding that house painting wasn't for him, he decided to pursue something he observed his mother doing – cooking. Like most of us he began humbly with bussing tables then washing dishes and finally cooking. But all along he created “on-the-job training” by observing and asking questions of the cooks. Then he pursued formal training. Once trained, he obtained cooking positions with high-profile companies. When asked what brought him to STM, he said he sees his work as a ministry and prefers it to higher-paying jobs. “Sojourners are prisoners [to their circumstances] to be released.” He also ministers through the auspices of New Life Wake-Up Ministries.

**NEEDS:** *We are still looking for a volunteer with a van* to pick up the VFW food donation on the third Thursday of each month around noon - 1 o'clock. You can contact Summer Love at: [slove4stm@gmail.com](mailto:slove4stm@gmail.com) or phone 570-560-9725 who will answer all questions and inquiries.

Recently a testimony was given by 85 year old “Grandma” Sara Young, who was born on August 8, 1933 in South Carolina. Because of childhood asthma she wasn't expected to live 16 years! Her mother died when she was 13. A child of what today is called “a dysfunctional family”, and a lonely childhood, she has emerged with this motto: “I can't look at problems, because I am looking at God's grace and mercy.” Like most people, she has had “ups and downs” and done things “I knew was wrong”, and deprived of parents early on, she says, “I wasn't raised to hate”. Her repeated message to us is, “Receive Jesus in your heart, not just your mind.” Her place in STM is to do anything asked of her and to quietly minister to the Sojourners

*Now that most of the clean out is done, we are preparing for some exciting ministry projects!*

These include:

**After school, holistic programming** to include educational mentoring, life drama, rhythm, abuse prevention, integration, problem solving from a Christ-based perspective, nutrition guidance and basic cooking \* Volunteers needed (must be willing to fill out criminal history clearances) \*\* date to be announced- check the website for updates

**Soul Shift**, an 8 week video study of living a life transformed (author, Steve DeNeff) ( materials)\*\*\* date to be announced- please check our website for updates

A **“Breaking Cycles of Poor decisions” group**\*\*\*\* date to be announced- please check our website Leadership training (open to the community) **Late Jan/early Feb**

Cardio drumming- get your blood pumping, regardless of fitness level or age. Hit the drums to the beat of upbeat, positive and praise music!\*\*\*\* date to be announced...please check our website

**Warm Up Williamsport**- an opportunity to make n take your own tied fleece blanket- (1 per household). We will have entertainment for this family friendly community-invited event. We will also have donated blankets which will have been prayed over to give out. Food provided. **Sat Oct 13 4-7pm**. Contact us if you’d like to be involved in any way.

**Socktoberfest!** Partnering with Curtin elementary school, they will be collecting socks to donate to area agencies who in turn give to those most in need. This year, we have been invited to participate as one of the recipients! **(Tues Sept 25, daytime prep for Socktoberfest display/event) FRI OCT 5, 5 pm Curtin school**

Down the pike...

**Leadership training** (open to the community) **Late Jan/early Feb**

**Completed building projects this quarter:** We’ve been transforming like a chrysalis! From the outside, you cannot see much, but inside, changes are happening at a fast rate! All toward something beautiful....

-Report by Director Angelique

- ◇Entryway painted
- ◇Coat closet transformed into a clean, bright space
- ◇Board room painted from the floor to the tedious stained-glass window panes.
- ◇Bathroom painted
- ◇Windows installed in 4 solid doors to comply with Safe Sanctuary safety regulations
- ◇Office repaired, spackled, painted, and floored with laminate flooring
- ◇Altar furnishings given to a local ministry. 6 pews moved to open space
- ◇Repaired brickwork under second floor
- ◇windows in parsonage  
Old carpet and tack strips, staples pulled from 3 rooms, plus a hallway.
- ◇Dining room: painted trim and chair rail white, along with some door frames and bulletin boards.
- ◇Service window from kitchen to dining area painted a nice clean white.

- ◇Chalk paint panels created on large wall in dining area.
- ◇TV monitors installed in sanctuary (2), plus one in the board room and one in the dining area.
- ◇Kitchen ceiling tiles replaced.
- ◇Roof leak spot repaired.
- ◇Light fixtures replaced in board room
- ◇Donated stove installed
- ◇Kitchen ceiling tiles replaced
- ◇Clothing closet areas emptied, scrubbed down, and pared down
- ◇ Full attic halfway cleared.
- ◇Close to a dozen pick-up truck loads of stuff and trash removed from premises
- ◇Carpet pulled from all rooms in parsonage.
- ◇Debris removed from parsonage
- ◇Storage area cleared out
- ◇Parsonage main floor rooms scrubbed top to bottom

## Editorial

Worn out reading this? I’m worn out just editing this!!! But WOW! “Things” are really happening at STM, with a lot more to come, if we have the volunteers and resources. The Lord keeps reminding me: “Inasmuch as you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto Me.” (Mt. 25:40) - Jerry Cline

SOJOURNER TRUTH MINISTRIES  
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WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

STM newsletter Fall 2018

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**Inside This Issue**  
**Keith King**  
**A Testimony**  
**Building Upgrades**  
**Coming Ministry Projects**  
**Day of Hope**  
**Sojourner House**  
**Victorian Christmas**  
**Wish List**

Address here

**WISH LIST:**

Recovery Bibles, socks, underclothing, tee shirts, clean, gently used blankets/quilts, kids chefs hats,  
aprons, oven mitts, large print Bibles (NIV, RSV), set of student colored bells,  
set of "Boom whackers", gift cards to local grocery stores (for cooking class),  
after school volunteers (must have clearances) to spend time with kids anywhere from one day after school per  
week (till 5:30) to daily.

Have a testimony you'd like to share? Contact Andrea (stephjd@gmail.com) or Angelique (610-428-5721) to discuss, and see about getting on the schedule.

Want to share about your organization? Currently scheduling! Contact Stephanie Shover (Board of Directors) to book it.

Sat Café- we currently have about 10 openings for the remainder of the year, and you can schedule opportunities for next year, as well. Small groups, couples, friends, church groups. We can even provide food for you to cook if you are unable to bring it.

Have a special skill/talent and want to use it for the Lord? Consider sharing it with us. Volunteers welcome!!

Want me to come and share about Sojourners to your church or group? Invite me! I'd love to!

**IF YOU NO LONGER WANT THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE LET US KNOW: 570-323-1797**

*Warm autumn greetings!*

Since I began to serve as Director in May, each day has been filled with a flurry of activity- from volunteers to community service workers to scrubbing and purging, serving meals, painting, visioning, meeting wonderful people and hearing some of their stories. And...seeing God provide in ways I would not have imagined. He has shown His favor too many times to count. His grace and mercy are evident everywhere in conversations. I've been humbled to pray with and for others with intensity and tears, and seen His mighty, tender hand at work in healing of areas of brokenness in so many senses of the word. He has both protected me from and pushed me towards uncomfortable situations.

The song "*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*" comes to mind-

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

The changes that can be seen are but a sweet taste of what is to come as we prepare for a new phase of ministry. We are looking forward to new beginnings as we seek fresh expressions of experiencing and knowing Jesus, delving into his great faithfulness. Can I get an Amen?!

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit us at Sojourner's recently, this is your invitation! Come and see /experience firsthand what God is doing!

Peace~ Angelique



**Services to begin!** At last, Sojourner Truth Ministries will begin having nontraditional worship which will explore Jesus Christ; **a Fresh expression**. Services will be informal and conversational, inviting spiritual formation and transformation. Looking for musicians (once or more), ministers, and ministerial students to be a part of this (once or more). Also looking for soup and/ or sandwich makers for light meals to follow. (Sunday afternoons) Call for more info! Check the website for updates! Join us on Facebook! Come to be a part of this exciting adventure!

### *Our Volunteers Are Outstanding!*

The recent "burger burn" at Sam's Club is an example of the multitude of activities supported by you givers and "fueled" by hands-on volunteers.



### *Ponderism*

*Have you heard the price of helium is going up?*

**Seriously:** Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in...Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:21f)