



UNITED CHURCHES' NEWS

UNITED CHURCHES OF LYCOMING COUNTY
202 East Third Street, Williamsport PA 17701
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Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Issued mid-monthly, September through May with special e-mail only summer issues. Items marked with an asterisk may be of special interest to your congregation. Deadline to submit articles - First of each month.

VOLUME XXXVI NUMBER 4

www.uclc.org

April 9, 2019

Return Service Requested

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ECUMENICAL SERVICES FOR *



- 11:00 a.m. Walking with the Cross in Jersey Shore beginning at the baseball field on the island to
- Noon svcs..... St. John's Lutheran Church, 229 South Broad St., JS, sponsored by the Jersey Shore Ministerium
- Noon - 3:00 p.m. Heshbon Park United Methodist Church, 2898 Heshbon Road, Williamsport, Seven Last Words of Jesus, sponsored by the Hepburn Lycoming Ministerium.
- 12:30 p.m. Sojourner Truth Ministry, 501 High Street, Williamsport, Passion Narrative, sponsored by the Williamsport Ministerium.
- 1:00 p.m. Muncy Baptist Church, West Penn and South Market Streets, with Rev. Arlene Beechet preaching, sponsored by the Muncy Ministerium.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

2019 May Friendship Day

May Friendship Day
Friday, May 3
Montoursville
Presbyterian Church



900 Elm Street, Montoursville
Luncheon - Noon, Celebration: 1:15 p.m.
The church is handicapped accessible.

The luncheon will be catered by Crouse Catering and reservations at \$10/person are needed by April 23. Mail to Diane Casella, 407 Allen St., Montoursville PA 17754.

The theme of the day is "The Time is Now!" "Agree to Differ" based on John 4:23. Pastor Angelique Labadie-Chihanowyz will be the guest speaker. Mrs. Lucy Henry will entertain with some selections on the dulcimer.

An Ingathering of food items for the UCLC Food Pantry will be collected.

Walker bags and catheter bags are still very much needed at our area nursing homes. Contact Pat Wittig for more information at 570-323-4330.

POVERTY: A FAITH BASED RESPONSE **Christian Social Concerns Committee*

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord: love one another as I have loved you (John 13:34). The “new commandment” in John’s Gospel is more challenging than as expressed in the Synoptic Gospels where the standard of love is how we love ourselves. In John, Christ’s love – which is without limits – is the standard. How are we doing as individuals and as a faith-community regarding loving those who experience poverty in our communities, nation, and the world?

Bread for the World’s 2019 Offering of Letters to Congress: Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow is the theme of this year’s campaign, engaging churches, campuses, and other faith communities to write letters to Congress. Each year, for the focus of the campaign, Bread for the World chooses specific legislation or a legislative emphasis that can make a real difference to people struggling with hunger and poverty.

As people of faith, we are called to care for one another and speak out for those in need. This year we are to urge our government to accelerate progress toward ending hunger by increasing funding for global child nutrition programs.

People write letters, usually as a group, and present them as an offering to God before mailing them to Congress. Hundreds of Offerings of Letters are held each year, resulting in tens of thousands of letters to Congress. Supported with prayer, these letters are a bold witness to God’s justice and mercy. They have, and continue to have, a significant impact on the decisions made in Congress. Learn more and get involved on an individual or church basis by visiting www.bread.org.

Poverty in Pennsylvania (Source: www.talkpoverty.org)

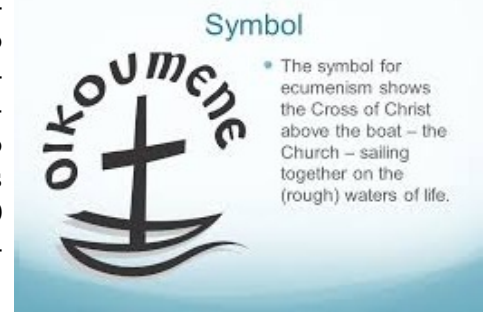
- 12.5% of people who had incomes below the poverty line (\$24,860 for a family of four) in 2017. State rank 23rd.
- 16.7% of children under 18 in related families who had incomes below the poverty line in 2017. State rank 26th
- 13.9% of working-age women (ages 18-64) who had incomes below the poverty line in 2017. State rank 25th
- 16.8 income inequality ratio – The ratio of the share of income going to the top 20% of households and the share of income going to the bottom 20% of households in 2017. State rank 40th
- 80.5¢ – Gender Wage Gap – Women’s median earnings for every dollar of men’s median earnings among full-time, year-round workers in 2017 State rank 24th
- 12.1% Hunger and food insecurity – Percentage of households who were food insecure on average from

2015 to 2017, (meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources.) State rank 26th

- 66.0 units of affordable housing – Number of apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2016. (Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live.) State rank 24th

THE PLACE TO BE FOR LUNCH WEDNESDAYS *

Join us Wednesdays for lunch and an interesting program! The lunch line opens about 11:45 with a home cooked \$6 lunch, warm ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. Parking is free in the Pine Street lot north of the church from 11 to 1:30. No reservations are necessary, but a call to United Churches 570-322-1110 helps preparations.

**APRIL:**

- 10- **Rev. Brian VanFossen**, Pastor, St. Joseph the Worker Parish, *“Mysticism over Moralism”* The fifth and final session of the Lenten Series, “Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy” with Richard Rohr.
- 17- **Rev. Brad Walmer**, Pastor, New Covenant United Church of Christ, *“Holy Week Timeline”*
- 24 - **Mr. Tom Wetzel**, Local Pianist, *“Salute to Spring”*

MAY:

- 1- **Mrs. Patty Gohrs**, United Churches Staff, *“The Most Fascinating Person I’ve Ever Met, Dr. Francis V. Costello”*
- 8- **Ms. Demae Koehler**, Director and Nurse, Liberty Manor Adult Day Care, *“Caring for Adults with a Cognitive or Functional Impairment”*
- 15- **Mama Arlene Brown**, Director, Urukundo Foundation, Rwanda, *“Hope Made Real”*
- 22- **Pastor Tammy Aichner**, First Church of Christ Disciples, *“Love”*
- 29- **Rev. Ken Elkin**, Lutheran Pastor, Retired, *“How To Build a Cathedral”*

Plan to attend! Bring a friend! It’s for regular folks like you and me! Join us this week!

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS*

J. Morris Smith, Th.D.,
570-322-6538, shepherd@uclc.org

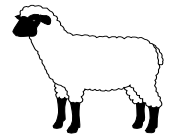


FIG LEAVES AND JAM

When Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden of Eden, Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become “the mother of all the living.” It became evident to them why male and female were necessary to “be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it.” Why had they been unaware of the meaning of this blessing given to them by God at the beginning of their existence? Gn. 1:27-28, 3:20-24

We are well aware of the jam they got themselves in by partaking of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and bad. In the innocence of faultless life, they had been conned into using their divine likeness to disobey their Makers. After all, the fruit looked innocent enough, spark-ed their appetites, and peaked their curiosity. They may have been adult in body, but they were children in person. They had a loving Father who had breathed His Spirit into them to witness and teach them what is good and what is bad.

When they bit into the fruit, their eyes were opened and they realized that as good as they were, they were bad, too. The first effect of bad is that everyone else can see the bad, that you are naked and your face shows the bad. As the first parents they subconsciously responded to the blessing to be fruitful. So their shame registered there. As their children we do the same when we disobey and seek to hide our shame and atone for it.

They found large leaves that could hide their bad from God and one another, so they used them to hide from God and each other. Big mistake! When figs are in season and ripe for the picking, the leaves ooze a white substance that, when it contacts naked skin, stings like fire for an hour or so. But in their minds, this bad was good because the fault produced a sense of rejection which must be atoned, and fear stores the entire event in the psyche of innocence.

When we get in a jam of disobedience and sin, we repeat this pattern of atonement so as to not be rejected by one or One who loves us. The idealized image in our psyche resulting from this repeated pattern is not who we really are if we have been born again. Though there are natural causes for ill health, at the root of sickness and sorrow, whether mental or physical, social or spiritual, is this root of bitterness that is continually hammered by the lies of Satan to defeat and condemn and keep us ignorant of this malicious drama.

The Shepherd counseling ministry has immense opportunities to help people overcome issues based on repetitive

patterns of penance. Through our doors come the sick, tired, and weary of life-long self-induced hypochondria. Through their doors come words of truth and life, faith, hope, and love in the name of Jesus, for in that Name recovery is found and by that name demons flee, and in that Name one is born again newness of life.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning it shame, and sat down at the right hand of God.”

-Heb. 12:1-2

Thank you for your donation of hygiene items, baby needs, and/or bedding. This continues to be just as necessary as it was thirty-one years ago when we began. The list follows:

- Toothpaste a Toothbrushes*
- Shaving Cream and Razors*
- Shampoo and Conditioner*
- Women’s Hygiene Products*
- Towels and Wash Cloths*
- Bedding and Blankets*



Tissues and Toilet Paper and Paper Towels

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Soap</i> | <i>Deodorant</i> | <i>Combs</i> |
| <i>Baby Diapers</i> | <i>Baby Shampoo</i> | <i>Baby Oil</i> |
| <i>Baby Q-Tips</i> | <i>Baby Wipes</i> | <i>Baby Powder</i> |

SAVE THE DATE

9th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

UNITED CHURCHES OF LYCOMING COUNTY

Friday, September 27, 2019 9:00 AM Shotgun Start

Registration 8:15 AM White Deer Heritage Course

Contact:

Gwen Bernstine or Patty Gohrs
United Churches Office
202 East Third Street
Williamsport PA 17701
570-322-1110 or 570-419-1464
director@uclc.org



LUNCH AND GIFTS FOR EACH GOLFER!

We’re looking forward to you joining us!
Golfers - Sponsors - Committee Members and Helpers

It takes us all to keep our ministries going here in Lycoming County.
Enjoy a day of fun and fellowship - oh and some of you golf too!

FOOD PANTRY **Mona Rundio, Coordinator 570-322-1657**E-mail - foodpantry@uclc.org*

The time is now to *spring up* in donations for those in need! Lending a helping hand, heart, and mind to the community leads others. This helps us

all become part of the whole community. For God spared His Son Jesus to help those in need and save those suffering. Giving what is needed helps encourage, strengthen, and enlighten us to follow Jesus's path. As believers we continue to spread the faith to all who come to our pantry.

Now that the weather is getting nicer and school will be over for the summer vacation, the pantry needs to be ready for the summer needs of families who are more active, often outside, and needing more food to fuel their activities. Just one or two food items from you makes a difference in helping provide a family of four or more with three days of food. Remember when at the store get an item for someone in need! The following is a list of items we are most in need:

<i>Ramen Noodles</i>	<i>Mac&Cheese</i>	<i>Juices (16oz/less)</i>
<i>Canned Fruit</i>	<i>Applesauce</i>	<i>Jello/pudding</i>
<i>Dessert Mixes</i>	<i>Peanut Butter</i>	<i>Hamburger Helper</i>
<i>Jelly (Grape)</i>	<i>Tomato Sauce</i>	<i>Oatmeal</i>
<i>Cereal</i>	<i>Canned Meats</i>	<i>Ketchup</i>
<i>Mayonaise</i>	<i>Mustard</i>	<i>Relish</i>
<i>Pickles</i>	<i>Olives</i>	

Thanks so much for all your donations! We are encouraged by you and Our Lord to strive in making our pantry a safe haven and happy environment in this community! If you are doing spring cleaning, please remember to check the dates on the products you bring in so we don't have to throw anything away! Our location is 320 Park Avenue at the rear entrance. Our days of service are as follows...

Monday: 9-12 for donations

Tuesday and Thursdays: 10:15-2:30 clients

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Suicide Hotline Numbers:

1-800 525-7938 or 570-326-7895

24 hour Crisis Hotline – Call 211

If you need help finding a resource – Call 211

DIAL - A - DEVOTION *

Have you called yet?

The number is 570-322-5762.

It's available 24 hours a day.



Devotions are three minutes or less, change weekdays and once on the weekend, and are designed to lift your spirits and help you to have "A Closer Walk with God." The devotionists coming up are:

4/8-14 Ms. Connie Couture	4/15-21 Ms. Pat Jenkins
4/22-28 Ms. Patty Gohrs	4/29-5/5 Ms. Dorothy Wagner
5/6-12 Rev. Georgianna Welch	5/13-19 Ms. Tiffany Haller

Listen today - And share this resource with a friend!



Music Ministry Team Leader is being sought to coordinate the worship music of a new and growing church, The Beacon, a United Methodist Church in Hughesville. This person will direct the voice choir; lead congregational singing during worship; coordinate with the handbell choir, Praise Team, and organist; and serve on the Worship Design Ministry Team. For information or if interested, send resume to TheBeaconUMC@outlook.com or The Beacon Leadership Team, PO Box 68, Hughesville, PA 17737.

Two Part-time Positions for Faxon-Kenmar United Methodist Church, 1301 Clayton Ave., Williamsport, PA.

Administrative Assistant

Financial Secretary

Excellent documented secretarial and computer skills required. If interested, go to www.faxonkenmar.org for Position Descriptions and Application details.

We are excited to announce that we are now registered with Thrivent Financial through its **Thrivent Choice®** program.

Thrivent Choice® can have a tremendous impact on our organization. Eligible Thrivent Financial members: Please show your appreciation for us by directing your Choice Dollars to United Churches of Lycoming County. To learn more, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or contact Pamela J. Hansen, RICP, ChFC, CLU 813-443-5088 or Pam.hansen@thrivent.com



CREATION CORNER
Christian Social Concerns Committee
 EARTH MONTH/CLIMATE WEEK

EcoAmerica (Building Climate Leadership for Climate Solutions) has a faith component, "Blessed Tomorrow: Caring for Creation Today" that works to help clergy become climate literate, and to engage congregants, all for the purpose of accelerating collective action on this moral, religious and justice issue. <https://ecoAmerica.org/faith/>

Faith Climate Action materials from Interfaith Power and Light (A Religious Response to Global Warming) are suitable anytime (thus "evergreen") although Faith Climate Action Week is set for April 5-14. The theme for 2019 is "Our Love for Earth." The free downloadable kit includes:

- A. organizer's information
- B. prayers and blessings for Earth Day
- C. global warming facts
- D. legislative advocacy networking opportunities
- E. "how-to" suggestions for making a video
- F. nature walks ("forest bathing") advice
- G. outdoor service project examples
- H. a movie offer
- I. a welcome letter for participants from Interfaith Power and Light

- <https://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/>

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Beginning its 30th year is the **Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy**, a 12-county effort to conserve working forests, working farms, and regional waterways. It networks with the PA Land Trust Association and the Susquehanna River Heartland Coalition for Environmental Studies.

50th anniversary of the **Union of Concerned Scientists**. UCS puts science to work to solve our planet's most pressing problems. Joining with people across the county, it combines analysis and advocacy to create innovative, practical solutions for a healthy, safe, and sustainable future.

100th anniversary of the **National Parks Conservation Association**. NPCA advocates to strengthen the National Parks System, protect its air and water, keep wildlife habitats intact, and connect millions of people to the parks.

For over 125 years, since 1893, **The Parliament of the World's Religions** (POWR) seeks to encourage interfaith harmony, promote a global ethic; advocate justice; counter war, hate, and violence; advance the next generation and women's dignity; and uplift indigenous people. POWR now has an ecology emphasis, climate action.

DOCUMENTARY SERIES

For eight weeks starting April 5, on Netflix, "Our Planet" by Richard Attenborough. It will highlight the beauty and fragility of world habitats, and our role in endangering

such. It may also empower us to defend the world.

NEW BOOKS

Falter: Has the Human Game Begun to Play Itself Out?, is Bill McKibben's 18th book.

The End of Ice by Dahr Jamail

Unprecedented Crime: Climate Science Denial and Game Changers for Survival by Peter D. Carter and Elizabeth Woodworth

"Terracide and the Terrarists: Destroying the Planet for Record Profits" article by Tom Engelhardt.

DEFINITIONS

genocide: conscious slaughter of a racial or ethnic group

ecocide: conscious destruction of aspects of the natural environment

terracide: conscious act of destroying the planet

omnicide: total extinction of the human species as a result of human action

QUOTATIONS

"Even if we do everything right from this point on, it's going to take luck to get out of this." -Bill McKibben

"Everything is connected to everything else." -Barry Commoner's first law of ecology

"The question is, Are we going to be in time, and are we going to do enough? And the answer to both of those is no. We won't be able to mend everything. But we can make it a darn sight better than it would be if we didn't do anything at all." -David Attenborough, quoted in TIME magazine, April 8, 2019.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITY *

Family Night Worship will be held at the WAHS Auditorium on Saturday, April 20 from 7-8:30. The Petros Club is hosting this free event open to everyone. The Liberty Initiative will be sharing a word of hope especially for high school generation. Contact Rebecca Spencer, student pastor at Faith Wesleyan Church, Wmspt. for details at 570-322.3547 or rebecca1faith@comcast.net.

May Newsletter: It will be the last regular - print and snail mail newsletter until September. Be sure to get Vacation Bible School information and summer activities submitted for that publication.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES *

COMMUNITY DINNER will be available free on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 5:30 pm at Church of the Redeemer Lutheran, 1100 Washington Blvd, Williamsport. Please use the outside stairway to Social Hall. Doors open at 5:20 pm for Meal Blessing.

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY is being held by Daniel's Closet on Saturday, April 27th from 9-11 am. Clothing drop-off and set-up will be Thursday, April 25th at 6 pm. Church of the Redeemer Lutheran, 1100 Washington Blvd, Wmspt. Use outside stairway to Social Hall.



Interested in learning more about becoming a STEP AmeriCorps host site? Join a Community Conversation about STEP AmeriCorps on April 11th @3:30pm! RSVP to Emily Gale, Program Manager, at esgale@stepcorp.org or (570) 601-9677

New Undies: Know what would be GREAT? If our homeless guys and gals could have clean undies to wear when they get to take a shower. We take it for granted, but uhm... it's a luxury for some. Would your group or church or you yourself be willing to collect plain Men's T-shirts, especially XL and larger, (new) briefs of all sizes, and give to Sojourner Truth Ministries? Could you perhaps do an Undie Sunday during the year? Or just bring some in. They'll very likely be put to use quickly.

Also in need of: wood handled broom, trial size deodorants, trial size soaps, commercial food processor, sugar, coffee, butter, hand sanitizer, salt and peppers, inexpensive rain ponchos...

And also needed: Driver for once a week pick up at a local grocery store (up to 5 boxes) 8:30 am

Sojourner Truth Ministries offers breakfast and lunch Mon-Sat, hours 8- 1, use red side Welcome door. 501 High St, Williamsport 570-323-1797



Have Dinner at Wendy's and Earn Money for United Churches of Lycoming County! This event is at the Maynard Street Wendy's, and will be held April 29 from 5-8 pm. Great Food - Great Cause!



5th annual Community Church Concert Series
at Faxon Kenmar United Methodist Church
1301 Clayton Avenue, Williamsport PA 17701

April 14

Eleanor Roosevelt High School Choir
Greenbelt Md. Michele Fowlin, Director
combined with

Hamilton-Gibson Youth Choir
Tioga County, Thomas Putnam Director

May 5

Annual Faxon Festival Choir
Directed by David Koskey

All Concerts ar Sunday afternoons at 2 and are free.

The Chi Rho Singers will present an evening of music on Thursday, April 25 at Antes Fort United Methodist Church, Antes Fort, PA, at 7 p.m.

This choir of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church includes approximately 35 to 40 pastors under the direction of The Reverend Joleen Willis, who serves West Side UMC, Clearfield PA. Other area pastors in the Chi Rho Singers (Williamsport District) include Catherine Dawes, Susan Halverstadt, Joe Hopkins, Cheryl Houser and Kristi Webster.

The concert will be a celebration of God's love through music. Various styles of sacred music, both contemporary and traditional, will be presented. Several instruments are used for accompanying the choir. At time the audience is invited to join the choir in a few selections. You are invited to hear this choir and celebrate the gifts of God expressed in music. A freewill offering will be received.

Taize Service will be held Sunday, May 5 at 8 pm at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, 702 West Fourth Street, Williamsport. All faiths are welcome to join them for an evening of prayer, light, music and peace. For more info contact the parish at office@sjwparish.com or 570-323-9456. For more info about Taize and what draws young people and teens, visit www.taize.fr.

Maitrise des Hauts de France: French Boy's Choir will present a concert at St. Joseph the Worker Parish on Sunday, July 14th at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. Mark the date and plan to attend!

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY

Pastor Tammy Aichner, Coordinator, ucm@uclc.org

Every month, the deadline comes around for the newsletter and I wonder what to write about. Oh, not because there isn't anything... but, because there is so much! How do you take everything and wrap it in to a couple paragraphs?! Have you ever taken a vacation and then shared your photos with family and friends? The beauty and excitement gets lost. It's one of those "You had to be there" feelings. That is true for Campus Ministry as well! How do I share the joy in being with the students?! How do I share the awesome privilege of walking with them on their faith journey?! A few weeks ago a pastor came in and set up nine different prayer stations for the students. You see, we currently are taking a deeper look at our prayer life. At one of the stations...a wooden cross with nails in it...we were to write a prayer for forgiveness, whether we needed to forgive someone or we needed to ask for forgiveness.



This past Thursday, I met with a student at a local coffee shop. As we were talking about the prayer stations, the student asked if I remembered that one. She said she needed to forgive a coworker that had said some pretty nasty things. Because of his comments, there had been tension in the workplace. She wrote her prayer and nailed it to the cross. She shared with me that she had been able to use that moment to start the healing process in the relationship.

The opportunity to be part of their lives humbles me and just cannot be expressed in words in a newsletter! God is doing great things with these students!

WRAP PROGRAM

PPL Electric Utilities offers a free energy efficiency program to help income-eligible homeowners and tenants save money, reduce electric usage, and improve the comfort of their home - all at NO COST TO THEM. For qualified applicants, the WRAP program will provide them with a free energy assessment, energy education, and the installation of free energy efficiency products by an authorized PPL energy advisor, including:

- LED light bulbs
- LED nightlight replacement
- Smart energy strips
- Energy efficient showerheads*
- Energy efficient faucet aerators*
- Water heater pipe insulation*
- Water heater temperature evaluation*

* Product installation depends on eligibility.

For more information call 1-888-232-6302.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS *

Healing Communities Day of Training will be held Saturday, April 13th from 8:30 to 4:30 at New Covenant UCC, 202 E 3rd St., Wmspt. This training is designed to assist churches in ministering to all those impacted by crime (offenders, victims, and their families) beginning with your own congregations. The cost is \$25/person including lunch and materials or \$60 for groups of three from the same church or organization. The instructor will be Marty McCormick. For details/registration contact Marty 570-745-7210 or marty7210@gmail.com.

Ignite Dance Ministry Workshop: Sammy Strayer, Instructor, 3 PM Saturday, May 11, at First United Methodist Church's Celebration Center, 602 S. Market St., Muncy, for age 12 through adult; 6:00 dinner for participants. The community is invited to a dance-based worship service at 7:00 p.m. in the church's Living Water Café. Register: www.firstumcmuncy.org/danceministry. The cost is \$10 and the deadline is Tuesday, May 7. Sammy's mission is always to bring Christ glory, to cause a ripple of pure, unhindered worship in the kingdom and to lead others to experience deeper intimacy with the Father. Her dancing is "never a performance for man—always an experience with God."

HOME MODIFICATION PROGRAM**CITY OF WILLIAMSPORT**

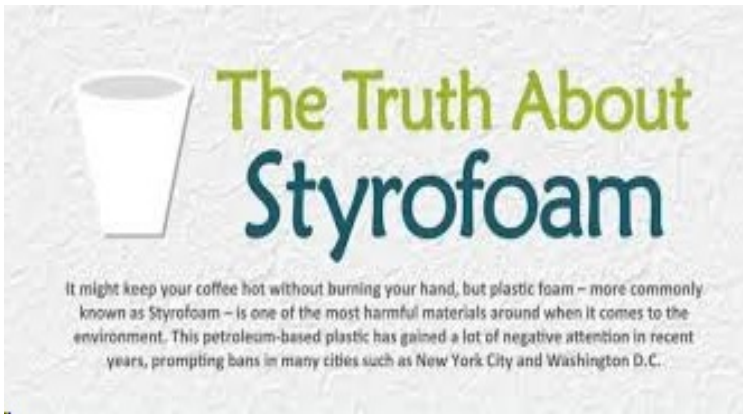
If you or someone you know needs modifications to their home because of a disability, Community Development of the City of Williamsport has a program to help. Typical home modifications are; accessibility ramp into home, interior stair glides, modifications to bathroom, and any home improvement that will increase the accessibility of the home for a household member that has a disability.

Basic program guidelines-

- ▶ applicant annual income can not exceed 2019 program limits.
- ▶ housing unit can be either owner occupied by the applicant or if a rental unit owner/landlord must agree to the home modification work..
- ▶ funding in the form of maximum \$5,000.00 grant. Amount would be determined by the work to be done and contractors bid amount.

Call us or pass on this information to someone who needs it. Call community development at 570-327-7514 for further information on its home modifications program.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it; the world and those who live in it...
- Psalm 24:1



God calls all humankind to be responsible stewards of God's creation. God cares deeply about how we use natural resources, what we do with our waste, and how they affect our neighbors. Pollution matters to God!

One of the most polluting substances we have in our communities is plastic foam, better known by the brand name Styrofoam®. Plastic foam takes anywhere from decades to millennia to decompose, and it releases toxic chemicals as it breaks down. Unfortunately, plastic foam is very common—in our trash cans, landfills, streets, and even our beloved rivers and streams. Such pollution sickens our natural world and breaks God's heart.

The good news is that we can break our plastic foam habit!

Complete this survey and commit to freeing our communities and ourselves from plastic foam today.



Plastic Foam Survey for: a congregation an individual or family

Congregation _____ Contact Number _____

Name _____ Address/email _____

What plastic foam (ie. Styrofoam) do you currently use?

- Cups
- Plates
- Bowls
- Take-out Containers
- Freezer/storage containers and trays

What Plastic-foam items have you chosen to no longer use?

- Cups
- Plates
- Bowls
- Take-out Containers
- Freezer/storage containers and trays

We/I recycle

- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Office Paper
- Glass
- Aluminum
- Bi-Metal Cans
- Plastics (1-2)
- Junk Mail
- Plastic Grocery Bags and Wrap

We/I try not to use any Single Use Plastic.

Since Plastic Foam has been found to be bad for us/me and bad for our planet....

- We/I no longer will use Plastic Foam
- We/I will use less Plastic Foam
- We/I will work to become more aware.
- We/I are/am not willing/able to go Plastic Foam Free at this time.

Please return to United Churches at director@uclc.org
or mail to 202 East Third Street
Williamsport PA 17701