

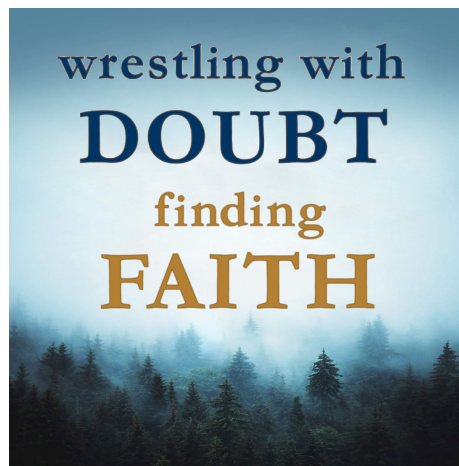
STATE STREET *Happenings*

United Methodist Church

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.



February 23, 2025
7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: "Why Do the Innocent Suffer?"
Scripture: Job 2:1-10
"Most of all God promises that
suffering does not have the final word."
-Adam Hamilton

Now Starting on Wednesday, February 26!

New Women's Bible Study

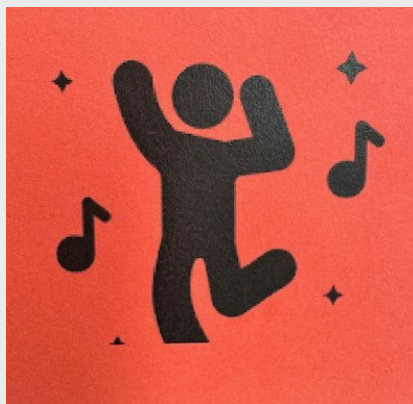
A new women's Bible study will begin Wednesday, February 26th in Room 115 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Using the resource "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table: It's Time to Win the Battle of Your Mind" by Louie Giglio, discover how to break free from the chains of negative thinking and experience true freedom from unhealthy thoughts and emotions. By drawing from Psalm 23 as a framework, he offers biblical insight on how to . . .

- Cancel the lies that will wreck your life.

- Take empowering steps to live fully alive in Christ.
- Stop the spiral of shame, temptation, and insecurity.
- Restore peace and rest in your life.
- Embrace the true purpose behind your journey through challenging circumstances.
- Break free from the endless cycle of destructive thinking.

You can find freedom from the war inside your mind—if you allow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, to lead the battle. Learn how to find encouragement, hope, and strength no matter what valleys you face. It's time to reject the lies and listen to the truth. We will be using the workbook. Study will be available via ZOOM. For more information contact Vicie Dotson at 276-791-2024.

Dance/Conditioning Class Launch



Our new small group dance/conditioning class at SSUMC will begin on Thursday, March 6th from 10:30am until 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. It will run for a 6-weeks session and end on April 10. Heidi Quick and Beverly Wiginton, the coordinators, have been making plans for the first class and are quite excited! Come wearing comfortable clothing and sneakers or go barefoot, if you want! We just want you to be able to Move & Groove with ease! Holler back, with any questions or concerns you might have and let us know if there are any restrictions with your participation! Contact: Heidi at: HeidiKQuick@gmail.com, or Beverly at: Beverly cwiginton@gmail.com for information.

United Women in Faith Day Apart

Our own Pastor Laura Rasor will be the featured speaker and communion celebrant at the Clinch Mountain District United Women in Faith Day apart. Here are the details:

- **Cost: \$10 pay at the door**
- **Date: Saturday, March 15 (inclement weather date March 22)**
- **Location: Abingdon UMC, Abingdon, Va**
- **Time: 9:30am for registration and fellowship while enjoying coffee and breakfast pastries**
- **10am Worship begins**

A special offering will be given to Trails of Recovery, a group of people who are working to assist with those in our area affected by Hurricane Helene. Participants are also encouraged to bring regular size shampoo, lotion, shower gel, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, and denture cream/adhesive in support of area domestic violence shelters. The event is scheduled to last until 11:00 am.

Mark Your Calendars

The seasons of Lent and Easter are nearing as we focus on walking with Jesus to the cross and sharing in the joy of a resurrected life.

Wednesday, March 5: Ash Wednesday Worship

- Noon at State Street
- 5:00 pm at Three Springs UMC, 6610 Reedy Creek Rd., Bristol, VA
- 7:00 pm at State Street

Wednesdays from March 12 – April 23: Lenten Noonday Lunch

- Noon at Bristol area United Methodist Churches (locations TBA)
- Brief time of worship and fellowship featuring Bristol area pastors and reflecting on Jesus' Seven Last Words from the Cross
- Soup and sandwich lunch provided.

Sunday, April 13 – Friday, April 18: Holy Week

- Sunday, April 13: Palm/Passion Sunday with Fellowship Lunch

- Thursday, April 17: Holy Thursday (Remembering the Last Supper) 5:00 pm Worship at Three Springs UMC 5:30 pm Covered Dish Supper with Recovery at State Street 7:00 pm Worship at State Street
- Friday, April 18: Good Friday 7:00 pm Faure Requiem featuring combined choirs and orchestra from area churches

Sunday, April 20: Easter Celebration!

- 6:45 am: Easter Sunrise with Breakfast at Three Springs UMC
- 10:00 am: Worship as One Family at State Street UMC (one service)

Cindy Rockett Retires

Crossroads Medical Mission is proud to announce the upcoming retirement of Cindy Rockett as Executive Director, effective March 1, 2025. Rockett has served as the mission’s first and only Executive Director since its founding in 2001. Known for her visionary leadership and unwavering dedication, Rockett has played an instrumental role in advancing the mission’s efforts to provide compassionate, comprehensive medical care to uninsured and underinsured individuals in Bristol and neighboring communities. Although stepping down as Executive Director, Rockett will remain on staff, continuing her commitment to the mission she has nurtured for over two decades.

Click on the photo to view flyer.

State Street UMC will be having Crossroads Medical Mission Day on Sunday, March 23. Crossroads Medical folks will be speaking at all three morning worship services and there will be refreshments in the narthex to honor Cindy and her years of faithful work.



Crossroads Medical Mission Announces Rockett's Retirement

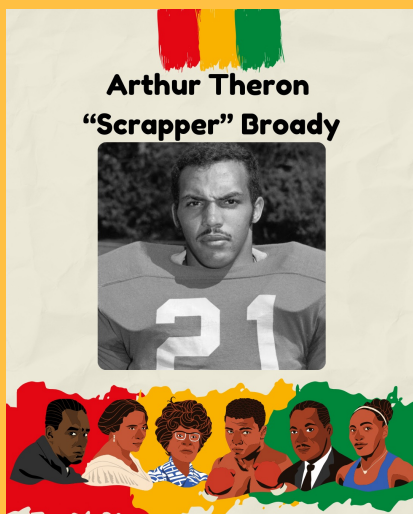
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Rockett has served as the mission's first and only Executive Director since its founding in 2001. Known for her visionary leadership and unwavering dedication, Rockett has played an instrumental role in advancing the mission's efforts to provide compassionate, comprehensive medical care to uninsured and underinsured individuals in Bristol and neighboring communities free of charge.

Although stepping down as Executive Director, Rockett will remain on staff, continuing her commitment to the mission she has nurtured for over two decades.

Succeeding Rockett as Executive Director will be Erin Faust, a long-time team member affectionately known as the mission's "Secret Agent." With nearly 15 years of experience at Crossroads Medical Mission, Faust has been diligently preparing for this role.

Let's Celebrate Black History Month Together!



Join us this February as we celebrate Black History Month, a time to reflect on the rich history and achievements of African Americans. This week, we are highlighting an Emory & Henry alumnus - Arthur Theron "Scrapper" Broady. Broady's journey from the hills of Marion, Virginia continued as he was one of the first Black students and the first African American football player at Emory & Henry. After graduating in 1970, "Scrapper" was drafted into the United States Air Force and received many honorable awards and medals. Broady's story is a reminder that dreams, even the biggest ones, can begin on a small college campus. He is also

Stay tuned for upcoming Black History facts and notable figures throughout the month!

Volunteer Musicians Needed

The 8:45 am traditional service meets in the Chapel each Sunday. It is a dedicated bunch, many of whom have participated in that service for years. The music for the service is provided by volunteers. Most play the piano, but an organ is available and Pastor Laura plays her guitar. We are looking for additional volunteers. The service has a small church feel (usually 15-20 people) and members are very gracious. Music includes three hymns and opportunities to play as people gather, during the offering and as people depart. Hymns can be selected in consultation based on familiarity and comfort level. If you like music and would like to offer that gift so that others can share in worship, please contact Pastor Laura. Most serve once a month but there is flexibility based on your availability and interest. The service lasts from 8:45 am to 9:30 am.

More Volunteer Opportunities in the Community

Bristol Faith in Action has several volunteer openings including:

- Receptionist on Fridays, and someone on call for vacancies
- Pantry assistants
- Social media and marketing volunteer – can be remote once we have a plan
- Program assistant to help as needed

If someone wants to volunteer and these positions are not appealing, we will create a position for you! Donations of any non-perishable items are welcome and so appreciated by the neighbors we serve. Particular needs include: peanut butter, crackers, soups, jelly, fruit, rice, canned, meats, pasta sauce, etc. Pretty much everything is very low. For more info, contact DeVonne Phipps at 276 466-8292. Bristol Faith in Action is located at 1556 Euclid Avenue in Bristol, VA.

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 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).

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).

4 volunteers have signed up so far. There's still room for you! Please contact Pastor Laura if you are interested.

February OAK (Older Adult Council) Lunch Outing

The OAK group will partake of some good country "cookin" at Janie's Place on Thursday, Feb. 27th. We will meet at the restaurant @ 11:00am. We will be seated in the lower level and can enter from behind the restaurant on that level. Please sign up by noon on 2/26/25 on the clipboard on the welcome table on Sunday mornings or the bulletin board outside the Parish Nurse office (Rm 102). Please call Patty Kilbreath @ 423-646-5577 if there are any questions.



F.I.S.H. Club Schedule

- February 25 - Regular Programming
- March 4 - Regular Programming
- March 11- Regular Programming
- March 18 – Volunteer Night
- March 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

Youth Group Happenings

- February 23 – Regular Programming at 3pm
- March 2 – Regular Programming at 3pm
- March 9 – Regular Programming at 3pm
- March 16 – No Programming at 3pm
- March 23 – Regular Programming at 3pm
- March 30 – Regular Programming at 3pm



Church of the Month for Hospice House

Save the date for Church of the Month for Hospice House in March. We will serve our friends and neighbors in the Hospice House and at home by:

- Providing at least four opportunities for worship/music at the Hospice House.
- Serving at least 20 hot, home-cooked meals during March for the families.
- Restocking the Hospice House kitchen cabinets and refrigerator (cost covered by SSUMC and donations).

For more information and to sign up, please see the Hospice House Church of the Month March 2025 form on the Welcome Table. Please return forms to the Welcome Table, or for more information contact Patty Kilbreath at: 423-646-5577

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.

February Blood Pressure Screenings

Blood pressure screenings will be available on Thursday, Feb.27th at 6:00pm in the Parish Nurse office.



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.

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

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.

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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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