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

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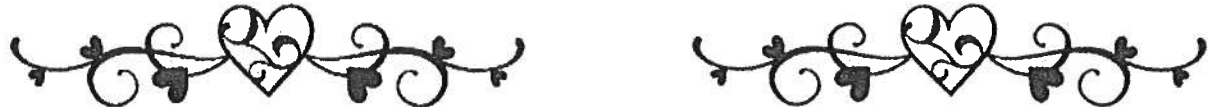
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



"The three most important things to have are Faith, Love and Hope. But the greatest of them is....."
Love
1 Corinthians 13:13

ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior Pastor: Rev. Deb Kociban Associate Pastor: Brenda Sommerville Schall



First United Methodist Church-301 N Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA 16201 724-548-4312

Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11:00 AM **Email:** fumchurch@windstream.net

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 – 4:00 PM **Website:** firstchurchkittanning.com

Fax: 724-548-5157 Rainbow Road: 724-543-7569

Parsonage- 307 N Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA 16201 724-543-4808

Ford Memorial United Methodist Church-1024 Fourth Ave, Ford City PA 16226 724-763-1540

Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM **Email:** fordmemc@comcast.net

Manorville United Methodist Church-P.O. Box 174, 800 Water Street, Manorville PA 16238

Adult Sunday School 9:15 AM Youth Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM

Email: mumc@windstream.net 724-763-1254

Union Avenue United Methodist Church-421 Union Ave, Kittanning PA 16201

724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM



MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Please get articles to Audrey no later than
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020. Thank you





Pastor Deb's Message



"I'm leaving you well and whole. That's my parting gift to you. Peace."

John 14: 25 The Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"See ya. Love ya. Bye." We heard her sing-song goodbye before she dashed out the door. George and I had the sneaky suspicion that her hasty words and quick exit were designed to prevent us from asking too many questions about her plans for the evening. Ever since becoming a licensed driver we saw our daughter less and less. I guess that's what happens when our children grow and become more independent.

Jesus is preparing his disciples for his departure from them. For some time now, he has tried to tell them about what will happen to him in Jerusalem and that they should not worry. I'm pretty sure Jesus knew that he wasn't getting through to them. What more could he say? How could he let them know that all would be well in the end? Jesus decided to give them one final gift, the gift of his peace.

In the days immediately following Jesus' death, the disciples more than likely did not remember this one last gift. Yet after his ascension, the peace of Jesus would guide them and strengthen them and lead them into an uncertain future with confidence and courage. The peace of Jesus would be the glue that held them together and the anchor for their life of discipleship.

"See ya. Love ya. Bye." Those quick little words have passed between George, Whitney and me for years now. They are no longer a ruse or a smokescreen to prevent probing questions. They have become an anchor for our family, reminding us that we are always together, reminding us that no matter what happens in the world around us we have a place together, a place where we are safe and at peace.

As we begin our unsettling journey with Jesus towards the cross in Jerusalem let us be humbly grateful for the gift of peace that Jesus gives us. With the cross looming before us we can gather within the peace of Jesus anchored to him no matter what is going on in our world. With one little word, 'peace', Jesus infiltrates our lives and steadies us in all our ways. What a gift indeed!

Blessings, Pastor Deb



Pastor Brenda's Message

I am safe and secure in the presence of God.

As a child of God I find peace in knowing this. His presence is within me and around me, helping to guide me.

We are to be like John the Baptist. We need to help others in preparing for the coming of the Messiah again. We need to be in prayer for family and friends. Most of all let them know just how much they are loved by God.

I hope we can become more committed to helping others see the love of Christ in us.

I'm now working on scrapping my pictures of Israel and remembering all that I saw. Our God is wonderful, he is alive and working on his children, we must listen carefully.

In Psalms 51 my prayer comes. "Search me, God, and know my heart. Try me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in your everlasting way" This should be all of our prayer. Amen.

We must put Christ above all things and see him as he really is, all knowing and all loving.
Pastor Brenda Schall



FEBRUARY LECTIONARY READINGS

February 2, 2020
 11:00 AM, 4th Sunday after Epiphany
 Micah 6:1-8, Psalms 15,
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12



February 16, 2020
 11:00 AM, 6th Sunday after Epiphany
 Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalms 119:1-9,
 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

February 9, 2020
 11:00 AM 5th Sunday after Epiphany
 Isaiah 58:1-9a, Psalms 112:1-10
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, Matthew 5:13-20

February 23, 2020
 11:00 AM, Transfiguration Sunday
 Exodus 24:12-28, Psalms 99,
 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

(First Church)

WELCOME CENTER

2 Sarah Heckert
 9 Melissa Bureau
 16 Karen Scaife
 23 Beverly Patton



READERS

2 Dan Wolfe
 9 Sarah Heckert
 16 Karen Scaife
 23 Mary Jo Lipski



SOUND SYSTEM

2 Dave Yanoschick
 9 John Yankasky
 16 Tim King
 23 John Wolfe



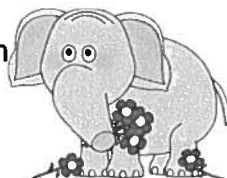
COUNTERS

2 Yankasky
 9 Bureau
 16 McKelvey
 23 Scaife



USHERS

2 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski & Communion
 9 Epworth/Melissa Bureau
 16 Epworth/Melissa Bureau
 23 Oxford/Mark Ferguson



BELLRINGERS

2 Rowan Vandevort
 9 Billy Mauger
 16 Alisha Toy
 23 Mackenzie



ACOLYTE

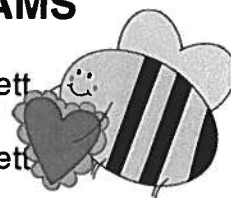
2 Carlee Beers
 9 Ryan Bish
 16 Isaac Zielinski
 23 Hallie Hoffman



(Manorville)

FINANCIAL TEAMS

2 Jim Boarts & Jack Bennett
 9 Mike Snyder & Luella Bennett
 16 Bob & Di Brocius
 23 Mike Snyder & Luella Bennett



USHERS

2 Chuck McNabb & Bob Brocius
 9 Jim Boarts & Steve Arblaster
 16 Chuck Coffman & Mike Snyder
 23 Nancy Gaul & Lois Hawk



DONUT SPONSORS

February-Steve Arblaster
 March-Jack & Lu
 April-Lynn & Sandy



Bible Study at Manorville

Christianity, Cults and other religions - will be combined with Ford's on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. In January and Feb. 5th, 12th, and then on Feb. 17th at 1:00 PM.



LICENSING SCHOOL- (Manor)

Manorville will be hosting the Licensing School again this year for the 7th year, beginning Feb. 13th and ending April 18th. This school is mostly on Saturdays, except for the beginning retreat weekend and the ending retreat weekend. With all the turmoil in our Church today, we ask you to pray for the students who are answering the call of God to be pastors. This is a long road for them to commit to but God is calling them so we try to make their day a little easier by providing a healthy, good tasting lunch for them. Thanks to all who are helping to provide the lunches.

MISSIONS AND MISSIONS UPDATES

2020 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

(First Church)

For Habitat for Humanity

Our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity continues.

We invite our sister churches to join in our aluminum can collection. I will supply a collection container for each church that is interested and pick up their cans monthly. If your church is interested, let me know 724-548-7124 or 724-859-0819.

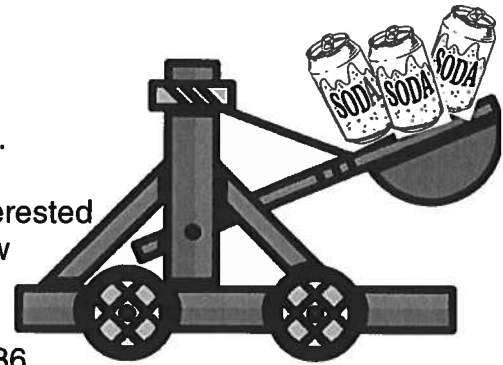
Cans received (December 15-January 15) 6,490

Cans received since end of VBS (June 21st,) 23,536

Please continue or start saving aluminum cans of all sorts (pop, tea, fruit juices, health drinks, power drinks, beer and any other type of aluminum cans).

Drop them off at the ramp behind the church at any time. Thanks to the folks at ARC Manor for continuing to save their 149 drink cans and to be in Mission with us.

Thank you, The Can Man (Jim Terment)



MISSIONS—UMCOR HYGIENE KITS

(First Church)

UMCOR Hygiene Kits are in great need now as fires, earthquakes in Puerto Rico, and other natural disasters have so powerfully affected many human beings. These kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes. They will help a person stay clean and healthy...and let them know that they are cared for and loved.

Listed below are the items needed in each hygiene kit. **Please follow the exact directions** as these kits are weighed and mailed according to strict codes.

- 1 Gallon size re-sealable plastic bag
- 10 Band-aids (3/4" x 3")
- 1 Adult toothbrush (Do not remove from original package)
- 1 Wash Cloth (no microfiber wash clothes)
- 1 Hand Towel (no kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels)
- 1 Bath-size soap (not Jergens or Ivory due to moisture amounts. Do not remove from original packaging. Must be at least 3oz or larger)
- 1 Comb (Must have at least 6" of teeth. No pocket combs or hair picks)
- 1 nail clipper (either fingernail or toenail clipper. Do not remove from original packaging)

Before putting into bag, lay open hand towel and wash cloth. Place all other items in the center of these two clothes. Fold up tightly and place in plastic bag. Pray for the person/people who will be receiving your kit/kits. Be grateful you can help in this basic way. Thank you so much for helping people in disasters. May God bless.



Missions Committee

UPCOMING MISSIONS EVENTS:

Saturday, March 28, 4:00 PM-Light of Life, Serving Dinner --

A team of 4-6 people is needed to help serve dinner to the **Light of Life Rescue Mission** on the Northside of Pittsburgh. The scheduled date is

Saturday, March 28. We will leave at 4:00 PM and return in the early evening. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve dinner to homeless persons and to open your world and heart. Let Meaghan or Janet know of your interest.

LIGHT of LIFE
rescue mission
Food. Shelter. Hope.



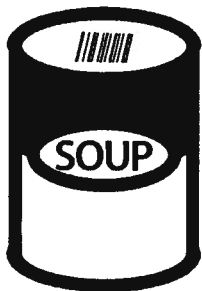
Saturday, May 9, 7:00 pm Talent Show Our first Charge-wide **Talent Show** will be hosted by the Missions Team and held in FUMC's sanctuary. Let's celebrate the real and perceived 😊 talents of our members!! Interested participants must sign up with either Meghan or Janet. Dress rehearsal will be May 8, early evening. Put this on your calendar as it will be a wonderful evening!! Practice your singing, acrobatics, or funny skits! Proceeds of a free will offering will go to **Rise Against Hunger**.

“LOCAL LOVE” TREE

In February, at Manorville, we will put out our white "LOVE" tree for a loose coin offering for Habitat for Humanity. For every \$3.00 donated, we will hang a heart on the tree. Wouldn't it be great that if by the end of the month all we saw was red hearts??? Habitat for Humanity is working on revitalization in Wick City and is looking for volunteers as well as financial assistance. They have done so much good in our area council felt this was a wonderful project for our first loose coin offering for the year. Please give generously.



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY-Manorville



February 2nd - Bring in your soups (cans, boxes, mixes, bags). Cold weather gets everyone thinking of hot soups so this is a perfect time to share your love with our Food Bank recipients by bringing in soups (and any other items on the food bank list). We have our BIG soup pot to fill with your donations. Please open your hearts to those less fortunate than you. (we will already have had our "Souper Soup Sunday" lunch on 1/25 so our tummies will be full with all the different soups that people will bring in besides grilled cheese sandwiches provided by Nurture.)

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY-First Church

February 2, 2020—On Super Bowl Sunday, vote for your favorite team by putting money in your team's basket. Baskets will be at each set of doors of the sanctuary. The money collected will be given to a food related charity. Let's see if our donations match who wins the Super Bowl!



UPDATES ON MINISTRIES

FEBRUARY SIFT LUNCHEON

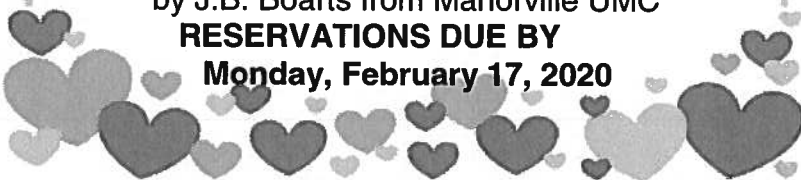
Thursday, February 20, 2020
Covenant Center

MENU: Homemade chicken noodle & stuffed pepper soups, Jell-O salad, crackers, rolls & butter, ice cream sandwiches

PROGRAM : "My Vietnam Experience" presented by J.B. Boarts from Manorville UMC

RESERVATIONS DUE BY

Monday, February 17, 2020



SOUP AND SANDWICH MEAL

(Ford Memorial)

The Soup and Sandwich meal at Ford Memorial will be offered only on the **FIRST** and **THIRD** Thursdays of the month, **4:00-6:00 PM**



SWEETHEART'S FAMILY NIGHT OUT

Saturday, February 15, 2020

6:00 PM

(First Church)

Bring the whole family for dinner and a movie. Chili, Vegetable Beef Soup, Rolls, Salad, and dessert will be followed by movies for both the adults and children. Adults will enjoy the movie "Breakthrough" in the sanctuary while the kids enjoy "How to Train Your Dragon: Hidden World" in the adjacent library room with supervision. Sign up by Saturday, February 8th. 724-548-4312

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Once again it is time for our annual Lenten Fish Dinners. Dinners will be served at the Covenant Center each Friday in Lent, February 28-April 3 from 4:30-6:00 PM. Dinners consist of your choice of fried or baked fish or sloppy joe, baked potato or curly fries or macaroni & cheese, cole slaw or applesauce, roll, beverage and pie. Adult \$9.00, children 4-12 \$4.00. Take out available. We hope you can join us for a meal.

If you can provide any pies or help at dinners, please complete the attached form and return it to the church office. If you have questions about pies call June Pollard at 724-543-4920. To help serve or clean up, call Tim Scaife at 724-664-5346.



FEBRUARY'S LIBRARY NEWS

The following books were donated to FUM's church library:

"Bad Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs

"DO Penguins Have Knees?" explained by David Feldman

"Eat, Pray, Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert

"Final Words From the Cross" by Adam Hamilton and

"Playing for Pizza" by John Grisham

The great thing about books is there are no commercials!



Carol Wolfe, Librarian

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL-FIRST CHURCH

Mark your calendars for VBS the week of **June 22 from 9 to noon** each day.

We hope the weather will be warm, but don't be surprised if you see a snowflake or two as we take an adventure into Cokesbury's Knights of the North Castle VBS.

We'll help our children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids will take on the role of brave Knights, explore Old and New Testament stories, and discover how God's protective armor worked in the lives of familiar Bible characters -- and will work in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

We need YOU on the VBS team! If you are able to help in any way, either before that week by cutting, coloring, making decorations, helping to decorate the sanctuary and other rooms, etc, or if you can help lead children during the week, please see Sue Hankey or call the church office. We need many hands to have a successful VBS for the nearly 100 children from our community that we reach during that week.





THANK YOU'S



Dear First United Methodist Church,

Thank you for the donation and your continued support for the Food Bank at Grace Presbyterian Church. The number of people coming for Food Bank increased in the holiday months of November and December. Your donation was timely and very much appreciated.

Sincerely, Kay Owen, Co Chair, Food Bank

FUMC Family,

Thank you for the very generous gift. It was very much needed. Thank you for your love, support and prayers. Sincerely, Linda Powell



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your calls and cards and notes of concern and encouragement since I have been having issues with my knee. The arthroscopic surgery is over. I am taking it easy for a week and then hope to be getting back to normal. You are a wonderful and caring church. God Bless, Linda Scaife



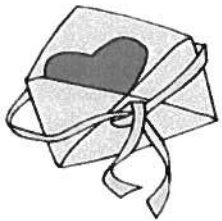
Dear Members of the First United Methodist Church,

On behalf of the clients and trainees of the PWAC'S Adult Achievement Center, I would like to offer my most sincere gratitude to you for your recent donation. The items donated have been dispersed to our Adult Achievement Center and are being used to support individuals who have been diagnosed with a disability. Donations from our community partners help our organization to meet its mission and help our clients and trainees to succeed! Sincerely, L. Michelle Reefer, MA, Chief Executive Officer, Progressive Workshop of Armstrong County.



FRIDAY NIGHT CIRCLE

(First Church)



Friday Night Circle will be making Valentines for the homebound members of the church on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 10:00 AM in the Church's library room.

Friday Night Circle will not meet in March as we will be attending Pastor Deb's Bible Study. Our regular meetings will resume on Thursday, April 16th at 7:00 PM in the Covenant Center.

RAINBOW ROAD

Rainbow Road Preschool will be holding an Open House for anyone interested in our program on Monday, March 9th from 6:00-7:30 PM at our school. We are located in the First United Methodist Church at 301 N Jefferson St., Kittanning.

Registrations for the 2020-2021 school year are being accepted with programs for 3 and 4-year-old children. If you have any questions or would like an application, call the church office at 724-548-4312 or go to our website at www.firstchurchkittanning.com, then go to the link for Rainbow Road Preschool.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES


FIRST CHURCH BIRTHDAYS

2 Erica Scaife
9 Brenda Beers
9 Fred Blaney
9 Lynn Toth
12 Tim Hellein



18 Kathy Piechowicz
18 Larissa Schrecengost
18 Nash Wolfe-5 years
19 Jordan Zier
21 Harold Walter

FORD MEMORIAL BIRTHDAYS



10 Ed Russell
12 Sue Davis
12 Lucas Berrett
14 Dave Dingey
19 Alice Croyle

MANORVILLE BIRTHDAYS

2 Chris Toy
6 Brennan Toy
8 Amy Heilman
12 Sandy Arblaster
15 Mary Campbell
16 Maranda Arblaster
17 Seth Hawk



21 Cheryl Welch
22 Hyatt Hawk
22 Harry Lloyd
25 Mike Snyder
25 Hyatt Hawk III
27 Mia Arblaster
28 Eric Petrosky

UNION AVENUE BIRTHDAYS

5 Ben Ulisky
11 Angela Clever
15 Carly Ochs
21 Lily Mae Kline
25 Ken Jordan
27 Ruth Shankel



MANORVILLE ANNIVERSARIES

14 John & Lisa Czapor
22 Gary & Ellen Nelson



UNION AVENUE ANNIVERSARY

17 Paul & Donna Titus

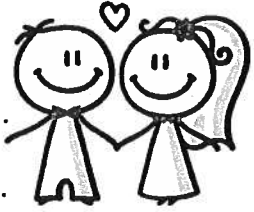


CHRISTIAN Sympathy

We extend our Christian compassion and concern to the family of Mary Ann Dougherty. Mary Ann passed away on Monday, January 20, 2020. She was the sister of John W. (Karen) Buzard III and Milly (Frank) Tarr.

WEDDING

Congratulations to Tim & Melissa (Flanders) Bureau on their wedding. They were married on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at First Church.



YOUTH NEWS

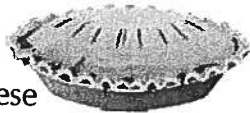
Great Big Thank you to everyone who assisted the youth in our fundraising efforts...



By the time you read this newsletter, the youth will be back from SPARK 2020 and filled with the Holy Spirit. It is an awesomely exciting time for everyone that attends. This year Brenda and Melissa accompanied 6 female youth to the event.

We continued with the Christmas cookie bake sale and with donations from our church family and by adding a Hoagie Sale to the Amish and also opening a coffee station in the First United Methodist Church's library. We had enough to allow everyone to attend at no cost to themselves. With your continued support, we will be able to move forward with more fun activities and learning about Christ in our world today. I would like to take them on a bus trip to The Ark...sometime later this year. More information on that and other activities will be announced. Any youth 7th – 12th grade are able to participate. Again Thank you....Melissa Bureau

Lenten Fish Dinners Fried or Baked Fish or Sloppy Joe
 Fridays from February 28th thru April 3, 2020
 4:30-6:00 PM



Curly Fries or Baked Potato or Macaroni & Cheese
 Covenant Center Cole Slaw or Applesauce
 Adults \$9.00 Children \$4.00 Dinner Roll, Beverage and Pie

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

I/We can be there at _____ PM.

Fri 2/28	Fri 3/6	Fri 3/13	Fri 3/20	Fri 3/27	Fri 4/3

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

Fri 2/28	Fri 3/6	Fri 3/13	Fri 3/20	Fri 3/27	Fri 4/3

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.