



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET  
KITANNING PA 16201



## ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior Pastor: Terri Wells

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

### Worship 10:00 AM

Email: [fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net](mailto:fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net)

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

Pastor Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00AM-?

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 11:15 AM Email: [fordmemorialchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fordmemorialchurch@gmail.com)

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

724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM



## SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please get articles to Audrey no later than

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025**

Please have your articles on time. Thank you



## The Climate During the Time of Jesus

When considering how hot it was during the life of Jesus, it's important to look at the climate of the region where he lived—primarily ancient Judea, in what is now modern-day Israel and Palestine.

Judea is located along the eastern edge of the Mediterranean Sea, a region known for its Mediterranean climate. This means warm, dry summers and cooler, wetter winters. The areas where Jesus traveled—Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee—are all within this general climate zone, though local conditions could vary.

Summers in Judea were, and still are, quite hot. Daytime temperatures from June through September often reach 86°F to 95°F, with occasional spikes higher, especially in lower elevations like the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, where temperatures can surpass 104°F. Coastal and higher elevation areas, such as Jerusalem (about 750 meters above sea level), tend to be more temperate, with cooler evenings.

People of Jesus' time adapted to this climate in various ways. Daily life was structured around the sun's path, with many tasks performed in the early morning or late afternoon to avoid the worst heat. Clothing was typically loose and made from natural fibers to help keep cool. Shade and fresh water were precious, and homes were built with thick walls to insulate against both heat and cold.

In summary, we are living the days of Jesus! AMEN

Pastor T

## ***AUGUST LECTIONARY READING***

**August 3, 2025**

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Hosea 11:1-11, Psalms 107:1-9, 43,  
Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21*

**August 10, 2025**

**9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Psalms 50:1-8, 22-23,  
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40*



**August 17, 2025**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19,  
Hebrews 11:29-12:2, Luke 12:49-56*

**August 24, 2025**

**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalms 71:1-6,  
Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17*

**August 31, 2025**

**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Jeremiah 2:4-13, Psalms 81:1, 10-16,  
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, Luke 14:1, 7-14*

## **ALL CHARGE PICNIC**

Save the date: All charge Picnic, **September 7, 2025**. We will join together at Ingram Park for worship at 11:00 AM followed by lunch and fellowship. Watch your bulletin for more details.



## **ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT 2025**

The 2025 Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference was held on June 12-14 at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie. It is a time of "Holy conferencing" as defined by John Wesley when laity and clergy members gather for a combined time of worship, praise and church business. There were differences this year from other years due to the decreased size of the gathering. Instead of 1500 members as in other years, about 500 were present to do the work of the church. And, instead of breaking into sections to discuss legislation, everything was brought to the entire body to be voted on. This seemed to be more efficient.

This was our first annual conference with Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball, who was appointed in September 2024. The theme of the conference was "Reconnect" and the bishop emphasized this theme in various ways. She said we must reconnect with God, with our communities and each other. She had the youth assist her in the demonstration of baptism, as the members all recommitted their lives to God's mission. The water for the baptism ceremony was created from water brought from sources from every part of the Western PA Conference. The mixing of the waters symbolized that we are all connected, all one. This comes from Romans 12:5 "We who are many, are one body in Christ".

A service of Ordination and Commissioning was held on Thursday evening with 3 members completing the course of study, 3 commissioned as Provisionary Elders and one Full Elder ordained. The evening concluded with the Recognition of Retiring Clergy, including Rev. Dayton Mix.

The State of the Church was a description of healing using the Spiritual "Wade in the Water". As God stirred the waters in the pool to heal the lame, he is stirring the waters in our conference to let those waters heal us. Also, it shows that when you walk in the waters, you disturb and change the flow of the water. We need to wade in the stirring waters to create a difference toward God's mission.

The Bible Study this year was led by Dr. Ron Bell. He spoke about conflict: what it is, how to cope with it, and how we can prepare for it. He said conflict is usually a lack of understanding and can be resolved by asking additional questions, listening, and putting yourself in the other person's place.

The last worship was a Service of Remembrance honoring those clergy, clergy spouses, and laity who had passed on in the past year. One of the highlights of this service for me was the opportunity to sing in the Conference Choir. It is a moving experience to join with approximately 40+ voices from all over the conference, laity and clergy, to praise God and remember all the faithful servants who have gone on to Glory. The sad part of this service was the recognition of all the churches that have closed in the past year. As the names and locations of these churches scrolled on the screen; I couldn't help but think of all those who had faithfully served in them for so many years.

A new vision was brought forward: Love Boldly Serve Joyfully Lead Courageously

The final order of business was the listing of the appointments for the coming year. It pleases me to tell you that Terri Wells has been assigned to be pastor of Allegheny River Charge for another year.

Sarah Heckert, Lay Representative to  
Annual Conference  
Melissa Bureau, Lay Equalization  
Representative to Annual Conference



### Forensic Bible Study

Join us as we uncover the scripture in a new and exciting way. We are going to start at the New Testament and answer the questions: Who, What, When, Where and Why? The second part of the class we will be looking at Questions we could be presented as disciples of Jesus, and what the bible tells us on how to answer these questions. This will be a structured class that will devote the First 45 minutes to the scripture of the week and the last 15 min uncovering answers to the question of the week.

August FBS study will be held at  
Union Ave  
August 7<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM



## LINK PAGES

### COUNTERS

3 Melissa Bureau  
10 Melissa Bureau  
17 Tim Scaife  
24 Tim Scaife  
31 Melissa Bureau



### USHERS

3 Epworth  
10 Epworth  
17 Oxford  
24 Oxford  
31 Asbury



### ACOLYTES

3 Caitlyn Kachur  
10 Chris Hankey  
17 Jocelyn King  
24 Hallie Hoffman  
31 Caden King



### LIVE STREAM

3 Steph Hankey  
10 Ray Johnson  
17 Brenda Beers  
24 Sue Hankey  
31 Steph Hankey



### BELL RINGERS

3 Chris Hankey  
10 Emersyn McGregor  
17 Eliana McGregor  
24 Jocelyn King  
31 Chris Hankey



### WELCOME CENTER

3 Sarah Heckert  
10 Melissa Bureau  
17 Marybeth Dean  
24 Carolyn Hancock  
31 Cindy Volek



### SCRIPTURE READER

3 Melissa Bureau  
10 Sue Hankey  
17  
24 Sarah Heckert  
31 Carolyn Hancock



### SOUND SYSTEM

3 Jeff Hankey  
10 Chelsea Beers  
17 Carlee Beers  
24 Tim King  
31 Jeff Hankey



## FOLK FESTIVAL

Festival schedule is Thursday, July 31, 5-10PM, Friday, August 1, 12-10PM, Saturday, August 2, 12-10PM and Sunday, August 3, 12-6PM.

If you have somehow missed signing up to help, please call melissa Bureau 724-859-2607. She can still find a place for you to join the fun.

We have added two new food items this year, chicken strips and Speedy's Chippers which are a great cookie/ice cream treat.

Sunday Evening Cleanup-Many people will be needed to clean up and put away after the festival ends at 6:00PM on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. No need to sign up. Everyone is welcome. Will do some clean up starting at 5:30PM.

Please make sure you SIGN IN any time you are working. Thank you  
Tim Scaife, Activities Chairman 724-664-5346.

## COVENANT CENTER ART SHOW 2025 IS ON: JULY 31-AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>

Come visit the show and vote for your people's choice award to be given out on Sunday. Artwork will be taken down on Sunday 5:00-6:00 PM.



Thank you to all that helped with the show, all the participants, and all the visitors.  
More details next month with all the stats. Keep updated by viewing us on Facebook.

## AUGUST MISSIONS

For July and August Missions, we will be collecting funds for Rise Against Hunger. We will also need some volunteers from the church to work the packing event on September 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be more information coming on signing up to work. See Emily with any questions



## FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

### VBS ALUMINUM CAN COUNT



As this past year demonstrated that even when a leader passes away, the mission continues. It did take a while to figure out how to continue, and it does take more than one man. But the VBS Aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity is continuing under the direction of the "Toucan Crew". This is a large undertaking and many hands make it work, can crusher, can hauler and most importantly you, "You too can help". And as in the past, the count starts over with 1 the day after VBS ends.

THIS  
MONTHS  
CAN COUNT

VBS 2025  
TO  
July 15  
2430 cans

### VBS 2025



VBS is over for 2025 and thoughts of next year are forming.

I would like to THANK EVERYONE from the 3 churches for their help and support for this program. We had 43 different VBS staff helpers and 69 registered students during a VERY hot week. If you volunteered your time in any way, THANK YOU! If you donated money, THANK YOU! If you donated drinks and snacks, THANK YOU! If colored, painted or glued things, THANK YOU! If you donated craft supplies or maps, THANK YOU! If you helped set up or tear down the decorations, THANK YOU! And most of all, if you prayed for the children to hear the word of GOD, THANK YOU!!!!  
Sue

### VBS ROAD TRIP MEMORIES & PIZZA PARTY

Join us Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> 5:00-7:30 PM for a VBS Pizza Party for all VBS attendees, both students and staff. We will view some pictures and listen to music as we eat some PIZZA and other snacks. We'll do a couple of little crafts (some paint will be involved) and play some games as we close out the summer. Then we will quickly set our minds towards the start of the school year and Sunday Bible School. Hope to see you there!



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

26 Brian Muir  
28 Macy Green  
29 Rob Hankey  
30 Becky Zielinski  
31 Chelsea Beers  
24 Derek Green



**We extend our** Christian Compassion and Concern to the family of Sally Felton. Sally passed away on Saturday, July 12, 2025. She will be missed by niece-Martha Anne Bowser, great-nephew, Brandon Schrecengost, st, great-great-nephews Levi Schrecengost, Archer



## FORD MEMORIAL LINK PAGE

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

3 Brianna Conklin Huth  
5 Betty Simmons  
6 Steve Arblaster (dad)  
11 Nathan Kamer  
11 Lori Walker  
14 Brittany Walker



16 Michael Anderson  
17 Rick Orton  
17 Cindy Hill  
19 Janice Bernot  
29 Mike Querry

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARY

21 Carol (Reesman) & Steven Snyder-18 years



## UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

14 Sharon Ulisky  
17 Rose Mazzota  
19 Ruth Gallaher



## AUGUST ANNIVERSARY

9 Dick & Peggy Say-68 years



	9						
4			5				8
6		2		8		5	3

5				1			
				3	5	4	7
			4			8	



