



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

Lay Minister: Terri Wells



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

Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM **Email:** fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net

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

Worship 11:00 AM **Email:** 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 724-763-1254

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

724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM



MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please get articles to Audrey no later than

SUNDAY, February 13, 2022. Thank you

Pastor Deb's Message

God brought us to life with Christ while we were dead as a result of those things that we did wrong. He did this because of the great love that he has for us.

Ephesians 2: 4-5

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The candy and decorations for Valentine's Day began appearing even before the New Year. The shelves became filled with red, pink and white everywhere you looked. The card displays were overflowing with Valentine cards for everyone in our lives, including our hairdressers and our pets! We love to celebrate love. Hallmark estimates that we spend \$1.1 billion on Valentine cards, 85% of which are bought by women (just saying.) In the United States we spend an average of \$126 to \$218 on expressing our love to our special someone! Holy cow!

It is a sobering and humbling thought then to realize that God's love is given to us without costing us a dime. In fact, because of God's love for us we have been given eternal life through Jesus Christ. The cost paid for us by God and Jesus is beyond our comprehension. But God ignored the cost, Jesus paid the price, and we are redeemed by grace.

So, as we ponder our card choices, as we pick up some flowers or candy for those we love, let us take a moment or two to give thanks to God whose love for us cost more than we can ever imagine. Let us take a moment or two to reflect on our Savior whose love for us bought our eternal life.

Now this is a love that should be celebrated every day!

Happy Valentine's Day!

Blessings,
Pastor Deb



Terri's Message

Happy January! Every season has a signature of beauty that comes with it. Winter, to me is refreshing. When you look out at the white snow, blanketing the countryside, it is beautiful. It looks like God took a giant eraser and erased all of the dirt and imperfections. You can smell the air is fresh, crisp and clean. It is written in Psalms "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." *Psalm 51:7* Hyssop is a shrub in the mint family that is found in Southern Europe, Middle East and area surrounding the Caspian Sea. It was used in biblical days as an antiseptic and expectorant. Winter is the time to purge away the old and put on the new. Ask for Jesus to forgive your sins, purge your old ways, and pick up the white robes of redemption. Start your new life with a clean slate, like a blanket of fresh white snow, your sins are removed and your path is new and fresh. Peace be yours. Terri



FEBRUARY LECTIONARY READINGS

February 6, 2022
5th Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 138,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11



February 20, 2022,
7th Sunday after Epiphany
Genesis 45:3-11, 15, Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40,
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50, Luke 6:27-38

February 13, 2022
6th Sunday after Epiphany
Jeremiah 17:5-10, Psalm 1,
1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26

February 27, 2022
Transfiguration Sunday
Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99,
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS



As the saying goes, "Time Flies". And as hard as it is to believe, it is once again time to think about The Lenten Devotional. For the fifteenth year First Church will compile a devotional to be used Mondays through Saturdays during the season of Lent as an addition to your spiritual walk beginning on Ash Wednesday. **WE NEED YOU** to contribute a short devotion to be included in the booklet. You don't have to be a professional writer or submit a three-page masterpiece. Prayerfully consider participating in this meaningful ministry. These devotionals are shared with residents at ARC manor, attendees at SIFT, and other churches in the charge. All devotionals must be received in the church office no later than **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST** and can be hand delivered, e-mailed, or sent by snail mail. Any questions, call the church office or Sarah Heckert at 724-543-1083.

FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

SOUND SYSTEM

6 Tim Scaife
 13 Dave Yanoschick
 20 John Yankasky
 27 Tim King



COUNTERS

6 Ternent
 13 Yankasky
 20 Bureau
 27 McKelvey



USHERS

6 Epworth/Melissa Bureau
 13 Epworth/Melissa Bureau
 20 Oxford/Mark Ferguson
 27 Oxford/Mark Ferguson



SCRIPTURE READERS

6
 13
 20
 27



BELL RINGERS

6 Olivia Green
 13 Chelsea Beers
 20 Caden King
 27 Jocelyn King



WELCOME CENTER

6 Sarah Heckert
 13 Melissa Bureau
 20 Karen Scaife
 27 Beverly Patton



I'm looking for a few people who are willing to learn how to use the livestream camera and stream the service to Facebook on Sunday mornings. There were many issues in the beginning, but things have been running smoothly. I know it's a little intimidating, but I'll be there to help most every Sunday if there's an issue. Please consider joining the team. Questions can be directed to Kim Yankasky. Call or text 724-664-6867 or email kayankasky@gmail.com



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES



FEBRUARY MISSIONS

First Church will support Life Choices as our Mission focus during the month of February. Life Choices is a local ministry that offers support and education to anyone facing an unplanned pregnancy. Since Life Choices does not accept any government funding, our donations will help enable Life Choices to continue to assist their clients. Please prayerfully consider how you can best support this vital ministry.
Thank you, Janet & Meaghan

FEBRUARY SIFT LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, February 17, 2022

PROGRAM: TBA

MENU: Bar-b-que with bun, Macaroni & Cheese, Dill Pickles, Chips, Cookies



Reservations by Monday, February 14th by calling the church 724-548-4312 or emailing at fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net. Masks are encouraged and all CDC guidelines will be followed. This is Dine-in only. Please use the alley entrance only.



THANK YOU'S



Kittanning First UMC,

Manorville United Methodist Church gratefully acknowledges your generous donation of \$160 for our Prison Ministry children. One or both parents are incarcerated. There were ten children from three families looking for gifts at Christmas and your assistance allowed us to provide them. Presents included Bibles for some of the children. We thank God for friends like you. In Christ,

Luella Bennett, Church Secretary



Dear FUMC Family,

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift-it was greatly appreciated. Thanks for your support and prayers. Sincerely, Linda Powell



Thank you so much for the donation of blankets for our Treasures for Children Christmas, the families loved them and were really excited to receive them. Hope you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Kittanning Salvation Army



Church Family,

We have been blessed by your phone calls, cards and prayers after my eldest brother's death. The comfort angel from the Heavenly Daughters reminds us of their support. Thank you all for your care and concern. God Bless you, Rich & Kathy Riffer



I would like to thank all who have offered compassion and sympathy for the loss of our son-in-law, Michael Sacra. He was a wonderful husband, father, teacher, coach, administrator and fireman. Your concern for Carrie and her sons is heartwarming. Thank you to Heavenly Daughters for the beautiful comforting angel figurine. Your friendship is so important. Thank you! Rich & Mary Jo Lipski



ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

It's time to take a break. We've had the annual rummage sale for the last 18 years and many of us feel ready for a break. Also, it has become increasingly more difficult to get rid of our "leftovers" and we have so much left over every year with no place to take it. Perhaps we will have another sale in the future but not this year. Thank you so much for the MANY items you have donated over the years. I was in awe of all you had to give every year. Those of us who worked the sale really enjoyed working together and I will miss that! Thank you for your dedication every year.

Kim

FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

2022 VBS ALUMINUM CANS FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

We continue our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity
Cans Received December 15th-January 15th—4819
Total cans received through January 15th—29,641



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.

Thank you, The Can Man, Jim Ternent

EXCITING YOUTH NEWS FOR 2022

Due to all of the support from our church friends and family, Brenda and I were able to take 7 girls to SPARK 2022. We had a wonderful time, learning about and worshipping our Lord and Savior. We will share our experience in the Lenten Devotional that comes out soon.



With the positive feedback from the youth, we are once again going to attempt to have a youth group. February will be an exciting start for us... **February 13th is Souper Bowl Sunday**, so our youth will be collecting money at the Sanctuary doors asking you to show your team spirit, all funds will be donated to a local food charity. **February 27th** we will be looking at a fundraising luncheon/dinner and our first meeting along with game night, hosted by the Hospitality Committee. Keep an eye on the bulletin for further details. Reservations for lasagna Dinner will need to be in the office by February 20th.

Once again, I want to thank everyone who has supported the youth through buying cookies and visiting the coffee house and donations. Thank You Thank You Thank You

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Erica Scaife
9 Brenda Beers
9 Lynn Toth
12 Tim Hellein
14 Bernie Green



18 Kathy Piechowicz
18 Larissa Schrecengost
18 Nash Wolfe
21 Harold Walter
28 Edna Heigley

FORD MEMORIAL LINK

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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



UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

25 Ken Jordan



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY

22 Gary & Ellen Nelson-53 years



MANORVILLE LINK PAGE

FINANCIAL COUNTERS

6 JB & Jack
13 Mike & Luella
20 Nancy & Nancy
27 Steve & Luella



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

14 John & Lisa Czapor
22 Gary & Ellen Nelson



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Chris Toy
6 Brennan Toy
8 Amy Heilman
12 Sandy Arblaster
16 Maranda Arblaster
21 Cheryl Welch



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

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Feb. 13th Souper Bowl Sunday is when we will bless your donations to the Food Bank and the supplies will be taken down to Ford Memorial. Winter weather is on the way and heating bills will be going up, leaving less money to buy food for the families. Your offerings are so important to their living with hunger or going to bed with food in their bellies. Most of these families are seniors and a few are single parents who have young children, just trying to provide for them as best they can. Won't you PLEASE give from your excess? Thank you SO MUCH for your generosity!!!! Ford City Food Bank

P.S. Paper towels, toilet paper, and tissues are always needed and cannot be purchased with food stamps. Of course, financial donations are always appreciated as we can sometimes order extra items from Pittsburgh. Checks can be made out to "Ford City Food Bank" and given to Luella.



LICENSING SCHOOL

Licensing School will be held at Manorville again this year after a break for COVID in 2021. A retreat weekend will begin on Feb. 17th at 3pm thru Saturday, Feb. 19th at 5pm. On Feb. 26th class will be at the Conference Center. Classes will continue at Manorville on Saturdays after that until April 21st when they will end with another retreat weekend on Thursday, Friday, and graduation is on Saturday, April 23rd about 3pm.



Prayers would be appreciated for those who have answered God's call to the ministry. Terri Wells is one of them. We especially want to lift Terri up in prayer for attending the classes to become a minister as she has a full time secular job that is very demanding. The students have a financial responsibility in attending these classes besides the time required from their family time. PRAY!! PRAY!! PRAY!!