



# NEWS from the Corner



First United Methodist Church—600 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214

Online at: [fumc-clarion.org](http://fumc-clarion.org)

August 2024 Edition

**Worship Services**  
Sunday mornings  
8:30 and 11:00am

**Sunday School**  
9:45am  
Classes for all ages

**Live Stream**  
Both services streamed  
live on YouTube



## Pastor Jodie's Jottings . . .

Greetings!

The story below is not new, but I think it's worth repeating if you've heard it before.

A church-goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. He wrote:

*"I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time, I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time; the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."*

This statement started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

*"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"*

- ◆ When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!
- ◆ Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!
- ◆ Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!
- ◆ IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL!
- ◆ B.I.B.L.E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!

Oftentimes, it seems like we talk about how the church needs us; the church needs our work and efforts, our money, our time, our prayers. It really is the truth as I think about it. My announcements on Sunday morning and the information in this newsletter are a lot about what the church needs or, at least, would like you to do for First Church. But my hope and prayer would be that you know that you need the church—that your life would not be the same without the church.

In its original form, "church" literally means "people who are called out." We are called out and are a part of a spiritual family who want to strengthen and deepen their own faith and share it with others. This will not happen if we don't participate and support all that the church "needs."

Thank you for your faithfulness in meeting the needs of First UMC, so that we can be the church that Jesus calls us to be and meet the needs of our congregation and community with the love and light of Christ. Please pray and consider how you can continue to meet the needs of the church. If you need a suggestion—just let me know!

Blessings and Prayers,  
Pastor Jodie

**CONSIDER GIVING TO  
THE MEMORIAL FUND**

When a loved one dies, keeping his or her memory alive is a way of honoring his or her life and finding comfort in your own life as a survivor. Consider contributing a gift to your church's Memorial Fund as a tribute to someone you loved or have known.

**Memorials May 16 - July 15, 2024**

**In memory of Stephen Santus**

Given by James Bolinger (Mary McKissick Brooks Organ Fund)

Given by Richard and Cheryl Douthit (Mary McKissick Brooks Organ Fund)

**In memory of Libby Stolzenbach Fotos**

Given by F. Kurt Stolzenbach (Memorial Fund)

**In memory of Richard McMaster**

Given by James Bolinger (Mary McKissick Brooks Organ Fund)

**In memory of Rev. LeRoy Jones**

Given by Mr. & Mrs. George Keener (Kids2Kids)

**In memory of Rev. Arnold Rhodes**

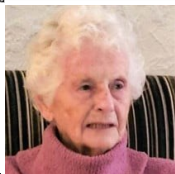
Given by Mr. & Mrs. George Keener (Kids2Kids)



Our deepest sympathies go out to the family and friends of **John Heasley**. John joined our church on June 7, 1981 and passed from this life on June 16.



Our deepest sympathies go out to the family and friends of **Elizabeth Ann "Libby" (Gruebele) Stolzenbach Fotos**. Libby joined our church on May 19, 2002 and passed from this life on May 8.



Our deepest sympathies go out to the family and friends of **Donna Taylor**. Donna joined our church on December 3, 1967 and passed from this life on June 30.

Please call the church office for an address if you wish to send your prayers and cards.

## **News from the Corner - August 2024**

First United Methodist Church,  
Thank you for making me the person I am today. Thank you for giving me the chance to go to Jumonville all of these years; it is my favorite place. Lastly, thanks for the blanket you have given me.  
Bryce Brinkley

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you for the countless prayers and support for me while I was at school. Also, thank you for the new Bible. I hope everyone has an amazing summer!  
Thanks,  
Reecie Boyles

Dear Jodie,  
Thank you for your gracious hospitality when I dropped in unannounced to First UMC last week. I was delighted to meet you—and appreciate your generous gift of time to talk with me. Although it's been more than 50 years since I left Clarion, First church remains a place of very, very fond memories. I'm grateful for my opportunity to have served there—and I've rejoiced at my many and varied opportunities to be back. As a token of my gratitude for your collegiality—and as a tribute to the congregation that's meant so much to me—I'm sending the enclosed check. My hope is that you can use it to treat your staff to a luncheon.  
Faithfully,  
Bill

Dear Clarion UMC,  
Thank you so much for all of you who sent cards to me while I was at Metro Health Rehab. They sure brightened my day. Thank you for all the prayers you sent. My doctor thinks I will walk again. I still could use your prayers.  
Your friend in Christ,  
Jeremy Jewell's mom—Carrie Jewell

Dear Church Family,  
Your prayers, cards, visits, phone calls and many kindnesses have helped me in my medical recovery journey. God does answer prayer. Thank you so much for your faithfulness in prayer for I am getting stronger. May God's Blessings be with you,  
Sam Allaman

The family of Richard McMaster would like to thank the congregation for lifting us up in prayer during Richard's illness and then during his passing. We thank you for all of your prayers, cards, gifts, and condolences. It is such a blessing to belong to such a caring church.

I would like to thank my church family and friends for their prayers, words of encouragement and the love given to me after my recent accident. I ask for continued healing and prayers!  
In God's love,  
Kimberly Girts

## **News from the Corner - August 2024**

Throughout summer, the church office would like to give the congregation the opportunity to **pick the congregational hymns** for the 8:30am worship service. If you have a favorite hymn, or if you would like us to sing a hymn in memory/in honor of someone, please call the church office (814-226-6660) and let us know.

### **What is Food Insecurity?**

Being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable and nutritious food at any given time.

People experiencing food insecurity may be unsure of where their next meal will be coming from and/or the next time they will be able to eat. Many factors can contribute to a person being food insecure, and they are not always easy to see. It could be that a person is having trouble securing affordable housing, or they may have debt or unpaid bills from uncovered medical expenses and more. Factors like these take a higher priority over a person's next meal. Aside from the affordability of food, those who are food insecure may not have physical access to real, healthy food.

Some common barriers are reliable transportation and distance to a grocery store with wholesome foods. Many of us take for granted how accessible real, healthy food might be, but for some being food insecure is a common reality. It is possible for many to be at risk, even people you know. Food insecurity is a reality for millions and a risk for many more citizens in our country. The next question is, what can we do to help?

This is where we step in to do our very best for our "neighbors" who come to our Love Cupboard Food Pantry. We presently are hosting about 85 to 95 visiting our church monthly with the need for food, cleaning aids, and some health and beauty aids. Your support of this endeavor goes a long way toward helping each of them. We can always use volunteers to help serve their needs. This could be clerical checking in, helping them with their "shopping by choice," unloading trucks, picking up extra items locally, etc. I thank each and every one involved in this mission ministry program.

### **Love Cupboard Food Pantry July 2024**

Weather was a factor for our neighbors who visited on the third Wednesday of July. We ended up with 66 households visiting, which represents 164 household members. It is important to note that we have started a Loyalty Program. To achieve this status, the visitor must have an attendance record of 3 visits out of the last 5 months. We are up to 95 Loyalty neighbors. Each of these visitors has an exact time to arrive for their SHOP BY CHOICE shopping list. This program has dramatically helped the large influx of visitors at the beginning of the starting time. Less congestion, better flow of shopping pattern, and easier check-in procedures are part of the gains we are experiencing.

As we continue to refine the efficiency of the pantry operation, we have been able to change the trucking schedule to improve on the time element between receiving perishables and the distribution date. This alone will save approximately \$1,500 in milk cost for the balance of 2024. Yes, that calculates at \$3,000 a year at the present cost of milk. Each ½ gallon we receive from Second Harvest comes to us at no cost.

We continue to have volunteers step forward to assist in the unloading of trucks and the distribution of goods. We are now entertaining the use of some of our neighbors who come monthly to assist in our guest shopping experience. The feeling of helping neighbors in need is very gratifying. Volunteers stepping forward exceeds our expectations. As you know, it is easier to give than receive, but it feels great with all the support we are getting.

**Join the Love Cupboard effort and FEEL THE LOVE.**

The donation item for the month of **August** is **All Purpose Cleaner**. Please place your donations in the wooden box located in the Gathering Area.

**Please Note: Perishable items are now available.** Distribution occurs on the **3rd Wednesday of each month from 4:00pm-5:30pm.**





## News from the Corner - August 2024

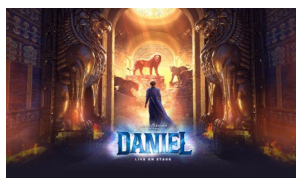
On **Tuesday, August 6** the Missions committee will have a road trip to Erie United Methodist Alliance (EUMA) in Erie. The greatest need for help is in the Rainbow Connection Thrift Store where many donations need to be sorted and hung. Through the thrift store, EUMA collaborates with 45 nonprofit organizations to serve hundreds of local families. Last year they issued more than 1,700 vouchers. We will also visit *The Refuge* to see the room our church is sponsoring and perhaps meet its current residents—a mother and her ten-year-old daughter. We will decide how we wish to paint, decorate and supply it. Transportation will be provided. We will depart from the church parking lot at 8:30am and return late afternoon. We'll stop for dinner to debrief on our visit to *The Refuge* and share ideas for this project. If you are interested in joining us, please let us know in the church office (814-226-6660).

### **Wednesday Evening in the Garden**

Second Wednesday of the Month

**August 14 at 5:30 – 7:00pm**

The United Methodist Men will provide refreshments, followed by a hymn sing. Plan to attend our popular summer evening gatherings in the Memorial Garden.



Mark your calendars for the next trip to  
Sight and Sound's production of

### ***Daniel***

**Wednesday, October 9, 2024**

Taken from his people, Daniel is exiled far from home in the powerful kingdom of Babylon. Now this faithful servant must navigate his new life inside a palace filled with golden statues and shifting empires. As royal pressures mount, Daniel is faced with a dangerous choice.

Will his trust in the one true God remain steadfast through every test of faith?

From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, Daniel is a spectacular theatrical experience. Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand new original stage production.

The trip includes transportation, theater ticket, and dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord.

**Cost: \$150**

Final day for reservations and payment: **Wednesday, September 11**

Please submit a check for the full amount made payable to First United Methodist Church of Clarion, marking the payment for the Sight & Sound Trip.

Include names and phone numbers for each person in the reservation.

**7:00am** Depart Clarion (church parking lot)

**11:00am** Arrive at Kitchen Kettle Village

**Lunch** On your own & time for shopping

**2:15pm** Arrive at Sight and Sound Theater

**3:00pm** Showtime, *Daniel* (included)

**6:00pm** Dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord (included)

**11:00pm** (approximate) Arrive back in Clarion



*Birthdays  
of the Month*

**August 2**

Lon Fiscus  
Kierstin Krepps  
Leslie Latour  
Addison Lyle

**August 3**

Gretchen Porter  
David Valimont  
Katie Wolbert

**August 4**

Phillip Kiser  
Logan Kuriger  
Tom Nale

**August 5**

David Cyphert, Sr.  
Chong Min Park  
Bonnie Stehle

**August 7**

Scott Allen

**August 8**

Sarah Kuehn

**August 9**

Robert Gourley  
Matthew Luderer  
Brenda Schierberl

**August 10**

Brian Reitz  
Alice Saxman

**August 11**

Kelley Beck  
Jason Brinkley  
Luke Gulnac  
Adam Kiser  
Alexander Sciandra  
Dirk Vandermeer

**August 12**

Jayne Daugherty  
Kenton Porter

**August 13**

Briana Hawkins  
Gabriella Texter  
Pastor Nancy Zahn

**August 14**

Eileen Heasley

**August 15**

Olivia Swartzfager

**August 16**

Crystal Anderson  
James Mays, Jr.  
Gabriella Wagner

**August 17**

Ameleigha Hilyer  
Donna Lewis  
Barbara Runyan

**August 18**

David Boyles  
Michele Howard  
Mark Pasquarette

**August 19**

Avery Fenstermaker  
Janie Reynolds

**August 20**

Jeremy Lechner  
Karen McElree  
Julia Stewart

**August 21**

Mary Brooks  
Mimi Vowinckel

**August 22**

Bill Franklin  
Clifford Himes

**August 23**

Caralyn Stevenson

**August 24**

Jessica Funk  
Brayden Meterko

**August 25**

Carter Brooks  
Connie Hale  
Jean Zamzow

**August 26**

Leianna Krupnik

**August 27**

Lacie Lewis  
Howard Rhoades

**August 28**

Merle Wetzel  
Christy Wolbert

**August 29**

William Glasser, Jr.

**August 30**

Piper Hoover  
Brady Texter

**August 31**

Sam Mahle  
Riley Robertson  
Darlene Slaugenhaupt

To purchase tickets,  
scan the QR code  
below or visit:  
[www.brushfire.com/  
faithcontentnetwork/  
SoundofHope/580255  
/tickets](http://www.brushfire.com/faithcontentnetwork/SoundofHope/580255/tickets)



From the studio that brought you *Sound of Freedom*

*Sound of Hope:  
The Story of Possum Trot*

Wednesday, August 7 at 7:00pm

Zion Church  
114 Zion Church Road  
Clarion, PA 16214



## **News from the Corner - August 2024**

### **Monday August 5, 2024**

- 9:30am Bible Study "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" (Dining Room)  
6:30pm Worship Committee Meeting (Conference Room - 2nd Floor)

### **Tuesday August 6, 2024**

- 8:30am Mission Trip to Erie United Methodist Alliance  
6:30pm Christian Education Meeting (Room 102)

### **Wednesday August 7, 2024**

- 6:30pm Bible Study "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" (Room 102)

### **Monday August 12, 2024**

- 9:30am Bible Study "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" (Dining Room)  
10:00am Second Harvest Delivery  
10:30am Senior Food Box Pickup

### **Tuesday August 13, 2024**

- 6:30pm Trustees Meeting (Room 102)

### **Wednesday August 14, 2024**

- 5:30pm Wednesday in the Garden (Memorial Garden)

### **Thursday August 15, 2024**

- 6:30pm Bible Study "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" (Upper Room)

### **Monday August 19, 2024**

- 9:30am Bible Study "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" (Dining Room)

### **Tuesday August 20, 2024**

- 6:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Room 102)

### **Wednesday August 21, 2024**

- 3:00pm Love Cupboard Food Pantry  
5:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting (Stephen Ministry Room)  
6:30pm Bible Study "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" (Room 102)

### **Saturday August 24, 2024**

- 1:00pm Garden Club Meeting

### **Sunday August 25, 2024**

- 10:00am Rally Day Picnic (Eagles' Pavilion)  
6:00pm Community Choir Rehearsal (Wesley Chapel)

### **Monday August 26, 2024**

- 8:00am Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Perkins Restaurant)  
5:30pm Adult Bell Choir Practice (Balcony)

### **Wednesday August 28, 2024**

- 4:30pm Clarion Christian Preschool Open House

### **Thursday August 29, 2024**

- 6:00pm Chancel Choir Picnic (Molly Greenawalt's house)

### **Friday August 30, 2024**

- 4:30pm Clarion Christian Preschool Open House

### **Regular and Weekly Meetings**

#### **Sunday**

- 8:30am Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary, YouTube)  
9:45am Adult Sunday School  
11:00am Contemporary Service (Sanctuary, YouTube)

#### **Monday**

- 6:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 51 (Various Rooms)

#### **Wednesday**

- 8:00am Journey for Men (Room 102)  
1:15pm Recovery 'n Motion (Dining Room)  
6:30pm The Messengers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

#### **Thursday**

- 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 51 (Various Rooms)  
6:15pm NA Setup (Room 102)  
6:30pm NA Group (Room 102)

#### **Friday**

- 9:00am Sit 'n Stitch (Room 102)

***All dates are subject to change.  
Please check the website for current schedule.***

## News from the Corner - August 2024

### **Spurred to Victory Ministry Sunday, September 8 - 6:00pm at the Clarion Community Park**

Giddy up! Grab a friend and a lawn chair and join your FUMC family as Spurred to Victory ministry teaches us how to live out the gospel of Jesus Christ by witnessing the relationship between live horses and trainers. Whether we watch a young horse being ridden for the first time or witness a finished horse doing high-level maneuvers, we will see the horses discover truths that parallel our own lives and relationship with God.

The Spurred to Victory ministry has traveled the country sharing the word of God, fostering live interaction with their horses, and delivering a powerful message from horseback. Be sure to meet Carmi, the mini pony!

**Bring a friend! Refreshments to follow. Lawn chairs are suggested.**

**Sunday School** will begin on **September 10**, 9:45am – 10:45am.  
More information coming soon!

The **College Outreach Program** will be starting up with the 2024 fall semester. Our goal is to connect with our young adults who are:

- ◆ attending school outside of Clarion
- ◆ attending PennWest University and living in a dorm/apartment or at home
- ◆ serving in the military

We send holiday cards, gift cards, devotional materials, and boxes of snacks throughout the school year. If you would like your young adult to be in our program, please send the following information to the church office:

- ◆ name of student
- ◆ school name and address or military address
- ◆ birth date
- ◆ any food allergies

If your child was in the program last year, please let us know if their address has changed.

### **New Members**

On **Sunday, August 18** we will be receiving several new members during the 11:00am worship service. If you, or anyone you know, would like to become a member of the church, please let the church office (814-226-6660) or Pastor Jodie know.

### **Women's Breakfast**

The United Women in Faith will be having our next meetings at **Perkins** on **Monday, August 26** at **8:00am**. **Come enjoy the fellowship and bring a friend. EVERYONE is welcome!**

**Rally Day and Church Picnic Celebration**

**Sunday, August 25**

**Eagles' Pavilion**

The church picnic will be held together with the annual Rally Day celebration. It will be the kickoff for a new year of worshipping and learning together. We hope that everyone will plan to attend this re-gathering of our church family for a time of worship, fellowship, and great food.

The schedule for the day will be:

**8:30am** - Worship service in the sanctuary

**10:00am** - All children and youth are invited to gather with their Sunday School teachers, while adults enjoy a meet and greet and some fellowship at the Eagles' Pavilion.

**11:00am** - Worship service at the pavilion

**12:15pm** - Catered picnic lunch

**Remainder of afternoon** - Children are invited to enjoy time together at the playground, while adults enjoy more fellowship time.

A donation will be requested to offset costs.

Handicap accessible parking and restroom facilities are located at the pavilion.

**Reservations will be necessary by Thursday, August 20.** Please make your reservation online or call the church office at 226-6660. We will need to know the number of adults, the number of children and their ages, and if a ride is requested.

**We hope to see everyone at the picnic!**

**Ministry Planning Meeting**

We find ourselves with all kinds of possibilities for ministry stretching out before us.

I believe it would be helpful for us to have a second planning meeting for ministry that will allow us to be more efficient and creative as we plan events for the near future.

The meeting will be held on **Monday, September 23 at 6:30pm** in Room 102. **This meeting is open to anyone in the church!** We want to hear your ideas.

Here's how to prepare for the meeting:

- ◆ Pray about and consider new possibilities for ministry—what would you like to see our church do in the near future? Where is God leading us?
- ◆ Pray about and consider what ministry/events have outlived their purpose and need to be set aside to allow us to do some new types of ministry.
- ◆ If your committee has set any dates for meetings and/or events, please bring those with you.

I hope to see you there,  
Pastor Jodie

**Finance at a Glance**

Over the next several newsletters I want to attempt to teach, clarify, and encourage each person's stewardship commitments to our church. It starts with understanding the four layers of funds and giving to the First United Methodist Church. I will review the General Fund which supports each area of ministry under the General Budget umbrella. The other three layers are Capital Funds, Designated Activity Funds, and United Methodist Foundation Funds (future articles will address each of these funds).

We give our stewardship funds to the General Fund to help our church meet its obligations of the prepared budget for 2024. The giving methods established are individual envelope assignment, by check, by cash/ loose money given in the offering, and by electronic giving (e-giving). These forms of giving are the ways in which you help fund the cost of enabling our ministry budget. This part of the budget is comprised of expenditures (expenses) that I will attempt to explain as well as share our views. We have five primary groups of expenses presented below. The percent (%) represents the ratio of this category to total expenses.

**Annual Conference Mission Share** is commonly referred to as Benevolence - 10.6% of total expenses.

**Programming** includes Church Council, Music Ministry, Christian Education, Membership, Worship - 1.5% of total expenses.

**Property** includes Church Utilities, Church Maintenance, Property Taxes, Custodial Supplies, New Equipment/Improvements, Parsonage Maintenance, Technology, Insurance, Parsonage Utilities, Annual Contracts - 18.3% of total expenses.

**Salary** includes our pastor and support staff - 56.4% of total expenses.

**Administrative** includes Pastor expenses, Lay Employee Social Security, Workers' Compensation, Stewardship, Finance Committee, Church and Office supplies, Pension, Hospitalization, Communications - 13.1% of total expenses.

**Total budgeted expenses = \$412,948 for 2024**

Each of us owns a home or rents, and we have living expenses that we need to control to match the income potential that we have. The church is not different. Our church income does not flow the same way your personal income flows, but over the period of twelve months, the income needs to be equal to or more than the expenses incurred.

This is where each of us enters in. Our tithes and offerings are super important to FUMC Ministry. The **daily expense** cost of our ministry budget is **\$1,100**. Yes, you read that right. Now is the time to direct your contributions properly to keep every layer of ministry in place and growing.

**God is good all the time, all the time God is good.** Working together will eliminate the deficit we are experiencing against projected budget income receipts.

As is the case with everything else in our world that is going up in price, so is the cost of paper, ink, postage and machine maintenance.

In order to reduce some costs of operation for the church, I will not be doing a mass mailing of the semi-annual Statements of Giving Report this year. The Annual Statement of Giving Reports will of course be prepared and mailed in January.

If anyone desires to receive said report before January, please notify me or Darren Mackenzie. Darren will advise me of the request and I will prepare a report and deliver it to the requester.

David M. Hauser  
Financial Secretary

**Summertime E-Giving Stewardship**

Make summertime giving a breeze by setting up recurring electronic gifts! Many of you support the congregation with your time, talent, and financial contributions throughout the year. But since many of our members travel or spend time visiting family and friends during the summer, it can be hard to keep up with weekly gifts. That's why we encourage you to set up regular, recurring donations.

It takes just moments to set up. Visit [fumc-clarion.org/donate](http://fumc-clarion.org/donate) and find our online giving page or speak with Dave Hauser or Darren Mackenzie in the church office (814-226-6660). Thank you for your continued support of our mission!



## **News from the Corner - August 2024**

### **A part-time position open in our church—Director of Christian Education**

This part-time and paid position *averages* ten hours a week. This position was formerly held by Marlene Steiner. Initially retiring from teaching, Marlene found being director of education an ideal way to do something meaningful while serving her church. This opportunity is great for a person of faith who would enjoy sharing the gift of our faith with others, while also learning more themselves! Although you are welcome to help teach, teaching is not required. This position is primarily a coordinating and equipping position. You would work with and be assisted by our Education Committee and our Church Council. You would assist and help lead the Education Committee and our teachers in setting up the programs of Sunday School, Adult Education, and Vacation Bible School.

One of the key areas would be helping to identify and select study topics and curriculums, and help our teaching staff understand the curriculum strengths. You do not need to be a member of our church in order to apply. Feel free to share this opportunity and refer quality people our way. If interested, inquire through the office or contact Mr. Bill Bailey, chair of Staff Parish Relations Committee (our committee for paid personnel).

### **Staff Opening—Lead Nursery Coordinator**

Our Staff Parish Relations Committee is now taking applications from those interested in the position. The nursery, for infants and children through the age of 4, is open on Sunday mornings and on some special occasions. Those interested are encouraged to ask for a Job Description. Clearances are required before starting this job. Staff Parish thanks Carrah Campbell for serving so capably as interim coordinator.

Come check out **Sit 'n Stitch** on **Friday mornings** from 9:00 to 11:00am in room 102. It's a fun fellowship time to work on your own crafting project or work on a requested project. Anybody is welcome to join.

### **TO THE CLARION FIRST UNITED METHODIST MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF OUR MUSIC MINISTRY**

As the summer is coming to a close, the music ministries of our church are beginning to plan for the upcoming church year. If any of you are considering one of our music programs, I would like to take this time to encourage you to come to one of our programs (The Messengers, the Adult Bell Choir, and the Chancel Choir).

All of our music ministries celebrate our God through our time and talents. Truly, I describe our groups as a family. If you are interested in joining one of our groups, please contact the church office (814-226-6660) to let us know.

#### **You may also join us at the choir picnic on Thursday, August 29 at 6:00pm.**

The picnic will be at the home of Molly Greenawalt (address and directions are available at the Church Office).

The main course and drinks will be provided; you will be responsible for your place setting. Choir members, I ask you to bring side dishes for the picnic. If your last name begins with A through H, please bring a salad; if your last name begins with I through Q, please bring a side casserole; and those members whose last names begins with R through Z, please bring a dessert.

We are looking forward to a tremendous musical year and we hope you will consider joining one of our groups.

Your servant in Christ,  
Randy Bowser, Director of Music

"I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being."



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
600 Wood Street · Clarion, PA 16214 · 814-226-6660  
www.fumc-clarion.org  
Email: churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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Permit #139  
Clarion, PA 16214

Newsletters and Pastor Jodie's sermons are now available online for you to view, listen to, and/or download. If you prefer to receive your newsletter by email instead of print, or if you have any questions, suggestions or information for our website, please email Darren Mackenzie at churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org.

**PLEASE NOTE "MAILER" SCHEDULE**

**Upcoming Mailers:** Items for the **September newsletter** need to be submitted by **Thursday, August 15**.  
Thank you!

**To submit information:** If you would like to submit information for the mailer, please contact the church office at 814-226-6660 or by email to churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org.

The **Adult Bell Choir** is looking for a few more ringers to join in on making a joyful noise unto the Lord. If you would like to ring or learn how to ring, please contact the church office or see one of the ringers. We meet **Monday evenings** from 5:30 - 6:30pm in the bell room behind the balcony.

**Acolytes and Liturgists**

If you would like to be an acolyte at our 8:30 or 11:00 worship service or a liturgist at our 8:30 service, notify the church office with a date and time.



**HOSPITALIZED?** If you or a family member is going to be placed in the hospital, or have upcoming surgery, please notify the church office so that the church and pastor may come and minister to you. You may call the church office at 226-6660.