

December 2019
&
January 2020

The Link



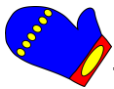
The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Buckhannon WV

52 S. Florida St. Buckhannon, WV 26201

304-472-9494

fumc26201@gmail.com

www.firstchurchum.com



The Mid-High Youth are sponsoring the "Giving Tree" in Linger Hall. You may bring hats, gloves, scarves, etc. to be placed on the tree to be distributed at the Parish House after Christmas. Give the gift of warmth to those in need, so please help us continue this support.



NATIVITY CELEBRATION

The children and youth will present the **Nativity Celebration** on December 8th during worship.

JOIN US FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER!

**DECEMBER 8, 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 Parish House Christmas baskets.



BLUE CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
THURSDAY, December 12, 7 pm
FUMC Sanctuary

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


LESSONS & CAROLS

Presented by
First United Methodist Chancel Choir
Sunday, December 15, 10:40 am



CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION AT 7 PM



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Sunday of Advent + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am Confirm - 7pm	2 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	3 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	4 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	5 + UMW - GFH 7:00pm	6 +	7 +
8 + Sunday School 9:30am Children/Youth Nativity Celebration - Sanc 10:40am Church Family Christmas Dinner - GFH 5:00pm	9 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	10 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	11 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	12 + DCOM Blue Christmas - Sanc - 7 pm	13 + Cookie Walk - GFH	14 + Cookie Walk - GFH
15 + United Methodist Men - GFH 8:00am Sunday School 9:30am Lessons & Carols - Sanc 10:40am	16 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am CUBS - GFH 7:00pm	17 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	18 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Morning Circle - Fleming Lounge 9:30am	19 + Lions' Club Dinner - GFH	20 + AA Dinner - GFH	21 +
22 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	23 + OFFICE CLOSED	24 Christmas Eve + OFFICE CLOSED Christmas Eve Service - Sanc 7:00pm	25 Christmas Day + 	26 + OFFICE CLOSED	27 + OFFICE CLOSED	28 + OFFICE CLOSED Private Event - Sanc & GFH
29 + OFFICE CLOSED Sunday School 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary 10:40am	30 + OFFICE CLOSED	31 New Year's Eve + OFFICE CLOSED	<h1>DECEMBER 2019</h1>			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day + OFFICE CLOSED	2 +	3 +	4 +
5 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - 10:40am UMW-GFH 2:00pm	6 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	7 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	8 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	9 +	10 +	11 +
12 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - 10:40am	13 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	14 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	15 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am Morning Circle - Fleming Lounge 9:30am	16 +	17 +	18 +
19 + United Methodist Men - GFH 8:00am S School 9:30am Worship - 10:40am	20 Martin Luther King Day + OFFICE CLOSED CUBS - GFH 7:00pm	21 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	22 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	23 +	24 +	25 +
26 + Sunday School 9:30am Worship - 10:40am MLK Jr. Chorus - 5	27 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	28 + Early Birds - Library 8:00am Chancel Choir - Annex 7:00pm	29 + Exercise Group - #18E 9:00am	30 +	31 +	
<h1>JANUARY 2020</h1>						



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



DECEMBER

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



JANUARY

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

DECEMBER USHERS

Ben Crutchfield (head), Shea Phillips, Sandra McCutcheon, Jeff McDowell

DECEMBER GREETERS

12/1 Isaac & Deidra Casto
12/8 Bill & Tena Shannon
12/15 Tony & Mary Gum
12/22 Lynne & David Petrosky
12/29 Marvin & Sarah Carr

JANUARY USHERS

Katherine Huffman (head), Steve Atkins, Randy Clark, Matt Leventry, Dale Shannon

JANUARY GREETERS

01/05 Rob & Lynn Rupp
01/12 Tammy Crites, Jane Martin
01/19 Chris & Amy Hayslette
01/26 Eric & Shelli Lantz

PARISH HOUSE DECEMBER COLLECTION

The Upshur Cooperative Parish House and Crosslines work to ensure that our community neighbors celebrate the holiday season with traditional, healthy Christmas Meals. The following items are donated in individual sizes to be included in each basket:

CHRISTMAS: canned corn, canned yams, canned green beans, applesauce or other fruit, cake mix, frosting, and canned pork'n'beans.

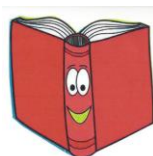
PARISH HOUSE JANUARY COLLECTION

ITEM OF THE MONTH



January is "Soup" 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.

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:

"The Practical Dreamer and Other Stories to Tell at Christmas"
By Richard Olson

Richard Olson is a minister and a story teller. Every year he writes a Christmas story and shares it with his congregation on Christmas Eve. Only four chapters in the New Testament speak about the birth of Jesus, but this is the starting point for his imaginative journey into the lives of the people in the nativity story. Each year he tells the story through the eyes of different people – perhaps the Wise Men, or Joseph, or the Inn Keeper, or maybe a child, or modern-day grandparent. Maybe this book of stories will enable your imagination to write a Christmas story of your own!



2020 COMMITTEES

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Steven Meadows, Pastor

Lay Leader, Karen Cartwright

Chairperson: Linda Wellings

<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
Bill Mallory Woody Martin Linda Wellings	Regina Atkins Tammy Crites	Phil Loftis Mark Lynch

FINANCE COMMITTEE

*** member without vote

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

Chairperson: Lewis Simmons

<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
Jamie O'Brien Shea Phillips	Tina Horstman Carrie Wallace	Steve Atkins Yvonne Foster Lewis Simmons

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson: TBA Secretary: Patty McComas (non-voting)

<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
Danny Green Junior McGee Keri Phillips	Naomi Lynch Lori Hagi John Mathias	Janis Allen Karen Cartwright Jeff McDowell

LAY LEADERSHIP (NOMINATIONS) COMMITTEE

- Karen Cartwright, Lay Leader
- Steven Meadows, Pastor

<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
Mary Gum	Brooke Scott	Andy Scott

CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council Chairperson: Paula McGrew

Pastor: Steve Meadows

Recording Secretary: Janis Allen

Lay Leader: Karen Cartwright

Chair/Staff Parish: Linda Wellings

Chair/Finance: Lewis Simmons

Board of Trustees Representative: TBA

Treasurer: Jane Crutchfield

Financial Secretary: Janet Chandler

Ministry Assistant: Renee Warner

United Methodist Women: Barbara Loftis

United Methodist Men:

Youth Representative:

Chairperson of Nurture: Cheryl Reger

Chairperson of Outreach: Sandra Presar

Chairperson of Witness: Alison Whitehair

Lay Member/Annual Conference: Kristi Wilkerson

At Large:

2020: Greenbrier Almond, Phil Petrosky

2021: Charles Washington, Brooke Scott

2022: Marvin Carr, Sarah Carr



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church feel very blessed to be able to make additional contributions to local service organizations in addition to budgeted amounts already awarded. We will be giving \$6000 to help with current needs in our community. Half of that comes from investments in the United Methodist Foundation that originated with the Helen Hall estate bequest to UMW in 2006. At that time, the UMW Executive Board, under the leadership of Ellen Nickell, President, recommended that the unit distribute \$60,000 for local needs, and invest \$40,000 for the future. The other half of this year's additional awards, \$3000, comes from member pledges and projects so far this year including our two basement sales and sale of bean soup kits. Our unit has continued the tradition of giving to local service organizations. The recipients include:

Crosslines: \$2000

- Parish House Builder's Club (for parking lot): \$1000
- Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$1000
- Crisis Pregnancy Center: \$500
- Centers Against Violence (formerly Women's Aid in Crisis): \$500
- Habitat for Humanity: \$500
- Literacy Volunteers: \$250
- Matt Bohman, Restoring Hope ministries: \$250

Cookies and More is our last large event planned for 2019. On Saturday, December 14, beginning at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall, cookies, crafts, and potential gift items will be on sale. We need all members and friends to donate 6-8 dozen homemade cookies, plus any suitable

items for the craft and gift sale. We

also need workers. Please sign up to help at the UMW table in Linger Hall, or you can email or call President Barbara Loftis at barbaraloftis9@gmail.com, 304 472-1975.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

COOKIES & MORE



Homemade Cookies, Candy, Crafts And More

\$6.00 a pound

Saturday, December 14th

Doors open at 8:30 am

No Early Bird Sales!

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



On November 7, Naomi Lynch led unit members in making Christmas tree ornaments. We enjoyed fellowship time together as we cut, glued, and helped each other. Renee Warner will share a Christmas devotion with us at our Thursday, December 5, unit meeting at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall. All in attendance are asked to bring a snack to share. In January we'll begin the new year with the theme of our 2020 programs, *Let Your Light Shine, Ignited for Justice*. That meeting will be on Sunday afternoon, January 5, at 2 pm., with Morning Circle in charge of refreshments.



JANUARY MICAH MEAL JANUARY 12

The Loose Change Offering and the Micah Meal on January 12th will support Living Hope High School.



This 83-student Kenya Accredited residential Christian school serves impoverished teens. Some have lost one or both parents due to AIDS or desertion, and others through disease. Some have both parents, but live in abject poverty. Almost 95% of these undergraduate high school students are sponsored by members of churches in the West Virginia United Methodist Conference! 53 college and training school students are also sponsored by UM members.

Bring a generous dish on the 17th and share food and fellowship as we honor those who serve

MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE CHAIR

As my position of Chair of the Trustees terminates at the end of this year, I want to express my sincere appreciation to the church family for their verbal support to the Board members and monetary gifts to the Trustees' Endowment Fund. We have worked diligently to maintain the church properties in the same way we would take care of our homes – all the while in a thrifty manner. We were forever mindful that quality is better than quantity when making purchases, repairs, etc. All the Board members have been practical thinkers, hard workers and a joy to share ideas and solutions with at our meetings or by emails. I am happy to say that attendance was always quota fulfilled regardless of the weather. I also want to say a sincere thank you to the Board for prayers, etc. for my David and me during the past stressful year.

-Karen Cartwright



Martin Luther King, Jr. Male Chorus
from the Charleston and greater Kanawha Valley area
Concert at FUMC January 26, 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 14th. We hope you will help us provide smiles by bringing a variety of cookies to the church kitchen by February 13th.





COMING SOON!



Save the date! On Saturday, February 8, we invite the women of the church (along with friends and/or family) to a day of refreshing, reflection, and refocusing. We will hold a day-long retreat at the church, beginning at around 8:30 a.m. and concluding by 4:00 p.m. The details are still in the planning stages, so more information will be available soon. We will certainly worship together, pray together, break bread together, and be immersed in God's Word together. **Please consider joining us for the day and recharge your batteries in the middle of winter!**



WIGGLETIME

THE CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 23RD THROUGH JANUARY 1ST.
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR FUMC STAFF!

Christmas
Symbols



The Tree

...points to heaven and reminds us that God is eternal.



The Wreath

...is a circle reminding us that God's love for us never ends.



The Candle

...shines brightly, showing us that Jesus is the light of the world.

CONFIRM+
Sunday, Dec. 1, 7 pm, Youth Room

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 10.

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.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM



**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

52 S. Florida St.
Buchannon WV 26201
firstchurch.com