

Allegheny River Charge United Methodist Churches

First United Methodist
 301 N. Jefferson St.
 Kittanning PA 16201
 (724) 548-4312
 Service @ 10:00 AM

Ford Memorial
 1024 4th Ave.
 Ford City, PA 16226
 (724) 763-1540
 Service @ 11:15 AM

Union Ave
 421 Union Ave.
 Kittanning PA 16201
 (724) 543-5012
 Service @ 9:00 AM

First Church - Sunday School 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM

ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE **NEWS TO USE**

PASTOR / LAITY QUARTERLY VISITATION

In March we are starting Quarterly Visitations. We will need a Laity Member to visit with the Pastor from your church on your day. Dates are as follows, March 12 (First), March 19 (Union), March 26 (Ford). Please contact First Church Office with a list of names for visitation.

We will need **Name to be visited, Home or Nursing Home visit,** and **Who is suggesting** the visit then the **Volunteer from Laity** to join. Those that are making the referral must clear the visitation with the party being visited.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS AT FIRST CHURCH

The Lenten Fish dinners will be March 6, 13, 20 and 27 at the Covenant Center with meals served from 4:30 to 6:00. The meal will be: Fried or Baked fish or sloppy joe sandwich or Chicken Tenders, baked potato or curly fries or mac & cheese, coleslaw or applesauce and a slice of pie, coffee, iced tea, or lemonade. Help will be needed from 4:00 to 7:00 to set tables, seat people, complete takeouts, deliver food, serve drinks, clear & reset tables, wash dishes and clean up when people are done eating. Help cutting and boxing pies at 12:00 is also needed. If you haven't already let us know you can help, please text or call Tim Scaife, 724 664 5346, Activities chairman First Church

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES / LUNCHEONS

The Kittanning Ministerium is hosting Lenten Services and Luncheons during Lent. Services are held on Tuesdays with the Luncheon following on Wednesdays. Below is a list of the Service locations which will be held at 7:00PM. All luncheons will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church at 12:00PM.

Service Date	Location	Luncheon Dates at Grace Presbyterian
March 3 rd	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	March 4 th
March 10 th	Kittanning Church of God	March 11 th
March 17 th	Living Water Church	March 18 th
March 24 th	St. Lukes Church of Christ	March 25 th



Allegheny River Charge of the
United Methodist Church

MEDIA SONG *The Way, the Truth, the Life - Journey in Christ*

MUSICAL PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE WORSHIP BELL

2nd Lent Reading

"CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: *Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift, that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.*

People: We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.

Leader: *-Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept that new life is not just possible but given as a free gift of grace.*

People: We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.

Leader: *Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has always rested on grace.*

People: We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.

Leader: *Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by day.*

People: We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by Christ, whose path we follow.

OPENING PRAYER

Infinite God of Love, you loved this word into being with such love as to birth yourself among us. Your presence does not separate but unites; your love does not push away but embraces; you do not condemn but save. Trusting this, we know we are loved, never rejected. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*** HYMN** "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" No. 301

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

MORNING ANTHEM "For God So Loved the World" Choir

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE John 3:1-17 p. 93-94

SERMON "GPS Mode"

COMMUNION

OFFERING/OFFERTORY/DOXOLOGY/PRAYER OF DEDICATION

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God of New Beginnings, you call us to trust in what we cannot yet see, to follow where you lead, even when the road is unclear. Receive now these gifts we offer—not as payment or proof, but as signs of our belief, our hope, and our gratitude. Use them to share your transforming love with a world still searching in the dark. In the name of your Son, given in love, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** "Lift High the Cross" No. 159

*Altar rail is open for prayer during the closing hymn.

***BENEDICTION**

Go now in the mercy of God, whose promises never fail, to live as people who have generously received and thus generously share God's gracious gift of new life with all we encounter. Amen.

*Please stand in spirit or in body.

Ask an usher for a large print hymnal or bible or personal hearing device

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 1st Reading in Lent 8:00-AM Communion (F) 8:30-AM Communion (F) 10:00-AM Communion (F) 11:00-AM Communion (F)	2 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	3 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	4 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	5 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	6 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	7 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion
8 1st Reading in Lent 8:00-AM Communion (F) 8:30-AM Communion (F) 10:00-AM Communion (F) 11:00-AM Communion (F) 2:00-PM Communion (F)	9 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	10 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	11 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	12 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	13 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion	14 10:00-AM Communion 8:00-AM Communion

Lenten Fish Dinners

March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Meals served 4:30PM to 6:30PM

**** Fried or Baked Fish, Sloppy Joe or Chicken Tenders then include one of each of the following:**

- Baked Potato or Curly Fries or Mac n' Cheese
- Coleslaw or Applesauce
- Slice of Pie
- Coffee, Iced Tea or Lemonade

**First United Methodist Church
Covenant Center
322 N. Water Street, Kittanning
Office ph. 724-548-4312**

We will see you there !!

FIRST CHURCH WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, March 1st

2nd Sunday in Lent

8:45 AM Sunday Bible School
10:00 AM Worship

MONDAY, March 2nd

6:00 PM Dart Ball

TUESDAY, March 3rd

7:00 PM New Found Freedom-CC

WEDNESDAY, March 4th

THURSDAY, March 5th

FRIDAY, March 6th

4:30 PM Fish Dinner - CC

SATURDAY, March 7th

7:00 PM We Surrender-CC

SUNDAY, March 8th

3rd Sunday in Lent

8:45 AM Sunday Bible School
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Choir

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the Glory of God.

THANK YOU to the following individuals for assisting with today's service:

Usher Team: Oxford

Scripture Reader:

Worship Sound System:

Bell Ringer:

Acolyte:

Live Stream:

Tim King

Olivia Green

Logan Green

Sue Hankey

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Lenten Devotionals are available on the altar rail. Pick one up for yourself, your neighbor or even a friend. You should have received a copy emailed to you if you get the newsletter emailed to you. It will also be on our Facebook page each day.

ALTAR FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE IN 2026

These dates are still available for altar flowers in 2026. The arrangements will be \$35.00 each. Please let the office know if you are interested in any of the dates. Thank you.

MARCH 8, 15, 29

MAY 24, 31

JULY 5, 12, 19

SEPTEMBER 6, 20

NOVEMBER 1, 29

APRIL 19, 26

JUNE 28

AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

OCTOBER 18, 25

DECEMBER 13, 27

WINTER IS HERE

The Trustees have arranged for snow plowing for the winter, but we are in need of someone to clear the walks around the church and Covenant Center. If you would like to help or know someone who would be able to help, please let us know by calling Ken Lazan at 724-664-4037 or contact the church office at 724-548-4312.

MARCH MISSION

Our March Mission will be supporting the United Methodist Church Union in Pittsburgh. This group supports The Learning Hub, an outreach for youth and families in Pittsburgh (and founded by Rev. Larry Homitsky). They suffered a devastating fire at their facility in early February. Our funds will support rebuilding the facility, replacing lost supplies, and continuing their outreach while they rebuild. Please prayerfully consider donating to this mission.

MEMBERS and VISITORS

When you enter First Church, you will now be asked to sign the visitors'/ members' log. This log is being kept for security and insurance purposes. Please note the time you arrive and leave the church as well as your purpose for visiting. This applies to visitors when the office is open and staffed as well as non-staffed hours.

Thank you for your cooperation.

You will **Not** need to sign the visitors' log when attending Sunday School and/or Worship, as well as schedule meetings.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL -- 2026

VBS will be held the week of **June 15-19 from 9-noon** at **First United Methodist Church**. The theme this year is Cokesbury's **SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE**: Find Your Strength in God focusing on the Bible Verse "I can do all things through him who strengthens me". (Philippians 4:13).

As always, we need a lot of "strength" to be able to bring VBS to the many children who regularly attend. We will need leaders for Lessons, Science, Music and Games in addition to helpers in each of those areas and lots of "CREW LEADERS" who ensure that the children safely get from one station to another! We also need some extra hands helping with decorations, snacks and crafts and, of course, prayers!

If you are able to help in any way (even if you can't be there physically that week), please contact Sue at robandsue104@comcast.net or 724-822-1640 (new phone #) or call the church office 724-548-4312.

Watch the bulletin and newsletters for more information!

THANK YOU!

NEXT TRUSTEE MEETING

Next trustee meeting is March 17 if needed

Then again on April 7