



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 2022 – NEWSLETTER

602 S. Market St., Muncy, PA 17756

Phone: (570) 546-8030

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www.firstumcmuncy.org
office@firstumcmuncy.org

Pastor: Rev. Richard "Rick" N. Robinson, Jr.

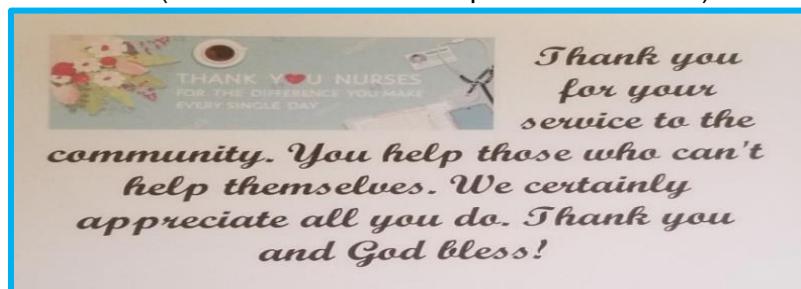
"We are a welcoming family of Christ followers, living lives of generosity as we seek to be a blessing to others."

FIRST UMC IN ACTION

Blessed to be a Blessing

Did you know that nurses work long hours and often don't get a chance to eat during their shift? This is especially true now, during the current labor shortage. A few ladies at First UMC wanted to make sure that some of our local nurses know that we appreciate them and that they get a quick meal. Elaine Duckworth and Patti Myers took soup, rolls, fruit, cookies, brownies and drinks to the nurses at Geisinger Hospital this week. Thanks for shining the light of Christ. Do you see a need in our community? How is God calling you to fill that need?

(below: card that accompanied their lunch)

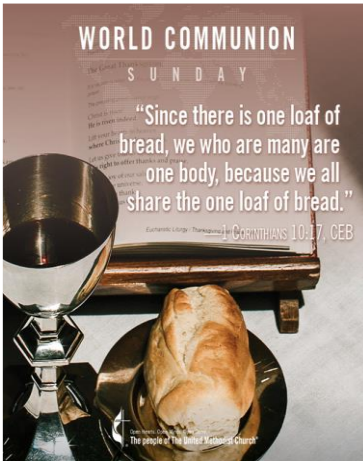


Blessed to be a Blessing

A hearty group of church friends gathered on September 17 to help a sister in Christ clean up some trees on her property. Thanks for all your hard work, Friends.



World Communion Combined Service



The sacrament of Holy Communion invites us to focus on the holiness of communion with God and one another. That unity is celebrated by churches worldwide each year on World Communion Sunday. This year, World Communion Sunday will be celebrated on **October 2**. To celebrate the unity we have in Christ, we will gather as one body at a **COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE** at **10:00 a.m.** in the sanctuary. Sunday school classes will be held at the discretion of teachers and class members. Because we are celebrating our oneness in Jesus Christ, we will welcome the children to join in our worship and there will be NO JAM or nursery offered that day.

In addition to celebrating communion, United Methodists also take a special offering each year that supports racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities through Christian witness. The offering provides scholarships that supports racial and ethnic students pursuing ordained ministry. It also funds Ethnic-In-Service Training Grant for leadership development. You can place your offerings in a special offering envelope found in the pews or on the Connection Tables. Check the “World Communion” box and place in the offering plates. We pray that you will plan to join us on October 2nd for this special worship service.

Is it time to take your Next Step?

Have you been joining us for a while and want to learn more about First UMC and the ministries we offer? Are you interested in becoming a more deeply committed follower of Jesus Christ? Are you interested in learning more about membership at First UMC?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, you’re invited to join us for an informal gathering to talk with Pastor Rick and some of our ministry leadership, learn who we are as a faith community, and discover how you can take the “next step” on your journey of discipleship! Meet us in the church’s Living Water Café on Thursday, October 20 at 6:30 p.m.

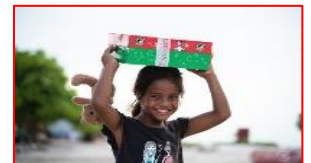


Contact the church office 570-546-8030 or office@firstumcmuncy.org to register and let us know if you will need childcare during the meeting.

Operation Christmas Child

Submitted by Gail Pentz

The Mission and Outreach Committee will have a kickoff on Sunday, October 9 for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox mission project. Shoeboxes, provided by Samaritan’s Purse, will be available in the Welcome Center or outside the Living Water Café. Instructions on how to pack a shoebox and suggested items will be available. When you pick up a box, please sign the sheet indicating that you have taken one or more boxes. The cost of shipping each box is \$10.00. If you can contribute all or part of that expense, please place your donation in an envelope provided at the table. Envelopes should be placed in the basket at those locations. Please do not put the donation in the shoebox and do not wrap the shoebox. Shoeboxes should be returned to either location no later than Sun, November 6. Children around the world will be blessed this Christmas season with your gift-filled shoebox. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Pentz at 570-546-3998.



Congregational Advent Devotional – Sharing Your Faith Story

Submitted by Karen Barraco



Sharing our faith stories with others can be a source of encouragement and inspiration. This year for Advent, the Discipleship Team is giving everyone the opportunity to be a part of creating a Congregational Advent Devotional booklet that will be available to the church family for daily readings during this special time of year leading to the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Your submission should include a scripture reference and a one or two sentence concluding prayer. Your story could tell of a specific time when you felt God's presence, perhaps through answered prayer or healing. It could be a recent experience, or something which happened long ago. Prayerfully consider what you would like to write.

Unfortunately, the space in the booklet is limited to one side of an 8-1/2 x 11 sheet folded in half. The word count would be approximately 350. Advent begins November 27, and we need readings for 28 days. Submissions should be sent to project coordinator Elaine Duckworth at elaineduckworth@yahoo.com. You may also leave your write-up in the church office. Be sure to include your name! Deadline for your submission is October 16 to allow time to have everything printed. The Advent Devotional booklet will be available for pick up at the church beginning Nov. 6.

Good 'N Plenty News

Good News! The Good 'N Plenty meals will be returning this fall, although things will look quite different, especially in the beginning as we rebuild and re-vision. Instead of monthly meals, we will start off with offering meals in November, March and May. The meals will be dine-in only (except for delivery to our shut-ins). This is due to a lack of helpers and to our focus of building relationships with members of our community. The November meal will be held on November 2nd and will run from 5:00–6:30 p.m. Menu: baked ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, roll, dessert and beverage. Price: to be determined.

The leaders of this ministry NEED YOUR HELP!! We are looking for wait staff, kitchen help and clean-up help. If you can help in any of these areas, please contact Cathy Henry at 570-220-6664 or Deb Frye at 570-419-6430.

Let's get these dinners rolling again! Helping in this fun ministry is the best fellowship ever!

TREASURER'S REPORT

CURRENT EXPENSE

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Balance 8/1/22 | \$24,588.73 |
| Receipts | 31,905.04 |
| Funds available | 56,493.77 |
| Total expenses | 54,995.96 |
| Net balance 9/1/22 | 1,497.81 |

BENEVOLENCE FUND

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Balance 8/1/22 | \$ 4,596.88 |
| Receipts | 2,588.00 |
| Funds available | 7,184.88 |
| Total expenses | 1,331.92 |
| Net balance 9/1/22 | 5,852.96 |

BUILDING FUND

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Balance 8/1/22 | \$16,073.40 |
| Receipts | 2,616.00 |
| Funds available | 18,689.40 |
| Total expenses | 12,100.00 |
| Net balance 9/1/22 | 6,589.40 |

Sunday Morning Schedule

- Nursery care: 9:30–Noon (age 4 and under)
- Worship services:
 - 8:15 Traditional
 - 9:30 Contemporary
 - 9:30–10:30 Children's Church (age 5 through grade 6)
 - 10:45 Traditional
- Classes:
 - 9:30 adults
 - 10:30 adults; youth



JAM Children's Ministry Save the Dates:

- Glow Night—October 14
- Parent's Night Out—November 25
- Children's Christmas Program—Dec. 11

Muncy Valley United Methodist Men

Submitted by Chalmer VanHorn

The Muncy Valley Methodist Men met on August 22 at The Mapleton Community Center. Three members were present, and their decision was to not reschedule any more meetings until someone comes forward to act as president. The treasurer will continue to pay our World Vision Commitment of \$30 a month until our treasury is depleted. We have enough funds to last nine months. If no one comes forward to be the president, the group will be terminated.



Caring for Body & Soul

Submitted by Karen Barraco



Women interested in stretching exercises and a light cardio workout should consider being a part of the Body & Soul group which meets every Monday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–10 a.m. in the Celebration Center gym. Sessions start with a short devotional, sharing joys and concerns, and prayer. Group led exercises are followed by walking around the perimeter of the gym. Participants can bring stretch bands and weights of their own, or use bands and weights provided (1, 2 or 3 lb. sizes). Women in the group range from age 60 to 80+ and everyone exercises at their own comfort level. Some days are better than others, right? For more information, contact Linda Holsinger, 570-546-6840.

What: Indoor Yard Sale

When: Saturday, October 8 from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Where: here in the Celebration Center gym

Donated items drop-off times:

Thurs., Oct. 6 from 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 7 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

If these times don't work for you, call the church office to make alternate arrangements.

For the yard sale to be a success, we will need lots of helpers:

- 1) People to help during the above collection times
- 2) people during the yard sale
- 3) people for several hours after the yard sale to pack up remaining items. You can volunteer to help by calling the church office or by using this [online sign-up sheet](#).

If you have questions, please contact the church office. (570-546-8030)



It's back ... And, that time again!!

Turn in nut order forms with payment (made payable to FUMC; memo line: nuts) to the church office or through the offering plates/baskets **by Oct. 30.**

Forms are at the Connection Tables.

This is our annual "Mission and Outreach" fundraiser for mission projects.

Delivery will be by Thanksgiving.



Let's Celebrate!

BIRTHDAYS

10/1 Adria Eck, Robin Bardo, Travis McNett
10/2 Nancy Lyons
10/3 Tiffany Boyles, Betsy Mothersbaugh, Bonnie Rebuck
10/5 Mary Root, Kay Wagner, Randy Welch
10/7 Leona Dewalt, Brooke Hansen, Alexa & Madison Karschner
10/9 Murray Hanford, Sadie Ritter
10/10 Tom Brittain, Jamie Hanford
10/13 Celia Roca
10/15 Gary Edwards, Craig Miller
10/17 Katie Nichols, Stacie Nierzwicki
10/18 Ryan Riddell
10/20 Mark Beyer, Don Johnson, Barry Shuck
10/22 Heather McCaslin
10/23 Persephone Boyles, Brooke Reynolds
10/24 Aurora Boyles, Jo Langer, John Smay, Emilia Winters
10/25 Amy Myers, Abby Potts
10/26 Linda Geise, Tom Weaver
10/28 Mike Wood
10/29 Jean Bogart, Jackie Leinhard Shuck

ANNIVERSARIES

10/1 MaryAnn and Kerm Breon – 56th
10/2 Jayme (Winters) and Ryan McClung
10/5 Ann and Wayne Dougherty – 66th,
Nicole and Don Johnson,
Steph and Jan Mostowy,
Lizze and Justin Winters
10/6 Valerie and Dan Kelley
10/7 Donna and Leon McCaslin – 55th
10/8 Jenni and Zach Soohy
10/10 Betsy and Clay Fahringer
10/11 Juli and Dan Mingle
10/12 Barb and Mitch Morgan,
10/15 Michelle and Chip Cowher,
Dani and Gordie Eck
10/17 Jo Ann and Dave Swartz
10/21 Shelley and Bob Webb
10/22 Patrice and Bill Bond
10/30 Lyla and Gary Allshouse,
Katie and Brad Nichols



Dear Church Family,

"The outpouring of love that Dick and I received from our church family, especially through my recent surgery, has been overwhelming! It is with sincere gratitude that we offer thanks for the delicious meals, the thoughts, prayers and well-wishes. A special huge thanks to Team Ruhl and my wonderful bell choir family for the beautiful planter, and the many kindnesses that you showed! We are forever humbled by your generosity. What a blessing to be a part of this amazing church."

Thank you, and God bless.

Jo and Dick Langer

Dear First United Methodist Church,

"Thank you for the lovely lunch you provided to us at Geisinger Muncy! The soups and baked goods were delicious! We so appreciate your generosity and kindness – it definitely brightened our day here!"

Steph, Jessica, Crystal and Anika

We would like to thank our church family for all the support, cards, calls, prayers and well wishes during our health issues and then the death of our son.

Bill and Patrice Bond



- **Homebound:** Peach Bardo – 2699 Haas Lane, Montoursville, PA 17756
Floss McCarty – 589 Kepner Hill Road, Muncy, PA 17756
Elsie Smith – 700 Glade Run Rd, Muncy, PA 17756

- **Assisted living facilities and nursing/rehabilitation centers:**

Doris Fritz – Wolf Run Village (Rm. A12), 3750 Rt. 220, Hwy., Hughesville, PA 17737
Phone: (570) 584-0104
LeRoy Frontz – Muncy Place (Rm. 113), 215 E. Water St., Muncy, PA 17756
Anne Knox – Wolf Run Village (Rm. D13), 3750 Rt. 220, Hwy., Hughesville, PA 17737
Phone: (570) 974-1020
Jake LeVan – Hillside Senior Living Center (Rm. 207), Montoursville, PA 17754
Bill McCarty – Embassy of Loyalsock (Rm. 306), 1445 Sycamore Rd., Montoursville, PA
Phone: (570) 601-8284
Tony Rebuck – Roseview Nursing Center (Rm. 215), 1201 Rural Ave., Wmspt., PA 17701
Alida Ritter – Muncy Place (Rm. 122) – 215 E. Water St., Muncy, PA 17756
Alberta Shaner – Ephrata Manor (Rm. 124), 99 Bethany Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522
Tom Weaver – Wolf Run Village (Rm. A6), 3750 Rt. 220, Hwy., Hughesville, PA 17737

- **Serving in the armed forces:**

Brett Bardo, Tyler Barto, Jamie Campbell, Morgan Eck, Madison Foreman, Josh Garverick, Pat Gaydon, John Kuhn, Joshua Kustanbauter, Matt Lucas, Matthew McCabe, Chad McElwee, Ginger Paddock, Derek Reese, Chris Secules, Tyler Smay, Coty Steele, Scott Wolfe, Roy Zeisloft



SYMPATHY

*Sympathies are extended to the family of
Harriet "Joan" Harman*

December 6, 1929–August 30, 2022

and ...

*Sympathies to Janice Oden and family
in the loss of her brother*

George Lupold

August 10, 1943–August 30, 2022

The Congregational Care Team is looking for more home communion servers. Home communion servers visit with members of our congregation who are unable to attend worship due to health issues.

This is a vital ministry that keeps our members connected to their faith community.

You don't need any special skills to serve on the team, just an open and loving heart for our sick and shut-in members.

If you are interested and able to help, contact Dave Waltz at 570-935-0164 or de77mpa@windstream.net





| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | | 1 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Social benefit dance |
| 2 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY – ONE SERVICE ONLY 10:00 A.M. 8:45 Adult S.S. NO Children's Church NO Nursery | 3 9:00 Women's Exercise | 4 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 5 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous | 6 9:00 Archives 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir rehearsal | 7 11:30–4:00 Andritz Co. Training 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 8 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00–1:00 Indoor Yard Sale |
| 9 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30 Children's Church 9:30–12:00 Nursery Care 10:30 Adult S.S. 10:30 God Squad/ Youth Rewind | 10 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:30 "Next Step" An informal gathering w/ the pastor | 11 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 11:00 D.A.R. mtg. 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 12 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Bible study 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous | 13 9:00 Women's Exercise Noon Widow's Mite (off-site) 6:15 Hand Bells 6:30 Discipleship Team mtg. 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir rehearsal | 14 6:00 JAM "Glow Night" 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 15 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9–noon Mission Stitchers |
| 16 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30 Children's Church 9:30–12:00 Nursery Care 10:30 Adult S.S. 10:30 God Squad/ Youth Rewind | 17 9:00 Future Farmers of America 9:00 Women's Exercise 7:00 Trustee mtg. | 18 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 19 Noon Muncy Sr. Citizens/Keenagers 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous | 20 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bell Rehearsal 6:30 "Next Step" 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir rehearsal | 21 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 22 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous |
| 23 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30 Children's Church 9:30–12:00 Nursery Care 10:30 Adult S.S. 10:30 God Squad/ Youth Rewind | 24 9:00 Women's Exercise | 25 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Finance mtg. 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 26 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Bible study 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 6:30 Muncy Women's Club 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous | 27 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir rehearsal | 28 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 29 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 1:00-3:00 Private Party |
| 30 Same as above | 31 9:00 Women's Exercise | | | | | |

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ~ Galatians 6:9

CHURCH STAFF

Lucy Buck – Music Director(H) 570-584-4521
Barry Grove – Director of Operations, Financial Secretary (C) 570-447-0514
John Lucas – Custodian (C) 570-560-2626
Marty McCabe – Custodian (W) 570-546-8030
Kevin Myers – Youth Ministry Coordinator (C) 570-412-2820
Kiley Nierzwicki – Administrative Director of Children’s Ministries (C) 570-560-0535
Tiffany Rarick – Children’s Ministry Coordinator..... (C) 570-560-8112
Sherrill Reynolds – Receptionist, Secretary (W) 570-546-8030
Jody Robinson – Communications Director, Treasurer (W) 570-546-8030
The Rev. Richard (Rick) N. Robinson, Jr. – Pastor (W) 570-546-8030
Tom Ruhl – Associate Music Director (C) 570-220-1544



“Blessed to be a Blessing”

October Newsletter