

# Reeders Hope

The Monthly Newsletter of Reeders Church  
 — MARCH 2026 —

*We are a faith-based community introducing people to Jesus Christ and helping them become fully devoted followers of Him.*

## 2026 COMMUNITY LENT SERVICES

Pocono United Methodist Connection's

### COME TO THE TABLE

LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

WEDNESDAYS OF LENT  
7PM

COMMUNION AT EACH SERVICE!



Rediscovering God in gathering together!

**Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> - Hospitality**

Location: East Stroudsburg UMC

Preaching: Rev. Wendy Bellis

**Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> - Love**

Location: Faith UMC

Preaching: Rev. Monica Guepet

**Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> - Peace**

Location: Stroudsburg UMC

Preaching: Rev. Jeffrey Weber

**OFFERINGS TAKEN FOR LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSIONS!**

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> - Grace**

Location: Cherry Lane UMC

Preaching: Rev. Jack Tironi

**Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> - Joy**

Location: Reeders UMC

Preaching: Rev. Samuel Ashley

**RUMC  
MEN'S  
PRAYER**



**GATHERING  
& BREAKFAST**

**MARCH 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 9:00 AM**

Bring your son, brother, a friend or neighbor and enjoy fellowship and a good breakfast prepared by John Cady and gang.

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**Sun. March 15th  
at 2:00 PM  
Whitestone Care Center  
Worship Service**

This worship service means so much to many of the residents. All are

welcome to join us in this service and help the residents in the signing of the hymns, praying, reading scripture, and worshipping our God. The message is titled: "Wilderness: A Spiritual Journey." The service is in the second-floor recreation room. Whitestone Care Center is located at: 370 Whitestone Corners Road, Stroudsburg.



After school bible study meets on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 for all children age 3 through 6th Grade. **(NO VAN TRANSPORTATION ON MARCH 4th)**



**Tuesdays, March 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
at noon**

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, you don't have to walk this journey alone. Our Grief Share group offers a caring space to share, listen, and find encouragement alongside others who are going through the same journey. Through scripture, prayer, conversation, and practical support, we seek healing and hope together. Join us as we walk this path with compassion and faith. Please contact Pastor Jeff (570) 234-7111 for more information.

# 2026 TOOLS FOR MINISTRY



**Saturday, March 14 (snow/ice date:  
Saturday, March 21)**

**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Asbury UMC (1533 Springhouse Road,  
Allentown) \$15 per person (includes  
lunch)**

Speaking, caring, leading, praying, studying, and reaching out – these faithful acts form the very core of our life and witness as disciples of Jesus Christ! This year, our Tools for Ministry program will focus on these foundational basics of living out our faith. These workshops have been designed to equip people in the pews – whether you're new to church ministry, are growing in leadership in your local congregation, or have responded to the call to serve as a lay pastor. In addition, we've included opportunities to learn more about special ministry programs like Pathways: Bridges and United Women of Faith, and a special conversation on the future of small church ministry. We hope you'll join us!

Visit their [online registration](#) to view a [list of workshops](#), and to register. (Please note: All workshops will be offered during both sessions unless otherwise noted.)

For more information, please contact Candy LaBar (Chair, North District Resource Team), [revclabar@gmail.com](mailto:revclabar@gmail.com).



Take a moment to send a card to remind them that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

Bill Brandamore  
8 Turtle Cove  
Labar Village  
Stroudsburg PA 18360

RoseMarie Miller  
112 Buttonwood Court East  
Stroudsburg, PA 18301  
(healing)

Donna Myra  
Whitestone Care Center  
370 White Stone Corner Rd, Room 121  
Stroudsburg PA 18360

Elvena Price  
Brookmont Health Center, Room 41  
510 Brookmont Drive  
Effort, PA 18330  
(rehab)

Paul Schmid  
1232 Kroucher Road  
Stroudsburg PA 18360  
(Passing of Theresa)

Karen Shick  
1240 Neola Church Road  
Stroudsburg PA 18360  
(healing)

Chris Welch  
150 Maureen Place, Suite #150  
Dover DE 19901  
(back pain relief)

## MILITARY OF THE MONTH

### PFC Alexander Garrett

3820 Williams Way  
232D MED BN C05-26  
JBSA Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234  
(Cards Only—no packages)

# Worship In March

## March 1st Communion

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-6; Luke 3:2-6

Message: Wilderness as a Place of Calling

## March 8th

Scripture: Hosea 2:14

Message: Wilderness a Place of Divine Presence

## March 15th

Scripture: Deuteronomy 29:5

Message: Wilderness as a Place of Provision

## 2:00 PM Whitestone Worship Service

Scripture: Hebrews 3:7-19

Message: Wilderness a Spiritual Journey

## March 22nd

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

Message: Wilderness a Place of Testing and Formation

## March 25th - 7PM Lent Service

Reeders Church

Message: Joy - Reverend Samuel Ashley

## March 25th Palm Sunday

Scripture: Isaiah 41: 17-20



### Palm Sunday

On March 29th Delores the Christian Donkey returns to help us worship and give praise to God on

Palm Sunday. Delores will be here during Sunday School and during the Worship Service, so children will have lots of opportunity to be with Delores as we celebrate Jesus entry into Jerusalem,

12 Noon Wednesday  
Prayer Time



## Wednesday's At 12 Noon

Join Pastor Jeff on-line in the Sanctuary for a short time of prayer when we can lift up our joys and concerns for the week. Go to the church facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/reeders.umc>

## MISSION OF THE MONTH Mt. Gilead Camp and Conference Center (girls camp)

440 Rinker Road  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
570-629-0920 [www.mtgileadcamp.org](http://www.mtgileadcamp.org)



Greetings Church Family -

There are 2 adult Sunday School Classes that meet; one in the conference room led by Patrick Roberts and the 2nd on the second floor room 21. led by Ryan Rispoli.

Please consider joining our class on Sunday's at 9:15 in person or online at <https://meet.gotocom/848990565> or by phone at 1-571-317-3122 Access Code 848-990-565 as we continue to learn from each other and grow together.

## MARCH SCHEDULE FOR USHERS, GREATER LOVE, and COUNTERS

	USHERS	GREATER LOVE	NURSERY	COUNTERS
1st Sunday	Gerry Hogan Mike Frailey	Emma Rispoli Jim Felten Tom Iampaglia	Jan Toepert Jackie Matos	Scott Hower Craig Croteau
2nd Sunday	John Cady Craig Croteau	Paul Schmid Barb Giffels	Leigh Frailey Jan Toepert	Scott Hower Sue Snyder
3rd Sunday	Bob Bryson George Caron	Anna Macias Crowley Kathy Reder	Judy Bryson Karen Croteau	Scott Hower John Careccia
4th Sunday	Barb Giffels Paul Schmid Anna Macias- Crowley	Sue Wright Deb Elmire	Hope Lesoine Sharon Armitage	Scott Hower Cassandra Careccia
5th Sunday	Jim Felten Tom Iampaglia	Audrey Weber Joyce Baker Arlene Frailey	Jessica Garrett Cassandra Careccia	Scott Hower Sue Snyder



The Nominating Committee at Reeder's is tasked every year with polling the congregation to find people who are willing to serve on various boards within the church for the coming year.

This year they need to find members of the congregation who are interested and willing to be appointed to the following boards or committees:

- 1) Staff Parish Relations Committee
- 2) Lay Leader
- 3) Annual Conference Alternate Delegate
- 4) Finance Secretary
- 5) Youth Group Assistants
- 6) Little Blessings Nursery School Board
- 7) Nominating Committee
- 8) Missions Committee
- 9) Board of Trustees

The current members of the Nominating Committee are; Joan Robbins, Arlene Frailey, James Feuerstein, Kathy Reder and Hope Lesoine. Pastor Jeff is the Chair of the Committee. They can provide an overview of the duties for these positions. They will be talking with members of the congregation to see if they can serve so please feel free to talk with them about these openings.

If you need additional information to help you determine if you are able to serve, please see Pastor Jeff, Mike Frailey, or Linda Mikels any nominating committee member for more information.



Beginning May 13th through the end of August, meet at the church at 4:00 PM on Wednesdays and join other members of your church family for a walk in the neighborhood. If you have been wanting to introduce some exercise into your day, this is an easy way to start. You can do as much or as little as fits your needs. Any questions, see Joanne Palmer for more info.

**1st Corinthians 6:19-20**

### 2026 Trustee budget

Category	2025 Budget
Fire Extinguisher Service Contract	\$1000.00
Air Conditioner Service Contracts and Maintenance	3000.00
Exterminator Contract	900.00
Defibulator Service and parts	500.00
Smoke Detectors and Alarm Maintenance	400.00
Piano Tuning	500.00
Kitchen – Fire Hood and Extinguisher Service	300.00
Kitchen Stove Cleaning	300.00
Floor and Carpet Cleaning	3000.00
Snow Removal	2000.00
General Maintenance and Repair (Church and Parsonage)	3000.00
<b>Total Board of Trustees Budget</b>	<b>\$14,900.00</b>

Cemetery Maintenance \$9000.00



**YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH**

**March 1st** - Kids return from their Winter Retreat. Can't wait to hear their stories.

**March 15th** - Regular Meeting

**March 22nd** - Soup Kitchen/help with setup and cleanup for meal.

**March 31st** - Regular Meeting



**United Women in Faith**

**MARCH 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**



**Join us and help pack boxes to send to our college and military.**

**Give Thanks!**

Notes and Thank You's will be included in the monthly newsletters Please submit them to the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Have a special "Thank You" for someone or a group?**

Forward to rumc@ptd.net or leave your note in "Secretary's Mailbox" in the office.



Dear Readers Church Congregation,

Thank you so much to everyone who brought soup, mac n cheese, chilli, desserts, rolls and ALL the delicious food for the "Souper Bowl of Caring Luncheon" on Sunday, February 8th. We really do have some "great chefs" in our congregation! So wonderful to enjoy all the varieties of food and to fellowship with others in the congregation. A "special thank you" to everyone who helped clean up after the luncheon.

Also, thank you, for the kind donations to PVEN. I am sure there are many in the community who will benefit from the PVEN donations, especially with the cold winter and steep food prices. *"I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done."* (Psalm 9:1),

May God Bless You!

Yvonne Rispoli



Dear Friends of Readers -

Thank you so much for all of your thoughts, support and prayers during this most difficult time with Theresa's passing.

Thank you also with the donation of Gideon Bibles sent in her memory.

All of your kindness is so appreciated by the Schmid and Scanlon families.

Best wishes,  
Paul and Family



## OCC donations for MARCH



### QUALITY CRAFTS

Knitting, wood crafts, paint or coloring crafts, paper crafts, etc. Please place your donations in the OCC drop box in the lobby.



Children's church is open to all children ages 3 thru 5th grade during worship service every Sunday

In March we will continue this year's lesson plan, "Stories from the Four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The lessons will include "Jesus feeds 5,000, Jesus Calms the Storm, and an Easter lesson".

We look forward to spending Sunday mornings with our church family children, sharing the Christian faith and messages of salvation.

*Joanne Palmer & Joan Robbins*

## Join us for FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

**Easter Sunday**  
**APRIL 5th**  
**7:30 am to 8:30 AM**

### Fellowship Sunday - 1st Sunday of the month

Thank you, each and every one who have worked with the event and and/or who have contributed goodies.

It certainly seems that so many have enjoyed not just the baked goods but also some good conversations.

This is a great way to interact with fellow parishioners.

The Month is March is already being taken care of and will occur after worship on March 1st.

April will have a different timeline. After the Sunrise worship service on April 5th (Easter Sunday) and before the Sunday Christian Education classes begin, there will be a breakfast fellowship in the social hall. Please come and enjoy some food and company.

There is a signup sheet in the narthex where 2 people can sign up for the 1st Sunday of the month gathering. We would like to see some new people become involved. If you have any questions please contact Barb Giffels at 570-421-6344 or Karen Croteau at 570-460-7253.



## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS REPAIR/ MAINTENANCE PROJECT

Reeders Church is gathering funds to conduct a stained glass repair and maintenance project on all of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary.

There are a total of 14 stained glass windows. Five (5) of them have cracked or broken glass. One(1) of them is in serious need of repair due to a major bulge and broken structural support braces (glass over entrance door by Library). All of them will have their protective covers removed, cleaned, and replaced, and be re-puttied and recoated with a primer and new paint . This maintenance will help to preserve the windows for another 100 years. The total cost will be approximately \$35,000.

If you are able to contribute toward this project, please mark your contribution accordingly and place it in the offering plate, or drop it in the box on the information table in the lobby.



## Birthdays

Anna Macias Crowley	6th
Carter Malcolm Schwarz	10th
Ryan Rispoli	10th
Quinn Lesoine	13th
Stevie Miller, Jr.	13th
Elizabeth Frailey	15th
Justin Schmid	15th
Victoria McNeese	19th
Hajj Turner	19th
Denise Thomas	20th
Christian Kohlmier	21th
Ronald Burd	22th
Ellianna Rispoli	25th

### Reeders UMC 2026 Benevolence Fund Budget (proposed)

LastName	FirstName	Company	Budget
Buchanan	Nelson & Cheryl	Northeast PA (Pocono Slate Belt) Youth for Christ	\$ 6,500.00
Goldin	Boris & Irina	Word of Life	\$ 5,000.00
Shaw	Christopher	Chosen People Ministries	\$ 4,000.00
Zimmerman	Kurt & Cynthia	Desarollo Cristiano Internacional	\$ 3,000.00
Klein	Brad & Uli	World Gospel Mission	\$ 3,000.00
Denos	Ernie & Chrysoula	Open Storehouse, Inc.	\$ 3,000.00
Bennett	Bob & Dorinda	Avant Ministries	\$ 1,250.00
		AWANA Clubs International	\$ 2,000.00
		Pocono Plateau Camp & Conference Center	\$ 3,000.00
		Mission Engagement Funding	\$ 1,000.00
		Mt Gilead Camp & Conference Center	\$ 1,000.00
		Pleasant Valley Ecumencial Network	\$ 1,000.00
		Gideons International	\$ 500.00

Total = **\$34,250.00**

Monthly need = **\$ 2,854.17**

## Pastor's Desk

*“I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive; I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together, that they may see and know, may consider and understand together, that the hand of the Lord has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.” Isaiah 41:18-20*

There's a stretch of woods just behind on the church, on the state park side of Big Pocono, where the pine, maples, birches are over grown and parts are a tangle of brambles and stone. If you've ever wandered there your boots always seem to squelching in last year's leaves—and there is a hush that settles in. It's a place where cell signals fade and the only company is the wind, a few crows, and the sometimes the distant hum of Route 715. It's not the sort of place you'd choose for a picnic. It is a bit of wilderness still left in an ever developing Monroe County. As we have been learning in this Lenten Sermon Series about the wilderness, God seems to have thing about the wilderness. Isaiah's words come to a people who know wilderness all too well. The Israelites, exiled and weary, are living in a land not their own, their hopes as dry as the desert wind. The wilderness, in Scripture, is never just a backdrop; it's a character in the story—a place of testing, yes, but also of encounter and transformation. Here in Reeders, we may not face the literal deserts of the Middle East, but we know something of wilderness. Maybe it's the wilderness of a diagnosis, a job loss, a family rift, or just the slow erosion of hope that comes with long winters and longer nights. Maybe it's the feeling that you're wandering, thirsty for something you can't quite name.

There's an old story about desert seeds—tiny, seemingly lifeless things that lie dormant for years, waiting for rain. When the rain finally comes, the desert bursts into bloom almost overnight. The seeds were never dead; they were waiting for the right season. Sometimes, what looks like barrenness is really a season of preparation. God is at work beneath the surface, nurturing seeds of faith that will one day blossom. Isaiah's promise of water in the wilderness finds its fullest expression in Jesus. In John 4, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at a well and offers her “living water”—water that will become in her a spring welling up to eternal life. Later, at the Feast of Tabernacles, He cries out, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him” (John 7:37-38). The living water Jesus offers is God's own presence, poured into the dry places of our hearts. It's a promise that, no matter how parched we feel, God can bring renewal from within.

What does all this mean for us, here at Reeders Church? It means that, as a community, we are called to be people of hope - people who believe that God can bring rivers to the bare heights and springs to the valleys, even when all we see is dust and stone.

It means that, when we find ourselves in wilderness seasons - whether as individuals or as a congregation - we don't have to pretend everything is fine. We can name our thirst, our longing, our need. And we can trust that God hears, God answers, God provides.

It also means that we are called to be channels of living water for others. Just as God promises to plant trees in the desert - cedar, acacia, myrtle, olive - so we are called to be rooted in God's love, offering shade and shelter to those who are weary.

Pastor Jeff



**NEED HELP FINDING EMPLOYMENT?**

Go to the Commonwealth Workforce Development website and gain access to training assistance and job openings that you can apply for on line at <https://www.cwds.pa.gov>. Create a user name and password and develop an online resume' and apply online for jobs that are posted. If you need assistance to set up your online account, you can contact:

PA Career Link Monroe County  
2937 Route 611  
Merchants Plaza  
Tannersville, PA 18372  
570-620-2850

**Reeders Church**

P.O. Box 187  
2167 Route 715 and Church Road  
Reeders PA 18352

**Contact Information:**

Phone: 570.629.1712  
Email: [rumc@ptd.net](mailto:rumc@ptd.net)  
Web: [www.ReedersChurch.org](http://www.ReedersChurch.org)  
Pastor Jeff Weber  
Email: [jweber@ptd.net](mailto:jweber@ptd.net)  
Phone: 570-234-7111

The Church Office hours are 9AM to 5PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

If you need pastoral services, please contact Pastor Jeff anytime directly at 570-234-7111.

*United Methodist Women's Ministries*

**Please collect the following items and place them in the black collection box located by the office.**

*Thank you for your support!*



**Need Help Finding Community Resources?**

Monroe County provides a help line for easy access to human services in the community. Dial 2-1-1 to locate some of the following services:

- Shelter/housing
- Food/clothing
- Rent/Utility Assistance
- Transportation
- Drug Abuse treatment
- Early Intervention
- Legal/consumer services
- Public Assistance
- Credit Counseling
- Mental Health Services
- Aging Parent Assistance
- Support Groups

or go online at [poconoinfo.org](http://poconoinfo.org)

**Three ways to continue giving:**



**GIVE AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU**

- 1) In person on Sunday morning
- 2) Drop your envelope in the black box outside the main entrance door, or
- 3) Go to church website at [www.Reeders.Church.org](http://www.Reeders.Church.org)

Luke 6:38