

FEBRUARY 2021



“We love because
He first loved us.”
1 John 4:19



Vision Statement
We are
a welcoming family
of Christ followers,
living lives
of generosity
as we seek to be
a blessing to others.

First United Methodist Church

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**John Wesley's
New Year Covenant Prayer**
“I am no longer my own, but
yours, Lord. Put me to what you
will, rank me with whom you
will; put me to doing, put me to
suffering. Let me be employed
by you or laid aside by you,
enabled for you or brought low
by you. Let me be full, let me be
empty. Let me have all things,
let me have nothing. I freely and
heartily yield all things to your
pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and
blessed God, Father, Son, and
Holy Spirit, you are mine, and I
am yours. And the covenant
which I have made on earth, let
it be ratified in heaven. Amen.”

On-site Services Resume

On-site Sunday worship services resumed on February 7 at 8:15 (traditional style), 9:30 (contemporary) and 10:45 (blended), with nursery care provided for all services. Children’s church will not be held (during 10:45 services). There is a class for children at 9:30 and classes for adults at 9:30 and 10:45. Pandemic precautions are in place (masks, social distancing and hand sanitizing). Our 10:45 service is livestreamed on Facebook. A video recording of it is available after 1:00 on Sundays via Youtube and our website (www.firstumcmuncy.org).

The Ash Wednesday worship service will be on February 17 at 7:00 p.m. This will be also be both livestreamed and available as a video recording.

“The Lord heals the brokenhearted (Ps 147:3).”

Sympathies are extended to the loved ones of Larry Rider (January 5, 2021) and The Reverend Michael Gardy (January 14, 2021), who retired in 2012 as pastor of First UMC Muncy, after eighteen years of service.



Mike

New Soup Ministry Well-Received!

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the wonderful soup you made and all the other goodies in the bag you gave us in the lunch on January 20. It made us feel loved and cared for. Thank you! Love, Carolyn and Ruth Frontz

Just so you know ...

Due to the pandemic, one activity and multiple annual events will not take place: church-wide Lent study, Tuesday morning Bible study, UM Women soup sale/missions fundraiser, candy eggs sale/charity fundraiser and women’s retreat.

Mission Moments

Our church will donate meals for Family Promise participants during the week of February 21–28. Currently there is one family of five at their day center. Due to pandemic precautions, there will be no overnight supervision required. To provide a meal, please contact Joyce McCarty at 570-546-8910.

*submitted by Convener Joyce McCarty
Externally Focused Church Team, First UMC, Muncy*

Observe a Holy Lent—Reflect, Repent, Rejoice



The Ash Wednesday worship service emphasizes our sinfulness and our mortality. It points to the triumph over these, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christians prepare for Easter during the forty days of Lent, February 17 to April 3 (not including Sundays, our “little Easters”), with fasting, repentance, and spiritual disciplines. It’s a time to take on new life-giving practices to help us rid ourselves of distractions and our own selfish desires and realign our focus toward God. We seek to live and love as more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, with a renewed spirit and a genuine desire to become an incarnational presence in the world, by reading and meditating on God’s Holy Word. We are urged to attend to the body, spirit, mind, and heart.

“... even as I have loved you, you also love one another (John 13:34).” ~ Jesus
Imagine what our world look like if we each got out of bed every morning and asked God to “Use me to bring Your love to those I meet today.”



Student Scholarships

Applications are available in the church office for our First United Methodist Church Scholarship. High school seniors who are active participants at First United Methodist Church, Muncy, may apply. For 2021, two \$1000 scholarships will be awarded. The deadline to apply is April 15.

College students may apply at www.gbhem.org/loans-scholarships/scholarships/list-of-scholarships.

Marty McCabe, Scholarship Com. Chair

Getting Connected

For information about any of these activities, please contact the leaders listed below.

- † Body & Soul women's exercise: 9 a.m. Mondays/Thursdays, Celebration Center; Linda Holsinger, 570-546-6840
- † Engage (grades 6–8): 11:00 a.m. Sundays, CC207; Kevin Myers, 570-412-2820
- † God Squad (grades 9–12): 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, CC207; Kevin Myers, 570-412-2820
- † GriefShare: 7:00 p.m. Tuesdays, lounge; Holly Pote, hmpote@yahoo.com
- † Men's breakfast: 7:00 Tuesdays, Cracker Barrel Restaurant; Denny Hammond, Dhammond67@yahoo.com
- † Mission Stitchers: second Saturdays, mornings, Celebration Center; Nancy Grove, 570-433-3133
- † Mothers of Preschoolers: first and third Sundays, online; Gabby Marconnet, kids@firstumcmuncy.org
- † Muncy Valley United Methodist Men: 4th Mondays; Harold Geise, 570-538-9173
- † Study group: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, on Zoom; Holly Pote, hmpote@yahoo.com
- † Women's prayer breakfast: suspended; Betsy Mothersbaugh, 570-971-7866

Community Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous: 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Celebration Center; open
Narcotics Anonymous: 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Fridays, Celebration Center; open

We are blessed to be a blessing! Gen. 2:2

50-Year Members

We honor the following individuals for having been members of First United Methodist Church, Muncy, for 50 years or more. Asterisks indicate 70 years or more.

Doris Allen (1941)*	Vonnie Poust (1960)
Pearl Rathmell (1941)*	Joanie Wallis (1960)
Peach Bardo (1945)*	Marshal Frye (1961)
Doris Fritz (1945)*	Chalmer Van Horn ('62)
Joanie Castlebury (1946)*	Garman Zehner (1963)
Janice Oden (1946)*	Jan Madison (1964)
Dave Wallis (1946)*	Kathy Burkhart (1965)
Loretta Ryder (1946)*	Gail Nuss (1965)
Jean Gardner Camp (1947)*	Lin Frey (1966)
Alberta Shaner (1948)*	Kathi Blaker (1966)
Connie Holtzapple (1951)*	Robin Bardo (1969)
Gary Edwards (1954)	Dennis DeWald (1969)
Sandy Schell (1954)	John Smay (1969)
Connie Sommers (1954)	Leon McCaslin (1969)
Sally Zehner (1954)	Donna McCaslin (1969)
Nancy Lyons (1956)	Anne Knox (1970)
Ann Dougherty (1957)	Linda Holsinger (1970)
Judy Rider (1958)	Molly Kemmerer (1970)
Doris Hess (1960)	Wayne Kemmerer ('70)
Mark Hester (1960)	Bob Reynolds (1970)
	Elsie Smith (1971)

Our Covenant With the Church

When we commit to life as disciples of Christ, we are asked to: 1) Be loyal to Christ through the United Methodist Church and do all in our power to strengthen its ministries (The Book of Discipline 2012, ¶ 217.5); and 2) Be faithful participants in its ministries by our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness (¶ 217.6).

We agree to give a significant portion of our time to the ministry that we are called to. Will the activities filling our calendars show us to be good stewards of the time with which God gifts us? We ask ourselves:

- † Will the time set for speaking and listening to God be an unbreakable appointment?
- † Will worship and learning as part of the faith community be a priority?
- † What will we do/not do to make our money and talents available for ministry?
- † What will we do outside the church that shows we are disciples of Jesus Christ?
- † How will we demonstrate the transformational power of the love of Christ? (2015 UM Program Calendar)

A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED to schedule Sunday doorkeepers. Please call the office (570-546-8030).