

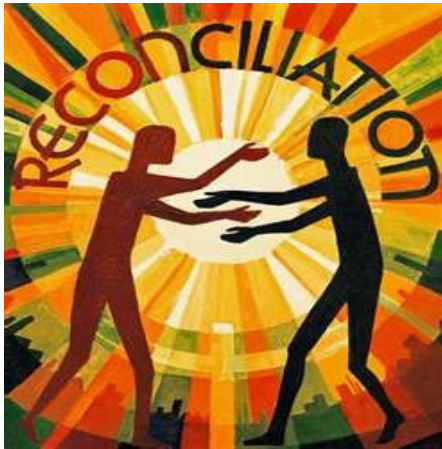
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.3397 email: cfumc@citynet.net

Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Pastor

"A Holy, Healthy, and Loving Community Striving to Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"



August 20 2023
Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME -----Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

*CALL TO WORSHIP ----- Alex Stout, Liturgist

Leader: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God's love.

People: God's love flows through our lives!

Leader: This is what it means to be the body of Christ!

People: This is what it means to be faithful witnesses to God.

Leader: Let us rejoice on this day!

People: Lord, we thank you for the blessings you pour on us.

*OPENING PRAYER

As summer draws to a close, we begin to focus our attention to the activities of autumn. For some it will mean preparing children for school; for others youth will be preparing to enter college or the work force or perhaps military service. Be with these precious ones as they embark on life's journeys. Be with each one of us as we encounter life's challenges. Open our hearts to receive your healing mercy and your transforming love. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

*HYMN #155-----"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

*PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS WITH THE PASTOR-----Pastor Atkinson

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC ----- "Think On These Things" / Ron Sprunger
FUMC Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON-----Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

"So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

“You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly.” Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SERMON ----- “Letting It Go” ----- Pastor Atkinson

(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

*HYMN #363, v. 1,4, & 5 ----- “And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG RESPONSE #2190, v. 2 ----- “Bring Forth the Kingdom”

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Scott

If you or someone you know is in the hospital, nursing home, has a need from the church, or would like a visit, please contact Pastor Atkinson.

**Please feel free to call or send a text to
Pastor Michael Atkinson at 304-771-3309**

**Contact Tammy Matheny at 304-476-2015
If you would like information about our Prayer Chain.**

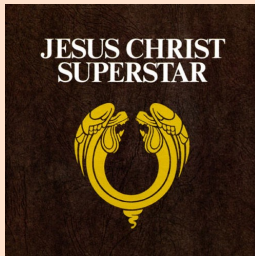


THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Tuesday, August 22 -- Men's Group at 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m., at FOP/Nutter Fort

Tuesday, August 22 -- NO Monastic Meal this week

Thursday, August 24 -- Prayer Shawl Group at 5:00 p.m., in the Parlor



“JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR”

WVU Creative Arts Center in Morgantown

Tuesday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. \$59.00 (plus tax)

Interested?

Leave a message at 304-623-3397 by TOMORROW

This Saturday, August 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Sacred Music for Choir, Chamber Orchestra
Harp and Organ

Free admission / donations welcome



United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) -- Hawaii



As first responders continue to provide initial aid in the area,
please join UMCOR in prayer for those affected.

Gifts can be made in the following ways:

- 1) Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670>
- 2) A check payable to FUMC, with memo: "Advance #901670-Hawaii"



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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