



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
 KITTANNING PA 16201



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior Pastor: Terri Wells
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 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



JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
 Please get articles to Dennis no later than
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026
 Please have your articles on time. Thank you!

IMPERFECTION BRINGS PERFECTION

On Mother's Day, little Johnny decided he wanted to make breakfast for his mom to show her how much he loved her. Inspired by last Sunday's children's sermon, he thought it would be extra special to prepare pancakes and serve them with a side of prayer. While his mom was still asleep, Johnny mixed the batter, but in his excitement, he accidentally used salt instead of sugar. The pancakes looked delicious, but after the first bite, his mom's face said it all. Johnny quickly bowed his head and prayed, "Dear Lord, please make these pancakes taste better—and help Mom forgive me for waking her up with the smoke alarm." Johnny's mother hugged Johnny and loved him even more, with a smile on her face. "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Pastor T

2 Corinthians 12: 9-10

When we acknowledge our imperfections, our doubts, our difficulties, when we accept we are weak and less with humility, We can acknowledge Gods leadership in our lives. When we step back from the controls and hand them over to God for complete submission, there is a strength and peace that fills us knowing God will carry us forward. Johnny knew his efforts were not perfect, but he also knew, even though he made mistakes, his efforts of kindness were received.

MAY LECTIONARY READING

May 3rd, 2026
5th Sunday of Easter

[Proverbs 4:10-18](#) [Psalm 119:9-20](#)
[1 Peter 2:2-10](#) [John 14:1-14](#)

May 10th, 2026
6th Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day
[Ezekiel 34:1-7](#) [Psalm 115:1-11, 18b](#)
[1 Peter 3:13-22](#) [John 14:15-21](#)



May 17th, 2026
Ascension Sunday

[Isaiah 45:1-7](#) [Psalm 21:1-7](#)
[1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11](#) [John 17:1-11](#)

May 24th, 2026
Pentecost Sunday

[Numbers 11:24-30](#) [Psalm 104:24-34, 35b](#)
[Acts 2:1-21](#) [John 20:19-23](#)



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY for the Charge

Universal Church Directories will be set up to take photos on June 9th and June 10th, at the covenant center from 2:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

We will be posting more information in the weekly Bulletins and on Facebook.

Remember that everyone gets a FREE 8x10 just for getting your photo taken.

Please call Dennis at First Church office to schedule your preferred time.
(First come basis)

You can also assign up by filling out the flyer located in the weekly Bulletin and placing the completed information in the offering plate or handing to Pastor Terri.



Smile!

It's not too late to be included in our new church directory and get a complementary family portrait!

Please call Dennis at the office with any questions you may have, 724-548-4312.



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE VBS

Hosted at First United Methodist Church, Kittanning
June 15-19 9:00-Noon Ages 3 years thru 6th grade

VBS OPPORTUNITIES

Over the past several years, we have been happy to have an average of about 80 children and 40 staff. Over 75% of the children attending mark their registration form as “no church” meaning this is a great outreach to our communities.

Thank you! for a generous donation from the Pancake fundraiser held at Ford Memorial church earlier this year. Thank you to all who organized it, all who helped and all who attended. We already purchased curriculum and posters and have the majority of the VBS stations staffed with a few opportunities still outstanding.

CREW LEADERS (walking / stairs required!)

- Responsible for a small group of 8-10 students
- Take daily attendance during the Opening session in the sanctuary
- Lead the group between the various stations (Bible Lesson, Science, Music, Crafts, Games and Snacks)
- Return with the group to the sanctuary for closing and dismissal.
- Clearances required!

DONATIONS WELCOME

We always have people who ask, “what do you need, I’d like to contribute something”. If that’s you, we would gladly accept any of the below for Snacks, Crafts and Games. These items can be left in the Library Room any time before June 1.

SNACKS

Sandwich size Ziplock bags	8 oz Water Bottles	Juice Boxes
Vanilla pudding cups	Oreo Cookies	Mini Marshmallows
Corn, Rice or Wheat Chex Cereal	Vanilla Cream Sugar Wafer Cookies	
Goldfish Crackers	Pretzels	Cookies of any kind

CRAFTS

Gallon Ziplock bags	Canning jar lids / rings (used are OK, discolored are OK)
White Glue (Elmer’s)	Permanent markers (slightly used are OK)

GAMES

Used Kids clothes (hats, mittens, jackets, snow pants) for a relay race game – they can be returned to you if you have your name on them!

WORK DAY SCHEDULED

We will work on Decorations - May 16th @ 9:00 am - Audrey’s house (140 Upper Hayes Run RD Kittanning)

We very much appreciate any help you can provide. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, please reach out to Sue (724-822-1640) or the church (724-548-4312)

Thank you for your support, generosity and prayers both before and during VBS!



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

FISH DINNER SUMMARY - THANK YOU!



I would like to thank all those who helped with the Fish Dinners, baked pies, and ate at the dinners. With great help from all churches of the Allegheny River Charge, we served about 980 dinners. Our highest week we served about 192 meals and the lowest about 127, for an average of 163 meals per week. This is very close to the number served each of the last few years. We believe we served a great meal at a very reasonable price and made a profit of about \$6400 for an average of \$1066 per week. Out of this profit, we have sent \$500 to the Grace Presbyterian Church Food Bank, \$500 to the Ford City Food Bank, and \$500 for UMCOR to be used for disasters within the United States.

Tim Scaife, Activities Chairman

MAY SIFT LUNCHEON



The May SIFT Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at noon in the Covenant Center. The menu will be the annual end of the year picnic. Hotdogs, buns, sauerkraut and baked beans will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The program will be making a patriotic craft with Sue



and Audrey. Reservations can be made from Monday, May 4 through noon on Monday, April 18. 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!

COUNTERS

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



USHERS

3 Oxford
10 Asbury
17 Asbury
24 Epworth
31 Epworth



ACOLYTES

3 Caden King
10 Caitlyn Kachur
17 Chris Hankey
24 Jocelyn King
31 Olivia Green



LIVE STREAM

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



BELL RINGERS

3 Cecilia Rearigh
10 Adalie Rearigh
17 Olivia Green
24 Chris Hankey
31 Emersyn McGregor



SCRIPTURE READER

3
10 Sarah Heckert
17 Sue Hankey
24
31



SOUND SYSTEM

3 Tim King
10 Jeff Hankey
17 Dennis Hoffman
24 Chelsea Beers
31 Tim King



MAY MISSIONS

The May and June missions will be for Blessings in a Backpack. This group provides meals to students in all of the Armstrong School District schools who face food insecurity on the weekends and long holiday holidays. See Emily with any questions.

NEW after CHILDREN'S SERMON

We will have Activity pages for them that go along with the Daily Sermon on a clipboard with colored pencils.





FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

2026 VBS ALUMINUM CANS



This was the best month's collection since July. The reason we picked a Toucan Bird as our mascot for this mission is: "You Too Can Help" This is so true. When your cans are added to other people's cans, we get a lot of cans. They can be anything aluminum, pop cans, beer cans, tea cans, cat food cans (Cleaned), etc... Those are recycled and money is given to the Armstrong County Habitat for Humanity. Keep dropping off those cans on the church ramp or in the wooden box by the garage. Thank you! **Toucan aka. *Melissa Bureau***

CAN COUNT
 Mar 15 – Apr 15
 3,936
 Total this year
 36,611



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Allie Green
- 2 Cory Johnson
- 7 Cody Weibel
- 13 Jocelyn King
- 19 Esther Kiss
- 21 Colton Podvorec



- 22 Gail Blaney
- 22 Martha Anne Bowser
- 23 Michelle Waldenville
- 24 Wayne Beers
- 25 Milly Tarr

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Ray & Kim Johnson-42 years
- 24 Wayne & Brenda Beers
- 26 Edward & Kayla McGregor-23 years
- 28 Bob & Brenda Buzzinotti

Happy anniversary!



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!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS VBS WORKDAY



We will be having our annual VBS workday on **Saturday, May 16th** beginning at 9:00 AM to NOON. This will be held at Audrey Green's house. 140 Upper Hayes Run Road, Kittanning. There will be something for everyone. Painting, cutting, glueing, etc... (nothing too hard) Please let Audrey or Sue know if you will be coming. Thank you, see you there.



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

ALTAR FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE 2026

We have the following dates open for altar flowers. The price has gone up this year to \$38.00.

May 24

June 28

July 5, 12, 19, 26

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

September 6, 20

October 18, 25

November 1, 22, 29

December 27

If you would like any of these dates, please see Dennis or put on your connect card. Thank you.

ATTENTION ALL

Artists and Photographers



Spring has sprung and the time for artists to pick up those brushes and photographers to start snapping those pictures.



There is beauty all around us and there is no one better at capturing that beauty than the multitude of talented people who participate in this years

Covenant Center Art Show

Some important dates to remember are:

May 1st Applications are mailed and available online @ www.firstchurchkittanning.com/ARTSHOW

Sunday July 26th – Bring In

Wednesday July 29th – Meet & Greet w/ Artists

Thursday July 30th thru Sunday August 2nd 32nd Annual Art Show

Sunday August 2nd – Pick up your artwork

Thank you, Melissa Bureau.



FORD MEMORIAL LINK PAGE

CARE & SHARE SHOP

March brought back the Care & Share Shop! The Care & Share shop has been offering gently used clothing for simply 20 cents since the late 990's. It traditionally operates on **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 on Wednesday before the shop 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!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Justin Hawk
- 6 Kim Fellow
- 15 Margie Bryan
- 22 Clayton Croyle
- 22 Ashley Neal
- 29 Keith Rumbarger



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Rick & Cheryl Anderson
- 23 Randy & Irene Reesman
- 25 John & Cheryl Welch

Happy anniversary!



UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The April 13, 2026 meeting of the Union Ave. United Women in Faith was held at the church with 7 in attendance. The meeting opened with the reading of "Our Vision, Our Mission, and Our Local Purpose." Hostess: Donna Shaffer Devotions: Lynn Sibley- "All God's Creatures." Minute Missions - Ellen Nelson- Celebrating Easter in Idaho and Renewing Minds in Ohio The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read. No additions or corrections. The reports stand as read.

New Business:

1. Heifer International- A motion was made and seconded and passed to buy 5 flocks of chickens for this organization.
2. Ruth M. Smith Center Day of Giving is May 13, 2026. Motion made and passed to donate \$400.
3. Armstrong County Week of Giving- Motion made and passed to donate \$200 to each of the following organizations- Progressive Workshop, Habitat for Humanity, and Blessings in a Backpack.
4. Money was received from the Scaife Family to buy items to put in the Emergency Room bags to be distributed to children in the Emergency Room. A motion was made and passed for Lynn Sibley, treasurer to make out a check for Donna Shaffer to buy items for bags.
5. Olmsted Manor Retreat Center requested a donation - Lynn Sibley will talk to Pastor Sara Wrona about their needs and let us know.
6. Connections - A motion was made and passed to give Donna Shaffer \$200 to buy items for Connections.
7. Since we no longer have a Mother/Daughter banquet, we will be having a 4 or 5 course meal at Vick and Nickalena's in West Kittanning on May 4, 2026 at noon. Cost will be \$18 each. Please give money to Donna Shaffer for the meal.

The meeting closed with the reading of the Parting Prayer.

Secretary,
Ellen Nelson

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 Karen Wolfe
24 Ellen Nelson



Mother's Day Word Search

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

BEAUTIFUL
CELEBRATE
CUDDLES
FLOWERS
HEART
KIND
MATERNAL

CARDS
CHILDREN
DAUGHTER
GIFTS
HOME
KISSES
PARENT

CARING
COMFORT
FAMILY
HEART
HUGS
SUNDAY

LOVE
MOTHER
SPECIAL
MOM
SON
THANKS

Name: _____

Date: _____

Memorial Day Crossword



A crossword puzzle grid with 26 numbered starting points for clues. The grid is composed of white squares for letters and empty spaces for non-letter characters. The numbers are: 1 (Down), 2 (Down), 3 (Across), 4 (Down), 5 (Down), 6 (Across), 7 (Down), 8 (Down), 9 (Across), 10 (Across), 11 (Across), 12 (Across), 13 (Across), 14 (Across), 15 (Across), 16 (Across), 17 (Across), 18 (Across), 19 (Across), 20 (Across), 21 (Across), 22 (Across), 23 (Across), 24 (Across), 25 (Across), 26 (Across).

Across

Down

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 3. Where soldiers are buried | 18. Explosions of light in the sky | 1. Color often seen on Memorial Day | 16. Branch of the military that flies planes |
| 6. Country celebrated on Memorial Day | 21. Color often seen on Memorial Day | 2. Celebration with floats and marching | 17. Type of outdoor cooking on Memorial Day |
| 9. Found on the American flag | 22. Ceremony to honor those who served | 3. Tool used for cooking at a barbecue | 19. Branch of the military that works at sea |
| 10. State of harmony without war | 23. Color often seen on Memorial Day | 4. Giving something up for a greater cause | 20. Large statue or structure built in memory |
| 12. Branch of the military | 25. Act of honoring and remembering those who served | 5. Flower worn on Memorial Day | 24. Someone who loves their country |
| 13. The right to live without control | 27. Show respect for someone | 7. Symbol of the United States | 25. Showing admiration for others' sacrifices |
| 14. Found on the American flag | | 8. Someone who has served in the military | 26. Place to bury the dead |
| | | 11. Structure built to honor someone | |
| | | 14. Person who serves in the army | |
| | | 15. Meal eaten outdoors | |