



First United Methodist Church of Clarksburg, West Virginia

# The Grapevine

Hello Friends!

Summer is definitely upon us! We will all be engaged in summer activities very soon: vacations, recreation, picnics, campfires, and so much more. Apart from our personal summer fun, the church has several activities and events planned for summer that you don't want to miss. Check out some of the highlights of our summer schedule below and throughout the newsletter so that you can be sure not to miss out.

## **Church Picnic and Worship:**

On June 30 (Our normal 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday celebration) we will gather at the Lake Floyd Picnic Shelter for worship at 10:45 followed by a covered dish lunch at noon. The church will provide the hamburgers, hotdogs, tea, water and lemonade. You should bring your favorite covered dish to share and your folding chair. After lunch there will be games for all ages, an opportunity to swim (lifeguard will be present), and a relaxed atmosphere to visit one another. We hope you will join us!

## **Vacation Bible School:**

VBS is scheduled for July 10-12th. This year, campers will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based adventure with God. The theme for this year's VBS is based upon Psalm 56:3, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you". Campers will learn how to put their trust in God in every situation as they move through group stations. You can register your child (family member) using the information included in this Grapevine or you can volunteer to help by calling Leah Wray at the church office. It looks to be an exciting time! Join us!

## **New Member Class:**

Are you interested in becoming a member of First Church or are you interested in learning more about who we are as United Methodists, what we believe, and how we live our lives as Christians in this world? If you said yes to either of these scenarios, I have good news for you... On Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> (in the Parlor after worship), I will lead an organizational meeting for those interested in learning more about who we are and what we believe as United Methodists. At this meeting we will determine when we will gather as a class and I will explain a little more about the topics that will be discussed during our informal gatherings. If you are interested, please let me know by calling the church office or by indicating your interest on the registration pads during worship.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Mike*



# F.U.M.C NEWS

& Announcements

## Food Backpack Ministry

In December 2023 First Church joined hands with The Backpack Food Program at Nutter Fort Elementary. As a church, We committed to sending 100 food bags (per month) home with students who are affected by food scarcity over the weekends. As the need grew from 100 to 140 to 170 bags over the course of the school year, First Church met the need. With generous prayers, donations, and helping hands each month this ministry has been a blessing to our community, local students, and our church congregation. Angie Carvelli who leads this program at the school has called our church a pillar for this program.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the congregation at First Church for hearing the call, delivering donations throughout the month, and coming together after worship to assemble the bags, never taking more than 20 minutes to do so. There are some that were hands on help, some who helped monetarily,

and those who prayed for this ministry...  
each of you are greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the Stonewood Lions Club and the Golden Eagles 4-H Club for partnering with us to be a blessing to our local students.

A special thank you to Pastor Michael, Deacon Anna Troy, Anita Burns and Tammy Matheny for helping to organize this ministry.

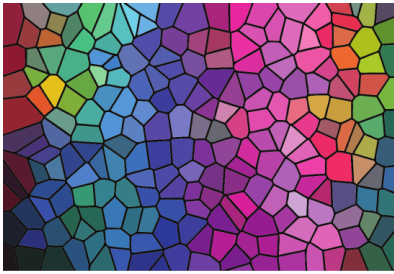
Thank you to Mathew Wray, Randy Matheny, and Chad Matheny for the counting, delivery help, and heavy lifting.

Thank you to Judy Burns, Maurice Rhodes, Jacki Welsh, The Walls Family, Beth Skidmore, The Thrush Family, The Burnside family, Tami Lawrence and the F.U.M.C. Youth , for the many ways you have placed your loving hands on this program.

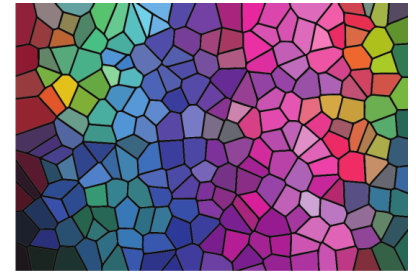


We will resume collecting and assembling food bags in August when the school year begins. To get involved or find out more about the program contact Leah Wray at the church office.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" -Isaiah 6:8



*What is happening at our*  
**..... CHURCH .....**  
this month



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## MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP

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### **Monastic Meal**

A simple weekly meal, eaten in silence as inspirational literature is read aloud.  
Join us at 12:15 p.m. each Tuesday in the parlor. Meal donation is \$4.00.  
To learn more, contact Don Gardner.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Every Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m., a group gathers in the groom's room to knit or crochet shawls for those who may need the loving embrace of the church.  
Contact Nancy Ferber or Cheryl Moorhead for information.

### **Feed My Sheep**

3rd Mondays of each month  
(June 17th) at 12:00 (noon)  
This ministry welcomes to the table those who might be overlooked or rejected.  
Food donations are appreciated!  
Contact Anita Burns for more details.

### **First United Methodist Church Women's Luncheon**

3rd Thursday of each month  
12:00 (noon) in the parlor.  
Please contact Shirley Murphy for more information 513-600-8469

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## MEETINGS

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**SPRC** will meet **June 4** at 6 p.m.

**Trustees** will meet **June 11** at 6 p.m.

**Finance** will meet **June 18** at 5 p.m.

**Outreach** will meet **June 18** at 5 p.m.

**Council** will meet **June 18** at 6 p.m.

If you know of an upcoming meeting or event that you would like to have featured in next month's newsletters please email Leah at  
CFUMC@citynet.net or call the church office.

### **First Church Youth**

June 2: Retro Skating activity in Fairmont

June 9: Meeting at Parsonage

June 16: Father's Day (No Meeting)

June 23: Sunday/Family Funday at the church – The Youth have been asked to help with the children's activities. Then, we will break away for some games in the gym.

June 30: Worship & Church Picnic at Lake Floyd – We will gather after lunch for some group activities, swimming, and games.

connect with us



**WWW.CFUMC.ORG**



**cfumc@citynet.net**



Like us on Facebook:  
First United Methodist  
Church – Clarksburg



scan the QR Code with  
your mobile phone for easy  
access to our Facebook  
and YouTube accounts



YouTube: First United  
Methodist Church –  
Clarksburg



# Class of 2024 Graduation Recognition



## Launa Walls

is graduating from Robert C. Byrd High School. After high school, she plans to finish her cosmetology degree at United Technical Center.

## Jaden Welsh

Graduated in December 2023, but is walking in her ceremony April 2024. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Salem University with a BS in Accounting. Jaden has started a Masters program and is working at Cava and Banko.

## Adelle Thrush

is graduating from University of Virginia, in Environmental Science.

## Katie Shaver

is graduating from Bridgeport High School. After High School she will attend WVU, in the Honors Program and plans to study Journalism, French and International Studies.

## Benjamin Danzis

is graduating from University of Colorado Boulder, in Accounting and Data Analytics. Benjamin is Judy Burns grandson.

## Reece Marie Danzis

is graduating from The College of New Jersey, in English, is working in Technical Writing. Reece is Judy Burns granddaughter.

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## PLANTING SEEDS AT FIRST CHURCH

“What is that for?” “Well, that’s for Pentecost.”  
“What’s Pentecost?”

This was the beginning of a conversation that I had with several folks in May about the red swoop, providing a wonderful opportunity to talk about our worship services and the flow of the church year.

Will these people return to First Church? I hope so. Some were here for the Madrigal concert, others for the RCB Baccalaureate. In both cases, I am so proud of us for opening our doors to the community! We may not immediately see the results of such hospitality, but I believe it is important.  
“First Church --blessed to be a blessing!”

Don Gardner, Lay Leader





Join Us  
**July 10th, 11th & 12th**  
 for 3 days of VBS  
**Camp Firelight**  
 at  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**117 N. 2nd St. Clarksburg, WV**  
 from  
**5:30-8:00 PM**  
 for  
**Ages: 3-12**



Find F.U.M.C.  
 on Facebook to  
 register



**Pre-Registration is now available on our Facebook page!**  
**If you need help registering call Leah Wray at the church office.**

**Interested in helping?**

**We need ...**

- 1-2 people to help with technology (tv, computer, sound system, photography)
- 2 grab-n-eat meals for campers to fuel up on before VBS  
 & someone to serve grab-n-eat food.
- Extra hands at VBS, set up & clean up.
- Camping gear, props, decorations
- Trees/Greenery (real, fake, cardboard, homemade)

**For Decoration donations contact Shelley Spellman. To volunteer contact Leah Wray**

## Community Connections



Open Heart Ministries  
<https://openheartwv.org/>



Clarksburg Mustard Seed  
[clarksburgmustardseed.org/](http://clarksburgmustardseed.org/)



The Greater Clarksburg Cooperative Parish  
[clarksburgcooperativeparish.org/](http://clarksburgcooperativeparish.org/)

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### Spring Heights Summer Camp 2024



Spring Heights is a ministry of the West Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. Camp is about having fun and growing.

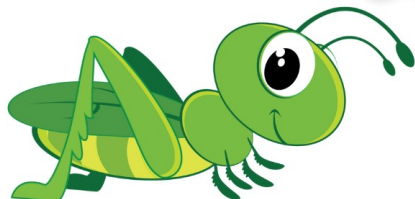
All programs focus on faith, friendship and fun! To learn more or register for camp visit [www.springheights.org](http://www.springheights.org)

Scholarships for camp fees are available.



## Buggy about VBS

### FAMILY FUN DAY



June 23, 5-7 p.m.

Food, Fellowship & Family Fun for all



Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024

Altar By Carolyn Yost

Photo by Teresa Gouer

# Church Office Hours

**Tuesday 9-1, Wednesday 9-1, Thursday 9-1**

**SCAN  
HERE!**



Paper forms available  
upon request

## **First United Methodist Church Directory Update**

Please help us update our church directory. For new attendees AND for those who have been with us for years, we ask that everyone fill out a contact form.

**HOW TO:** Using your mobile phone camera scan the QR code to the left of this text. A link to the form will appear in your mobile search browser. A separate form will need to be filled out for each adult member of your family. *One* family member will be responsible for adding your children's information if applicable.

**If you need help, please ask  
Leah or Pastor Michael**



## **Community Rewards**



Scan the QR Code or go to  
[www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards](http://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards)  
for step by step instructions. If you need assistance setting this up  
contact Leah Wray during office hours.



**Children's Church *every* Sunday**  
after children's moments during the 10:45 worship service

**Infant Care Available**



**Newsletter Deadline Please see Leah Wray**