



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## APRIL 2023 – NEWSLETTER

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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

### B2B = Blessed to be a Blessing

## On God’s Green Earth - April 22<sup>nd</sup>

“God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.” (Genesis 1:31a)

The Vision Team is excited to announce that the next church-wide event will be a celebration of Earth Day called “On God’s Green Earth.” The event will take place on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and will include many opportunities to care for God’s Creation. Below are the details for each piece of the event and how you can be involved:

### **KVS Electronics Recycling:**

KVS Computers will be set up in the upper parking lot of the church from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for a drive-thru electronics recycling event. The attached flyer details what items they will or will not accept. This event is open to the public and will be widely advertised so please tell your friends, family and neighbors.



### **North Central Sight Services Paper Shredding:**

North Central Sight Services provides confidential paper shredding for your sensitive documents. If you have old personal or financial records stuffed into a corner of a closet and need to dispose of them without exposing yourself to identity theft, we can help. We will have 6 locked bins available for you to drop off confidential records which will then be shredded. The bins will be available from April 22<sup>nd</sup> – April 29<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a secure chain of custody which will safely collect, transport and shred the documents so you can be certain that your information will remain confidential. **This service is only open to church members or regular worship attendees.**

## **Master Gardener Class: Composting**

Jean Hammond and Deb Steransky are partnering to teach a class all about composting and how you can use it to cut down on household waste and improve soil quality. This class will be taught in the Celebration Center from 12:00-1:00 p.m. **This event is open to the public so bring a friend.**

## **Pick a Street and Make It Neat:**

This activity will be self-directed. We are encouraging everyone to take some time during the April 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> weekend to pick up trash around your neighborhoods. You can gather with families, friends, neighbors, etc. to work together to beautify a neighborhood or road. Holly Pote is also currently working with our Walking Interest Groups to form teams that can work together to beautify neighborhoods, and anyone is welcome to join one of those groups as well (further details will be supplied as we get closer to the event). We are partnering with PennDOT and their Keep PA Beautiful program. They will supply us with safety vests, gloves and garbage bags. These supplies are limited and will be available on Sundays in the weeks leading up to the event. A dumpster will be placed in the lower gravel parking lot of the church from April 21<sup>st</sup> – April 28<sup>th</sup> and any garbage collected can be placed in the dumpster. (Sorry, no tires will be accepted) **The dumpster is only available for church members or regular worship attendees.** Call the office if you need someone with a truck to collect your garbage and bring it back to the church.

## **A Beautiful Back Yard:**

Church members can sign up in advance to have outdoor cleanup work done at their property on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Congregational Care Team and Volunteers in Missions Team will be working with volunteers in completing this yard work. Forms for requesting help will be available on the Connection Tables and can be turned in to the church office. If you would like to volunteer to be on one of the clean-up teams, please contact Denny Hammond or Dave Waltz.

## **Food and Fellowship:**

The Hospitality Team will provide hot dogs, cookies, drinks and snacks from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the pavilion. So, stop by and grab a bite to eat when you drop off your garbage, shredding documents or electronics or before the composting workshop.

## **WE NEED YOU:**

Our On God's Green Earth event is celebrating Earth Day and all that God provides through His creation. We hope that you will find a way to participate in the activities being planned. There are so many ways to be involved from picking up trash in your neighborhood, volunteering to clean up a church member's property, dropping off your old electronics or old documents for recycling or beginning a journey into the world of composting. Please consider joining us as we partner with God in making his world just a little bit greener and more beautiful.

# Sharing the good news!

Do you have some good news to share - an answer to prayer, an unexpected blessing, God's guidance? Send your faith story (250 words or less) to Karen Barraco ([kbarraco@windstream.net](mailto:kbarraco@windstream.net)) by April 15 for the May newsletter.

**Submitted by Patti Myers**

A few years ago, I lost the stone out of the birthstone ring given to me by my parents when I turned 18 years old.

I was going through a very rough time in my life and wondered where God was in all this.

I was a volunteer with the FUMC preschool at the time, and even the kids were keeping an eye out for it while in the church. I let the church office know so that the staff would know to look as well.

Weeks later, Sherrill Reynolds, our church secretary happened to be in the Weis store parking lot when she saw something shiny. She thought of my ring and brought it back to show me. Talk about Divine Intervention, it was the stone out of my ring!

I couldn't believe it, but with God all things are possible! Thank you, Sherrill, for your keen eyesight, and Thank you God for understanding me completely and loving me perfectly.

## Holy Spirit Bible Study Survey

John Smay would like to offer a 5-week Bible study between Easter and Pentecost on the topic of the Holy Spirit. He is willing to teach multiple classes and we would like to gauge what days and times are available for the most people. A survey will appear in the bulletin over the next two weeks. If you are interested in this class, please fill out the survey and place it in the offering plate.



If you will not be in attendance over the next two weeks, you may call the church office to express your interest.

The class times on the survey are Sundays at 9:30 a.m., Sundays at 10:30 a.m., Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

### Good 'n Plenty Supper – Wed., May 3

**TAKE OUT ONLY**  
"To Go" curbside  
4–5:30 p.m.

Suggested donation: \$12  
~ No child-size take outs ~

**MENU:** Ham BBQ, roll, macaroni salad,  
chips, dessert and beverage



Keenagers/Muncy Area Sr. Citizens  
Noon, Wed., April 19  
In the Celebration Center gym  
Program: Pianist Tom Wentzel



*Widow's Mite*

**Where:** Sammy's Pizza & Restaurant, Muncy  
**When:** Thurs., April 20 at noon  
RSVP: Connie Holtzapple 546-6058  
or Janice Oden 546-6166

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### CURRENT EXPENSE

Balance 2/1/23	\$9,788.67
Receipts	\$40,151.14
Funds available	\$49,939.81
Total expenses	\$36,352.72
Net balance 3/1/23	\$13,587.09

### BENEVOLENCE FUND

Balance 2/1/23	\$11,598.81
Receipts	\$3,034.00
Funds available	\$14,632.81
Total expenses	\$10,037.09
Net balance 3/1/23	\$4,595.72

### BUILDING FUND

Balance 2/1/23	\$8,574.00
Receipts	\$5,830.00
Funds available	\$14,404.00
Total expenses	\$0.00
Net balance 3/1/23	\$14,404.00



### JAM Children's Ministry Save the Dates:

- Color Run: April 8, 10 a.m. (at Lime Bluff, Hughesville) ... to have RSVP'd by March 12
- Vacation Bible School: June 5–9
- Music Day Camp: June 11–16

### How can you get involved?

We are looking for parents and other church members to volunteer their time to help at different events and during Children's Church. If you are available and would like to volunteer your time, we would appreciate your help.

Kiley Nierzwicki and Tiffany Rarick,  
[jesusandme@firstumcmuncy.org](mailto:jesusandme@firstumcmuncy.org)

**Live stream:** 10:45 worship services on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/FirstUMCMuncy/> Or our website– <https://firstumcmuncy.org/sermons/>

## Baptisms

Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Feb. 12 is (left) Cambria Kezia Hackenberg, daughter of Josh and Ashton Hackenberg. And on March 5 (right) is Sophia Michele Taylor, daughter of Tim and Courtney Taylor.



# Let's Celebrate!

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

## BIRTHDAYS

- 4/1 Tom Ritter
- 4/2 Katherine Ebner, Makenzi Leitenberger
- 4/4 Kiley Nierzwicki
- 4/5 Bob Furman, Brian McCormick
- 4/8 Arlene Opp—94<sup>th</sup>, Tom Ruhl
- 4/9 Arlene Beechert, 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
- 4/21 Joyce McCarty
- 4/22 Timothy Buck, Sharon Goss, Holly Pote
- 4/24 Joanne Cromley, Bob Webb, Emily Webb
- 4/27 Roger Frantz, Lori Lewis, Sandy (Rigby) Jones
- 4/29 Nancy Grove

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 4/2 Heather and Lee Koser
- 4/4 Jody and Pastor Rick Robinson
- 4/14 Drs. Elizabeth and Glenn Klucka
- 4/16 Kathy and Nate Grenoble
- 4/21 Suzy and Brad Foresman
- 4/26 Toni and Shawn Leitenberger
- 4/30 Clara and Kent Bennett



Births in the Church Family

Congratulations to Brent & Hillary Miller  
of 2225 Gorse Dr., Harrisburg, PA 17110  
on the birth of their daughter, 6 lbs. 13 oz. 19 ½" long,  
Stella Rose Miller,  
on March 17, 2023.  
Proud grandparents: Craig and Linda Miller.



"Dear Church family,

Thank you for your thoughts, prayer, cards and notes during my hospitalization and loss of Ken. Your prayers and caring are appreciated. God Bless, Sue Kohler"

"Dear, First UMC,

Greetings! Thank you so much for your generous donation to our soup kitchen. Your donation not only feeds people, but it also allows me to get to know our sojourners. Getting to know them allows me to go further and advocate on their behalf for other services. For example, a young mentally disabled woman wants a job. I helped her start the process through HOPE Enterprises. On Monday I will accompany her to the office of Vocational Rehabilitation to further the process. She is so excited to work! Thank you and Praise God! We could not do what we do without donations. *"Freely you have received, freely give."* – Matthew 10:8

Sincerely, Gene

STM Resource Advocate"

"We are grateful to our Lord, thankful to our church family for the many cards, visits and meals and blessed to be alive! Back tire blew out on niece's car on way to airport. No other cars involved on FL turnpike! 4 adults walked away! All believers! 😊" Jean and Denny Hammond



- **Homebound:** Peach Bardo – 2699 Haas Lane, Montoursville, PA 17756  
Elsie Smith – 700 Glade Run Rd, Muncy, PA 17756

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

Anne Knox – Wolf Run Village (Rm. D13), 3750 Rt. 220, Hwy., Hughesville, PA 17737

Phone: (570) 974-1020

Bill and Floss McCarty – WeCare At Loyalsock (Bill: Rm. 306; Floss: Rm. 403),  
1445 Sycamore Rd., Montoursville, PA 17754

Phone: Bill's: (570) 601-8284; Floss: (570) 601-8172

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 (C-4), 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

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**WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY:**

- Tony Rebeck, 82, husband of Bonnie Rebeck of 188 Heatherbrooke Estates, Muncy, PA 17756, passed away on March 7, 2023.

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**PRAYER REQUEST** (Submitted by Sally Gardy):

“Dr. Bryan and Mrs. Judy Hollinger (daughter and son-in-law of the late Bob and Ardene Judd) have set out to do missionary work for several years in Guatemala. They left on March 25. They will be keeping the congregation aware of their adventures. The church is supporting them financially as you can. But they are requesting continued prayers for the family's safety, health, success, as they serve our God. They also ask that we keep their son, Zachary, in our prayers, too. Many of you know Zachary, as a young adult special needs child who may have difficulty with his parents being so far away for so long. Arrangements have been made for people to watch over him from their church. He is in a group home. Still, it may be a tough time for him. So, we are asking for your continued prayers for all of them. The church office can help you with other questions.

If you want to, you can write to them in Philadelphia and the person caring for their home will forward the mail. The address: Dr. Bryan and Mrs. Judy Hollinger, 1026 Allengrove St., Philadelphia, PA 19124.

Thank you for your help in this matter and God Bless! ~ Love, Sally Gardy”

# APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						8:00 AA  7:00 Social Masquerade dance
<b>2 PALM SUNDAY</b> 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30-10:30 Children's Church 9:30-noon Nursery 10:30 Adult S.S. 10:30 God Squad	<b>3</b> 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	<b>4</b> 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 No study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Church Council mtg. 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5</b> 1:00 Bible study  5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>6 MAUNDY THUR</b> 9:00 Women's Ex.  7:00 AA 7:00 Worship (livestreamed)	<b>7 GOOD FRIDAY</b> 1:00 Community Service at Muncy Baptist  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 Worship (livestreamed)	<b>8</b> 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous  10:00 Kid's Color Run at Wolf Run Park, Hughesville
<b>9 EASTER</b> Worship Services: 6:30 Sunrise Worship (outside) [breakfast between services] 10:00 Combined Worship	<b>10</b> 9:00-4:00 Church Office Closed  9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	<b>11</b> 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 No study Noon D.A.R.  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>12</b> 1:00 Bible study 5:00 Cheerleading 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>13</b> 8:30 Women's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bells 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b>   7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>15</b> 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous  9:00-Noon Mission Stitchers  2:00-7:00 Muncy Music Assoc. Benefit Dinner
<b>16</b> 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30-10:30 Children's Church 9:30-noon Nursery 10:30 Adult S.S. 10:30 God Squad	<b>17</b> 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball  7:00 Trustee mtg.	<b>18</b> 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 No study 6:30 Faithful Hands Interest Group 7:00 NA	<b>19</b> Noon Muncy Sr. Citizens/Keenagers 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>20</b> 9:00 Women's Exercise Noon Widow's Mite at Sammy's 6:15 Hand Bells 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b>   7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>22 EARTH DAY</b> 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous  8:00 Church-wide events (see article on pg. 1)
<b>23</b>  Same as above	<b>24</b> 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	<b>25</b> 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 No study 6:30 GriefShare, (wk. 1 of 13) 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>26</b> 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Muncy Women's Club 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>27</b> 8:30 Women's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bells 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b>   7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>29</b> 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
<b>30</b>  Same as above						

**John 11:25-26.** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

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



**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  
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“Blessed to be a Blessing”

# April Newsletter