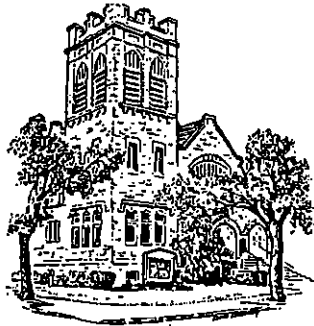
 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET  
KITTANNING PA 16201  
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*He is not here,*  
**FOR HE HAS RISEN.**

Matthew 28:6



*Monthly Messenger*



**He is alive!!**

**APRIL 2018**

**MAY  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE,  
TUESDAY,  
APRIL 17, 2018**



**CHURCH STAFF**  
**PASTOR:** Pastor Wade Berkey  
**CHURCH SECRETARY:** Audrey Green  
**PIANIST:** Emily King  
**SEXTON:** Valerie Kachur  
**CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Brenda Beers  
**NURSERY ATTENDANT:** Linda Powell  
**MESSENGER VOLUNTEERS:**  
Carolyn Gallaher, Sally Krozely  
June Pollard, Linda Scaife, Carol Wolfe,  
Kathy Coleman

**WORSHIP: 11:00 AM**  
**CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312**  
**E-MAIL: [fumchurch@windstream.net](mailto:fumchurch@windstream.net)**  
**FAX: 724-548-5157**

**PARSONAGE: 724-543-4808**  
**WEB SITE: [www.firstchurchkittanning.com](http://www.firstchurchkittanning.com)**  
**RAINBOW ROAD: 724-548-7569**



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:00 PM**

*April 2018*



By the time April will begin, Lent will be concluded and we will celebrate the resurrected Jesus! AMEN!! I concluded the article in the March newsletter by saying these words to you –

The journey of Lent always leads up a hill to a cross. There is no other route. Lent is a time to test our willingness to walk boldly with Jesus; to give up distorted goals; to *die* to old ways and reject new temptations; to steadfastly look beyond the cross, confident that God's love in Jesus Christ *lives* in us, and through us, and takes hope into the future. Place your hope in the Power that raised Jesus out of the tomb. That same Power is waiting for you, NOW!! Claim it!

So, the other day, about a month after I wrote these words, I am reading a book and I read these words, "Make sure that you are spiritually alive." I think I read those words again and then again. It was then that I asked myself this question, "How do I do that?" I can go to the doctor's office and have my blood pressure or my pulse taken to check my physical health. I can have blood drawn to make certain that my blood sugar is within the acceptable norms. Where do I go to check my spiritual health?

Paul wrote these words in Ephesians, "Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy."

Is the test of spiritual health to measure how much of the old sinful nature that I have thrown off? I guess that might mean that I look at myself and determine if I have been successful in not being corrupted by lust or deception. Then I put on the new nature—as I might put on a new shirt or a new pair of socks. Whoa! Look at the common word in this assumption! Do you see it? It is the word "I". The Christian life has never been about "I" or "me" but it is something far more!

Here it comes—*let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes*. The Spirit does the work? The Spirit does the work!! We cannot do it on our own. Furthermore, Christianity is not a singular faith—yes it takes you and me to show up—and then God does the rest. The Spirit does the work in us. One more thing, it takes a community of believers to support and nurture and care for each other.

Our spiritual health is not about behaving and it is not about putting an overcoat over top the old you and me. There has to be transformation and the Spirit of God must accomplish that in each of us. We cannot die to our old selves without God. All we can do is open ourselves up to the power of the Holy Spirit and give God the permission to work within us!

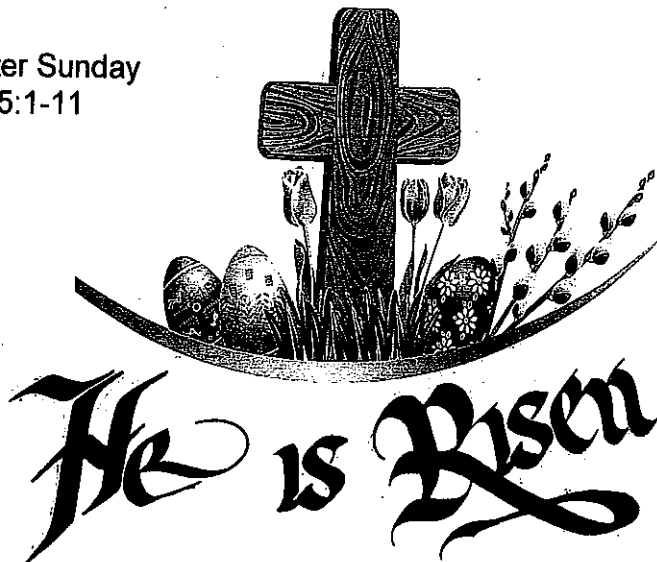
Can we do that? Let's try!!

Christ is Indeed Risen!

## APRIL WORSHIP

**April 1, 2018**  
11:00 AM, Easter Sunday  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
John 20:1-18

**April 8, 2018**  
11:00 AM,  
1 John 1:1-2:2  
John 20:19-31



**April 15, 2018**  
11:00 AM,  
1 John 3:1-7  
Luke 24:36-48

**April 22, 2018**  
11:00 AM,  
1 John 3:16-24  
John 10:11-18

**April 29, 2018**  
11:00 AM  
1 John 4:7-21  
Acts 8:26-40

### WELCOME CENTER

1 Mary Jo Lipski  
8 Sandy Scherf  
15 Melissa Flanders  
22 Sarah Heckert  
29 Brad Hellein



### READERS

1 Jim Ternent  
8 Sue Hankey  
15 Karen Scaife  
22 Mary Jo Lipski  
29 Dan Wolfe



### USHERS

1 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski  
8 Epworth/Melissa Flanders  
15 Epworth/Melissa Flanders  
22 Oxford/Mark Ferguson  
29 Oxford/Mark Ferguson



### SOUND SYSTEM

1 John Yankasky  
8 John Wolfe  
15 Scott Hogamier  
22 Bill Lemons  
29 Gabe Smith



### COUNTERS

1 Coleman/Gallaher  
8 Hogamier  
15 Ternent  
22 Yankasky  
29 Flanders



### ACOLYTE

1 Joey Kachur  
8 Ryan Bish  
15 Dane Dimond  
22 Isaac Zielinski  
29 Joey Kachur



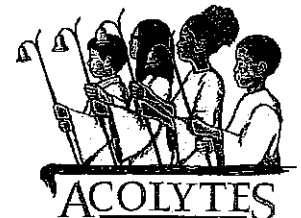
### BELL RINGERS

1 Jocelyn King  
8 Ashley Yankasky  
15 Madelyn Smith  
22 Joey Kachur  
29 Evva Yanoschick



### WILL YOU HELP?

First Church is looking for a volunteer to help with our Worship Services. There is a need for a volunteer to coordinate and schedule the young people to light the candles. This person would also be required to be here on Sunday to help the young people put on the acolyte robe and light the candle lighter. Will you help?



**Your church is still looking for volunteers to serve in these areas. Will you consider helping and joining-**

- \* A visitation team is being created to assist with visiting shut-ins.
- \* The Worship Team to assist the acolytes on Sunday morning.
- \* The Outreach Team as we consider ongoing and new ways to share God's love.

### Mark your calendar...

The Kittanning Ministerium will be sponsoring two events on The National Day of Prayer on May 3rd -

- 12:00 noon**, A Prayer Walk through downtown Kittanning
- 7:00 PM**, A Prayer Service at the High School Auditorium



## Financial Dashboard –February 2018

	January	YTD
Stewardship Income	\$12,066	\$28,105
Budget Requirements	\$14,660	\$29,320
Difference	-\$2,594	-\$1,215

Estimated FUMC Giving Units: 265

Giving Units Providing Support This Month: 46

### Conference Apportionments

Amount Paid YTD	\$300
Budget Amount YTD	\$3,930
Difference	-\$3,630

### LET'S GET MOWING!

Help is needed with mowing our church lawns. We want to set up a schedule so no one has total responsibility. The church owns a Cub Cadet mower with a 54" blade (headlight for you night mowers!) and a hand mower. Contact the church office or Mary Jo Lipski (724-545-2289). We really need your help.



Time to sign-up for summer camp! Summer camp brochures from Jumonville, Wesley Woods and Camp Allegheny are at each door. The church will pay for full tuition the first year of camp and 50% for the years after that.

### HELP US SHARE THE LOVE OF DOLLS

One of Jean Schaeffer's many talents was hand-making porcelain dolls. Her family has kept many, but has a few left to offer to others who may have an appreciation for them. The Schaeffer family will be offering them after church, in the Library Room, on **Sunday, April 15, 2018** for a donation toward the "Ramp Roof Project" that Bob Schaeffer's memorial funds will go toward. A suggested donation will be \$10-\$20 per doll. Thank you for helping the family share Jean's love of dolls while helping FUMC.

## churchWIDE RUMMAGE SALE

The annual rummage sale will be **Sat, June 9th**. You may bring in donations **Wednesday, May 30th-Sunday, June 3rd**. We accept any donation except clothing and electronics.

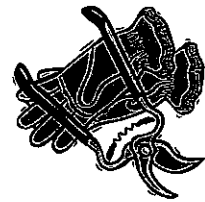
### DID YOU KNOW?

Newsletters are available by email and on the church's website as well as paper copy. If you would like to have your newsletter emailed to you instead of paper mailed please let the office know or put your email address on your connect card with a note to change you to email. Thank you.



### YARD CLEAN-UP NIGHTS

With the promise of spring our attention turns to outdoor maintenance. Our first yard night is Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. Come when you can--bring rakes and clippers. [LET'S PREPARE FOR EASTER!] Beginning in May, yard night will be the first Monday of every month.

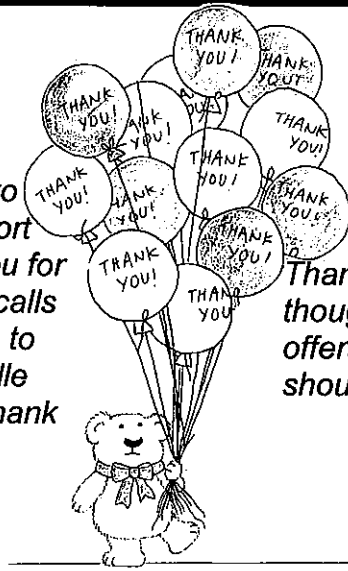


# THANK YOU'S

Dear FUMC Family,

Doug and I cannot put into words how much love and support you have given us! We thank-you for all of the cards, prayers, phone calls and many gifts—this will help us to move forward to be able to handle anything that comes our way. Thank you with all of our love.

Doug & Linda Powell



Thanks to so many of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and kind offers of help to me as I recover from shoulder surgery. It means a lot.

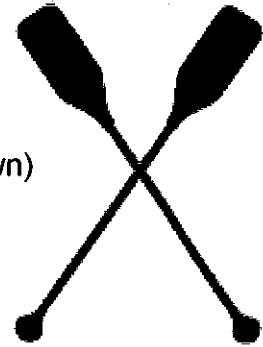
Larry McKelvey



**VBS will be held June 18-22 from 9am to noon  
Ages 3 thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Many VBS CREW LEADERS are needed for his year's  
Rolling River Adventure.  
Crew Leaders can be teens or adults of any age!**

## What does a VBS Crew Leader do?

- Update the Attendance sheet each morning
- Keep your group of kids together/safe during the morning
- Get your group to the next station on time (there are steps to go up/down)
- Collect nametags at end of day
- Check out children to parents after closing
- Remain in the sanctuary until all children are released to parents
- Have fun in the morning!
- Nap in the afternoon!



If this sounds like something you can do to help with this OUTREACH for our church, please contact Sue Hankey (724-545-1656) or the church office (724) 548-4312.

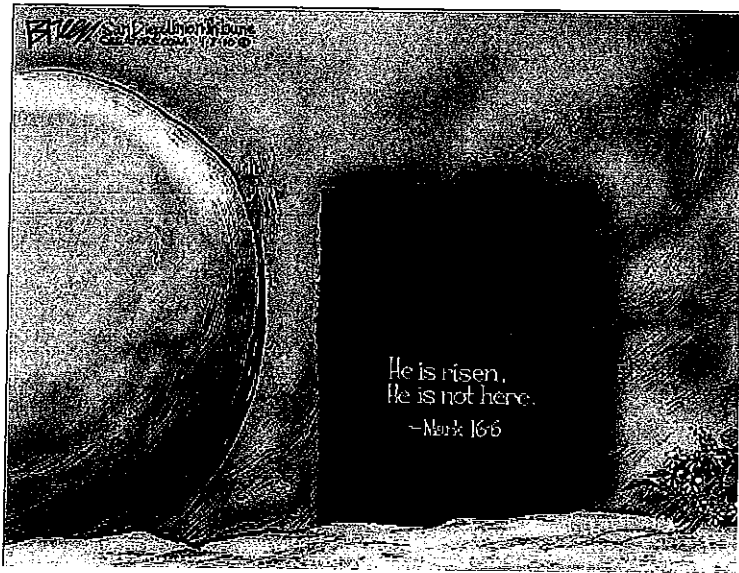


# April 2018

## Monthly Prayer Calendar

Consider how God is asking you to pray through these concerns.

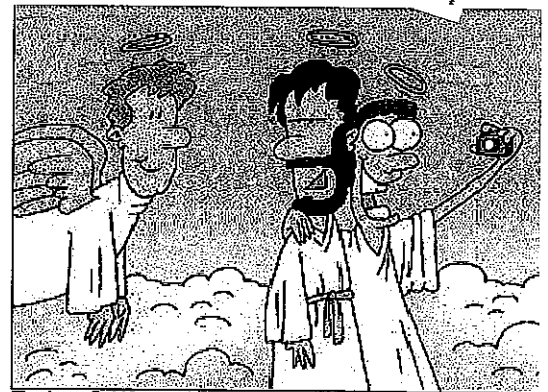
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Easter Sunday</b> Celebrate the risen Lord!	2 Pray for Pastor Wade and the entire First Church staff and their families!	3 Pray for the SPRC Team and the work they are doing.	4 Pray for everyone, by name, who has an April birthday or an April anniversary!	5 Pray for families that are homeless. Pray that they can find sustainable housing.	6 Pray for someone you know who struggles with depression.	7 Give thanks for Springtime! Get outside today!!
8 Read Psalm 133: Is there a word or phrase that is speaking to you?	9 Pray for yourself!	10 Pray for someone that struggles with financial problems.	11 Pray for the ARC Manor Spirituality Team and their work!	12 Pray for the older adults in our congregation and the community!	13 Pray for someone you know who has cancer.	14 Give thanks for Springtime! Go outside today and enjoy!
15 Read Psalm 4: Is there a word or phrase that is speaking to you?	16 Pray for the Finance Team!	17 <b>Tax Day!</b> If your taxes are finished, praise God! If you just finished, give God double praise!!	18 Start saving for next year's tax bill and pray for the finances of our church!	19 Pray for the S.I.F.T ministry!	20 Pray for someone you know who is struggling with Dementia or Alzheimer's disease.	21 Pray for John and Christine Zimmerman and the ministry of About Face Church Outreach Consultants!
22 Read Psalm 23: Is there a word or phrase that is speaking to you?	23 Pray for Bible School! June will be here before you know it.	24 There are four sections of pews in our sanctuary. Pray for the people that sit in the right section!	25 There are four sections of pews in our sanctuary. Pray for the people that sit in the right-center section!	26 There are four sections of pews in our sanctuary. Pray for the people that sit in the left-center section!	27 There are four sections of pews in our sanctuary. Pray for the people that sit in the left section!	28 If God answered your prayers today, would the answers to those prayers change anyone else's life except your own?
29 Pray for our District Superintendent, Rev. Jim Pondi!	30 Pray for our Bishop, Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koi Koi!					



"He's not in there! Oh, wait - he's changed his status to 'risen' "



Ever faithful Mary Magdalene.  
(Cartoon by Inherit the Mirth)



Thanks to Dad Hengeveld  
I'VE TRIED TO EXPLAIN THAT HE'S GOING TO BE WITH ME FOREVER, BUT HE JUST DOESN'T GET IT

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Carlee Beers
- 1 Jane Flick-96
- 1 Anna Mae Moffit-98
- 2 Matthew Rush
- 3 Jolena VanMeter
- 4 Jessica Wright
- 5 Bill Waters
- 9 Herb Coggon
- 10 Dennis Hoffman
- 11 Madeline Smith
- 12 Patty Bruno
- 12 Isaac Zielinski
- 13 Bill Hake
- 14 Mary Anne Hankey

- 15 Isabella Aires
- 15 Dante Aires
- 15 Tony Green
- 15 Emily King
- 15 Alyssa Krozely
- 16 Grace Kohl
- 19 Jane Shuttleworth
- 19 Meaghan Volek
- 20 Tom Scherf
- 22 Gregory "Mac" Toth
- 26 Kelly Aires
- 26 Linda Powell
- 27 Sally Felton
- 28 Robyn Green
- 30 Wyatt Green

## APRIL ANNIVERSARY

5 Gregory & Jalissa Jacobs 4 years

## APRIL SIFT LUCHEON

Thursday, April 19, 2018

12:00 PM

Covenant Center

PROGRAM: Walter Marr

MENU: Ham Loaf, Scallop Potatoes, Green Beans, Italian Bread, Dessert

Reservations due by Monday,

April 16th at noon.

### WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We extend our Christian compassion and concern to Joyce Shaner and her family on the death of her husband Paul W. Shaner. Paul passed away on September 24, 2017. He also was the father and grandfather of Kimberly (Shaner) Carlisle and Nicolette (Carlisle) Altemara. Paul also has a son Paul Shaner II of Lancaster, 3 grandsons, and 7 great-grandchildren.

## FRIDAY NIGHT CIRCLE

Thursday, April 12th

7:00 PM

Covenant Center

PROGRAM: Planning Your Estate, Part II w/ Laurel Hartshorn

## 2018 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

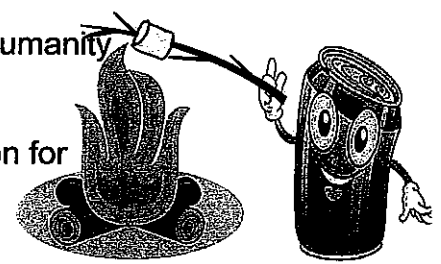
Our Vacation Bible School Aluminum Can collection for Habitat for Humanity continues: Cans received February 15th- March 15th—2,452

Total cans received since end of 2017 VBS—19,749

Thanks to all of you who saved, collected and brought in cans. Our collection for VBS 2018 continues-so-KEEP THEM COMING! Please continue or start saving aluminum cans (pop, tea, fruit juice, health drinks and beer cans). Drop them off at the church ramp anytime.

Thank you to the folks at ARC Manor for the 300 cans since February 15<sup>th</sup>. Just as we are in mission with ARC Manor on Wednesday afternoons, they are in mission with us for Habitat for Humanity.

Thank you, Can Man



## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY 2018

#### PRESCHOOL

- Caden King
- Jocelyn King
- Sue Hankey



#### 1ST AND 2ND GRADE

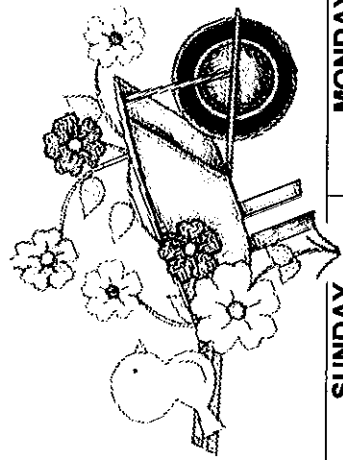
- Ashley Yankasky
- Audrey Green



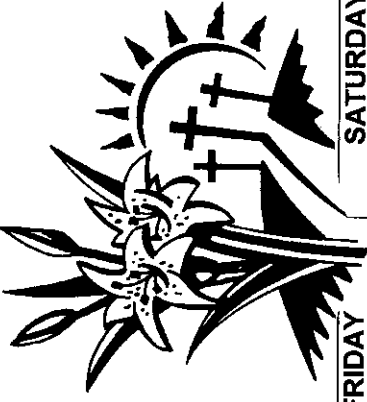
#### 3RD-6TH GRADE

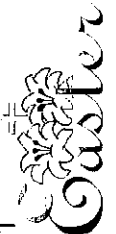










# APRIL



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>  9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<b>2</b> 8:30 AM CC Clean Team	<b>3</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Staff/Parish 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC	<b>4</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>5</b> 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30 AM Kelly Stover-CC 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Camp 43 -CC	<b>9</b> 	<b>10</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 6:30 PM Prayer Time 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC	<b>11</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>12</b> 7:00 PM Friday Night Circle	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<b>16</b> 3:00 PM Salvation Army-CC 6:30 PM Finance	<b>17</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>18</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>19</b> 12:00 PM SIFT-CC 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM Gienna Wilson-CC 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>22</b>  <b>Happy Earth Day</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<b>23</b> 7:00 PM Christian Education <b>NEWSLETTER</b>	<b>24</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC <b>FOOD BANK PICK-UP</b>	<b>25</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b> 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 1:00 AM Worship	<b>30</b>	