



Pastor Gary Allshouse

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Paxton United Methodist Church **Exists to Grow and Share God's Love**

From the Desk of Pastor Gary

This New Year has seen some physical changes within the walls of Paxton Church. The classroom hallway has been painted and the new carpet and baseboard have been installed. It is great to see the beautiful changes happening. We have new ministries starting which you can read about in this newsletter. With all these new things happening inside Paxton, it brings me to ask: How are things inside your heart, soul, and mind with your relationship with God?

Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday, March 5th, is a great time when you can do some remodeling inside you. For some people it may mean a fresh coat of the way you look at the world around you, seeing things through the heart of God. For others this might be a time to do a complete remodel of your relationship with God right down to and including the foundation; sort of flipping the house. Either way you don't need to wait until Lent to get started. Now is the time to draw up plans, pray to God the Great Architect of the world and ask for discernment, and then solicit help from others who will hold you accountable to sticking with the plans and doing regular inspections on your progress. The ultimate goal of all this work is a closer relationship with God.

Pastor Gary

Polar Duck Dip – Oh was it COLD !

Hannah Dundore and Bill Toner fearlessly participated in this truly chilling event. It was held for the 17th consecutive year on Saturday January 18th to raise funds for maintenance and upgrades at Camp Occhohannock (www.ootbay.org). It was a great success, raising nearly \$90,000. Thank you to all those from Paxton who contributed \$1,950 to support Hannah & Bill.



Heading in with a smile....

and still smiling coming back out!



Mark your calendar:

February 16: Brunch and Fellowship after the worship service. All are welcome!

March 4^h – Shrove Tuesday 6 pm. Pancake supper. All are welcome.

March 5^h – Ash Wednesday 7pm. Ash Distribution during evening worship service.

Prayer Focus: The Holy Spirit

New Congregational Ministries Have Been Created!

Please be aware and join in as you can in these new initiatives created to share resources needed among our members. Your participation in these can make an important difference to someone's quality of life, and we urge you to participate!

PUMC Medical Equipment Sharing Ministry

Do you have medical and home care equipment you are not currently using, that could be shared with someone else in need in our congregation? (E.g., wheelchair, walker, shower stool, etc.) We have created a sign-up sheet for you to register what you have for others to borrow, and we will match-make between owner & borrower. This sign-up sheet will be in our church lobby starting this week, and we also invite you to call the church office at 717-545-3530 if you'd like us to add your info to the list. We would also welcome a coordinator for this exchange program ~ but until and unless this person emerges, Bonnie in the church office (Wed. & Fridays) will retrieve messages and coordinate this sharing of resources. We will be circulating this equipment for others' use, but you will retain ownership. If you have to get rid of your equipment permanently, it can be donated to the Mission Central program (717-766-1533).

PUMC Transportation Ministry ~ for Rides to Worship

Are you available to give a ride to worship and church activities, to someone who is not able to drive here and lives in proximity to you? A sign-up sheet for your availability will also be in the church lobby beginning this week, as we are launching this matching service. You may indicate your vehicle's capability and your times of availability, and we will match your offer with someone in need of transportation who otherwise would not be able to join us in person for fellowship. Again, a coordinator for this program and these matchups will be wonderful and is requested. However, in the meantime you are welcome to call the church office to register your interest and availability or your need - or sign up this Sunday on the sheet in lobby.

An alert from Pastor Gary: Solicitation Scam

I have been told by several people recently that they have received a text from me asking for help. If you contact the number provided, they tell you I need gift cards or a money order.

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND

I will never send out a text message asking for help like that. If a person or a family was in need, I would come directly to you via a phone call or an in-person meeting. The budget provides the pastor a discretionary fund to use for these emergency purposes for others.

Please be careful of scams.

Sew for Peace meets every Thursday at 9 am. On February 16 during the Sunday service there will be a blessing of hat sets and children's clothes for Shed of Grace, Lemoyne. If you have any gently used adult items you would like to donate, please place items in the basket in the narthex for their clothes closet.

Golden Agers will meet February 11 for food, fun and fellowship. The first bus trip in 2025 will be April 23: Winterthur & Wee Fancy Tea, DE (\$122 pp). For info about other 2025 trips, see the bulletin board or contact Dotty Sellers at 717-564-9492.

Easter Eggs: Paxton church has a long-standing tradition of making Easter eggs. It is fun, a great way to interact with people and help support the church financially. Come join us each Monday morning in January and February. See Bill Toner to volunteer or to purchase eggs.

Daystar Dinner will be served on February 16th at 4 pm, for Daystar residents, family, & friends. Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen and serve. Contact Bill Toner.

Prayer Requests: Pray the Lord will bring comfort, healing, and his love to all people. See weekly bulletin for those currently asking for prayers.

Prayer Chain: Anyone who has a prayer concern or is interested in joining the prayer chain please contact Kathy O'Brian (kobrian53@gmail.com) with your current email address and phone number so we can update the list.

"It Takes A Lifetime" by Rodney Pennington


*It takes a lifetime to learn how to live.
How to share and how to give.
How to face tragedy that comes your way.
And find the courage to face each new day.
How to laugh when you want to cry.
And how to be brave when you have to say goodbye.
How to love when your loss is so great.
And how to forgive when your urge is to hate.
How to be sure that God is really there.
And find Him, and seek Him, and worship Him in prayer.
To always have faith and trust in Him ...
To answer all of your prayers and forgive you all of your sins.*

(Rodney is a family friend of Lynn Dundore.)

Sunday Services are 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Worship is in-person and streaming live or available anytime at <https://www.youtube.com/@PaxtonUnitedMethodistChurc-v8y> and www.facebook.com/paxtonumc. A children's nursery is available. **See calendar for details of Paxton UMC's services, ministries and missions.**



Worship and Events Calendar February

February 2 nd	9:15 AM	Where You Are: In Your Hometown Jeremiah 1: 4-10; 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 Luke 4: 21-30
	10:30 AM	Bible Study – The Holy Spirit – What do you know and what do we believe.
	11:30 AM	Children’s Sunday School
February 3 rd	9:00 AM	Making Easter Eggs
February 4 th	9:00 AM	Packing Easter Eggs
February 5 th	10:00 AM	Bible Study at Peachtree Restaurant
	4:00 PM	Pilates
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
February 6 th	9:00 AM	Sew for Peace
February 9 th	9:15 AM	Where You Are: Left Everything and Followed Isaiah 6: 1-13; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 5: 1-11
	10:30 AM	Bible Study – The Holy Spirit – What do you know and what do we believe.
	11:30 AM	Children’s Sunday School
February 10 th	9:00 AM	Making Easter Eggs
February 11 th	9:00 AM	Packing Easter Eggs
	6:15 PM	Leadership Team Meeting
February 12 th	10:00 AM	Bible Study at Peachtree Restaurant
	4:00 PM	Pilates
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
February 13 th	9:00 AM	Sew for Peace
February 14 th		Happy Valentine’s Day! 1 Cor 13:13 “Meanwhile, these three remain: faith, hope, and love; and the greatest of these is love.”

February 16 th	9:15 AM	Where You Are: Rejoice in that Day. Jeremiah 17:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20. Luke 6:17-26
	10:30 AM	Brunch and Fellowship
	11:30 AM	Children's Sunday School
	1:00 PM-6:00PM	Daystar Dinner
February 17 th	9:00 AM	Making Easter Eggs
February 18 th	9:00 AM	Packing Easter Eggs
February 19 th	10:00 AM	Bible Study at Peachtree Restaurant
	4:00 PM	Pilates
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
February 20 th	9:00 AM	Sew for Peace
February 23 rd	9:15 AM	Where You Are: Far Horizons Genesis 45: 3-11, 15: 1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50; Luke 6: 27-38
	10:30 AM	Bible Study – The Holy Spirit – What do you know and what do we believe.
	11:30 AM	Children's Sunday School
February 24 th	9:00 AM	Making Easter Eggs
February 25 th	8:15 AM	Packing Easter Eggs
February 26 th	10:00 AM	Bible Study at Peachtree Restaurant
	4:00 PM	Pilates
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
February 27 th	9:00 AM	Sew for Peace
March		
March 2 nd	9:15 AM	Where You Are: Astounded at the Greatness Exodus 34: 29-35; 2 Corinthians 3: 12-4: 2; Luke 9: 28-43
	10:30 AM	Bible Study – The Holy Spirit – What do you know and what do we believe.
	11:30 AM	Children's Sunday School
March 3 rd	9:00 AM	Making Easter Eggs
March 4 th	8:15 AM	Packing Easter Eggs
	6:00 PM	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
March 5 th	9:30 AM	Ash Distribution at Brookdale Retirement Center
	2:00 PM	Ash Distribution at Columbia Cottage Living Center
	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service at Paxton

Pastor Gary can be reached at 717-332-2743 and gallshouse@susumc.org His normal office hours are 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. Please call ahead to ensure he is available.