

Branches

A monthly publication of the
Stroudsburg Wesleyan Church

Jesus said, "I am the Vine, you are the branches."

June 2011

Leadership Changes

Following a congregational vote held in May, Pastor Dana and Pastor Lynda have been appointed as Lead Co-Pastors of the Stroudsburg Wesleyan Church. They are excited about all that God is doing and ask that you prayerfully join them in this next phase of building God's Kingdom through Stroudsburg Wesleyan Church. During the weekend services on June 4/5 and June 11/12, they will be sharing some vision for the future. Please join us!

To our wonderful Church Family –

We are awed and humbled by the opportunity to continue to move forward as your Co-Pastors. We will continue to fulfill the call that God has on this church family which is to love God with all our hearts, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We will need the full support of our church family if God is going to continue to work in us and through us to touch the world with the love of Jesus. Please join us in prayer as we move forward.

We love you, and love serving with you-
Pastor Lynda & Pastor Dana

The One Who Calls Us is Faithful

"So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them... So, make yourself an ark..."

(Genesis 6:13 – 14)

So begins the account of Noah and the ark that he builds to protect his family and the animals from the flood. There is so much about this account that is hard for me to grasp. How would such a thing be possible for Noah in the time that he lives – to build such a massive structure, having never done anything like it before? How does Noah gather "two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground?" And why does God, the God that I know as a gracious and loving God, decide to bring such destruction on the earth? I remember hearing about Noah as a kid in church. Then, I didn't have as many questions. I just took it at face value. And, interestingly enough, that's what I notice now about Noah in this account.

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Classes are on the following days:

The Character of a Follower of Christ—Sunday from 10:00-11:00 AM

Your Life in Christ—Wednesday from 6:45-8:15 PM

Walking with Christ—Sunday from 10:00-11:00 AM

CREATION FESTIVAL

Agape Farm • Mt. Union, PA • June 29-July 2, 2011

This event is designed to be a family affair and anyone can come and stay with us at the SWC camp site. The cost is \$115 and checks can be made payable to SWC. The registration deadline is **June 12, 2011** and forms are in the church office.

For more information on Creation, the artists performing, schedules and happenings, check out the website at www.creationfest.com/ne.

IGNITE: A Forum for Ministry Leaders

All pastors, board members, trustees, and ministry leaders will gather together on **Saturday, June 11 at 7:00 PM** for a time of leadership training, encouragement, and planning. A meal will be provided. Please contact one of the pastors if you cannot attend.



Softball Pancake

Breakfast & Car Wash

Join the Softball Ministry for a big breakfast and afterwards get your car washed on Saturday, June 4 from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. The proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the softball team. The cost of the fundraiser is \$6/adults, \$5/children and children under the age of 2 eat free. For breakfast we will be having pancakes, eggs, sausage and drinks. After breakfast we will be taking donations to wash your car. Come out and fellowship with your church family and those within the community.

**The Awesome, Amazing,
Super-Good, Way-Cool
"Anni-birth-ary" Party
June 25, 2011, 7:00 PM**



If you have a birthday or anniversary in the months of May or June, you are invited as our special guest for a fun night of fellowship on Saturday, June 25 after the 6:00 PM service. We will be serving appetizers and cake in your honor.

(continued from front page)

God asked him to do this seemingly impossible and somewhat crazy thing, and he did. There aren't any questions from Noah, at least none that are recorded in Genesis. And even if he had questions, ultimately he got past them to the task of actually doing what God had asked him to do. Verse 22 says, "Noah did everything just as God had commanded him." Perhaps that is what God saw in Noah in the first place – a trust in Him that brought Noah beyond his doubts and his questions. Verse 9 says, "Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God." It seems that Noah had a special relationship with God.

Now, what Genesis tells us is that after the flood, God made a covenant with Noah and with humankind to never again destroy the earth with flood. So, the Noah story will not repeat itself – it is specific to a certain time and place in history. Yet, its principles are timeless. Noah responded to the call of God on his life with faith and obedience. Those are the same responses God is looking for from us in our specific place in history. When His call upon us makes us wonder how we will ever accomplish the task He has given us, He tells us to trust His goodness and to go forward in faith and obedience, knowing that "The One who calls [us] is faithful and **He** will do it" (I Thessalonians 5:24). As a church, we have a calling. Paul writes in Ephesians, "And in [Christ], you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit." (Ephesians 2:22) As Noah was called to build a place of refuge and safety from the flood, we are called to be built up together as a dwelling for His Spirit – a place where His light shines forth and many encounter this God who is real and alive and working in our world.

As we go forward together as a community of faith, we are confident of this: "THE ONE WHO CALLS US IS FAITHFUL AND **HE** WILL DO IT." We are called to be built up together in unity, in love, in knowledge, and in grace, as a testimony to the world that God is alive and God is good. How we will accomplish such a task? With everyone, all that He has brought to our community of faith, joining together in the work that He has brought to us in this specific place in history. By seeking Him in prayer for His power and His guidance, and by holding firmly to our faith and walking confidently in obedience, He will accomplish His purposes through us.

Pastor Lynda & Pastor Dana

Farewell Celebration for Pastor Jason & Nicole Saturday, June 18, 2011

Be sure to join us for a farewell party in honor of Pastor Jason and Nicole as they prepare for their next journey as well as Pastor Jason's graduation from Wesley Seminary. It will be held on **Saturday, June 18** after the worship service at **7:00 PM** in Uptown.

RENEW YOUR MIND SEMINARS!



RENEW
YOUR
MIND

Track 1: Don't Let Divorce Destroy You! - This seminar will be led by Dr. Lisa Steiner, Ph.D., LPC, MBA. Discover how to recover from divorce and be empowered by learning the Divorce Recovery Process.

Track 2: Have The Marriage You Want! - This seminar will be led by Bruce Pajot, M.Div, MA, LMHC, LAC. Learn the biblical view of marriage and discover proven techniques to improve communication in marriage.

SATURDAY
JUNE 4
1:00-5:00 PM

Pre-registration is preferred and will be accepted on the day of the seminar. The cost is \$8 per person or \$15 per couple. Payment can be made by check or money order and payable to Baugess Psychological & Counseling Services, LLC. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Contact the church office for more detailed information.

PRAYER GATHERING

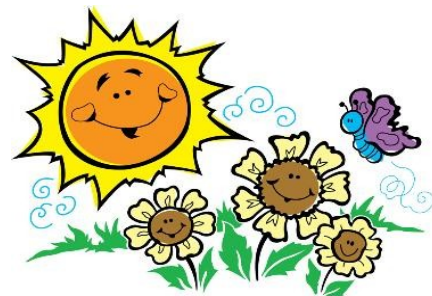
Friday, June 3—7:00 PM

Continues
monthly every
first Friday

All are
welcome



June



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sunday Schedule Worship—9:00 & 11:00 AM Adult Growth Groups 9:00 & 10:00 AM Coffee Time—10:15 AM</p>		<p>Wednesday Evening Sr. & Jr. High Youth Group 6:45-8:15 PM Adult Growth Groups 6:45-8:00 PM Thursday Evening Celebrate Recovery 6:30 PM</p>	1 * Kellie Fluck * Jaime Gilholm * Alex Warner	2 * Tana Jasionowicz * Jacob Loven	3 Helping Hands Food Pantry- 4:30-6:00 PM Prayer Gathering- 7:00 PM * Phillip Long, Sr. * Connie Marshall	4 Softball Pancake Breakfast- 8:00-12:00 PM Marriage Seminars 1:00-5:00 PM * Stephanie Blum * Xavier Lasanta ** Jay & Roe Simonini
5 Nursing Home Ministry-2:30 PM * Talia Daniel * Sydney Graves	6 * Sherri Blaney	7	8 * Brenden Millard ** Kevin & Lynda Keefer District Conference	9 * Nollie Pinon	10 * John Blaney	11 IGNITE Meeting- 7:00 PM * Wayne Compton * Irelyn Henry * Elvin Swink
12 * Joshua Jasionowicz * Tekka Pope * Grace Cuevas ** Steve & Roxann Kemmerer ** Chris & Amanda Rodriguez	13 * Cheyenna Martin * Dean Reish ** Gary & Kim Best	14 LBA Meeting- 6:30 PM * Justin DeMatteo * Rebecca Porter	15 * Stephen Blum * Latrice Gonzalez * Robert Bond * Demond Clark * Darby Howard * Maggie Pershyn	16	17 Helping Hands Food Pantry- 4:30-6:00 PM * Ryan Baugess	18 Pastor Jason & Nicole Farewell Celebration- 7:00 PM
19 * Andrea Burdian * Zachary Konopa	20 * William Jarrett * David & Melinda Lebron	21 * Megan Gearhart * Jack Jasionowicz * Ed Rivera	22 * Alex Henriquez * Olga Mendez	23 * Dan Baugess	24 * Dorothy Kopasz	25 Anni-birth-ary Celebration- 7:00-9:00PM * Dennis Castillo * Hannah DiGirolamo * Debi Velardi
26 * Kyle Devenezia * Benjamin Holmwood * Stephen Im * Taylor Natiello ** Brad & Anita Hockman	27 * Tyler Konopa	28 * Shirley Coleman * Alex Fernald * Jessica Graves * Kelly Henriquez * Stacy & Angela Bond ** Cecil & Lela Buchanan	29 * Ashley Crosby CREATION-Lewisburg, PA	30 * Cole Walborn		<p>Saturday Service 6:00 PM</p>

Stroudsburg Wesleyan's

Vision Statement

To become a prayerful, diverse, and community-involved church family whose passionate purpose is to help seekers become servants of Christ.

Our Purposes

To fulfill the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment by:

- **Going** out to seekers in the Community
- **Gathering** believers into Christ
- **Growing** followers through the Church
- **Grooming** servants for the Commission

BRANCHES

Published monthly by:

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Growth Groups Pastor: Debbie Bond
Ministers: Every Member
Creative Learning Center
420-0706

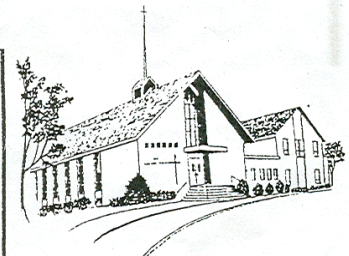
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Or Current Resident



Stroudsburg

Wesleyan Church

(570) 421-0750

Saturday Evening Worship

6:00 PM

Sunday Worship Schedule

Morning Worship

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Growth Groups

9:00 & 11:00 AM

Coffee Time

10:15-10:45 AM

Senior High Youth Group

6:45-8:15 PM

Wednesday Night

AWANA

6:45 PM

Junior High Youth Group

6:45 PM

Adult Growth Groups

6:45 PM