First Light

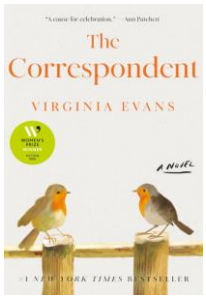
A weekly e-newsletter from First United Methodist

October 23, 2026

Poinsettia Orders Due November 9th



It's time to order the poinsettias that will adorn the church at Christmastime. Poinsettias are $8.00 for each 6.5" pot and come in either red, pink, white or Candy Cane (red/white variegated). To purchase poinsettias, please complete an order form which can be found on either of the Connection Tables. Place order forms and payment (either cash or checks payable to First United Methodist Church) in the offering plates or baskets or turn in to the church office. Orders are due by November 8th. We ask that you leave your poinsettias in the sanctuary through Christmas Eve, if possible. Any poinsettias left after December 27th will be donated unless other arrangements are made with the church office.



November Book Club

The new book club will be discussing "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans at the next meeting which will be on November 11th at 6:30 pm in the Lounge. Contact Stephanie Mostowy or Angie Kustanbauter with any questions.

Mission Accomplished



Under the direction of Gary and Lyla Allshouse, 9 members and friends of our Faithful Hands Ministry gathered in the Celebration Center on Tuesday evening to assemble school kits for Experience Missions, located in Williamsport. The school kits include supplies that make learning more accessible to children around the world. These kits will go to Liberia, Ukraine, Nicaragua and other countries throughout the world. Thanks to everyone for helping and to Gary and Lyla for organizing this project.



October 25, 2026

"The Life You Didn't Expect: Community, Vulnerability, Comfort"

2 Corinthians 1:3-11
Galatians 6:1-10 (The Message)

Reminders:

Advent Devotion Writing Workshop
The Discipleship Committee is still collecting submissions for an Advent Devotional they will provide to the congregation. If you would like to contribute a devotion but need a little help with writing it, the Committee is offering a workshop on Saturday, October 24th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Living Water Café.

Trunk-or-Treat—October 25th
The JAM Children's Ministry will hold a Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, October 25th from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Celebration Center. Would you or your group consider having a "trunk" (really a table) this year and handing out candy to all of our young guests? You can register a table by speaking with the JAM Leaders.

Surviving the Holidays – November 8th
For many who have lost a loved one, the holidays can be a difficult time of the year. To help the grieving navigate the holidays, our GriefShare Ministry will hold a special meeting for those who are struggling with loss. The gathering with be held on Sunday, November 8th from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Living Water Café. Come find support or tell a friend who might benefit from this ministry.

Bell Tower Area Clean up – October 24th
Volunteers are needed for a small landscaping/clean-up of the beds and area around the bell tower. Come on out and help if you are able. They will meet at 9:00 am on October 24th.

Special Church Meeting – October 26th
The church Council of First UMC invites you to a special meeting with our District Superintendent, Rev. Daniel Wilt. This meeting is a listening session to learn about an alternative church leadership structure, Simplified Accountable Structure. This information is intended to prepare the congregation to vote on adopting the new structure at our Church Conference on November 8th.

Church Conference – November 8th
Our Annual Church Conference meeting will be held on November 8th beginning at 4:30 pm in the sanctuary. We will be hosting all the churches of the East Lycoming Cluster. This meeting is where important annual business is cared for. Every church member has voice and vote. If you have any questions about this annual meeting, please speak with Pastor Rick.

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for all the sympathy cards, messages, prayers, and kind words following the passing of my father. Your thoughtfulness and support have meant so much to me and my family during this difficult time. I am truly grateful to be part of such a caring church family.
With heartfelt thanks and appreciation,
Stephanie Mostowy and Family

Dear First UMC,
I would like to send a thank you to everyone who sent me cards or called to see how I'm doing after my lengthy illness and surgery. Your well wishes and prayers are appreciated.
Joyce McCarty