

The Link

AUGUST
2018

The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Buckhannon WV

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BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER WALK



We will gather on August 11 at 10 am at Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School for a Prayer Walk. Please invite family and friends to join us. We will pray for all students, teachers and staff that we know personally, as well as those in our region – Upshur County Schools, West Virginia Wesleyan College, etc. You are welcome to enter classrooms as you would like or to simply walk the hallways and commons areas. Let's surround our students and all school employees with our prayers and wish them a wonderful academic year!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All adult Sunday School classes resume their regular schedule and locations on Sunday, August 5.

Children and Youth classes resume their regular schedule and locations on Sunday, August 12.

Scholarship Sunday is August 5!

Youth Group: resumes August 26 with games, food and more!
Bring a friend for a special surprise!



After an afternoon at Wave Tek Pool, David Rowan enjoyed the Poky Dot restaurant with others from the Upshur Parish.



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

August 2018

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am



5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10 + 11 +

SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY
 Sunday School 9:30am
 Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am
 Boy Scouts - Scout Room 7:00pm

Early Birds - Library 8:00am
 Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am

Prayer Walk - BU Middle School - 10am

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12 + 13 + 14 + 15 + 16 + 17 + 18 +

Christian Education Sunday
 Sunday School 9:30am
 Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am
 Boy Scouts - Scout Room 7:00pm

Early Birds - Library 8:00am
 Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am

Prayer Walk - BU Middle School - 10am

Prayer Walk - BU Middle School - 10am

19 + 20 + 21 + 22 + 23 + 24 + 25 +

Sunday School 9:30am
 Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am
 Outreach - #21E 5:00pm
 Boy Scouts - Scout Room 7:00pm

Early Birds - Library 8:00am
 Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am

We have a class for you!

26 + 27 + 28 + 29 + 30 + 31 +

Sunday School 9:30am
 Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am
 Youth Group resumes 5:00pm

Pastor Interviews - Lib 9:00am
 Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am
 Outreach - Lib 5:30pm
 Nurture - #21E 6:30pm
 Witness - GFH 6:30pm
 Boy Scouts - 7:00pm

Pastor Interviews - Lib 9:00am
 Early Birds - Library 8:00am
 Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm

Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am

Chancel Choir 7:00pm

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Matt Poling | 16 Greg Kennedy |
| 3 Jim Knorr | 17 Margaret Walls |
| 5 Troy Casto | 18 Sandra Presar |
| 9 Nancy Hefner | Dan Martin |
| 10 Karen Kesling | 22 Sylvia C. Elmore |
| 11 Carolyn Mallory | Martha Meadows |
| Charles Washington | 23 Curtis Wilkerson |
| 12 Sebastian Reger | 25 Ben Crutchfield |
| 13 G. Paul Richter | 29 David Rowan |
| Shelli Lantz | 31 Sarah Carr |
| Ella Whitehair | John Walsh |
| Susan Martin | |

AUGUST USHERS

Nate Kennedy (head), Yvonne Foster, Katherine Huffman, Marty Kelley, Mac McGraw

AUGUST GREETERS

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| August 5 | Christa & Alex Edwards |
| August 12 | Marty Kelley, Mindi Foster |
| August 19 | Jane White, Kim Walls |
| August 26 | Margaret Walls, Ellen Nickell |

AUGUST ACOLYTES

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| August 5 | Clay & Mason Lantz |
| August 12 | Hannah Boyles & Ava Lantz |
| August 19 | Rebekah Wilkerson & Tori Adams |
| August 26 | Evan & Andrew McDowell |



AUGUST is "School Supplies – backpacks, notebooks/loose leaf paper, pencils, crayons, highlighters" Month, the monthly collection for the Parish House & sponsored by the Micah Outreach Ministry Team. Please leave your gift in Linger Hall on Sunday or leave at the church office.

TRUSTEES' REPORT - JULY 2018

The hazy lazy days of summer have proven to be just that! Only a few projects have been completed, one of which was the stripping and waxing of the floor in Godwin Hall. Looks very nice! Thank Tom when you see him for a great job of keeping our church buildings so clean. He plans to replace the baseboard in the kitchen in the near future. Since there has been a water problem in the elevator hallway every time it rains heavily, Tom has set aside time to investigate the problem. Hopefully his expertise will solve the dilemma.

On a very warm afternoon I discovered Junior and Sarahjean McGee in the parking lot brightening up the faded lines. It is so inspiring to have church family who help keep our campus in tip-top shape. Thank you McGees.

With all the rains it is a great feeling to not have found any leaks. Hope this statement doesn't jinx us!

The gas company located a leak behind the District Office and promptly repaired it. Our only cost (approximately \$75) was the pipe between the main and the meter.

The Memorial Committee paid for the new door unit at the entrance to the Education Building which will greatly help heating cost. We thank them!

Of course, the daily maintenance and cleaning are ongoing tasks and can be very time consuming. There are some larger projects within the church scheduled for later Fall.

Thank you for supporting Trustees' efforts through the Improvement Fund to maintain our beautiful church. We appreciate you!

Enjoy the remainder of summer!
Karen Cartwright, Trustee Chair

FROM THE LIBRARY



The church library is always open. You are welcome to browse through the books at any time, and borrow one to read at home. Just sign the card in the back of the book and leave it on the

desk. Here's some good reading:

"Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Keckly" By Jennifer Fleischner
When Mary Todd Lincoln moved into the White House as First Lady she knew she would need someone special to become her dressmaker. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Keckly was recommended and Mary Lincoln hired her. Mary Lincoln had made high fashion her special province since girlhood; her fashion goals were so complicated and sophisticated that it would be no common mantua maker who could help her realize her dreams. Elizabeth Keckly, born a slave, not only became Mary Lincoln's dressmaker, but her dearest friend and confidante. This is a story of the deep friendship between a First Lady and a former slave.



Congratulations to Amy McGrew and Chris Hayslette who were married on June 29.

NOTES OF THANKS FROM ANDREW AND EVAN MCDOWELL

Thank you for sponsoring me for my camp. It was really fun. I want to go back next year so I can possibly see my friends again or make new ones. I appreciate all you did for me to go to church camp. Sincerely, Andrew

Thank you church for sponsoring my trip to camp. I had a lot of fun and made some friends. He lives in Clarksburg. Thank you for a wonderful experience. Sincerely, Evan



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Patty McComas, Sandra McCutcheon, and Yvonne Foster attended United Methodist Women Assembly in May in Columbus, Ohio. It was the official celebration of UMW's 150th anniversary. The theme, "The Power of Bold", was explored through workshops, exhibits, motivational speakers, and worship. United Methodist women want to "turn faith, hope, and love into action". (umwassembly.org) They will provide our next unit meeting program on September 6, 7 pm, in Godwin Fellowship Hall.



The local unit recognized the many years of dedicated service that Phyllis Coston contributed through a Gift in Memory announced during the worship service on July 22. Herb Coston

accepted the Gift on behalf of Phyl, who was a staunch advocate of and participant in service to others in many forms and regularly spoke on behalf of those marginalized. Gifts in Memory funds go to service projects of the United Methodist Church.



Morning Circle picnic at the home of Tina Horstman

Kairos Prison Ministry will hold its annual fall weekend for prisoners at Huttonsville Correctional center September 13-16. UMW decided to continue supporting this international organization after the overwhelming response we received this past spring. Volunteers with Kairos hope to establish Christian communities inside prisons by sharing the love and forgiveness of Christ. Lloyd Strobeck and Joe Shreve are local volunteers at Huttonsville. Each volunteer is expected to provide 100 dozen cookies which are distributed to all prisoners that weekend. They also need cakes and pies for meals served to the attendees. There are restrictions on the type cookies. If you can help, check the guidelines found on the UMW table in Linger Hall and sign up. All donations will be picked up on September 9. Thanks for you help!



Thank you to our summer Sunday school teachers!

August 27th N.O.W. Meetings

Outreach – 5:30 pm in the library
Nurture – 6:30 pm in Room 21
Witness – 7:30 pm in Godwin Hall

Youth and Children:

Martha Meadows
Alice Poling
Cheryl Reger
Barb Loftis
Sandy McDowell
Amanda Webb

Adults:

Fred Shannon
Mary Lou Fox
Phil Petrosky
Jamie O'Brien



2018 FIRST UMC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Sean Crites

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

First United Methodist Church has been a steadfast support system throughout my life. Facilitating a safe environment for me to explore myself without fear of rejection and providing a large community of people I know care about me, First Church has become an integral component of my identity. While I have attended the church my entire life, my first memories are of Ronda Paoletti with the seasonal musicals and Patty McComas with Sunday School. I remember participating in Vacation Bible School not as a volunteer or leader, but as a child there to learn about Jesus. I am most grateful for the opportunity to sing during service – First Church helped me find my voice and my passion for music. Also, First Church has enabled me to become more involved in my community through teaching Sunday School, helping at the Parish House, or volunteering on the McDowell mission trip with Upshur Helping Hands.

In the fall, I will be attending Princeton University where I will be pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in either Neuroscience or Molecular Biology with a certificate in Neuroscience. After undergraduate studies, I wish to attend medical school in order to become a psychiatrist.

Alexandra Edwards

West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

From spending Sunday School with one of my best friends every week, to putting a new roof on a house in McDowell County with him by my side, First United Methodist Church has provided me with an abundance of opportunities just like this scholarship. I cannot put into words how thankful I am.

This scholarship is helping me pursue something I love with passion and integrity. I am thrilled to have the church family standing beside me as I tackle this new adventure of my life. I will forever be thankful for everyone providing me with love throughout my journey.

This church and the people who attend have been some of my largest supporters in my life. Mrs. Petrosky was my kindergarten teacher who taught me the alphabet. I remember running around in her back yard for hours with the other youth and children during bonfires every summer. Mrs. Warner welcomed me into middle school with a friendly hug and smile. Mr. Casto and Mrs. Reger were a warm smile into high school. Mrs. Loftis was a substitute I was excited to see. Mr. and Mrs. Crutchfield have been VBS volunteers from when I was attending in grade school until I was a volunteer myself. Tammy Crites was a happy face in the crowds at band concerts. Everyone in my church family has been extraordinarily loving to me.

I am more than excited to continue my educational career at West Virginia University majoring in music education following after my former teacher Mr. Scott as well as having Martha Meadows as my first friend in my new chapter. I sincerely thank you all.

Alex will also receive the Godwin Family Scholarship for the 2018-19 academic year.

Victoria Gifford

Alderson Broaddus University, Philippi, WV

During my years at First United Methodist, I have participated in numerous activities: McDowell mission trips, flood relief buckets, chancel choir, performing clarinet and hand bells for special services, WV UMC Fall Workshop, assisting acolytes and assisting with a group at VBS. These activities have impacted my life tremendously. Furthering my musicianship skills and sharing the talents God gave me to others, and the McDowell trips have taught me to not take the little things for granted and made me a better person. The rest of the activities have impacted me in so many ways that I cannot say, and I am so thankful that I am a part of FUMC. At the end of my freshman year at AB, I decided to not pursue a degree in Pre-Medicine/Biology. I have since changed my major to “undecided” at this point, but am looking at potentially majoring in either Legal Studies with an intent of going to Law School, or possibly Exercise Science/Athletic Training. I’m letting God direct my path in choosing the right major for this next year.

I am so grateful for the scholarship I received last year from the FUMC family, and I hope that the return on any future investment will glorify God and help bless others.

Sebastian Reger

West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

For the past year, I have worked at NASA IV&V as a project manager for an experimental scientific payload to fly on a sounding rocket. I work with 50+ college students across two states to develop experiments that will collect data throughout the flight. This rocket will fly on August 14th out of Wallops Flight Facility.

Recently, I took several steps back from my busy schedule to plan my next steps. I’ll graduate this upcoming December with a dual-degree in Electrical & Computer Engineering and a minor in Physics. After graduation, I will pursue a career at a leading industry in machine learning/robotics in the Greater Pittsburgh Area.



CELEBRATING VBS 2018





Upshur Helping Hands *Friends helping new friends 2018*



The Upshur Helping Hands work team was commissioned to be “God with skin on” as we returned to Caretta in June, to work with Big Creek People In Action, Inc., in McDowell County. This year 8 youth and 6 adults made the trip and on Monday evening, we were joined by another group of youth from Sidwell Friends School in Washington D.C. (including a Richter granddaughter). Since the weather forecast for the entire week was rain, the jobs were primarily

inside projects. We divided into six crews of varying size, depending on the job requirements. This year the projects included a roof in Coalwood, cleaning and painting in Berwind, a bathroom floor in New Hall, a kitchen floor in Berwind Mountain, a bedroom and kitchen floor in Bradshaw, and a kitchen floor in Coalwood. Those sound like straight forward projects, however when a floor needs to be replaced, there are usually other related problems to resolve such as water leaks and deteriorated floor joists. Each site had its own challenges and each evening we gathered to share experiences and blessings from the day.



This mission trip always has a lasting impact on the youth who participate. They have the opportunity to learn many useful skills and build relationships that will last a lifetime...and of course, if they're on Doc's crew, a trip to the hardware store for a milkshake every day! Most importantly, there is that spirit of community and the blessings that come with service to others. After another very successful trip this year, we would all like to extend our sincere appreciation to those who continue to support this mission.



HOLY HUMOR

A pastor who was known for his lengthy sermons noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the conclusion of the service.

Afterwards, the pastor asked the man where he had gone.

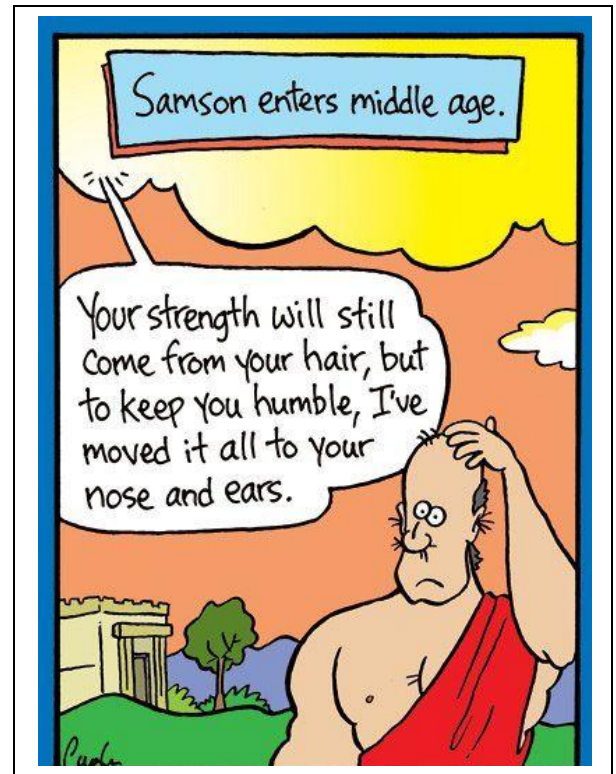
'I went to get a haircut,' the man replied.

'Why didn't you do that before the service?' the pastor exclaimed.

'Well,' the man said, 'because I didn't need one then.'



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY
AUGUST 12



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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firstchurchum.com