

APRIL 2022



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
602 S. Market St.
Muncy, PA 17756-1628

570-546-8030
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



Holy Week 101

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (April 10), progresses through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (April 14 and 15), and culminates with the Easter Sunday celebration (April 17). (See the worship service schedule on page 2.)

Palm Sunday commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. The Gospels record the arrival of Jesus riding into the city on a donkey, while the crowds spread their cloaks and palm branches on the street and shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David” and “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” to honor him as their long-awaited Messiah and King.

Maundy/Holy Thursday is the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word “Maundy” comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means “commandment.” As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). While John's Gospel does not record the institution of the Lord's Supper among the events of this night, the other Gospels do. Christians therefore mark this night with celebration of Holy Communion.

The term Good Friday may be a corruption of the English phrase “God's Friday.” It proclaims God's purpose of loving and redeeming the world through the cross of our Lord. It's “good” because God drew the world to Himself in Christ.

Easter Season

Easter, for Christians, is not just one day, but a 50-day period. The season of Easter begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends on Pentecost (June 9), the day on which we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church of Christ (described in the book of Acts in the Bible, chapter 2).

This is the most joyous season of the Christian year. We celebrate the Good News, that in Christ's death and resurrection, we are continually being made new by God's love and saving grace. It gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. We remember our baptisms and how through this sacrament we are, as stated in the liturgy, “incorporated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation.” As “Easter people” we celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and how we can live as faithful disciples.



Jesus and Me Children's Ministry Event

A color run on April 9 (rain date April 10) will teach children the Easter story through having colored powders added to their white T-shirt at stations on the run, on church property and Sherman Street Extension (closed to traffic at that time).

New Study on the Holy Spirit Starts April 25

The forty days after the resurrection of Jesus are filled with joy and wonder. Then, before Jesus ascends into heaven, he tells the disciples not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father—the Holy Spirit. After the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the book of Acts states in chapter two that “all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’”

What does this mean? To be honest, most of us are still asking that question. We can begin to explore the gift of the Holy Spirit in a 5-week study April 25–May 23, Mondays at 6:30 in the lounge, with John Smay as leader. Registration begins April 3. Sign up at a Connection Table or contact the church office (570-546-8030, office@FirstUMCMuncy.org). As we celebrate Pentecost Sunday together on June 5, you will come with a deeper understanding of what this means in your life and in the life of the church.


Music Day Camp June 12–17
 for grades 1–8
 Brochures: Connection Tables
 Performance: 7:00 June 17
 

Graduates Recognition

Graduates Recognition Sunday will be June 12. Any student graduating from high school, college or other post secondary training who has not received a letter from the church by April 11 regarding this should contact the office (office@firstumcmuncy.org, 546-8030).

Women's Prayer Workshop

Our annual women's retreat/workshop will be 9:00–12:00 on Saturday, April 30, in our Living Water Café, with Pastor Susan Halverstadt as our leader. It will be an in-person event (not virtual also, as originally published).

The theme is "Awaken Our Hearts to Prayer," with presentation, discussion and individual exercises. The scripture focus is Matthew 6:9–13. Registration forms are at Connection Tables and the church website. Suggested donation is \$10. For confidential financial aid, contact Jody Robinson, Church Treasurer (570-546-8030). Contact Paige Kepner (570-971-5556), Barb Kiessling (570-506-4977), or Lois Velkoff (546-6503) with questions.

We will ask: How can I deepen and expand my prayer life? Can Jesus show me the way to pray? We'll learn how digging into The Lord's Prayer can take us closer to the path of Jesus' way of life.

The Rev. Dr. Halverstadt earned a B.S. degree in Education/Music from Western Michigan University; a B.S. degree in Nutrition (not theology, as stated in the March newsletter) from Park College, MO; a Master of Divinity degree from St. Paul School of Theology, MO; and a D.C. from Cleveland Chiropractic College, Kansas City, MO.

She serves as pastor of Faxon-Kenmar UMC, Williamsport, is an elder of the Susquehanna Conference, UMC, and has led retreats and workshops.

submitted by Paige Kepner

Holy Week

April 10 Palm Sunday

April 14 Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:00 (live-streamed)

April 15 Good Friday worship service 7:00 (live-streamed)

Easter Sunday, April 17

Son Rise Worship Service 6:30 a.m., Memorial Garden

Breakfast for church family, 7:30, Celebration Center

Worship service 10:00 (livestreamed) (no 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 services)

Children's Church 10:00, Room 103

Adult classes: Bible Life & Times 8:45;

Wesleyan and 9:30 canceled

Youth: God Squad Rewind canceled

Anyone interested in playing in the local co-ed Christian softball league, for ages 12 through adult, may contact our church office.

Staff Position Open

Praise God, our Jesus and Me children's ministry is growing! Our staff-parish relations committee is accepting résumés and cover letters at the church office for the position of children's ministry coordinator. Job descriptions are at the office and on Connections Tables.

Bishops' Invitation



An informational gathering will be held on Tuesday, April 5, at 7:00 in our sanctuary, with Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball and Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi. All laity (members and attenders) are invited. This is in-person only (not live-streamed). Doors will open at 6:30. There is no registration. A recording will be available after April 25 at susumc.org.

The bishops will: lead us in worship; share their portfolios and how the work of both bishops will lead us in ministry and mission; share their vision for the United Methodist Church in the Susquehanna and how our distinctive Wesleyan characteristics will guide us to lead Christ's mission in The United Methodist Church; and give us an update on the latest announcement regarding General Conference. There will be time for questions.

United Methodist Support for Ukraine

A special offering was received in March for support of Ukraine, via the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Their efforts help with the humanitarian crisis created by the war there. UMCOR is working with Methodist leadership in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. UM churches in those countries assist internally displaced people and refugees with food, water, shelter, hygiene and other needs. To give, make checks payable to First UMC and write "Ukraine" on the memo line.

2022 online camping registration

- for ages 4 (with parent) through adult
- a variety of camping choices

www.susumcamps.org

Our church pays ½ the fee!

Brochures: Connection Tables

*Building authentic connections
in Christ, community and creation*

Get Connected!

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

- † Coffee, snacks: Welcome Center and Living Water Café, before/after Sunday 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
- † Study: 10:00 Tuesdays, in our café; no registration, no homework; Pastor Rick
- † GriefShare: 13-week series, 6:30 Tuesdays, Living Water Café; Holly Pote, hmpote@yahoo.com
- † Study: 1:00 Wednesdays, Room 202; Sally Gardy, 570-546-7040
- † God Squad (gr 7–12): 6:30 Wednesdays, CC207; Kevin Myers, 570-412-2820
- † Study: 6:30 Wednesdays, café; Led by Pastor Rick
- † Bible study: 6:30, every other Wednesday (April 27), lounge; Holly Pote, hmpote@yahoo.com
- † Women's prayer breakfast: Thursdays 8:30, Betsy Mothersbaugh's home (Muncy), 570-971-7866
- † Rehearsals, Thursdays: hand bells (6:15, Tom Ruhl, 570-220-1544); chancel choir (7:30; Lucy Buck, 570-584-4521)
- † Mission Stitchers: 9–12:00 3rd Saturdays, Nancy Grove, 570-433-3133
- † Muncy Valley UM Men: 4th Mondays, Harold Geise, 570-538-9173

TREASURER'S REPORT**CURRENT EXPENSE**

Balance 2/1/21	\$ 3,833.93
Receipts	42,394.90
Funds available	46,228.83
Total expenses	36,957.84
Net balance 3/1/22	9,270.99

BENEVOLENCE FUND

Balance 2/1/21	10,265.25
Receipts	2,971.00
Funds available	13,236.25
Total expenses	9,290.62
Net balance 3/1/22	3,945.63

BUILDING FUND

Balance 2/1/21	10,180.94
Receipts	4,858.00
Funds available	15,038.94
Total expenses	1,000.00
Net balance 3/1/22	14,038.94

Good 'n Plenty Supper—Curb-side pick up only

Wed., April 6 3:30–6:00
Filled pork chops, mashed potatoes,
gravy, vegetable, salad, dessert
Suggested donation \$12 No child-size meals
May 4: pulled pork on Kaiser roll

Older Adults Lunch

Our Keenagers group of older adults will join the Muncy Senior Citizens for lunch at 12:00 on Wednesday, April 20. Please call Linda Holsinger to make a reservation (570-546-6840).

Prayers: Homebound/Armed Forces

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 forces.

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
602 S. MARKET STREET
MUNCY, PA 17756
4/22

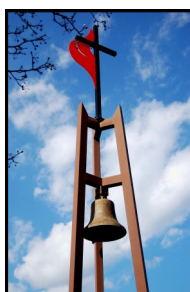


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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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
Lisa Laidacker, Administrative Director of Children's Ministries.....(C) 570-4198786
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
The Rev. Richard Robinson, Pastor(W) 570-546-8030
Tom Ruhl, Associate Music Director.....(C) 570-220-1544



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

April Newsletter



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!*

- 4/1 Daxton Cotner, Nathaniel Lewis, Tom Ritter
- 4/2 Katherine Ebner, Ryan Houseknecht,
Makenzi Leitenberger, Emily McKee
- 4/4 Kiley Nierzwicki
- 4/5 Ava Zeisloft
- 4/8 Matthew Lucas, Arlene Opp, Tom Ruhl
- 4/9 Lucy Buck, Avery Wright
- 4/10 Judy Stover
- 4/11 Janice Easton, Bruce Weaver
- 4/12 Karen Barraco, Paula McCabe, Tyler Potts
- 4/13 Barb Morgan, Pastor Rick Robinson
- 4/14 Dan Cotner
- 4/18 Monica Hill, Ashley Miller, Kim Feigles
- 4/20 Madison Kiess
- 4/21 Joyce Hampe, Joyce McCarty
- 4/22 Jim Brown, Timothy Buck,
Jacoby Foresman, Sharon Goss, Holly Pote
- 4/23 Kyle Feigles, Joanne Miller
- 4/24 Joanne Cromley, Bob Webb, Emily Webb
- 4/27 Roger Frantz, Nancy Kohl, Lori Lewis,
Sandy Rigby, Colt Snyder
- 4/28 Ben June, Larry Miller
- 4/29 Nancy Grove, Meg Hoffman
- 4/30 Spencer Cotner



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- 4/1 Leslie and Bobby Mertz
 - 4/2 Heather and Lee Koser
 - 4/4 Jody and Pastor Rick Robinson
 - 4/14 Elizabeth and Glenn Klucka
 - 4/16 Kathy and Nate Grenoble
 - 4/21 Suzy and Brad Foresman
 - 4/23 Bonnie and Tony Rebuck
 - 4/26 Toni and Shawn Leitenberger
 - 4/30 Clara and Kent Bennett,
Diana and Wes Zeisloft



Jesus and Me Children's News

JAM will offer vacation Bible school June 6–10 in the evenings. We'll need many adult volunteers, so please consider helping in any way you can. If you don't have your child abuse background clearances, you can still help with the logistics. Signup sheets are on the Connection Tables.



THANK YOU

Thank you for the cards, prayers and well wishes in March at the time of my hospital stay.

Marty McCabe

We are thankful for the cards, calls, meals, prayers and support during our treatments.

Bill and Patrice Bond

Thank you to everyone for their prayers for Joe. He is doing fairly well but still needs therapy.

Becky and Joe Hutchinson

Thank you to everyone who supported the God Squad youth in their World Vision 30-Hour Famine fundraiser. At last count, they had raised about \$2,200.00, well above their goal of \$1,000.00!

A sincere thank you to all who volunteered to make a meal and deliver it to Family Promise last week. The meals were much appreciated by the families. We always strive to give our best to those in need and your commitment to making this ministry flourish are appreciated. Well done servants.

Joyce McCarty

*(following First UMC's Feb. donation of \$1935.00)
Thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity! Your support makes it possible for us to provide ministries that reach out to our neighbors, touching them with God's love, grace and hope.*

With a passion for unity,

Tammey Aichner, Director

United Churches of Lycoming County

Dear Church Family,

Just wanted to express my appreciation for the extra ministry that is part of our church caring for others. From the taking of Holy Communion to those in care homes to the program to take lunches to shut-ins and care homes, plus some of the elderly. I know all who take part in the planning, preparing and delivery will be blessed. Thank you so much.

Carol LeVan

Thank you so very much for the cards and calls during my illness. They arrived at the perfect time to cheer me up and make me feel better. I am especially thankful for your prayers. There were times when things were getting worse. Those were the times I felt the power of God through all your prayers. Having all of you in my church family is one of God's greatest gifts. Thank you.

Linda Miller

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3</p>					<p>1</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous</p> <p>1:00 Private party</p> <p>7:00 Benefit social dance</p>
<p>3</p> <p>8:15 Worship 9:30-12:00 Nursery care 9:30 Adult classes 9:30 Children's Church 9:30 Lent study 9:30 Worship 10:30 God Squad 10:30 Lent study 10:45 Worship 1:30 Confirm. class</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 Women's exercise</p> <p>6:30 Lent study</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Lent Study</p> <p>6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Bishops' Info. Gathering 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:00 Lent study 3:30-6:00 Good 'n Plenty take out</p> <p>5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 Lent study 6:30 Path study 6:30 Youth group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Archives committee 9:00 Women's exercise 6:15 Hand bells rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 10:00 Kids' Easter Color Run</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Palm Sunday 8:15 Worship 9:30-12:00 Nursery care 9:30 Adult classes 9:30 Children's Church 9:30 Worship 10:30 God Squad 10:45 Worship 1:30 Confirm. class 2:00 Color Run rain date</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 Women's exercise</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible study</p> <p>12:00 Daughters of Am Revolution</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1:00 Lent study</p> <p>5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 Lent study 6:30 Path study 6:30 Youth group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous</p>	<p>Maundy Thur. 14</p> <p>8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's exercise</p> <p>7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Good Friday Church Office Closed</p> <p>7:00 Good Friday Worship Service 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 Mission Stitches</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Easter 6:30 Son Rise outdoor worship 7:30 Breakfast 8:45 BLT/Rm202 class (note time) No 9:30, 10:30 or 1:30 classes 10:00 Children's Church (note time) 10:00 Nursery care (note time) 10:00 Combined worship service</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 Women's exercise</p> <p>6:30 Vision Team 7:00 Trustees committee</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible study</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:00 Sr Citizens and Keenagers 1:00 Bible study</p> <p>5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 Pastor's stdy 6:30 Youth group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's exercise 12:00 Widow's Mite 6:00 Muncy Garden Club 6:15 Bells rhrl 6:30 Discipleship team 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir rhrl</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous</p> <p>2:00 Private party</p> <p>5:00 Little Spartans Banquet</p>
<p>24</p> <p>8:15 Worship 9:30-12:00 Nursery care 9:30 Adult classes 9:30 Children's Church 9:30 Worship 10:30 God Squad Rewind 10:45 Worship 1:30 Confirmation class</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 Women's exercise</p> <p>6:00 Muncy Valley UM Men 6:30 Holy Spirit study 7:00 Vision and ministry teams</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 Men's brkfst @ Cracker Barrel 8:30 Take off Pounds Sensibly 10:00 Bible study</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00 Bible study</p> <p>5:30 Praise band rehearsal 6:30 Bible study 6:30 Pastor's stdy 6:30 Youth group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Muncy Women's Club</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's exercise</p> <p>6:15 Hand bells rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 Women's prayer workshop</p>