

NOVEMBER 2021



“Seek first
His Kingdom and
His righteousness.”
~Jesus
Matthew 6:33

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
570-546-8030
rrobinson@susumc.org
Pastor's office hours:
Mondays, Wednesdays,
Thursdays 9:00–12:00;
Tuesdays 1:00–4:00;
and by appointment

Sunday morning schedule

- Nursery care: 9:30–12:00
 - Worship services:
 - 8:15 traditional
 - 9:30 contemporary
 - 9:30 children's church
 - 10:45 traditional
 - Classes:
 - 9:30 adults
 - 10:30 adults, youth
 - 10:45 children's small grp.

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



Church-Wide Advent Opportunity!



Beginning the week of November 28, our 4-week Advent study will be “The Heart that Grew Three Sizes—finding faith in the story of the Grinch.” Join us as we rediscover the gift of Advent which “comes without packages, ribbons, and bows,” and find out how Christ speaks to us through our culture.

We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. In this study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, including: How did the Grinch's heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives?

There will be multiple group from which to choose (see the insert). Please sign up and take a book at the Connection Tables (narthex and café entrance).

Let There Be Christmas!

Did you feel a void in your Advent journey last year because the Christmas cantata was cancelled? Well, this year we proclaim, “Let There Be Christmas!” the title of the Joseph M. Martin cantata to be presented on December 19. Tom Ruhl, associate director of music at First UMC, Muncy, acknowledges the challenges caused by the pandemic. The COVID numbers will be monitored carefully and cautiously. Meanwhile, the approximately 40-voice choir is rehearsing. They will be accompanied by an orchestra of 25 musicians.

The cantata description reads, “Simply, and with unexpected gentleness, Bethlehem's star flickers to life like a candle in the winter wind, just when the night is longest. It kindles in the open heart a deep hope that warms and illuminates.” Encourage family and friends to be a part of this joyous experience!

“Jesus and Me” Children's Ministry News

Much excitement is coming to our JAM ministry as we prepare for Thanksgiving! We will leave our underwater adventure theme and transform our room to the “Plate It Cooking Show”!! The kids will love all the food references as we dive into a 4-week series from the Old Testament on The Prophets.

There will be a “Parent's Night Out” on Saturday, November 27, from 6:00 until 8:00 in Room 103. Parents are invited to drop off their children in order to get Christmas shopping done or just enjoy a quiet dinner.

The JAM children's church continues (Sundays 9:30–10:30). However, as of November 7, the 10:45 slot becomes our children's JAM small group. In November and December, this time will be used to prepare for our annual children's Christmas program—“One Starry Night”—which will be offered at 6:00 on Sunday, December 12.

This program will include refreshments, singing and the cutest kids in the area. This is an event you won't want to miss! Save the date!

Starting in January, the JAM small group at 10:45 on Sundays will be a time to reflect on the lesson of the week and dive a little deeper.

If you'd like to join the fun or have any questions, please contact Lisa Laidacker (570-419-8786; jesusandme@firstumcmuncy.org). Check out our Facebook page—JAM at First UMC Muncy. Please help us spread the word!

submitted by Lisa Laidacker, Administrative Director of Children's Ministries

Thanksgiving Worship Service 7:00 p.m. Wed., Nov. 24, sanctuary & live-streamed

Good 'n Plenty Supper Wed., Nov. 3
Curb-side pick up only

3:30–6:00 roast turkey, salad, corn, stuffing,
 gravy, mashed potatoes, dessert
 Suggested donation \$12 No child-size
 Dec. 1: baked ham, scalloped potatoes ...
 To help: Betsy Mothersbaugh, 570-971-7866

Get Connected!

*Please use our website calendar
 to confirm events closer to the date.*

- † Coffee Fellowship: Welcome Center and
 Living Water Café, before and after Sun-
 day worship services—Contact Candy
 Winters (570-546-3963) to host (make
 coffee, set out snacks, and clean up).
- † Men's fellowship: 8:00 p.m. Sundays;
 Kevin Myers, 570-412-2820
- † Body & Soul women's exercise: 9 a.m.
 Mondays and Thursdays, Celebration
 Center; Linda Holsinger, 570-546-6840
- † Men's fellowship breakfast: 7:00
 Tuesdays, Cracker Barrel Restaurant;
 Denny Hammond, 570-772-9983
- † Bible study: 10:00 Tuesdays, Living
 Water Café, no registration/homework;
 Pastor Rick, 570-546-8030
- † Bible characters study: 1:00 Weds.,
 Room 201; Sally Gardy, 570-546-7040
- † GriefShare: 6:30 Tuesdays, Welcome
 Cntr; Holly Pote, hmpote@yahoo.com
- † Bible study: 6:30, every other Wednes-
 day (Nov. 3, 17), lounge; Holly Pote,
 hmpote@yahoo.com
- † God Squad (gr 7–12): 6:30 Wednesdays,
 CC207; Kevin Myers, 570-412-2820
- † Women's prayer breakfast: Thursdays
 8:30; Betsy Mothersbaugh's home
 (Muncy), 570-971-7866
- † Rehearsals, Thursdays: hand bells (6:00,
 sanctuary; Tom Ruhl, 570-220-1544);
 chancel choir (7:00, Rm 203; Lucy
 Buck, 570-584-4521); 7:30 cantata choir
- † Mission Stitchers: 9–12:00 3rd Saturdays,
 CC107; Nancy Grove, 570-433-3133
- † Flour Power baking ministry: 9:00, last
 Saturdays; Patti Myers, 570-515-0674
- † Muncy Valley UM Men, fellowship
 and service: evenings 4th Mondays;
 Harold Geise, 570-538-9173

TREASURER'S REPORT

CURRENT EXPENSE

Balance 9-1-21	\$13,996.18
Receipts	31,302.48
Funds available	45,298.66
Total expenses	37,509.93
Net balance 10-1-21	7,788.73

BENEVOLENCE FUND

Balance 9-1-21	6,622.42
Receipts	2,920.00
Funds available	9,542.42
Total expenses	2,781.85
Net balance 10-1-21	6,760.57

BUILDING FUND

Balance 9-1-21	100,456.87
Receipts	2,606.00
Funds available	103,062.87
Total expenses	83,521.87
Net balance 10-1-21	19,541.00

Blessed to Be a Blessing

To volunteer to serve Holy Communion with a part-
 ner, to our homebound members and those in long-term
 care facilities, contact Betty Jo Soohy (570-584-2675).



United Methodist Women

Hope • Faith • Love in Action

United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday,
 November 9. Gail Pentz will present the annual “Pledge
 to Missions” program, detailing how our mission dollars
 are used in the United States and around the world.
 Members are asked to prayerfully consider their pledge
 for 2022. Join us at 7:00 in our Living Water Cafe.

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are to be
 returned to the church by Sunday, November 7. Boxes
 should not be wrapped. Donations toward the shipping
 should be placed in an envelope and put in the basket
 available at the Welcome Center or Living Water Café.
 Thank you for the tremendous response to this project!

World Thank Offering Sunday is November 21.
 Those who have been collecting coins in their white cup
 banks should bring them to worship that day. United
 Methodist Women leads worship services that morning.

Anyone wishing to attend **World Community Day**,
 sponsored by Church Women United in Lycoming
 County, on Friday, November 5, can contact Karen
 Barraco to carpool (570-546-5180). This ecumenical
 gathering will be at Ebenezer Baptist Church, 527 Park
 Avenue, Williamsport, at 1:30.

submitted by Karen Barraco, UMW Secretary



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!

- 11/1 Diane Shoop
- 11/2 Kristin Timer, Vonnie Poust
- 11/3 Gary Allhouse, George Duckworth
- 11/4 Jamie Brelsford, Judy Rider, David Schoch
- 11/5 Reese Roca
- 11/6 Dennis Fausey, Noah Hoffman, Gail Nuss
- 11/8 Ryder Foreman
- 11/10 Kent Bennett, Pearl Rathmell
- 11/11 Marta Smay, Harold Geise, Nixon Lamper,
Willow Nichols, Philip Ruhl
- 11/13 Donna McCaslin
- 11/14 McKenna Beyer
- 11/16 Patsy Charles
- 11/17 Gregg Rhodes
- 11/18 Jerry Walburn, Jason Winters
- 11/19 David Wallis
- 11/20 Danica Barnes, Royce Boyles, Kerm Breon,
Ali Stratton
- 11/21 Suzy Foresman
- 11/22 Alicia Blackwell, Rayma Gover,
Reed Hansen, Jonathan McJunkin
- 11/24 Chantal Gadoury
- 11/25 McCaulay Eisenhauer, David Holsinger,
Patti Myers
- 11/26 Devaney Hanford
- 11/27 Mya Evans, Glenn Schell, Paige Wright
- 11/28 Janet Brown, Dawson Zerbe
- 11/29 Cathy Henry, Phyllis Strasburg



- 11/18 Bobbi and Corey Bellows
- 11/20 Deb and Marshal Frye
- 11/24 Nancy and Dick Lyons,
Susanne and Tyler Morse
- 11/27 Sue and Garth Everett
- 11/28 George and Cathy Henry



Sympathy is extended to the loved ones of
Marilyn Gordner

February 17, 1942–October 8, 2021
and

Bob Wertman
April 14, 1936–October 9, 2021.



THANK YOU

I would like to thank all the persons who sent cards, gifts and food to my house for my birthday. Your thoughtfulness and kindness are very much appreciated. Gary Edwards

Dear First UMC Muncy,

Thank you so much for the use of your beautiful church for our loved one's memorial service. It was very comforting to us.

God bless, The Webb Family

Dear Friends at First UMC,

The Muncy Library thanks you for sharing your pavilion and outdoor space with us for our Medieval Faire. We appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely, Corey Breneisen, Director

Our trustees committee sends a big "thank you" to everyone who helped install the new ceiling and recessed lighting in the pavilion. The ceiling will help keep the area cleaner by discouraging birds and other wildlife, and the lighting will offer a brighter outdoor space for evening use.

Dear Members of First UMC,

Wow! Thank you all very much for this generous donation towards Meagan's Box Foundation. I and the children we serve are blessed to have the support of your congregation. Christmas is coming and this donation is very much appreciated. God is so good to this project and so are all of you.

Always, Meagan Murray

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank everyone who helped in making Beryl's memorial service a beautiful tribute to her life. From the facility set-up, the livestream, the music and sermon to the delicious meal, we are very thankful for everything. We would also like to say thank you to the church family for being such a blessing to Beryl. She always loved her times listening to the music, especially the bells. She also cherished her time with Carolyn, Janice, and Paige, working on the bulletins. Thank you for all of your support, love, and prayers.

In Christ, The family of Beryl Magyar

Are you looking to learn about the history of our church? We welcome you to join the archives committee. Please call Chairperson Joanie Wallis (570-546-8108) or a committee member (Connie Holtzapple, David Young, Chalmer VanHorn).





Making Sure There's More Than Enough

Thank you to all who helped to deliver hope through your generous donations to

Dwell Orphan Care in September. Dwell staff members were overjoyed to receive diapers, wipes, clothing, duffle bags and so much more for their Hope Chest, a supply for local foster children and the families who care for them.

submitted by Karen Barraco

Toys for Tots donations may be brought to the labeled box at the lower level coat rack, near our Living Water Café, through December 18.

Touch-A-Heart Ministry

This is our 35th year for the Touch-A-Heart community effort. WOW!!!

For those who are not familiar with this outreach, children and senior citizens receive Christmas gifts from sponsors. A list of items to purchase for the senior citizens is on the designated tag (male/female). Their gifts don't need to be gift-wrapped. Children's gifts need to be gift-wrapped, with the tag placed on the front of the gift. If you forget to sign up, don't worry. Extra tags will be available.

Monetary donation envelopes will be available for those who wish to participate but can't do the shopping. Donations are spent on senior citizen gifts.

A pre-kickoff signup sheet will be at the Connection Tables beginning **November 7**. Tags will be available at the Connection Tables **November 21 through December 5**. All gifts are to be returned to the church by Sunday, **December 12**.

Anyone interested in helping with the distribution or having any questions regarding Touch-A-Heart, may contact Candy Winters (570-546-3963).

submitted by Candy Winters



To sponsor worship service flowers in 2022, please sign up in the narthex.



To order a 2022 **"Disciplines"** daily devotional sign up by December 1 in the Welcome Center.

Potted poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary in late December. To make dedications, use the order forms at Connection Tables or the link in "First Light." If unable to obtain a form, please call the church office (570-546-8030). The deadline is November 14.

Annual Church Conference

Our church's annual conference is at 7:00 on Sunday, November 21, at Faith UMC, Montoursville. Officers will be elected for the next year, reports received, the mission and ministry of the congregation is evaluated, and objectives recommended by the church council are adopted. Members of our church council are members of the this conference, however anyone may attend (but may not vote).

Advent Groups *(continued from page 1)*

All groups begin meeting the week of November 28.

Sundays 9:30 Room 202 - Leader: Deb Steransky
10:30 Living Water Cafe - Leader: Dave Gehrum
Mondays 6:30 - Location TBA - Leader: John Smay
Tuesdays 10:00 - Living Water Cafe - Leader: Pastor Rick
Wednesdays 1:00 - Room 201 - Leader: Sally Gardy
6:30 - Living Water Cafe - Leader: TBA
Childcare upon request, 6:30 Wednesdays
6:30 (gr 7-12) CC207 - Leader: Kevin Myers


Online option: Contact Cori Cotner, cori.cotner@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

We hold in prayer our church family who are homebound or living in long-term care facilities, along with those from our community who are serving in the armed services.

- Homebound: Anne Knox, Floss McCarty, Elsie Smith, Phyllis Strasburg
- Assisted living and nursing home/rehab centers: Emily Bressette, LeRoy Frontz, Jean Hester, Jake LeVan, Bill McCarty, Tony Rebuck, Alberta Shaner, Tom Weaver
- Serving in the military: Brett Bardo, Tyler Barto, Jamie Campbell, Morgan Eck, Madison Foreman, Josh Garverick, Pat Gaydon, John Kuhn, Matt Lucas, Matthew McCabe, Chad McElwee, Ginger Paddock, Derek Reese, Chris Secules, Tyler Smay, Coty Steele, Scott Wolfe, Roy Zeisloft

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Daylight Saving Time: Turn clocks back one hour for November 7.	1 9:00 Women's exercise	2 7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 7AM-8PM Election polling 8:30 Take Off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible Study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Church council 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	3 1:00 Bible study 3:30-6:00 Good 'n Plenty Supper --Take out only 6:30 Bible study 6:30 Youth group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	4 8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's exercise 9:00 Archives com 6:00 Hand bells rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Chancel choir rehearsal 7:30 Cantata hrsl	5 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	6 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Benefit social dance
All Saints Sun 7 8:15 Worship 9:30 Children's church 9:30 Classes 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult class 10:30 God Squad Rewind 10:45 Children's small group 10:45 Worship	8 9:00 Women's exercise	9 7:00 Men's brkfst 8:30 Take Off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible study 12:00 Daughters of Am Revolution 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 UM Women	10 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 God Squad 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	11 8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's exercise 6:00 Hand bells rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Chancel choir rehearsal 7:30 Cantata hrsl	12 5:30-9:00 Muncy Historical Society Artist Exhibition & Sale 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	13 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00-3:00 Muncy Historical Society Artist Exhibition & Sale
Heritage Sun. 14 8:15 Worship 9:30 Children's church 9:30 Classes 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult class 10:30 God Squad Rewind 10:45 Children's small group 10:45 Worship	15 9:00 Women's exercise 7:00 Trustees committee	16 7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take Off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	17 12:00 Senior citizens 1:00 Bible study 4:30 Rotary Club International 5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 Bible study 6:30 God Squad 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	18 8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's exercise 12:00 Widows Mite @ Wolf Run 6:00 Bells rehrsl 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Chancel choir rehearsal 7:30 Cantata hrsl	19 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	20 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 Mission Stitches 11:00 Priv. party
World Thank Sun. 21 8:15 Worship 9:30 Chldrn chrch 9:30 Classes 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult class 10:30 God Squad 10:45 Children's small group 10:45 Worship 12:00 Little Spartan Football 1:30 Cantata hrsl 7:00 Church conf.	22 9:00 Women's exercise	23 7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take Off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible study 6:15 Hand bells rehearsal 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Chancel choir rehearsal 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 Cantata hrsl	24 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 God Squad 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Muncy Women's Club 7:00 Thanksgiving worship service	25 Thanksgiving Office Closed <i>Give thanks unto the LORD: for he is good.</i>  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	26 Office Closed 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	27 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 Flour Power 6:00 Parent's Night Out
Advent begins 28 8:15 Worship 9:30 Advent study; classes 9:30 Children's church 9:30 Worship 10:30 Advent study 10:30 God Squad Rewind 10:45 Children's small group 10:45 Worship	29 9:00 Women's exercise 6:30 Advent study	30 7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take Off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Advent stdy 6:30 Advent study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 Finance com	1 1:00 Advent study 5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 Advent study 6:30 God Squad 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	2 8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Archives committee 6:00 Hand bells rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Chancel choir rehearsal 7:30 Cantata rehearsal	3 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	4 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:00 Antique Auto. Club of Am. 7:00 Benefit social dance