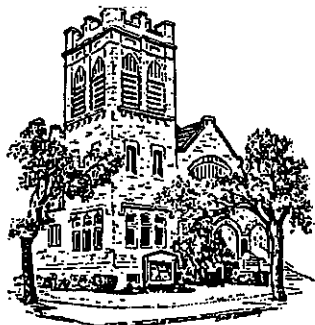
 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET  
KITTANNING PA 16201  
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

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U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
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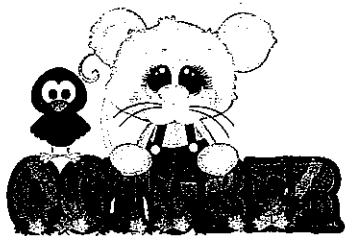
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*Monthly Messenger*



**SEPTEMBER 2018**



**NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE,  
TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2018**

**CHURCH STAFF**

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Deb Kociban  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Brenda Sommerville-Schall  
**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

PARSONAGE: 724-543-4808

E-MAIL: [fumchurch@windstream.net](mailto:fumchurch@windstream.net)

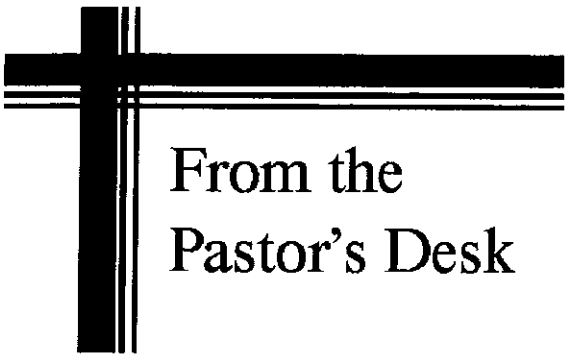
WEB SITE: [www.firstchurchkittanning.com](http://www.firstchurchkittanning.com)

FAX: 724-548-5157

RAINBOW ROAD: 724-548-7569



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



## From the Pastor's Desk

**“Now I take limitations in stride, and  
with good cheer...I just let Christ take over!  
And so, the weaker I get, the stronger I become.**

**2 Corinthians 12: 10    *The Message***

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I saw the broken lawn chairs on my brother's front porch. You know the ones. You see them everywhere. Those white resin outdoor chairs. Something had happened to these 2 though. Their back legs were shorter than their front legs. Useless, I thought. Of course, my brother kept them. I'm sure he thought they were good for something, but what?

Scholars have never been able to figure out what thorn in the flesh Paul had been dealing with. Yet in his second letter to the church in Corinth, Paul is coming to grips with it and is even reaching a sort of peace with it. Paul has discovered that when he is plagued by this thorny limitation, when he is feeling at his lowest and his weakest, he is then open to being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. When Paul allows the Spirit of Christ to take over, he becomes stronger than he ever thought possible. He becomes stronger to deal with his thorn and stronger to deal with the things of life. In Paul's weakness, the power of Christ can be seen by all and gives glory to God. All Paul had to do was to wait for the power of Christ to lift him up, to make him able to do what he was called to do for the kingdom of God.

How often do we feel unable to do the things that God has called us to do? We aren't smart enough, we don't know enough of the Bible, we can't speak in front of other, we have no gifts to speak of. Our list of thorns goes on as we try to convince Jesus that we are simply too weak to participate in the building of the kingdom of God when nothing could be further from the truth. We have each been created with unique gifts just waiting for us to activate them with the Spirit of Christ. When we do we will be able to fulfill the purpose that God has given us since before we were born.

During the month of August, my hometown of Williamsport becomes alive with visitors and players for the Little League World Series. When the locals attend the games, we do not usually sit in the stands. Instead we make our way to the hillside just outside the stadium to take in all that is happening on the field. Wouldn't you know it, those useless resin chairs on my brother's porch are suddenly called into service. The rear legs are purposely made shorter than the front legs so that when placed on the hillside the seat becomes perfectly level and you can watch the game in comfort. Those chairs wait all year until their weakness can be made strong when given the right support. They wait all year to fulfill the purpose for which they were created.

Church, we need not wait for a year to be able to fulfill the purpose that God has called us to through his son, Jesus. All we need to do is to ask for the power of Christ to fill us. All we need to do is to ask for the power of Christ to make us strong in our weakness. So, the next time we are tempted to begin our list of thorns, we need to remember to call upon the power of the Spirit and we will become who God has created us to be for the glory of God's kingdom.

Blessings  
Pastor Deb

# AUGUST WORSHIP

Lectionary Readings

## September 2, 2018

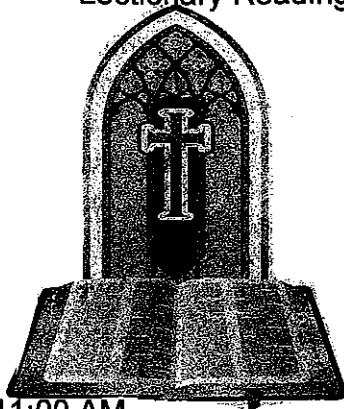
11:00 AM, Blessing of back packs  
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9  
Psalm 15, James 1:15-27  
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

## September 9, 2018

11:00 AM, Rally Day  
Isaiah 35:4-7a, Psalm 146,  
James 2:1-17. Mark 7:24-37

## September 30, 2018, 11:00 AM

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29, Psalm 19:7-14, James 5:13-20, Mark 9:38-50



## September 16, 2018

11:00 AM,  
Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 116:1-8,  
James 3:1-12, Mark 8:27-38

## September 23, 2018

11:00 AM,  
Jeremiah 11:18-20, Psalm 54,  
James 3:13-4:3. 7-8a. Mark 9:30-37

## WELCOME CENTER

2 Sarah Heckert  
9 Melissa Flanders  
16 Karen Scaife  
23 Beverly Patton  
30 Mary Jo Lipski



## READERS

2 Larry McKelvey  
9 Mary Jo Lipski  
16 Sarah Heckert  
23 Karen Scaife  
30 Mert Hellein



## USHERS

2 Albright/Dan Wolfe & Communion  
9 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski  
16 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski  
23 Epworth/Melissa Flanders  
30 Epworth/Melissa Flanders



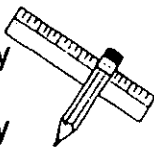
## SOUND SYSTEM

2 Gabe Smith  
9 Dave Yanoschick  
16 John Yankasky  
23 John Wolfe  
30 Tim Scaife



## COUNTERS

2 Coleman/Gallaher  
9 Ternent  
16 Yankasky  
23 Flanders  
30 McKelvey



## ACOLYTE

2 Isaac Zielinski  
9 Dane Dimond  
16 Joey Kachur  
23 Isaac Zielinski  
30 Dane Dimond



## BELL RINGERS

2 Chelsea Beers  
9 Caden King  
16 Jocelyn King  
23 Ashley Yankasky  
30 Madelyn Smith



## BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

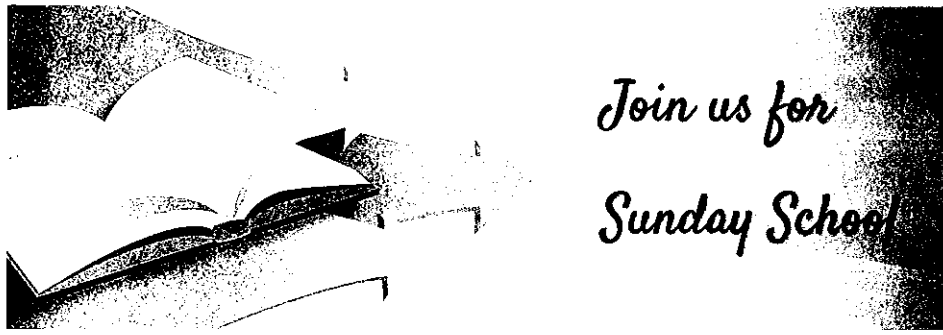
Join us Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> for a blessing of the backpacks. All school aged children are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship for a blessing to start the new school year.

## NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

Undoubtedly, the handicap ramp at First Church has become the most convenient way to enter the church. Whether coming from the Covenant Center or the parking lot, the ramp is the way to go! What was missing and often requested, was some shelter at the door. Happily, that situation will be corrected this month. A roof will be constructed over the top square. It will be lighted and provide proper drainage for rain. You now will have a sheltered place to open or fold your umbrella. Not to mention the fact that your can donations will stay dry!

An obvious question to arise is where will the money come from? It will be financed through memorial donations of recent years. The money that was thoughtfully given in memory of our well-loved deceased members will now provide shelter to each of you. Thank you for providing this long needed improvement to our church building.

Mary Jo Lipski, Trustees Chairperson



Join us for  
Sunday School



### Nursery

-The nursery is open during Sunday school for your children younger than 3 years. The children will be taken care of by Linda Powell.



--Children's Sunday school is upstairs. We have 3 classes. Preschool is taught by Sue Hankey; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is taught by Audrey Green and 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade is taught by Kelly Hoffman.



--I will be starting a new series in Sunday school...this series of Bible studies will take us deeper into our understanding and application of the Bible in our lives. All 7<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> graders welcome. The classroom is in the basement of our church and classes start the Sunday after Labor Day. Come and join the adventure.  
Melissa Flanders



### Adult Classes

--If you are interested in an adult Bible Study Sunday School Class, **The Wesleyan class** invites you to join with us. It is open to adults of all ages who are interested in learning more about what the Bible teaches us about Christian living—morals and values.

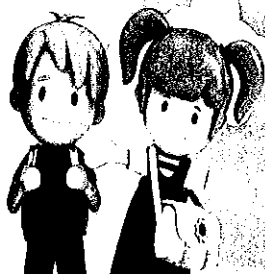
Our teachers are the Christian scholars and preachers who write our weekly lessons, they are the teachers. Jim Ternent leads in the class study and discussion. The subject of our new quarterly study (September-November) is "God's World and God's People" the study covers three segments:

1. God created the world-the goodness of the creation and how humankind chose to do wrong and introduced sin into God's perfectly created world.
2. God destroys and re-creates-the story of Noah and the flood and then God's restoration through Abraham and Sarah and Isaac and Rebecca.
3. God blesses and recreates regardless-how God blessed humble Isaac in enemy territory and how God blessed Jacob despite deceit but who later established a right relationship with God.

Interested? Come join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the front corner classroom in the Covenant Center by the restrooms and drinking fountains.

Hope to see you at Rally Day, September 9<sup>th</sup>-9:30 AM in the Covenant Center.

**Alternative Adult Class** is taught by Brad Hellein and they are in the big room in the Covenant Center.




-Children's Church will start Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. The children 3 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join Carolyn Gallaher right after the children's message in worship.

# Youth news

I am pleased to report that our July fundraiser with Subway brought in \$137.00. These funds will go towards our youth and enhancing their walk with Christ. Our next fundraising event will be in October. We will be selling a \$5.00 shopping pass and you will get 25% off any purchases on October 16<sup>th</sup>. This is a great bargain to everyone and our youth benefit.

Due to the overwhelming family activities, we were unable to set up an activity so far this summer. Working on having an Allegheny River Charge Youth Group, this would enable us to reach out to many more of our local youth.



**SIFT LUNCHEON**  
**Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:00 Noon**  
**Covenant Center**

**PROGRAM:** "Iceland Travelogue" by Mike Bowser

**MENU:** Ham Barbeque, Mac & Cheese, Watermelon, Dill pickles, Cookies.

Reservations due by  
Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at noon.



## ADULT CHOIR


Calling all those who like to sing: Please join us starting Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM for Adult Choir. We take everyone, so join in our fellowship and joy in praising God. Any questions, please contact Emily King at 724-664-0098.



## Dear ladies of First United Methodist Church,

We, the members of Union Avenue United Methodist women, would like to invite you to join our United Methodist Women. Our meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month except for months with a holiday falling on Monday and during the summer. The meetings are held at the Kittanning Cottages Community Room at 4:00 PM. Our next meeting will be September 10, 2018. Please come join us!

Yours Truly,  
Ellen Nelson, Secretary  
Union Ave. United Methodist Women



**FRIDAY NIGHT CIRCLE**  
**Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 PM**

**Covenant Center**

**PROGRAM:** Concordia-organize, downsize and declutter

**DEVOTIONS:** Bonnie Ferguson

**HOSTESSES:** Marlene Coleman,  
Alicia DiAnni



## 2019 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

Our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity continues:

Cans received (July 15-August 15) –2,084

Cans received since end of VBS 2018 (June 22) – 3,852



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 drink cans and to be in Mission with us.  
Thank you, The Can Man

*Dear Vacation Bible School & Jim Ternent,*

*Every year your Vacation Bible School impresses us with their continuing effort to raise money for Armstrong Habitat for Humanity. These children are truly an inspiration of what can be accomplished when you set a goal and see it through by working together as a team. Your \$601.86 contribution will go to the many houses we have on the schedule to rehab and will be used to help our organization provide decent and affordable housing for qualifying families throughout Armstrong County.*

*Your contribution is greatly appreciated and will help us in our efforts to make a difference in the lives of people living in Armstrong County.*

*Again, thank you for your generosity.*

*Sincerely, Michael McElhaney, Executive Director of Armstrong Habitat for Humanity*

## SEPTEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

The following books were purchased for our church's library in memory of Betty Good through a donation from June Pollard.

"13 Very Cool Stories & Why Jesus Told Them" by Mikal Keefer

"The Beatitudes for Children" by Rosemarie Gortler & Donna Piscitelli

"The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm" from the King James Bible; illustrated by Michael Hague

"Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah

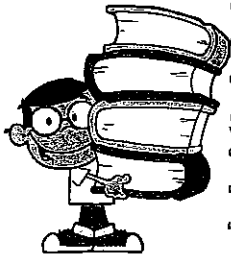
Several "Back To School" books have been donated by Mert Hellein:

"First Grade King" by Karen Lynn Williams

"The Teeny Tiny Teacher" by Stephanie Calmenson

"I Love School" by Philemon Sturges

"Bunny Loves to Write" by Peter Bentley



Children should learn that reading is a pleasure, not just something that teachers make you do in school-Beverly Cleary

Carol Wolfe, Librarian

Wow....What can I say about this year's show? I am so pleased with the show this year. I had Show sitters that were interactive with visitors and there was a lot of chatter about the artwork displayed. The actual number of pieces hung this year was down, but that did not stop this from being a successful show. We sold 17 pieces of artwork and gave out \$805 of prize money, included in that is the newest award for First Time Exhibitor. The People's Choice award was given to Alexandra Coggon of Worthington for the painting "Flyboy".

Melissa Flanders



JUST A LITTLE  
*Reminder*

Have you remembered First Church in your will? What a powerful way to recognize God's goodness in a lasting way.

## OPPORTUNITIES AT FORD MEMORIAL UMC

Soup & Sandwich dinner, every Thursday from 4:00-6:00 PM. Free, donations accepted.  
Food Bank and Care & Share Shop 2<sup>nd</sup> and last Tuesday of month from 10:00-1:30 PM.

## SEPTEMBER MISSIONS FOCUS



The **SEPTEMBER MISSION** focus will be in 2 parts:

**\*Part 1-**Our church family will collect the **3 remaining items for the UMCOR hygiene Kits:**

1. **Bath-sized soap-** Not Ivory or Jergens due to moisture amounts. Do not remove the soap bar from the original packaging. Must be at least 3oz or larger.
2. **Combs-** must have at least 6" of teeth. No pocket combs or hair picks.
3. **Toenail or Fingernail Clippers-**Do not remove from original packaging.

These hygiene items will join the 5 items we collected last month and be taken to the Eastbrook Mission Barn in New Castle. These will be assembled into kits by volunteers and sent out to persons in need.

**\*Part 2-**Nearly 20 volunteers from our church family will participate in the **Rise Against Hunger** project on **Saturday, September 22 at the Vandergrift UMC**. We still have a few more openings, so if you are interested, contact Janet McKelvey. Our church family has contributed \$1150.00 to this event. Six neighboring churches will share their money and participate to make this effective project a success.

Our **COMMUNITY FOOD BANK** continues to pick up our contributions of boxed food, peanut butter and canned goods every month. Remember to bring your items in for this great need. **FOOD BANK** containers are at each church doorway.

Many thanks from your Mission Team! God Bless!  
Janet McKelvey, Kathy Piechowicz and Meaghan Volek



## FOLK FESTIVAL 2018

Folk Festival 2018 had results for us that were very similar to the Festival in 2017. Total sales in 2018 were \$15033 while in 2017 they were \$15366. Along with some funds remaining from fish dinners, \$10,378.50 was put into church funds. In addition to this, another \$1205 was contributed by the trustees through their efforts in parking cars.

Once again, I wish to thank everyone who helped in any way. This is not a project that can be done by only a few people. Thank you to those who contributed to, baked, provided and prepared the pies. The pies are indeed a large part of what we sell. Thank you to those who contribute countless hours year after year to this project as well as those who helped for the first time. Thank you to those who came to eat. I want to send a special thank you to the people from the other churches on the Allegheny River Charge and those who are friends of our own church members who helped by providing pies, working in the booth, and doing countless other things that needed done.

While the festival has become an important part of our church finances, I believe the real blessings of the festival come from the time spent talking to others, the opportunity to get to know each other just a little bit better and the satisfaction of working together on a common goal.

Tim Scaife – Activities chairman



I wish to thank everyone whom helped with the Art Show and/or worked the food booth out front. This is a large undertaking and requires a lot of people to make it a success. I truly enjoyed this year's festival, due to the fact that so many people stepped up and signed up early and others saying yes when I called. I also want to thank those whom volunteered from the Allegheny River Charge. We are all disciples of Christ and are here to service God and outreach to the community. We can be a force for God if we work together. Thanks again and see you next year.

Melissa Flanders

## September BIRTHDAYS

2 Jean Wolfe  
 4 Patricia Snow  
 6 Bradley McKinney  
 7 Justin Snow  
 8 David Kohl  
 8 Keith Williamson  
 9 Hallie Hoffman  
 10 Christian Zier  
 11 Jill Kohl  
 11 Carol Wolfe  
 11 Tim Volek



15 Kelly Gaughan  
 19 Scott Hogamier  
 20 Leah Hogamier  
 24 Pamela Scaife  
 24 Crystal Zier  
 26 Bobbi Williamson  
 27 Jennifer Hellein  
 27 Becky McKinney  
 29 Vince Bruno  
 29 Olivia Green  
 29 Mandy Podvorec



**September Anniversaries**  
 9 Joe & Bonnie Bowser—52  
 19 Jeff & Steph Hankey—9  
 19 Keith & Lora Williamson—31  
 Tim & Cindy Volek  
 26 Bernie & Audrey Green—37





We celebrated the Baptism of Kenneth James Elwood on Sunday, July 22, 2018. Kenneth was born October 20, 2017 to Erin and Kenneth Elwood.



*Baptized*

We celebrated the baptism of Emily Rose Corbin on Sunday, July 29, 2018. Emily was born on March 17, 2006 to Jessica Corbin.

### We extend our Christian compassion and concern to

-  Chet (Pastor Brenda) Schall on the death of his father, Victor E. Schall. Victor passed away on Friday, July 27, 2018.
-  Ryan Bish and his family on the death of his step-father, Robert Mack. Robert passed away on Monday, August 13, 2018.
-  Dennis and David Luke on the death of their mother, Mary Jane Luke. Mary Jane passed away on Friday, August 17, 2018. Mary Jane served on numerous church committees, sang in the church choir and taught Sunday school. She was the mother of David and Dennis (Debbie) Luke. She will be missed.
-  Patricia Crawford and her family on the death of her daughter, Natasha Visnesky. Natasha passed away on Thursday, August 16, 2018.

## Special Thanks

Dear Patton/Elgin Memorial Scholarship Committee,

Thank you very much for selecting me as a recipient of the Patton/Elgin Memorial Scholarship. The generosity of this award greatly helps to reduce my student loan debt as I pursue my goal of becoming a pediatrician. I just recently finished my first year of medical school at WVU School of Medicine, and I am currently participating in a 4-week pediatrics externship at WVU's Ruby Memorial Hospital. I have greatly enjoyed my time in the externship thus far as it has further solidified my desire to specialize in pediatrics. I am very happy with my decision to pursue medicine, and I wanted to thank you for your generous gift and continued support of my journey to become a physician.

Best, Noelle Lemons

Wanted to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, cards and visits to the funeral home on the passing of my father-in-law, Victor Schall.

Pastor Brenda

I wish to THANK my FUMC friends who sent me so many beautiful birthday cards on my 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday with your added messages that meant so much to me.


Also, I want to THANK all the pie bakers and pie workers who helped keep the refrigerator in our booth supplied with our "famous pies" at festival time. All of you made my job easier.









June Pollard





# SEPT 2023

WELCOME  BACK  
Sundayschool

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2 Backpack Blessings</b> 9:30 AM Jim-Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion	<b>3 1000 Day</b>	<b>4</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 5:00 PM Work Night 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 6:39 PM Trustees 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC	 10:00 AM Clergy Communitites-Library 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter		<b>8</b> 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>9 RALLY DAY</b> 9:30 AM Continental Breakfast-CC 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Camp 43-CC	<b>10</b> 7:00 PM Nurture, Outreach & Witness	<b>11</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 6:00 PM Prayer Time 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC	<b>12</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Friday Night Circle-CC	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>16</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<b>17</b> 8:00 AM One 2 Ones 6:30 PM Finance 7:00 PM Church Council	<b>18</b> 8:30 AM 3R's 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>19</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir 7:00 PM Nominations Team	<b>20</b> 12:00 PM SJFT Luncheon 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter		<b>22</b> Stop Hunger Now- Vandergrift
<b>23</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<b>24</b> <b>NEWSLETTER</b>	<b>25</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>26</b> 3:45 PM ARC Manor 6:00 PM Adult Choir	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:30 PM We Surrender-CC
<b>30</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship						

**Family Movie Night**

**328 N. Water St. Kittanning  
(Covenant Center Side  
Yard)**



**Friday August 31, 2018**

**8:00pm**

**Ferdinand**

**Bring a blanket or chairs, sit back and  
relax**

**Rain or Shine**

**(Will be held in Covenant Center if raining)**

**Free  
Event**

**Sponsored by the First United Methodist  
Church**

**FREE Popcorn  
and Root Beer  
Floats**





# RALLY DAY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

**(This is not just for the people who attend  
Sunday School, but for everyone.)**

The All Church Rally Day breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 9, 2018 at 9:30 AM in the Covenant Center. (We will have a shortened Sunday school from 10:00-10:30 on the 9th.)

We are looking for donations of Coffee Cake, Muffins, Fruit, Bagels & Cream Cheese, Donut holes, Juice and Milk. Please sign up by Sunday, September 2nd by filling out the form below or calling/e-mailing the church office. 724-548-4312 or [fumchurch@windstream.net](mailto:fumchurch@windstream.net)

(You don't have to sign-up to come, just trying to get a head count)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

I will donate the following item:

\_\_\_\_\_

