



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

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Monthly Messenger

God Answers Prayers

FEBRUARY 2015



NEWSLETTER
 DEADLINE,
 TUESDAY,
 FEBRUARY 17, 2015

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Pastor Wade Berkey
CHURCH SECRETARY: Audrey Green
INTERIM PIANIST/ORGANIST: Earl Amour
SEXTON: Valerie Kachur
ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR: Barb Gaughan
CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTORS:
 Valerie Kachur & Tara Green
NURSERY ATTENDANT: Linda Powell
MESSENGER VOLUNTEERS:
 Carolyn Gallaher, Sally Krozely
 June Pollard, Linda Scaife, Carol Wolfe

WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

PARSONAGE: 724-543-4808

E-MAIL: fumchurch@windstream.net

WEB SITE: www.firstchurchkittanning.com

FAX: 724-548-5157

RAINBOW ROAD: 724-548-7569



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

February 2015

For God So LovVed the world
That He gAve
His onLy
BegottEn
SoN
That whosoever
Believeth In Him
Should Not perish
But have Everlasting life
John 3:16

What could be better than receiving a Valentine's wish from God!

Be blessed!!

Pastor Wade

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

February 1, 2015

11:00 AM, Communion

Psalm 111, Mark 1:21-28

4th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 15, 2015

11:00 AM,

Psalm 50:1-6, Mark 9:2-9

Transfiguration of the Lord



February 8, 2015

11:00 AM,

Mark 1:29-39, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 22, 2015

11:00 AM,

Mark 1:9-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22

1st Sunday in Lent

More...from the Pastor!!

Why are we here? Not in the existential manner of thinking, but why does our church exist. Why were we founded and what is the purpose for continuing? Those seem like simple questions to answer but often those purposes can get lost in the mix. Consider the Pharisees, Jesus said that they were "like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurities" (Matthew 24:27). They were simply going through the motions for the sake of the motions. I don't see that happening in First Church, but so that we do not lose focus, so that we have a stated purpose, I have been encouraging our leadership to adopt a mission statement, a vision statement, and a core value statement.

A mission statement is a statement of the purpose of our church—our reason for existing. It is a written declaration of an organization's core purpose and focus that normally remains unchanged over time. Mission statements can help us define what is important and what is not. A vision statement is the effect of the mission statement. The value statement defines our priority(s).

I am excited to share with you, the Mission, Vision, and Core Value Statements that were adopted at our January Council Meeting by your church leaders!

Our Mission...

is to know Jesus and to make Jesus known.

John 20:30-31; The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name (NLT).

Our Vision...

is to be the church that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through worshipping, growing, and serving Jesus Christ.

Our Core Value...

is *love*. We love the Lord our God with all our hearts, souls, minds and strength and our neighbors as ourselves. This value is commanded by Jesus, inspired by our Wesleyan heritage including to spread scriptural holiness over the land, and witnessed through our integrity, accountability and inclusiveness.

Adopted from the Core Value of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Luke 10:25-28; One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you love the Lord your God with strength, and all your mind.' "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do



And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "this and you will live!" (NLT)

Stay tuned for more exciting news about our church!

FEBRUARY

WELCOME CENTER

1 Melissa Flanders
8 Hayley Hoffman
15 Mert Hellein
22 Kathy Coleman



READERS

1 Dan Wolfe
8 Pat Wolfe
15 Mert Hellein
22 Bonnie Ferguson



USHERS

1 Oxford/Kim Yankasky & Communion
8 Oxford/Kim Yankasky
15 Albright/Dan Wolfe
22 Albright/Dan Wolfe



SOUND SYSTEM

1 Janessa Muir
8 John Yankasky
15 Glenn Krozely
22 Dan Christie



COUNTERS

1 Stubbs
8 Flanders
15 McKelvey
22 Scaife



ACOLYTE

1 Gabi Zielinski
8 Hannah Hoffman
15 Hayley Hoffman
22 Ryan Bish

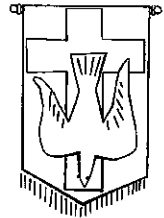


CHERRY RUN CAMP YOUTH RETREAT

The Youth Retreat will be held this year on March 13, 14, and 15, 2015. It is an opportunity for youth, ages 12-18 to connect with God and each other in a retreat setting. The speaker this year is Rev. Stephanie Gottschalk and music will be provided from a Punxsutawney band called Reach the Masses. Cost is \$55.00 per youth and registration forms are available at the Church Office. For more info, visit www.cherryruncamp.org.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are forming a class for young people to share in confirmation. If your child is in sixth or seventh grade currently, or your child has not been to a confirmation class, please contact either the Church Office or Pastor Wade.



In a few days you will receive a mailing from the church that includes the Lenten Devotional. These are daily devotions that are written by *YOU!* Typically, in past years, there was also a pastor prepared Lenten Devotional that included an envelope for a Lenten/Easter offering. That devotional was intentionally not included in the newsletter. I do not want

to take away from the words of inspiration that *YOU* have written. Next month there will be an envelope in the newsletter asking you to consider a special Lenten Easter Offering. Consider how God is blessing you throughout this Lenten season and I would ask that you might give accordingly.



Don't forget...we are looking to create a prayer team at First Church! Would you like to be a part of this power ministry?



LENTEN SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Ash Wednesday Service—February 18, 2015; 6:30 PM
at First United Methodist Church
Tuesday Evening Services—February 24, 2015; 6:30 PM
At Union Avenue United Methodist Church
Wednesday's at Noon—February 25, 2015; 12:00
at Grace Presbyterian Church

6 LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Our First Lenten Fish Dinner will be held on Friday, February 20th and will continue through Friday, March 27, 2015 at the Covenant Center from 4:30-6:30 PM.

MENU: Baked or Fried Fish, Sloppy Joe Sandwich or Chicken
 Baked Potato, Curly Fries or Macaroni & Cheese
 Cole Slaw or Applesauce, Roll, Beverage and PIE
 Adult \$9.00 Children \$4.00



Come and eat, bring your family and friends. Help support our fund raising efforts to raise finances for our church programs and missions.

We need pie bakers and workers to help for all 6 Fish Dinners. Can you help? If so, please fill out the sign-up sheet in this newsletter and let us know if you can help and which weeks. Keep the top half as your reminder and return the bottom half to the church. Thank You!



MISSIONS EMPHASIS FOR FEBRUARY

On Sunday, February 1, our Youth will collect monies for the Souper Bowl, not Super Bowl offering. Our youth will be at each door as the worship service ends, with bowls in which we can place our money. The youth have decided that the money will go to the Food Bank in Ford City.

The other Sundays in February we will be collecting **jars of peanut butter** or **cans of tuna** for our area's **Food Bank**. You may place these needed items in the **FOOD BANK** containers at the doors.

Thank you, church family, for giving out of your kind and giving hearts.

Missions Committee

2014 MISSIONS REPORT

January	UMCOR: LAYETTES	26 packages of cloth diapers + \$125.00
February	Emergency Fund	\$176.88 + Tuna & Other Food Goods to Food Bank
March	Habitat for Humanity	\$340.00
April	Nate & Tabatha Adams (area missionaries)	\$420.00
May	Life Choices	\$505.05
June	Stop Hunger Now	{ (see July amount) + 230 pairs of shoes to Annual Conference Project
July	Stop Hunger Now Pearce Family (fire)	{ \$1225.41 + 30 Volunteers \$1587.00
August	Food Bank	Paper Products
September	Jesus Well	\$2786.00
October	Samaritan's Purse	\$345.00 + 38 Christmas Shoe Boxes + Extra Toothbrushes + Pastes went to: Salvation Army, HAVIN, Friday Night Circle 3 Little Boys Gifts, Operation Christmas Child collection center, Sarver, & Haiti Mission Trip, Zion UMC, Sarver. These were courtesy of Mark Ferguson
November	Food Bank	Many canned goods + \$75.00
December	Joe Heckert, Jr.	\$2783.00

Dear Church Family, What a deep blessing it is to see our shared givings go to God's ministries near and far. Thank you for sharing in this. Thank God that He blesses us, so that we can be a blessing.

Missions Committee



We are presently updating our Prayer Chain List. We need the following information.

If you are currently on the Prayer list, and wish to continue by phone (or cell) or email; or
If you wish to have your name removed from the new listing; or
If you wish to have your name, phone, cell or email, added to the new Prayer Chain list,

PLEASE CALL: (NO LATER THAN THE END OF FEBRUARY)

Audrey Green, office secretary, - 724-548-4312 - Monday – Thursday 8:00-4:00 PM and
give her your name and phone number or email address (if you prefer this way)

This Prayer Chain has been active for many years and has proven to be a great comfort to the many people who are suffering and need prayer. They have also shared their joys. We wish to increase our prayer list and would like any new people (both men and women) to join the updated Prayer Chain.

Coordinator, Betty Feeney



THE DEATH OF SOMEONE ELSE

Our church was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, "Someone Else."

"Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Someone Else has been with us for many years and for every one of those years, "Someone Else" did for more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do or a class to teach or attend, one name was on everyone's list: "Let 'Someone Else' do it."

Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; "Someone Else can work with that group." It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in our church. Whenever there was a deficit, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person; sometimes appearing superhuman. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone!

We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it?

Who is going to do the things Someone Else did?

When you are asked to help this year, remember—we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

Author Unknown





Dear Members,

Your support of the food-bank program is greatly appreciated. It really makes a difference.

In Christ, Tim Ashe

Grace Presbyterian Church Food-Bank Coordinator



I want to thank the members of the Church that expressed concern, called, sent cards and/or prayed for Rich and I. Rich's diabetes is under control, however, the infection is still a concern. I am doing well with my shoulder and hope to be back to Church soon. I can't express how much your kindness has meant especially prayers that make all the difference. God Bless You as Only He Can.

Rich & Kathy Riffer



To FUMC Family,

Thank you for your support, donations and the wonderful Christmas Gift—all will be put to good use.

Sincerely, Linda Powell



Dear Church Family,

We wanted to thank everyone for the generous Christmas gift. It was greatly appreciated.

Your church staff



United Methodist Church,

On behalf of the Kittanning Salvation Army, we would like to thank you for the use of the Covenant Center for our Christmas distribution. It was greatly appreciated!

God Bless, The Salvation Army



Dear Church Family and Friends,

Thank you so much for the delicious tray of cookies that were delivered to me for Thanksgiving. I so enjoyed the visit and conversation with Joe Bowser. Thank you also for the cards that continue to come to me in the mail. It is nice to be remembered. I am doing well but I miss seeing and talking to you. I am fortunate to be part of such a caring church.

Thanks again, Ruth Dalzell



2015 VBS CANS

In the past month (through January 15th) we received 2695 cans for our 2015 Vacation Bible School collection to help Habitat for Humanity. Our total since VBS 201 is 17,459 cans.

Thanks to all of you who saved, collected and brought in cans.

Our collection for VBS 2015 has started-so-KEEP THEM COMING!

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



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Are you thinking of summer yet? Cokesbury is sponsoring a VBS showcase at the NuValley Presbyterian Church in Rural Valley, Sunday, February 15th to preview the new VBS curriculum. A group of us are planning to attend the event from 2-4 that Sunday afternoon. If you are interested in previewing the curriculum with us, please let me know (Sue Hankey 724-545-1656) and we'll share some rides. If we decide and order curriculum that day, we can save 20% off our order!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Erica Scaife	14 Bernie Green
9 Brenda Beers	16 Wade Berkey
9 Fred Blaney	18 Larissa Schrecengost
9 Lynn Toth	18 Ken Gaughan
10 Ruth Dalzell	19 Jordan Zier- 
11 Angela Clever	28 Edna Heigley
12 Tim Hellein	

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY

8 Dick & Bonnie Starr-73 years



Congratulations to Bunny Heddlestun on the birth of her daughter, Amelia Gray Heddlestun. Amelia was born Thursday, January 15, 2015. She was 7 lbs 15 oz. and 19" long. Amelia is the sister of Rowin.

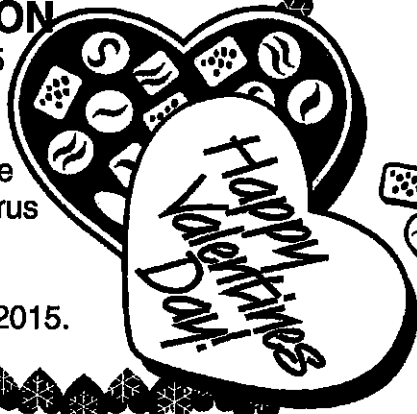
SIFT LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 19, 2015
12:00 PM

Covenant Center

PROGRAM: Denise Gamble with Kittanning Jr. High Chorus

MENU: to be announced
Reservations due by Monday, February 16, 2015.



JUST A REMINDER

Have you remembered First Church in your will? What a powerful way to recognize God's goodness in a lasting way.

LIBRARY NEWS

The following books have been donated to the adult section of our church library. "Sweetbriar", "The Sweetbriar Bride", and "Sweetbriar Spring" all are written by Brenda Wilbee.

These 3 books which take place in the 1850's tell the story of the conception and birth of Seattle, Washington.

"Misty Of Chincoteague" written by Marguerite Henry has been donated to the children's section of our library in Memory of Ryan Colwell. It takes place in Chincoteague, VA. This Newberry Honor Book is a good read for older children or even adults.

Travel to a new place by simply reading a book!

Carol Wolfe,
Librarian

RAINBOW ROAD

Rainbow Road is accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year. If your child will be three or four years old before September 1st he or she will be eligible. Applications are available in the church office or online at www.firstchurchkittanning.com

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's Choir is changing our practice day to Thursday's, twice a month from 6:00-7:00 PM. We will be singing during worship the last Sunday of every month. All children are welcome



New
Choir Members
Welcome!



LENTEN DINNERS

Fridays from February 20th thru March 27, 2015 4:30-6:30 PM

CALLING ALL PIE BAKERS...

We will need approximately 35 pies each week.

PIE BAKERS—SEE OTHER SIDE 

CALLING ALL WORKERS...

We will need approximately 25 workers each Friday to help serve and clean up.

We appreciate your help in the past and hope you will help us once again this year!

Please complete the form below and return to the church, or phone Tim Scaife @ 724-664-5346. Thank You.

Keep this as your reminder

Date	2/20	2/27	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27
Pies						
Workers						

Workers—come at 3:45 if possible.



Lenten Fish Dinners Fried or Baked Fish or Sloppy Joe
 Fridays from February 20th – March 27, 2015
 4:30-6:30 PM
 Covenant Center
 Adults \$9.00 Children \$4.00 Dinner Roll, Beverage and Pie
 Curly Fries or Baked Potato
 Cole Slaw or Applesauce

***NEW ITEMS: Chicken and Macaroni & Cheese**

I will bake the number of pies shown on the date/dates indicated below:

Fri 2/20	Fri 2/27	Fri 3/6	Fri 3/13	Fri 3/20	Fri 3/27

I/We can help serve/clean up on the date/dates indicated below:

We can be there at _____ PM.

Fri 2/20	Fri 2/27	Fri 3/6	Fri 3/13	Fri 3/20	Fri 3/27

Name _____ Phone _____

IMPORTANT

PIE BAKERS MUST READ AND COMPLY

State health and food safety regulations require that all pies made with milk, milk products or eggs must be baked in a licensed and inspected kitchen (such as a bakery, restaurant or our Covenant Center kitchen which is state licensed and inspected).

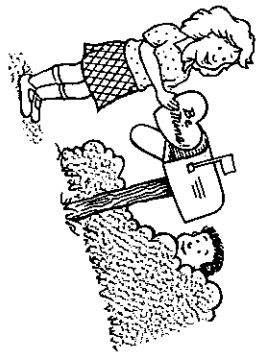
This includes crème, custard, pumpkin pies and cheese cakes. Fruit pies and other pies not made with milk, milk products or eggs can be baked in home kitchens.

Crème, custard, pumpkin pies and cheese cakes purchased from a bakery or a restaurant (which are not labeled "must be refrigerated") or are baked in a licensed home kitchen are acceptable.

The Covenant Center kitchen will be available for pie baking on Thursday afternoons and evenings and on Friday mornings. If you plan to bake pies in the Covenant Center kitchen, please let us know when so that we can schedule.

HELPFUL HINTS

When using shiny aluminum foil pans for pies, place the pan on a cookie sheet during baking to prevent the bottom crust from becoming soggy. Do not use this tip if using a glass or dull-finished aluminum pan. The use of cookie sheet under these pans will make the bottom crust soggy.



FEBRUARY

LENT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion 12:00 PM Pick up Soup-CC 6:00 PM Group Study	2 Groundhog Day 8:30 AM CC Clean Team 6:30 PM Trustees	3 8:30 AM 3R's 7:00 PM Staff/Parish 6:00 PM Women Fellowship	4 6:00 PM Worship Team 7:00 PM Adult Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers	5 9:00 AM Put Devotionals Together 6:00 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	6	7 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
8 5th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Camp 43 SUV/CW 6:00 PM Group Study	9 7:00 PM Evangelism/Outreach Mail Lenten Devotionals	10 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship	11 7:00 PM Adult Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers	12 7:00 PM Anniversary Team 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	13	14 Valentine's Day 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
15 Transfiguration of Lord 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM VBS Showcase 6:30 PM Group Study-CC	16 Presidents Day 6:30 PM Finance 7:00 PM Church Council	17 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Endowment NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 Wednesday 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service 10:00 AM Weight Watchers	19 12:00 PM SIFT-CC 6:00 pm Children's Choir 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	20 Fish Fry 4:30 PM Fish Dinner-CC	21 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
22 Sunday Lent LENT 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Chapter 519-CC	23 7:00 PM Christian Education NEWSLETTER	24 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship FOOD BANK PICK-UP	25 7:00 PM Adult Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers	26 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	27 Fish Fry 4:30 PM Fish Dinner-CC	28 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC

