



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2023 – NEWSLETTER

602 S. Market St., Muncy, PA 17756
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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

B2B = Blessed to be a Blessing

Faithful Hands Bless UPMC



Faithful Hands is one of our newly formed interest groups whose purpose is to reach out to our community.

They recently provided a meal of soup, sandwiches, sweets and drinks to 26 employees at UPMC Muncy, to show our support and appreciation.

Pictured are Faithful Hands members: Brian Kustanbauter, Elaine Duckworth, Karen Barraco and UPMC Muncy 2M Unit Leader, Katie Boop.

Soup to Warm the Soul

The Soup Ministry is at it again. They loaded up their cars this morning and delivered hearty soup, cake and rolls to warm both body and soul on this chilly day. 80 people were served.

Thank you to the soup “angels” who are spreading the love of Jesus to our church family and friends.



Sermon Series: Extra Baggage

Submitted by Pastor Rick

During this season of Lent, I'll be preaching a sermon series titled "Extra Baggage." We all carry extra baggage with us through life, baggage that weighs us down and can even keep us from moving on in life. This baggage can keep us from loving ourselves, others, and even God. Some of the baggage has been packed for us through accidents, disasters, illness, and other people. However, much of it we have packed ourselves through bad choices and mistakes. This baggage is weight we were never intended to bear but is a result of sin in the world and we need to learn to unload that which we do not need to carry. Jesus said, "Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." It's not God's will that we should be crushed by our mistakes and burdens. Lent is the perfect time to unload the extra baggage at the foot of the cross. We hope you'll join us on this Lenten journey.



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) by March 15 for the April newsletter.

"Peace which surpasses all understanding"

D.W. Gehrum

*"⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." **Philippians 4:6-7***

As we worked feverishly to save Tom's life, his wife of over 50 years watched with a peace I've never seen before. Tom had collapsed in the living room, prompting his wife to call 9-1-1. When we arrived, Tom was pulseless and breathless and we immediately began CPR. Paramedics employed their protocol of cardiac starting medications to no avail and Tom died despite our best efforts. As I spent time with his wife attempting to offer her support, she was the one supporting us, sharing that Tom was with God now, and it was alright. She and Tom were devout Christians and were sure that their eternal home was waiting for them. In that moment, I came to experience that peace "...which surpasses all understanding."

This was an opportunity for other first responders with me to experience the gift of hope – hope in eternal life. Despite the sudden loss of her husband of over one half of a century, Tom's wife demonstrated the hope of knowing that Tom was in heaven with his heavenly father, and although saddened tremendously by the human experience, she was experiencing that peace that only God can provide.

Let us pray...Dear Heavenly Father, teach us to cast away anxiety and to assume the peace that you meant for us to live in.



Meet the Missionaries

It has been several years since First UMC has had a covenant relationship with a missionary. We are thrilled to announce that we have entered a 3-year covenant relationship with missionaries Judy and Bryan Hollinger. Judy and Bryan are no strangers to our congregation. Judy is the daughter of long-time member Ardene Judd, who passed away in August of 2021.

The Mission and Outreach team has covenanted to financially support them in their work for the next three years. These funds will come from our Benevolence Accounts. Judy and Bryan will be serving as missionaries in Guatemala for the organization Serge. You can learn more about their story and ministry plans in the attached newsletter.

Calling all 2023 High School & College Grads

Submitted by the Scholarship Committee

Please let us know if you are graduating this year from high school or college. Email or call the church office: office@firstumcmuncy.org or 570-546-8030.

High School seniors: For 2023, two \$1,000 First UMC scholarships will be awarded to active participants of this church. Applications are available in the church office. The deadline to apply is Sun., April 16. **College students:** Scholarship applications can be found at: www.gbhem.org/loans-scholarships/scholarships/list-of-scholarships.

TREASURER'S REPORT	
<u>CURRENT EXPENSE</u>	
Balance 1/1/23	\$ 8,795.43
Receipts	\$37,202.18
Funds available	\$45,997.61
Total expenses	\$36,208.94
Net balance 2/1/23	\$ 9,788.67
<u>BENEVOLENCE FUND</u>	
Balance 1/1/23	\$7,904.81
Receipts	\$5,131.00
Funds available	\$13,035.81
Total expenses	\$1,437.00
Net balance 2/1/23	\$11,598.81
<u>BUILDING FUND</u>	
Balance 1/1/23	\$ 0.00
Receipts	\$8,574.00
Funds available	\$8,574.00
Total expenses	\$ 0.00
Net balance 2/1/23	\$8,574.00

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 Gr. 6)
10:45 Traditional
• Classes:
9:30 adults
10:30 adults; youth

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Friday
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
PASTOR RICK'S OFFICE HOURS
Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9-Noon
Tuesdays 1–4 p.m. by appointment



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



JAM Children's Ministry Save the Dates:

- Color Run—April 8, 10 a.m.
- 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

Easter Flowers

Please fill out the form below for the Easter flowers you wish to be placed in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 9. Place the form and money (checks made payable to First United Methodist Church) in the offering plates or the church office by **Sunday, March 12. Orders cannot be filled after that date.**

Indicate the number of flowers chosen (no color choices).

Lilies	(6" pot)	\$7.00 _____
Tulips	(6.5" pot)	\$7.00 _____
Mums	(6.5" pot)	\$7.00 _____
Hyacinths	(6.5" pot)	\$7.00 _____

Name: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

To the Glory of God: _____



Let's Celebrate!

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

BIRTHDAYS

- 3/2 Linda Miller, Tyler Morse, Elly Sherman
- 3/3 Rory Oden
- 3/5 Sally Zehner
- 3/7 Toni Leitenberger
- 3/8 Makenna Koser
- 3/9 Dorothy Young
- 3/11 Tim Benner
- 3/13 Sandy Richards
- 3/14 Jeremy Eckard, Lauren Wilcox
- 3/15 Brenda Neidig, Garman Zehner
- 3/17 Linda Shultz
- 3/19 Samuel Eck, Owen Kilpatrick, Kaitlyn Myers
- 3/20 Cailyn Kilpatrick, Carol LeVan
- 3/21 Juanita Cuddeback, Elsie Smith
- 3/22 Donna Gavitt
- 3/23 Lana Baker
- 3/24 Dani Eck, Bob Schreffler
- 3/25 Nicholas Laubscher
- 3/27 Wayne Dougherty, Mavryk Hackenberg,
Sharon Moyer
- 3/28 Dawn Evans, Valerie Gordner
- 3/30 Dick Lyons
- 3/31 Dick Hartzell



Births in the Church Family

Congratulations to engaged couple,
Jacoby "Jake" Foresman and Lauren Dieterle
of Painter St., Muncy
on the birth of their daughter,
Harper Grace Foresman,
on February 16, 2023.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3/1 Paige Kepner and Chris Glidewell
- 3/3 Kelsey and Madison Foreman
- 3/8 Diane and John Shoop
- 3/16 Gail and Dave Pentz – 55th
- 3/18 Gail and Michael Wood – 56th
- 3/29 Sherrill and Bob Reynolds
- 3/31 Judy and Dick Hartzell – 61st



"To the exercise girls,
Thank you so much for the wonderful surprise of
the flowers delivered on Valentine's morn plus a
great deal of gratitude on my part for the prayers
and cards I've received over my ordeal and loss of
Jake. God's support and timing is amazing.

Love you all,
Carol LeVan"

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



- **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

Tony Rebuck – Roseview Nursing Center (*Rm. 231), 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 (C-4), 3750 Rt. 220, Hwy., Hughesville, PA 17737

*Correct Room #

- **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

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY:

- Norman "Jake" LeVan, 92, husband of Carol LeVan of 125 Colonial Dr., Apt. 105, Towanda, PA 18848, passed away on February 11, 2023.



Keenagers/Muncy Area Sr. Citizens
Noon, Wed., March 15
In the Celebration Center gym
Program: to be determined

WIDOW'S MITE LUNCH

Where: The Log Cabin Inn, Muncy
When: Thurs., March 16 at noon
RSVP: Connie Holtzapple 546-6058
or Janice Oden 546-6166

Good 'n Plenty Supper – Wed., March 1

"To Go" curb-side take-out (4:00–5:00 p.m.)

(Note: take out limited to 200 suppers)

"Dine In" (5:00–6:30 p.m.) in the C. C. gym

Suggested donation: \$12 (adults)

Ages 6–12: \$6; under six: free

MENU: Filled pork chops, scalloped potatoes, corn,
applesauce, dessert and beverage



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			1:00 Bible study 4:00–5:00 G'nP Take-out 5:00–6:30 G'nP Dine-in 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 Lent study 6:30 God Squad 7:00 AA	9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir	6:30–8:30 softball practice 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 AA 11:00 Kohler Memorial Service Noon Catered luncheon 7:00 Social dance
5 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 12:15 Baptism Party 5:30 Basketball	6 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball 5:30 Elite Basketball 6:30 Lent study	7 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Lent study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Church Council mtg. 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8 1:00 Lent study 5:30 Elite Basketball 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 6:30 Lent group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	9 8:30 Archives breakfast mtg. 8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's Ex. 6:15 Hand Bells 6:30 Discipleship Ministry mtg. 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Reh.	10 5:30 Elite Basketball 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	11 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 11:30–2:00 Private Party
12 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30-10:30 Children's Church 9:30 Lent study 9:30–noon Nursery 10:30 Adult S.S. 10:30 God Squad	13 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball 6:30 Lent study	14 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Lent study Noon D.A.R. 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	15 Noon Muncy Sr. Citizens/Keenagers 1:00 Lent study 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 6:30 Lent study 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	16 9:00 Women's Exercise Noon Widow's Mite (off-site) 6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	17 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	18 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
19 Same as above	20 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball 6:30 Lent study 7:00 Trustee mtg.	21 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Lent study 6:30 Faithful Hands Interest Grp 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 NA	22 1:00 Lent study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Lent study 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	23 8:30 Women's Prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bells 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	24 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	25 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
26 Same as above except... 5:15 Lent study wrap-up (incl. light supper and video at 6:00)	27 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	28 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 TOPS 10:00 NO study 6:00 Lyco. County Conservation Awards Banquet 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	29 1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Muncy Women's Club mtg 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	30 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bells 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	31 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." ~ [Ephesians 4:32](#)

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
- Tom Ruhl – Associate Music Director (C) 570-220-1544



“Blessed to be a Blessing”

March Newsletter