

First United Methodist Church of Ellwood City June 2020 Newsletter

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You can now watch our Sunday Services anytime on our Facebook page!

Galatians 6:2, NRSV says, "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Jesus says it this way, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19

# A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

## "I Can't Breathe"

#### "then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. "Genesis 2:7 NRSV

When I got accepted into Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington DC, I was extremely excited. The excitement was overwhelming because I knew God was getting to change my life. While attending the informational session I along other students were given a short break. It was during my walk down Massachusetts Avenue while sharing with a friend the possibilities that was before me. I tell you I was overjoyed. Then all of a sudden I felt as if I could not breathe. I was overwhelmed with gladness and the Holy Spirit breathed on me during that conversation. I told my friend that I feel as if God is breathing a fresh wind right now. Tears began to fall from my eyes and I praise God right there. The scriptures remind us in Acts chapter 3 verse twenty "that times of refreshing may come from the prescience of the Lord"

Breathing is a basic human ability. The phrase "I Can't Breath" can mean or have a number of inferences. For instance, when you are in pain due to health concerns you may say "I can't breathe", when you received difficult news about a loved one, you may say "I can't breathe" or when laughing at something hysterical you may say: "I can't breathe" or perhaps, when your airway are being obstructed you may say "I can't breathe".

Breathing is natural it is a God given gift that allows us to feel alive. We are renewed each morning when we wake up with the ability to breathe in the fresh breathe of life. When you are spiritually depleted you may feel separated from God. This is a sign to your body that you need the Spirit of God to breathe on you.

Many of us are still wondering how to breathe in a world where our airways are constricted. We are constricted by the masks we now have to wear. We are constricted by the boundaries that are being set in place due to the pandemic COVID-19. And, we are constricted by the misuses of power of those in authority. Whatever the constriction is know that God who breathed into humanity breathes into those constricted areas of your life. May you be renewed by the Holy Spirit who breathes new life every morning.

If you would like to have a conversation about our Nations recent events or a partner in prayer please do not hesitate to call me at 724-758-6278.

*Prayer: Dear God, breathe on us when we feel constricted in our lives. By your Spirit renew us, revive us, restore us with a sense of hope and love for ourselves and others. Amen.* 

## UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS, NEWS & INFORMATION

We will continue to refrain from gathering in person for worship until further notice. In addition, no activities will be held on the church premises. Please feel free to contact Rev. Angelique Bradford for more information.



# Our church needs your support now more than ever If you are able - please mail your tithes and offerings to: First United Methodist Church Ellwood City 416 Crescent Avenue, Ellwood City, PA 16117

*or* You can donate online on our Facebook Page

\*We are looking for a newsletter editor. If you have some interest, please contact the church office.

# INTERCESSORY PRAYER



"And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask we know that we have obtained the requests made of him". 1 John 5:14-15 NRSV

Please pray for all spoken requests, all those afflicted among us with health concerns, our shut-ins, our nation, our ministry leaders, our pastor Rev. Angelique Bradford, Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference and the continued growth of our church family both spiritually and physically.

If you have any specific prayer requests that you would like to be included within the weekly bulletin, please contact the church secretary by calling 724-758-6278 or email secretary@firstumcec.org. Thank you!

**Opportunity to Serve In Ministry** ~As believers in Jesus Christ we seek to live out Christ commandment which is to "*Love one another just as I have love you...by this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another*" John 13: 34-35 NRSV

If you are interested in Caring & Visitation Ministry which provides hearing and responding to the care related needs of our Congregation, please contact Pastor Angelique for further details.

**Visitation** ~ If you would like a Pastoral Care visit or know someone who is homebound, in a nursing homes, or has experienced social or spiritual isolation. Please call our Administrative Office at 724-758-6278 to request a Pastoral Care visit from our Pastor, Rev. Angelique Bradford.

Prayer Chapel is available to everyone before/after worship



We have a new display of CareNotes located near the mailboxes. CareNotes are small booklets that offer strength, help and healing for those who are hurting, amoung other topics. Please stop by and pick one up.

## **REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS**

The daily readings expand the range of biblical reading in worship and personal devotion by providing daily citations for the full three-year cycle of the Revised Common Lectionary. These readings complement the Sunday and festival readings: Thursday through Saturday readings help prepare the reader for the Sunday ahead; Monday through Wednesday readings help the reader reflect on and digest what they heard in worship.

Monday, June 1, 2020: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Joel 2:18-29; Romans 8:18-24 Tuesday, June 2, 2020: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29; Romans 8:26-27 Wednesday, June 3, 2020: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Numbers 11:24-30; John 7:37-39 Thursday, June 4, 2020: Psalm 8; Job 38:1-11; 2 Timothy 1:8-12a Friday, June 5, 2020: Psalm 8; Job 38:12-21; 2 Timothy 1:12b-14 Saturday, June 6, 2020: Psalm 8; Job 38:22-38; John 14:15-17 Sunday, June 7, 2020: Trinity Sunday Monday, June 8, 2020: Psalm 29; Job 38:39-39:12; 1 Corinthians 12:1-3 Tuesday, June 9, 2020: Psalm 29; Job 39:13-25; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 Wednesday, June 10, 2020: Psalm 29; Job 39:26-40:5; John 14:25-26 Thursday, June 11, 2020: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Gen. 21:1-7; Hebrews 3:1-6 Friday, June 12, 2020: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Genesis 24:1-9; Acts 7:35-43 Saturday, June 13, 2020: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19: Genesis 24:10-52; Mark 7:1-13 Sunday, June 14, 2020: Proper 6 (11) Monday, June 15, 2020: Psalm 126; Genesis 23:1-19; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5 Tuesday, June 16, 2020: Psalm 126; Genesis 25:7-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5 Wednesday, June 17, 2020: Psalm 126; Nehemiah 9:1-8; Luke 6:12-19 Thursday, June 18, 2020: Psalm 86:1-10; Exodus 12:43-49; Hebrews 2:5-9 Friday, June 19, 2020: Psalm 86:1-10; Genesis 35:1-4; Acts 5:17-26 Saturday, June 20, 2020: Psalm 86:1-10; Ezekiel 29:3-7; Luke 11:53-12:3 Sunday, June 21, 2020: Proper 7 (12) Monday, June 22, 2020: Psalm 86:11-17; Genesis 16:1-15; Revelation 2:1-7 Tuesday, June 23, 2020: Psalm 86:11-17; Genesis 25:12-18; Revelation 2:8-11 Wednesday, June 24, 2020: Psalm 86:11-17; Jeremiah 42:18-22; Matthew 10:5-23 Thursday, June 25, 2020: Psalm 13; Micah 7:18-20; Galatians 5:2-6 Friday, June 26, 2020: Psalm 13; 2 Chronicles 20:5-12; Galatians 5:7-12 Saturday, June 27, 2020: Psalm 13; Genesis 26:23-25; Luke 17:1-4 Sunday, June 28, 2020: Proper 8 (13) Monday, June 29, 2020: Psalm 47; Genesis 22:15-18; 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 Tuesday, June 30, 2020: Psalm 47; 1 Kings 18:36-39; 1 John 4:1-6



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# FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP



Special Sundays are designated Sundays throughout the year that provide opportunities for giving. These special offerings are earmarked to support designated ministries. On these Sundays, we empower our congregations to give toward causes and organizations that promote sustainable life change. These offerings help provide refuge in times of disaster, promote peace and justice, provide scholarships, reach out to the community, teach skills to encourage self-sufficiency and share the love of Jesus Christ with God's people everywhere. These Special Sundays are part of our denominationwide effort we call connectional giving. It is one of the most powerful vehicles for generosity we have. Together, our churches are making an impact all over the world.

#### PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY June 7, 2020

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:18-19)



TOGETHER, WE SPREAD THE GOSPEL OF PEACE AND ENCOURAGE COOPERATION LOCALLY, IN THE UNITED STATES AND GLOBALLY.

To Give Online: https://www.umc.org/en/how-we-serve/umcgiving *To give by mail:* Send checks to: GCFA P.O. Box 340029 Nashville, TN 37203

#### UPCOMING SPECIAL SUNDAYS

World Communion Sunday ~ October 4, 2020 Student Sunday ~ November 29, 2020

Support your favourite charitable organization

You shop. Amazon gives

amazonsmile

smile.amazon.com

0.5% of your eligible purchase goes to the charity of your choice

#### Don't Forget to Use Amazon Smile for Your Online Shopping

Did you know that if you shop on Amazon.com, a portion of your purchases can be donated back to the church? Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to First United Methodist Church of Ellwood City. Just visit our unique charity link at <u>https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1223330</u>, sign into your amazon.com account and make your purchases as usual. Thank you for participating!

# YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

## **CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020!**

On June 7th we honored these three high school graduates:

*Levi Smith* - Lincoln High School, Valedictorian *Ayla Burgess* - Laurel High School *Zoe Dwyer* - Riverside High School

Our Congratulations and Prayers go out to all three. We will be delivering a special gift to them put together by members of the Christian Education Committee.



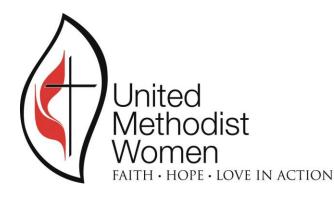
## **2020 Youth and Young Adult Sundays**

August 31, 2020 November 29, 2020

## **Summer Camp Information**

Click on the Websites below to get up-to-date 2020 summer camp information
<a href="https://jumonville.org/">https://jumonville.org/</a>
<a href="https://www.wesleywoods.com/">https://www.wesleywoods.com/</a>
<a href="https://www.campallegheny.org/">https://www.campallegheny.org/</a>

**YOUTH INFORMATION:** on the web at https://www.wpaumc.org/youthevents Check out all of the Youth news at https://www.wpaumc.org/Youth



# Due ot the COVID-19 Pandemic, UMW will not be meeting until further notice.

We are still collecting *new* pillows for the Lawrence County Crisis Shelter.

Please place your pillows in the Alturistic Room, when in-person services resume.

## **United Methodist Women Logo**

The cross and flame are ancient symbols of the church and appear on The United Methodist Church emblem. The cross reminds us to follow in the steps of Jesus in our lives. The flame originates from Pentecost and resonates- even today - in Paul's words to Timothy:

"*I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God which is within you.*" - 2 Timothy 1:6 As United Methodist Women, we give our gift of God with others through mission.

Our emblems reminds us of our **PURPOSE** of growing in our understanding of and willingness to participate in the global ministries of the church. The overall fluid and free flowing shape of the emblem suggests change and mobility. Our foremothers were advocates for change; change and growth continue to be at the heart of United Methodist Women's sisterhood and mission.



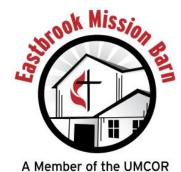
https://www.wpaumc.org/UMWomen

https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/

#### Mission & Evangelism Committee News

Holy Redeemer Social Services and Food Bank is in need of monetary donations as well as non-perishable food donations at this time.

We ask that you drop off items directly at the Ellwood City Food Bank using the Third Street entrance of the former Holy Redeemer School, 311 Lawrence Ave., Ellwood City, PA 16117 If you are making a monetary donation, you may mail your donation to them. If you pull up to the door on Third Street, some one can come out and collect your donation(s). Their hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm. If you need assistance, call 724-758-3465.



**Relief Supply Network** 

226 Church Lane

New Castle, PA 16105

missionbarn@gmail.com

p: 724-856-8241

#### **Sponsor a Child Today!**

When you sponsor a child, you'll be personally connected with a boy or girl who will know your name and treasure the thought that you care. Your support of \$38 per month provides life-changing opportunities such as:

- an opportunity to attend or stay in school
  - medical care, which often saves lives
    - nourishing food
- mentoring and a safe environment through a local evangelical church
  - and most important, opportunities to hear the gospel.

Compassion child sponsorship works! Millions of children have "graduated" from our program and are now responsible, fulfilled Christian adults. Allow God to work through you in the life of a child in poverty. Sponsor a child today!

www.compassion.com

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## **VIRTUAL VBS** June 15-19, 2020

We are not going to meet as a group at the church for our kick-off week, <u>June 15-19</u>, but we are excited to announce that we will be meeting virtually that week on our church's Facebook page: *First United Methodist Church Ellwood City* 

Starting at 9:00 am each morning, we will post a VBS video with music and fun activities. The videos will be made by our wonderful VBS volunteers. We also plan to have a couple of Zoom meetings that week.



## **Mini Wednesays**

The following weeks on our Mini Wednesdays, we will post a video at 10:00 am.

As soon as it looks like it's possible for us to gather together in a large group at the church, we will have a VBS event in the building.

As the summer continues, please check our Facebook page for information.

Though the way we hold gatherings might be a little different, we can still do our best to stay in touch and celebrate together.

Also, if YOU would like to contribute to our virtual videos, no matter how old you are, please let us know!

# WPAC BUTLER DISTRICT & ANNUAL CONFERENCE NEWS

### **2020** Annual Conference-Rescheduled

To help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the three-day gathering at Grove City College has been cancelled. Instead the following events will help care for the required business and celebrations. A one-day Annual Conference session will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center. Arrangements for blocks of hotel rooms at special rates are being investigated for voting members who want to stay overnight at their own expense.

The Clergy Session will be held on June 27, 2020 at Ingomar United Methodist Church. Ordination services will be held regionally. The times and dates have not yet been determined.

#### **Bishop's Initiative – WPA Coronavirus Relief Fund**

The WPA Coronavirus Relief Fund was established to assist those in our Conference who are financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Bishop announced the special appeal during her online Easter worship service. The funds raised will be used to help clergy families in need, lay staff in need, and ministry needs. This site is one avenue to financially support this fund. Individuals and external organizations can make an online contribution using their bank account or credit card by clicking the button below.

https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-

bin/Vanco\_ver3.vps?appver3=Fi1giPL8kwX\_Oe1AO50jRnY9FoTbchbYVEAMMW\_IZ5nHO3iVYxvvxhHjRfLOeq662EvVVAEjqawDom KT1pbouV6Z7xh9xiEXLhSG5DrQId8=



#### Local Church Historian's School

General Commission on Archives and History will be offering a FREE ONLINE Local Church Historian School in 2020 for church historians—or anyone interested in the story of their church.

The Local Church Historian School curriculum will cover a wide range of skills necessary to become a "complete" church historian. Participating congregations will benefit from a new consciousness of their heritage and legacy and be motivated to study their unique stories and proclaim it to those around them. The school will begin on September, 14, 2020. Plan now to use this opportunity to ensure that the heritage of each of our churches will be celebrated and that each church can receive the full benefit of its own amazing story.

http://www.gcah.org/ for more information

Keep Up With Upcoming Events - WPAUMC Conference The website for upcoming events is: <u>http://www.wpaumc.org/events</u>.

Western PA Conference The United Methodist Church Butler District 1204 Freedom Road P.O. Box 5002 Cranberry Township, PA 16066-0002 Phone: 724-252-3198



AA Meetings are held every Thursday at 1:00 pm at HUMC

## **OPEN DOOR FELLOWSHIP** (cancelled until further notice)

Join Homewood United Methodist Church each week on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm for "Open Door". This is a time of sharing the Love of God with our neighbors and offering Radical Hospitality.

## **Mission Statement of Homewood United Methodist Church**

"To spread the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ, by means of fellowship and discipleship, from our loving hearts through our giving hands"



127 1st Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-1212

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

#### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Ron Burgess
- 2 Deborah Squicquero
- 2 Lara Stillings
- 3 Dot Buquo
- 3 Jacob Samlut
- 5 Arden Fraser
- 6 Kippy Canterbury
- 6 Harry Doughty
- 6 Kristine Schweinsberg
- 7 Tom Ketterer
- 9 Ryan Seaburn
- 9 Brett Watson
- 10 Kathy Hinckley
- 12 Bill Keely
- 12 Josh Baker
- 12 Eileen Kirkham
- 12 Brenda Oliver
- 12 Brenda Schilling
- 14 Nico Bellissimo
- 14 Julie Nocera
- 14 Cindy Seaburn
- 14 Johnathan Seaburn
- 16 Dawn Struble
- 18 Carter Huzinec
- 18 Drayke Lane
- 18 Jennifer Mohr
- 19 Matthew Blinn
- 19 Ted Cole
- 20 Lin Quin Di
- 20 Mark Weaver
- 22 Russell Latimer
- 23 Ashley Hall
- 23 Olivia Natcher
- 26 Tiffany Young
- 26 Dave Wilson
- 27 Zachary Mathias
- 29 Lori Ealy
- 30 Faith Postupac



#### <u>JUNE</u> ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Richard and Debbie Rouse
- 1 Chris and Cindy Seaburn
- 3 Glen and Lara Rectenwald
- 9 Bill and Bernadette Schilling
- 9 Jeff and Debbie Wiley
- 9 Robert and Robin Weaver
- 12 Bruce and Sandy Durbin
- 12 Jim and Lori Hall
- 16 Chuck and Lori Watterson
- 19 Charles and Eileen Kirkham
- 21 Roger and Jennifer Brenneman
- 21 Derick and Casey Squicquero
- 25 Richard and April Postupac
- 27 Christopher and Michelle Patora
- 29 Fred and Linda Heaberlin
  - Rich and Brenda Oliver

\*Our records need updating....Please contact the church office via telephone or email with any birthday/anniversary updates.



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# FUMCEC CALENDAR

# **JUNE 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 ELECTION DAY	3	4	5	6
<b>7</b> ONLINE Worship 11:00 am FUMC Facebook page	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>14</b> ONLINE Worship 11:00 am FUMC Facebook page	15 VIRTUAL VBS	16 VIRTUAL VBS	17 VIRTUAL VBS	18 VIRTUAL VBS	19 VIRTUAL VBS	20
<b>21</b> ONLINE Worship 11:00 am FUMC Facebook page	22	23	24	25	26	27
<b>28</b> ONLINE Worship 11:00 am FUMC Facebook page	29	30				



First United Methodist Church 416 Crescent Avenue Ellwood City, PA 16117



No matter who you are or where you come from You are Welcome Here!

Worship time 11:00 a.m. year-round. Prayer Chapel is available to everyone before worship. Church Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8:30 am-12:00 pm and Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm CLOSED Friday

How to Reach Us...

Rev. Angelique Bradford, Senior Pastor Jennifer Agnew, Church Administrator Office Phone: 724-758-6278 Church Website: http://firstumcec.org/

#### The Mission of the United Methodist Church

"The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors. The people of the United Methodist Church

The First United Methodist Church is a community of believers under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. It is a redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is preached sacraments are administered, and the Gospel is taught and proclaimed.