

June  
2024

# THE LINK

## THE NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BUCKHANNON WV

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

### DESSERT AND MORE AUCTION JUNE 2ND!

### Benefits C.O.M.E.

(Celebration of Mission Event!)

Godwin Fellowship Hall 12N  
Bid on a dessert and other special items!

We will have finger sandwiches, drinks and Jane's cookies to munch on while you are bidding!

*If you have an item that you would like to enter in the auction, contact Tena Shannon, 304-516-9432.*

PREVIEW OF ITEMS: Ricki green's famous lasagna...Tena Shannon's awesome deer jerky.....Jane White's scrumptious ice cream sandwich cake, yummy cheese ball and tray of cookies...AND



Photo courtesy of Dwayne Lowther



Photo courtesy of Tena Shannon & framed by Dwayne Lowther

## What a Mess! VBS!

JUNE 17th - 20th  
6-7:30PM

at First UMC Buckhannon

Jesus loves messy people! That's good news for us, because we all have our own messes. What a Mess! VBS! is about how Jesus deals with our messes; our sins, our mistakes, and weaknesses.

We will open Vacation Bible School each evening with a light snack, followed by Bible lesson, craft, and game stations.

**Please send your child in clothes that can get messy,** or even ruined. Feel free to participate in our optional dress up themes:

### Mismatch Monday

Wear the most mismatched outfit you can find!

### Technicolor Tuesday

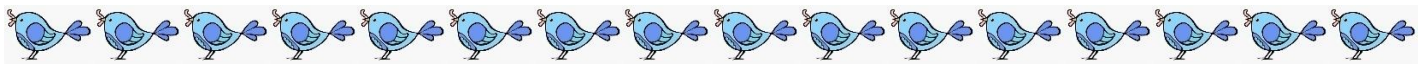
Dress in your favorite color from head to toe!

### Wacky Wednesday

Inside out and backwards? Wear the wackiest outfit you can think of!

### Crazy Hair Thursday

Show us your wildest hairdo!



## JUNE VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS
<p><b>June 2.....</b> Scott Wilson</p> <p><b>June 9.....</b> Jamie O'Brien</p> <p><b>June 16.....</b> Gary Frush</p> <p><b>June 23...</b> Bill/Tena Shannon</p> <p><b>June 30.....</b> Marvin Carr</p>	<p><b>June 2.....</b> Nora Rae &amp; Sylvia</p> <p><b>June 9.....</b> Lilly &amp; Hadley</p> <p><b>June 16.....</b> Brayden &amp; Brantley</p> <p><b>June 23.....</b> Silvia &amp; Kiralym</p> <p><b>June 30.....</b> Lucy &amp; Winnie</p>	<p><b>June 2-Larry Carter, Kim Walls, David Reger, Beverly Reger</b></p> <p><b>June 9-Larry Carter, Andy Scott, Dale Shannon, Katherine Huffman</b></p> <p><b>June 16- Jeff McDowell, Evan McDowell, Andrew McDowell, Gary Frush</b></p> <p><b>June 23-Larry Carter, Sofi Painter, Jerry Wilfong, Scott Wilson</b></p> <p><b>June 30-Larry Carter, Ricki Green, Tena Shannon, Nate Linger</b></p>

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Craig Wallace
- 3 Matt Leventry
- 4 Sandy McCutcheon
- 6 Jane Corathers  
Lucy Phillips  
Winnie Phillips
- 10 Kaitlyn Gifford  
Fred Shannon
- 16 Anthony Gum
- 18 Lewis Simmons  
Kelley Tierney
- 23 Barbara Godwin
- 25 Kent Carpenter
- 29 Junior McGee
- 30 Mason Lantz  
Clayton Lantz

### APRIL 2024 CALENDAR

<b>Sunday, June 2</b>	12:00 PM	Dessert & More Auction- GFH
<b>Mon., June 3</b>	10:00 AM	VBS Planning - Library
<b>Wed., June 5</b>	12N	UWF Picnic- N. Buckhannon Park
<b>Fri., June 7</b>		Betty Weimer Memorial - Sanctuary
<b>Tues., June 11</b>	12N	Rotary Board - GFH
<b>June 17 - 21</b>	5:30pm	Vacation Bible School - FUMC

## UPCOMING!

### “GRIEF SHARE LESSONS”

*Your Journey from Mourning to Joy in 13 Lessons*

**July 9 – October 1**

**FUMC #21E**

Registration in hallway,

second floor of Education Building

Snacks available, Workbook available

*For GriefShare inquiry and enrollment:*

*Patty Hewitt: 304-613-2234*

*Father Edward A. Tetteh, SVD:*

*Tettehed@yahoo.com*

*Following is a brief description of some of the ministries provided by the mission projects supported by both cash and tangible goods given through the Celebration of Mission Event (COME).*

**HEART+HAND OUTREACH MINISTRIES** operates a large thrift store in South Charleston, where hundreds of persons shop for clothing and household goods.

**NEW VISION DEPOT** has a 6,000 square feet warehouse in Beaver stocked with critical supplies and materials needed to help survivors recover from natural disasters.

**EBENEZER COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER** provides a safe and nurturing state licensed childcare and after school program in Huntington.

**HEART AND HAND HOUSE** operates a thrift store in Philippi, a thrift store in Belington and the Barbour County Community Garden Market in Philippi, where local growers can sell their produce.

**THE HOUSE OF THE CARPENTER** offers 50 different opportunities to assist persons in need in the Wheeling area, including a ministry to a Wheeling Island Elementary School, summer camps and providing basic necessities to over 1,300 persons per week.

**SCOTT'S RUN SETTLEMENT HOUSE**, located in Osage, provides a food pantry, a baby item pantry and an extensive backpack feeding program for school children.

**TYRAND COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES**, located in Mill Creek, is the most rural of the Conference Mission Projects and has an ecumenical Board of Directors across denominational lines. Tyrand has a bunkhouse that provides a shelter in times of emergencies, a community meeting place and excellent accommodations for visiting work team.

**UPSHUR PARISH HOUSE**, located in Buckhannon, operates a thrift store and a food pantry. Assistance is provided for clothing, layettes, rent and utility assistance and backpacks with school supplies.

**GREATER CLARKSBURG COOPERATIVE PARISH** is our only Church and Community Ministry in the WV Conference. It provides food, hygiene supplies, and assistance for rent, utilities and transportation.

**VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION (VIM)** recruits, coordinates and directs mission work teams for construction and repair within and beyond the state, including a 2024 mission to Anchorage, Alaska.



# GENERAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY

After years of intensive and prayerful debate, General Conference delegates from all over the world voted to remove language that prohibited United Methodist clergy from performing weddings for same-gender couples. This change allows churches and clergy to operate according to their conscience, without consequence. Pastors have always decided who they will marry and will continue to do so. Churches will continue to determine what weddings are held in their church buildings. Pastors are asked to respect the decisions made by their local church. District Superintendents are available to assist with working through these decisions and their implications.

The delegates of the General Conference also voted to remove prohibitions that prevented a Board of Ordained Ministry from recommending a gay or lesbian person for ordination. Gay persons may enter the process to become candidates for ministry, and if approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry, can now be licensed, commissioned, and ordained. The Bishop and Cabinet will continue to work with churches and clergy to ensure the best match possible when making appointments.

Annual conferences will pay lower apportionments over the next quadrennium. Delegates voted to reduce a key component of calculating apportionments, shifting from the current base rate of 3.29% to a base rate of 2.6% for 2025 and 2026. Then, if the apportionment collection rate is 90% or higher in those years, the base rate will jump to 2.9% for 2027 and 2028.

General Conference delegates approved the Compass Plan, a new way of handling clergy retirement funds and will allow clergy their own retirement accounts (something like a 401(k) plan.) The clergy and their accounts will continue to be supported and cared for by Wespath.

Petitions on the worldwide regionalization plan were affirmed by the General Conference. This is a multi-step plan that requires an aggregate vote of the annual conferences around the world. The work has just begun on a time of information sharing and education about regionalization so that annual conference members can make an informed vote at the 2025 annual conference.

Delegates approved full communion with the Episcopal Church. This agreement needs the approval of the Episcopalians before going into effect, which might not happen until they meet in 2027. This means that the two denominations recognize each other as "one, holy, catholic and apostolic church in which the Gospel is rightly preached and taught."

General Conference delegates passed new legislation granting authority to deacons to preside at the sacraments in their ministry settings. This means deacons can now offer communion and conduct baptisms where they have been appointed to serve, whether that is a church, outreach ministry or mission.

Learn more at  
[www.wvumc.org/general-conference](http://www.wvumc.org/general-conference)



**West Virginia Conference**  
The United Methodist Church





## UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

United Women in Faith had a very successful Spring Basement Sale. We made a bit over \$2,000! This will greatly help us support programs within the church, local nonprofit groups, and women and children globally. We appreciate the support of many who contributed items, worked setting up or cleaning up, and worked during the long 12 hour sale day.

**We have one more unit meeting before our summer break. June 5 at 12 noon is our annual picnic at North Buckhannon Park at 22 Sixth St. Street. Guests are welcome for this covered dish meal. Unit funds will cover meat and beverages plus table settings.**

Here is our schedule looking ahead to fall:

- September 4: Unit Meeting, 2 pm, "District News" by Rick Swearengin
- September 28: Fall District Meeting, 9 am – noon, St. Luke's UMC, Craigsville
- October 1: Fall 2024 Basement Sale
- October 25 – 26: WV Conference UWF Annual Meeting, Memorial UMC, Summersville
- November 6: Unit Meeting, 2 pm, "Craft Making" with Naomi Lynch
- December 4: Unit Meeting, Christmas Covered Dish, 12 noon, ladies only
- December 14: Cookies, Crafts, and More, 9 am – 12 noon
- January 8: Unit Meeting, 2 pm, "Religions of the Civil War Battlefields" by Autumn Crisp
- February 5: Unit Meeting, 2 pm, "VFW Buddy Poppy" by Nan Summers
- March 5: Unit Meeting, 2 pm, "Grandma's Apron" by Lynne Petrosky
- April 2: Unit Meeting, 2 pm, "Fetal Alcohol Syndrome" by Jeanie Wiest
- May 6: Spring Basement Sale
- June 4: Unit Meeting Covered Dish Picnic, noon
- Executive Committee will meet at 1 pm prior to each unit meeting



**PLEASE  
CONSIDER  
SUPPORTING  
THE CHOIR  
SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND!**

*Make your check  
payable to FUMC  
and write Choir  
Scholarship  
below.*

**We are blessed  
to have these  
students as they  
enrich our  
Chancel Choir.**



Some of the many basement sale helpers stop for a quick picture: (L to R) Barb Loftis, Nan Summers, Janis Allen, Sherrie Walsh, Diane Corley, Alice Poling, Margie Miller, Jane Crutchfield, B.K. McClellan, Jane White, and Nancy Hefner.