



First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



The next General Conference of The United Methodist Church will convene at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 23 – May 3, 2024, with delegates from Africa, Europe, Asia and the United States participating.

The General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. The assembly meets to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy, and economic issues.

The last General Conference was set to happen in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 2020 until the pandemic made it necessary to postpone the quadrennial legislative event until 2024.

Please keep the East Ohio Delegation in your prayers over the next several days.

Clergy: Gary Henderson, Andy Call, Dan Bryant, Matthew Laferty, Armando Arellano, Benita Rollins

Lay: Martha Banks, Holly Grant, Connor Prusha, Sarah Dixon, Thomas Lewis, Susan Achberger

Reserve Delegates

Clergy: Cara Stultz Costello, Abby Auman, Nestor Nazario, Jon Priebe, Carrie Antczak, Heidi Welch

Lay: Allen Laferty, Kimberly Green, William Watts

If you would like up to date information on the Conference visit - <https://welcometogc.org/>

MAY WORSHIP

Sunday, May 5 - Confirmation Sunday

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Howard Pippin preaching

Sunday, May 19 - Senior Sunday

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Sunday, May 12

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Sunday, May 26

9:30 - Pastor Jon Priebe preaching
(Summer worship time starts this Sunday)

Master Singers Chorale



On Sunday, April 28, at 3:00 p.m. the Master Singers Chorale will perform their concert, *Singing Saved My Life*. Under the direction of Jon Peterson, they will present the *Mass in F Major* by Marcel Tyberg and the *Holocaust Cantata from the Camps* by Donald McCullough. Come join us for this moving evening of music.

Volunteers For Groups

In February, I shared that we had begun some discussions with our neighbors on Church Square (St. John's Episcopal and First Christian) about collaborating more closely and potentially redeveloping the block to more faithfully and effectively meet the needs of our community. We are ready to begin some of these conversations in earnest this spring and summer. We will have three teams of members of each congregation; a Prayer Team, an Admin/Legal Team, and a Real Estate Re-Development Team. If you are interested in participating in the groups forming this spring, please let me know at fallsfirstjon@gmail.com.

New Handbell Choir

Dean Wagner is starting a new handbell choir for beginners through intermediate players.



Rehearsals will be on Thursday evenings from 6 to 6:45 p.m. with the start date still to be determined. If you are interested in participating, please

contact Dean at hdeanwagnerfumc@gmail.com or call Ext. 221.

Grief Support Group

Have you recently, or not so recently, experienced the loss of a loved one are looking for support? We are forming a grieve recovery group this summer. Please express your interest to Pastor Pippin or by calling the church office.



Habitat For Humanity Volunteer Opportunity

First Church partners with Habitat to build a home yearly. We will begin our next home in mid to late May. We will be volunteering one Saturday each month from May through September or October. No experience is necessary. Volunteers must be 18 years or older. We will participate in things such as siding, painting, insulating, etc. We are able to have 7 volunteers each time. The home will be in a new allotment off of Dan Street called Silver Maple Ridge. If you would like to participate, please let Kim Kerr know so that she can keep you updated with dates we will be participating. Kim's contact information is Kdk3rr@gmail.com or 330 606 7736 (you may call or text.) The following link is a publication recently released from Habitat for Humanity about how our church has been involved with Habitat for Humanity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAvt1EhWXc8&t=4s>

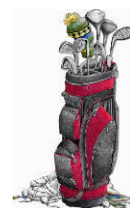


MEN'S TIME OUT

All the men of the church and community are invited to gather on the first Saturday of every month for some food, a time for discussion, and lots of fellowship! It runs from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Wesley Hall and the next one will take place on **Saturday, May 4.**

Golf Outing

You're invited to join in on the 18th Annual Bud Mills Memorial Golf Outing! The proceeds are used to benefit the Epworth Tour of 2025. The outing is at Brookledge again on Saturday, June 22, at 1:30 p.m. You may play in the event for \$90. We are seeking hole and cart sponsors as well at the \$150 and \$25 levels. As always, we thank you for your support in this, our biggest fundraiser of the year.



Church Wide Potluck

Please plan to bring your favorite dishes to share on Sunday, May 19, for a church potluck. We look forward to this special gathering. Save the date!



Vacation Bible School



Camp Firelight will run from June 17 – 21. VBS is for children age 3 (by 9/30/24) through 4th grade. VBS SERVE is for 5th & 6th graders and Extreme is an afternoon extension for those entering 1st—6th grades. The cost is \$10 for the morning programs and \$60 per child for Extreme. Scholarships are available. You may sign up by using the QR code or go to <http://fumccf.mycokesburyvbs.com>. If you have questions, please contact Donna Curfman at Ext. 213 or at dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com.



We are still looking for volunteers to help with VBS, SERVE, and Extreme. We specifically need someone to lead elementary Recreation and Storytelling. Please contact Donna Curfman at Ext. 213 or dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com if you are available and interested.

Work Camp... Each year a group of adults and youth from First Church go to Henderson Settlement in Kentucky. There they take on projects for the folks who live there: painting, roofing, repairing. Helping these folks is a wonderfully rewarding experience. This year Work Camp will take place June 2—8. If you are interested in going, or just want more information, please contact Jack Steele at 330-697-8344.

Panda Express Fundraiser

On Monday, May 6, plan to order your lunch or dinner (or both!) between 10 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. from the Panda Express located at 2855 State Rd. in the Falls. They will donate 20% of event sales to Work Camp. You may go there with a paper flyer or show a picture of it on your smartphone or you may order online at PandaExpress.com



VBS Teacher Training

Those who have committed to helping with VBS, should please plan to attend one of the required Teacher Training Sessions. These are scheduled for Wednesday, May 29. Choose between two sessions: the first is at 12:30 p.m. followed by a meeting of all those working with the preschool part of VBS; the second a session at 6:30 that night. If you cannot attend on the 29th, you may attend a make up session after the service on Sunday, June 2. It is really important for you to be present at one of the meetings. Please RSVP to Donna Curfman as to which session you will attend.

Chess Camp will be held the week immediately following VBS from June 24 – 28. Sessions will be from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The program will be for anyone going into 1st - 8th grades, from beginners to more advanced players. Registration materials are at the Welcome Center. The cost will be \$25.



A Lasting Legacy of Faith

Did you know you can make an easy, tax-wise gift to support the future of our church? We need your help to ensure that our ministry and missions continue to thrive for future generations. Please consider giving to the First Church Endowment Fund as part of your estate planning. Those funds benefit Music and Worship, Children and Youth, Scholarships, Trustee Managed funds for building improvements, and General Operations.



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First United Methodist Church

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Jon Priebe - Lead Minister x211; Howard Pippin - Associate Minister x217; Marvin Brown - Senior Minister Emeritus; 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 x213; Kathy Kuzas x212; Christy Meyers x210; Nancy Yeager x216; Sarah Neri; Kim Kerr; Ann Kaiser; John Fox; Joe Demeter



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to **Gretchen Allen**

Our Sympathies to Kathy Gerhardt and family on the death of her sister, **Sue Weber Pobanz**, on 3/26; the family of member **Jack Holforty** on

his death on 3/27; **Paul Waller and Jackie Rorabaugh** and family on the death of their father, former First Church pastor, **Dr. Forrest Waller**, on 3/31; **Jen (Jim) LaFleur** and family on the death of her mother, **Diane Weaver**, on 4/2; **Doug (Melinda) Koch** and family on the death of his father, **Bob Koch**, on 4/9; the family of member **Phyllis Wilson**, on her death on 4/17.

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.



Newsletter
DEADLINE

The deadline for the June issue of the FCN is **Friday, May 24.**

Please submit your articles to Kathy Kuzas at kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com.