

**Ackermanville
United
Methodist
Church**



**The
Friendly
Flyer**

March - April, 2026

From the Pastor's Desk.....

As Lent continues, we move toward celebrating Easter in April. When we think of Easter, several symbols often come to mind—eggs, chicks, bulbs, and butterflies. All of these remind us of rebirth and new life. Among these symbols, the life cycle of a butterfly speaks to me most deeply. The cocoon, in particular, reminds me of the empty tomb on that first Easter morning. A caterpillar spins itself into a cocoon that resembles a tomb. And then, something extraordinary happens: a butterfly emerges. This transformation beautifully reflects resurrection—new life born out of what once seemed lifeless.



This points us to the resurrection of Christ. Jesus died on the cross for us, and after his death, he was placed in a tomb. But because he was willing to give his life to save us from sin, God raised him from the dead so that we might have eternal life.

Without Easter, we would have no hope. And without hope, there would be no repentance, no personal transformation, and no desire to follow the path of Jesus. Without Easter, our world could not see beyond chaos and darkness—beyond the grave, beyond destruction, beyond the injustice that continues to shape our fractured world. Jesus' death and resurrection mean that we, too, can be reborn in Christ and live a new life. Resurrection faith assures us that the risen Christ frees us from all that is dead within us—our sins, our despair, our destructive behaviors, our addictions—anything that keeps us from becoming the people God calls us to be.

Like a beautiful butterfly emerging from an unlikely cocoon, anyone who is in Christ can be transformed into a new creation. This hope fills us with joy as we celebrate Easter. It is the good news of the resurrection—a hope we are commissioned to share with those who still live in the shadow of the tomb and long to hear that life is possible.

Easter Blessings to all,

Sukja



Church News

Clean Up the church - The men and women of the church will meet to clean the church on Saturday, **March 14th and April 11th** at 8:30 am. Join us!

Coffee hour will be the first Sunday of every month. Please join us in fellowship after Sunday worship on **March 1st and April 5th**.

Easter Cookie Walk will be held tentatively on **Saturday, March 28th** from 9-10:30 am. Pre-orders are available until March 25th. We will be looking for cookie bakers and volunteers to help the day of the event. Mark your calendars.

Volunteers are needed for shoveling and salting during the winter months. If you have the ability and time in your schedule please consider giving a hand to the church. Your hard work is much appreciated!

Community Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 4th at 12 pm rain or shine, open to children 2-10 years.

Lent & Easter 2026

Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026. 7:30 PM worship.

The First Sunday of Lent is
February 22, 2026: 10 AM worship.

Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026: 10 AM worship.

Holy Thursday
April 2, 2026: 7:30 PM worship service with communion.

Easter Sunday
April 5, 2026 10 AM worship service with communion.

SPRC meeting
Sunday, March 1st at 11 am

Administrative Board meeting
Sunday, March 8th at 11am

Lenten Bible Study 5 week course
February 25th thru March 25th
Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm
Thursday mornings at 11:30 am





May & June 2026

Mother's Day Ladies Tea will be held tentatively on Saturday, May 10th at 3 pm. See Cindy Doll for more information and to reserve your spot.

PUMP --Portland-Upper Mt. Bethel Food Pantry

The Food Pantry needs our help. If you will please bring your donation of food or paper goods and place them in the bins in the narthex, in the hallway outside of Young Hall, and an extra collection bin in the vestibule. We take all food to PUMP on the third Monday of the month. At this time they are in need of cereal and canned goods such as veggies, fruits, soups. *Thank you!*

WEIS MARKETS:

Please remember to keep bringing in your grocery receipts. Thanks!

HELP WANTED: Do you have some spare time and talents to share with your church? Please consider volunteering.

Sign-up sheets are available at both entrances. Include your name, phone number and email address. Please hand your sheet to Sue Martin. *Thank you!*



CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We would like to print revised copies of the directory and would like anyone with changes from 2023 to the present time, to please contact the office. If you have moved, changed emails and/or phone numbers, please let the church office know **ASAP**.

Thank you!



*Were here to
Serve*

- The task of the Ushers/Greeters is very important to the life of the congregation. They are the first contact any member or visitor has with AUMC. That first impression is very important and sets the tone for how people are likely to experience worship. Thank you for serving Christ in this way.
- Because this is so important, please be aware of the following things:
 - As you greet people, try not to engage in extended conversations with friends and family. This may prevent you from being aware of a new face.
 - Introduce yourself – even if the person you’re greeting is a member of the congregation. That person may not know your name. If you think it’s a member but do not know that person’s name say something like: “I’m sorry, I don’t have a name to go with your face.”
 - If a visitor comes, ask if you may help them find a seat, or introduce them to someone with whom they may sit during the worship service. Let them know where they can find the restrooms. Please remember to tell the Pastor about the visitor (especially their name).
 - Remember, your job does not end at the beginning of the Prelude. Remain near the doors until the first hymn starts. That way if someone is running late they don’t have to hunt for a bulletin. If the sanctuary is crowded, help them find a seat.
 - Remind congregation to fill out prayer request cards as soon as possible, as they will be collected during the first hymn.
 - Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle while singing the first hymn and give them to the pastor. If you hold up the prayer request cards with both of your hands, it will be helpful for the congregation to know that you are collecting the prayer request cards.
 - Do not shut either set of inner doors. Closed doors say: “You are not welcome!”
 - When it’s time to take the offering, please stand up and be ready at the back of the sanctuary before the music starts. It’s okay to get up while the Pastor is introducing the offering time.
 - Come forward and receive the offering plates from the Pastor.
 - Start down the center aisle. Once at the back of the sanctuary walk to the front of the outside aisles and move towards the back.
 - Wait at the end of the center aisle until the Doxology begins and then walk up the center aisle and hand the plates to the Pastor.
 - Stay at the altar rail until after the Offertory Prayer (bring a bulletin with you so you may pray as well) and then return to your seats at the close of the prayer.

Slate Belt Free Community Meals

1st Sunday of every month:
East Bangor United Methodist
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm ☐ 610-588-4453

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3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month:  
**Ackermanville United Methodist**  
1410 Ackermanville Rd., Bangor  
3:00 pm 4:30 pm ☐ 610-588-7818

**Please share this information so that those who are in need can find a free meal.**

*If there is any doubt, please call the respective churches.*

## **Sunday Worship Helpers**

Would you like to be a counter? Or would you like to become a greeter/usher? It's easy! Just sign up, or put a note in the offering plate, or let Charleen know. We would love for new people to get involved in these important aspects of the church.

*Thank you.*

## **Prayer List**

Please help us keep the prayer list up to date. If you would like someone to go on the prayer list, or removed from it, please use a prayer request card found in the pews or email the church at

[ackermanvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:ackermanvilleumc@gmail.com)

*Thank You.*

## **Online Giving Option #1**

[www.ackermanvilleumc.org/donate](http://www.ackermanvilleumc.org/donate)

**DONATE to Ackermanville UMC by using our “Online Giving” link on our website.** You can make a one-time donation, or set up regular (“recurring”) giving with this link. MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express are accepted. Click on the “**Donate**” tab in the bottom left, then click on the green “**Make a Donation**” button on the lower left.

## **Online Giving Option #2**

<https://aumc.churchtrac.com/give>



Enter your email address and a password to create an account to give a donation using a credit card.

*Thank you!*

## Special Envelopes

If you have a special offering/donation (Love Fund, Community Meal, Memorial Fund, etc.) please put it in an envelope (blue & white envelopes available in pews), and list your name and what you are donating to, on the envelope, so we can give you credit at the end of the year. *Thank you.*

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## Birthdays

### March

- 1 – Walter Hopstetter
- 3 – Christopher Hopstetter
- 4 – Cheryl Grubb
- 10 – Justin Bauder
- 12 – Peter Nell
- 12 – Ruth Hahn
- 12 – Pastor Sukja Bang
- 13 – Justin Ott
- 14 – Brooklyn Bauder
- 17 – Wade Traviss
- 17 – Jean Ackerman
- 19 – Bruce Ott
- 21 – Linda Pasko
- 26 – Greg Martin



Bulletins



Altar Flowers

## Sponsoring Bulletins and Flowers

Sponsoring altar flowers is a simple way to glorify God and beautify the altar. They can be placed in honor of someone, in memory of someone, in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or other milestone, or just to give thanks for God's blessings. Your sponsorship and dedication will be printed in the bulletin for that Sunday. The same goes for sponsoring bulletins. (Please see page 6) Please consider signing up. If sponsoring flowers, call Albanese Florist (**610-588-0441**) and place an order with them under the Ackermanville UMC account. Place the cost of flowers (or bulletins) in the offering plate on Sunday in a separate envelope, designating that it's for the cost of the flowers or bulletins. *Thank you.*

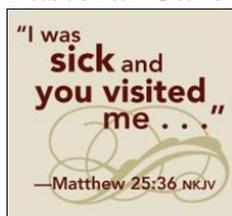
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### April

- 3 – Trisha Roberts
- 5 – Aubrey Tarr
- 5 – Pat Lessig
- 6 – Justin Bright
- 6 – Lillian Rambo
- 9 – Heather Dugey
- 11 – Shelly Lees
- 13 – Winter Brandon
- 15 – Maci Herman
- 18 – Tonia Overfield
- 19 – Laurantette Grubb
- 21 – Charleen Hutchison
- 24 – Donald Rafferty
- 24 – Joan Farino



## Pastoral Care



Please let Pastor Sukja know if you or a loved one is in the hospital. She would love to support you and your family with a visit. She depends on you to share the information of which hospital the loved one is

in. Please also let Pastor Sukja know of any other pastoral needs. The church phone number is 610-588-7818. The parsonage number is 610-452-2699. You can reach her by email: [sukjabang53@gmail.com](mailto:sukjabang53@gmail.com). If you do not reach her, please leave a message. *Thank you.*

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## Anniversaries

### March

- 24 – Bill & Donna Bright

### April

- 8 – Andrea & Dick Lane
- 12 – Krista & Josh Yetter
- 14 – Sean & Gisele Commins
- 15 – Janice & Del Roberts
- 25 – Linda & Jack Yetter
- 26 – Ken & Dolores Reto

## Ackermanville United Methodist Church

1410 Ackermanville Road

Bangor PA 18013

610-588-7818

[ackermanvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:ackermanvilleumc@gmail.com)

### Mission Statement:

*Growing in Faith by sharing God's Love*

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Sukja Bang

**Parsonage Phone:** 610-452-2699

**Email:** [sukjabang53@gmail.com](mailto:sukjabang53@gmail.com)

|                              |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Church School Superintendent | Jeff Sandercock      |
| Choir Director               | Del Roberts          |
| Lay Leader                   | Barry Young          |
| Organist                     | Cindy Doll           |
| The Ministers                | All the Congregation |

### Coffee Hour List

|       |                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| Mar 1 | Terry Brescancine and Kay Nell   |
| Apr 5 | Nadine Hughes and Ann Scagliotta |

### Greeters & Ushers

|        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| Mar 1  | Bob Dailey / Jeff Sandercock |
| Mar 8  | Elizabeth Scott / Karla Lane |
| Mar 15 | Joan & Tom Mutton            |
| Mar 22 | Nancy Frantz / Gail Frantz   |
| Mar 29 | Jon Kraemer / Del Roberts    |
| Apr 5  | Kay & Pete Nell              |
| Apr 12 | Bob Dailey / Jeff Sandercock |
| Apr 19 | Elizabeth Scott / Karla Lane |
| Apr 26 | Joan & Tom Mutton            |

### Church Office Hours

Monday/Wednesday/Friday

10 AM to 1 PM

**Church Secretary:** Charleen Hutchison

**Phone:** 610-588-7818

**Email:** [ackermanvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:ackermanvilleumc@gmail.com)

**All Sunday worship services  
are live streamed via ZOOM.**

An email is sent every Friday  
with the ZOOM details.

{Please contact the office to be added to the list.}



If you would like to **sponsor a Sunday bulletin** in honor / memory of a loved one please call Bill Ruggiero at 610-863-6297. The cost is \$10.



# March 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                                             | Monday                        | Tuesday   | Wednesday                                                          | Thursday                       | Friday                        | Saturday                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b>                                                                                                                                           | <b>2</b>                      | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>                                                           | <b>5</b>                       | <b>6</b>                      | <b>7</b>                              |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent /<br>Holy Communion<br>10 AM<br>Coffee Hour,<br>11 AM<br>Sunday School,<br>9 AM<br>SPRC meeting<br>11 AM            | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |           | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM<br><br>Lenten Bible Study<br>6:30 PM | Lenten Bible Study<br>11:30 AM | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |                                       |
| <b>8</b>                                                                                                                                           | <b>9</b>                      | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b>                                                          | <b>12</b>                      | <b>13</b>                     | <b>14</b>                             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent<br>10 AM<br>Sunday School,<br>9 AM<br>Adm. Board meeting<br>11 AM                                                   | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |           | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM<br><br>Lenten Bible Study<br>6:30 PM | Lenten Bible Study<br>11:30 AM | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM | Clean Up<br>Church Day<br>8:30 AM     |
| <b>15</b>                                                                                                                                          | <b>16</b>                     | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b>                                                          | <b>19</b>                      | <b>20</b>                     | <b>21</b>                             |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent<br>Worship, 10 AM<br>Sunday School,<br>9 AM<br>Community Meal,<br>3 PM                                              | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |           | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM<br><br>Lenten Bible Study<br>6:30 PM | Lenten Bible Study<br>11:30 AM | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |                                       |
| <b>22</b>                                                                                                                                          | <b>23</b>                     | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                                                          | <b>26</b>                      | <b>27</b>                     | <b>28</b>                             |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent<br>Worship, 10 AM<br>Sunday School,<br>9 AM                                                                         | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |           | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM<br><br>Lenten Bible Study<br>6:30 PM | Lenten Bible Study<br>11:30 AM | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM | Easter Cookie<br>Sale<br>9 - 10:30 AM |
| <b>29</b>                                                                                                                                          | <b>30</b>                     | <b>31</b> |                                                                    |                                |                               |                                       |
| Palm Sunday<br>Worship, 10 AM<br>Sunday School,<br>9 AM<br><br> | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |           |                                                                    |                                |                               |                                       |

# April 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                   | Monday                        | Tuesday | Wednesday                     | Thursday                                                                                                                                 | Friday                                                                                 | Saturday                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                          |                               |         | 1                             | 2                                                                                                                                        | 3                                                                                      | 4                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                          |                               |         | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM | <br>Holy Thursday<br>Worship/<br>Communion<br>7:30 PM | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM                                                          | Community<br>Easter Egg Hunt<br>12 pm<br>Rain or shine |
| 5                                                                                                                                                        | 6                             | 7       | 8                             | 9                                                                                                                                        | 10                                                                                     | 11                                                     |
| Easter Sunday<br>Worship/Communion,<br>10 AM<br>Coffee Hour, 11 AM<br> | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |         | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |                                                                                                                                          | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM                                                          | Clean Up<br>Church Day<br>8:30 AM                      |
| 12                                                                                                                                                       | 13                            | 14      | 15                            | 16                                                                                                                                       | 17                                                                                     | 18                                                     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter<br>Worship, 10 AM<br>Sunday School, 9 AM                                                                                | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |         | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |                                                                                                                                          | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM<br><br>Newsletter<br>deadline<br>For May/June<br>edition |                                                        |
| 19                                                                                                                                                       | 20                            | 21      | 22                            | 23                                                                                                                                       | 24                                                                                     | 25                                                     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter<br>Worship, 10 AM<br>Sunday School, 9 AM<br>Community Meal, 3 PM                                                        | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |         | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |                                                                                                                                          | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM                                                          |                                                        |
| 26                                                                                                                                                       | 27                            | 28      | 29                            | 30                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                        |                                                        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter<br>Worship, 10 AM<br>Sunday School, 9 AM                                                                                | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |         | Church Office<br>10 AM – 1 PM |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                        |                                                        |

# EXCITING NEWS!

**I have some exciting news that I want to share with our congregation.**

The SPRC members met on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> to meet our new pastor. Pastor Stephen Whitehead was born in Edinburgh, Scotland where he studied philosophy at the University of Dundee. He moved to Pennsylvania in 2019 to marry his wife, Katelyn. They have a 2-year-old son, Sebastian. In 2025, Pastor Stephen graduated from Moravian Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity and is currently serving at a United Methodist Church in Allentown. His family will be moving into our parsonage the last week of June and he will be serving us as a ½ time pastor and a ½ time pastor to Cherry Valley United Methodist Church. Just a heads up about our service starting time. We will need to move our service from 10:00 to 10:30 which is a slight adjustment that I'm sure all of us will be happy to make. Pastor Stephen's first Sunday with us will begin on July 5th.

**As we go through this transition of welcoming our new pastor, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions and concerns.**

**Sue Martin, Chair SPRC.**

**sue.greg2@gmail.com 610-751-9714**

