



NEWS from the Corner



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

Online at: fumc-clarion.org

October 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 . . .

I hope that you have been finding the sermon series, “Do Unto Others,” meaningful. It is so easy to stray from the path of Jesus and get caught up in the chaos and nastiness that have become a part of this election season. If you’re like me, I grow weary of it all. As part of my sermon on humility, I shared a reading (author unknown) that speaks well to the living within the path of Christ—to be whom we claim to be as followers of Jesus. I decided to reprint it here, so that you will have it as a reminder when you feel you’ve lost your way or need to be encouraged to hold fast.

I am part of the fellowship of the Unashamed and the Humble. I have the Holy Spirit’s power. The die has been cast; I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of Jesus Christ. I won’t look up, slow down, back away, or be still.

My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low-living, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chintzy giving and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don’t have to be right first, recognized, praised, regarded or rewarded. I now live by presence, lean by faith, love by patience, lift by prayer and labor by power.

My pace is set, my gate is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, deterred, lured away, turned back, diluted or delayed.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, ponder at the pool of popularity or meander in the maze of mediocrity. I won’t give up, let up or shut up, until I’ve preached up, prayed up, stored up and stayed up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus Christ. I must go until heaven returns, give until I drop, preach until all know and work until Jesus comes and when Jesus comes to get his own, He will have no problem recognizing me.

Blessings and Prayers,
Pastor Jodie

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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.

FUMC Board of Trustees,

Thank you for approving the use of the Gathering Area for the Garden Club of Clarion County anniversary tea. The space was perfect for the event and couldn't have been more ideal. Your generosity was greatly appreciated. Thank you again for making a special event very memorable.

Sincerely,

The Garden Club of Clarion County

Church,

Thanking all the kind and caring people of our congregation for your thoughts, prayers, and beautiful cards.
Carolyn Frampton

I would like to thank my church family for all the prayers, cards and phone calls during this horrible ordeal with pneumonia. I am feeling much better and looking forward to getting off supplemental oxygen and breathing on my own.

Thank you Pastor Jodie for all your prayers and care.

Linda Hauser

Dear First United Methodist Church of Clarion,

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministries of the United Methodist Church through your giving to Connectional Apportionments. Together, through our connectional system, we accomplish what no single church, district, or annual conference could ever hope to do alone. In this way, each individual, each family, each congregation supports the Church's work.

As a passionate believer in the power of the work accomplished through our United Methodist Connection, I am pleased to donate the enclosed \$50 to be applied to First: Clarion's 2024 apportionment.

Gratefully,

Deborah Ackley-Killian

Conference Superintendent

In case you haven't heard, the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference has a new presiding bishop! Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball was appointed to our Conference as of September 1, 2024. She has previously served as a bishop in the West Virginia Annual Conference for twelve years. In an effort to get to know Western Pennsylvania, she is going to be spending a day in each of the ten districts. She will be in the Franklin District on **Tuesday, October 8**. All clergy and laity are welcome to join her at Grace UMC in Grove City that evening at 6:30pm. If you would like to attend, see Pastor Jodie.

Bishop Steiner Ball's Installation Service will be held on Sunday, October 27 at 3:00pm at Harrison City UMC. Let Pastor Jodie know if you would like to ride along.

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.

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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 **Tuesday, October 29** 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

Women's Breakfast

The United Women in Faith will be having their next meeting at Perkins on **Monday, October 28** at **8:30am**. **Come enjoy the fellowship and bring a friend. EVERYONE is welcome!**



SAVE THE DATES:

October 6 - Monkey Bread

November 3 - Breakfast Burrito

December 1 - Hot Cocoa & Cookies

January 5 - French Toast

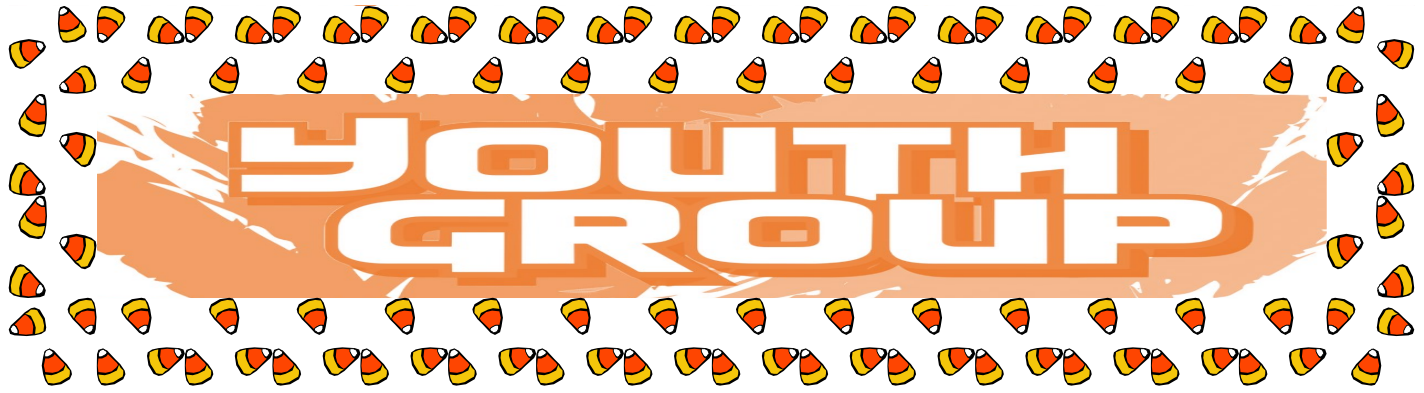
February 2 - Breakfast Pizza

March 2 - Toast Bowls

April 6 - Yogurt Parfaits

May 4 - Chef's Choice

WHO: Jr. High & Sr. High Sunday School
WHEN: 9:45 - 10:45am
WHERE: Kitchen on Ground Floor
WHAT: Cook, Eat & Pray



The Youth Group of the Clarion First United Methodist Church is a ministry for all youth ages 12 (7th grade) -18 (senior year). We welcome church members and their friends to join our ministry . If you are interested in joining our Youth Group, please contact the Youth Director at youthdirector@fumc-clarion.org.



October 2024 Activities

- October 4—Park Cars for ALF 7:00am-3:00pm
- October 5—Park Cars for ALF 9:00am-12:00pm
- October 6—No Youth Group
- October 9—County Seat for Breakfast at 6:45am
- October 13—Steelers Party at 4:00pm
- October 20—Regular Meeting 6:30pm-8:00pm
- October 26—Corn Maze 4:00pm-11:00pm
- October 27—No Youth Group

ALF Parking Update

At the time of this newsletter the Youth Group's annual ALF Parking Fundraiser hasn't taken place but we still would like to thank everyone who helped park cars and purchased tickets. 100% of the proceeds go toward our Youth Group activities. Thank you to Howard Rhoades for his continued support and help with our annual fundraiser.



Saturday, October 26, 2024 - Coolspring Corn Maze in Mercer, PA

The Youth Group will be traveling to the Coolspring Corn Maze to enjoy some Autumn and Halloween fun. The schedule for the evening is as follows: **4:00pm** Leave church; **5:00pm** Dinner; **6:00pm - 10:00pm** Corn Maze; **11:00pm** Return home
Cost is \$25 for admission into the maze (bring more if you want to add some special events to your night—information is available on the website). Bring a flashlight and wear warm clothes. It gets pretty chilly out there in the corn field.

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Pizza and Movie Night

Friday, October 18

5:30pm Pizza and snacks

6:00pm Movie, *Break Every Chain*

Please bring a snack or dessert to share. Pizza and beverages will be provided.

A true account of how God forever changed the life of a police officer who was battling alcoholism, depression, and devastating loss.

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, November 9**.

Broadway Methodist Style is back!

Love Cupboard Food Pantry

The donation item for the month of **October** is **BOXED PASTA (penne, rotini, shells, farfalle, etc.)**.

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**.



CHRISTMAS PROJECTS FOR FIRST CHURCH

For several years, our church has supported the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. This year, in lieu of that program, our church will be supporting two projects—one local and one within our Western Pennsylvania conference.

Our local project will be supporting the school nurses at both Clarion Area and Clarion-Limestone. Some of the items needed are sweatpants, leggings, socks, deodorant, and Kleenex. You will find these items and more listed on the fall leaf tags on the Caring Tree in Wesley Chapel. Our other project is to help those fed by the United Methodist Church Union Daily Bread program. We have begun providing meals at this program once a month, and now we can help in another way. Some of the items needed by those who are served by this Daily Bread program are hoodies, tee shirts, socks, razors and shaving cream, deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes (mostly for men). A complete list is on display in the Gathering Area. We will be collecting items for these two projects from the beginning of October until November 10. It is such a privilege to give. Let's have two very successful projects this year.

Tuesday October 1, 2024

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

Friday October 4, 2024

ALF Craft Day Parking

Saturday October 5, 2024

ALF Parade Day Parking

Sunday October 6, 2024**World Communion Sunday**9:45am Grades 6-12 - Cook & Eat
Monkey Bread (Kitchen)

11:00am Children's Chimes Practice

Tuesday October 8, 202410:00am Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball Visiting
Franklin District**Wednesday October 9, 2024**6:30am Sight & Sound Trip - *Daniel*

6:45am Youth Group Breakfast (County Seat)

10:00am DAR Luncheon & Meeting (Dining Room)

5:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting
(Stephen Ministry Room)**Thursday October 10, 2024**12:00pm United Women in Faith - Naomi Circle
(Room 102)

2:00pm Clarion Civic Group (Room 102)

Saturday October 12, 2024

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

Sunday October 13, 2024

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

Monday October 14, 2024

8:30am Second Harvest Delivery

9:30am Senior Food Box Pickup

Tuesday October 15, 2024

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

6:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Room 102)

6:30pm Trustees Meeting
(Conference Room - 2nd Floor)**Wednesday October 16, 2024**

3:00pm Love Cupboard Food Pantry

Thursday October 17, 2024**Daily Bread (Pittsburgh)****Sunday October 20, 2024**

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

Monday October 21, 20246:30pm United Women in Faith - Ruth Circle
(Conference Room - 2nd Floor)**Wednesday October 23, 2024**5:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting
(Stephen Ministry Room)**Sunday October 27, 2024**

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

Monday October 28, 20248:00am Women's Fellowship Breakfast
(Perkins Restaurant)

6:30pm Worship Committee Meeting (Room 102)

Tuesday October 29, 2024

6:30pm Event Planning Meeting (Room 102)

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: "Disciple Fast Track:
Remember Who You Are"
(Wesley Chapel)

5:30pm Adult Bell Choir Practice (Balcony)

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)

6:30pm Bible Study: "Disciple Fast Track:
Remember Who You Are" (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.



October 1
Loye Startzell

October 2
Alexis McCormick
Dorothy Reddinger

October 4
Garret Whisner

October 5
Bobbi Cumo
Olivia Kiser
Thomas Libitzer
Carson Money
Janie Spangler
Heather Stewart
Shawn Stewart

October 6
Cheryl Hilyer
Milo Sloan
Michael Smith

October 7
Alexis Libitzer
Douglas Stewart

October 8
Michael Brosius
Eric Hartzell

October 9
Collin Roman

October 10
Jim Lyle

October 11
Janet Amoroso

October 13
Kyleigh Craddock
Addison Lechner
Kathy Steele

October 15
Logan Girt

October 16
Lauren Brinkley
Brittany Kowatch

October 17
John Allen
David Etzel
Jenifer Kaye
Alaina Smith

October 18
Mark Fox
Marcie Hoover

October 19
Jordan Anthony
Barbara Funk
Fred Keen
Elijah Rudesyle
Jackson Rudesyle

October 20
Jack Martin

October 21
Carolyn Frampton
Wesley Sprankle-Kowatch

October 22
Caleb Bailey
Robin Lenox
Mary Lou Spangler
Mike Young Jr.

October 23
Bethany Brosius

October 24
Mark Miller
Thomas Miller

October 26
Benjamin Franklin
Toby Johnson

October 27
Amanda Girt
Carrie Greco
Bentley Matson
Allie Songer
Jared Songer

October 28
Maggie Johnson

October 29
Keilan Johnson
Christy Meterko
November Simko



Saturday, November 9: Randy Bowser's Retirement Celebration, "Broadway Methodist Style"

Saturday, November 23: Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner; turkey, beverages and tableware will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Deadline to sign up is November 18.

Saturday, December 1: Carols Around the Table

Sunday, December 15: Presentation of *The Messiah* by the Chancel Choir and Community Choir

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Worship - 7:00pm



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

www.fumc-clarion.org

Email: churchoffice@fumc-clarion.org

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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 **November newsletter** need to be submitted by **Tuesday, October 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.