



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2023 – NEWSLETTER

602 S. Market St., Muncy, PA 17756
Phone: (570) 546-8030
Fax: (570) 546-6036

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



New Study for Fall 2023

Submitted by Karen Barraco

Learn to Share Your Story with "*Just Walk Across the Room*"

Register for the upcoming church-wide study, “Just Walk Across the Room” and learn to “live in 3D” -

- > Develop friendships
- > Discover life stories
- > Discern appropriate next steps based on the Holy Spirit’s promptings.

After all, the single greatest gift Christ-followers can give to others is an introduction to the God who created them, who loves them, and who has a purpose for their lives. That’s why it’s important to know how to convey two stories with humility, clarity, and brevity: your own faith story and God’s good news story.

This fall, be a part of a four-week experience to learn “simple steps to point people to faith.” On four Wednesday evenings, starting September 20, join us for a light supper at 5:45 p.m. followed at 6:30 p.m. by an approximately one-hour session led by Pastor Rick in the Living Water Cafe. A short video presentation will be followed by a teaching segment and then small group discussion. The evening will close with sharing thoughts from the small groups. Please note: Dates for sessions will be Sept. 20, 27, and Oct. 11 and 18. No session on Oct. 4.

Register at the Connection Tables on Sundays or online at our church website (firstumcmuncy.org). Let us know if you will be coming for the meal or just the group session. Childcare will be available in the nursery, so if needed, let us know how many children and their ages. Participant study books are \$5.00.

Questions? Contact Karen Barraco (570-772-8169 or kbarraco@windstream.net).

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 September 15 for the October newsletter.

Submitted by Michelle Mostowy

In July I took in a stray cat that needed a home. With already having rescued a cat earlier in the year and limited space with our apartment my fiancé and I knew it would need to find a permanent home. My parents graciously let the kitten stay at their house while we worked out arrangements for her new home. Over the week we had her she really came out of her shell and was becoming more confident and quite playful. She met her new owners during the week and they were very excited to take her home, it would be their daughter's first pet! Despite knowing she was going to a wonderful home I was still sad to say goodbye. I of course wanted updates on how she was doing and my fiancé works with one of the owners so that was easy enough! She told my fiancé that they named her Scout, which coincidentally was the name of my family's last cat that passed away earlier this year. This is something they would not have known so it made me smile knowing they would get to have their own Scout. We were very grateful their family was willing to take in the kitten and we know she will have such a great life. Through this, his co-worker invited me to go to a women's retreat at Christian Ministries with her. I didn't realize it at the time but God was definitely at work the moment I decided to bring the kitten home!

B2B = Blessed to be a Blessing



Family Promise Clothing Collection

The Mission and Outreach Team is holding a clothing collection for Family Promise's Clothing Closet which benefits the families that stay at Family Promise as well as community members.



In 2022 the Clothing Closet served over 5,000 needy families. The Clothing Closet depends on the generosity of people who have excess clothing or whose children have outgrown clothing to fill the closet.

Clothing will be collected from August 13 through September 10. We will collect clothes for men, women, children, toddlers, and babies. Donations should be placed in the collection bins located in the Welcome Center or under the coat rack outside the Living Water Café.

New GriefShare Class Begins



A new 13-week class of GriefShare began on August 15. GriefShare is a Christian based support group for those experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one. The classes are facilitated by Holly Pote and Ginny Boob and are held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the church lounge. Please pass along this information if you have a friend or family member who might benefit from this support group. If you would like more information about GriefShare, you can check out their website (<https://www.griefshare.org/>) or call the church office at 570-546-8030.

Signs and Symbols of the Church

As you sit in the sanctuary for worship on Sunday mornings, have you ever been curious about the meaning of different symbols or the significance of colors on the altar? Having a better understanding of the place where we worship could enhance your spiritual experience. Your opportunity to ask questions and learn more has arrived!

Join with others on the second Wednesday of the month starting September 13 as Sally Gardy leads these informative sessions. Gather in the narthex at 1 p.m. for the one-hour session. Other meetings will be October 11, November 8 and December 13. No registration required. Everyone is welcome!

TREASURER'S REPORT

CURRENT EXPENSE

Balance 7/1/23	(\$10,028.70)
Receipts	\$37,244.65
Funds available	\$27,215.95
Total expenses	\$31,906.14
Net balance 8/1/23	(\$4,690.19)

BENEVOLENCE FUND

Balance 7/1/23	(\$82.78)
Receipts	\$3,153.50
Funds available	\$3,070.72
Total expenses	\$1,537.00
Net balance 8/1/23	\$1,533.72

BUILDING FUND

Balance 7/1/23	(4,745.77)
Receipts	\$2,624.00
Funds available	(\$2,121.77)
Total expenses	\$0.00
Net balance 8/1/23	(\$2,121.77)

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

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/>

Let's Celebrate!

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

BIRTHDAYS

9/1 Tierney Pauling
9/3 Gail Wood
9/4 Kyra Creasey, Keeley Fae Dincher
9/5 Sue Gehrum, Glenn Klucka
9/7 Emilie Kainz
9/8 Emma McCormick, Darl Smith
9/9 Cori Cotner
9/12 Marie Mitchell – 93rd, Loretta Ryder – 90th
9/13 Sadie Creasey, Stephanie Mostowj
9/14 Amanda Derr, Christopher Timer
9/15 Courtney Taylor
9/16 Bill Forse
9/17 Lou Cromley, Adalynn Morse, Michael Mostowj
9/18 Marshal Gordner
9/20 Alyson McCabe
9/21 Aline Miller
9/22 Deb Beyer
9/24 Floss McCarty
9/26 Sandy Ravert
9/28 Pam Armstrong
9/29 Kaylyn Nierzwicki, Margie Nuss, Gail Pentz
9/30 Darren Webb
8/31 Chad McElwee

ANNIVERSARIES

9/1 Deb and Mark Beyer
9/5 Dannon and Jim Dennis – 1st
9/4 Mary and Jeremy Eckard
9/6 Joanie and David Wallis
9/13 Cindy and George Collister
9/22 Nichole and Matt Frye

Good 'n Plenty Supper – Wed., Oct. 4

***To Go (curbside take-out)**

& *Dine-in (sit down)

***5:00–6:30 p.m.**

Suggested donation: \$12

In the Celebration Center gym

**Menu: Roast turkey w/gravy,
stuffing, mashed potatoes,
buttered corn, cranberry
sauce, dessert**

Widow's Mite

When: Thurs., Sept. 21 at noon

Where: Orlie's, Muncy

**RSVP: Connie Holtzapple 546-6058
or Janice Oden 546-6166**



Keenagers / Muncy Area Sr. Citizens

When: Wed., Sept. 20 at noon

Where: Celebration Center gym

**Program: Meg Geffken, portrayal of
Amelia Earhart**

TROVA

Submitted by the Archives Committee

Did you know: The first 8:15 worship service was Feb. 12, 1989 led by The Rev. Warren Baughman with 20 people in attendance!

Reminder: The committee welcomes anyone who would like to serve on the committee.



Muncy First United Methodist Church

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

Sports Card Show Roundup

Youth Director, Kevin Myers reports that the Sports Card Show held on Saturday, September 19 was a big success. Ten youth and their leaders helped to run the show and concessions.



They hosted approximately 15 vendors and 125 guests at the show. The goal was to raise enough money to support their Compassion International sponsor child for one year but they raised enough to support her for TWO years. Well done Kevin and God Squad!



- **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:**

Ephrata Manor, 99 Bethany Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522; Phone: (717) 738-4940
Alberta Shaner (124)

Muncy Place, 215 E. Water St., Muncy, PA 17756; Phone: (570) 546-4017
Aline Miller (Rm. 201)

Valley View Nursing Center, 2140 Warrensville Rd., Montoursville, PA 17754
Bill Likens (Rm. 409)

WeCare At Loyalsock, 1445 Sycamore Rd., Montoursville, PA 17754
Bill McCarty (Rm. 509), Room phone: (570) 601-8313

Floss McCarty (Rm. 509), Room phone: (570) 601-8236

Wolf Run Village, 3750 Rt. 220, Hwy., Hughesville, PA 17737; Phone: (570) 584-0101
Richard “Dick” Hartzell (Rm. A-12)

Anne Knox (Rm. D13), Cell phone: (570) 974-1020

Tom Weaver (Rm. C-4)

- **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



Dear church family,

“Thank you, everyone, for your prayers and cards for when I had my heart procedure. It went well.” ~ Don Colyer

Dear church family,

“I wish to express a heartfelt thank you for the many ways I am cared for by you: the prayer shawl, the visits with home communion, the soup ministry deliveries, cards, and your thoughts and prayers as I am confined to my house.”

Love, Phyllis Strausburg

Dear church family,


“Thank you for making my 90th so special by sending cards, your phone calls or your attendance to my party.”

Love, Janice Oden

Dear church family,

“Thank you for the cards, prayers and visits while I’m here at Muncy Place.” ~ Aline Miller

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	1	2
					7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous Noon Private Party 7:00 Social Dance
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:15, 9:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Adult S.S. 9:30-10:30 JAM 9:30-noon Nursery 10:30 Adult S.S.	9-4 Office Closed 9:00 No Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball 	7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 SCI Training 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Study-Lectonary 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	6:00 SCI Training 8:30 Women's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00-noon Mission Stitches
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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.	9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 SCI Training 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 1:00 D.A.R. mtg. 6:30 GriefShare 6:30 SPRC mtg. 7:00 NA	1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	6:00 SCI Training 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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.	9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball 7:00 Trustee mtg.	7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 SCI Training 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 6:30 Faithful Hands Ministry 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	9:00 Muncy Cemetery Board Noon Keenagers /Sr. Citizens 1:00 Symbolism study 5:30 Praise Band 5:45 Light supper 6:30 Walk Across Room study 6:30 God Squad 7:00 AA	6:00 SCI Training 8:30 Women's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Exercise Noon Widow's Mite at Orlie's 6:15 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir	7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
24	24	26	27	28	29	30
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.	9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 SCI Training 9:30 TOPS 10:00 Bible study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	1:00 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band 5:45 Light supper 6:30 Walk Across Room study 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	6:00 SCI Training 9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:30 Boundaries Training

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." ~ Matthew 11:28

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
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”
September Newsletter