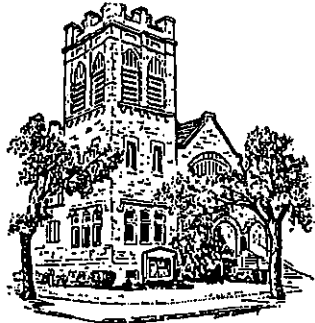


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
KITTANNING PA 16201
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Monthly Messenger

Christ
the
Lord is
RISEN
Today

APRIL 2014



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE,
TUESDAY,
APRIL 22, 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, 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



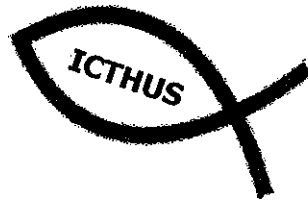
ETERNAL LIFE

Eternal life: as some would say "what a concept." To live forever; people have always had such a desire. All sorts of religions and cults have attempted to promise eternal life in one way or another. Virtually all have said that, either you already have eternal life and just don't know it or, if you do the proper good works, you can earn favor with their god and earn eternal life. This desire to live forever shows up in modern culture in many different ways. In science fiction we have all sorts of stories about mad scientists trying to find the secret of life. Or notice how many stories there have been about time travel—just another form of living beyond our age. In trying to deny death we put on creams, eat healthy foods, jog, color our gray hair, gulp down vitamins and some are even freezing their bodies after death in hopes that someday someone will figure out how to revive them. (Is someone working on that?)

The good news that Christianity has to bring to all of this confusion is that eternal life is not a result of what you do or what you know. Eternal life is rather a result of WHO you know. You see, if there is a source of life (of "being" as the philosophers say) then that source of life must contain within itself life as a part of its very nature. What I am trying to say is that God is the source of life and the only way to participate in eternal life is to be in union with the One who is by nature eternal life itself. C.S. Lewis talks about participating in this life. "Good things as well as bad, you know, are caught by a kind of infection. If you want to get warm you must stand near the fire: if you want to be wet you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them. They are not a sort of prize which God could, if He chose, just hand out to anyone. They are a great fountain of energy and beauty spurting up at the very center of reality. If you are close to it, the spray will wet you: if you are not, you will remain dry. Once a man is united to God, how could he not live forever? Once a man is separated from God, what can he do but wither and die?"

Now here is the point of Christianity. Here is why it is more than just a religion. The claim of Jesus is that he is this life eternal. That he, in the fullness of his divinity, has the power of life. Jesus, in his divinity, is eternal: never created or made. If we, by faith, share in his life then we are sharing in eternal life. And what is even more amazing, this eternal life does not begin when we die, it begins when we become united to Christ by faith. Another amazing result is that Christianity is by its nature a very practical thing in this life. To know that you have eternal life is certainly enough to change your attitude, your thinking, your outlook on life now. You used to do good things to get along and impress people in this world or to try to impress God to get into the next world. The result being that these "good" things were all selfish and of no ultimate value. But now you are able to live, to live abundantly, to live free, because you are able now to do good to please the One who has set you free and who has given to you the greatest gift. This freedom is found only in Christ—the source of life eternal.

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...

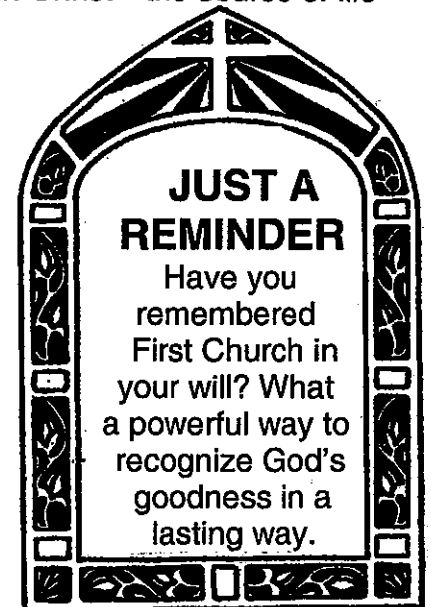
I--Invite and challenge people to come to faith. [EVANGELISM]

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]



APRIL WORSHIP



April 6, 2014

11:00 AM Communion

Sermon: By What Authority?

Mark 11:20-33



April 13, 2014

11:00 AM, Palm Sunday

Psalm 118:25-29, Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon: What Do You Expect

Mark 11:1-11



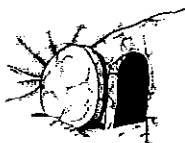
GOOD FRIDAY

April 18, 2014

7:00 PM, Good Friday

Sermon: Response to Tragedy

Job 1:13-22



April 20, 2014

11:00 AM, Easter Sunday

Psalm 11:1-4, Luke 14:1-12

Sermon: Nesting On High

Job 2:1-10



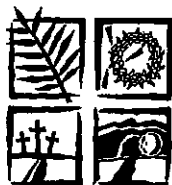
April 27, 2014

11:00 AM,

Genesis 12:1-9, Hebrews 11:8-19

Sermon: Get to Know--Abraham

Genesis 13:1-13



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Seder Meal

On **Holy Thursday, April 17** we are planning to share in a Passover Seder, the meal that would have been the Last Supper. Join us at 7:00 as we will go through the ritual and see some of the ways they have Messianic implications. While we will not be having a full dinner we will go through all of the symbolic foods and have time to fellowship together. A list of the foods we will need will be available during worship in the coming weeks. So join us in the covenant Center for this special time together.



There will be **Community Good Friday Service** at noon and we will hold **our own service** at 7:00 in the evening on Good Friday.

Plan to be part of all of these times of worship during the Lenten Season.



APRIL SIFT

Thursday, April 17th

12:00 PM

Menu: Ham Bar-B-Q sandwiches,
Macaroni & Cheese, Jello Salads, Cookies

Program: Rose Aiden/Line dancers

Reservations due by

Monday, April 14th at noon.



FRIDAY NIGHT CIRCLE

Thursday, April 10, 2014

7:00 PM Covenant Center

PROGRAM:

The Galapagos Islands-

Mary Jo Lipski

Devotions: Ruth Stubbs

Hostesses: Jean Wolfe,

Donna King

APRIL

ACOLYTE

6 Hannah Hoffman
 13 Gabi Zielinski
 20 Hayley Hoffman
 27 Peyton Zielinski



READERS

6 Communion
 13 Dan Wolfe
 20 Pat Wolfe
 27 Karen Scaife



USHERS

6 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski & Communion
 13 Epworth/Bobbi Williamson
 20 Epworth/Bobbi Williamson
 27 Oxford/Joe Heckert



SOUND SYSTEM

6 Tom Thomas
 13 Greg Lemons
 20 Hayley Hoffman
 27 Muir



COUNTERS

6 Thomas
 13 Muir
 20 Ternent
 27 Stubbs



WELCOME CENTER

6
 13
 20
 27



Tuesday Evening Community Lenten Services (7:00)

April 1—At the Salvation Army—Pastor Alyn Ricketts will speak.
 April 8—At Cornerstone AOG—Pastor Carl Johnson will speak.

Wednesday Lenten Luncheons at Grace Presbyterian(12:00)

April 2—Pastor Thom Bonomo will speak. Food by Union Ave. UMC.
 April 9—Pastor Walter Marr will speak.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK



The Evangelism Team is looking for someone who would be interested in helping organize our involvement in the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Right now the Kittanning Ministerial Association has agreed to help house homeless families about four times a year. After a thorough screening process they are housed in one of our local churches. During the week other churches help by providing an evening meal and/or volunteers to sleep at the sight in case of an emergency. If you would be interested in helping with our church's part in this occasional but very special outreach please see Pastor Ricketts for more details.



Attention all students in post-high school education or getting ready to move on after high school this year. It is time to make application for the Patton/Elgin Scholarships to be awarded this summer. Applications are available in the Church office or from Pastor Ricketts. The applications are due in by May 18 so it is time to get those transcripts and references moving.

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US

Please plan to join the entire FUMC congregation at the Covenant Center on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 12:30 PM as we celebrate Pastor Allyn's upcoming retirement in July. We hope to see you there as we wish Allyn and Rachel many wonderful blessings in the next phase of their lives!!

Watch for more details.



**FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2014
GENERAL**

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Stewardship Income ¹	\$27,660	\$31,714
Budgeted Expenses ²	\$40,188	\$39,130

¹Ideally, the actual stewardship income should be equal to or greater than the budgeted income.

²Ideally, the actual budgeted expenses should be less than or equal to the budgeted expenses.

NOTE: since there are other sources of funding other than stewardship income, there is no direct correlation between stewardship income and expenses. That is, stewardship income need not equal expenses in order to have a balanced budget.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS

	Balance	Goal
Parsonage Windows/Updates	\$3,435	\$25,000
Organ	\$21,338	\$100,000



APRIL FOCUS

Our missions focus for April will be to prayerfully collect funds for the family of **Nate and Tabbatha Adams** as they prepare to be part of a **missionary team of church planters in the West Bengal state of India**. Along with two other families from Harvest Community Church, Nate and Tabbatha will leave in the Fall of 2014 to begin their missionary work. This missionary project is based in **Frontiers**, a missions sending agency in Arizona.

Preparing for this, they have been learning about the Bengali Muslims' culture and language and vigorously studying evangelism, discipleship, training local leaders and church planting.

Our monies will go directly to **Frontiers, to the Adams account #002034**. Our funds will help cover family living expenses, running a ministry and being able to fly home every 2 years. Recently they have fundraised 55% of their budget and must have it totally paid for in order to leave in the fall.

Nate is a civil engineer, graduating from Pitt Johnstown, and Tabbatha is a graduate of Slippery Rock Univ with a psychology degree. They have a little boy, Eli, with another child due this summer. They are devoted Christians who have a real heart for Missions and want to put it into action.

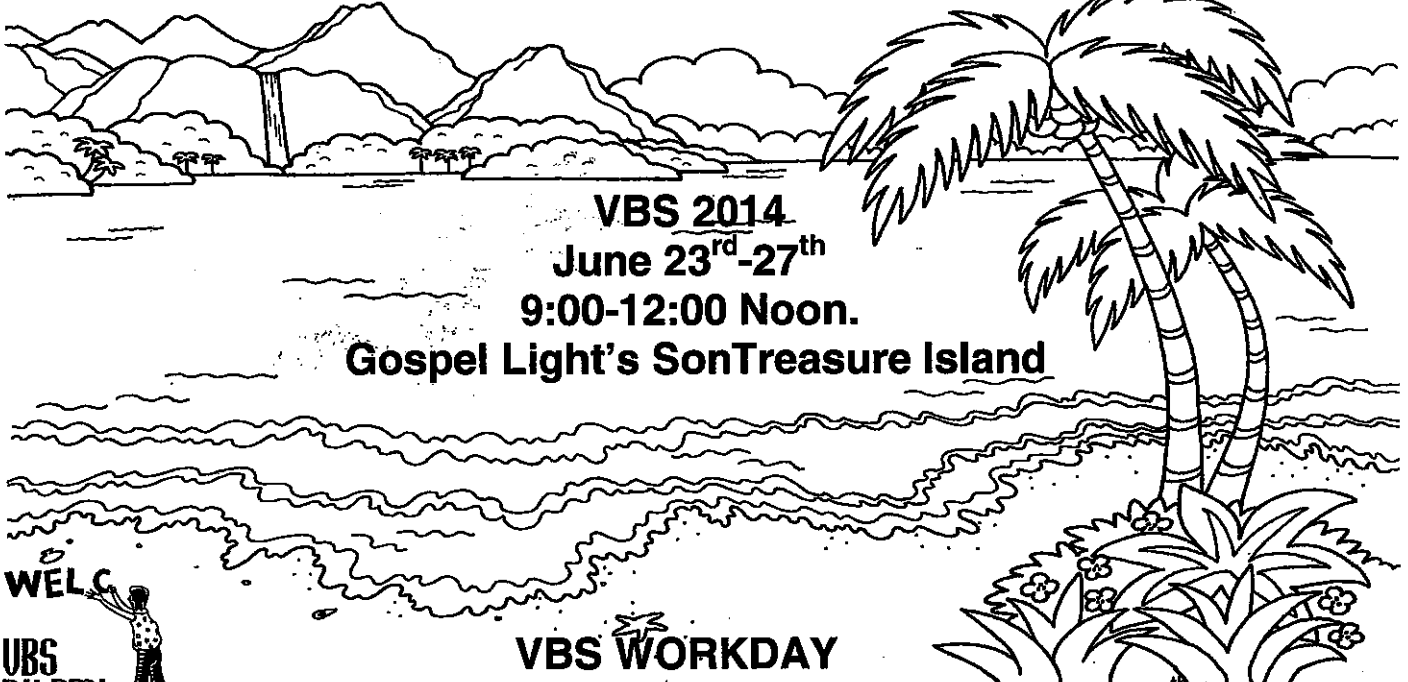
Give generously as you share money and pray for them for their great endeavor. Remember to make a note on your check memo "Adams Missions" or if giving cash, to place "Adams Missions" on the envelope.

We will keep tabs with Nate and Tabbatha as they continue on this journey. God be with them.
Missions Committee

VBS 2014 CANS

In the past month (through March 15th) we received 1,587 cans for our 2014 Vacation Bible School collection to help Habitat for Humanity. Our total since VBS 2013 is 23,502 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



VBS 2014
June 23rd-27th
9:00-12:00 Noon.
Gospel Light's SonTreasure Island

VBS
WORK DAY



VBS WORKDAY

Our annual VBS workday will be held on Saturday, April 26th from 9:00AM till around 1:00 or so in the Covenant Center. We will be painting (not as much as last year), cutting, folding, gluing, taping. We will be making vines, trees, aquariums, large and small dragonflies and butterflies among other things. Please remember to wear your old clothes.

SOME ITEMS WE NEED SAVED SO FAR-Audrey needs about 2 dozen large coffee cans (need these by May 1st), grass skirts, green and brown, and carpet tubes (by June 1st or let me know you have) for scenery. Sue needs baby food jars for crafts. These can be placed in the library room. Thank you.



The YMCA and the Kittanning Ministerial Association are sponsoring an Easter Egg hunt at the YMCA on Saturday, April 12th at 1:00. Our Discipleship team is looking for some help so that we can do our part in the community event. There are several ways we can help. They need all the plastic eggs they can get so if you have any laying around please bring them in. Also they will need bags of small candies, and small items such as erasers, stickers, small toys, etc., and all of these need to be small enough to fit into the eggs.

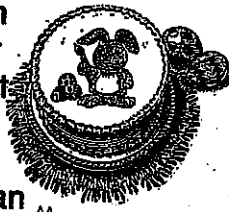
Volunteers are needed to help stuff eggs Saturday, April 5th at 9:00 AM and Monday, April 7th at 10:00 AM. There will also be a need for 2-3 volunteers from 11:30-4:00 on April 12 at the YMCA. The place for these meetings is to be announced but we could use help in all of these areas. A box will be in the library room for any donations.

COMMUNITY
easter
egg
hunt



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Carlee Beers | 15 Isabella Aires |
| 1 Anna Mae Moffit 94th | 15 Dante Aires |
| 2 Matthew Rush | 15 Tony Green |
| 3 Joleha Reefer | 15 Emily King |
| 4 Jessica Wright | 15 Alyssa Krozely |
| 5 Bill Waters | 16 Grace Kohl |
| 9 Herb Coggon | 19 Jane Shuttleworth |
| 10 Dennis Hoffman | 19 Meaghan Volek |
| 11 Madeline Smith  | 22 Gregory "Mac" Toth |
| 12 Patty Bruno | 26 Kelly Aires |
| 12 Isaac Zielinski | 26 Linda Powell |
| 13 Bill Hake | 27 Sally Felton |
| 14 Mary Anne Hankey | 28 Robyn Green |
| | 30 Wyatt Green  |



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Harry "Pat" & Jean Wolfe
17 Josh & Karen Ricketts

SAVE THE DATE
Re-Creation is
coming back to do a
Program for us on
Sunday, May 18th at
7:00 PM.



With sympathy We extend our Christian compassion and concern to
Walter Glunt and his family on the death of his wife, Nancy Glunt.
Nancy passed away on Thursday, March 20, 2014.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Tim & Linda Scaife and Mary Jo Lipski for removing the wall paper and patching and painting one of the bedrooms in the parsonage, a job well done.

RAINBOW ROAD APPLICATIONS

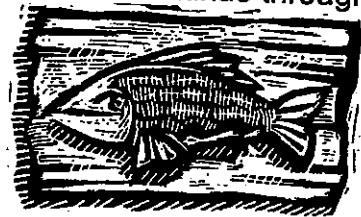
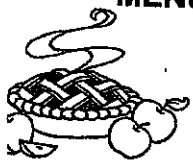
Rainbow Road is accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year.
If your child will be three or four years old before September 1st, he or she
will be eligible. Applications are available in the church office or on line at
www.firstchurchkittanning.com.



6 LENTEN FISH DINNERS

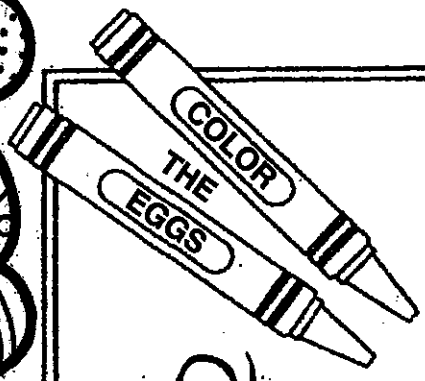
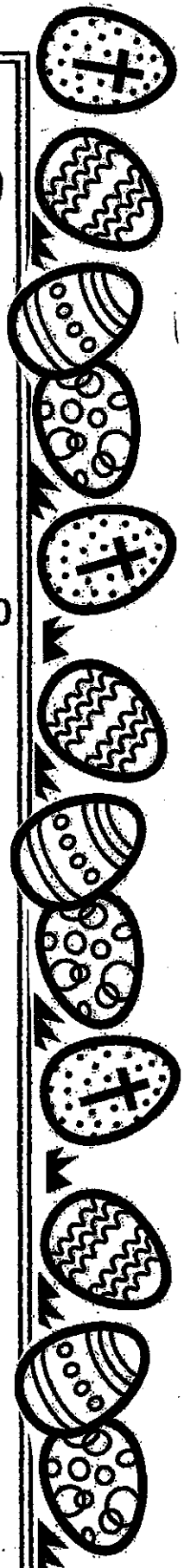
Our First Lenten Fish Dinner was held on Friday, March 7th and will continue through Friday,
April 11, 2014 at the Covenant Center from 4:30-6:30 PM.

MENU: Baked or Fried Fish or Sloppy Joe Sandwich
Baked Potato or Curly Fries
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!



Just for KIDS

Easter Surprises!



Connect the dots to find 2 symbols of Easter.
Write the words in order on the lines below.

17. The
18. holy
19. loving
20. righteous
21. He
22. He
23. He
24. one
25. died
26. He
27. died
28. He
29. to
30. save
31. again
32. save
33. us
34. us
35. us
36. all
37. from
38. sin
39. sin
40. And
41. on
42. Easter
43. day
44. He
45. rose
46. again

2 4 6 8 10 12 14

16 18 20 22 24

26 28 30 33 35 37 38 39

40 41 42 43 44 45 46

Answer: God gave us Jesus Christ, His Son, the holy, loving righteous one. He died to save us all from sin, and on Easter day He rose again!

LENTEN DINNERS

Fridays from March 7th thru April 11, 2014 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	3/7	3/14	3/21	3/28	4/4	4/11
Pies						
Workers						

Workers—come at 3:45 if possible.



Lenten Fish Dinners	Fried or Baked Fish or Sloppy Joe
Fridays from March 7th – April 11, 2014	
4:30-6:30 PM	Curly Fries or Baked Potato
Covenant Center	Cole Slaw or Applesauce
Adults \$9.00 Children \$4.00	Dinner Roll, Beverage and Pie

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

Fri 3/7	Fri 3/14	Fri 3/21	Fri 3/28	Fri 4/4	Fri 4/11

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

We can be there at _____ PM.

Fri 3/7	Fri 3/14	Fri 3/21	Fri 3/28	Fri 4/4	Fri 4/11

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.

**ATTENTION ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS AND
SENIORS IN HIGH SCHOOL**

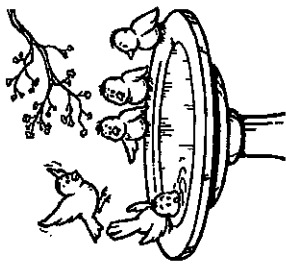
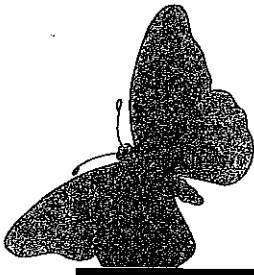
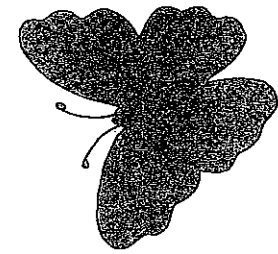
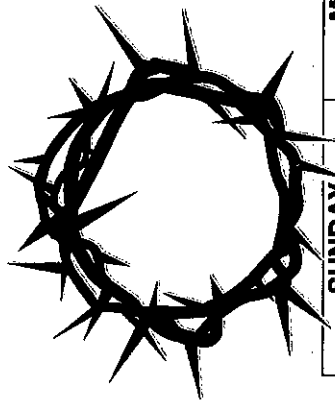
The Scholarship Committee has made some changes in the application for the Margaret M. Patton Scholarship that were effective in the Spring of 2011. Scholarship applications are available in the office. Please pay close attention to these changes and if you have questions direct them to Dr. Allyn Ricketts.

IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP YOU MUST:

1. Return the completed application in its entirety on time.
2. Be a member of the First United Methodist Church of Kittanning.
3. Participate in or help with at least three church activities during the last two years. (A few examples would be---Bible School, Sound System, Reader During Worship, Festival, Music for church, gardening around the church, etc.)



We are announcing these changes so that you have time to make sure you qualify.
The Scholarship Committee



April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>6</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 AM CC Clean Team 6:30 PM Trustees</p>	<p>1</p> <p>APRIL FOOLS' DAY 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30 AM OVR-CC</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:30 PM Fish Dinner-CC Wedding Rehearsal-Muir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Wedding/Muir 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC</p>
<p>13</p> <p><i>Hosanna!</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Camp 43 SUVCM</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 PM Evangelism/ Outreach 4:00 PM ADK-CC</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Staff/Parish 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00 PM Worship Team 7:00 M Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 PM Friday Night Circle</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4:30 PM Lenten Fish Dinner-CC</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 AM Bridal Shower- Buzzinotti-CC 1:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt- YMCA 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC</p>
<p>20</p> <p>EASTER SUNDAY 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 PM Finance 7:00 PM Church Council</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Seder Meal 12:00 PM SIFT-CC 7:00 PM Seder-CC</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 PM Good Friday Service</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 PM We Surrender-CC</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Chapter 519-CC</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 PM Christian Education NEWSLETTER</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 AM VBS Work Day-CC 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 AM VBS Work Day-CC 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC</p>

