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

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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**

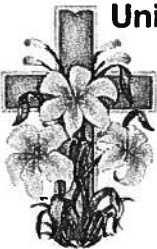
Manorville United Methodist Church-P.O. Box 174, 800 Water Street, Manorville PA 16238

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

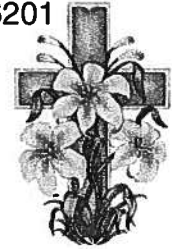
Email: mumc@windstream.net 724-763-1254

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

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



APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Please get articles to Audrey no later than
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020. Thank you





**Pastor Deb's
Message**

“You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish—an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you.” 1 Peter 1: 4 CEB

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every year when Groundhog Day passes, it passes by with some regret on my part. Being at Gobbler's Knob on February 2nd is on my bucket list. I get a kick out of watching grown men, dressed in long coats and top hats, pull a dazed groundhog out of a fake stump. There is much fanfare as Phil is placed on the stump and the men gather closely around to hear what Phil has to say about the coming weather. It all makes me wonder what Phil thinks about all us humans.

As more and more time passed and still Jesus did not return for his church, many were beginning to wonder about their future. Peter writes his letter to encourage believers and to remind them of their hope in Jesus. It is more than a hope, it is an inheritance. Faithful believers in Jesus the Messiah will inherit eternal life, a life that will never perish or fade away. In fact, Peter writes, that inheritance is already theirs and is kept in heaven for all of them.

For the fledgling church, these words of encouraging promise were words of strength and perseverance. As the believers faced an unchartered future, they would be able to maintain focus on Jesus and would be empowered to live a faithful life together in the certain knowledge that God had already given them eternal life. This certainty allowed them to live fully for the glory of God in all circumstances of life and to boldly proclaim Jesus to everyone who would listen, for their future was assured.

It seems as if Phil will have to wait a while before I make the trek to Punxsutawney. Truth be told, I have my doubts about his weather predicting abilities. But it would be fun to be there. Perhaps next year.

I give thanks to God that unlike the future forecast of the weather we already know the future that Jesus has secured for us. Our eternal life begins now and is held in heaven as our inheritance. Throughout our Lenten journey to the cross let us remain humble and grateful for our future with Jesus.

Blessings,
Pastor Deb

MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

March 1, 2020

1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 31-7, Psalms 32
Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

March 8, 2020

2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a, Psalms 121,
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17

The
Season
of
Lent



March 15, 2020

3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7, Psalms 95,
Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42

March 22, 2020

4th Sunday in Lent, UMCOR offering

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalms 23,
Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41
Sandy McKee speaker for Ford & Manor

March 29, 2020

5th Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalms 130,
Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

Pastors Deb and Brenda switch pulpits

(First Church)

WELCOME CENTER

1 Sarah Heckert
8 Melissa Bureau
15 Karen Scaife
22 Beverly Patton
29 Mary Jo Lipski



READERS

1 Sue Hankey
8 Larry McKelvey
15 Merissa Smith
22 Joe Mauger
29



SOUND SYSTEM

1 Bill Lemons
8 Gabe Smith
15 Tim Scaife
22 Dave Yanoschick
29 John Yankasky



COUNTERS

1 Williamsor
8 Ternent
15 Yankasky
22 Bureau
29 McKelvey



USHERS

1 Oxford/ Mark Ferguson & Communion
8 Albright/Dan Wolfe
15 Albright/Dan Wolfe
22 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski
29 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski



BELLRINGERS

1 Ashley Yankasky
8 Madelyn Smith
15 Evva Yanoschick
22 Logan Green
29 Wyatt Green



ACOLYTE

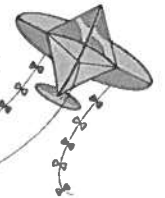
1 Ashley Yankasky
8 Evva Yanoschick
15 Chelsea Beers
22 Carlee Beers
29 Joey Kachur



(Manorville)

FINANCIAL TEAMS

1 Jim Boarts & Jack Bennett
8 Mike Snyder & Luella Bennett
15 Bob & Di Brocius
22 Jim Boarts & Jack Bennett
29 Lynn Sibley & Sandy McKee



USHERS

1 Church McNabb & Steve Arblaster
8 Chuck Coffman & Jim Boarts
15 Nancy Gaul & Lois Hawk
22 Mike Snyder & Bob Brocius
29 Sandy McKee & Lynn Sibley



UMCOR Sunday offering

(formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Is a special offering at our churches March 22nd. The UMCOR Sunday offering enables UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) to keep the promise that 100 percent of your designated gift goes entirely to the specific causes. Your support is urgently needed. Give generously so that our Church can continue to have a strong system of distribution of emergency relief supplies when emergencies happen here or overseas. Thank you for your generous donations.

LENTEN LUNCHESES, DINNERS AND SERVICES



FORD CITY MINISTERIUM

The Ford City Ministerium is planning their weekly Lenten Devotional Suppers on Mondays during March. These will be held Monday evenings at 6:00 PM at Ford Memorial United Methodist Church in Ford City.

Dates are: March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Bring a covered dish to share. Supper will be followed by a brief devotional message. Our building meets Americans with Disabilities Requirements.



KITTANNING MINISTERIUM

Wednesdays at Noon at Grace Presbyterian Church

Date	Speaker	Food
March 4 th	Rev. Dana Wilmot	Grace Presbyterian
March 11 th	Capt. Luke Barney	Salvation Army
March 18 th	Rev. Josh Webb	Simpson Bible
March 25 th	Fr. Victor Baguna	St. Mary's R.C.
April 1 st	Rev. Ed Walters	St. Luke's UCC

Tuesday Lenten Service 7:00 PM

Date	Speaker	Host Church
March 3 rd	Rev. Mike Bobbitt	Living Water
March 10 th	Rev. Mark Brady	St. Luke's UCC
March 17 th	Rev. Matt Vatalare	Salvation Army
March 24 th	Pastor Walt Marr	First Baptist
March 31 st	Rev. Carl Johnson	Cornerstone Asm of God



Good Friday Service will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church at 12:00 Noon with Rev. Jonathan Rosnick, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, preaching.

LIFE LINE SCREENINGS

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Kittanning First United Methodist Church on **March 31, 2020**. A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

- *Carotid artery ultrasound to identify plaque buildup in the carotid arteries, a major risk factor for stroke.
- *Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound to identify presence of an enlargement in the largest blood vessel in the body.
- *An EKG to identify the presence of atrial fibrillation, which increases the risk for stroke.
- *Ultrasound of the lower legs to look for plaque buildup known as peripheral artery disease.
- *Ultrasound of the shin bone to identify risk for osteoporosis

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$149 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 discount. The church also has coupons for another \$55 off. I only have 3 of these. If interested in a coupon, see Audrey.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle, or text the word "circle" to 797979.



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 (January 9-February 15) 4,427

Cans received since end of VBS (June 21st,) 27,963

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 307 drink cans and to be in Mission with us.

Thank you, The Can Man (Jim Ternent)



MARCH MISSIONS

(First Church)

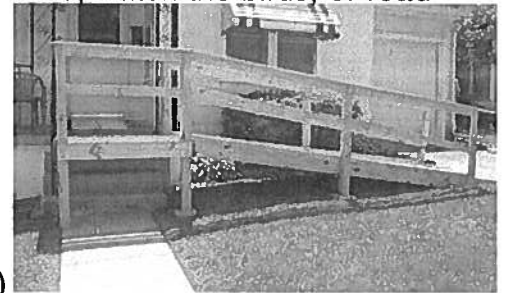
Our church family will collect monies that will benefit our **Ramps of Hope** team as they continue their greatly beneficial aid to persons and families. Ramps provide persons mobility and ease as they go to the doctors, church, family gatherings, etc. Ramps "open up their world" as they give the great benefit of allowing a person to enjoy the outdoors, sit outside, watch the birds, or read a book.

In 2019, our 18+ person team built or modified 31 ramps, recovered 8 ramps and reused materials from them. To give us a good idea as to what our money will buy, check out these supplies that build a ramp:

6 boxes of 2.5" screws (15,000 screws)

2 boxes of 3" screws (6,000 screws)

14 boxes of 3.5" lag screws (1,750 screws)



Please consider the beneficial gift of **ramps** as you give generously to our missions in March. God bless.

Missions Team

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. 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.

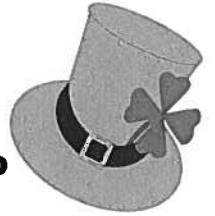
LIGHT of LIFE
rescue mission
Food. Shelter. Hope.

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**.



UPDATES ON MINISTRIES



COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP MEAL

(Ford Memorial)

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

MARCH SIFT LUNCHEON

Thursday, March 19, 2020

12:00 Noon

PROGRAM: Balance-Nadine Wise, Senior Program Coordinator of the YMCA

MENU: Irish Stew, (ham & cabbage), crackers, Roll & butter, sherbet and cookies

Reservations due by Monday, March 16th

CARE & SHARE SHOP

March 13 & 27- -10:00-1:30 PM

(Ford Memorial)

Gently worn clothing. Proceeds benefit Missions.



The annual rummage sale at **First Church** will be on **Saturday, June 6th** from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Donations will be collected **May 27-31**. We accept all donations except clothing and electronics. We will be pricing the week of June 1st leading up to the sale on June 6th. Watch for more details in future newsletters.

MANORVILLE NURTURE HAMLOAF LUNCH



Please sign up to attend Nurture's ham loaf lunch on **March 15th** as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little early. Ham loaf, parsley potatoes, vegetable, bread and drink will be provided. Bring a covered dish or dessert if you want to add to the meal. It will be at 11:30 AM so we won't have too long a wait to fill our tummies. A few activities are being planned to shorten the wait. Please sign up by March 8th so we know how much ham loaf to make.
Lisa Czapor, Nurture

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.

FORD CITY FOOD CUPBOARD--(Manorville)



There is a basket in the vestibule in which you can deposit your donations of food. Always needed are 1-lb. pastas, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, cereals, instant potatoes, etc. Monetary donations are always accepted. Make checks out to "Ford City Food Bank".

FEBRUARY'S LIBRARY NEWS

The following books have been donated to the children's section of FUM church's library.

"Captain Stumpy the Pirate Cat" and "The Search for Tiggie Pants"

both by Jeremy E. Bliven;

"Duck for President" by Doreen Cronin;

"The Hungry Hippo" by Stewart Crowley;

"The End (Allmost)" by Jim Benton and

"A Frog Inside My Hat" compiled by Fay Robinson. (This is a book of poems.)

I THINK IT'S THE BOOKS YOU READ WHEN YOU'RE YOUNG THAT LIVE WITH YOU FOREVER.

J.K. Rowling.

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.



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.

RAINBOW ROAD FUNDRAISER

Rainbow Road is having a fundraiser at Altitude Trampoline Park in Butler, PA on **Saturday, March 7th** from 2:00-4:00 PM. It is located in the old Sears store at the Clearview Mall. You can jump for two hours for the reduced price of \$15 if you mention Rainbow Road. We will receive 20% of the proceeds during that 2 hour window. Please consider taking your children, grandchildren, etc and helping us by spreading the word too! (By the way, adults are welcome to jump too!)



THE SANCTUARY IS PAINTED!



There are everyday miracles. No doubt, our most recent FUMC miracle is the newly repainted sanctuary. Ten faithful men painted two days a week for six weeks. The result is a freshly painted sanctuary, as well as clean pews, carpeting and ceiling fans. Remarkably the project cost only \$638.60, rather than the thousands we would have spent for a painting contractor.

Please thank these men when you see them:

Joe Bowser
Gabe Smith

Herb Coggon
Bob Wolfe

Joe Heckert
Dan Wolfe

Jim Scaife
John Wolfe

Tim Scaife
John Yankasky

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN--(Union Ave)

The February 3, 2020 meeting of the Union Ave. United Methodist Women was held in the Community room of the Kittanning Cottages with 9 in attendance. Karen Wolfe, president, opened the meeting with the reading of "The Purpose of the UMW".

The hostess was Carolyn Ingram with help from Ruth Gallaher. Donna Shaffer led devotions, Donna Titus had the Minute Missions and Karen Wolfe had the Prayer Calendar.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

A motion was made to pay ½ of our pledge to the district UMW along with money for Prayer and self-denial and postage.

According to the letter that we received last year to use the Hot Dog Hut for a fund raiser, we do not have to submit a request for use this year since we were unable to use it last year. Shop n' Save would keep the letter of request for this year. We usually hear if our request for use is approved towards the end of February.

The District UMW's pledge this year is \$28,000 same as last year.

We will be having our mother daughter banquet on May 4, 2020 at 5:00 PM at the church. it will be catered by the Adrian Store. Other details will be decided at our next meeting. Fruit baskets will be made March 12 at the church for shut-ins.

The meeting closed with the reading of the UMW's Prayer.

A motion was made and seconded to close meeting and motion passed. Secretary, Ellen Nelson



To our church family,

Thank you all for your support through cards and calls during our very painful period recently. Especially the prayers which I truly believe made all the difference. God Bless, Rich & Kathy Riffer

First United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$100.00 to the Adult Achievement Center. It is supporters like you that enable PWAC & AAC to offer services and training that assist people with disabilities to "move towards jobs!" Thanks again for your support. Staff & Clients of AAC

Dear First Church,

Thank you for the prayers, cards and calls: I'm home now and getting stronger everyday. A special thanks to Pastor Deb for her visits and prayers and for the visits from the members of this church. First Church is a very caring church. Roy & Bobbi Williamson

Thank you, Manorville UMC, for making the Society of St. Andrew your partner in ending hunger, with your recent gift. Much of the food the SofSA salvages by the tractor trailer load or gleans from fields would end up in landfills without our intervention. Instead of letting it go to waste, YOU are making sure it goes to feed hungry Americans. Thank you for your prayers and for your financial support.



Dear Manorville UMC,

We want to express our gratitude for your commitment to the Deeply Rooted, Upward Reaching capital campaign for our camping and retreat ministries. Your support allows our camps to make facility improvements and give financial assistance to children and youth who wish to attend camp. Thank you for all the ways in which you support the camping and retreat ministries.



Rev. Alyce Weaver Dunn, WPA Director of Connectional Ministries

Dear Manorville UMC,

On behalf of Henderson Settlement, I would like to thank you for your recent donation. There are literally dozens of programs and activities that improve the lives of our community members that your support enables. We are entering an exciting season of God's journey for Henderson Settlement as He enables us to respond to the changing needs of our community.

Sincerely, James L. Knight, Executive Director



Dear Members of Manorville UMC,

Armstrong Habitat for Humanity is extremely grateful and thankful to have congregations such as yours who graciously donate so we can carry on our mission. In the year 2020 we are planning on having two houses renovated in the Wick City area and working on many "A Brush with Kindness" projects to assist homeowners with critical repairs and improvements that they otherwise could not afford such as roof repair, painting and handicap ramp installation. All of Habitat's projects rely on a volunteer workforce. Please call 724.545.4905 if interested in helping to build a stronger community in Armstrong County.

Michael McElhaney, Executive Director



Dear Friends in Mission at Manorville UMC,

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - Thank you! Through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms-sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need. Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.



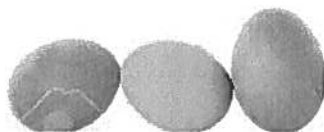
Grace and peace, Thomas G. Kemper, General Secretary

Dear Friends of Manorville UMC,

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Red Bird Mission. Your continued support is vital for many ministries for the Red Bird community.

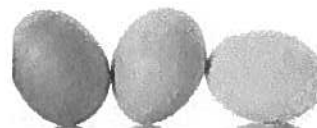


Tim Crawford, Development Director



EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

(First Church)



Hop on down the bunny trail and join us for an egg hunt for kids, crafts, light refreshments and fun for the whole family. **Saturday, March 28, 2020** from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Covenant Center. Questions call 724-548-4312. To sign-up to donate egg stuffers or help stuff eggs, please call the church office or see Brenda Beers



MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST CHURCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Brenda Sommerville Schall
- 4 Thomas Hicks-5
- 4 Glenn Krozely
- 6 Trenton Podvorec
- 7 Dan Cornman
- 10 Tom Hicks
- 11 Amanda Leech
- 12 Linda Cornman
- 19 Tara Green
- 20 Franklin Tarr
- 21 Janessa Shriver
- 21 Gabi Zielinski
- 22 Larry McKelvey
- 25 Lora Williamson
- 27 Bob Buzzinotti
- 27 Tim Scaife



FORD MEMORIAL BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Grace Kamer
- 17 Jill Strong
- 21 Eva Say
- 22 Abby Skillen
- 27 Beulah Mitchell



FIRST CHURCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 17 Thomas & Tara Hicks-8 years
- 27 Tony & Robyn Green-10 years

UNION AVENUE BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Joyce Martin
- 21 Anita Fine
- 21 Hap Cornish
- 25 Gretchen Painter



MANORVILLE BIRTHDAYS

- 4 John Welch
- 11 Sheelagh Bonomo
- 12 Nicholas Shaul
- 12 Tia Brocius
- 14 James Warren Snyder
- 15 Luella Bennett
- 20 Taylor Relich
- 21 Doris Schmela
- 25 Ashley Zolocsik
- 27 Leia Maria Wolfe
- 30 Lois Hawk
- 31 Elly Lucia Russelburg



UNION AVENUE ANNIVERSARY

- 8 Bruce & Donna Shaffer



MANORVILLE ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Andrew & Pam Snyder
- 13 Tamie & Glenn Lytle
- 20 Ed & Lorraine Zielinski

LICENSING SCHOOL AT MANORVILLE



Licensing School continues at Manorville on Saturdays- 3/7, 3/14, 3/21 and 3/28. Please include these students in your prayers as well as all the instructors who come in to share their knowledge. Pastor Sara Wrona is the registrar and works hard to ensure lessons learned are necessary for their positions in the Church. It is a long road for them. This commitment to answer God's call into ministry is a big step. School will continue in April on 4/4, then a retreat weekend of 4/16, 4/17 and graduation on 4/18.

Already they are forming bonds and friendships that will, hopefully, support them in their ministry. People come from all over the WPA Conference area from Erie to Connellsville to attend this school.