

The Season of Lent 2023

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

Zoom Lenten Study begins Tues. Feb. 21
Tuesdays-6:15 pm - 7 pm Books available

Three Simple Rules

Three
Simple Rules
for Christian Living

A Wesleyan Way of Living

1. Do No Harm
2. Do Good
3. Stay in Love With God

For books, see Steve or email: stevowvu@gmail.com

UPSHUR COOPERATIVE PARISH WORSHIP
First UMC - 7 PM

Ash Wednesday

AND...IMPOSITION OF ASHES (brief service)
NOON @ First UMC Sanctuary

The FUMC Chancel Choir will be singing
and an offering opportunity will be in Linger
Hall to support the Upshur Parish House.

THE WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM INVITES YOU TO HELP WELCOME FIRST CHURCH'S GUESTS.

If you would care to be a member of the Welcome Loaf
Team, please call the church office or email:
stevowvu@gmail.com. Team members are asked to deliver
a loaf of bread or a plate of some other "goodies" to say
"Welcome. Thank you for worshipping with the First Church
family." We are developing a schedule for each Sunday. If
there are guests present on your scheduled Sunday, you will
be notified by the Church office. What a great way to extend
a heartfelt Welcome.




**The First Church family welcomes
Eva Atha to the Choir Loft.** Eva is
serving as Choir Director since Val
Huffman retired. Eva is a graduate
of West Virginia Wesleyan and
Choir Director at Buckhannon/Upshur Middle
School. We are grateful that Eva has come to
join the celebration of music at First Church.
Welcome Eva! We're glad that you have joined
the First Church journey with your gifts, graces,
and lovely voice.

**THERE WILL BE AN ACOLYTE TRAINING SESSION ON
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE. PIZZA WILL BE
SERVED.**



**Chancel Choir rehearses on Sunday,
9:30 AM in the Choir Loft.**



FEBRUARY

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|---|---|----|----|
| 19 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship - Sanc 10:40am Micah Meal - GFH 12:00pm | 20 President's Day | 21 Lenten Study/Steve - Zoom 6:15pm | 22 Ash Wednesday Earlybirds - Library 9:00am Ash Wed. Service - Sanc 12:00pm Pastor Meeting 6:00pm Ash Wed. Service - Sanc 7:00pm | 23 Study Group/Renee - Zoom 7:00pm  | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Acolyte Training - Sanc Adult Sunday School 9:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship - Sanc 10:40am | 27 | 28 Parish House meeting 6:00pm Lenten Study/Steve - Zoom 6:15pm | | | | |

MARCH

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| | | | 1 Earlybirds - Library 9:00am UWF Exec. - Lib 1:00pm UWF - GFH 2:00pm | 2 Study Group/Renee - Zoom 7:00pm | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship - Sanc 10:40am Boy Scouts-Scout Room 7:00pm | 6 | 7 Lenten Study/Steve - Zoom 6:15pm | 8 Earlybirds - Library 9:00am Witness - Lib 6:00pm Morning circle-10am | 9 Study Group/Renee - Zoom 7:00pm | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Daylight Saving Adult Sunday School 9:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship - Sanc 10:40am | 13 | 14 Rotary Board - GFH 12:00pm Lenten Study/Steve - Zoom 6:15pm | 15 Earlybirds - Library 9:00am Outreach - Lib 5:00pm Nurture - Lib 6:00pm | 16 Study Group/Renee - Zoom 7:00pm | 17  | 18 |
| 19 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship - Sanc 10:40am Micah Meal - GFH 12:00pm | 20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>  | 21 Lenten Study/Steve - Zoom 6:15pm | 22 Earlybirds - Library 9:00am | 23 Study Group/Renee - Zoom 7:00pm | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship - Sanc 10:40am | 27 | 28 Lenten Study/Steve - Zoom 6:15pm | 29 Earlybirds - Library 9:00am | 30 Study Group/Renee - Zoom 7:00pm | 31 | |



Happy Birthday to You!!!

FEBRUARY

1 Zachary Calef-Boring
3 Carrie Wallace
8 Brooke Scott
10 Naomi Lynch
15 Joe Wiest
16 Amy Hayslette
17 Alison Whitehair
18 James Watson
20 Barbara Loudin
22 Scotlynn McGee
24 Lynne Petrosky
27 Steve Meadows

MARCH

10 Madora Wildman
11 Marilyn Clarke
12 Keri Phillips
14 David Petrosky
Janet Chandler
16 Rose Ellen Loudin
Woody Martin
20 Pat Kennedy
21 Ellie McCauley
23 Brenda Connell
24 Robynn Shannon
26 Sherrie Walsh
30 Nate Kennedy
31 Sarah Frush

APRIL

1 Tammy Crites
Pat Hoover
2 Jeff McDowell
3 Sue Karickhoff
6 Christa Lipscomb
8 Ricki Green
11 Mary Lynn Shamblin
13 Hadley Spencer
19 Marje Richter
Jane Martin
20 Carolyn Crozier
22 Ian Crozier
23 Alice Poling
25 Franklin Casto
28 Kristi Wilkerson
29 Lilly Spencer



PARISH HOUSE NEEDS FOR MARCH

Sponsored by Micah Outreach Team

Easter Basket Supplies:
instant mashed potatoes
pork and beans
canned vegetables
macaroni & cheese
brownie mix (no nuts, please)

We need these items by March 24.

Anyone who would like to help with packing or distributing boxes can contact Kathy at 304-472-0743. Thank You!

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

ZOOM STUDY LED
BY RENEE WARNER
THURSDAY, 7 PM

EMAIL FOR
ZOOM LINK
refwarner@gmail.com



SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS

February 19
February 26
March 5
March 12
March 19
March 26
April 2
April 9
April 16
April 23
April 30

Fred Shannon
Luke Leigh
Jane White
Nancy Hefner
Karen Cartwright
Tammy Crites
Jane Martin
Sue Pugh
Margaret Miller
Jeff/ Sandy McDowell
Steve or Kelly Tierney



Honoring Valerie Huffman as she retires, for her years of service as choir director for FUMC.



**MARCH 12TH
STARTS DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME!**



MICAH OUTREACH MEAL

February 19 12Noon
Godwin Fellowship Hall

On the menu:
Chili, cornbread & desserts.

PLEASE JOIN US!
Proceeds Benefit: UMCOR.





United Women in Faith started 2023 by initiating officers. President Barbara Loftis, Vice President Nancy Hefner, Secretary Jane Crutchfield, and Nominations Chair Patty McComas will continue in their positions for another year. We initiated Janis Allen as our new treasurer and recognized Jo Criss for serving 10 years in that office. We now have 2 individual circles: Grace, led by Barbara Loftis, which meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 2 pm; and Lois Susannah, led by Ellen Nickell and Patty McComas, meeting on the 3rd Wednesday at 10 am. New members are always welcome.

In January, Nancy Hefner arranged for Joyce Harris Thacker to come speak with us. She works at Buckhannon Upshur Middle School in the role of administrator for Communities in Schools. Their purpose is to help youth stay in school and achieve in life. This can include academic help, basic needs, and physical and mental health. Nancy has been working with Joyce primarily to maintain the Comfort Closet which provides needed clothing. If you find teen sized hoodies and sweatpants to donate, they are often requested.

Mary Alice Poling shared the story of her son Seth's life with ALS at our February meeting. Seth was diagnosed 8 years ago with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. He now communicates only with his eyes and the help of a computer generated voice. It was a heart wrenching story, but Seth, his family, and friends are using his diagnosis to bring attention to ALS and the search for treatments and perhaps a cure. They created The S.E.T.H. Project to help support others with ALS. Prescriptions and other costs associated with the disease can exceed \$200,000 per year. You can donate online or purchase the book [My Daddy Has ALS](#) to help Seth directly. Lynne Petrosky will have copies of the book available for purchase after worship in Linger Hall. We aim to stay in touch with Mary Alice and support them.



2023 Officers

Consider joining us March 1, 2 pm, to hear from Paula McGrew with WVWC history and information on her blog Dreamers and Giants. On April 5, Barbara Kinkaid will tell us about her work with Central WV Center for Pregnancy Care whose main office is on Meadow Street in Buckhannon. You do not need to be a member to attend.

The new 2023 program book is available from your circle leader. Save the dates May 2 and October 3 for basement sales, and December 16 for Cookies, Crafts, and More.



First United Methodist Church celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month.

Children are always WELCOME at First Church. Children's Church happens each Sunday after Wiggletime, except on Communion Sunday when children share in the sacrament with their family and Church family.

And, the Nursery is open every Sunday for the Little People.

Christa Lipscomb is the Nursery Attendant.



MARCH/APRIL MEETINGS

March

- 1 United Women of Faith
- 8 Witness Ministry Team, 6 PM
- 15 Micah Outreach Ministry Team, 5 PM
- 15 Nurture Ministry Team, 6 PM
- 19 Micah Meal following Sunday Worship

April

- 1 Palm Saturday Easter Egg Hunt, 2 PM
- 2 Palm Sunday
- 5 United Women of Faith
- 6 Maundy/Holy Thursday Vespers with Communion
- 7 Good Friday/Tenebrae Service, 7 PM
- 9 Easter Sunday
- 16 Micah Meal following Sunday Worship
- 19 N-O-W Combined Nurture, Outreach, Witness Meeting, 6 PM
- 19 Church Council, 7 PM



FIRST UMC KIDS!

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, Palm Saturday, April 1, 2 PM

Bring your Easter Bag or

Easter Basket and join the fun!

Hot Dogs and Chips & Bottled Water

Safely Served!



NEEDED!



AUDIO-VISUAL ---team---

One of the blessings that presented itself during the Pandemic is the broadening of First Church's ministry to Online Worship and Children's Sunday School.

The Audio/Visual Team needs another person or two to share in the Online Ministry, particularly on Sundays during worship to either assist with the Sound or Cameras.

Please, prayerfully consider assisting this new ministry to extend the First Church Online presence.

If you have questions or would like to join in, speak with one of the Team Members, Danny Green or Phil Loftis, or Pastor Steve. Also, you can email pastor Steve: stevowvu@gmail.com.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP, April 2

PARADE OF PALMS CELEBRATION

Watch for Details!



Looking Way Ahead!

UMW 12-HOUR BASEMENT SALE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GODWIN FELLOWSHIP HALL

52 S. FLORIDA ST.

TUESDAY, May 2

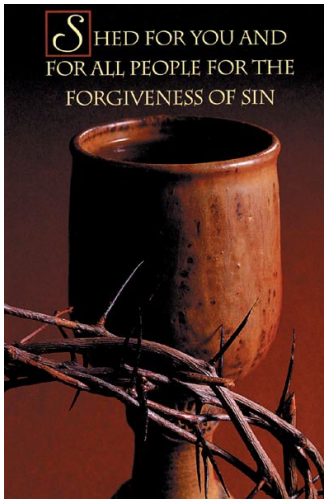
8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!



*Come
shop with
us!*

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
UM WOMEN
MISSION PROJECTS



Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7 PM

Sanctuary

**A simple service of prayer, music, scripture,
and Holy Communion.**

**Come as you are to remember
that you are loved as you are.**

Tenebrae/Good Friday Service of Shadows

April 7, 7 PM, Sanctuary



The Service of Tenebrae follows a tradition of the church dating back to the 8th century. The service with the Chancel Choir and Congregational responses commemorates the final hours of the Lord's life on earth, as he suffered death upon the cross. As candles are extinguished, they symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The gradual darkening of the church portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ was departing from it. This is not a time of applause and celebration, but rather a time of mourning and solemnity.

Following the conclusion of the evening people are invited, if they wish, to remain in silent reflection and meditation. The service ends as people leave in respectful silence and keep silence until they leave the building.

If you would like to receive by email, **Circle of Prayer**, the prayer concerns of the First Church family or the **FUMC Email List** for notices, please send your name and email address to lwellings@mpl.com.

If you would like to contribute to FUMC online, please visit our webpage www.firstchurchum.com and look for "DONATE".

***Sermon by Phone: 1-304-250-4556** (Sermon only)
Please share this service with those who do not use electronics.

***While in the FUMC parking lot, or close by the church, tune your car radio to 90.3 FM to listen to the live Sunday Worship.**