

# The Link



**JANUARY  
2019**

52 S. Florida St. Buckhannon, WV 26201 304-472-9494 [fumc26201@gmail.com](mailto:fumc26201@gmail.com) [www.firstchurchum.com](http://www.firstchurchum.com)

**The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church. Buckhannon WV**



**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*

## **MICAH OUTREACH TO DELIVER VALENTINE COOKIES TO SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**



Your Micah Team (Outreach) will again be delivering plates of Valentine cookies to local service organizations on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will help us provide smiles by bringing a variety of cookies to the church kitchen by February 13th.

## **PARISH HOUSE ITEM OF THE MONTH**

January is "PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS" Month, the monthly collection for the Parish House & sponsored by the Micah Outreach Ministry Team. Items needed include bar soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, & deodorant. Please leave your gift in Linger Hall on Sunday or leave at the church office.

**UPSHUR COUNTY SCHOOLS LEVY VOTE  
IS JANUARY 19, 2019.**

**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!



Sunday                      Monday                      Tuesday                      Wednesday                      Thursday                      Friday                      Saturday

|   |   |   |  |                     |             |  |
|---|---|---|--|---------------------|-------------|--|
| <b>JANUARY 2019</b>   |   | <b>1</b> New Year's Day +<br>OFFICE CLOSED  | <b>2</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am  | <b>3</b> +          | <b>4</b> +  | <b>5</b> +<br>Scrapbooking – GFH<br>– 10am |
| <b>6</b> +<br>SCHOLARSHIP<br>SUNDAY<br>S School 9:30am<br>Worship - Sanc<br>10:40am<br>UMW - GFH 2pm                                    | <b>7</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am<br>Boy Scouts - Scout<br>Room 7:00pm  | <b>8</b> +<br>Early Birds -<br>Library 8:00am<br>Chancel Choir -<br>GFH 7:00pm          | <b>9</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am  | <b>10</b> +         | <b>11</b> + | <b>12</b> +                                |
| <b>13</b> +<br>S School 9:30am<br>Worship - Sanc<br>10:40am<br>Micah Meal - GFH<br>12pm   | <b>14</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am<br>Boy Scouts - Scout<br>Room 7:00pm   | <b>15</b> +<br>DCOM<br>Early Birds -<br>Library 8:00am<br>Chancel Choir -<br>GFH 7:00pm | <b>16</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am<br>Morning Circle -<br>Fleming Lounge<br>9:30am<br>Afternoon Circle -<br>Fleming Lounge<br>1:30pm | <b>17</b> +         | <b>18</b> + | <b>19</b> +                                |
| <b>20</b> +<br>United Methodist<br>Men - GFH 8:00am<br>S School 9:30am<br>Worship - Sanc<br>10:40am                                     | <b>21</b> Martin Luther +<br>King Day<br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>Boy Scouts - Scout<br>Room 7:00pm<br>Cub Pack Meeting<br>- GFH 7:00pm | <b>22</b> +<br>Early Birds -<br>Library 8:00am<br>Chancel Choir -<br>GFH 7:00pm (edit)  | <b>23</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am   | <b>24</b> +<br>DCOM | <b>25</b> + | <b>26</b> +                                |
| <b>27</b> +<br>S School 9:30am<br>Worship - Sanc<br>10:40am<br>Directory Photos -<br>Linger 12:00pm<br>MLK Jr. Chorus -<br>Sanc. 5:00pm | <b>28</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am<br>Boy Scouts - Scout<br>Room 7:00pm   | <b>29</b> +<br>Early Birds -<br>Library 8:00am<br>Chancel Choir -<br>GFH 7:00pm         | <b>30</b> +<br>Exercise Group -<br>#18E 9:00am   | <b>31</b> +         |             |  |

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1</b> Leonard Wachob<br>Paula McGrew<br>Mark Lynch | <b>14</b> David Godwin<br>Sue Boring     |
| <b>2</b> Sam McComas<br>"Mac" McGraw<br>Hilary Godwin | <b>15</b> Brenda Wachob<br>Steven Wilson |
| <b>3</b> Ron Pugh<br>Andrew McDowell<br>Evan McDowell | <b>22</b> Eric Lantz                     |
| <b>4</b> Sue Pugh                                     | <b>23</b> Greenbrier<br>Almond           |
| <b>5</b> Valarie Huffman                              | Gary Connell                             |
| <b>6</b> Norma Ruhlow                                 | <b>25</b> John Lynch<br>Ruthie McGee     |
| <b>11</b> Graham Scott                                | <b>31</b> Rosemary<br>Heatherly          |
| <b>12</b> Mary Ellen Finegan                          | Lisa Calef-Boring                        |

## JANUARY USHERS

Katherine Huffman (head), Steve Atkins, Sue Boring,  
Dale Shannon

## JANUARY GREETERS

|            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| January 6  | Bill & Tena Shannon        |
| January 13 | Rob & Lynn Rupp            |
| January 20 | Tammy Crites, Diane Godwin |
| January 27 | Nick & Angela Boyles       |

## JANUARY ACOLYTES

|            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| January 6  | Hannah Boyles & Ava Lantz      |
| January 13 | Rebekah Wilkerson & Tori Adams |
| January 20 | Clay & Mason Lantz             |
| January 27 | Evan & Andrew McDowell         |





## United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women were busy during the final weeks of 2018. On December 8 we held our annual Cookies and More which was a huge success. With your help we raised \$1,324 which will be donated to local service organizations. We have also helped with the Pastor's Discretionary Fund and the Children and Youth Program here at First United Methodist Church. During our unit meeting, December 6, Susan Rice shared with us information about the role of midwives in history and discussed the likelihood that a midwife delivered Jesus. We viewed works of art from several cultures and historical time periods and noted how they depicted the role of midwives. Susan herself is a certified midwife and in her words used to "catch babies". It was nice to also see Judith Halle who served as the

technical assistant.



New officers for 2019 and 2020 were installed December 6 by Sylvia Elmore and Jane Corathers, members of the Committee on Nominations. They are as follows: Barbara Loftis, president; Nancy Hefner and Janis Allen, co-vice presidents; Jane Crutchfield, secretary; Jo Criss, treasurer; and Patty McComas, nominations committee chair. In honor of Jo Criss' service as our treasurer for 5 years plus her service in other capacities as well, we presented her with a Special Mission Recognition pin. At the same meeting we passed our budget for 2019 as presented

upon recommendation of the Executive Board.



Lynne Petrosky and Nancy Hefner have completed program planning for 2019. On Sunday, January 6, we'll meet in Fellowship Hall at 2 pm and assemble bean soup kits. We will donate them to the Parish House food pantry. Ingredients including beans and spices are needed. Check your email for items needed or contact Barbara Loftis.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need help to un-decorate the church. Please join us on Sunday, January 6 at 4 pm to take down the Advent and Christmas decorations.

The Grow Team gave thank you gifts to the employees at BUMS and BUHS in November in celebration of American Education Week . . .

*Thank you for the gifts!  
The staff loves them!*

*From Eddie Vincent, BUHS Principal*



We will soon sign up for **PRAYER PARTNERS** and **FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP GROUPS** again. If you are already part of a prayer partner team and/or food & fellowship group, please feel free to continue with those groups. Those interested can sign up during worship starting January 6, or contact Kristi (KRLWilkerson@gmail.com).



## HELP DECORATE OUR TREE!



The Mitten Tree in Linger Hall is collecting donations of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves. Clip them on to the tree by January 6 and all items will be given to the Parish House.

## 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 January 27 if it wasn't taken in December. 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. The photos are taken in Room 18 which is diagonally across from Pastor Steve's office.

## COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE NOTE:



Dear First Church Family,  
Thank you for the Christmas basket with all the goodies! It is really nice to know you all are still thinking about me! I still have the United Methodist Prayer Shawl on the foot of my bed and remember your presence. I'm sorry I wasn't able to come to church over Thanksgiving, but I look forward to it over Christmas. I hope everyone is doing well and I'll see you soon!

Thanks, Sean Crites

## Youth Group News!

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

**Youth Group will meet on the  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in 2019 -**

**January 6 and 20, February 3 and 17,  
March 3, 17 and a special activity  
on March 31, April 7, May 5 and 19**

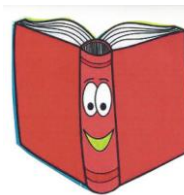
Members of the FUMC Nurture Committee assisted Buckhannon Academy Elementary with their fall carnival and craft show on November 10. Here is a note from them:  
Thank you so much! Thanks for helping with our BAES craft show and carnival.  
From the BAES Staff and PTO

## JANUARY 13 MICAH MEAL BENEFITS THE



Join us on January 13, 12N in Godwin Fellowship Hall for food and fellowship. Bring a generous dish to share and enjoy food and fellowship as we raise funds for the Builders Club. The Builders Club allows the Upshur Coop. Parish to upgrade and maintain their facilities which include The Parish House, The Hall House, The Clothes Closet, and the parsonage.

## 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: Church Choir Mysteries

If you are up to some light and fun reading you may enjoy the Church Choir Mysteries series. Three Books in the series were donated to the library by Dr. Bobby Loftis. Look for them in the Fiction section: "The Highly Suspicious Halo" by Eileen Berger, "Puzzle in Patchwork: by Roberta Updegraff, and "The Unsuitable Suitor" by Nichola Furlong.



## STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Lay Leader, David Cartwright    Steven Meadows, Pastor

**Chairperson: Linda Wellings**

| <u>Class of 2019</u>      | <u>Class of 2020</u>                           | <u>Class of 2021</u>          |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Phil Loftis<br>Mark Lynch | Bill Mallory<br>Woody Martin<br>Linda Wellings | Regina Atkins<br>Tammy Crites |

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Pastor, Steven Meadows
- Financial Secretary, Janet Chandler\*\*\*
- Church Treasurer, Jane Crutchfield
- Church Council Chair, Paula McGrew
- Staff-Parish Relations, chosen by SPRC
- Trustees Representative, Rick Loar
- Lay Leader, David Cartwright

**Chairperson: Lewis Simmons**

| <u>Class of 2019</u>                           | <u>Class of 2020</u>           | <u>Class of 2021</u>            |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Steve Atkins<br>Yvonne Foster<br>Lewis Simmons | Jamie O'Brien<br>Shea Phillips | Tina Horstman<br>Carrie Wallace |

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Chairperson: TBA**

**Secretary: Patty McComas (non-voting)**

| <u>Class of 2019</u>                                     | <u>Class of 2020</u>                         | <u>Class of 2021</u>     |
|--|--|--------------------------|
| Janis Allen<br>Karen Cartwright<br>Rick Loar (Treasurer) | Danny Green<br>Junior McGee<br>Keri Phillips | Naomi Lynch<br>Lori Hagi |

## LAY LEADERSHIP (NOMINATIONS) COMMITTEE

- David Cartwright, Lay Leader
- Steven Meadows, Pastor

| <u>Class of 2019</u> | <u>Class of 2020</u> | <u>Class of 2021</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Andy Scott           | Mary Gum             | Brooke Scott         |

## CHURCH COUNCIL

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Church Council Chairperson:</b> Paula McGrew<br/> <b>Pastor:</b> Steve Meadows<br/> <b>Recording Secretary:</b> Janis Allen<br/> <b>Lay Leader:</b> David Cartwright<br/> <b>Chair/Staff Parish:</b> Linda Wellings<br/> <b>Chair/Finance:</b> Lewis Simmons<br/> <b>Board of Trustees Representative:</b> TBA<br/> <b>Treasurer:</b> Jane Crutchfield<br/> <b>Financial Secretary:</b> Janet Chandler</p> | <p><b>Dir., Programming &amp; Christian Ed:</b> Kristi Wilkerson<br/> <b>United Methodist Women:</b> Barbara Loftis<br/> <b>United Methodist Men:</b><br/> <b>Youth Representative:</b><br/> <b>Chairperson of Nurture:</b> Cheryl Reger<br/> <b>Chairperson of Outreach:</b> Sandra Presar<br/> <b>Chairperson of Witness:</b> Alison Whitehair<br/> <b>Lay Member/Annual Conference:</b> Kristi Wilkerson<br/> <b>At Large:</b> Sarah Carr, Greenbrier Almond, Phil Petrosky, Charles Washington, Brooke Scott</p> |
|--|--|



**NURTURE MINISTRY TEAM**

|                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Chair                              | Cheryl Reger                 |
| Sunday School Superintendent       | Troy Casto                   |
| Dir., Programming and Christian Ed | Kristi Wilkerson             |
| Choir Director                     | Valarie Huffman              |
| Prayer Team Coordinator            | Ben Crutchfield              |
| Child Protection Advocate          | Kristi Wilkerson             |
| Acolyte Coordinator                | Tammy Crites/SarahJean McGee |

|           |                    |              |                   |                 |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| At Large: | Regina Atkins      | Deidra Casto | Mary Lou Fox      | SarahJean McGee |
|           | Ricki Green        | Dan Martin   | Sandra McCutcheon | Alice Poling    |
|           | Charlie Washington |              |                   |                 |

**OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM**

|           |               |                  |              |
|-----------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| Chair     | Sandra Presar |                  |              |
| At Large: | Marvin Carr   | Woody Martin     | Tena Shannon |
|           | Sarah Carr    | Susan Rice       | Kim Walls    |
|           | Herb Coston   | Marjorie Richter | Judy Warner  |
|           | Mark Lynch    | David Rowan      | Jane White   |
|           | Bill Mallory  |                  |              |

**WITNESS**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Chair                 | Alison Whitehair   |
| Usher Group Leaders:  | Junior McGee/Nate Kennedy/Ben Crutchfield                                |
| Greeters Coordinator: | Lynne Petrosky   |
| Web Master:           | Danny Green  |
| At Large:             | Yvonne Foster, Jeff McDowell, Amy Hayslette, Keri Phillips, Brooke Scott |

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>CIRCLE OF PRAYER TEAM</b><br/>(relates to Church Council via Nurture)</p> <p>Janis Allen<br/>Christy Benson<br/>Ben Crutchfield (Chair)<br/>Judy Knorr<br/>Steve Meadows<br/>Shea Phillips<br/>Linda Wellings<br/>Kristi Wilkerson</p> <p><b>ALTAR GUILD</b><br/>Jane Crutchfield (Communion)<br/>Lynn Linger<br/>Barbara Loftis (Coordinator)<br/>Sue Pugh</p> | <p><b>HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP TEAM</b><br/>(relates to Church Council via Trustees)</p> <p>Steve Meadows<br/>Bill O'Brien, chair<br/>Marje Richter<br/>Brooke Scott<br/>MaDora Wildman<br/>Kristi Wilkerson</p> <p><b>MEMORIAL COMMITTEE</b><br/>(relates to Church Council via Trustees)</p> <p>Karen Cartwright (chair)<br/>Mark Lynch<br/>Ellen Nickell</p> | <p><b>GROW TEAM</b><br/>Curtis Wilkerson<br/>Steve Meadows<br/>Linda Wellings<br/>Phil Petrosky<br/>Charles Washington<br/>Cheryl Reger<br/>Brooke Scott<br/>Gary Summers<br/>Mary Lou Fox<br/>Alice Poling<br/>Alison Whitehair<br/>Kristi Wilkerson</p> <p><b>SUNDAY MORNING HOSPITALITY</b><br/>Katherine Huffman</p> |
|---|---|--|





**Commission on a Way Forward  
Laity Listening Event  
Saturday, Jan. 12, 3 pm to 5 pm  
Quiet Dell UMC**

This listening event is offered for the Laity of the United Methodist Church to provide an overview of the petitions that will be presented at the special General Conference in February, 2019. There will be a summary of the process and of the three plans that will be presented at General Conference, '19.

**\*VERY GENERALLY AND VERY BRIEFLY...**

The One Church Plan that is generally endorsed by the Council of Bishops, the Connectional Conference Plan, and the Traditionalist Plan.

**The One Church Plan** moves toward unity and emphasizes our external mission by removing internal conflict. There is no change to structure of UMC and no division of the UMC and, removes language from the Discipline stating that "homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching.

**The Connectional Conference Plan** creates new structures to provide space between those who disagree about Christian ethics regarding marriage and suitability for ordained ministry. The Connectional Conferences would be separate legal entities but deemed part of one UMC.

**The Traditionalist Plan** retains, strengthens and enforces current prohibitions on same sex marriage and gay ordination and allows Annual Conferences to leave and create new denominations.

Again, these descriptions are very general and brief. The Listening Event will provide much more thorough information.

The following are the two closing paragraphs of a letter written by Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball.

*"It is an anxious time – but we know for sure that we do not worship an anxious God. God's word is full of reminders that God is in control. We are not alone, God is with us. This is not our Church, It is God's Church and God will care for the Church.*

*Most importantly, no matter what happens in February we have work to do here and now. There are souls that need the saving power of Jesus Christ, there are people to feed, and there are lives to be touched and served by God's love in Jesus' name. In the midst of the other things that try to distract us from our mission and ministry, now is the time for us to once again align our hearts to God's heart, throw off fear and live in faithful trust that God will lead God's people to God preferred future."*

For more information: <https://www.wvumc.org/bishop-sandra-steiner-ball/a-way-forward/>

**What we all can do in the meantime...** It is critical that as sisters and brothers in Christ we lift our West Virginia Conference delegates to General Conference 2019 up in prayer. Our churches are encouraged to print their names in the prayer section of their bulletin so that our delegates, like all delegates, are surrounded and bathed in prayer – not just during the days of General Conference, but all the days leading up to and through the end of General Conference 2019.

The West Virginia Conference will have 3 clergy (Mary Ellen Finegan, Sharletta Green, Ellis Conley) and 3 lay delegates (Judi Kenaston, Erin Sears, Rich Shaffer) in attendance as well as 3 alternate clergy (J.F. Lacaria, Lauren Godwin, Mark Flynn) and 3 alternate lay delegates (Connor Kenaston, Royce Lyden, Fred Kellerman).



## **What is the LECTIONARY?**

A sequence or list of lections (passages of scripture) to be read during the year. The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) is a three-year cycle of suggested scripture readings that follows the Christian year. Each Sunday, four passages of scripture are recommended, usually two from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament. Thus, over a three-year period the Bible is covered in a systematic and balanced way.

## **Lectionary Readings for January:**

New Year's Day/Week: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46

January 6 Week/Epiphany: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 Week: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20 Week: Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 27 Week: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21



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