

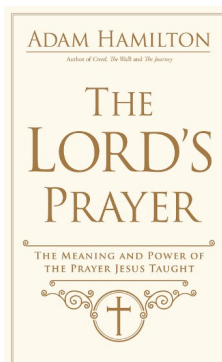
First Light

A weekly e-newsletter from
First United Methodist

February 6, 2026

Church-wide Lenten Study

The church-wide Lenten study this year will be “The Lord’s Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught” by Adam Hamilton. Most Christians know the Lord’s Prayer by heart. We pray it often, at different times and in different settings. We remember it as the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. But do we really understand and appreciate the meaning and power of its words and what we ask of God each time we pray it? We’ll be guided to really know—and really pray—the Lord’s Prayer by exploring each of its rich lines and their meaning in the Bible, illuminating what we ask of God and what we ask of ourselves through its words. As usual, there will be multiple classes offered. Please note a few changes from what we are used to. Also please note the date that each of the classes begins:



SUNDAYS, starting February 22nd
-9:30 am Church Lounge, led by Deb Steransky
-10:30 am Living Water Cafe, led by Dave Gehrum

MONDAYS, starting February 23rd
-6:30 pm Church lounge, led by Nancy Grove

TUESDAYS, starting February 17th (A week earlier than the other classes)
-10:00 am Living Water Cafe, led by Pastor Rick

WEDNESDAYS, starting February 25th
-1:30 pm Room 202, led by Sally Gardy

THURSDAYS, starting February 26th
-1:30 pm Goss Home at 201 Hampton Way, Montoursville, led by Sharon Goss

Sign-up sheets and study books are available on the Connection Tables. Books are a suggested donation of \$10 each, payable to your teacher at the first class session.

Reminders:

Change For Change Collection

On February 8th, the Mission and Outreach Team will begin collecting the cups for Change for Change. Cups will be collected for the following two weeks. New cups will be available on February 8th. Monies collected will be distributed to various organizations such as LIHEAP, Shepherd of the Streets, Sojourner Truth, Dwell Orphan Care, etc. If you would like to contribute to these causes and do not have a collection cup, you can donate with cash or by making checks payable to First United Methodist Church. Cash or checks can be placed in a special offering envelope and placed in the collection plate or basket. Be sure to mark your envelope with Change for Change. If you are bringing a cup full of change, please place it on the prayer rail in the sanctuary or on the altar in the Café prior to worship. Thank you for your support and for being a blessing to others.

GriefShare Begins February 17th

A new 13-week session of GriefShare will begin February 17th. A big change with this session is that it is being offered during the daytime. They will meet on **Tuesday afternoons in the Living Water Café from 1:00-3:00 pm.** GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week session, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability, and gain solid support each step of the way. Please invite anyone you know who is struggling after the loss of a loved one and could use support. Contact Holly Pote, Ginny Boob or the church office if you would like more information.

February 8, 2026

“Revealed:
“Jesus is the Great Physician”



Isaiah 35:1-6
Isaiah 61:1-3
Mark 1:29-39
Luke 7:18-22

Bakers Needed

The Hospitality Committee is looking for bakers who can help provide cakes for Good 'N Plenty meals and funeral meals. If you are willing to bake and deliver cakes to the church, please call Patti Myers at 570-515-0674.



Family Promise February 15th - 21st

Calling all cooks! We are asked to provide meals for the residents at Family Promise from February 15th - 21st. A sign-up sheet will be at the upstairs Connections Table beginning February 8th. There are currently two families at the center with one of those families having lots of children. If you have any questions regarding meals, contact Joyce McCarty at 570-546-8910. Thank you for serving the homeless. Your meals are so appreciated by the families.



Blessing Local First Responders

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, a check for \$1,000.00 was presented by Pastor Rick to Chief Scott Oldweiler of the Pennsdale Volunteer Fire Department at Wednesday evening's Good 'N Plenty dinner. "We really appreciated the invitation to dinner, but never expected this," commented Chief Oldweiler. Seventeen first responders and guests were served a delicious dinner and given other tokens of appreciation for their service to the community and surrounding area. Many thanks to the Faithful Hands group and Good 'N Plenty staff for coordinating this community outreach.

