

First Light

A weekly e-newsletter from
First United Methodist

October 4, 2024

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Mission



There will be a kickoff on Sunday, October 6th for the 2024 Operation Christmas Child shoebox mission project. Empty shoeboxes, provided by Samaritan's Purse and assembled by the Faithful Hands, will be available for distribution in the

Welcome Center and on the Connection table outside the Living Water Cafe on Sunday. Instructions on how to pack a shoebox along with suggested items will be available. When you pick up a box, please sign the sheet and indicate how many boxes you have taken. The cost of shipping each box is \$10.00. If you are able to 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. **DO NOT** put the donations in the shoebox and do not wrap the shoebox. Shoeboxes should be returned to either location by Sunday, November 10th. Children around the world will be blessed with your gift-filled shoebox. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Pentz at 570-546-3998. Thank you for your support.

Meet Our New Custodian

We welcome Bob Hess to the staff as he began his position as our new custodian on Monday, September 30th. Bob and his wife, Annette, live in Montgomery. Collectively they have 4 grown children. Bob works full time as a custodian at UPMC in Williamsport. We are excited to welcome Bob on board and hope you will offer a friendly welcome if you see him in the building. Bob's hours will vary. Mostly he will work late afternoons into the evening but you may also see him in the building during the morning hours on the days he has off from his full time job.



We thank John Lucas for his dedicated service over the last couple of years and wish him lots of quality time with family in the coming months, especially with his precious granddaughters. John will continue to be involved with things around the building but on a volunteer basis.



Sermon:

Scriptures:

October 6, 2024

"The Son, King"

Isaiah 60:19-20
Philippians 2: 5-11
Revelation 21:9-27
Luke 22:14-20

Reminders:

-Mission & Outreach Rummage Sale

The Mission & Outreach Rummage Sale will be on October 12th from 7:30 am-1:00 pm. Helpers are needed for set up, running, and tear down including boxing up the leftovers for local charities. **Sign up on either Connection Table to help.** Donations for the sale will be accepted beginning Oct. 9th.

A **Dumpster** will be in the lower parking lot from October 10-18 for church members to dispose of larger items. Please no tires, tube style tvs or anything containing freon.

-"Sing Christmas" Cantata Rehearsals

begin Sunday, October 6th at 2:00 pm in the Celebration Center. Normal rehearsals will be on Thursday evenings 7:15-8:15.

-World Communion Sunday—Oct. 6th

We will have one combined worship service at 10:00 am to worship and celebrate Communion with brother's and sisters in Christ around the world. No JAM or nursery. Special offering goes to support scholarships around the world.

-Blood Drive in Memory of George Frey—Oct. 22

Lisa Laidacker is organizing an American Red Cross Blood Drive to honor a friend who passed away from cancer. The drive is October 22nd 1:00-6:00 pm in the Celebration Center. Register by calling 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter "George Frye" to schedule an appointment

-Seminar of Human Trafficking

The event is presented by Fierce Love 4 Good, an organization that seeks to educate the public and provide needed supplies for those rescued from human trafficking. This event is being hosted by First UMC as a resource to our local community who will be invited to join us. The seminar will take place in the Living Water Café on October 23rd beginning at 6:30 pm

-Trunk-or-Treat—Oct. 27th

Trunk-or-Treat for the community on October 27th 2:00-4:00 pm in the Celebration Center. Register your trunk using the QR code or call the church office.



C3 Tour with Bishop Héctor A. Burgos-Núñez



Our new Bishop will be touring the Susquehanna Conference from October 13th-17th and meeting with clergy and laity in all five districts. He'll be focusing on the three C's of Connection, Conversation and Communion. Bishop Héctor (as he prefers to be addressed) will be in the Williamsport District on Wednesday, October 16th right here at First Muncy. He'll meet with clergy only during the afternoon but invites both clergy and laity to a gathering from 6:30-8:00 pm in our sanctuary. We hope you'll consider attending and helping us provide a warm welcome for Bishop Hector, conference leadership and the clergy and laity of the Williamsport District.

Susquehanna Conference to Rename Districts

During the 2024 meeting of the Susquehanna Annual Conference, a motion was passed to consolidate our 7 districts into 5 districts. During the last several weeks, each district held a District Conference. During those conferences, each district received a new name. Here are the new names which will take effect on January 1, 2025:

Altoona District - New Freedom Trail District

Harrisburg District - River Valley District

State College District - Mountain Valley District

Williamsport District - Northern Wilds District

Wilkes/Barre Scranton District - North Central Rivers District

Hurricane Helene Relief Opportunities

In response to Hurricane Helene, N.W. Fritz Trucking is working with local fire companies and churches to give the community an opportunity to donate essential items for those affected in North Carolina. Below is a list of items that you can donate. You can take your donations directly to the Hughesville or Muncy Fire Departments or place them between the glass doors at the Celebration Center entrance and FUMC and we will make sure they get collected. **Donations are only be accepted until Wednesday October 9th** and then they will be loaded and transported to NC.



Items to donate:

- Cases of Water and Water jugs
- Non-perishable food items (including protein drinks and electrolyte drinks)
- Personal hygiene items (deodorant, toothpaste, wipes, feminine, hygiene, products, soap)
- Diapers and Baby formula and Adult diapers
- Batteries and Flashlight
- Blankets
- Clean wipes, Paper towels, Toilet paper, Antibacterial wipes
- Lighters/matches, Charcoal

***FUMC will also be taking donations for the United Methodist Committee on Relief for their Hurricane Helene recovery efforts. Those donations can be placed in the Sunday offering with checks made out to FUMC and placed in a red & white special offering envelope.**

