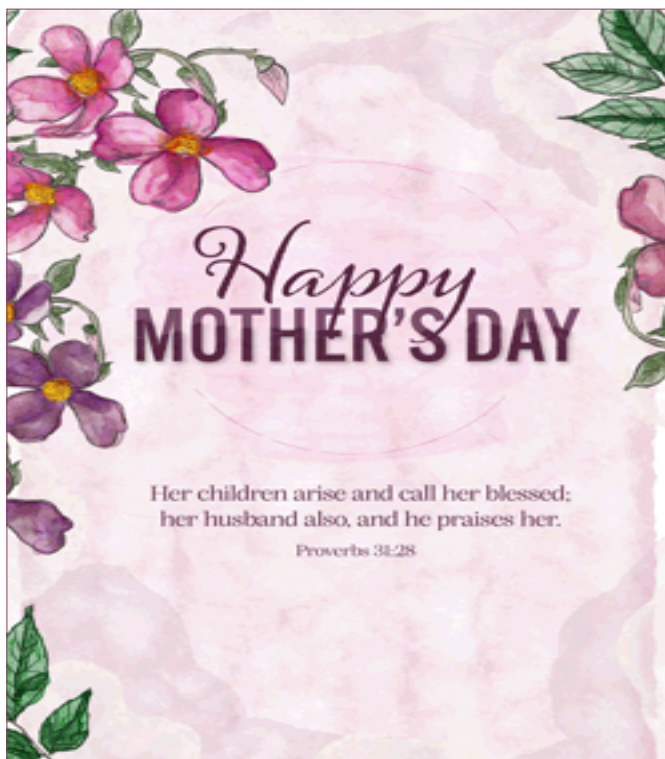


GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Pastor Sandy Kraft

May 11, 2025

127 S. Pennsylvania Avenue

Centre Hall, PA 16828



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

May 11, 2025

10:00 AM

“O What a Shepherd!”



Welcome

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CENTERING WORDS— Psalm 23:6

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



NOTE: If you are able, please stand where this symbol appears +

+CALL TO WORSHIP—

L: Come! Let us worship and praise God.

P: The Lord is our shepherd, our guardian, and our guide.

L: Celebrate the many ways in which God cares for our lives.

**P: Green pastures and silent still waters beckon us and
comfort us.**

L: Even though difficulties happen in our lives, still God is with us.

**P: Even when it seems that the world has nothing to offer
but suffering and pain, God surrounds us with
God's love and bounty.**

L: Surely God's mercy accompanies us on our journey.

P: And we will dwell in God's house forever. AMEN.

+OPENING PRAYER—

**With joy we come this day to the house of the Lord. God provides
for us abundantly even when we doubt and fear, even when we
turn away. God is faithful. Open our hearts today, O Lord, to
hear your word for us that we may become faithful disciples of
our Lord all our days. AMEN.**

+HYMN—For the Beauty of the Earth, page 92 UMH

FIRST SCRIPTURE—Psalm 23

PRAYER—(*Ending with the lord's prayer in unison*)

+**HYMN**—He Leadth Me, page 128 UMH

SECOND SCRIPTURE—John 10: 22-30

THE MESSAGE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest wounds.

We believe that Christ is the divine child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and discipline are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.

We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.

This is our faith, and we are humbled to profess it in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION—

Anger, hatred, despair blare at us from the television, social media and even the cashier at the store. The shouts of hurt and pain harden our hearts, merciful God. We cannot bear the hurts, so we turn away hoping they will disappear. When we hear the words about green pastures, still waters, our souls long for this place of peace. We think that it can be found outside ourselves, yet this is a reminder of the peace and hope that your love offers us from within. We know that we will have struggles and hard times, but help us Lord, to place our lives in your care, to trust in your comfort and guidance. Forgive our stubborn resistance to your compassionate love. Heal us again and place us on the right path. This we ask in Jesus' name. AMEN.

Time of Silent Reflection and Confession and Words of Assurance

OFFERING

+DOXOLOGY / THANKSGIVING PRAYER

+CLOSING HYMN—God Will Take Care of You, page 130
UMH

+BENEDICTION—The Blessing

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Worship Leader: Kelly Wian
Pianist: Aimee Gahagen
Liturgist: Page Gaddis
Acolyte: Nolan Barron
Greeters: Cindy Kellander and Gale Marshall
Media: Jeremy Peters and Jack Oakes

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE—May 18

Liturgist: Chris Hosterman
Acolyte: Jarrett Peters
Greeters: Willie and Erskine Cash
Church Checkers: Brian Heiser—May 05 to May 18
Bell Ringers: Page Gaddis and Carl Cassidy

CHURCH AND PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pastor Sandy's cell phone: (570) 575-8225
Email: skraft@susumc.org

Church office phone number: 814-364-1701
Church office email address: gumc127@gmail.com

Emergency contacts while Pastor Sandy is on vacation May 9th to May 23rd:

May 9-16, Theresa Heiser 814 883-9510
May 16– 23, Carrie Granche 570 702-1901



YOU'RE INVITED!
FAREWELL PARTY
FOR
KELLY WIAN
JUNE 1ST



*IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CHURCH
SERVICE, Ash Hall*

Please join us to wish Kelly farewell and good wishes on the new chapter of her life!

Please RSVP to Sherri by May 26th if you plan to attend!



April hallway bulletin board
Created by Patti Schwier



May Grace Event: A Toast to T.J.

To support the Hope Fund of Penns Valley

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Seven Mountains Winery
324 Decker Valley Rd. Spring Mills, PA 16875

Event Schedule:

4:00 PM - Doors open, Don't forget to bring your lawn chair

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Enjoy music by Anchor and Arrow

Main Event: Hourly toasts will be given by special guests honoring TJ's legacy of caring neighbors and supporting those in need in Penns Valley

Join us for a campfire night benefiting The Penns Valley HOPE Fund. Enjoy music by Anchor and Arrow, food, raffles and company. A special toast will be given at the top of every hour. Adult beverages are available to purchase

Ticket cost: \$30.00—Ticket purchases at the door or on-line via the HOPE Fund web site. Ticket includes hot dogs, soda, water and delicious desserts. Beer and wine is available for purchase.

Meet at the church parking lot at 3:30 to car pool. Or, meet up the Winery. Please contact Carl at 814 574-2866.



Please keep all members, family, and friends in your thoughts and prayers, especially those listed below:

04/20 /25—no request

04/27/25—Evelyn Yost, in the hospital-requested by Jane Taylor

05/04/25—no request

To request a name, please refer to the prayer request cards located in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.



Please keep our homebound friends in your thoughts and prayers:

Bertha Cassidy	Lou Cole
Liz Fink	Evelyn Yost

Note: addresses available at the church office



May 19—Donut Sunday, 9:00 A.M., Ash Hall

June 01—Kelly’s Farewell Party!, immediately following the church service, Ash Hall; Events will catering the party.

June 08—Retirement celebration for District Supervisor, Rev. Brenda Leigey, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the church worship service and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for fellowship time. It will be held at Mount Nittany UMC 1500 East Branch Road, State College, Pa. 16801

June 08—Ministry & Missions meeting, immediately following the church service, Library

June 29—Service and picnic, 10:00 A.M., Lion’s Club

September 10—“Noah”, Sight and Sound Theatre-Lancaster, PA
For additional information, please contact Carl Cassidy at 814/574-2866.

PRAYER CHAIN NOTICE: During Jane Taylor’s absence, Rick Wilkinson will be handling Prayer Chain requests for the period May 09th to June 10th. Please contact him at the church office 814 364-1701 or 814 441-5495 (cell) . Thank you.



May 17, 2025



UNITED METHODIST HOME FOR CHILDREN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

May's mission is the United Methodist Home for Children, in Mechanicsburg. For over 90 years, UMCH has provided a caring environment for Central Pennsylvania's children in need. Originally a home for orphans, today the Home is a refuge for children who are the victims of a negative social environment. Each year, UMHC provides residential treatment for scores of children on our beautiful 56-acre campus in Cumberland County. Children are referred to the Home primarily by county children and youth agencies and family courts. For a variety of reasons these children and youth are unable to live with their families or in community foster care placements.

CENTRE HALL –PENNS VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

REMINDER: The Food Pantry will meet the third Tuesday of each month



Food
Pantry
Needs

May—kitchen garbage bags

June —paper towels

Thank you!



May requests:

Small fishing kits, (hooks, lines, sinkers and nail clipper in a pouch), small sewing kits, flashlights with extra batteries, jewelry or bead kits.

June request:

Pencils, sharpeners, erasers, pens, blunt scissors, small rulers, pencil pouch, etc.

All year:

Monetary donations (must notate Operation Christmas Child-**OCC** on the memo line of the check), empty shoeboxes, old clean T-shirts to be made into jump ropes (stained is fine, but no tears)

NOTE: All donations accepted regardless of the monthly category.

Donation Box is located inside the back entrance door (bottom of steps).

Reminder – NO used items, liquids or soap, food/seeds, weapons or scary/war related items.

Questions? Please contact Kelly Wian 814/360-0257 (until 30 June) or the church office. Thank you!