

JULY 2021

First United Methodist Church
602 S. Market St.
Muncy, PA 17756-1628

570-546-8030

Office hours: M–F 9:00–4:00
www.firstumcmuncy.org
office@FirstUMCMuncy.org

Rev. Richard N. Robinson
570-546-8040
rrobinson@susumc.org

Sunday morning schedule
Coffee fellowship 7:45–12:15

• Worship services:

8:15 traditional

9:30 contemporary

10:45 blended

• Classes:

9:30 adults, children

10:30 adults, children

Nursery care is available.



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.



Blessed to Be a Blessing!

(Genesis 12:2)

Transform Lycoming County is a mission experience serving Clarkstown, Hughesville, Montgomery, Muncy and Picture Rocks. We are Christian volunteers from various area churches serving as the hands, feet and heart of Jesus Christ, providing needed home repairs for those who are physically or financially unable to make such repairs. The primary goals of Transform Lycoming County are to make a Christian difference and to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ through service to brothers and sisters in Christ who are in need.

This year Transform Lycoming County will be July 19–23. To volunteer, fill out an application (found on Connections Tables—narthex or lower entry hall), and return it to the church office. You may volunteer for the entire week, for specific days or for part of one day. All are welcome! The fee of \$5 per day is used to purchase T-shirts, food and drinks for volunteers. Any leftover funds are used to help purchase building materials.

Dennis Hammond, coordinator, First United Methodist Church, Muncy

Masks

In anticipation of the state lifting the mask mandate on June 28, church leadership decided to discontinue the mask mandate at First UMC, Muncy. Masks are still required for anyone working with children, since children are not yet eligible for the COVID-19 vaccinations.

There are those not yet comfortable going without a mask, and we encourage First UMC to be a judgement-free zone, where everyone feels comfortable following their own personal decision regarding mask wearing. Pastor Rick and the entire church leadership team are grateful to all of you for being so faithful in loving your neighbors well and wearing your masks without complaint over the last year.

First United Methodist Preschool Closed

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland (Isaiah 43:19).*

After many decades of serving the children and families of the Muncy area with a quality, faith-based, early childhood education, it is with heavy hearts that church leadership announced the closing of our First United Methodist Preschool.

It was established during a time when there was a great need for it in our community. However, today there are many options for parents, who mostly need full-day childcare. Additionally, there are now government-funded programs in every community, free to parents of moderate need. The preschool population is on the decline as well, as some couples put off having children and have fewer children. All of these factors combined to create a situation where our preschool has seen declining enrollment for many years, running a significant yearly deficit that's not sustainable.

Church leadership mounted an aggressive marketing campaign to increase enrollment for 2021–2022, but it did not have a significant effect on the number of registrations. The preschool rooms are being cleaned out to make room for new ministries which we hope to introduce in the near future. Those with ideas as to how we might use that space to reach out in ministry to our community may speak with Pastor Rick.

We know this is very sad news, but we hope that you take pride in the part our preschool played in the lives of countless children in our community. Not every ministry is made to last forever, and we see God doing a new thing that we pray will be a blessing to those in the Muncy area. Take heart!

Get Connected

- † Coffee fellowship: Sundays 7:45–12:15;
Welcome Center; Living Water Café
- † Men's fellowship: 8:00 p.m. Sundays;
Kevin Myers, 570-412-2820
- † Body & Soul women's exercise: 9 a.m.
Mondays/Thursdays, Celebration Cntr;
Linda Holsinger, 570-546-6840
- † Muncy Valley UM Men: 4th Mondays;
Harold Geise, 570-538-9173
- † Men's breakfast: 7:00 Tuesdays, Cracker
Barrel Restaurant; Denny Hammond,
570-772-9983
- † Bible study: Letters of John; 10:00 Tues-
days in our Living Water Café; taught by
Pastor Rick; no homework or registration
- † GriefShare: 7:00 p.m. Tuesdays, café;
Holly Pote, hmpote@yahoo.com
- † "Seasons of the Spirit" Bible study: 6:30
Wednesdays; facilitated by Holly Pote
(hmpote@yahoo.com) and Becky Shaner
- † Youth group (grades 6–12): 7:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, CC207; Kevin Myers,
570-412-2820
- † Mission Stitchers: 9-12:00 3rd Saturdays,
Nancy Grove, 570-433-3133

Community Groups

- Alcoholics Anonymous: 7 p.m. Wednes-
days; Celebration Center; open
- Benefit social dance: July 3 cancelled;
7:00–10:00 (6:40 free lesson), Celebration
Center; Gary and Bonnie Glidewell, 570-
546-2866, bgdance@comcast.net
- Narcotics Anonymous: 7 p.m. Tuesdays
and Fridays; Celebration Center; open

Scholarships Awarded

Each year high school seniors who are active participants at First UMC, Muncy, are invited to apply for the First United Methodist Church Scholarship.

On Graduate Recognition Sunday in June, Rory Oden was awarded this scholarship and the Robert and Evelyn Rinn Scholarship. Her statements regarding what church means to her are included here.

The First United Methodist Church has always been a welcoming community of leaders, mentors, friends, and family. The church, to me, is a family that I can turn to that's dependable and wise. (cont. col. 2)

TREASURER'S REPORT

CURRENT EXPENSE

Balance 5-1-21	\$ 8,482.54
Receipts	52,149.10
Funds available	60,631.64
Total expenses	34,652.90
Net balance 6-1-21	25,978.74

BENEVOLENCE FUND

Balance 5-1-21	3,290.70
Receipts	3,277.00
Funds available	6,567.70
Total expenses	1,506.85
Net balance 6-1-21	5,060.85

BUILDING FUND

Balance 5-1-21	6,616.31
Receipts	7,067.00
Funds available	13,683.31
Total expenses	-----
Net balance 6-1-21	13,683.31



United Methodist Camping and Retreat Program

www.susumcamps.org

Our church pays ½ the fee!

Scholarships (continued from column one)

I have learned so much from my church family and have had plenty of opportunities that I wouldn't have had without them. I learned to knit from Cindy Campbell and could always count on her interest in my softball season. She never missed sending me a card or words of encouragement if I was recognized in the newspaper. Carol Godfrey was my mentor for confirmation. She got me involved in summer music camp as a junior counselor and taught me to always be a positive influence on the people around me. I remember Pastor Arlene would always make a good "Methodist" casserole for confirmation meetings, and she encouraged me to pursue Latin in high school.

My grandmother, Janice Oden, can always be found in the next to the last pew each Sunday, except during COVID, when we watched church virtually on her front porch.

Serving as an acolyte, going to the Creation Music Festival, visiting the church nursery and helping with the Good and Plenty dinners are just a few of the memories I have of the church.

Vacation Bible School was always the highlight of my summer, as well as summer Music Day Camp.

As you can see, church has been an important part of my childhood. I know that my church family will continue to influence and support me as I grow into adulthood.



CELEBRATIONS

To add a birthday or anniversary, contact the office (570-546-8030, office@firstumcmuncy.org).

May the blessings of our loving God
fill your heart with joy!

- 7/2 Al Barraco, Steve Campbell,
Evelyn Derrick, Judy Horn, Emily Lewis,
Jim Mothersbaugh, Shelley Webb
- 7/3 Grady Oden
- 7/4 Jenelle Miller
- 7/5 Scott Mertz, Nicholas Zerbe
- 7/6 Charlotte Hoffman, Susanne Morse
- 7/7 Jayla Koser, Lee Laubscher, Galene Smith
- 7/8 Harold Walburn
- 7/10 Keith Pentz, Cora Teglas
- 7/11 Heather Koser, Brittany McNett,
Mike Pentz, Tony Speights
- 7/12 Jan Mostowy, Missy Smith
- 7/14 Peach Bardo, Shelley Gadoury, Nick Mack,
Janice Oden
- 7/15 Wyatt Barto, Leon McCaslin
- 7/16 Connie Hull
- 7/20 Lana Forse, Robert Riddell
- 7/21 Karen Lamper
- 7/23 Presley Zerbe
- 7/25 Lyla Allshouse, Connie Holtzapple
- 7/26 Skylar Ebner, Jean Schooley,
Ashton Hackenberg
- 7/27 Abigail Evans
- 7/28 Max Frye, Keigh Hammond
- 7/29 Tony Rebuck
- 7/30 Carolyn Frontz, Matthew McCabe,
Stacie Swank
- 7/31 Cole Baker, Gabby Marconnet, Lily Miller



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- 7/2 Jennifer and Michael Freeborn, Jane
and John Lucas, Jo Ann and Randy Welch
 - 7/3 Josette and Galen Betzer, Molly and Wayne
Kemmerer, Sandy and Glenn Schell
 - 7/7 Janet and David Holsinger,
Abby and Tyler Potts
 - 7/14 Pam and Zack Armstrong,
Carol and Steve Godfrey
 - 7/16 Samantha and Mike Sherman
 - 7/17 Mary Ann and Ron Way
 - 7/20 Nora and Jim Stuart
 - 7/24 Cheryl and Lee Laubscher
 - 7/25 Kindra and Jamie Brelsford,
Floss and Bill McCarty
 - 7/28 Allison and Wade Beck
 - 7/30 Sharon and Jim Goss



Sympathy is extended to the loved ones of
Patricia "Pat" Schreffler
September 5, 1936–May 21, 2021



THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, food, prayers
and visits following the death of my wife, Pat.

Bob Schreffler

Dear First UMC, Muncy,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, and calls during
my husband Owen's last days. They really did
provide strength to help me through this time.

Love in Christ, Peggy Chute

Church Family,

"Life is a lot brighter, and happier, too, because of
thoughtful people like you." How very nice of you to
remember my 90th birthday. Your beautiful cards certainly
made my day special. Jane E. Pick

The family of Esta Weiler wishes to thank the
church for providing the most beautiful Memorial
Garden in such a peaceful setting. This church has
been such a blessing to our family, and we are forever
grateful for the friendships our mother shared
here. In Christian love, Dena Fritz and family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your kind thoughts, prayers, cards,
food and care of myself and my family during the loss
of my father. We feel incredibly blessed to be surrounded
by this church family and their love.

In Love and Gratitude,

Heather, Lee, Makenna, and Jayla Koser

Dear UMC, Muncy,

What an amazing group of talented people that volunteered
to go out and help people with problems they can't cope
with themselves. Jake and I were amazed at the crew that
showed up at our house and worked together all day to put
in a ramp for us that we know we are going to need shortly.
The camaraderie and expertise they shared was impressive,
and we are so blessed to belong to a church that reaches out
to help in so many ways! Gratefully, Carol and Jake LeVan

Thank you to so many people whom I cannot adequately
name or identify, who helped to make June 5 such a great
day of honoring my, and your, Michael! I hope that many of
those people will read this and share my sentiments with
others. My sincere and heartfelt thanks go to the folks who
labored to set up and take down the tables and chairs in the
Celebration Center for the lunch; to all the guys and gals
who labored in the kitchen preparing, serving and cleaning
up the food (YUM!!); to that huge and wonderful choir and
their support staff; to the brass group (what a fantastic touch);
and to all who hovered in the background and helped make
it a memorable, wonderful tribute to a man we all loved. So
much love was felt! You are ALL a blessing to me.
Thanks! May God bless each of you!

Love, Sally Gardy

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
602 S. MARKET STREET
MUNCY, PA 17756
7/21



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

CHURCH STAFF

- Joy Beachel, Marty McCabe, Custodians (W) 570-546-8030
- Lucy Buck, Music Director (H) 570-584-4521
- Barry Grove, Director of Operations, Finance Secretary (C) 570-447-0514
- Paige Kepner, Receptionist, Media Coordinator (W) 570-546-8030
- Gabby Marconnet, Children’s Ministry Coordinator (C) 570-916-9353
- Kevin Myers, Youth Ministry Coordinator (C) 570-412-2820
- Sherrill Reynolds, Secretary (W) 570-546-8030
- Jody Robinson, Church Treasurer, Communications Director (W) 570-546-8030
- Rick Robinson, Pastor (W) 570-546-8030
- Tom Ruhl, Associate Music Director (C) 570-220-1544



Celebrating New Life Together in Jesus Christ
Growing Deeper, Giving of Ourselves, Reaching Wider

July Newsletter