

The Link

DECEMBER

2018



52 S. Florida St. Buckhannon, WV 26201 304-472-9494 fumc26201@gmail.com www.firstchurchum.com

The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Buckhannon WV

JOIN US FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER!

DECEMBER 9, GATHER AT 5 PM, EAT AT 5:30 PM



It's a great time of Christmas celebration!

Meat, bread and drinks will be provided. Bring a large dish to share (salads, vegetables/side dishes, or desserts). In lieu of a Micah Meal in December, donations will be collected at the Christmas Dinner for the BUMS Backpack Program.

An ugly Christmas sweater contest will again be held - so wear your best and see who wins!

+



SHEA AND WINNIE PHILLIPS

True intergenerational worship!

UPCOMING EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

- ★ December 4 – Charge Conference, 6 pm, FUMC Sanctuary
- ★ December 8 – Cookie Walk
- ★ December 9 – Nativity Celebration
- ★ December 9 – Church Family Christmas Dinner
- ★ December 13 – Blue Christmas Service, 7 pm
- ★ December 16 – Choir presents Lessons & Carols
- ★ December 17 – Madrigal Singers of Clarksburg Christmas Concert, 7 pm
- ★ December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service, 7 pm
- ★ January 27 – Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus, 5 pm

**Invite "FRANK" – friends, relatives, acquaintances, neighbors, kids, etc.*

THE CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 21, 2018 THRU JANUARY 1, 2019.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 +
2 First Sunday of Advent + S School 9:30am Worship - 10:40am Painting Event - GFH 2:00pm Youth Group - #25E 6:00pm	3 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Nurture - 6p-#21 SPRC & Finance 7pm-GFH Boy Scouts - Scout Room 7:00pm	4 + Early Birds - Lib 8a CHARGE CONFERENCE 6:00pm Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm	5 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Wednesday Study Group 7:00pm	6 + UMW - GFH 7:00pm	7 + Cookie Walk Setup - GFH 1:00pm	8 + Cookie Walk - GFH 8:00am
9 + S School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am Family Dinner - GFH 5:00pm	10 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Boy Scouts - Scout Room 7:00pm Cub Pack Meeting - GFH 7:00pm	11 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Conference NOM - GFH 10:00am Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm	12 + DCOM - #21E - GFH Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Wednesday Study Group 7:00pm	13 + Blue Christmas - Sanc 7:00pm	14 + AA Dinner 6:00pm	15 +
16 + United Methodist Men - GFH 8:00am S School 9:30am Lessons & Carols 10:40am Youth Group - #25E 6:00pm	17 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Boy Scouts - Scout Room 7:00pm Madrigals Christmas Candlelight - Sanc 7:00pm	18 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - GFH 7:00pm	19 + Exercise - #18E 9:00am Morning Circle - Fleming 9:30am Afternoon Circle - Fleming 1:30pm Wednesday Study Group 7:00pm	20 +	21 + OFFICE CLOSED	22 + OFFICE CLOSED
23 + OFFICE CLOSED Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	24 Christmas Eve + OFFICE CLOSED Christmas Eve - Sanc 7:00pm	25 Christmas Day + OFFICE CLOSED	26 + OFFICE CLOSED Wednesday Study Group 7:00pm	27 + OFFICE CLOSED	28 + OFFICE CLOSED	29 + OFFICE CLOSED
30 + OFFICE CLOSED Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	31 New Year's Eve + OFFICE CLOSED		THE CHURCH OFFICES WILL REOPEN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND.			

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1 Betty Weimer | 27 Jamie O'Brien |
| Deidra Casto | 29 Angie Botzet |
| Ellie Siegel | Judy Knorr |
| David Wasson | 30 Yvonne Foster |
| 3 Larry Loudin | 31 Grace Clawson |
| 12 Leon Linger | |
| 14 Cheryl Reger | |
| Alex Edwards | |
| 15 Lynn Linger | |
| 21 Clint Green | |
| 26 Diana Simmons | |



DECEMBER USHERS

Ben Crutchfield (head), Matt Hymes, Sandra McCutcheon, Jeff McDowell

DECEMBER GREETERS

December 2	Gary Summers, Matt Leventry
December 9	Gary frush, Bill Mallory
December 16	Isaac & Deidra Casto
December 23	Todd & Alison Whitehair
December 30	Lynne & David Petrosky

DECEMBER ACOLYTES

December 2	Evan & Andrew McDowell
December 9	none needed
December 16	Hannah Boyles & Ava Lantz
December 23	Ella Whitehair & Tori Adams
December 30	Clay & Mason Lantz



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:

"Proclaiming Grace & freedom: The Story of United Methodism in America", edited by John G. McEllhenney

This Book traces the church's origins and takes a look at various renewal movements within the denomination, the mergers of the twentieth century, and the issues championed by Methodism. Along the way we witness the tumult of slavery and the Civil War and their impact on Methodism. It is a straight-forward report on more than two hundred years of United Methodism in America.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Save the date for a Lock-In on January 25! More details coming soon

+ FUMC DIRECTORY



The Witness Committee has made arrangements with Dewayne and Ginnie Lowther for a new Directory. **Please sign up on the bulletin board in Linger Hall* for a time to have you/your family's photo taken on either December 16 or January 27. Up to four families/individuals can sign-up per each 15 minute time slot. The photographs being taken are at no cost, and each family/individual will receive a gift of a free 5x7 of the photograph as well as the rights to the photograph to make their own copies as they please, etc. See Amy (McGrew) Hayslette for more information or questions.

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear First Church Family,

How do I begin to thank you for ALL of the prayers and kindnesses you've shown to me and our family???

The many cards we've received have amazing words of comfort and encouragement. The calls and visits and food came at "just the right time." Jim's Celebration of Life Service was indeed a worship service, including incredible music by incredible musicians. The Luncheon the UMW provided gave us a time to unwind and visit, and it was truly an example of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes – as I had absolutely no idea how many people would be there! (And there was food left over to share with others!)

However, THE most important gift is prayer. Please continue to pray for us, as we grieve and tie up loose ends. Jim left a huge hole – in our lives and the lives of those who loved him. I've included a picture of Jim



and Iggy, because this truly was Iggy's funeral also. That "figure" is still here on earth, waiting for someone else to "pull his string," but his impish personality died with the one who created him. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

With our love,

Judy Knorr and families of Chris and Cherri

Madrigal Singers

The Madrigal Singers of Clarksburg return to FUMC with a special Christmas concert on **December 17 at 7 pm in the sanctuary.** We hope you can attend this wonderful holiday celebration!



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

December seems to be an appropriate time to reflect on the previous year and evaluate where we currently stand. Additionally, the District United Methodist Women’s organization has asked us to look back to our beginning and share the history of UMW here at First United Methodist Church.

United Methodist Women have actively participated in the life of First United Methodist Church since about 1942. Starting out as Women’s Society of Christian Service, the name changed to United Methodist Women in 1973. This name change was announced by president Marcia-Mae Glauner. The first officers of UMW were Helen Swarhout, Sarah Chamberlain, Sue Darnall, Janie Lou Overstreet, and Ocie Martin. Mission coordinators included Judy Knorr and Jane Crutchfield. These women were just beginning many years of service. In fact, throughout our long history the main constant has been service – service to people locally and worldwide.

Approximately \$3,700 is given every year to support local service organizations. In 2018 we decided to add Kairos Prison Ministry. We provided 200+ dozen cookies and \$500 to help bring Christianity to inmates at Huttonsville Correctional Center. Hygiene kits were assembled and delivered to Women’s Aid in Crisis by Evening Circle. \$2,600 went to the district and then partly on to the state and national levels to help support missionaries, community centers, treatment facilities, and advocacy on behalf of women, children, and youth.

The role of United Methodist Women at FUMC is gradually changing. Due to our aging membership, we have shifted more towards advocacy and try to motivate others to get involved in projects we initiate. Our local unit joined with the UMW national campaign “Be Just! Be Green” to encourage environmentally conscious practices. We promoted the use of cloth bags for shopping, discouraged the use of non-reusable drinking containers, requested the church use paper rather than plastic or Styrofoam, and decided at events we sponsor to use regular dishes instead of disposable. We just started the collection of empty prescription and over-the-counter medicine bottles. They will be mailed to Matthew 25 Ministries for inclusion with medical shipments. We appreciate the support of First United Methodist Church’s members in helping us achieve our goals.

We will close out 2018 with two events in December. The unit meeting Dec. 6, 7 pm, will include the program A Look at Jesus’ Birth Through the Eyes of a Midwife presented by Dr. Susan Rice. Our annual Cookies and More sale is December 8 beginning at 8:30 am. Please sign up to help at the UMW table in Linger Hall or email barbaraloftis9@gmail.com.

COOKIES & MORE



**Homemade
Cookies,
Candy, Crafts
And More**

\$6.00 a pound

**Saturday,
December 8th**

Doors open at 8:30 am

No Early Bird Sales!

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
52 S. Florida St.
Godwin Fellowship Hall
304/472/9494





December is "HOLIDAY BASKET ITEMS" Month, the monthly collection for the Parish House & sponsored by the Micah Outreach Ministry Team. Items needed include green beans, corn, canned yams, pork & beans, cake mix & frosting. Please leave your gift in Linger Hall on Sunday or leave at the church office. They also need MAC & CHEESE right now.



Hannah Boyles, Rebekah Wilkerson and their friend Sammie Shay enjoyed the Color Run at Fall Workshop.



Gracie Boyles races Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball in singing "Father Abraham."

+ADVENT STUDY

"The Gift of the Nutcracker" Advent Study begins Sunday, December 2 at 9:30 am in Room 21. All are invited and welcome.

ADDITIONAL ADVENT STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Jamie O'Brien will offer an Advent Study via email this year. Participants may gather once, but the bulk of the study will be conducted by email. *Please contact Jamie and/or Kristi for more info and to sign up.*

TISSUE AVALANCHE: Coming Soon to Linger Hall!

FUMC will collect boxes of tissues for classrooms at B-U High School and B-U Middle school throughout the month of January. Please bring a box or two of tissues for our "avalanche" in Linger Hall and help us show our support of BUHS and BUMS students and teachers!



Presented by
First United Methodist Chancel Choir
Join us on Sunday, December 16
10:40 am, Morning Worship



Blue Christmas Candlelight Service
Thursday, December 13, 7 PM
First United Methodist Church
Main Sanctuary
52 S. Florida St., Buckhannon, WV



A gentle service of quiet music, prayer, scripture,
and candle lighting for those who are grieving or struggling
with the Christmas season.



Chris Hayslette and Tom Bacorn set up the Christmas tree.



Luke Leigh and Katherine Huffman hang wreaths by the organ.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Male Chorus
*from the Charleston and
greater Kanawha Valley area*
Concert at FUMC

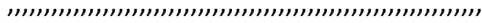
January 27 5 pm

Join us for this wonderful evening of music!

**Upshur County Schools Levy Vote
is January 19, 2019.**

Fell  wship

Church Night Out!
WE'RE TAKING A BREAK,
SEE YOU IN JANUARY!



You are invited to help to adorn our sanctuary with live poinsettias for the Christmas season. This year we are offering red and white plants. You may order a poinsettia in memory of someone, in honor of someone, or simply to the glory of God. The cost will be \$17.50 per plant. Please fill out the form below, with a check made out to FUMC and place it in the offering plate or bring it or send it to the church office no later than December 12.

NAME OF DONOR-----

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER: Circle: RED WHITE

_____ PLANT(S) IN HONOR OF -----

_____ PLANT(S) IN MEMORY OF: -----

_____ PLANT(S) GIVEN FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.



NATIVITY CELEBRATION

The children and youth will present the **Nativity Celebration** on December 9th during worship.

LEGEND OF THE CANDY CANE

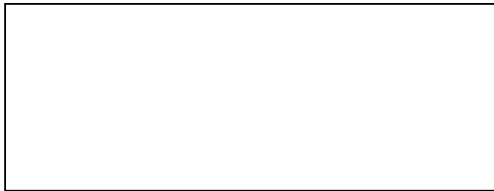
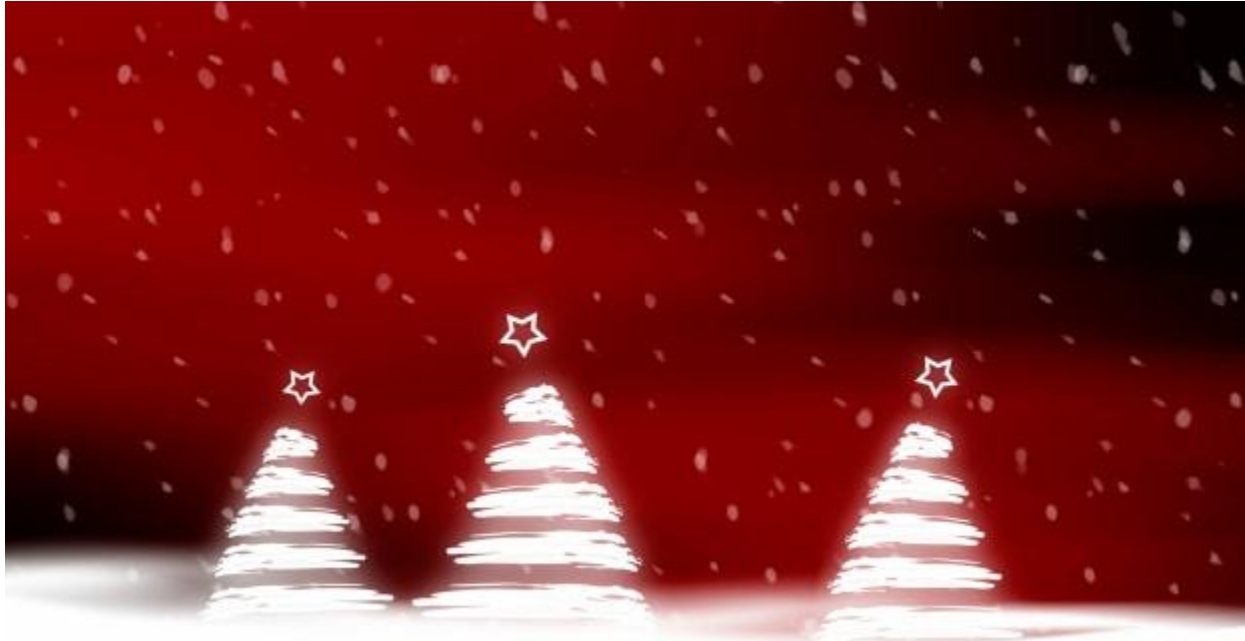
A candy maker in Indiana wanted to make a candy that would be a witness, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. White to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus, and hard to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the church, and firmness of the promises of God.

The candy maker made the candy in the form of a *J* to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our savior. It also represents the staff of the *Good Shepherd* with which He reaches down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray. Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candy maker stained it with red stripes. He used the tree small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Jesus on the Cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life, if only we put our faith and trust in Him.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM





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