

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor

Brett Miller, Director of Music

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



February 13, 2022
"Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany"

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

PRELUDE- -"Prelude on *Deep River*" / Adolphus Hailstork - - Brett Miller, organ

PROCESSION OF LIGHT----- Audra Skidmore, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP-----Shelley Spellman, Liturgist

Leader: From the comfort of our Western homes and prosperous lives,

People: **We come hungry for a better world for all.**

Leader: In our society divided by power struggles and prejudice,

People: **We affirm the power of Your healing love.**

Leader: With the honesty of our doubts and insecurities,

People: **We rejoice in Your love for each one of us;**

seeking Your blessing to make us whole.

(by Gill Le Fevre)

*OPENING PRAYER

God of blessings and woes, bless us this day with lives filled with love, caring, generosity, and deep, abiding hope. We pray that your kingdom will dwell among all people, and that we may be instruments of your love and your grace. Open our hearts with the joy of healing a world filled with brokenness and pain. In the name of the one who taught us the ways of light and love, be in our worship and in our very lives. Amen.

*HYMN #733 -----“Marching to Zion”

PASTORAL 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.

MUSICAL OFFERTORY- - - “For Everyone Born”- - First Church Family Choir
music by Brian Mann; text by Shirley Erena Murray

*For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead,
(Refrain) And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and joy!
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

*For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's fair. (Refrain)*

*For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong. (Refrain)*

*For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free (Refrain)*

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS WITH THE PASTOR

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON-----Luke 6:17-26

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:
'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.
Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you,
revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.
Rejoice on that day & leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven;
for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.
But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.
Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.
Woe to you when all speak well of you,
for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.'

SERMON -----“The Pursuit of Happiness” -----Pastor Atkinson
(You are encouraged to use this space for notes.)

PRAYER OF INVITATION

***HYMN #519, 1,2,3 & 5----- “Lift Every Voice and Sing”**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE - “Postlude on *We Shall Overcome*” / A. Hailstork - - - Mr. Miller

If you know of someone who is in the hospital, nursing home, or has a need from the church, please let Pastor Atkinson know

Please feel free to call or send a text to the numbers listed below:

**Rev. Michael Atkinson
304-771-3309 (cell phone)**



THE WINTER SHELTER AT FIRST CHURCH

For two months, as many as 31 homeless folks per night have received a warm place to sleep, and some food to eat, and a safe place to store some of their very minimal belongings, thanks to the work of many, many community groups and individuals. The Shelter will continue to operate for just a few more weeks. Please keep all of those involved in your prayers. And Thanks!



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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KITCHEN TOWELS NEEDED

We need new or used-but-clean dish towels, wash clothes, and cleaning rags.

If you have questions, contact Anita Burns at 304-203-1279.

BLESSING BOXES

Fulfilling Christ's command to "feed my sheep", Blessing Boxes are scattered throughout Clarksburg.

One is right outside our 2nd Street entrance.

Help fill the Box with drinks and non-perishable/"ready to eat" foods.

Please remember when choosing items to folks likely do not have access to stoves, ovens, refrigeration, pots, pans, or even a can opener. Thanks!