



First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

Sunday, September 4

Pastor Mike Ward preaching
9:30 am - Summer Choir

Sunday, September 11

Pastor Jon Priebe preaching
8:30 am - Epworth Choir
8:30 am - Chancel Choir

Sunday School/Confirmation at 9:45
Nursery/Preschool Care at 9:30 & 11
Children's Worship at 11

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JON

EXCUSE SUNDAY!

Our Rally Day, when Spiritual Formation classes kick off for the fall and we return to two services, is September 11 this year. The in-person services are 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. and we will livestream at 11:00.

Let this be your **excuse** if you have gotten out of the habit of attending worship regularly! Start again now!

Let this be your **excuse** if you haven't invited someone to check out our online services or join us in-person! Ask them now!

Let this be your **excuse** if you have been thinking about joining a Sunday school class or other discipleship group. Now's the time!

Blessings,
Jon

FINANCIAL UPDATES

This is the first year we've been sharing our operating budget financials monthly. You may have seen over the first half of the year that our operating giving was slightly behind budget. I'm glad to report that this has caught back up in July. This is both from non-pledged giving (often from new people) and our pledged giving also catching back up. Thank you!!

This brings us back to within ¼ of a percent of budget. However, our 2022 budget still anticipates a deficit of about \$40,000. That deficit has developed over the past few years due to a gradual decline in giving we have seen for the last 10 years. We do have just over \$200,000 of reserves to cover this deficit for a few years but hope that through reaching new people we will begin to close this gap. We will keep you updated over the years as to how much we anticipate using of those reserves as the year progresses.

Capital Campaign – We are so close!!!

Our remaining loan balance is \$19,114

Capital Funds receipts balance: \$9,165

Total needed to pay off loan: \$9,949



Have you ever felt like there wasn't enough money to do all the important things you know you should be doing? Ever been in a situation where you wanted to give to a good cause but didn't because you were trying to keep up with your own bills? If so, the church is again offering Financial Peace University and at a reduced price of \$75 per family with a \$25 rebate if you attend all ten classes. Classes will be from 4:00-6:00 PM starting on Sunday, September 11. and This class will teach you everything from retirement and budgeting to insurance and saving for your kid's college in a down-to-earth way that is anything but dry. A signup sheet is available at the Welcome Center. Childcare is available. For more information please contact Mark Rogalski at MarkKRogalski@gmail.com or (330) 419-4085.



Adult Discipleship Classes for the Fall... We will again offer *Disciple Like Jesus* and *Ministry By Strengths* classes in the fall, both of which are part of our journey to membership. These classes are also integral for those who want to be involved in the leadership of our church. The 6 week *Ministry By Strengths* class will begin on Sunday, September 11, from 5:45 to 7 pm with a new class then beginning on Sunday, October 23 from 4 to 5:15 pm. We will also offer a 6 week *Disciple Like Jesus* class starting Sunday, October 2, from 9:30 to 10:45 am and then again starting Sunday, October 23, from 5:45 to 7 pm. We hope you will join us as we grow together as disciples this year. You may sign up by calling the church office. Childcare will be available upon request at sign up. For more information, please call Pastor Karol.

Women's Bible Study... All the ladies of the church and the community are invited to join us for a six week Bible Study beginning the first week of October. There are two opportunities for the same study: Tuesdays from 7 - 9 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. - noon. This session will be "The Christ-Centered Woman - Finding Balance in a World of Extremes", which is based on Ephesians 3. The cost of the book is \$18. Please call Kathy Kuzas at Ext. 212 to register. The deadline is Monday, September 13.




This N That

Do you want to know Jesus better? Do you want to love Jesus more and follow Jesus more closely? The Ambassador Class invites you to participate in our Fall Study from the Gospel of Mark: *Follow Me!* Meeting Sundays on-line beginning Sept. 11 at 9:45 am. Contact Wendy Gillespie (330-926-1716) for materials.



All the men of the church and the community are invited to attend Men's Time Out on Saturday, September 3, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Asbury Hall. It's a time of fellowship, discussion, and breakfast - a wonderful way to connect with the men of the church.

Rejoicing  **Spirits** is a monthly opportunity for worship and fellowship for people with intellectual disabilities. A modified worship service provides opportunities for all to serve, lead and learn together. Currently Rejoicing Spirits is held in-person the first Saturday of each month, 5:30 pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Hudson. The third Saturday of each month at 5:00 pm we share an online Social by Zoom. Please contact Wendy Gillespie (330-926-1716) if you'd like more information to participate!

United Women in Faith Circle Meetings: If you're interested in a circle of friends, our circles are gearing up for the Fall. Acts of Grace Circle meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7pm, call Linda Demeter -740-334-9290. Esther Circle meets the 3rd Friday (daytime), call Peggy Manson - 330-929-3906. Susannah Circle meets on the 2nd Wednesday (daytime), call Sue Boltz - 330-928-8635.

ACCESS Ministry seeks to support individuals and families with special needs in all First Church activities. Volunteers are trained to serve as Buddies. Please contact Sue Poling (330-929-0366) if you'd like to get involved!



Epworth Youth kicked off the fall with choir practice and Messy Games. If anyone missed the family meeting on

August 28, copies of the forms and calendars are available at the Welcome Center and will be emailed out.

On Sunday, September 11, Epworth Choir sings first service, followed by Sunday School and the Confirmation Family Meeting at 9:45.

Youth Fellowship will start that evening at 4:00, followed by snack supper, choir, and bells.

For more information, please contact Jen McKenna at eworthyouth2@gmail.com.



As we plan for Rally Day on September 11, we are compiling our list of helpers and find we still need some in the eve-

ring program. Several of our teachers need helpers; as does our Preschool and Kindergarten group. We are looking for leaders for the Wesley Youth Group, the Wesley outings and a couple of the ROCK activities. If you can give an hour or two once or twice a month, we have a place where you can use your talents to help our children. Please contact Donna Curfman at dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com if you are willing to help.

Acme Receipts... It's time to start saving your Acme receipts again for their Community Cash Back program. Buy store brands and save the receipts dated August 4 through December 24. The church receives 5% on qualifying products. The money is used to fund the projects done at Work Camp. Receipts may be turned in to the Spiritual Formation office.



UMW/UWF Book Sale Returns! Mark your calendars for the Fall used Book Sale on November 4 & 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. "Fire Sale" will be on November 6. Bring your donations of used books October 31 thru November 3. Then return to buy some on Friday and Saturday. We will appreciate adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles, and games. No magazines, text books, or encyclopedias. The sale will take place in Wesley Hall.



Beginning on Sunday, September 11, the children will Explore the RECIPE needed to become better disciples in a variety of activities:

- R - Reading Scripture
- E - Experiencing God
- C - Caring for All
- I - Inviting Others
- P - Praying
- E - Extravagant Giving

The day's schedule for the children is:

Sunday School - 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Children from age 3 to 6th grade meet in Asbury Hall for a special kick-off. (Parents will meet briefly at 10:00.)

Bible Presentation - During the 11:00 worship service. (For those in 2nd grade.)

Children's Worship - During the 11:00 service after God's Word for Young Disciples. (Grades K-4) The 2nd graders will have a special celebration to learn about their new Bibles.

Children's Choirs and Bell Rehearsals - 4:00 - 5:00 (The choirs and bells will meet every Sunday at this time.)

Parent Meeting - 4:00 in the Chapel.

ROCK - 5:00 - 6:00 (ages 4 through 3rd grade) (ROCK will meet every other Sunday. Schedules are available at the Welcome Center.)

Wesley Youth Group - 5:00 - 6:00 (grades 4-6). (Wesley Outings will begin on September 18.)

Habitat for Humanity... First Church will again participate with 10 other churches to build a home with Habitat for Humanity of Summit County. The home will be built in Cuyahoga Falls on Germaine St. The family building their home is a young family who come from Nepal. We are able to have 7 volunteers on each of our volunteer dates which are: September 10, October 8, November 5, and December 17. Habitat requires that all volunteers be 18 to be at a job site. If you are interested in participating in this mission, please contact Kim Kerr at 330-606-7736 or email her at kdk3rr@gmail.com with your name, phone number, email address and t-shirt size. Thank you.

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First United Methodist Church

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Jon Priebe - Lead Minister x211; Mike Ward - Associate Minister x217; Forrest Waller and Marvin Brown - Senior Ministers Emeriti; Dean Wagner - Director of Music Ministries/Organist x221; Karol Lewis - Director of Spiritual Formation x218; Jennifer Brooks - Director of Weekday Preschool x220; Jen McKenna - Youth Ministries Coordinator; Tim Zuschin - Assistant Choir Director; Donna Curfman - Children's Ministry Coordinator x219; Kathy Kuzas x212; Christy Meyers x210; Nancy Yeager x216; Ann Kaiser; John Fox; Joe Demeter; Alicia Stone; Kathy Just



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to **Kay Shelley**.

Our Sympathies to **Robbie Robinson** and family on the death of his wife, member **Lou Robinson**, on 8/18; to **Jim and Beth Bailey** and family on the death of daughter and sister, member **Christine Shambaugh**, on 8/22; to **Patsy Purdon** and family on the death of her son, member **Jim Purdon Jr.**, on 8/27.

Expressions of Thanks from **Jacob Schmidt...** I just wanted to thank you for the scholarship and let you know how much I appreciate it. Thank you so much.

From Regan Lieberth... Thank you so much for choosing me as a recipient for the 2022 Montgomery Scholarship. This will help me greatly in my future education.

FALL HIKING SPREE

Fall is approaching us quickly, and this means it is time for some fellowship, fitness, and faith, so be sure to add these dates to your calendars.

Pastor Mike will be participating in the Summit County Metroparks Fall Hiking Spree again this year. We will meet at 2:00 pm for a quick devotion. In case of bad weather, hikers can complete that hike on their own. First year hikers receive a hiking staff and this year's badge upon completing 8 hikes. Returning hikers receive this year's badge upon completing 8 hikes. Please visit the Summit County Metroparks website to download this year's form and the list of park addresses. The order of hikes and the dates will be:

DATE	TRAIL	PARK	MILES
9/25	Overlook Trail	Cascade Valley	0.5
10/2	Redwing Trail	Firestone Park	1.1
10/9	Pheasant Run Trail	Silver Creek Park	1.2
10/16	Coyote Run Trail	Liberty Park	1.2
10/23	Rock Creek Trail	Furnace Run Park	1.3
10/30	Prairie Trail	Springfield Bog Park	1.6
10/6	Celebration Trail	Cascade Valley	1.6
11/13	Glens Trail	Gorge Metro Park	1.8

The deadline for the next FCN is **Friday, September 9**. Please submit your articles to Kathy Kuzas at kku-zasfumccf@gmail.com.