



First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, July 23 - 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Howard Pippin preaching

Sunday, August 6 - 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Sunday, July 30 - 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Howard Pippin preaching

Sunday, August 13 - 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

WELCOME PASTOR PIPPIN AND FAMILY

The first week of July we welcomed our newly appointed associate, Rev. Dr. Howard Pippin, his wife Ashley, and their family! He has three children; EJ, London, and Howard III (Trey.) Pastor Pippin is a graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary and Ashland Theological Seminary and has served in our conference for 25 years. I am full of joy to be working with Pastor Pippin again after serving on a Conference Board with him a few years ago and have been blessed with his preaching and sharing devotions with our youth when we were at camp at the end of June.

Bishop Malone and DS Lewis sent Pastor Pippin to us because of his gifts of working with young people, building new ministries, collaborative leadership, and preaching and teaching. The PPRC, Pastor Pippin, and I have spent some prayerful time about how to deploy our pastoral leadership within the ministries and life of our congregation. A summary of who will be responsible for which areas is available on the church website, at the Welcome Center and as an attachment if you receive notification of the First Church News by email. If you have any questions about who you need to talk to, you can always start with Pastor Jon or the church office.

CHURCH PARKING LOT



On Sunday, July 16, a Church Conference approved the sale of an unused parking lot we own that is down 3rd Street toward the library. Before we purchased the lots across from our main entrance, this was a well used lot. However, in the last ten years we have seen its use wane. A neighbor behind that lot is purchasing it from us with the intention of expanding their building on Portage Trail and needing the additional parking during the week. As part of the sale agreement, we will continue to have use it on Sundays or other services and events when we would need the extra parking. Thank you to Ed Jesson, Carolyn Stroud, and the trustees for their diligent and forward-thinking work in reaching this agreement!

Shoebboxes For Christmas.... In an effort to fill 100 shoebboxes this Christmas, we are asking for different donations each month. In July we are collecting pens, pencils, crayons, pencil sharpeners, and small (3x5") spiral notebooks. Also, we are asking for standard sized shoebboxes for packing the items collected. Please leave them at the Welcome Center or bring them to the church office anytime from now until the end of October.



Good Neighbors... Good Neighbors is requesting the following items for the upcoming school year: pens (black and red), colored pencils, dry erase markers, regular markers (thick and thin), crayons (24 pack), mechanical pencils, binders (1 inch), composition books, and regular pencils. If you are able to donate any of these, please put them in the bin outside the church library.



First Church Feeds... Our monthly food distribution is now on the 3rd Saturday of each month. We are always in need of feminine hygiene products and incontinence supplies for both men and women. You may drop supplies off in the bins behind the Welcome Center.

Paid Position Open... We are looking for a childcare worker for Sunday mornings (9:15 - 10:45 a.m.) this summer and Sunday mornings (9:15 - 11:45 a.m. and evenings (not completely determined yet) starting in the fall. You would be caring for infants through age 3 and a second person is always there. This is a paid position - \$14/hour for the first month and then \$15/hour. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Kuzas for an application.

Lighthouse Church... First Church was recently designated by the Conference as a "Lighthouse Church" because of our commitment to the continuing mission of Jesus through the United Methodist Church. Anyone who is interested in participating in this ministry should attend the training classes:



July 31: 9:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m. "Lighthouse Church- Hospitality" with Jason Moore covers so much with both in person hospitality and online!

Sept 12 or 13: 9:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m. "Leading Through Change with Grief Therapy Tools" led by Rev Laura White will help us all lead better by honing our use of grief therapy tools.

If you are interested in attending any of these events, contact Pastor Pippin to get registered.



As we proceed through the summer, we are in need of people who will volunteer to work in the nursery on Sunday mornings while we continue to look for a paid staff person. We are now able to stream the church service on a TV in the nursery, so you will still be able to enjoy worship! Please contact Donna Curfman at 330-329-2379 if you are able to help.



Acme Receipts... The Acme Cashback will start early this year, so start saving your receipts as of August 1! This is an easy way to help fund the projects that are done at Work Camp in June.

Visitation Team... We are looking for folks who would like to help make monthly visits to our shut-ins, hospital patients, and those in nursing homes. There is no counseling involved, it is simply to keep them in contact with their church family. If you like to socialize with others, please contact Pastor Pippin to let him know so we can add you to the team.

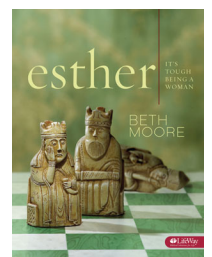
Volunteers... On occasion, volunteers are needed for small projects around the church, such as trimming shrubs, weeding, painting, etc. If you are interested, please give your email address to Bob Boltz or email him at rboltz@kent.edu.

Wesley Camp... All 4th - 6th graders are invited to attend Wesley Camp from August 11 - 13. It will take place at Peniel Holiness Camp in Conneautville, PA. The cost is \$125 per person - bring a friend and you both will get \$25 off the cost. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center. They should be turned in, with payment, by this Sunday, July 23.



Join us on Sunday, September 10, for our annual Rally Day when we begin our fall season of Sunday School, Children's Worship, Children's Choirs and Bells, and the evening ROCK program. That same day we will have the Blessing of the Backpacks, distribution of Bibles to the 2nd graders, and Teacher Recognition. Mark the day on your calendar!

Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman... The Women's Bible Study will begin meeting again this fall with this 10 week study of Esther, by Beth Moore. If you've ever felt inadequate, threatened, or pushed into situations that seem overpowering, this is the study for you. Just as it was tough being a woman in Esther's day, it's tough today. You may choose between Tuesday night (7 - 9 p.m.) or Wednesday morning (10 a.m. - noon.) Please contact Kathy Kuzas at Ext. 212 or kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com to register. The cost of the workbook is \$15 and is due at the time of registration. The study will begin on October 3/4 and the deadline for registration is Friday, September 15.



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First United Methodist Church

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Jon Priebe - Lead Minister x211; Howard Pippin - Associate Minister x217; Forrest Waller and Marvin Brown - Senior Ministers Emeriti; Dean Wagner - Director of Music Ministries/Organist x221; Jennifer Brooks - Director of Weekday Preschool x220; 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



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to **Orville (O.D.)**

Carter.

Our Sympathies to Steve and Sue Donahue and family on the death of their grandson, **Caladin Donahue-Rice**, on 6/23; to **Ethan and A.J. Kraft, Jim and Sue Yates, and Mike (Liz) Yates** and family on the death of mother, daughter, and sister, member **Julie Kraft**, on 6/27; to **Don O'Hara** and family on the death of his wife, member **Shirley O'Hara**, on 7/9; to

Baptisms: **Gianna Joyce Bickel**, daughter of **Adam Bickel and Valerie Villa**.

Expressions of Thanks: From Owen Wallace...
Thank you so much for the Reid and Roberta Montgomery Scholarship. It will be a huge help and I really appreciate it.

From Gabby Schmidt... Thank you so much for awarding me this scholarship (The Reid and Roberta Montgomery Scholarship.) I truly appreciate it and am so grateful for the amazing memories the church gave me. I will use this towards college.

From Pastor Mike Ward... Friends, thank you one and all for your prayers, your positive thoughts, your handshakes and hugs, and for your generous Love Offering. All of these helped make being reappointed easier to handle. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. We may not see each other each week as we have for the past five years, but we are still brothers and sisters in Christ. God bless you all as you move forward on the path that Christ sets before you.

The deadline for the next issue of the FCN is **Friday, August 11**. Please submit your articles to Kathy at kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com.