



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

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**ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE**

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 Cell Phone: 814-952-4695  
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**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](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:** [fordmemorialchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fordmemorialchurch@gmail.com)

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

Worship 9:45 AM

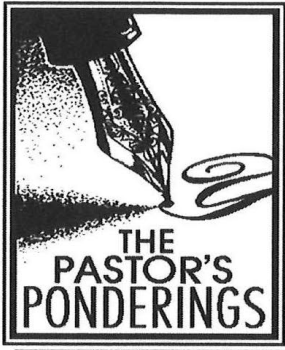
**Email:** [mumc@windstream.net](mailto:mumc@windstream.net) 724-763-1254

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

724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM

**MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
 Please get articles to Audrey no later than  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024.** Thank you.





Rev. Dayton D. Mix

## *“Stand In The Gap”*

*Fed up, God decided to get rid of them— and except for Moses, his chosen, he would have. But Moses stood in the gap and deflected God’s anger, prevented it from destroying them utterly.”*  
— Psalm 106:23 (*Message*)

*“I looked for someone to stand up for me against all this, to repair the defenses of the city, to take a stand for me and stand in the gap to protect this land so I wouldn’t have to destroy it. I couldn’t find anyone. Not one.”* —Ezekiel 22:30 (*Message*)

Oh God, how many times are we, your chosen people in this day and age, the very ones you’re waiting for so that we can “stand in the gap” to turn away your anger like Moses did? Like you kept wanting someone to do in Ezekiel’s day, and you never did find someone who would do that?

Is this the explanation of how it is that you could “change your mind” in the Old Testament stories? I wonder if in every situation where people faced Your judgment, that it was always your intention to grant mercy to them IF someone would simply “stand in the gap” in order to “turn away your anger.” The judgment is deserved, but you’d rather offer grace and mercy and forgiveness... if someone would just intervene and intercede.

You judged the people in the desert and they deserved to die...but Moses intervened, he stepped in and pleaded desperately for them... and for his sake, you showed them mercy. You didn’t give them what they really deserved....

You judged the people in Ezekiel’s day and sent Ezekiel with your message and kept waiting for someone on the receiving end of that message to step in and plead for mercy for your people... and no one did... and so the judgment was carried out.

Today, the world around us clearly has walked away from your ways. If you’re truly a righteous and just God, then You have to judge us... our people, our land, our nation... You’ve sent your warnings. Is the seeming pause we sense just a God-given chance for us, your chosen people, to “stand in the gap” and plead for our friends and neighbors and relatives? To plead for mercy? To pray for forgiveness?

O God... we modern American Christians are more likely to condemn those around us than we are to be an advocate for them. We see their sin and think “God’ll get you for that!”

We are SO wrong! Forgive us O God and change our wicked hearts! Give us the compassion and love of Moses that he felt for his friends and neighbors and relatives. Teach us to stand in the gap!

*Pastor Dayton*

# APRIL LECTIONARY READING

April 7, 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

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



April 21, 2024

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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

April 14, 2024

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Native American Ministries Sunday

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

April 28, 2024

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31,  
1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8



## FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

### SOUND SYSTEM

7 Gabe Smith  
14 Beers/Yankasky  
21 Tim King  
28 John Yankasky



### COUNTERS

7 Ternent  
14 Yankasky  
21 Bureau  
28 McKelvey



### ACOLYTES

7 Evva Yanoschick & Chelsea Beers  
14 Elizabeth Mix & Jocelyn King  
21 Ryan Bish  
28 Hallie Hoffman



### BELL RINGERS

7 Elizabeth Mix  
14 Caden King  
21 Jocelyn King  
28 Chris Hankey



### WELCOME CENTER

7 Sarah Heckert  
14 Melissa Bureau  
21 Karen Scaife  
28 Beverly Patton



### SCRIPTURE READER

7 Lynn Haught  
14 Carolyn Hancock  
21 Larry McKelvey  
28

### USHERS

7 Epworth/Melissa Bureau  
14 Oxford/Mark Ferguson  
21 Oxford/Mark Ferguson  
28 Albright/Dan Wolfe

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

**VBS** the week of June 17-21 from 9:00 AM to Noon.

Open to everyone from ages 3 years thru 6<sup>th</sup> 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 February 15th—March 15th—4,655*

*Total cans received through March 15th—46,825*

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

**COUNT SINCE 1 MILLION CANS: 16,303**

**NEW CAN TOTAL**

**1,016,303**





# FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES



## THE CHOSEN

Season 4 of "The Chosen" will be on the app soon, but there is a delay. As soon as we have a date for the app release, I will announce when we can show "The Chosen" at church once again. Please watch your bulletin for further information.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Carlee Beers         | 15 Tony Green            |
| 2 Matthew Rush         | 15 Emily King            |
| 4 Mark Ferguson        | 16 Alyssa Krozely        |
| 5 Bill Waters          | 19 Jane Shuttleworth-100 |
| 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-90       |
| 14 Mary Anne Hankey-92 | 28 Robyn Green           |
| 15 Isabella Aires      | 30 Wyatt Green           |
| 15 Dante Aires         | 30 Lynn Sibley           |



## APRIL ANNIVERSARY

3 Jeff & Pam Shaffer-53 years

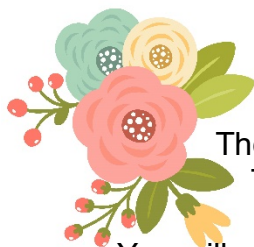


We extend our Christian compassion and concern to:

~Beverly Patton and the family on the death of her husband, John Lee Patton. John passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

~The family of James Miles Milliron. James passed away on November 4, 2023. He was the father to Kirsten (Chip) Echnoz and James Milliron. Grandfather to Elle Echnoz & Herik & Inga Milliron.

## APRIL SIFT LUNCHEON



The April SIFT Luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at noon in the Covenant Center.

The menu will be Ham loaf, parsley potatoes, green beans, rolls & butter, cake.

The program will be Music with Ken Burkett. Reservations will be accepted from Monday, April 1st through Noon, Monday, April 15th.

You will need to give a name for each reservation.

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!

## SUMMER MUSIC

We are looking for people willing to provide special music for our summer worship services (11:00 at FUMC) from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Please contact Emily King 724-664-0098 if you are interested.







# FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



The applications for the Margaret M. Patton/Jean Elgin Memorial Scholarships is available in the church office. In order to qualify for the scholarship you must:

1. Return the completed application in its entirety on time.
2. Be a member of the First United Methodist Church of Kittanning.
3. Participate in or help with at least three church activities during the last 2 years.

Applications are due in the office no later than **Sunday, April 30, 2024.**

## APRIL MISSION



The mission for the month of April will be gathering supplies and monetary donations for the Ruth M. Smith Center. The center is home to adults with intellectual and/or physical impairments and provides ministry to the surrounding community. Our hope is to be able to provide the center with our donation by May 15<sup>th</sup>, so that our monetary donations will be matched. We hope that you will prayerfully consider contributing. Following is a list of items we would also like to include if possible.

- |  |                            |                     |               |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Pump antibacterial Hand soap               | Fixodent/Poligrip          | Mouthwash           | Shampoo       |
| Denture cleaner tabs                       | Depends-pull ups (no tape) | M-L-XL              | Ziplock bags  |
| Individual Sugar free snacks               | Food storage containers    | Kitchen Towels      | Dish cloths   |
| Tablecloths- 60", 90x60, 102x60, 60x84     | Garbage bags               | Gloves              | Scrubbers     |
| Cooking utensils                           | Baking pans                | Washcloths          | Hand towels   |
| Twin sheet sets-mens and womens            | Toilet paper               | Paper towels        | Kleenex       |
| Hypoallergenic laundry soap (free & clear) |                            | Paper plates        | Dryer sheets  |
| Regular laundry detergent                  | Furniture polish           | Spray-air freshener | Brooms        |
| Cleaning rags                              | Spic and Span              | Bookshelves         | File cabinets |
| TV stand                                   | Copy paper                 | Dry erase markers   | Masking tape  |
| Sharpies                                   | Electronic wipes           | Notebooks           | Thumbtacks    |
| Post it notes                              | Drawing paper              | Canvas              | Paints        |
| White construction paper                   | Individual craft kits      |                     |               |
- Gift cards from Walmart, Amazon, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, etc.  
Greeting cards-Birthday, Congratulations, Sympathy, Thinking of You, Note cards, Thank you cards

## THANK YOU FROM THE YOUTH

The youth would like to thank the congregation of first United Methodist Church. In our effort to help relieve the food challenges in Armstrong County, the souper Bowl collection was the largest one in recent years. The collection was \$133.91 and the youth sent \$200.00 to Grace Presbyterian Church Food Bank. The youth appreciate this congregations support of them in this past year and wanted to pass a portion of their blessings on to others in need.



Melissa B. & Brenda B.

## ATTENTION: ART SHOW COMMITTEE

We will have a meeting Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM to recap last year's show and to finalize plans for the 30<sup>th</sup> year show. Bring your ideas or questions. Melissa B.





# FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

## VBS 2024

We will be having VBS for ages 3 years (as of Jan. 1, 2024) thru 6th Grade the week of June 17-21 from 9:00 to noon each day. The theme this year is CAMP FIRELIGHT where we focus on Psalm 56:3 "**When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.**" As always, there are many opportunities for each of us to help the children in our area to hear the words of God. We need the following, can you help in any way? If you have questions or want to volunteer as a helper, please call the church office (724-548-4312) or contact Sue Hankey (724-545-1656 [or email robandsue104@comcast.net](mailto:robandsue104@comcast.net))

- **CHILDREN (most importantly!)**
  - Invite your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and neighbors
  - Registration forms will be available mid-April
- **VOLUNTEERS**
  - **Games Leader** (we have a book with suggested games!) Leader does not need to "run with the kids" but will plan the games, explain the rules to each class and supervise the helpers and children. Games are held outdoors!
  - **Games helpers** - No Preplanning needed. More "active" helpers who may need to get involved with the games, help set up games each day, etc.
  - **Camp Guides** (ie crew leaders) - No preplanning needed, Responsible for leading an age specific group from one station to another. We need many hands in this area and you need to be able to travel up/down quite a few steps in a day!
  - **Craft helpers** - No preplanning needed. Help set up/clean up the craft tables before/after each group, help with names on crafts, help children with directions as needed. Crafts are done in the church basement!
- **CRAFT SUPPLIES** (can be left in the Library Room anytime before June 1)
  - Sharpie markers (Black and Colors)
  - Satin Ribbon (any width, any color)
  - Glue-on Magnets
  - Bandana fabric (or packages of bandanas)
  - Masking tape
  - Gallon-size and Quart-size Ziplock plastic bags
- **SNACK ITEMS** (can be left in the Library Room anytime before June 15 - but sooner is better so we know how much we need to purchase!)
  - Juice boxes
  - Small bottles of water
  - Teddy Grahams
  - Mini Marshmallows
  - Chocolate Chips
  - Graham Crackers
  - Pretzel Rods
  - Popcorn
  - Packaged cookies
  - Sandwich size Ziplock bags
- **DECORATING** (watch bulletins and newsletters for more details)
  - We will be planning a "work day" in May
  - We will need help setting up for VBS on Saturday June 15
  - We will need help tearing down from VBS on Sunday June 23
  - There may be some things that can be "taken home" to work on!





## 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.

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS



## UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4 Avia Clever  
7 Patty Bowser



### UNION AVENUE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The March 4, 2024 meeting of the UAUWF was held in the Kittanning Cottages Community Room with 9 in attendance. The meeting opened with the reading of the Purpose of the United Women in Faith, led by President Karen Wolfe. Hostess: Carolyn Ingram. Devotions: Lynn Sibley-Elephants and Bees from All God's Creatures. Minute Missions: Ruth Gallaher-Christmas and Easter.

#### Old Business:

1. Henderson Settlement-Received request for monetary donation. Motion made and passed to give them a \$200 donation.
2. Red Bird Mission: Leechburg church is having a calendar dinner on April 27, 2024 to raise money for Red Bird Mission and sending a team to Red Bird. Donna Shaffer will get us a wish list of donations they would like to have and the team will take them with them when they go.
3. Ruth M. Smith Home: Will decide at the next meeting amount of donation to be given and will coordinate with Warren County Day of Giving.
4. Connections of Armstrong County-Their mission is to help those who are down and out with anything they need. They have a monthly dinner open to the public. These dinners are sponsored by different groups. Motion made and passed to donate \$150 to sponsor a meal and get cleaning supplies, paper towels, and toilet paper. We will be collecting these supplies until Easter Sunday.
5. Blessings in a Backpack-270 backpacks were packed at last session. Backpacks go to every Elementary School in the ASD. Will soon include Junior Highs. We will consider donations at a later date.
6. Tea in May: Does anyone have tiered serving plates? Must bring your own tea cups.

The meeting closed with the reading of the UWF Prayer.

Secretary, Ellen Nelson



# MANORVILLE LINK PAGE

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Lisa Hawk
- 4 Max Alexander Petrosky
- 5 Jack Petrosky
- 13 Jessica Querry
- 14 Tiffany Walker
- 18 Evan Snyder
- 20 Matt Brocious
- 25 Irene Reesman
- 28 Kay Rupp



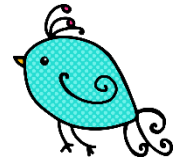
## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Ed & Erika Olenchak
- 4 Hyatt & Lisa Hawk
- 29 Nancy & Ed Gaul



## FINANCIAL COUNTERS

- 7 JB & Jack
- 14 Mike & Lu
- 21 Nancy & Nancy
- 28 Steve & Lu



## April Word Search

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



April	Bloom	Arbor Day
Spring	Puddles	April Fools
Rain	Flower	Tax Day
Showers	Umbrella	Baseball
Birds	Earth Day	

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## Spring Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters F L O W E R B U D.  
Don't guess - use logic.

		B		E		O		
	U	F	W		O	E	D	
			L		R			
B		E		O		W		U
		U		W		L		
L		W		F		R		B
			O		B			
	E	D	F		W	U	B	
		R		U		F		

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