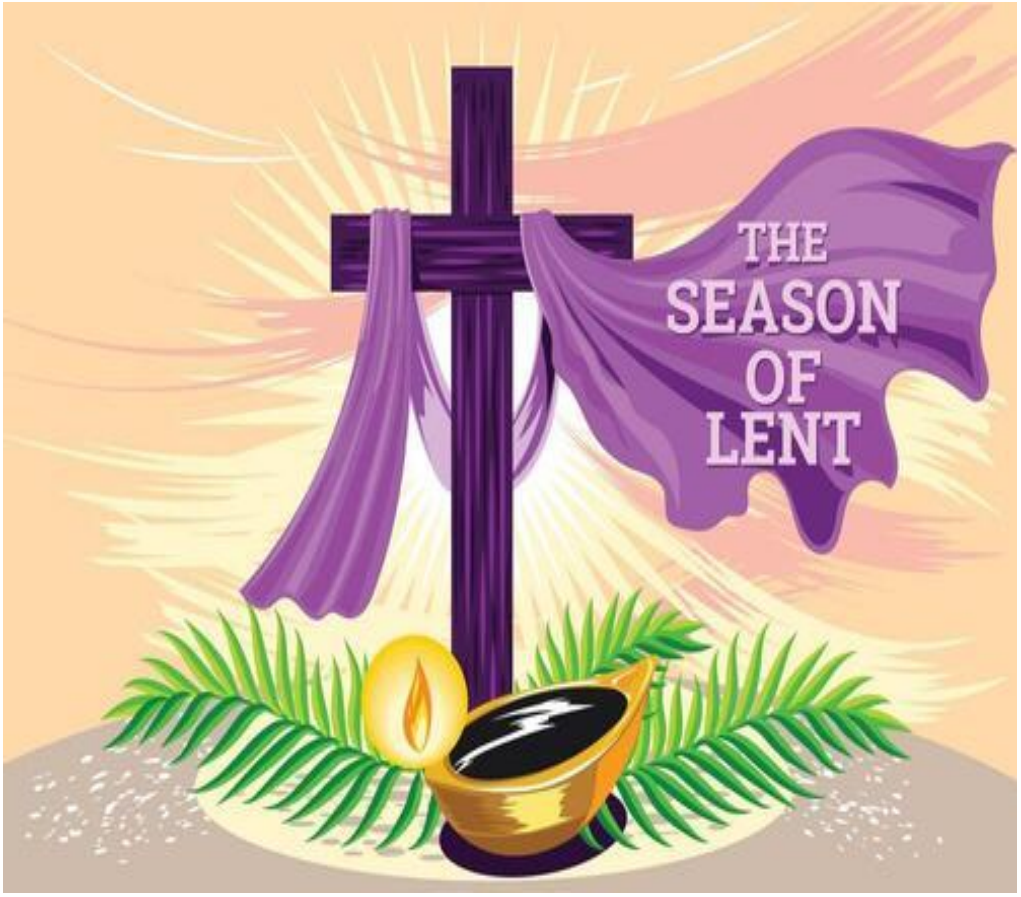
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
KITTANNING PA 16201

ARC LINK NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior 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 10:00 AM **Sunday School 8:45 - 9:45 AM**

Email: fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Pastor Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00AM - 5:00PM
Website: firstchurchkittanning.com Fax: 724-548-5157 Rainbow Road: 724-543-7569

Ford Memorial United Methodist Church-1024 Fourth Ave, Ford City PA 16226 724-763-1540
Worship 11:15 AM **Email:** fordmemorialchurch@gmail.com

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

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Please get articles to Dennis at the Office no later than
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026
Please have your articles on time. Thank you

Pastor T Notes

Saint Patrick's Day, celebrated each year on March 17th, holds deep significance for Christians around the world. It commemorates the life and legacy of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, who is revered for his missionary work and steadfast faith. Through his teachings, Saint Patrick played a pivotal role in spreading Christianity throughout Ireland, famously using the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Legend has it that when Saint Patrick was searching for a way to explain the Holy Trinity, he scoured the fields for the perfect teaching prop. He found a shamrock, but when he bent down to pick it up, a sneaky sheep snatched it right out of his hand! This is a gentle reminder that Satan will try to snatch our faith from us. For us, as disciples of Christ, Saint Patrick's Day serves as a reminder of the power of faith and the importance of sharing the Gospel. The holiday encourages reflection on the values of humility, courage, and devotion that Saint Patrick embodied. Whether attending church services, participating in parades, or simply wearing green, people honor not only Irish heritage but also the enduring spiritual impact of Saint Patrick's ministry.

MARCH LECTIONARY READING

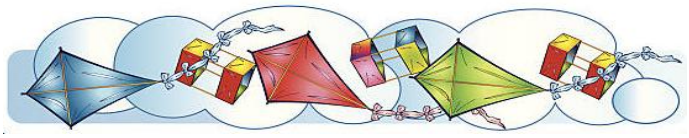
March 1, 2026
2nd Sunday in Lent
Genesis 12:1-4 — Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 — John 3:1-17

March 8, 2026
3rd Sunday in Lent
Exodus 17:1-7 — Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11 — John 4:5-42

March 15, 2026
4th Sunday in Lent
1 Samuel 16:1-13 — Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14 — John 9:1-41

March 22, 2026
5th Sunday in Lent
Ezekiel 37:1-14 — Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11 — John 11:1-45

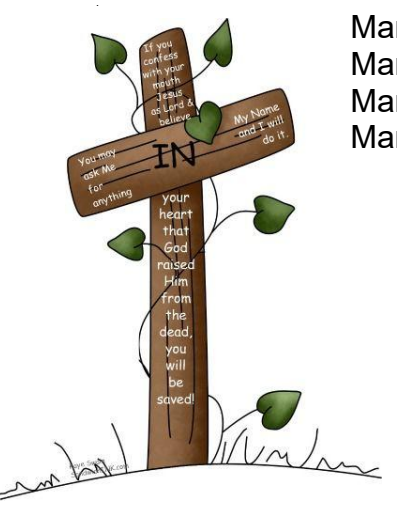
March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 — Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a — Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:9-11 — Matthew 26:14-27:66



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES / LUNCHEONS

The Kittanning Ministerium is hosting Lenten Services hosted by different churches around Kittanning and feature teachings from different preachers as well. We worship in the style of the host church and each service is followed by a time of fellowship together.
Services are held on Tuesdays with the fellowship 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.

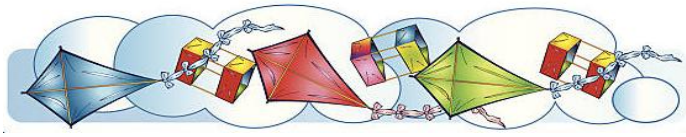


Service Date	***Location***	***Teaching by***
March 3rd	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	Joe Weister
March 10th	Kittanning Church of God	Brandon Cooper
March 17th	Living Water Church	Carl Johnson
March 24th	St. Lukes Church of Christ	Brent Carlson

Luncheon Dates at Grace Presbyterian
March 4th
March 11th
March 18th
March 25th

THANK YOU

Dear Friends at Allegheny River Charge of the First United Methodist Church,
Thank you for your donation to the Food Bank at Grace Presbyterian Church. Our food bank is totally funded by donations and 100% staffed by volunteers. Every donation means the world to us!
Yours in Christ, Kay Owen, Food Bank Coordinator



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

COUNTERS

1 Melissa Bureau
8 Melissa Bureau
15 Tim Scaife
22 Tim Scaife
29 Melissa Bureau

USHERS

1 Epworth w/Comm
8 Epworth
15 Oxford
22 Oxford
29 Asbury

ACOLYTES

1 Logan Green
8 Caden King
15 Hallie Hoffman
22 Caitlyn Kachur
29 Chris Hankey

LIVE STREAM

1 Sue Hankey
8 Steph Hankey
15 Ray Johnson
22 Brenda Beers
29 Sue Hankey

BELL RINGERS

1 Olivia Green
8 Emersyn McGregor
15 Eliana McGregor
22 Cecilia Rearigh
29 Adalie Rearigh

SCRIPTURE READER

1 Sue Hankey
8 Sarah Heckert
15
22
29

SOUND SYSTEM

1 Tim King
8 Jeff Hankey
15 Chelsea Beers
22 Carlee Beers
29 Tim King

TUCAN REPORT

I was so busy this past month, counting and crushing cans! Keep up the good work. This ministry is for the benefit of The Armstrong County Habitat for Humanity. We accept ALL ALUMINUM CANS, pop, beer, flavored water and teas. They can be dropped off at the ramp or in the wooden bin by the garage in the alley way. Thank you for all your hard work. Melissa Bureau.

THIS MONTH'S CAN COUNT

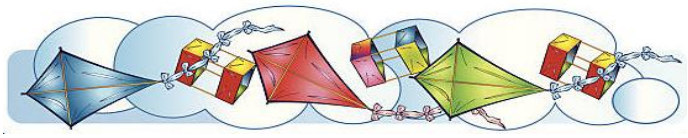
January 15 through February 15
3,680 cans
This year's total
30,224 cans

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3 Pastor Terri Wells
6 Trenton Podvorec
10 Anne Jamison
21 Janessa Shriver
21 Gabi Zielinski
27 Lorraine Baker
27 Bob Buzzinotti
27 Tim Scaife

MARCH ANNIVERSARY

27 Tony & Robyn Green 15 years



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

MARCH SIFT LUNCHEON

The March SIFT Luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at noon in the Covenant Center. The menu will be Beef Vegetable Soup, Crackers, Italian Bread, Jello Salad and Sherbet. The program will be presented by The Salvation Army. Reservations can be made from Monday, March 2 through noon on Monday, March 16. Please call 724 548-4312. Phone reservations only will be accepted and will be limited to 75. You will need to give a name for each reservation made along with a contact phone number. Please call to cancel as there may be a waiting list. Doors will open at 11:30 AM. Please use the parking lot door.

See YOU there!

LENTEN FISH DINNERS AT FIRST CHURCH

The Lenten Fish dinners will be February 27th, 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 with 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 at 724 664 5346.

Tim Scaife, Activities chairman First Church

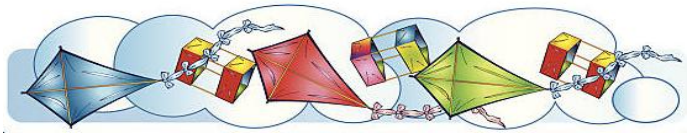
MARCH MISSIONS

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.

ALTAR FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE 2025

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

MARCH 1, 8, 15, 29	APRIL 19, 26	MAY 24, 31
JUNE 28	JULY 5, 12, 19	AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
SEPTEMBER 6, 20	OCTOBER 18, 25	NOVEMBER 1,29
	DECEMBER 13, 27	



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE - VBS!

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!

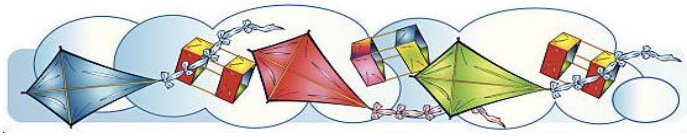
THANK YOU!

MEMBERS and VISITORS to FIRST CHURCH

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.



FORD MEMORIAL LINK PAGE

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Grace Karner
4 John Welch
4 Billie Jean Kinnard
14 James Warren Snyder
17 Jill Strong
21 Eva Say
21 Doris Schmela
22 Abby Skillen
25 Ashley Biss
27 Beulah Mitchell
27 Leia Maria Wolfe
30 Ian Curry
30 Lois Hawk

MARCH ANNIVERSARY

3 Andrew & Pam Snyder

FORD MEMORIAL LINK PAGE

CARE & SHARE SHOP

March brings back the Care & Share Shop! The Care & Share shop has been offering gently used clothing for simply 20 cents since the late 1990's. It traditionally operates for the same hours as the Food Bank, the second Friday of the month from 10 am till noon while occasionally opening in the evenings here and there. On Wednesday before The Care & Share Shop we meet downstairs in our Fellowship Hall from 10 am till noon to unpack new donations and set the shop up for the following Friday. We can always use help, so please, feel free to stop down during the hours I've given or call Bethany at Ford Memorial's office (724-763-1540) to speak about how you can help with this long-running, local charity. Check Ford Memorial's Facebook page for any new hours!

UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

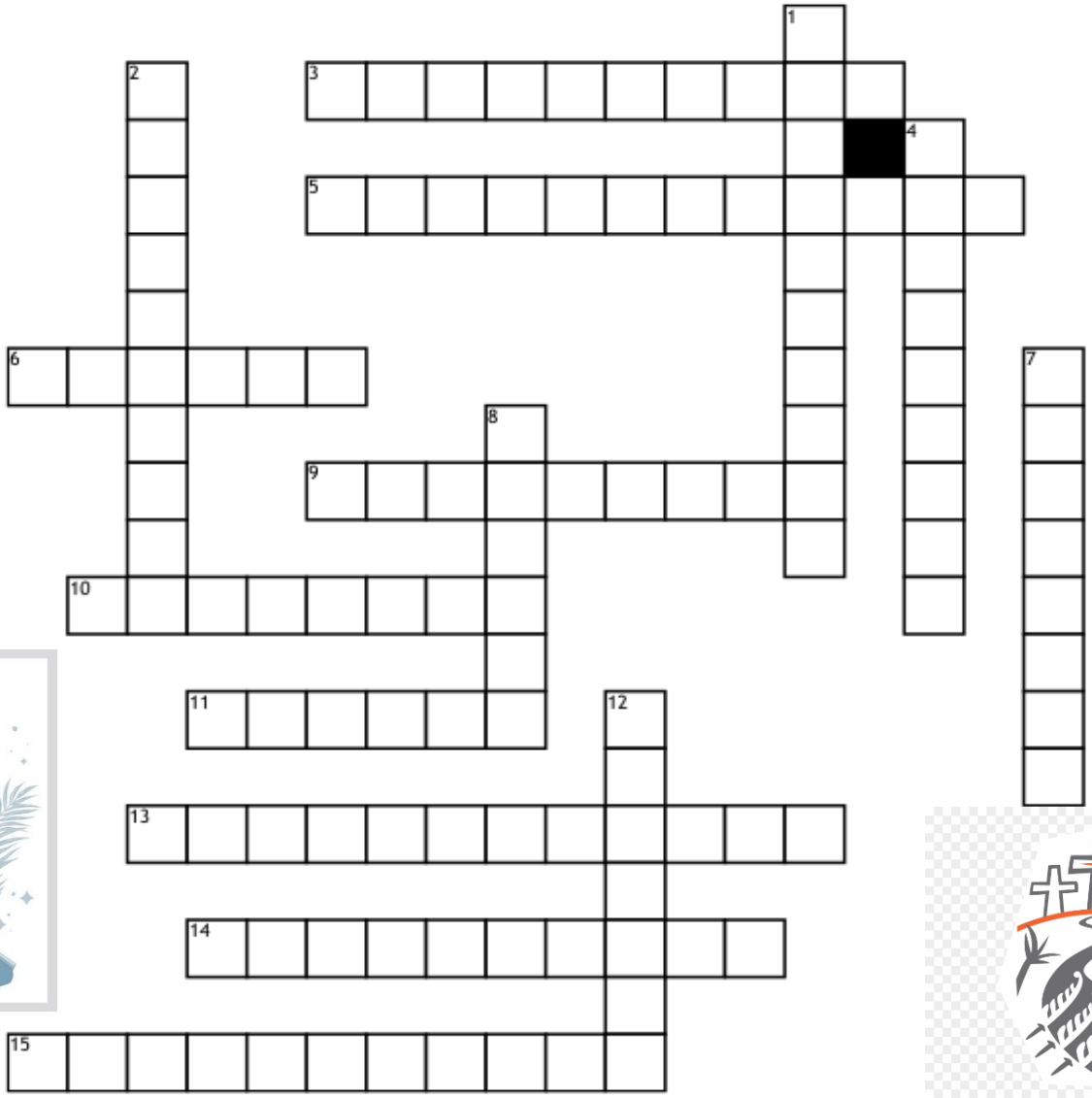
MARCH BIRTHDAYS

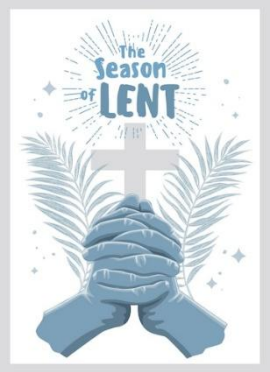
4 Joyce Martin
7 Jodie Martin
12 Marlene Bowser
29 Earl Wissinger

MARCH ANNIVERSARY

8 Bruce & Donna Shaffer

On The Road To The Cross





Across

3. Crucifixion "day" of Jesus Christ
5. The rising from the dead
6. "A movie" The Color _____
9. Jesus was our ultimate
10. Day of week - Holy or Maundy
11. Not about the bunny but the LAMB
13. After Fat Tuesday
14. Donating or "giving" money, goods or performing acts of charity
15. Cleansing act Peter initially refused

Down

1. Jesus and the disciples shared in this meal
2. This was waved at the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
4. Time frame of Lent
7. The week preceding Easter
8. Act of communicating with God
12. Abstaining from food and /or drink for a certain period of time