



# First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## WORSHIP

### Sunday, October 30

Pastor Mike Ward preaching

8:30 am - Epworth Choir

11:00 am - Chancel & Cherub Choirs

Both - Chancel Ringers

### Sunday, November 6

Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Both - Epworth & Chancel Choirs

Sunday School/Confirmation at 9:45

Nursery/Preschool Care at 9:30 & 11

Children's Worship at 11



## A NOTE FROM PASTOR JON

*Matthew 6:19-21* – “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Recently, we had our semi-annual review of our endowments with the advisor who manages the investments of these funds that persons from our congregation have contributed over the years. You might guess that, given the performance of the stock market in the last six months, the returns weren't very good. They were reporting our “Return on Investment,” or ROI, from the funds, which is essentially what we get out today from the investments we've made in the past, less what we invested. In

other words, what was produced from what we put in.

Our Stewardship theme this year, “Return on Investment,” is going to be telling us about what has been produced from what you all have invested in God's kingdom through First Church. We've touched thousands of lives across and world and in our community, we've worshipped and prayed, learned and studied, and met people's needs for food or housing or spiritual care. You should be receiving a packet that spells out just some of the ways that ALMOST TEN THOUSAND lives have been touched with the compassion, grace, and love of Christ through our Church!

That's one heck of a return! We know this is a collaboration between the funds you give, the time you give, and your gifts of service or leadership or compassion (among others!). So, we say thank you for making such a difference in our congregation, community, and our world! Let's do it again next year!

## CONSECRATION SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 13

When you receive your financial and discipleship pledge cards please fill them out then you may drop them off at church during the week, in the offering plate on Sundays, mail them in, or fill them out online. All cards received by November 13 will be consecrated that day when we celebrate the impact First Church and YOU have had on the lives of others.

**First Church Shirts...** Here's a fun way to help the Mission Committee give more to our local missions. We are selling shirts with our church name and logo. You order and pay through Bonfire. They will send you the shirt(s). We have two links with the Bonfire Company:



1. A simple design with church name only on the front of whatever type shirt you'd like - we even have a hoodie: <https://www.bonfire.com/fumcs-mission-committee-fundraiser/>
2. Shirt with church name front and back: "I go to a great church" on back also available in different colors and styles: <https://www.bonfire.com/fumcs-mission-committee-fundraiser-1-1/>

**UMW/UWF Book Sale** Can you donate some used books, games, puzzles, DVDs, CDs for our annual sale on November 4 & 5 (9:00 to 3:00). If so, please drop off at the church (Wesley Hall) on October 31 and November 1, 2, and 3. We greatly appreciate your donations, but cannot use magazines, text books, or encyclopedias. All proceeds from the sale go to various missions.



Join Pastor Mike on Sunday afternoons for some fellowship, fitness, and faith by participating in the Summit County Met-

roparks Fall Hiking Spree. The order of hikes and the dates will be:

DATE	TRAIL	PARK
10/30	Prairie Trail	Springfield Bog Park
11/6	Celebration Trail	Cascade Valley
11/13	Glens Trail	Gorge Metro Park

**Acme Receipts...** Remember to save your Acme receipts 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 at the Welcome Center.



All the men of the church and the community are invited to attend Men's Time Out on Saturday, November 5, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Asbury Hall.

It takes place regularly on the first Saturday of each month. Join them for a time of fellowship, discussion, and breakfast - a wonderful way to connect with the men of the church.

**Work Camp Fundraiser...** On Monday, November 7, head to Panda Express (2855 State Rd.) between 10:30 a.m. and 9 p.m. for lunch or dinner. If you show them a flyer, available at the Welcome Center, the church will receive 20% of the event sales which will go toward Work Camp.



**Christmas Poinsettias...** The florist has given us an early deadline, so now is the time to order the poinsettias which will adorn our altar on Christmas Eve. The plants are \$9 each. The list of donors and those memorialized or honored will appear in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Please make your check out to First Church and return it with the order to the church office by noon on Monday, November 14.

Donor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

In memory or honor of (circle one)





Children aged 4 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to the All Hallow's Eve celebration on Sunday, October 30 from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. (This

will follow bells and choir rehearsals from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Activities will include crafts, snacks, games and stories. Church-friendly costumes are welcome. Please register at the Welcome Center or church office by October 26.

**Operation Christmas Child** helps more than 7 million children experience Christmas by collecting and distributing gift-filled shoeboxes to more than 100 countries. You can help by buying new items to pack, donating \$10 to cover the shipping costs, or taking a shoebox from the Breezeway display and returning it completed by November 20.



Recommended items include a “wow toy,” other small toys, hygiene items and school supplies. A complete list is available at the Welcome Center. Please bring your items by November 13 so that on Sunday night, November 20, the children at ROCK will be able to pack shoeboxes.

**Parents Morning Out...** We will sponsor a Parents Morning Out for infants through grade 6 on Saturday, December 10 from 9 am to noon. We serve the kids a pancake breakfast they will be able to shop at the Santa Shop for their parents, siblings and grandparents (included in the cost of the morning.) We will share the message of Christmas with the kids through a movie and they will have a chance to participate in the morning's mission project. The cost is \$10 per child and \$25 max of families of preschool and elementary children. Families with more than 3 children, will need to pay an additional \$10 for each child under 3 as we will have a paid person coordinating the crib room for our infants and toddlers. Space will be limited so sign up early to ensure a spot for your kids.



In October, Epworth spent an evening discussing prayer with Pastor Mike, who taught us about the role of prayer and

demonstrated some new ways to try to incorporate prayer in our lives. The youth visited Ramseyer Farms on a beautiful, sunny Sunday afternoon, solving the corn maze and exploring all the activities available and spent another afternoon bowling. Epworth also had their first ever Chopped mission night, where teams competed to bring in the most items for the Blessing Box and to create the most creative and tasty dishes for our guest judge, the culinarily courageous Mike Ward. The youth brought in dozens of cans and boxes to help the community and had a blast cooking together.



**Holiday Nut Sale...** We will again have our Holiday Nut Sale beginning on Sunday, November 6. They will be on sale in Asbury Hall each

Sunday between and after church services and in the church office during the week. You may also pre-order them and indicate the date you wish to pick them up. We will offer Deluxe mixed nuts and whole cashews for \$10/lb and raw pecans for \$12/lb. You may pick up and drop off pre-order forms at the Welcome Center.

**Santa Shop Items Needed...** We will be once again having our Parents Morning Out with a Santa Shop for the kids to shop on Saturday, December 10 from 9 am to noon. We are in need of items for the shop especially for children, teens and men. We are also in need of Christmas gift bags of all sizes, wrapping paper and scotch tape. The kids will be wrapping their own gifts this year so we don't need wrappers, but are looking for some folks that will be able to help the kids shop or help hand out wrapping paper and gift bags to the kids so they can wrap their items. You may drop off your items in the bin by the Welcome Center by Wednesday, December 7. Please contact Karol Lewis to help with the Santa Shop or Donna Curfman to help with shepherding the kids or with the pancake breakfast.

# First Church News

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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 **Robert C. Nicol**.

**Did You Know?** We will be glad to publish (space allowing) milestone birthdays, anniversaries, births and other special events in your family if you send a note c/o Kathy Kuzas, call us at 330-923-5241 x212 or email [kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com](mailto:kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com).

## *Congratulations!*



Pastor Mike Ward graduated from the Course of Study program! Let's shower him with cards to congratulate him. Please bring or mail cards to First Church with "Pastor Mike" on the envelope. Thank you!



**2023 Altar Flowers...** We are taking orders for altar flowers in 2023. The cost is \$38 and the church takes care of the ordering and delivery. If you would like to reserve a date, contact Christy Meyers at [cmeyers-fallsumc@gmail.com](mailto:cmeyers-fallsumc@gmail.com) or Ext. 210.

The deadline for the next FCN is **Friday, November 4**. Please submit your articles to Kathy Kuzas at [kku-zasfumccf@gmail.com](mailto:kku-zasfumccf@gmail.com).

A big thank you to everyone who supported the M&M fundraiser for Epworth Youth! We have raised almost \$800 so far! These funds help pay for supplies for camps, retreats, and youth programs throughout the year -- thank you for your continued support!"

