



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## JANUARY 2024 – NEWSLETTER

602 S. Market St., Muncy, PA 17756

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[office@firstumcmuncy.org](mailto: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 December Project

*Submitted by Karen Barraco*

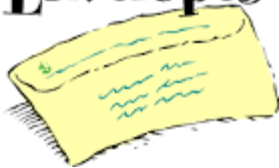
Many hands make light work, so that’s why some from the Faithful Hands group met last week with dozens of others at the Hughesville Fire Hall to pack gift boxes for Christmas with the organizers of Meagan’s Box. What an awesome outreach! Working at two different boxing stations that evening were Jane Lucas, Jo Ann Welch, Gary Allshouse, Al Barraco, Angie Kustanbauter, Elaine Duckworth and Karen Barraco. We were also able to deliver donations of personal care products which were included in boxes for teens. Thanks to all who supported our efforts!



## New Session of GriefShare to Begin

A new 13-week session of GriefShare will begin on January 10. GriefShare is a Christian based support group for those experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one. The sessions are facilitated by Holly Pote and are held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Living Water Café. 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](http://www.griefshare.org) or call the church office.

# Offering Envelopes



**2024 Offering Envelopes** are available in the Welcome Center. If you give electronically, you will not have envelopes on the table. If you are currently not assigned envelopes and wish to have them, please contact Barry Grove at [finance@firstumcmuncy.org](mailto:finance@firstumcmuncy.org) or 570-447-0514.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### CURRENT EXPENSE

Balance 11/1/23	-\$1,090.01
Receipts	\$32,907.22
Funds available	\$31,817.21
Total expenses	\$30,571.41
Net balance 12/1/23	\$1,245.80

### BENEVOLENCE FUND

Balance 11/1/23	\$9,824.99
Receipts	\$6,799.50
Funds available	\$16,624.49
Total expenses	\$4,330.00
Net balance 12/1/23	\$12,294.49

### BUILDING FUND

Balance 11/1/23	\$27,391.46
Receipts	\$17,014.00
Funds available	\$44,405.46
Total expenses	\$4,968.79
Net balance 12/1/23	\$39,436.67

## 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

### **NOTE: NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday—Friday

11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

### **PASTOR RICK'S OFFICE HOURS**

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9–Noon

Tuesdays 1–4 p.m. by appointment

(570) 546-8030

**Live stream:** 10:45 worship services on our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstUMCMuncy/>

Or our website— <https://firstumcmuncy.org/sermons/>



## **Good 'n Plenty Supper – Wednesday, February 7, '24**

**“To Go” curbside take-out (4:00–5:30 p.m.) / “Dine In” (5:00–6:30 p.m.)  
in the C. C. gym**

**Suggested donation: \$12**

**Menu: Roast Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable,  
cranberry sauce and dessert**

# Our Covenant With the Church

People professing their faith for the first time in a United Methodist congregation take two vows dealing with time. As we commit to life as disciples of Christ, among the statements we are asked to agree to are: 1) Be loyal to Christ through the UM Church and do all in our power to strengthen its ministries (The Book of Discipline 2012, ¶ 217.5); and 2) Be faithful participants in its ministries by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness (¶ 217.6).

As we agree to these vows, we commit our lives to Christ and agree to give a significant portion of our time to the ministry that we are called to through our baptism. At year's end, will the activities filling our calendars show us to be good stewards of the time with which God gifts us?

We ask ourselves:

- † Will the time set for speaking and listening to God be an unbreakable appointment?
- † Will worship and learning as part of the faith community be a priority?
- † What will we do/not do to make our money and talents available for ministry?
- † What will we do outside the church that shows we are disciples of Jesus Christ?
- † How will we demonstrate the transformational power of the love of Christ?

God's calls us to use our time with his wisdom.

*(from the 2015 UM Program Calendar)*

## Covenant Prayer—Wesleyan Tradition

John Wesley and his brother Charles founded the Methodist Movement in England in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. He preached open-air sermons and encouraged his converts to join small groups for prayer, study and moral accountability. Wesley's "Covenant Prayer" (No. 607 in our hymnal) was a key element in his own spiritual discipline and in Methodist discipleship.

*I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by you or laid aside by you, enabled for you or brought low by you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.*

*And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

(posted by Mark Herringshaw, [www.belief.net](http://www.belief.net))



Jody and I would like to thank you all for the many Christmas greetings and gifts received during the Christmas season. We are constantly overwhelmed by the generosity and love extended to our family. I continually give thanks to God for the awesome privilege to serve you here at First UMC Muncy and pray that we will do wonderful things together in the coming year. ~ With humble gratitude, Pastor Rick

More "Thank you" notes: next page ...



"Dear Church Family,

Your cards and prayers arrived when they were most needed. Jim's passing left me with a broken heart and a bruised spirit. With each reminder that God's love is always with me and with each card and prayers arrival I began to heal a bit and even smile at the love I felt from "my church family".

Thank you for once again loving me through the hard times of life. ~ Love and Blessings, Kathi Blaker"

"I do not want to name names, God knows... Words are not enough for Thanks with all of your PRAYERS. I am on the way to healing in many ways. THANK YOU to all of the Muncy 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Angels." ~ Love, Rebecca"

"A BIG CHRISTMAS THANK YOU to the "Bible Life and Times" church school class for the VERY loving and overly generous gift with which you honored me at Christmas. It will go to good use. God Bless you for your good hearts and your faithfulness to class and your love. God Bless! ~ Love, Sally Gardy"

"Thank you for the beautiful cards and many prayers. It seems like a slow healing, but I've always been shy of patience. This too shall pass. I know because God is good!" ~ Jane Pick

"Dear Friends in Christ,

"Another year for Touch-A-Heart is over. Many needs and a blessing of many gifts given. We sponsored 150 children and 120 senior citizens with your generous giving. May the New Year bring many blessings to your church family. In Christian love. ~ Candy Winters, TAH"

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## Baptism

Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Dec. 10, '23 was Olivia Grace Timer, daughter of Matthew and Kristin (Nuss) Timer. Granddaughter of Gail Nuss.



(l-r): Matthew holding Olivia, Pastor Rick Robinson, and Kristin holding Christopher.



(l-r) Kristin holding Christopher, Matthew holding Olivia, and Gail Nuss.

# Let's Celebrate!

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

## BIRTHDAYS

1/1	Debbie Daggett
1/2	Maddie Beyer, Bonnie Glidewell
1/3	Merle Parker
1/5	Alexis Harder, Rich Pursel
1/6	Marianne Tillotson
1/9	Brynn Elizabeth Hansen
1/10	Bryce Eckard
1/13	Tessa Lamper
1/14	Clynt Oden
1/15	DJ Foresman, Candy Winters
1/16	Max Glidewell, Jean Hammond
1/17	Walter Borek
1/20	Don Colyer, Elizabeth Klucka, Abby Robinson
1/21	Idona Artman
1/22	Janet Pursel
1/23	Jeremy Winters
1/24	Judy Fausey
1/26	Patsy Feigles, Dolly Oden
1/27	Kathi Blaker, Gordon Eck, Jennifer Freeborn
1/28	Jo Ann Welch
1/29	John Lucas
1/30	Chris Glidewell, Michael Kustanbauter, Anne Leshar
1/31	Valerie Nuss

## ANNIVERSARIES

1/4	Bonnie and Gary Glidewell
1/6	Abbe and Michael Mostowy
1/9	Janet and Rich Pursel – 67 <sup>th</sup>

## 50+ AND 70+ YEAR MEMBERS

We honor the following individuals for having been members of First United Methodist Church, Muncy for 50 years or more.

\*Pearl Rathmell (1941)  
\*Peach Bardo (1945)  
\*Janice Oden (1946)  
\*Loretta Ryder (1946)  
\*Dave Wallis (1946)  
\*Jean Gardner Camp (1947)  
\*Alberta Shaner (1948)  
\*Connie Holtzapple (1951)  
\*Gary Edwards (1954)  
\*Sandy Schell (1954)  
\*Connie Sommers (1954)  
\*Sally Zehner (1954)

Nancy Lyons (1956)	Robin Bardo (1969)
Ann Dougherty (1957)	Dennis DeWald (1969)
Judy Rider (1958)	Donna McCaslin (1969)
Mark Hester (1960)	Leon McCaslin (1969)
Vonnie Poust (1960)	John Smay (1969)
Joanie Wallis (1960)	Linda Holsinger (1970)
Marshal Frye (1961)	Molly Kemmerer (1970)
Chalmer VanHorn (1962)	Wayne Kemmerer (1970)
Garman Zehner (1963)	Anne Knox (1970)
Kathy Burkhart (1965)	Elsie Smith (1971)
Gail Nuss (1965)	Deb Frye (1972)
Lin Frey (1966))	Jane Lucas (1972)
Kathi Blaker (1966)	Paula McCabe (1974)

\*Asterisk indicates 70 years or more.



- **Homebound:** Peach Bardo – 3 Sutphin Pines, Yardley, PA 19067  
Jane Pick – 275 May Drive, Hughesville, PA  
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)

Heritage Springs Memory Care, 878 Old Cement Rd., Muncy, PA 17756; Phone: (570) 935-0936

Aline Miller (Rm. 202)

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

\*Rebecca Byers (Rm. 215)

\*Juanita Cuddeback (Rm. 107)

Carol Karschner (Rm. 208)

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

\*new this month

- **Serving in the armed forces:**

Brett Bardo, Tyler Barto, Morgan (Eck) De Guzman, Madison Foreman, Josh Garverick, Pat Gaydon, John Kuhn, Joshua Kustanbauter, Matt Lucas, Matthew McCabe, Chad McElwee, Derek Reese, Chris Secules, Tyler Smay, Scott Wolfe



NO KEENAGERS IN JANUARY.

The next lunch and program  
will be Feb. 21 at noon.




When: Jan. 18 at noon

Where: Orlie's Muncy

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

# January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NEW YEAR'S	2	3	4	5	6
	Building closed  NO ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED	7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:45 TOPS 10:00 Bible study  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	1:30 Advent study  5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	9:00 Women's Exercise 6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 Mission Stitchers  7:00 Social benefit dance
7 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	8 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	9 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:45 TOPS 10:00 Bible study  6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	10 1:30 Symbolism study  5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	11 8:30 Women's prayer breakfast 9:00 Women's Exercise  6:15 Hand Bells 7:00 Discipleship Team mtg. 7:00 AA 7:30 Choir Rhrl.	12   7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	13 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
14 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	15 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball  7:00 Trustee mtg.	16 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:45 TOPS 10:00 Bible study  6:30 Faithful Hands  6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	17 1:30 Bible study  5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group 6:30 Study group  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	18 9:00 Women's Exercise Noon Widow's Mite at Orle's 6:00 Alzheimer Support Group 6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	19   7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	20 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 Private party Noon Private party
21 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	22 9:00 Women's Exercise 10:00 Pickleball	23 7:00 Men's Breakfast 8:45 TOPS 10:00 Bible study  6:30 GriefShare  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	24 1:30 Bible study 5:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 God Squad Youth Group  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	25 9:00 Women's Exercise  6:15 Hand Bell rehearsal 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	26   7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	27 8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." ~ [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

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
- Kiley Dgien – Administrative Director of Children’s Ministries .....(C) 570-560-0535
- Kevin Myers – Youth Ministry Coordinator .....(C) 570-412-2820
- Tiffany Rarick – Children’s Ministry Coordinator.....(C) 570-560-8112
- Sherrill Reynolds – Receptionist, Secretary .....(W) 570-546-8030
- Jody Robinson – Treasurer, volunteer Communications Director .....(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”

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