

**AUGUST  
2019**

**The Link**

The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Buckhannon WV

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Mark Your Calendar NOW!

### Prayer Walk

Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School

Saturday, Aug. 10 10 AM

Join in praying for all Upshur  
County students, faculty and staff

Fell  wship

### CHURCH NIGHT OUT

*Come and enjoy friends, fun, and food!*

Thursday, August 29, 6 pm or  
come when you can

Miss Piggies, 18 N. Kanawha St.,  
Buckhannon

### FALL KICK OFF SUNDAY AUG. 18<sup>TH</sup>, 4-6 PM

*For all kids and youth of all ages  
...bring a friend!*

Moms, Dads, bring your Little Ones to enjoy the afternoon!  
**Corn Hole Tournament, Gaga Pit, Playground, or  
bring your favorite game to share**

We'll gather at the Campfire pit & we'll have the campfire  
going if you want to bring a chair and visit with  
friends by the fire.

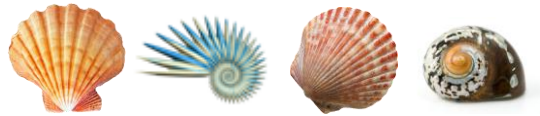
**...and we'll gather at 5:30 pm for S'mores and  
Prayer Buddy reveals.**



### CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL BEGINS!

The Chancel Choir will resume regular rehearsals, Tuesday, July 30 at 7 PM in the Choir Room just off Godwin Fellowship Hall. If you enjoy music and like to sing, you're invited to come and join the fellowship and joy of bringing music and celebration to Sunday Worship. The Chancel Choir usually warms up every Sunday morning at 10 am. It's a great group of folks enjoying and sharing the gift of music.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 +	2 +	3 +
4 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	5 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Trustees - Lib - 6pm Church Council - #21E 7pm	6 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am	7 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	8 +	9 +	10 + Mid. Sch. Prayer Walk 10:00am - 11:00am
11 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	12 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Nurture - #21E - 7pm	13 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am	14 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	15 +	16 +	17 + UMW - Lib 11:00am
18 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am Fall Kick Off - Playground - 4pm	19 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am DCOM Meeting 1:00pm - 3:00pm Outreach - Lib 6:00pm Witness - #21e 7:00pm	20 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am	21 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	22 + 	23 +	24 +
25 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	26 + Pastoral Interviews Finegan Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Cubs - GFH 7:00pm	27 + Pastoral Interviews Finegan Early Birds - Library 8:00am	28 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	29 +	30 +	31 +

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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



### AUGUST USHERS

Nate Kennedy (head), Ricki Green, Marty Kelley

### AUGUST GREETERS

Aug. 4	Steve & Kelley Tierney
Aug. 11	Greenbrier & Araceli Almond
Aug. 18	Amanda Craig, Herb Coston
Aug. 25	Barbara Loudin, Sue Boring



AUGUST is "School Backpack AND School Supplies" Month, the monthly collection for the Parish House & sponsored by the Micah Outreach Ministry team. Please leave your gift of supplies in Linger Hall on Sunday or leave at the church office.

Everyone is family at First Church. If you would like to place your formal membership by Letter of Transfer or Profession of Faith at First UMC, Buckhannon, or have questions, please see Pastor Steve, or you're welcome to send him an email: [stevowvu@gmail.com](mailto:stevowvu@gmail.com).



## THANKS FOR SUPPORTING US! OUR "LOVE WELL YOUTH 2019" EXPERIENCE WAS AWESOME!



*Pictured: Jeff McDowell Hannah Boyles, Evan and Andrew McDowell, Rebekah Wilkerson and Kristi Wilkerson*

Kansas City was so much fun. My favorite part of all of it was packing food for kids in need. But that was only one of so many workshops. The sacred place was also one of my favorite workshops also. It was a room without talking and all peace. And lastly the exhibits hall was cool too. Another very exciting part of our time in Kansas was exploring. We found some stores and shopped a little. After that we went to science city and it was amazing. My last favorite Part of Kansas was Bible study. Every night they had games and videos of people there. We learned about each side of the story. Every one listened to songs I can't wait to go back and explore where it is next. I can't wait to go back!

-----*Hannah Boyles*

Last week, I attended youth 2019 in Kansas City, Missouri. 4 youth members from FUMC went (Hannah Boyles, Evan McDowell, Andrew McDowell and myself) along with 2 adult chaperones (Evan and Andrew's Grandpa Jeff and my mom Kristi). We flew out on 7-10-2019 and 2 people had never flown before so that was a different and new experience for them. I had never been to Kansas City before, so that was interesting for me. We saw lots of cool things like morning bible study skits, went to cool places like the sacred space area (where Evan fell asleep and we thought he was lost), heard cool stories like "clod" from artist Jeff Hanson, and met cool people like Romal Tune. Overall, everyone had a lot of fun and I want to go back. Unfortunately, the next one will be in 2023!

----- *Rebekah Wilkerson*

Our trip to Kansas City was great because I got to fly on a big airplane for the first time but to do so we had to get up at 4 AM. When we got to Kansas City, we went to the Convention Center where we had 4 days of worship and learning. The music was good at each service and we helped to package meals for hungry families in Africa. In one morning the groups put 50,000 meals together for shipment. We had lots of fun and made new friends. I met a friend from Ohio named Zach. We learned about mental health and self defense. We got to ride a Street Car and eat some really good Kansas City BBQ. We really appreciate what our church has done for us to have the opportunity to share in "Love Well - Youth 2019."

.....*Andrew McDowell*



I would like to thank the Church for giving me and my friends the opportunity to go to Youth 2019. We had a lot of fun helping make 50,000 meals to go to hungry families and also learning how to have peace in our lives. We met some new friends and studied the Bible together. There was a least 20 kids from each state if not more. There was 4 days of great worship and awesome music. The plane was a lot of fun, but we had to wake up at 4 in the morning which was hard, but it was worth it.

-*Evan McDowell*





## 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:*

“Rooted” by Murray Andrew Pura

As summer goes by you may have spent many hours in your garden weeding, planting, gathering food and flowers, or just enjoying a relaxing time with family and friends in your garden. Pura and his wife are gardeners. They have not only worked hard in their garden, but they enjoy every minute there. But the best part, according to Pura is that they have their roots in gardens planted and tended by God – like the Garden of Eden, the Garden of Gethsemane, or the Garden Tomb. Some of the most important events in the Christian faith take place in biblical gardens. In Genesis we are told, “God planted a garden in the east.” And our first image may be one of God, digging in the soil, getting dirty hands, and planting flowers, trees, grass. One of God’s greatest miracles is to plant a tiny seed and watch it grow into a beautiful flower or towering tree. Enjoy your garden!

### **\*\*NOTE!**

**Christian Education Sunday has moved from Sunday, Aug. 18 to Sunday, Sept. 8.**

## AUGUST MEETINGS

- \*Board of Trustees, Monday, Aug. 5, 6 PM, Library
- \*Church Council, Monday, Aug. 5, 7 PM in Rm. 21
- \*Nurture Ministry Team, Monday, Aug. 12, 7 PM, Rm. 21
- \*Micah Outreach Ministry Team, Aug. 19, 6 PM, Library
- \*Witness Ministry Team, Aug. 19, 7 PM, Rm. 21

### **FUNNY!**



“Mom, are bugs good to eat?” asked the boy. “Let’s not talk about such things at the dinner table, son,” his mother replied. After dinner the mother inquired, “Now, baby, what did you want to ask me?” “Oh, nothing,” the boy said. “There was a bug in your soup, but now it’s gone.”

If you would like to contribute to FUMC online, please visit our webpage [www.firstchurchum.com](http://www.firstchurchum.com) and look for “DONATE.”

*If you would like to receive the Circle of Prayer Ministry, a daily prayer web of First UMC, please send your email address to: [lwellings@mpl.com](mailto:lwellings@mpl.com).*

If you're a "smartphone" or tablet user, and prefer it to a computer, then you can get the latest church information and the latest sermon on your device now. Go to your app store, and download and install "Sharefaith Ministry". Once installed on your device, search for "First United Methodist Church" within the app. The app does not have all the details you can find on the church website, but it is another way to stay informed. (Attached is a picture of the app to download.) See Danny Green with questions and more info.

## PRAYER BUDDIES



Adult volunteers and children are paired together as Prayer Buddies. Each child’s Prayer Buddy commits to praying for their buddy. They may also remember them on their birthdays and other special occasions, be intentional in welcoming them to church, or send a note of encouragement. Being a Prayer Buddy is planting the seeds of faith and watching them grow. If you are interested in being a Prayer Buddy, please email: [stevowvu@gmail.com](mailto:stevowvu@gmail.com) or [fumc26201@gmail.com](mailto:fumc26201@gmail.com) or call the church office: 304-472-9494. Prayer Buddies begins August 18.





## 2019 – 2020 HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

As I look back on my first year at West Virginia University while studying music education, I find great joy in how far I have come. Within the past year I have made leaps as a musician, a student, a worker, and most importantly, a follower of Jesus. I was able to maintain a 3.5 GPA while having 20 credit hours both semesters, being a part of the symphonic band, wind symphony, and percussion ensembles, having a part-time job, all while attempting to find some time for sleep. None of this would have been possible without the overflowing love and support from my church family and Christ. Words cannot describe how truly thankful I am for the opportunities this church and the people in it have blessed me with.

**-Alexandra "Alex" Edwards, West Virginia University (*Alex is also the 2019-2020 Godwin Scholarship recipient.*)**

First, I would like to thank you for support last year and I would like to thank my First Church family for instilling in me the core beliefs that helped make my first year in college a spectacular experience. I feel extremely blessed to have the opportunity to pursue a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Neuroscience at Princeton University. This past year, I have met countless wonderful friends and mentors. I have continued singing with the Princeton Nassoons, Glee Club, and Chapel Choir. Through these organizations, I have been able to travel California and across the east coast and they will have international tours in the following academic year. I have also been able to continue to serve my community by volunteering with CONTACT Mercer County and Letters to Strangers which are organizations that promote mental health. Even though I have not been home as frequently, First Church will always be an important part of my life.

**-Sean Crites, Princeton University**

On November 26, 2000, I was baptized into the family of the First United Methodist Church. Now that I am older, I realize and appreciate the importance of this date; I realize the importance of being a part of a church family and having a relationship with God. In life, everyone hits some rough patches. It is always good to know that God and the church family are there to help you through. I witnessed this first hand when my grandfather passed away 5 years ago. I can remember the church coming together to offer support for me and my family. Going to Church has taught me a few things that I will always remember. I have learned that God gave his only son so that we may have eternal life and forgiveness of our sins. I have also learned to treat others with respect, as we are all God's children and I learned the importance of forgiving others, as one day I will need to be forgiven. ...I have chosen to study environmental science as a major in college...I want to make a positive difference in the world and i want to leave this planet in better shape than it is now. If I can manage to make some sort of difference, no matter how small, I feel I will be doing something good in God's eyes.

**-Nicklaus "Nick" Calef-Boring, Glenville State College**

In a month, I plan on attending Alderson Broaddus University to study Pre-med/Biology. I've always wanted to do something in the medical field, so I decided to start my 16 years of schooling to become a Cardio-thoracic Surgeon. I've been a part of First United Methodist Church for 5 years now. I became a member of the church in 2016. While attending FUMC, I have gone to McDowell County for the past 4 years. While in McDowell County, I've built a kitchen floor, fixed roofs, put up dry-wall, and some plumbing. I also represented FUMC in Florida for the National United Methodist Youth Conference in 2016 for a week, where I got to meet other young adults in the United Methodist Church and contribute to national and world matters that were important to youth in the church. Since I started attending First United Methodist Church, I've met some amazing people and fell in love with the church and my church family. Thank you so much....

**-Morgan Gifford, Alderson Broaddus University**

I just completed my second year of study at Alderson Broaddus University as an undecided major. At the end of my second year of college, I decided to not return to Alderson Broaddus for the remainder of my studies, but yet, change focus and scenery. I have since moved to Morgantown to help my elderly grandmother and pursue a Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program through the Monongalia County Technical Education Center (MTEC). I know my desire is still for the medical field, but my focus has shifted from medical school to nursing, where I think I can have more of an immediate impact.

Thank you for reviewing my application. I am so grateful for the scholarship I received the last two years from the FUMC family, and I hope that the return on my future investment will glorify God and help bless others.

**-Victoria "Tori" Gifford, Monongalia County Technical Education Center**

**Looking Ahead for the Coming Months  
Mark Your Calendars**

**\*Labor Day**, Sept. 2 Church Facility and  
Offices Closed

**\*Confirmation Organizational Meeting**  
For Confirmation Age Youth and Parents  
Please bring your calendars so we can schedule  
and prioritize the meeting times as we journey  
together toward this Life-event of the Youth  
confirming their faith.

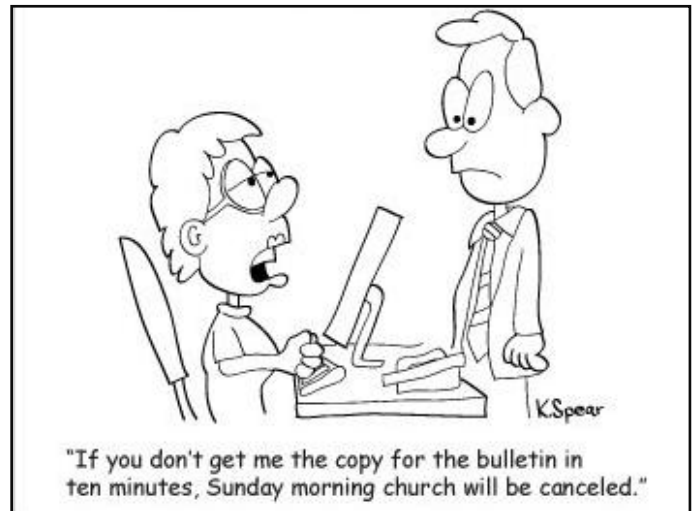
Sunday, Sept. 15, 7:05 PM, Youth Room

**\*Neighborhood Party Invitation Canvas**,  
Sunday, Sept. 22

**\*Neighborhood Jazz Ice Cream Party**  
Sunday, Sept. 29, 4 to 6 PM

with Adam Loudin and Adam's group

**\*Children's Sabbath, Oct. 20**



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