

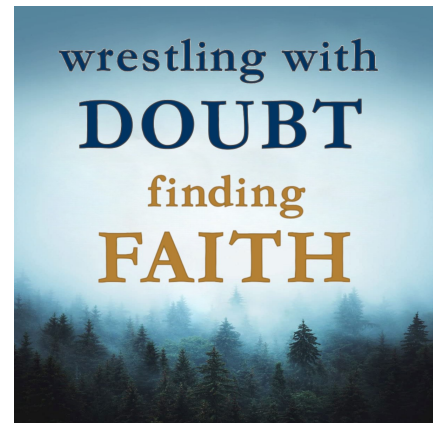


# Happenings

## Your Weekly News & Updates

### ***Worship Focus through March 2***

Wrestling with Doubt/Finding Faith (using resource by Adam Hamilton) Everyone has doubts. Where is God when bad things happen? Does God hear our prayers? Is there a heaven? How can we know? This series will seek to strengthen our trust in God in a way that is unafraid of hard questions. Wrestle with doubt and find faith – belief and trust, not certainty; mystery rather than simple answers.



**January 26, 2025**

**3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**

Sermon: "The Good Book? Wrestling with the Bible"

Scripture: II Timothy 32:10-17

"It's not the parts of the Bible I don't understand that trouble me;  
it's the parts that I do understand that really trouble me."

-attributed to Mark Twain

### ***Offering God's Love to Those In Need***

If you've felt compassion for those who might be struggling through these cold days, there are ways you can be the hands and feet of Jesus. Both the Salvation Army and A Place to Be (the Family Promise sponsored Day Center which operates in the Salvation Army building) are looking for volunteers. Training is provided. For Family Promise, the training is being offered on January 30 and February 25. For more information contact Margaret Feierabend at 423-366-7450. For the Salvation Army, contact Shannon Dowell at 423-558-0494. The Salvation Army is currently seeking volunteers for "White Flag" nights (extreme weather events).



### ***January OAK (Older Adult Council) Luncheon Outing***

The OAK group will be meeting at The Cracker Barrel near exit 7 on Thursday, January 23rd at 11:30 am. Feel free to bring friends or families to share our first lunch of the new year. Please sign up by January 22nd at noon. Sign-up sheets are on the welcome table on Sunday mornings and outside the Parish Nurse Office on the bulletin board. For



### **Youth Group Happenings**

- Resurrection – January 24th -26th

### **Resurrection 2025 January 24-26**

Resurrection 2025 is on its way and the Youth of State Street are really excited! Resurrection is an awesome annual event of worship and spiritual growth for youth and youth mentors. It takes place each year in Pigeon Forge, TN. If you would like to sponsor a child, please give \$100 (if you are writing a check, please put “Resurrection” in the memo.)

Those attending from State Street include:

Pastor Steve  
Josh  
Mary  
Terri  
Vinny  
Mark

Kathy  
Miranda  
Mark  
Braylen  
Chris  
Xander

Dave  
Anthony  
Jazzmine  
T’Lia  
Angel  
Addison

### **F.I.S.H. Club Schedule**

F.I.S.H. Club (Faithful in Serving Him) is our weekday program for children and youth – from preschool all the way through 12th grade that meets on Tuesday nights, at the church, from 5:45p.m.- 7:15 p.m.

- January 28 - Regular Programming
- February 4 - Regular Programming
- February 11 - Regular Programming
- February 18 - Volunteer Night
- February 25 - Regular Programming



### **Volunteer Opportunities**

We are looking for volunteers who are willing to have fun and show God’s love through their actions and words. See the list below to see the opportunities available and click the button to see details about the positions.

- Bus/Van Chaperones (2)
- Group Assistants (4)
- Calm Room Volunteers (2)

**Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Souper Bowl Sunday**

Join the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry for food, fun, and fellowship on Sunday, February 9th at 12noon in the

SOUPER  
BOWL  
SUNDAY

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

FEBRUARY  
9th  
2024  
@ 12pm  
IN THE  
FELLOWSHIP HALL



Fellowship Hall! If you would like, bring a side dish or dessert to share! There will be soup and sandwiches provided. You are welcomed to wear your favorite team's color or jersey! A love offering will be taken up to support meals provided by F.I.S.H. Club.

This event is a part of the Souper Bowl of Caring initiative. This program supports local hunger relief and has raised close to \$200,000,000 for food charities across the country. For more information click the button below.

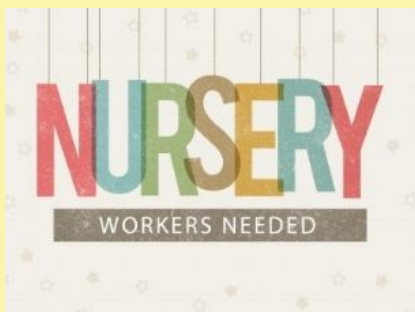
**Tackle  
Hunger**



***Shoes for Guatemalan Children***

Please consider taking the Guatemalan children's shoe challenge. It's simple: count the number of shoes you own. Then give .50 cents for pair to buy shoes for children in Guatemala. For example, if you own 20 pairs of shoes, give \$10.00. If you own 80 pair give \$40.00. Ray and Sarah Smith will be going to Guatemala in February and will give out the shoes. The shoes will be purchased in Guatemala and cost about \$6.00 a pair. Last year they were able to give out 243 pairs of shoes because of your generosity. Make checks to: State Street for Guatemala or you may also give cash.

Sincerely,  
Ray and Sarah Smith



***Church Nursery Positions Available***

Church Nursery Workers are needed at State Street United Methodist Church in Bristol, VA. Qualifications include a love for God and God's children. Previous experience in child care preferred. Current positions require minimum age of 18. A background check will be required. Compensation is \$15 per hour. Hours available include:

Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Tuesday evenings from 5:15 - 7:45 p.m., and Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Please send cover letter and resume to: josh@state-

street.org. For more information, call Josh Bass at: 276-669-2101, ext. 125.

### ***Nursery Volunteers Needed***

While we are looking for additional nursery workers, we could use some church volunteers to assist with hospitality and care for children and their families who attend and/or visit State Street. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office.



### ***Consider Becoming a Handbell Ringer***

The State Street Handbells are always looking for new ringers. No previous experience is necessary. We practice on Wednesdays at 6pm. For more information contact Randall Egan at 276-591-7143 or [steinway7478@gmail.com](mailto:steinway7478@gmail.com)

### ***Mid-week Prayer Gathering Wednesdays at 12 noon***

Mid-Week Prayer Gathering meets every Wednesday at noon for a time of centering ourselves on God and sharing congregational prayers and concerns, reflective moments, and singing. Thirty minutes with a Zoom option available (contact the Office at 276-669-2101 for Zoom info.

### ***Beyond Worship***

Sundays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. (with dinner option for fellowship afterwards). A gathering with Pastor Laura and Pastor Steve for those seeking more in their faith journey. A place to ask questions, share learnings, speak of life challenges and create community with others. All are welcome.

### ***Church of the Month for Hospice House***

Save the date for Church of the Month for Hospice House in March. Gift bags for the home hospice patients and meals are needed. The bags will be distributed on February 9th and 16th in the Narthex. For more information, contact Patty Kilbreath at: 423-646-5577.

### ***Kitchen Volunteers Needed***

Are you one of those people who has a gift for cleaning kitchens (throwing out old food, wiping down surfaces, checking supply needs, keeping things organized and in their designated places)? Here at State Street you can have the opportunity to use those gifts on a kitchen that is not your own (sometimes even more fun). We are looking for a volunteer kitchen coordinator (and if we have several volunteers, we can make it a kitchen crew so that the work can be shared). Please contact Pastor Laura if you are interested.

### ***Recovery at Bristol Thursday at 6:15 p.m. ~ Fellowship Hall***

Recovery at Bristol is a place for fellowship, worship, and healing. It is a worship opportunity open to everyone. It is a place to gather and bask in the unconditional love of Christ. There is a meal provided, a praise service and short groups offered after the service. This is a place for



anyone has been wounded by life to come and feel welcomed.

- Dinner at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall before worship.
- In-Person Worship at 7 p.m. or live on YouTube.
- Support groups meet following worship.
- Transportation to and from Recovery available. If you need a ride, contact the Church Office.
- Childcare provided (upon request).

If you have questions about Recovery, please call 276-669-2101 Ext.123 for Rev. Steve Patterson or Ext.125 for Josh Bass, Coordinator of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Visit our YouTube Channel



### To Make a Gift Online

This QR Code goes directly to the giving page on our website.

### Sunday Worship In-Person & Online

SSUMC offers opportunities for worship on Sunday mornings with three different spaces and flavors:

+ 8:45 a.m. in the Chapel – Informal worship with traditional hymns.

+ 9:01 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall – Modern worship with music led by the Praise Band.

+ 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary – Traditional worship with choir and traditional hymns.



*Godly Play (a worship experience for ages 4 - 4th grade) is offered at the 9.01 a.m. service, with the exception of Communion Sundays.*



STATE STREET ONLINE



9:01 and 11:00 Services Livestreaming on State Street's YouTube Channel  
- StateStreetUMC

YouTube Channel -  
StateStreetUMC

Your respect and care for the health of one another is appreciated. **Masks or no masks, all**

*are welcome. No explanation or judgment necessary.*

+++

*Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God. - John Wesley's Three Simple Rules*

### **Church Office Hours**

The Church office is open:

- Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Church Office email and phone are: churchoffice@state-street.org and 276-669-2101.



**State Street UMC seeks to be a place  
where NO ONE is a STRANGER  
and ALL are ACCEPTED.**

**We certainly are not perfect, but  
have experienced STRENGTH  
found in WALKING WITH GOD.**

State Street United Methodist Church | 650 Valley Drive | Bristol, VA 24201 US

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