



# NEWS from the Corner



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

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

December 2024/January 2025 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 . . .

### Advent Blessings!

This is truly my favorite time of the year. It has been for as long as I can remember. I have so many fond memories of my childhood—my sister and I making a homemade Advent calendar to count down the days, sneaking around trying to find the gifts that my parents had hidden, my grandmother staying up with my brother because he was so excited he couldn't sleep, Christmas Eve services, Christmas morning walking into the living room and seeing all the presents, Christmas dinner with my grandparents; lifelong memories that I treasure.

The Advent and Christmas seasons still hold that wonderment for me. I'm anxiously waiting to put my tree up and now my focus is not on what I'm going to "get" for Christmas, but what I'm going to give. I love to shop for just the right gift. I dislike wrapping as you can tell by looking at any gifts I have wrapped. Even though it's a messy wrapping job, my family still willingly opens their gift and I look forward to watching a family member open a gift.

Things change at Christmas and throughout our lives. Loved ones are no longer with us, we don't know what to buy because everyone has everything, it's harder to get together with family—it can actually be a very depressing season because of these reasons and many more.

But one thing never changes and that is the Good News of Jesus Christ! God gives us a gift beyond comparison, a priceless treasure.

In Jesus of Nazareth, God takes on human flesh and sets his tent among us (as The Message says). Together we become more than we have ever been alone, and the world is set free to love and be loved unconditionally. No matter where you find yourself this year, God arrives for us as one of us. And that's the best news and the best gift ever given!

Thanks be to God!

I look forward to celebrating Advent and Christmas with you!

Advent Blessings, 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 October 16 - November 17, 2024**

**In memory of Randy Reitz**

Given by Mary Brooks (Mary McKissick Brooks Organ Fund)  
Given by Dawn Williams (Memorial Fund)  
Given by Rick and Cheryl Douthit (Mary McKissick Brooks Organ Fund)  
Given by Marlene Steiner (Memorial Fund)

**In memory of Rev. Arnold Rhodes**

Given by Marlene Steiner (Memorial Fund)

**In memory of William Kodrich**

Given by Marlene Steiner (Memorial Fund)

**In memory of Gib Sloan**

Given by Marlene Steiner (Memorial Fund)

**In memory of Steve Santus**

Given by Marlene Steiner (Memorial Fund)

**In memory of Richard McMaster**

Given by Marlene Steiner (Memorial Fund)

On October 8, I fell, breaking a bone in my Sacrum, which means 6-8 weeks of healing. Lots of no's to things I wanted to do. Alice inquired of Pastor Jodie about the ramp ministry. Now Howard Rhoades, Bill Bailey and Ray Ewing have been busy installing a wonderful ramp. Thank you and thank you for sending cards and prayers. Your love is powerful!

Bill Saxman



Kids2Kids thanks you for your contributions for their sub sale fundraiser. We were able to raise money to help with our mission projects! We will again have **Christmas poinsettia care packages** for our shut-in friends. On **December 15**, please plan to help distribute these by taking one after the 11:00 service to deliver to our friends.



## News from the Corner - December 2024/January 2025

Dear Friends at Clarion United Methodist Church,

I want to thank you for the donations of clothing and toiletries to Daily Bread. For the past few weeks, our men and women have been asking "When is the clothing going to arrive?" And just when the temperature for the first time reached below freezing in Pittsburgh, your donation came in.

I am thinking of one of our men who lives above 279N in a tent. He is a recovering addict, and he chooses not to live in a shelter because the drug availability and usage is so rabid. He was especially grateful for the warm clothing.

And I am grateful for the men's ministry donation of \$250. This will empower us to purchase a high voltage microwave, which is so necessary to reheat leftovers for extra meals when we run out of food for the day. Sadly, our numbers are ever increasing of the men and women who we are serving.

It is a lovely thing to have your church involved in the food ministry. Your volunteers have such a winsome heart for Christ, and we are truly blessed when your group comes. Our vision statement is "to show love upon love and grace beyond measure." We believe at Daily Bread that grace is the foundation for transformation of life. So thankful for your grace-filled ministry among us!

Pastor Bob Maravalli

### **CLARION FIRST'S 2024 CHRISTMAS PROJECTS**

What a generous congregation we have at First Church! Thank you to all for providing the following items for this year's Christmas projects. What a list!

#### **Donations for Daily Bread**

Shaving cream	20 cans	Long sleeved shirts	50
Aftershave	2 bottles	Tee shirts	9
Razors	99	Sweaters	9
Toothbrushes	97	Sweatshirts	9
Toothpaste	54 tubes	Hoodies	6
Soap	71 bars	Vest	1
Soap holders	12	Thermal tops	3
Shampoo	5 bottles	Thermal bottoms	4
Body wash	7 bottles	Pants/Jeans	12
Deodorant	26	Sweatpants	6
Wet wipes	5 packages	Socks	25 pair
Foot/Hand warmers	7	Hats	10
Toenail clippers	2	Gloves	1 pair
Pomade hair gel	1	Coats	12
Plush throws	5	Backpack	1

#### **Donations for School Nurses**

Pants/Leggings	37	Underwear	88 pair
Long underwear sets	2	Bras	5
Pajama sets	5	Slippers	3 pair
Snow pants	1	Shoes/Boots	10 pair
Shirts	4	Socks	50 pair
Hoodies	4	Hat	1
Backpacks	2	Deodorant	32
Kleenex	44 boxes & 18 small packs		

To the members and friends of Clarion First United Methodist Church,

During the past few months, I have had some difficult health issues and I would like to thank you for your cards and prayers. Lifting me up in your prayers has kept up my spirits and faith.

Thank you,

Randy Bowser



The two Advent banners currently hanging in the Sanctuary were donated by Dorothy Elliott in memory of Edward Elliott.



The past few months it has been my, along with Darren's, privilege and joy to work on the automated membership records of the church. We are continually updating the records for baptisms, weddings, funerals, transfers, and new members into our secure data system. Each week we enter the information from the attendance sheets that you provide at the worship services. We also continue to seek questionnaires from anyone who has not given one to the office. If you never received a questionnaire to fill out, please tell Darren in the church office. All this information is used to assist in year-end reporting and to aid in knowing the interests of individuals in their ministry gift. Often we are contacted to help find records for individuals whether it be a baptism, wedding, or funeral and it is our desire to quickly find the answer for them. Record keeping is only as good as that which we can put into the system. Therefore, we thank you for filling out the attendance booklets and questionnaires.

Pastor Nancy

Our next **Bible Study** will begin on **January 20** (Monday at 10:00am) and **January 22** (Wednesday at 6:30pm) and will continue through February 24 & 26. You can switch between class times according to your schedule. We will be studying the book, *Simon Peter*, by Adam Hamilton. The cost of the book is \$8. You may also purchase your own copy of the book for a Kindle or E-reader. **Please sign up in the church office no later than January 15.**

Simon Peter was a flawed but faithful disciple—aren't we all! Join us as we learn more about this disciple.

**Love Cupboard Food Pantry**

The donation item for the month of **December** is **DISH SOAP**.

The donation item for the month of **January** is **EGG NOODLES**.

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-5:00pm.**

We continue to have a heavy influx of our neighbors coming to receive kindness, respect, attention and, of course, our gift of food and necessary items to make their lives more pleasant. We continue to have a 25% to 35% increase of our visitors compared to this time last year. As we have stated in the past, households receive quantities comparative to their size. The breakdown by size of households went like this: (1=42%....2=31%....3=9%....4=9%....5=6%....6=3%).

This increase obviously has created challenges, but we have reacted wisely to keep our mission at a very high level of execution. We are now having some of the visitors volunteer to help unload trucks and stock our tables for our shoppers. Volunteers have stepped up from outside our congregation and as you would predict, volunteers from our congregation are stepping forward to help in any way possible. We have streamlined our check-in procedure, scheduled visitation times for frequent visitors who have attended three out of the last five months, and added volunteers who help each visitor with their shopping experience. The results have controlled overcrowding conditions in the church, reduced time that our visitors are waiting and shopping for their items, and freed up parking congestion. Yes, our flow of check-in and changes have allowed us to handle the continued increase in our visitors.

What is next? Starting in January we are going to display a "prayer box," so our visitors will have an opportunity to leave a short note of prayer needs and concerns. We hear regularly **individual health issues, family issues, and concerns for others from our visitors . . . yes, often asking for prayer.**

**Last but not least, I want to thank each volunteer and supporter of our Love Cupboard Food Pantry. Happy Holidays to all.**

**End-of-Year Celebration Brunch!**

**Sunday, December 29 at 11:00am in the Dining Room.**

Please call the church office to RSVP by December 26.

This event will be a special thank you for everyone's support and help with the weekly social hour!  
Come enjoy fellowship time with a delicious brunch!

**Broadway Methodist Style**

In 2005, Randy Bowser had an idea to raise money for new choir robes, and Broadway Methodist Style was born. It was such a hit that it became an annual event. The last one, though, was in 2018. It's time to bring it back, and what better way than to honor Randy as he retires as our Director of Music at First Church. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, January 25**.  
Broadway Methodist Style is back!

**Stephen Ministers Are There to Care**

Are you going through a difficult time—emotionally, spiritually, or relationally? Are you lonely, experiencing a crisis, or simply stressed by everyday life? You don't have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with you and for you, and provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing.

To find out more, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Cindy Beck, Sandra Foster, Kimberly Girts, Suzan Hahnfeldt or Barb Krupnik or email us confidentially at [stephenministries@fumc-clarion.org](mailto:stephenministries@fumc-clarion.org)

**END-OF-YEAR OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS BY MAIL, E-GIVING & VENMO**

Please note that E-Giving and Venmo offerings and donations at or near the end of the year are NOT affected by the closing dates of the church office. The date of the offering or donation will be the determining factor as to which year credit is given.

The Internal Revenue Service says that charitable deductions must be claimed in the year in which they are delivered. The only exception is a check that is dated, mailed and postmarked prior to the end of the year. In that case, the postmark constitutes the delivery date.

Putting an envelope with an end-of-year offering or donation into a mailbox on the last couple of days of December will not guarantee a postmark of 2024.

**END-OF-YEAR OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS IN PERSON**

Please be aware of the procedures available for in-person offerings and donations to the church at and near the end of the year.

When we arrive at Christmastime, there will be limited time to deliver an end-of-year offering or donation to the church in person. On Sunday, December 27, 2024 we will have the two services at the regular times.

The church office will be open on Monday, December 23, 2024.

Then the church office will be closed Tuesday, December 24, 2024. There will be one Christmas Eve Service at 7:00pm on that day.

Christmas Day and the remainder of the week, the church office will be closed.

Sunday, December 29, 2024 is the fifth Sunday of the month, thus there will be just one service at 9:30am. The church office will be open on Monday, December 30, 2024.

Then the church office will be closed New Year's Eve Day, Tuesday, December 31, 2024 and on New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025. The church office will reopen on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

These calendar dates and information are primarily for those persons wishing to deliver the offerings and donations in person.

David M. Hauser  
Financial Secretary



# Christmas

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Carols



around the table

### Sunday, December 1 at 6:30pm

Join us in the Gathering Area to enjoy our annual Carols Around the Table.

There will be gingerbread, angel food cake, and other refreshments.

Special music will highlight the evening.

Join in the fun of singing your favorite Christmas carols with your church family.

### Sunday, December 15 at 7:00pm

The Clarion Community Choir and Clarion FUMC Chancel Choir presents Handel's *Messiah*.



### Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Worship Service

7:00pm A traditional candlelight service with the Chancel Choir and the Messengers praise team.

Invite your relatives, friends and neighbors so together we can celebrate the coming of Christ.

### Sunday, December 31 New Year's Eve Worship Service

One service at 9:30am

followed by a brunch and fellowship time together in the Dining Room.



**Sunday December 1, 2024****First Sunday of Advent**

11:00am Children's Chimes Practice  
 6:30pm Carols Around the Table (Gathering Area)

**Monday December 2, 2024**

5:30pm Kiwanis (Room 102)

**Tuesday December 3, 2024**

4:00pm Girl Scouts (Dining Room & Kitchen)  
 6:30pm Christian Education Meeting (Room 102)

**Saturday December 7, 2024**

5:30pm Trailblazers Christmas Party  
 (Gathering Area)

**Sunday December 8, 2024**

11:00am Library Time (K - 5th grade)  
 6:00pm Community Choir Rehearsal  
 (Wesley Chapel)

**Monday December 9, 2024**

8:30am Second Harvest Delivery  
 9:30am Senior Food Box Pickup

**Tuesday December 10, 2024**

6:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 51 (Dining Room)

**Wednesday December 11, 2024**

6:45am Youth Group Breakfast (County Seat)  
 9:00am Fischer Pipe Organ Tuning  
 5:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting  
 (Stephen Ministry Room)  
 6:30pm Trustees and Finance Combined Meeting  
 (Conference Room - 2nd Floor)

**Thursday December 12, 2024**

12:00pm United Women in Faith - Naomi Circle  
 (Room 102)  
 2:00pm Clarion Civic Group (Dining Room)

**Friday December 13, 2024**

9:00am Ring The Salvation Army Kettle Bell  
 (Walmart)

**Saturday December 14, 2024**

8:00am Men's Breakfast (Perkins Restaurant)  
 10:00am Community Choir Rehearsal  
 (Wesley Chapel)

**Sunday December 15, 2024**

11:00am Kids2Kids (K - 5th grade)  
 7:00pm Community Choir Performance  
 (Sanctuary)

**Monday December 16, 2024**

5:30pm Kiwanis (Room 102)

**Tuesday December 17, 2024**

4:00pm Girl Scouts (Dining Room/Kitchen)  
 6:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Room 102)

**Wednesday December 18, 2024**

3:00pm Love Cupboard Food Pantry

**Sunday December 22, 2024**

11:00am Arts and Crafts (K - 5th grade)

**Tuesday December 24, 2024**

**Christmas Eve - Office Closed**  
 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

**Wednesday December 25, 2024**

**Christmas Day - Office Closed**

**Thursday December 26, 2024**

**Office Closed**

**Friday December 27, 2024**

**Office Closed**

**Sunday December 29, 2024**

9:30am Celebration Sunday Worship Service  
 (Sanctuary, YouTube)

**Tuesday December 31, 2024**

**Office Closed**

**Regular and Weekly Meetings****Sunday**

8:30am Traditional Worship Service  
 (Sanctuary, YouTube)  
 9:45am Sunday School for All Ages  
 11:00am Contemporary Service  
 (Sanctuary, YouTube)  
 6:00pm Community Choir Rehearsal  
 (Wesley Chapel)

**Monday**

10:00am Bible Study (Dining Room)  
 5:30pm Adult Bell Choir Practice (Balcony)  
 6:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 51 (Various Rooms)

**Wednesday**

8:00am Journey for Men (Room 102)  
 6:30pm The Messengers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
 6:30pm Bible Study (Room 102)

**Thursday**

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

**Friday**

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

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

**Wednesday January 1, 2025**

Office Closed

**Sunday January 5, 2025**9:45am Grades 6-12 - Cook & Eat French Toast  
(Kitchen)

11:00am Children's Chimes Practice

**Monday January 6, 2025****Epiphany**

5:30pm Kiwanis (Room 102)

**Tuesday January 7, 2025**10:00am Garden Club Smokey the Bear  
Poster Competition

4:00pm Girl Scouts (Dining Room &amp; Kitchen)

6:30pm Christian Education Meeting (Room 102)

**Wednesday January 8, 2025**

6:45am Youth Group Breakfast (County Seat)

**Thursday January 9, 2025**12:00pm United Women in Faith - Naomi Circle  
(Room 102)

2:00pm Clarion Civic Group (Room 102)

**Friday January 10, 2025**9:30am Conference Lighthouse Meeting  
(Sanctuary, Gathering Area)**Saturday January 11, 2025**

8:00am Men's Breakfast (Perkins Restaurant)

**Sunday January 12, 2025**

11:00a Library Time (K - 5th grade)

**Monday January 13, 2025**

8:30am Second Harvest Delivery

9:30am Senior Food Box Pickup

**Tuesday January 14, 2025**

6:30pm Trustees Meeting (Room 102)

**Wednesday January 15, 2025**

3:00pm Love Cupboard Food Pantry

5:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting  
(Stephen Ministry Room)**Sunday January 19, 2025**

11:00am Kids2Kids (K - 5th grade)

**Monday January 20, 2025**

11:30am Fellowship Meeting (Room 102)

5:30pm Kiwanis (Room 102)

6:30pm United Women in Faith - Ruth Circle  
(Conference Room - 2nd Floor)**Tuesday January 21, 2025**

4:00pm Girl Scouts (Dining Room/Kitchen)

6:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Room 102)

**Friday January 24, 2025**

5:00pm Randy Bowser's Retirement

Celebration Music Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

**Saturday January 25, 2025**6:00pm Randy Bowser's Retirement Celebration -  
Light Refreshments (Gathering Area)7:00pm Randy Bowser's Retirement Celebration  
(Sanctuary)**Sunday January 26, 2025**

11:00am Arts and Crafts (K - 5th grade)

**Monday January 27, 2025**8:30am Women's Fellowship Breakfast  
(Perkins Restaurant)

6:30pm Outreach Committee Meeting (Room 102)

**Tuesday January 28, 2025**

6:30pm Council Meeting (Room 102)

**Wednesday January 29, 2025**5:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting  
(Stephen Ministry Room)**Regular and Weekly Meetings****Sunday**8:30am Traditional Worship Service  
(Sanctuary, YouTube)

9:45am Sunday School for All Ages

11:00am Contemporary Service  
(Sanctuary, YouTube)**Monday**

5:30pm Adult Bell Choir Practice (Balcony)

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

**Wednesday**

8:00am Journey for Men (Room 102)

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)

6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

**Friday**

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

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





*Birthdays  
of the Month*

**December 1**

Reed Bell

**December 2**

Nancy Keen  
Bruce Kiser

**December 3**

Michael Foster  
Joy Lignelli  
Bailee Verdill

**December 4**

Liza Kopp

**December 5**

Wade Bearfield

**December 6**

Melinda Montoya

**December 7**

Emma Fiscus Sierko

**December 8**

Dianne Brosius  
Katie Kapp  
Chance Shick  
Beatrice Snyder

**December 9**

Zachary Uber

**December 10**

Tony Kopp  
Jameson McIlwain  
Stephen Wilshire

**December 11**

Finn Dehner

**December 12**

Makenna Burns

**December 13**

Asher Bell  
Robin McGinley

**December 14**

Ahmed Isar

**December 15**

Barbara Krupnik  
Jack Winger

**December 16**

Chloe Kiser  
Doris Seidle

**December 17**

Charlene Prody  
Asher Steele

**December 18**

Judy Fiscus  
Donna Woodman

**December 19**

Mary Jo Barger  
John Flower, Jr.

**December 20**

Allie Brooks  
Deryl Larsen  
Chris Vincent

**December 21**

Jonna Matson  
Greg Smathers

**December 22**

Cynthia Fox  
Eric Kiser  
Cole Stutzman

**December 24**

Gavin Brinkley  
Michael Robertson

**December 27**

Darren Mackenzie  
Marlene Platt  
Marlus Platt  
Craig Zamzow

**December 29**

Holly Gourley  
Tantruh Hilyer

**December 30**

Christine Texter  
Zackary Wolbert

**January 1**

Joshua Miller  
Keyauna Valimont

**January 2**

Bill LaVelle, Jr.

**January 3**

Jane Miller  
Zoe Robson  
Christian Simko  
Payton Simko  
Willie Wilson

**January 4**

Larry Anderson  
Richard Buskirk III  
Amber Stutzman

**January 5**

Dale Fiscus

**January 6**

Cami Womeldorf

**January 7**

Scott Kuehn  
Brecken McLaughlin

**January 8**

Justin Beck  
Raymond Ewing  
Lincoln Girt  
Mason Gourley  
Kyle Grabigel  
Brooklyn Kopp  
Aleisha Wilson

**January 9**

Patrick Johnson  
Nicole Kitchen  
Roberta Laird  
Melissa McNutt  
Karen Vandermeer

**January 10**

Carder Miller  
Lynn Smith

**January 11**

Susie Kapp  
Jeffrey Young, Sr.

**January 12**

Morgan Bailey  
Gracie Wayland

**January 13**

Daniel Patton  
Kade Phillips  
Kaegan Phillips

**January 14**

Carrie Robertson  
David Smith

**January 17**

Nancy DiStefano  
Donald Johnson  
Corey Williams

**January 18**

Terrance Lawson  
Brycen Robson  
Steven Smathers

**January 19**

Nora Martin

**January 20**

Sienna Greco

**January 21**

Damien Cherico

**January 22**

Linda McMaster

**January 23**

Pauline Marshall  
Beverly Pasquarette  
Haley Stutzman  
Sarah Wiant

**January 24**

Hudson Burns  
Heather Flower  
Lisa Heasley

**January 25**

Connie Aaron  
Annabelle Burns  
Jeffrey Courson  
Tracy Myers

**January 26**

Cassie Acey  
Nico Stefanos

**January 27**

Laura Grabigel  
Lois McFadden  
Andrew Stevenson  
Beau Verdill

**January 28**

Jeffrey McElhattan

**January 29**

Janice Hartle  
Myah Miller  
Lauren Grey

**January 30**

Alexa Kitchen

**January 31**

Crystal Jewell

# 2025 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT and NOMINATIONS SLATE

## CHURCH COUNCIL

### Administrative Officers

Chairperson: Church Council  
Senior Pastor/Administrative Officer  
Lay Leader  
Lay Member to Annual Conference  
Recording Secretary  
Church Treasurer  
Financial Secretary  
Membership Secretary

## NAME

Howard Rhoades  
Rev. Jodie Smith  
Bart Matson  
Cindy Beck  
Julie Mackenzie  
Karen Vandermeer  
David Hauser  
Rev. Nancy Zahn

### Administrative Ministry Teams

Chairperson: Board of Trustees  
Chairperson: Finance Ministry Team  
Chairperson: Leadership Development and Nominations  
Chairperson: Memorial Committee  
Chairperson: Staff/Parish Relations Committee  
Chairperson: Trusts and Endowments Committee

To Be Elected  
Sarah Siegel  
Rev. Jodie Smith  
Marlene Steiner  
Julie McCormick  
Howard Rhoades

### Programming Ministry Teams

Chairperson: Education and Discipleship Ministry Team  
Chairperson: Outreach  
Chairperson: Fellowship Ministry Team  
Chairperson: Missions  
Chairperson: Worship Ministry Team

Joe Wolf  
Jordonna Bowser  
Jan Hartle  
Lillian Pfaff  
Cindy Beck

### Church Staff and Other Representatives

At-Large Member  
At-Large Member  
At-Large Member  
Church Historian  
Operations and Technical Administrator  
Chancel Choir Director  
Director of Youth Ministry  
President: United Women in Faith  
Representative: Stephen Ministers  
Representative: United Methodist Men  
Representative: Young Adults  
Representative: Youth

Dawn Williams  
Kim Girts  
Stu Estes  
Marlene Steiner  
Darren Mackenzie  
Zachary Covington  
Shelly Rhoades  
Mary Brooks  
Cindy Beck  
Dave Etzel  
  
Lauren Brinkley

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Class of 2025

Dale Fiscus

### Class of 2026

Dawn Williams

Matt Long

Eric Funk

Suzan Hahnfeldt

### Class of 2027

Jean Mills

Mike McCormick

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Joe Wolf (2025)

Bonita Bailey (2025)

Kayla Wayland (2026)

**Sunday School Secretary & Nursery:** Carrah Campbell

**Kids2Kids Coordinator:** Michele Howard

**Teachers:** Mary Brooks, Bart Matson, Tom Miller, Melissa McNutt, Dawn Williams, Peggy Jo Staab, Jonna Matson, Brenda Smathers, Tracy Myers, Julie McCormick, Pastor Jodie Smith

## FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

### Class of 2025

Valerie Stitt

Carrah Campbell

### Class of 2026

Kim Girts (Sunday Fellowship)

Melinda Montoya

Jim Bolinger

### Class of 2027

Jan Hartle, Chair

Jacque Nuss

Kathy Steele

Marlene Steiner

## FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### Class of 2025

Tom Miller

Ted Howard

### Class of 2026

### Class of 2027

Sarah Siegel, Chair

**Trustees Representative:**

**Chairperson/Church Council:** Howard Rhoades

**Chairperson/Staff-Parish Relations:** Julie McCormick

**Church Treasurer:** Karen Vandermeer

**Financial Secretary:** David Hauser

**Lay Leader:** Bart Matson

**Lay Member to Annual Conference:** Cindy Beck

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

**Chairperson (Pastor):** Rev. Jodie Smith

### Class of 2025

Judy Curl

Donna Woodman

### Class of 2026

Mary Jo Ford

### Class of 2027

## MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

### Class of 2025

Barb Krupnik

Bea Snyder

### Class of 2026

Richard Wilson

Marlene Steiner, Chair

### Class of 2027

Judy Fiscus

Carol Kiser

Dorothy Elliott

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

### Class of 2025

Lillian Pfaff, Chair  
Mary Brooks  
Cheryl Douthit

### Class of 2026

Kim Girts  
Thao Krupnik  
Jonna Matson

### Class of 2027

Bonnie Stehle  
Jill Johns  
Jordonna Bowser

**Coordinator of the Love Cupboard:** Howard Rhoades

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE *(New Committee)*

**Class of 2027:** Jordonna Bowser (Chair), Cindy Beck, Matt Wayland, Kayla Wayland, Crystal Jewell, Karen Fenstermaker, Edd Myers, Kim Girts, Lillian Pfaff

## STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

LAY LEADER, LAY DELAGATE TO CONFERENCE (Jodie, Bart, Cindy)

### Class of 2025

Kim Girts  
Brenda Smathers

### Class of 2026

Julie McCormick, Chair  
Randy Cathcart  
Mary Wilson

### Class of 2026

Sarah Long

**Lay Leader:** Bart Matson

**Church Council Chair:** Howard Rhoades

**Lay Delegate to Annual Conference:** Cindy Beck

**Pastor:** Rev. Jodie Smith

## TRUSTS AND ENDOWMENTS COMMITTEE

Howard Rhoades, Ted Howard, Suzan Hahnfeldt

## WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

### Class of 2027

Crystal Jewell  
Judy Fiscus

### Class of 2026

Cindy Beck, Chair  
Marlene Steiner

### Class of 2027

Janelle Chambers-Sloan  
Bret Sloan  
Sue Ann Boyles

**Communion Stewards:** Jonna Matson, Mary Jo Ford

**Director of Children's Choir:** Sarah Long, Jordonna Bowser

**Operations and Technical Administrator:** Darren Mackenzie

**Director of the Messengers:** Zachary Covington

**Chancel Choir Director:** Zachary Covington

**Director of Bell Choir:** Jordonna Bowser

**Head Usher:** Richard Wilson

**Organist/Accompanist:** Mary Brooks

**Singing Angels/Bells & Chimes:** Peggy Jo Staab

**Membership Care Chair:** Mary Jo Ford

**Membership Care Members:** Cindy Beck, Cheryl Douthit, Suzan Hahnfeldt, Brenda Smathers, Marlene Steiner, Judy Fiscus, Jean Mills, Donna Woodman, Nancy Zahn, Melinda Montoya, Bea Snyder, Shelly Rhoades

## OTHER COMMITTEES/WORK AREAS OF THE CHURCH

### Building Committee

**Chairperson:** Howard Rhoades

**Members:** Dale Fiscus, Tracy Myers, Peggy Jo Staab, Marlene Steiner, Karen Vandermeer, Richard Wilson, Matt Long

### Grounds Committee

**Convener:** Suzan Hahnfeldt, Judy Fiscus, Matt Wayland

### Memorial Garden Committee

**Convener:** Suzan Hahnfeldt

**Members:** Nancy Womeldorf, Carol Riffer

### Safety Team

**Head Usher:** Richard Wilson

**Medical:** Randy Bowser, Tracy Myers, Will Craddock, Rick Douthit

### Stephen Ministers

**Leaders:** Sandra Foster, Suzan Hahnfeldt, Barb Krupnik, Cindy Beck, Kim Girts

**Ministers:** Bev Schmader, Brenda Smathers, Bea Snyder, Marlene Steiner, Christina Shrewsbury, Edd Myers, Lillian Pfaff, Jordonna Bowser

### Offering Tellers

Connie Aaron, Sandra Foster, Donna Lewis, Peggy Jo Staab, Kathy Steele, Cheryl Douthit

**Head Usher:** Richard Wilson

#### Team 1 – 8:30

**Randy Cathcart**

Ed Hale

Wade Bearfield

Becki Weaver

Dirk Vandermeer

#### Team 2 – 8:30

**Mary Weyer**

Sue Cathcart

Carrah Campbell

Marlene Steiner

#### Team 3 – 8:30

**Ray Ewing**

Janne Ewing

Dana Wolbert

Amy Wolbert

Kathy Gathers (alt.)

#### Team 4 – 8:30

Kathy Steele

#### Team 1 – 11:00

**Howard Rhoades**

Ted Howard

Val Stitt

Tracy Cherico

#### Team 2 – 11:00

**Richard Wilson**

Linda McMaster

Penny Schaffer

Mary Wilson

#### Team 3 – 11:00

**Dale Fiscus**

Jonna Matson

Vivian Estes

#### Team 4 – 11:00

**David Hauser**

Jean Mills

Deborah Whisner

Michael McCormick



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

600 Wood Street · Clarion, PA 16214 · 814-226-6660

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

Email: [churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org](mailto:churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org  
Auto  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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](mailto:churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org).

### PLEASE NOTE "MAILER" SCHEDULE

**Upcoming Mailers:** Items for the **February newsletter** need to be submitted by **Wednesday, January 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](mailto: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.