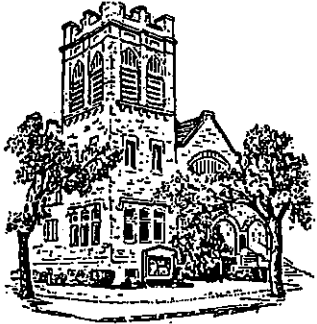


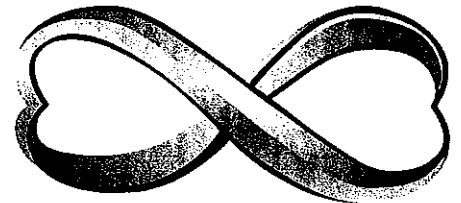
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET  
KITTANNING PA 16201  
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
KITTANNING PA 16201  
PERMIT NO 14

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

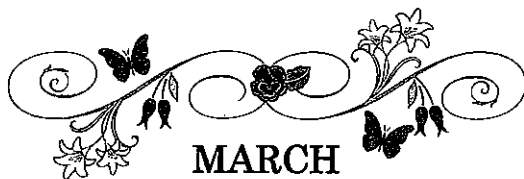


*Monthly Messenger*



*Love Never Ends*

**FEBRUARY 2014**



**MARCH  
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE,  
TUESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 18, 2014**

**CHURCH STAFF**

**PASTOR:** Dr. Allyn L. Ricketts, Ph. D  
**CHURCH SECRETARY:** Audrey Green  
**ORGANIST:** Evan Snyder  
**SEXTON:** Valerie Kachur  
**CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Barb Gaughan  
**NURSERY ATTENDANT:** Linda Powell  
**MESSENGER VOLUNTEERS:**  
Carolyn Gallaher, Sally Krozely  
June Pollard, Donna Hiding  
Linda Scaife, Carol Wolfe

**WORSHIP:** 11:00 AM

**CHURCH OFFICE:** 724-548-4312

**PARSONAGE:** 724-543-4808

**E-MAIL:** [fumchurch@windstream.net](mailto:fumchurch@windstream.net)

**WEB SITE:** [www.firstchurchkittanning.com](http://www.firstchurchkittanning.com)

**FAX:** 724-548-5157

**RAINBOW ROAD:** 724-548-7569

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:00 PM**



## AUTHORITY ISSUES

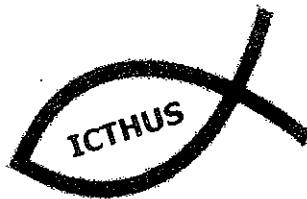
For many of us (especially men) there is one thing that is very hard to deal with or accept and that is authority. Our own egos (and again, especially the male ego) as well as our American heritage of sorts, causes us to bristle whenever we think someone is exercising authority over us. When faced with Christianity then we must be struck by this problem of authority on two levels. First of all, the whole idea of faith sounds a lot like we are supposed to believe something because someone else says that it is true. We certainly think we are more intelligent and enlightened than to believe something on someone else's authority.

Second of all, the idea that becoming a Christian means that that we have to submit our lives to the teaching and will of God is hard to take for such free and independent spirits as ours. The Revolutionary War slogan, "We serve no sovereign here" has not entirely left the American culture. [even though it is being deeply tested these days] Even more so that attitude permeates your life to a degree, and with an attitude, that the originators of that slogan would never have imagined.

As to the problem of authority again C.S. Lewis gives us some help. "Do not be scared by the word authority. Believing things on authority only means believing them because you have been told them by someone you think trustworthy. Ninety-nine percent of the things you believe are believed on authority. I believe there is such a place as New York. I have not seen it myself. I could not prove by abstract reasoning that there must be such a place. I believe it because reliable people have told me so. The ordinary man believes in the Solar system, atoms, evolution, and the circulation of the blood on authority—because the scientists say so. Every historical statement in the world is believed on authority. None of us has seen the Norman Conquest or the defeat of the Armada. None of us could prove them by pure logic as you prove a thing in mathematics. We believe them simply because people who did see them have left writings that tell about them; in fact, on authority. A man who jibbed at authority in other things the way some do in religion would have to be content to know nothing all his life."

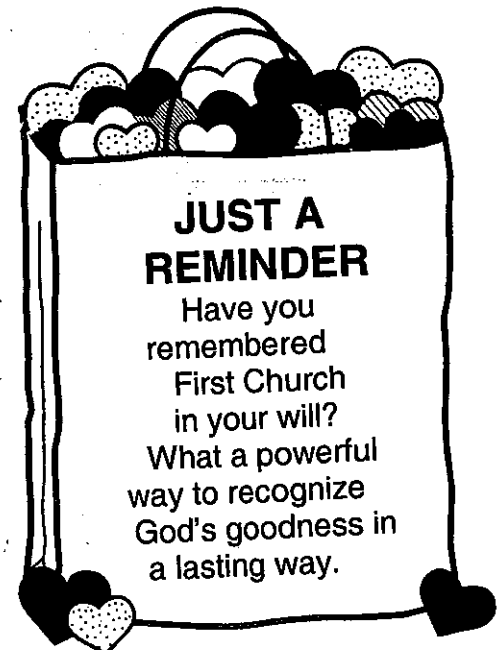
We balk at authority and the idea that we ought to submit to God but the truth is we all submit to authority every day in many ways. Our choice is not freedom or submission to authority but only who or what we will submit to. We all are aware that we are not in control of our own lives. You want to go golfing, can you stop the rain? You want to go skiing, can you stop the thaw? You want to be a friend, can you control the other person's attitude? Internally we have desires, habits, temptations that we wish did not control us but they often do. Amazingly enough, the Biblical documents tell us this is just the predicament of all people. "You are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness" (Romans 6:16). You will have to face the choice and decide which you will serve. The warning is that obedience to sin brings death. The wonderful paradox is that obedience to Christ brings freedom. Choose this day who you will serve.

FREEDOM  
Maranatha  
Allyn



Our Mission and Vision...**ICTHUS**—the fish—an early Christian symbol. It reminds us of our mission at First Church. How are you helping each area to improve in our church? This is our mission - how are you participating in it? Are you helping us to...

- I--Invite and challenge people to come to faith. [EVANGELISM]
- C--Celebrate God's presence through powerful worship. [WORSHIP]
- TH--be Thoroughly equipped for your walk of faith. [CHRISTIAN EDUCATION]
- U--Use the gifts God has given you to serve. [DISCIPLESHIP]
- S--Set aside a portion of your personal resources to be returned to God. [STEWARDSHIP]



## FEBRUARY WORSHIP

February 2, 2014  
11:00 AM Communion  
Sermon: Why Don't We Listen  
Mark 6:1-13

February 9, 2014  
11:00 AM  
Psalm 132:15-18, Romans 11:5-10  
Sermon: It's Hard to Believe  
Mark 6:30-56

February 16, 2014  
11:00 AM  
Isaiah 29:13-16, Galatians 1:11-17  
Sermon: "I Can Do It Myself"  
Mark 7:1-23

February 23, 2014  
11:00 AM  
Psalm 86:11-17, Matthew 16:1-4  
Sermon: A Deep Sigh  
Mark 8:1-13

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## FEBRUARY SIFT Thursday, February 20th 12:00 PM

Menu: Soup-Chicken noodle &  
Stuffed Pepper, Cake  
Program: Walter Marr as Abe  
Lincoln  
Reservations due by  
Monday, February 17th at noon.



## FRIDAY NIGHT CIRCLE

Thursday, February 5, 2014  
7:00 PM  
Library Room  
Making Valentines with Barb  
Devotions: Mert Hellein  
Hostesses: Janet McKelvey,  
Laurie Lemons

## FEBRUARY

### ACOLYTE

2 Sierra Aires  
9 Hayley Hoffman  
16 Gabi Zielinski  
23 Hannah Hoffman



### READERS

2 Communion  
9 Rachel Ricketts  
16 Barb Gaughan  
23 Mert Hellein



### USHERS

2 Epworth/Bobbi Williamson & Communion  
9 Epworth/Bobbi Williamson  
16 Oxford/Joe Heckert  
23 Oxford/Joe Heckert



### SOUND SYSTEM

2 Chris Toy  
9 Tom Thomas  
16 Muir  
23 John Yankasky



### COUNTERS

2 Scaife  
9 Krozely  
16 Thomas  
23 Muir



### WELCOME CENTER

2 Melissa Flanders  
9 Karen Scaife  
16 Sally Felton  
23 Ruth Stubbs



## FEBRUARY LIBRARY NEWS

The following books have been given to the children's library:

"The Stranger at Jacob's Well" by Vivian Dede

"Octopus" by Melvin and Gilda Berger

These books were donated to the adult library:

"All Things New" by Pam Hanson and Barbara Andrews

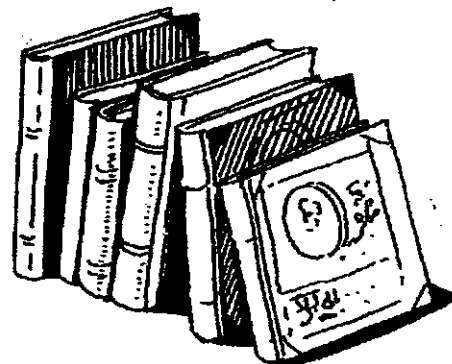
"Friends and Family" by Susan Page Davis

"Tracks And Ties" by Camy Tang

These 3 books belong to the Miracles of Marble Cove series, published by Guideposts.

Reading a book is a good way to relax!

Carol Wolfe, Librarian



## VBS 2014 CANS

In the past month (through January 15th) we received 2,071 cans for our 2014 Vacation Bible School collection to help Habitat for Humanity. Our total since VBS 2013 is 20,391 cans. Thanks to all of you who save, collect and bring in cans. Our collection for VBS 2014 continues—so, **KEEP THEM COMING PLEASE.**

Please continue or start saving aluminum cans—pop, fruit juice, tea, health drinks and beer cans. Drop them off at the church ramp anytime. Thank you, The Can Man



## FEBRUARY MISSIONS EMPHASIS

We will use the Souper Bowl (on Super Bowl Sunday) idea to collect monies for our church's Emergency Fund. The youth of our church will be at the three doors following church on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. You may choose which "bowl" in which to put your money. All this money will assist our pastor in giving persons "emergency money". Some examples of this would be to assist with a heating, medical or house payment bill. This money is given wisely and confidentially by our pastor.

Give with a cheerful heart, knowing that your money will be used to help a family, person, or couple with a very much needed bill. Be grateful you can give!!

Coupled with this giving, we will also collect cans of tuna to give to the area Food Bank. Please place your tuna cans in the FOOD BANK bins at each of the main doorways. **THANK YOU** for your generous heart!!



Missions Committee, Janet McKelvey

## ORGAN COMMITTEE NEWS

The organ committee would like to share some additional information about the possible purchase of a new organ.

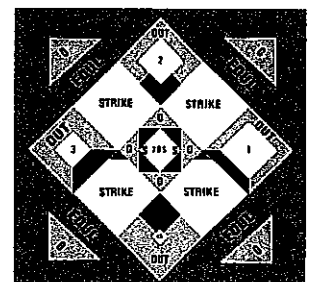
The cost of a new digital organ, similar to the Rodgers Infinity 361 Organ that we had the privilege to enjoy during the Advent season, is approximately \$100,000. While this certainly is a large amount of money, that amount must be compared to the cost of replacing or repairing our current organ. To replace the current pipe organ with an equivalent instrument, the cost would be between \$450,000 and \$500,000. Repairs and needed upgrades to the current pipe organ would cost approximately \$380,000. In addition to the cost of the pipe organ, an additional \$3000-\$5000 a year would be needed for tuning, maintenance and general upkeep of the organ. In contrast to the amount of money needed for the upkeep of a pipe organ, the digital organ requires no tuning and a new instrument would come with a service plan included in the price. For example, the Rodgers organ comes with a 10 year warranty for parts and a 2 year labor warranty.

Please prayerfully consider how you can best support the organ fund raising campaign. As always, the organ committee welcomes your questions and feedback. Thank you, Cindy Volek, Chairman




## DART BALL

Males and females over the age of 12 are invited to an evening of dart ball and yummy food in the basement of the church at 7:00 PM on Saturday, Feb. 15. Dart ball is a game of darts using a baseball diamond target and is scored similarly to baseball. Please join us to find out more or just to watch and join in some time of fellowship. Bring a friend too!



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Erica Scaife  
 9 Brenda Beers  
 9 Fred Blaney  
 9 Lynn Toth  
 10 Ruth Dalzell  
 28 Edna Heigley  
 11 Angela Clever  
 12 Tim Hellein  
 13 Moira Andrews  
 14 Bernie Green  
 18 Ken Gaughan  
 18 Larissa Schrecengost

19 Jordan Zier   
 20 Elizabeth Heigley  
 25 Jessica Andrews  
 25 Rachel Ricketts



## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

8 Dick & Bonnie Starr  
 16 Jake & Donna Hidinger



# Thank You

To all our  
 snow removal  
 volunteers.



Congratulations to Kimberly & Chris Heckert on the birth of a daughter, Evelyn Gail Heckert. Evelyn was born on Friday, January 10, 2014. She weighed 7lbs 11oz and was 21 inches long. She is the sister of Annelise Heckert and the granddaughter of Sarah & Joe Heckert.

## THANK YOU



Dear First United Methodist Church,

We wanted to thank you so much for cards, phone calls and the use of the Covenant during the time of Cindy Studebaker's death. We really appreciate all your thoughts and prayers for Jake and myself and the rest of the family. Thanks for the delicious cookies for the shut-ins, for Jake and Twila and also the tickets for turkey dinner.



In Christian Love,  
 Donna Hidinger & Family

Church Family,

Thank you for all the cards, prayers, phone calls and well wishes during my recent hospitalization. Your thoughtfulness and caring has meant so much. Thanks to Allyn and Rachel for their visits. It is so nice to be part of a caring and loving church family.

Pam Coggon

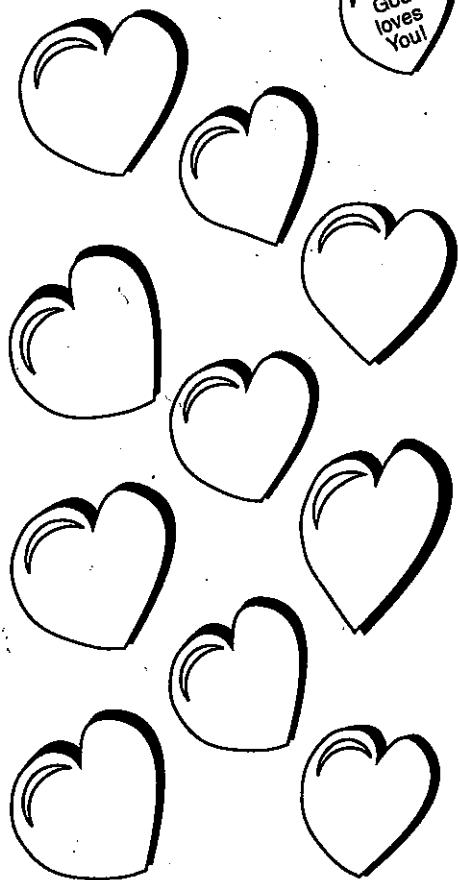
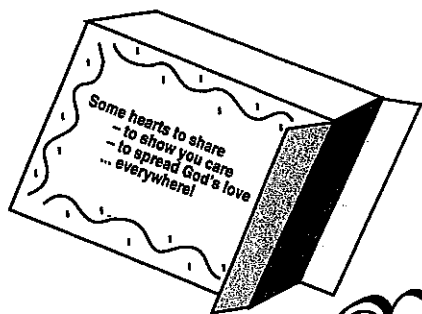
## RAINBOW ROAD



Rainbow Road is currently collecting information from individuals interested in Substitute Teaching or the Assistant Teacher position for the 2014-15 school year. Those interested in the Assistant Teacher position should hold a B.S. or B.A, preferably in Education. All applicants

considering the Assistant Teacher position should submit a letter of introduction, a resume, two personal and two professional references, as well as a college transcript. This information should be sent to the attention of Mert Hellein, Rainbow Road President, c/o the church office. Any questions can be directed to Mert Hellein at 724-545-2285.

Preschool  
 News

# Just for KIDS




You will need:  and . Write a special word or message on each "candy heart." Color or decorate them. Cut them out and give them to people who need to hear these messages! Make someone smile!

## Just for Kids

### How's the weather ... in Palestine where Jesus lived?

Use the code below to fill in these forecasts:



Mt. Hermon - ○ ▲ ▼ □

Jericho - \* ▼ ■

Jerusalem - ☆ \* ★ \*

Dead Sea area - ■ ● ▼ ◆ \* ☼ ☺ ★ \* + ☺ ■

Sea of Galilee - \* □ ○ ■ ♣ ☐ \* ▲ \* ○

Mediterranean coast - ● ● + + ☐ ♣

### How's the weather where you live?

Finish the sentences below.

Winter is \_\_\_\_\_.

Spring is \_\_\_\_\_.

Summer is \_\_\_\_\_.

Fall is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Code

☺ = A	* = D	* = H	☆ = M	◆ = P	■ = T	☐ = W
● = B	+ = E	* = I	▲ = N	● = R	□ = U	♣ = Y
☼ = C	* = G	★ = L	▼ = O	○ = S	☒ = V	☐ = Z

### Answers:

SNOW; HOT; MILD; TROPICAL HEAT; GUSTY WINDS; BREEZY

## SOUP SALE

We are having another Soup Sale. Soup will be **PRE-ORDERED** only and sold by the quart at a price of \$5.00. Soup can be ordered until Sunday, February 9th.



We have Turkey Noodle & Broccoli Cheese . You can pick it up on Friday, February 14th at the Covenant Center between 3:30 and 5:30 PM or on Sunday, February 16th after church. Please specify which day you will pick up your soup at the bottom of the page.

Please order on the form that follows and place in the offering plate or return it to the office. Thank you!



I would like to order:

<b>SOUP</b>	Turkey Noodle	Broccoli Cheese
No. Quarts		

**I WILL PICK UP MY SOUP**

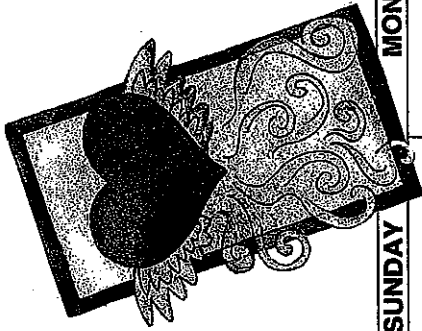
**FRIDAY** \_\_\_\_\_ **SUNDAY** \_\_\_\_\_

(Please check one, Thank You)

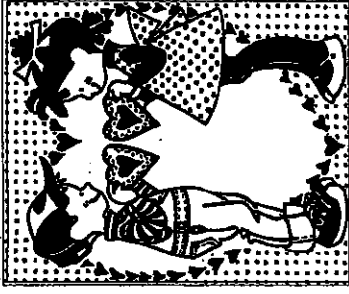
**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_





**PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN QUART JARS FROM THE LAST SOUP SALE. Thank You!**



# February



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion 	3 8:30 AM CC Clean Team 6:30 PM Trustees	4 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Staff/Parish	5 6:00 PM Worship 7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	6 8:30 AM OVR-CC 7:00 PM Friday Night Circle-CC	7 	8 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
9 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Camp 43 SUVCC	10 7:00 PM Evangelism/Outreach 7:00 PM Rainbow Road Board-Basement	11 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship	12 7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	13 Make Soup-CC 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	14 3:30-5:30 PM Pick-up Soup-CC 	15 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
16 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Pick up Soup	17 6:30 PM Finance 7:00 PM Church Council 	18 8:30 AM 3R's 7:00 PM Endowment <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	19 7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	20 12:00 PM SIFT-CC 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	21	22
23 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Chapter 519-CC	24 7:00 PM Christian Education <b>NEWSLETTER</b>	25 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship <b>FOOD BANK PICK-UP</b>	26 7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	27 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	28 