

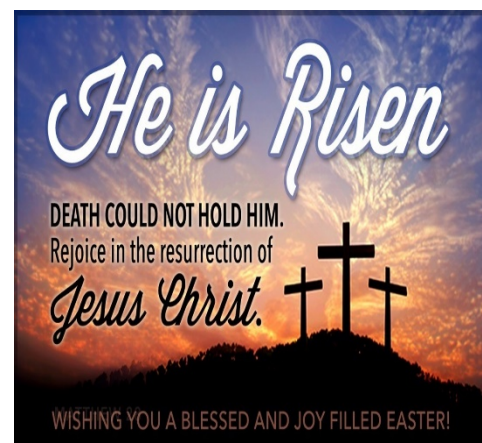


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
KITANNING PA 16201
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID
KITANNING PA 16201
PERMIT NO 14



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dayton Mix
Cell Phone: 724-718-2997
E-mail: pastordayton@gmail.com

Pastor: Terri Wells
Cell Phone: 814-952-4695
E-mail: terriwells53@aol.com



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: fordmemorialchurch@gmail.com

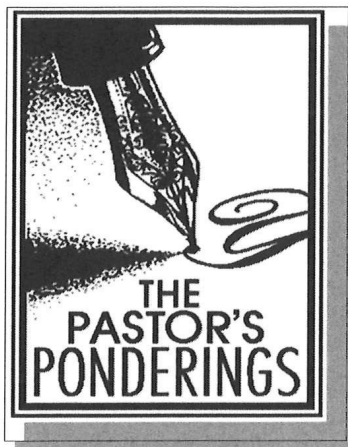
Manorville United Methodist Church-P.O. Box 174, 800 Water Street, Manorville PA 16238
Worship 9:45 AM
Email: mumc@windstream.net 724-763-1254

Union Avenue United Methodist Church-421 Union Ave, Kittanning PA 16201
724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please get articles to Audrey no later than
SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024. Thank you.





Rev. Dayton D. Mix

“Fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you... For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.”

—The apostle Paul in II Timothy 1:6-7

One of the best parts of camping when I was growing up was the campfire. There's something entrancing, it seems, about sitting around a fire. The fire was our focus, and because of it we can see all around us in the light of those flames. That fire was the place where we were warmed. The camaraderie was around the fire, because that's where we talked and told stories and pondered the deep questions of life... as well as some storytelling.

In my spiritual walk, that campfire has been replaced by the church family, specifically, FOUR congregations! It's akin to having four relatives all living on the same street. Each one is part of “home” and “family.” It is my hope that each of our congregations is a place where we can be warmed spiritually as we praise and pray together. The church is intended to be a place to safely

come together with others in a “fellowship” where we enjoy the camaraderie, explore the deep questions of life, deepen our faith and relationship with Christ, and are able to find our focus again. We should be able to see the dark world around us more clearly because of the light of our “fire.”

In the physical campfires of my youth, the flame would occasionally burn low, and the fire would appear to be in danger of going out. Yet, with a gentle blowing on the embers, I could “fan the flame” and reignite the fire that was still there. In the Scripture passage above, we are called to do that same thing with the “fire” of our faith and of our churches. We are to fan the flame. But how do we actually do that?

First of all, in our personal faithwalk, as spiritual descendants of John Wesley, we recognize the “fanning the flame” that comes from the spiritual disciplines of daily prayer, daily Bible reading, Bible study, fasting, church attendance, communion, tithing, giving to the needy, and personal self-examination of our own hearts and our motives.

Secondly, what can we as individuals do to keep the flame burning brightly? To stick with our campfire image, let me ask this: Is it enough to fan the flames of the campfire when there are no more logs to use as fuel for the fire? Of course not. The fire needs more than just “fanning,” it needs fuel.

I believe this passage tells us that God has already taken care of the fuel, by giving us the spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline. That's the fuel for the fire. The *spark* that starts the fire is the power of God Almighty, through the blood of Jesus Christ; the power to resist evil, take authority in His name, and to enter boldly into the very throneroom of our Heavenly Father. The *kindling* that catches fire first, is our self-discipline. We accept Christ and He begins to affect the way we make choices and the way we behave. But the *logs*, the fuel that keeps the fire burning is the love; the way we relate to the others around us.

In His book, The Five Love Languages, author Gary Chapman writes that people express and understand that we are loved in five different ways. For some, they really know you love them when you spend quantities of *time* with them. For others it might be the *gifts*, or the *physical touch*. *Affirming words* or *acts of service* might make the difference for others. Chapman applies these ideas to both marriages and parenting. I want to extend that to those of us in the church... because I believe each one of us has a “log” from each of those five love areas that we can choose to put onto the fires of our congregational “fire.” And if we are to keep the flame burning, we need to avoid stacking our logs up for ourselves, out of reach of the fire, but rather give them up and put them into use in the midst of the fire... by sharing them with each other.

How can you and I use the “log” of our *time* to show each other love? How about the “logs” of giving *gifts* or doing things to *serve* each other and the church? Are our *words* affirming, building people up with encouragement? Can we be real enough with each other to actually *touch*... whether in a hug or as a shoulder to cry on...? God has already given us each one of these “logs” as a gift. As we share them, the fire will grow brighter and warmer. Throw another log on the fire... and fan the flame!

Pastor Dayton

MARCH LECTIONARY READING

March 3, 2024

3rd Sunday in Lent

*Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19,
1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22*

March 10, 2024

4th Sunday in Lent, UMCOR Sunday

*Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22,
Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21*



March 17, 2024

5th Sunday in Lent

*Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12,
Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33*

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

*Mark 11:1-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29,
Philippians 2:5-11, Mark 14:1-15:47*

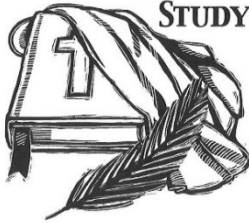
March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

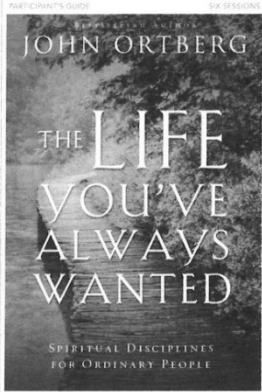
*Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18
or Mark 16:1-8*

What does true spiritual life really look like? What keeps you from living such a life? What can you do to pursue it? If you're tired of of the status quo... if you suspect there's more to Christianity than what you've experienced, then join us each Wednesday through Lent!

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY



We'll be using the "PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE." Pastor Dayton has some available at \$7.00 each or you can order your own.



WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 am at Ford Memorial UMC & 7:00 pm First UMC

**Allegheny River UM Charge
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
MARCH 16, 2024**

9:00 am

**at the Library of First UMC
(3001 N. Jefferson, Kittanning)**

Donuts and coffee provided.
J.B. Boarts will share his experience and testimony from his time serving in the Navy during Vietnam.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Tuesday, Evening KMA Lenten Worship Services

7:00 PM

Date	Host congregation	Preacher
March 5	St. Luke's U.C.C.	
March 12	First United Methodist Church	The Rev. Brandon Cooper
March 19		The Rev. Carl Johnson

Wednesday KMA Luncheon Schedule

Noon at Grace Presbyterian

Date	Congregation	Devotions
March 6	St. Paul's Episcopal	The Rev. Brandon Cooper
March 13	St. Mary's Roman Catholic	Father Eric J. Dinga
March 20	First Baptist	The Rev. Jeffrey Smith



Community Good Friday Service will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church at noon. Rev. Jeffrey Smith, First Baptist, will preach.

CHARGE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY-7:00 PM at Manorville UMC

GOOD FRIDAY-7:00 PM at Union Avenue UMC

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE-7:00 AM at Ford Memorial UMC-breakfast will follow the service.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES-Each church will have their regularly scheduled Easter Sunday service.





FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

FISH DINNERS



First Church will serve our Lenten Fish Dinners starting on Friday February 16. Cost of the dinner will be \$12.00 with a child's meal being \$5.00. Meal will include choice of fried or baked fish, choice of curly fries, baked potato, or macaroni & cheese, coleslaw or applesauce, roll and pie. Dinners will be served from 4:30 – 6:00. Takeout will be available. We hope to serve dinners on each Friday, March 1-March 22. We will be looking for pies, help and hungry people!

2024 ALTAR FLOWERS

We have many dates still available for altar flowers. They are \$25.00. Please let Audrey know if you would like a week. Thank You



April 21 & 28
June 9 & 30
July 21
November 3 & 17
December 15

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

VBS the week of June 17-21 from 9:00 AM to Noon.
Open to everyone from ages 3 years thru 6th grade.
The theme this year is **CAMP FIRELIGHT**
A Summer Camp Adventure with God.
Based on Psalm 56:3

*Whenever I'm **afraid**, I put my trust in **You**.*

*"As always we will be looking for MUCH HELP and many students" with
"Crew Leaders, Craft and Snack helpers are needed.
Please see Sue Hankey or call the church office if you are able to help".*



2024 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

We continue our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity

Cans Received January 15th—February 15th—6,336

Total cans received through February 15th—42,170

Many thanks to everyone who is saving aluminum cans and bringing them to the church-at the ramp at the back of the church. Please save cans from soft drinks, juice, power drinks, tea, beer, cat food-**Aluminum only-NOT "TIN CANS"**, food, soup, etc.

Thank you, The Can Man, Jim Ternent

Correction to last month: Jim reports he has had some help in counting the cans at times !



COUNT SINCE 1 MILLION CANS:

11,648

NEW CAN TOTAL

1, 011,648



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

SOUND SYSTEM

3 Yankasky
10 Gabe Smith
17 Beers/Yankasky
24 Tim King
31 Yankasky



COUNTERS

3 Yankasky
10 Bureau
17 McKelvey
24 Scaife
31 Ferguson



ACOLYTES

3 Hallie Hoffman
10 Ashley Yankasky & Carlee Beers
17 Maddie Smith & Jocelyn King
24 Caden King
31 Caitlyn Kachur



BELL RINGERS

3 Elizabeth Mix
10 Jocelyn King
17 Caden King
24 Chris Hankey
31 Emersyn McGregor



WELCOME CENTER

3 Sarah Heckert
10 Melissa Bureau
17 Karen Scaife
24 Bev Patton
31 Mary Jo Lipski

SCRIPTURE READER

3 Sue Hankey
10 Janey McKelvey
17 Ray Johnson
24 Karen Scaife
31 Larry McKelvey



USHERS

3 Oxford/Mark Ferguson
10 Oxford/Mark Ferguson
17 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski
24 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski
31 Epworth/Melissa Bureau

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3 Terri Wells
4 Glenn Krozely
6 Trenton Podvorec
7 Dan Cornman
12 Linda Cornman
20 Franklin Tarr
21 Janessa Shriver
21 Gabi Zielinski
22 Larry McKelvey
25 Lorie Williamson
27 Bob Buzzinotti
27 Tim Scaife



MARCH ANNIVERSARY

27 Tony & Robyn Green-14 years



MARCH SIFT LUNCHEON



The March SIFT Luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at noon in the Covenant Center.

The menu will be choice of Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup or Stuffed Pepper Soup, Crackers, Jell-o Salad, and Sherbet.

The program will be Traveling with Mary Jo Lipski. Reservations will be accepted from Monday, March 1st through Noon, Monday, March 18th.

You will need to give a name for each reservation along with a **soup choice**.

Reservations are limited to 75. Please call to cancel as there may be a waiting list. Please use the parking lot door. See you there!

MARCH MISSION



Our church continues to support the battle to defeat world hunger through the program **RISE AGAINST HUNGER**. We will collect money during March to pay for our church's contribution to this year's packing event. In the past these packets (which provide nutritious meals for up to six people) are distributed to impoverished communities and areas effected by natural disasters. If you are unable to contribute monetarily at this time, we will be looking for volunteers to help with this year's packing event in September. Please prayerfully consider helping.



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

THANK YOU'S



First United Methodist Church,

Thank you all so much for your cards, messages, and prayers during this difficult time in my life. I've appreciated all of them. It's been a long road to recovery, but I'm finally starting to feel better. It was great to see you all at Christmas. I hope to see you soon.

Stephanie Curtiss

Dear First Church Family,

You may not think it's much, but every kind thing you've done is very appreciated. It might have been a prayer, a text or phone call or even a card-but it was important to us. Darwin's long, arduous journey is over but your kindness remains. Thank you! 1 Thessalonians 5:18 Give thanks in all circumstances.

Sincerely, Lynn Haught & family



FIRST CHURCH EASTER FLOWERS EASTER FLOWERS 2024 **(ALL ORDERS DUE BY SUNDAY, March 10th)** **NO LATE ORDER**

ORDER FORM

_____ **\$14.00** Easter Lily (1 stem, 4-6 blooms)
_____ \$9.00 Hyacinth (Assorted colors 3 blooms)
_____ \$9.00 Tulips (Assorted Colors, 6 Blooms)
_____ \$9.00 Miniature Daffodils

I Wish to order _____ plant(s) \$ _____ Total Order

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR (AND)

IN HONOR OF: _____

GIVEN BY _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Last day to order—

SUNDAY, March 10, 2024

NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED!

PAYMENT IS NEEDED AT TIME OF ORDER





FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

RAINBOW ROAD OUTREACH

The Rainbow Road Outreach Committee is planning a luncheon and Easter egg hunt for the Rainbow Road families on **Sunday, March 24 at 12:30** in the Covenant Center. This will also include an Easter message for the families attending. We would appreciate food and candy donations and help with the luncheon and egg hunt. We will also be filling the eggs after church on Sunday, March 17 in the Library Room. Please watch your bulletin for details and see Kim Yankasky to sign up to help! This is another opportunity for our church to reach out to people in our community to share Jesus and His love with them. Please join us!



FORD MEMORIAL LINK PAGE

CARE AND SHARE

This march, Care & Share will be re-opening, alongside the Ford City Food Bank. In our basement from 10:00-Noon, on the second Friday of every month.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Grace Kamer
21 Eva Say
22 Abby Skillen
27 Beulah Mitchell



UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Joyce Martin
7 Jodie Martin
12 Marlene Bowser
29 Earl Wissinger



MARCH ANNIVERSARY

8 Bruce & Donna Shaffer-49 years





UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

UNION AVENUE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The February 5, 2024 meeting of the Union Ave. United Women in Faith was held in the community room of the Kittanning Cottages with 7 in attendance. The meeting opened with the reading of the Purpose of the United Women in Faith led by Vice President Donna Shaffer. Hostess: Donna Shaffer; Devotions: Donna Shaffer-things haven't changed; Minute Missions: Ellen Nelson-Feeding Children in Illinois.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read with a correction to the secretary's report. We made menstrual hygiene kits for UMCOR, not hygiene kits. No further corrections were made. The reports stand as read.

Old Business:

Thank you received from the following:

1. Progressive Workshop for monetary donation
2. Salvation Army for monetary donation
3. Community Action Agency for gifts for a family for Christmas and also for a monetary donation.
4. Blessings in a backpack. Items collected are distributed in our own area.
5. UMCOR for the menstrual hygiene kits

Requests received for a donation for Child Evangelism and Henderson House will table until next meeting.

New Business: Do we want to sell hoagie coupons? Yes. Peggy will get for us.

Motion made and passed to pay our pledge for 2024 on local group with and additional \$10.00 for postage.

Lynn will check on a local group called Connections to see if we would want to help them.

Food Bank @ the Presbyterian Church in Kittanning-did not have much at the last distribution. A motion was made to donate \$100.00 for canned items for the food bank. Motion passed and Donna Shaffer will purchase and deliver.

Who would we like to donate to in the future? Ramps of Hope and the Ruth M. Smith Home.

A suggestion was made to have an old fashioned "Tea" for our May meeting since we don't have a Mother/Daughter banquet. Donna Shaffer will get information and we will discuss at our next meeting.

Meeting closed with the reading of the Prayer of the United Women in Faith. The next meeting will be March 4, 2024. All are welcome.

Secretary, Ellen Nelson

THANK YOU'S



Your generous spirit has made this holiday season extraordinary! Your sponsorship of a family in our 30th Ammia; Adopt-A-Family Holiday Project has brought joy and warmth to their hearts.

With heartfelt gratitude, ACCAP Holiday Project Committee



Thank you for bringing joy and hope to neighbors in need through your support of The Salvation Army. You are a blessing.

Lts. Austin & Yolimar Oberg

UA United Women in Faith- we want to convey our appreciation for your generous contribution to the Armstrong County community Action Partnership. Your support of \$200.00 is met with kindness and generosity.

Marlene Petro



UA United Women in Faith-thank you for your contribution of 50 feminine hygiene kits for UMCOR in 2023. Thank you for your continued support for our capital campaign.

Katie Peterson

UA United Women in Faith-thank you for your incredibly generous gift to Blessings of \$200.00. Thank you for letting kids be kids-without the worry of being hungry.

Erin Kerr





MANORVILLE LINK PAGE

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM -

Easter will be celebrated on March 31st this year. Your Manorville Worship committee is encouraging you to place your order but you can assign your donation to the Ruth M. Smith Center instead. Please indicate your preference below. Order form and donation need to be to Nancy Busch no later than March 10, 2024.

We will have silk Easter lilies at the foot of the cross. **(Because of some people's severe allergies, this would be especially considerate as well as helping out the Ruth M. Smith Center.)**

* * * * *

I (We) wish to order the following plants. Please indicate quantities.

Easter lily - 4 - 6 bloom \$14.00 _____

Tulip - 6 bloom \$ 9.00 _____

(red, yellow, pink, purple, white, orange) (circle choice)

Mini or Regular Daffodil \$ 9.00 (circle choice) _____

Hyacinths - 3 bloom - blue, pink, white, mix \$9.00 (circle choice) _____

TOTAL \$ _____



Instead of flowers I (we) wish to donate to the Ruth M. Smith Center.

\$ _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Last day to order is March 31st. Checks should be payable to "Manorville UMC". Give to Nancy Busch.

Financial Counters

March 3 - JB & Jack

March 10 - Mike & Lu

March 17 - Nancy & Nancy

March 24 - Steve & Lu

March 31 - Steve & Lu



Birthdays at Manorville

4 - John Welch

11 - Sheelagh Bonomo

14 - James Warren Snyder 2019

15 - Luella Bennett

21 - Doris Schmela

25 - Ashley Zolocsik

27 - Leia Maria Wolfe (JB's g/dau)

30 - Lois Hawk

31 - Elly Lucia Russelburg 2010



UMCOR Sunday is March 10, 2024. This is the Special offering that underwrites UMCOR's "cost of doing business" making it possible for UMCOR to focus on responding to communities and individuals when they need immediate assistance. It allows UMCOR to preserve the promise that 100% of any donation to a specific UMCOR project or missionary will go toward that project and not administrative cost. UMCOR provides hope for communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by war, storms or other crises. Last year, your generosity (through Nov. 2023) delivered \$1.5 million for direct ministry to persons in need. (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Anniversaries at Manorville

3 - Andrew & Pam Snyder

20 - Ed & Lorraine Zielinski



Easter

Matthew 27 - 28, John 19 - 20



ANGELS
APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
BLOOD

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

MARY
NAILS
PASSOVER
PIECES OF SILVER

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

CALVARY
CROSS
CROWN OF THORNS
CRUCIFIXION
DARKNESS
DEATH
EARTHQUAKE
EASTER
GOLGOTHA
HIGH PRIEST
JESUS CHRIST
JOSEPH
JUDAS ISCARIOT
KING
LAMB

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

PIERCED
PILATE
RESURRECTION
ROBE
ROMANS
SACRIFICE
SIMON OF CYRENE
SOLDIERS
SON OF GOD
SPEAR
STONE
TEMPLE
THIEVES
THREE DAYS
TOMB