



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

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**ARC LINK  
 NEWSLETTER  
 APRIL 2021**



*Each Day  
 only comes Once  
 in a  
 Lifetime*

**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 9:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM

**Email: [fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net](mailto:fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net)**



**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 – 12:00 PM**

**Website: [firstchurchkittanning.com](http://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**

Worship 11:00 AM **Email: [fordmemc@comcast.net](mailto:fordmemc@comcast.net)**

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

Worship 9:45 AM

**Email: [mumc@windstream.net](mailto:mumc@windstream.net) 724-763-1254**

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

724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM



**MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
 Please get articles to Audrey no later than  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021. Thank you**



## **Pastor Deb's Message**

The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem: "Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless." Ecclesiastes 1: 1-2



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lately I have been annoyed by a commercial for Nespresso. We see George Clooney taking care of coffee plants, planting, and watering. It is not so much what we see as what he is saying that annoys me. As he talks about the coffee, he uses phrases like, "growing new beginnings," "creating infinite possibilities," and "preserving the beauty of our world." Oh, for crying out loud! It's coffee!

Solomon, the greatest king of Israel, the wisest man to ever live, is struggling with the meaning of life. Throughout all of Ecclesiastes, he elucidates how everything in life is meaningless. This is the man who has riches beyond compare. He lives in a palace unlike any other. He can command thousands of servants to indulge his every desire. He has wives and children too numerous to count. He rules over all of Israel with a godly wisdom that is far above any other human. He is respected. His judgments are sought after. His enemies fear him. And yet, he finds everything in life to be meaningless.

Finally, at the end of chapter 12, Solomon discovers the one thing that gives life a purpose. "Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind (vs. 13)." The only way to live a fruitful, joyful, purposeful life is to love God and follow God's ways.

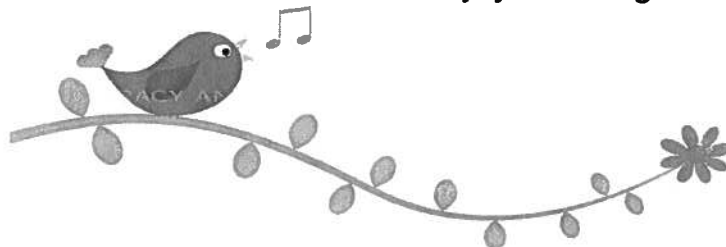
As we continue to celebrate Jesus' resurrection, how true this conclusion of Solomon's is for our own lives. Because Jesus lives and reigns over all, we are free of sin and death. That freedom redefines why we live and how we live. We live with faithful gratitude for God's unmeasurable grace. We live with joyful love for one another and for all people everywhere. We move on behalf of others so that all will know the joy of life in the Holy Spirit.

With my apologies to all coffee drinkers out there, a cup of coffee, even if it is Nespresso, cannot create infinite possibilities or preserve the beauty of our world. Perhaps I might feel differently if George were talking about M&M's, but I would hope not.

Without Jesus, our lives are meaningless. Without Jesus, eternal new beginnings are not possible. Without Jesus, infinite possibilities are limited to our very finite, imperfect, world. Without Jesus, the beauty of relationships with God and with others is easily tarnished. Without Jesus, everything truly is meaningless.

In this season of resurrection, let us embrace the joy of being disciples of Jesus who is our all in all.

Blessings,  
Pastor Deb



# APRIL LECTIONARY READINGS

April 4, 2021, BYOB Communion  
Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24,  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18

April 11, 2021,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133,  
1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31



April 18 2021, Native American Ministries  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4,  
1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48

April 25, 2021  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23,  
1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18



## VIEW FROM THE PEW

My name is **Mary Alice Ware Bryant AKA Ducky**. I was born, raised, and educated in Ford City. My introduction into religion began in the CME Methodist Church and is still ingrained with the **Ford Memorial Methodist** of Ford City.

Life history, starts with primary and secondary education in Ford City system followed by a Nursing Degree in Anesthesia, obtained in the surrounding area. After 5yrs. of working in this area, I migrated to Philly and this is where I depended on the Lord as my guardian and he did not fail me. He introduced me to many God fearing people and placed me in situations where I could help others to believe there is a God. After 50 years, he sent me back to Ford City to care for my mother, who was a firm believer and did lots of good work in his name. At this time, I am still active in the church and thank God each day that he keeps me healthy, so I may spread his good name.

THERE IS A GOD AND HE LOVES ALL OF US



## EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE- 7:00 AM- AT FORD MEMORIAL

Set your alarm. You won't want to miss out on this special service. We will welcome Rev. Walt Marr as our guest. He is a resident of Elderton, PA. Rev. Walt has a special ministry of first person characterization. He presents biblical stories as if he were the person in that story. Through acting he tells of what that person saw and felt in that story. Several years ago when Rev. Walt asked the Lord to use him as a certified United Methodist Lay Speaker is when this came to the forefront. Over the years the Lord has also lead Rev. Walt to be an interdenominational Pastor through Calvary Ministries.

The service will be followed by a continental breakfast served in the fellowship hall. The public is invited to attend this special service and breakfast. Traditional Easter worship services will be held at their usual times. Union Avenue – 9:00 AM, Manorville - 9:45 AM, Ford Memorial – 11:00 AM, First Church - 10:00 and 11:00 AM.



## DRIVE-THRU EASTER CELEBRATION

Ford City Lions Club will have a drive-thru Easter Celebration on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00-3:00 PM. Treats for the first 500 children, ages 1-10. Location will be the Clock Tower (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.). Cars line-up at 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. at 11<sup>th</sup> Street. The Easter Bunny will be in the park gazebo for pictures. **COVIC restrictions apply.**



# FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES



## SOUND SYSTEM

4 John Yankasky  
11 Tim King  
18 John Wolfe  
25 Gabe Smith



## COUNTERS

4 McKelvey  
11 Scaife  
18 Williamson  
25 Ternent



## USHERS

4 Albright/Dan Wolfe  
11 Albright/Dan Wolfe  
18 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski  
25 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski



## READERS

4  
11  
18 Carolyn Hancock  
25 Connie Bish



## ALTAR FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE FOR 2021

We have the following dates open for altar flowers. The flower arrangements are \$25.00. If you would like any of these dates please let Audrey know. Thank you

April 18 & 25  
August 8 & 15  
October 31

July 18 & 25  
September 5  
November 21



We are having worship at **10:00 AM** and **11:00 AM** with **live stream on Facebook** at the 11:00 AM worship. **Face masks are required at both services.** Due to limited seating, **you must call to pre-register** your attendance for either service. Monday-Thursday 8:00-12:00. The office is closed on Friday. You may also place a standing registration for the service you will be attending.

Seating for the 10:00 AM service will begin at 9:45 AM and seating for 11:00 AM service begins at 10:50 AM. Only the Ramp Entrance will be open. Please remain vigilant at keeping 6ft. apart. Markers are on the ramp and floor to remind you.



## APRIL SIFT LUNCHEON

The April SIFT Luncheon will be **Thursday, April 15, 2021.**

The meal will be pre-order, take out Dinner. Pick up between Noon and 1PM at the rear alley entrance of the Covenant Center.

The menu will be Ham Loaf, Parsley Potatoes, Green Beans, Applesauce, Roll, Cookies.

Reservations are needed by **Noon, Monday, April 12th** and are limited to 100. Call the church office 724 548-4312 to place your order. Thank you

## 2021 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

For Habitat for Humanity

We continue our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity

Cans Received February 5th-March 15<sup>th</sup>—3,404

Total cans received through March 15th—38,451

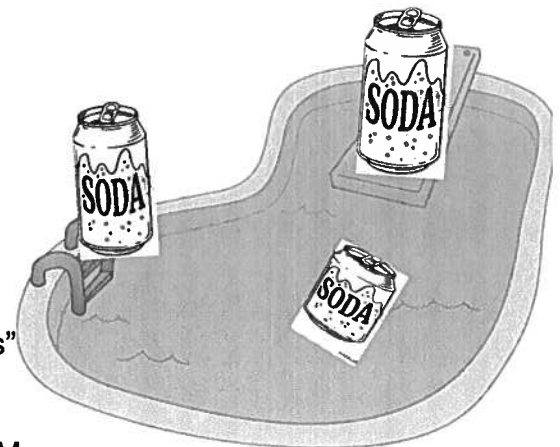
Many thanks to everyone who is saving aluminum cans and bringing them to the church-at the ramp at the back of the church.

If you haven't been saving aluminum cans, please start-soft drinks, juice, power drinks, tea, beer, cat food-**Aluminum only-not** "tin cans" food, soup, etc.

Call the church office 724-548-4312 or me 724-548-7124 or 724-859-0819 if you need a can pick-up.

Thank you, The Can Man,

Jim Ternent



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Carlee Beers      | 15 Isabella Aires       |
| 2 Matthew Rush      | 15 Dante Aires          |
| 3 Jolena VanMeter   | 15 Tony Green           |
| 4 Mark Ferguson     | 15 Emily King           |
| 4 Jessica Wright    | 15 Alyssa Krozely       |
| 5 Bill Waters       | 19 Jane Shuttleworth-96 |
| 9 Herb Coggon       | 19 Meaghan Volek        |
| 10 Dennis Hoffman   | 22 Gregory "Mac" Toth   |
| 11 Madeline Smith   | 26 Kelly Aires          |
| 12 Patty Bruno      | 26 Linda Powell         |
| 12 Isaac Zielinski  | 27 Sally Felton         |
| 14 Mary Anne Hankey | 28 Robyn Green          |
|                     | 30 Wyatt Green          |



## APRIL ANNIVERSARY



- 3 Jeff & Pam Shaffer-50 years  
5 Gregory & Jalissa Jacobs-6 years



## MISSIONS FOCUS FOR APRIL-HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Our church will excitedly contribute money for Kittanning's HABITAT FOR HUMANITY project to completely rehab a home-in-need located in Wick City. Our monies will help buy studs, new electricity, new heating, new dry walls...and so much more. The family has three children, one of whom has special needs.

This project will be a complete, safe rehabilitation of a home-in-need! Let's give cheerfully and generously to this needed project.

Founded in 1976, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organization. It is a Christian organization. Their mission statement is "Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope."

Let's help with this home! Let's help this dear family! May God move us to be blessings for others!

Meaghan & Janet



## THANK YOU



Dear First Church Family,

*Spring is springing! Here's a big thank you for the prayers, cards, and good wishes or my knee replacement surgery and rehabilitation. Steady progress is being made-hopefully we'll get to see how well it went come Festival time. Again, Thank You!*

Lynn Haught



Dear Faith Partner,

*It's clear from your past participation in our programs that your community understands the true meaning of Easter – to thank God for our salvation through His Son and to share His love by serving those in need—especially families facing grave hunger and poverty. So, I want to take a moment to thank you for your unwavering support of Heifer.*

*Throughout these challenging times, your support has helped feed families during this pandemic and hunger crisis. May your congregants be blessed this upcoming year to be full of His unending love. With Peace and Goodwill, Pierre U. Ferrari, President and CEO*

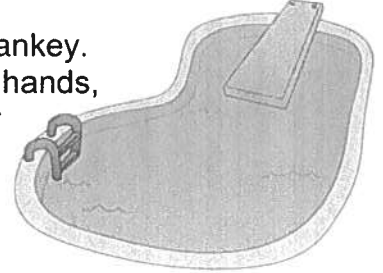




## VBS 2021

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School the week of June 21st. We will have a little different VBS this year in order to keep all our students and helpers safe and healthy. VBS will be held **outdoors** from **10:00-noon**. We will set up tents and have a "Pool Party" learning how Jesus is our Lifeguard keeping us safe at all times. While we will not have a "real" pool to enjoy, we will use our imaginations, lessons, decorations, crafts and some music to have a fun week of learning this summer.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact the church office or Sue Hankey. Volunteer positions may look a little different this year, but we still need MANY hands, hearts and eyes for a successful week. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for more information on planning sessions and details.



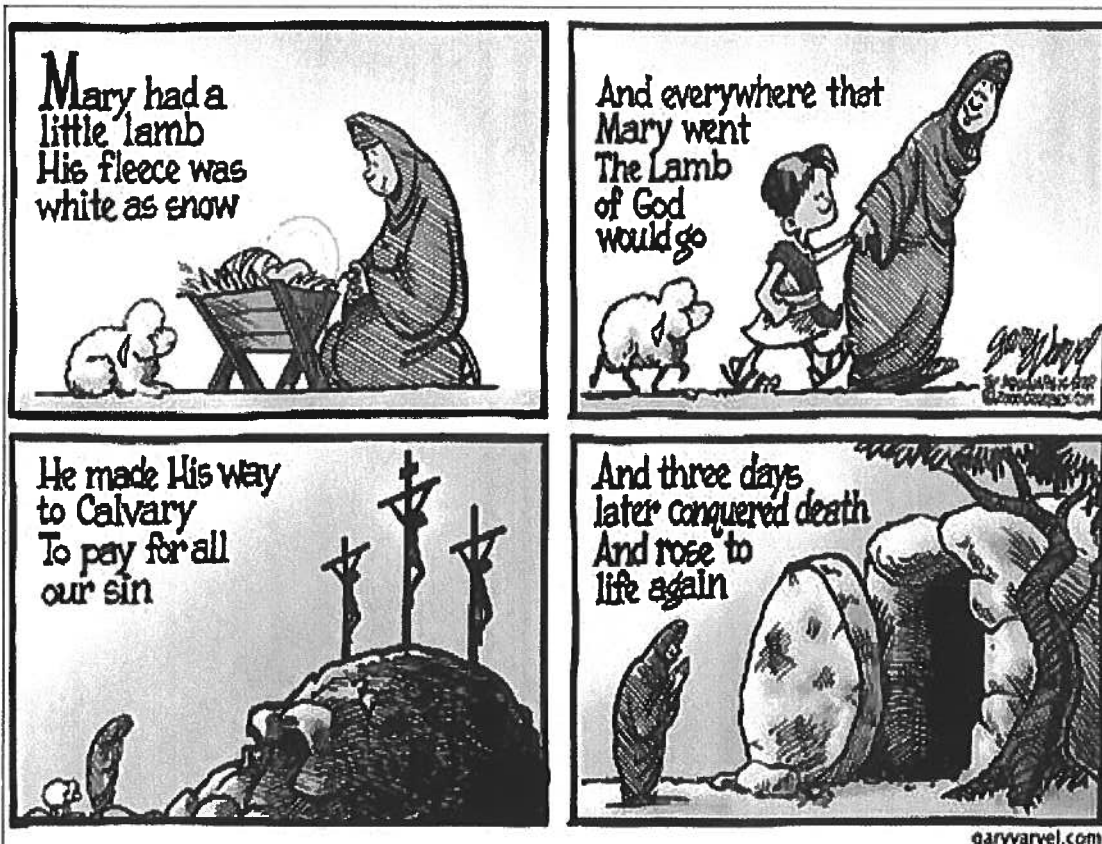
## RAINBOW ROAD

Registrations for the 2021-2022 school year are being accepted with programs for 3 and 4 year-old children. If you have any questions call the church office at 724-548-4312 or go to our website at [www.firstchurchkittanning.com](http://www.firstchurchkittanning.com) then go to the link for Rainbow Road Preschool.



## ATTENTION ALL ARTISTS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

The 2021 Fort Armstrong Folk Festival has been scheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. **The Covenant Center Art Show is on for 2021.** Tentative information for this event is: Applications available March 31, 2021. Details will be released at that time on the church's website, in the newsletter and in the office. Get your cameras and brushes busy. This is going to be the best show ever.

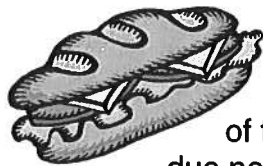




# FORD MEMORIAL LINK PAGE



## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL WILL MEET APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM



### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN FUNDRAISER

The FMUM Women will sponsor a Hoagie Sale on **April 20<sup>th</sup>**. You may order any of four choices: ham, roast beef, turkey, or deli. Hoagies are \$7.00 each and orders are due no later than **Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. To order, please call Betty Clarke at 1-724-388-2416. Profits from the Hoagie Sale will benefit the group's pledge to support UMW mission work.

### NOTES FROM FM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

**REFINISHING FLOORS**-The wood floors in the vestibule, cloak room, and hallway will be sanded and refinished the week of March 29<sup>th</sup>. Use of the lower level will be available, as well as the pastor's office (front porch door).

**NEW ENTRANCE LAMP POSTS TO BE INSTALLED**-As soon as weather permits, new lamp posts will be installed, replacing the existing ones. The new lamps are a memorial gift from Ada Jean Hoffman in memory of her grandparents, Ada & Robert Burdette.

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

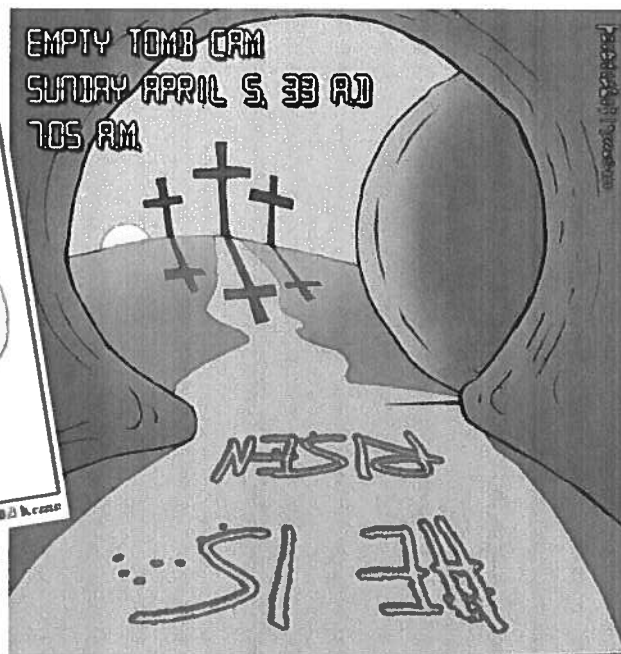
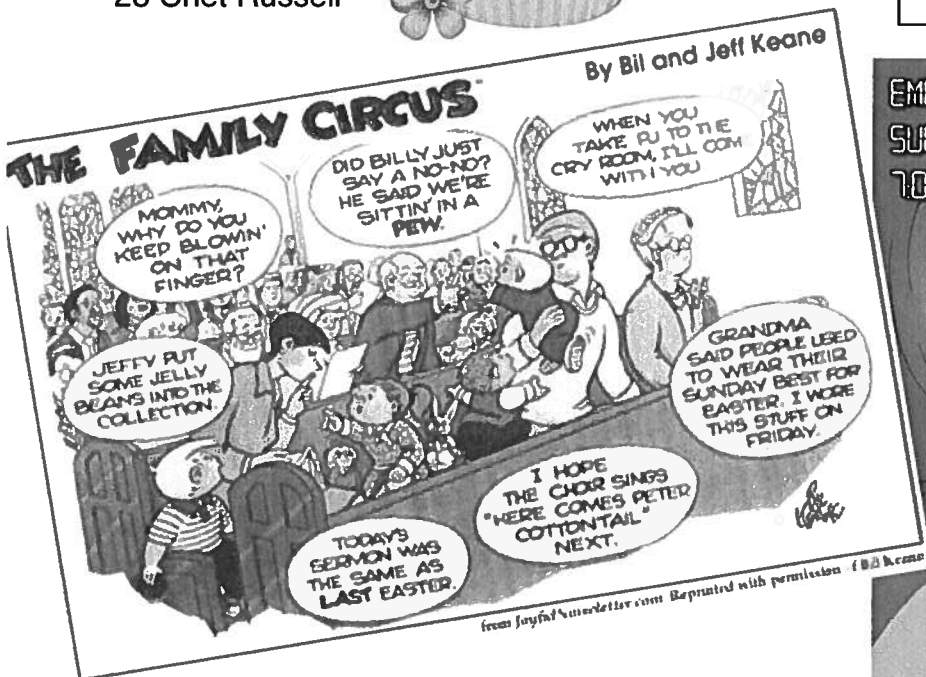
- 3 Ashley Berrett
- 6 Tom Bernot
- 7 Scott Kamer
- 10 Carol Kuhns
- 12 John Berrett
- 28 Chet Russell



### 2021 MEETING DATES SET

Administrative Council meets at 6:30 PM on the following dates:

- April 20**
- June 15**
- August 17**
- October 19**
- December 21**





# MANORVILLE LINK PAGE

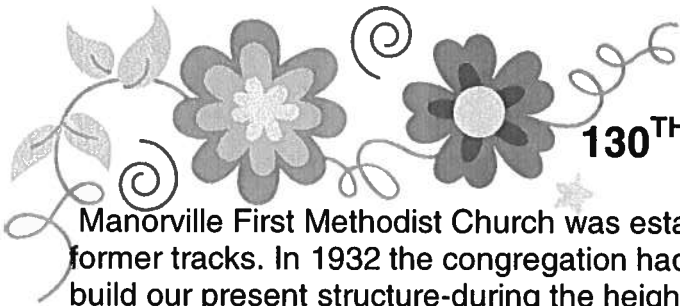


## **RUMMAGE SALE**

Manorville's rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021. Hours are 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Start saving your "treasures" to bring in anytime AFTER May 17<sup>th</sup>. No clothes please. If you can help out for any length of time that Saturday, please let Luella Bennett know. Help will be needed to price these treasures. Also,

Proceeds go towards activities for our 130th anniversary in October and November, with a service on All Saint's Sunday, honoring all those saints who worked tirelessly to support our church's missions for all these years.

Nurture will have the kitchen open with lots of goodies for our enjoyment. They will need hot dogs, kraut, buns, macaroni salad, pies and baked goods to sell. Donations are accepted. Hot sausage sandwiches will also be for sale. Please let Judie or Lisa know if you can help out Nurture. Help would be appreciated in the kitchen.



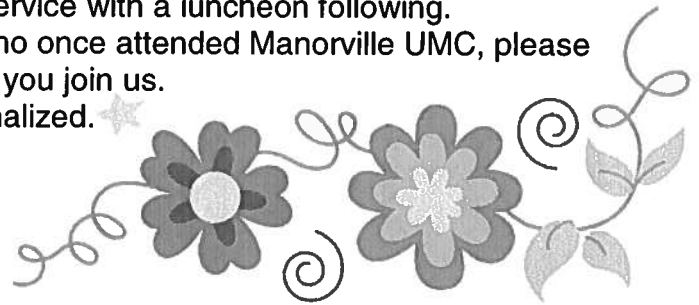
## **130<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Manorville First Methodist Church was established in 1891 in a small wooden church above the former tracks. In 1932 the congregation had outgrown the small church and a decision was made to build our present structure-during the height of the Depression. They said it couldn't be done! BUT....it was and we have been serving God since 1968 as the Manorville United Methodist Church.

Events are being planned for our celebration with special services being held in October and culminating on November 7<sup>th</sup> at our All Saint's Sunday service with a luncheon following.

If you are a previous member or know of someone who once attended Manorville UMC, please share this information with them. We would love to have you join us.

Further details will be forthcoming as they become finalized.



## **FINANCIAL COUNTERS**

- April 4 – Luella & Mike
- April 11 – JB & Jack
- April 18 – Bob & Dianna
- April 25 – Lynn & Sandy



## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3 Lisa Hawk              | 17 Lisa (Waldenville) Lorigan |
| 4 Max Alexander Petrosky | 18 Evan Snyder                |
| 5 Jack Petrosky          | 20 Matt Brocius               |
| 5 John Olinger           | 25 Irene Reesman              |
| 13 Jessica Querry        | 29 Kay Rupp                   |
| 14 Tiffany Walker        | 30 Lynn Sibley                |



## **APRIL**

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Ed & Erika Olenchak
- 2 Lisa & Bob Lorigan
- 4 Hyatt & Lisa Hawk
- 5 John & Belinda Olinger
- 29 Nancy & Ed Gaul





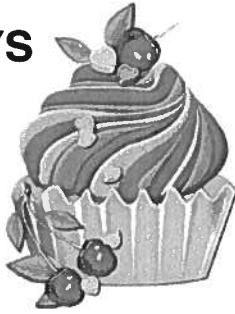


# UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE



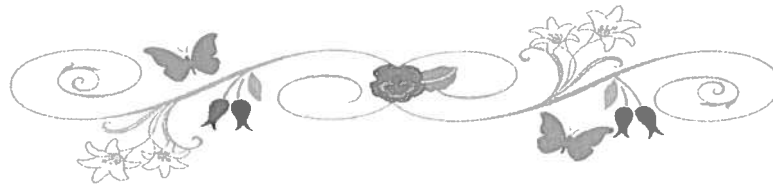
## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 4 Avia Clever
- 7 Patty Bowser
- 18 Laura Wyant
- 22 Tyler Ochs
- 25 Diana Denetdale
- 29 Timber Walker
- 30 Stacy Martin



## **APRIL ANNIVERSARY**

24 John & Stacy Martin



## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN REPORT**

The March 1, 2021 meeting of the Union Avenue United Methodist Women was held at the church with 8 in attendance. The meeting opened with the reading of "The Purpose of the United Methodist Women", led by President, Karen Wolfe; Hostess, Jody Anderson; Devotions, Donna Shaffer "Prayer and Self Denial"; Minute Missions, Karen Wolfe; Prayer Calendar, Peggy Say. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

### **Business:**

Motion made to send pledge for "Prayer and Self Denial".

Thank You's received from missionary, Alice Walker, for her birthday card; Blessings in a Backpack; Community Action Agency for Turkey fund donation, monetary donation, program coordinators for sponsoring a family for Christmas, and a card and picture from our Christmas family.

A motion was made to forego purchasing flowers for Easter and making baskets for shut-ins as to time constraints.

Date has been received for use of the Hot Dog Hut in 2021. Hopefully this will be possible this year. The mother/daughter banquet for May has also been cancelled, however our June meeting will be held in May instead. There will be no meetings for June, July and August.

### **Missions:**

Motion was made to make hygiene kits for UMCOR again this year. Motion passed. Will use money from the loose change fund to pay for shipping.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to give \$100.00 to Red Bird Mission.

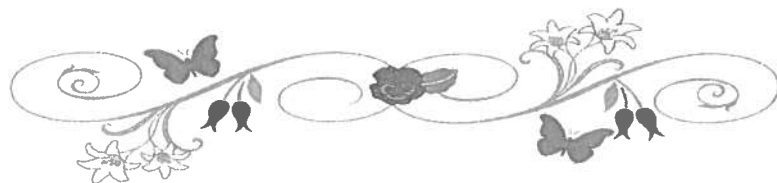
Donna Shaffer will check with teachers in Armstrong School District to see if we can help support children in some way in our district.

We will again be selling hoagie coupons from Miller's Hoagies as a fundraiser. See any member for coupons.

Motion was made and approved to give \$260.00 to Blessings in a Backpack as done previously. The meeting ended with reading of the UMW's Prayer.

Motion made to adjourn meeting and was approved.

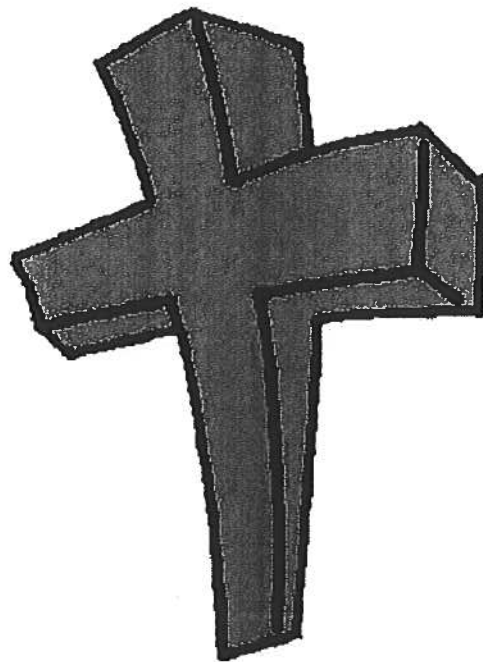
Secretary, Ellen Nelson



# Easter Word Search

B M A L M H B B K I N G R N R  
N O I T C E R R U S E R E O O  
A P O S T L E S E Y S C D I O  
S E C I F I R C A S H J E T S  
N S N A M O R O O R R E M A T  
R C D S G T T R I I K S P V E  
O Y R A M B C S S V Z U T L R  
H L O V E L T E M M A S I A Y  
T C R O W N N Y L O H S O S Z  
X C R U C I F I X I O N N K Q

APOSTLES  
CHRIST  
CROSS  
CROWN  
CRUCIFIXION  
HOLY  
JESUS  
KING  
LAMB  
LOVE



MARY  
REDEMPTION  
RESURRECTION  
RISEN  
ROMANS  
ROOSTER  
SACRIFICE  
SALVATION  
SAVIOR  
THORNS