

First United Methodist Church of Ellwood City May 2019 Newsletter

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Happy Mother's Day!!



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



1

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Intercessory Prayer

Prayer Chapel is available to everyone before/after worship

Prayer concerns: Please be sure to submit your prayer concerns to the office so that we can pray collectively for them.

Please pray for all those afflicted among us with health concerns, our shut-ins, our nation, our ministry leaders, the Pastor, and the continued growth of our church family both spiritually and physical.

"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"

What is Intercessory Prayer?

There are many ways to love our neighbor, but intercessory prayer—praying on behalf of other people—is surely one of the most powerful. In this type of prayer, we bring the person or the circumstance that troubles us before God until we can sense and be changed by God's attitude toward that person or circumstance.

The Bible is full of examples of intercessory prayers. The prophets pray for the people of Israel. Jesus faithfully prays for his disciples. He even intercedes for those involved in his crucifixion, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). The book of Hebrews indicates that Jesus will always intercede for us (Hebrews 7:25).

Praying for others is our responsibility and our privilege.

REGIONAL PRAYER GATHERINGS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In February, we began regional prayer gatherings that focused on the renewal and revival of our Annual Conference. These regional prayer gatherings are based in the 5 areas of our Annual Conference where 96% of our people can reach in an hour or less.

Our goal is to help create a conference-wide network of prayer cell groups. Would you please plan on coming out to one of our prayer gatherings as we "Hear from God through Prayer"?

May 14 – Crossroads main, 6:30pm May 15 – First UMC St. Marys, 6:30pm May 21 – Grace UMC Punxsutawney, 6:30p

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

GIVING CREED

Leader: It is tithing and giving time!

All: Praise the Lord!

Leader: To whom does the tithe belongs?

All: The title belongs to the Lord and all the tithe of the land and the fruit of the trees; it is the Lord's it is holy unto the Lord (Lev. 27:30)

Leader: Who should title?

All: Let everyone of you lay by him in store what God has prospered him. (1Cor.16:2)

Leader: What is God's promise to the tither?

All: If I will not open to you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive (Malachi 3:10)

Leader: What is God's promise to the giver?

All: He that supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruit of your righteousness while you are enriched in everything. (2 Cor.9: 10-12)

All: God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7)

Leader: As we worship God in our giving, we are trusting God so that we may be generous on every occasion in gifts and offering to the Lord's Kingdom. We believe the Lord for increased blessings of....

All:

Rebates Jobs & Better Jobs Find Money
Debts Paid Off Increased Blessings Scholarships & Fellowships
Checks in the Mail Gifts & Surprises Houses & Automobiles
Estates & Inheritances Miracles & Souls
Raises & Bonuses Benefits & Favor Sales & Commissions

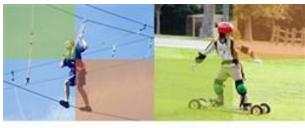
Interest & Income, and Favor in the Sight of All Who Behold Me.



UPCOMING SPECIAL SUNDAYS

Golden Cross Weekend – May 12, 2019
Heritage Sunday – May 19, 2019
Peace with Justice Sunday – June 16, 2019
Rural Life – August 11, 2019
Christian Education – September 8, 2019
World Communion Sunday – October 6, 2019
Volunteers in Mission Awareness – October 20, 2019
Laity Sunday – October 20, 2019
Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday – November 10, 2019
UM Student Sunday – November 24, 2019

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS





WPAUMC.ORG/CAMPING



WESLEY WOODS . JUMONVILLE - CAMP ALLEGHENY

One way we nurture this personal growth is through the programs and facilities of our four camps and retreat center. Olmsted Manor, Wesley Woods, Camp Allegheny, and Jumonville are all dedicated to serving the diverse population of Western PA by offering unique experiences for connecting with God, having fun, and developing spiritual maturity in a natural setting.

Join us! Visit www.wpaumc.org/camping for more information and links to all four camps.

Top Ten Benefits of Summer Camp

- **1. Fun Activities** Camps offer sports, games, skits, drama, music, swimming, adventure, crafts, hikes, campfires, s'mores, and late-night giggles!
- 2. Friendship Children and adults make new friends and renew familiar ones, often becoming friends for life.
- **3. Adventure** New experiences challenge students to learn (age-appropriate) outdoor skills and thrills, in nature, through sports, arts, and on the adventure courses. More than that, they learn trust, self-confidence, and problem-solving in an affirming atmosphere.
- **4.** Cooperation Children learn to play, work, and live with others who are different from them.
- **5. Responsibility** With encouragement, they learn to do things for themselves and for others, and to see the results and rewards of their actions.
- **6. Appreciation** Opportunities are given to develop new interests and make a contribution to the group in a setting designed so each child can shine.
- **7. Health** Campers eat well, enjoy wholesome outdoor activities, and learn to care for their physical, social, and spiritual needs while increasing their productivity level in school and life
- **8.** Inspiration They glean spiritual values from nature itself and from the quality of the camp community in mentoring and discipleship in spiritual growth.
- **9. Good Citizenship** Youth are engaged in an environment where democratic group living is a necessity. Values of fairness, equality and order are modeled and imitated.
- **10. Independence** The separation really will be good for both of you. It gives them a chance to test what you've taught them, and learn from others. Plus, you'll both enjoy the fun of their sharing exciting new experiences when they come home.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women would like to thank all who helped in making the spring rummage sale a huge success. From the



scouts setting up the tables to those who brought in items to sell. The donations of food for the lunch counter and those who took the extras to New Castle. We appreciated those

who were willing to help us on any of the five days. Many hands make the job easier. We will be able to help out many missions with this money, including local missions Again I say, Thank you

Pizza Fundraiser

The United Methodist Women will be taking Augustine Pizza orders. There is an order form in the library or you can contact Joyce Fenechi at 724-758-3327, Carolyn Sarver at 724-971-2679 or Kathleen Frickanish at 724-939-0200. All orders and money is due by May 17. Delivery will be Tuesday, May 21

The UMW are collecting medical items to be sent to the less fortunate in Panama.

The needed items include: hearing aids, breast prostheses and prosthetic bras, wigs; prosthetic arms and legs; wheelchairs; home hospital beds; nebulizers, walkers, crutches, 4-footed canes; "blue pads" (absorbent bed pads), adult diapers (opened packages ok); medical supplies (nothing with expired date and no medications), sheets, towels and blankets.



5

If you are able to donate any of the above items, please contact Joyce Fenechi at 724-758-3327. Thank you.

The NEXT UMW meeting will be held May 18

MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM



Please see Lori Teh Rectenwald with any questions. loriteh@gmail.com or 724-944-0342

www.Compassion.com

Since 1952, Compassion's focus has been on helping release children from poverty in Jesus' name. Today, more than 1.9 million children are sponsored in 25 countries around the world through Compassion

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!

Holy Redeemer Social Services Food Panty is in need of the following items. During the month of **May** we will collect:

peanut butter, jelly, crackers, canned vegetables, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss

Please place items in the bin located near the entry way in the church library.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our VBS theme is video games. If you have ANY decorations we can use which carry that theme, games old and new, or you would like to make a decoration, free-standing or wall hanging, etc, we will welcome your contributions! Feel free to help us collect BOXES of all sizes, including appliance sized.

May 5th - Cinco De Mayo luncheon after church, upstairs in the Library, Complete with a taco bar! Invite your friends & family.

May 12th - Mothers' Day

May 19th - Last Day of Sunday School. We will have a tureen lunch after Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

June 2nd - Honoring of High School & College graduates, with special surprises planned for all of the children. A Tea will follow Worship.



June 16th - Fathers' Day



June 10-14 - Heavenly Royale: Beyond The Screen.

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Ages 3 yrs to 6th Grade Teen and Adult Helpers Welcomed! For More Info: See Sandi Rectenwald

Mini Wednesdays to follow. If you would like to share your time or talents during VBS week or the Mini Wednesdays, please prayerfully consider participating in the JOY!

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS



June 30, 2019 – Join Us at Worship in the Park at the Ellwood City Arts, Crafts and Food Festival, Ewing Park (there will be no church on this Sunday)



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

416 Crescent Avenue, Ellwood City, PA 16117
Phone: (724) 758-6278 Website: www.firstumcec.org
Rev. Angelique Bradford, M. Div., Senior Pastor

Our Mission

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. "Willingness to Serve" I am interested in serving in the following ministry or committee of the church: I am interested in serving but would like more information about the following ministry or committee of the church: My name is: _______ The best phone number to reach me: My e-mail address: I am willing to serve in the area of and welcome the opportunity to use my gifts for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. ____ Worship Planning ___ Greeter Christian Education ____ Intercessory Prayer Ministry ___ Counters Mission/Evangelism ___ Youth & Young Adult ___ Hospitality ____ Liturgist Administration Stewardship Visitation Altar Guild Communion Steward ___ Usher ___ Newsletter Sound Ministry ___ Communications Food Bank Coordinator Outdoor message board Family Nights

If you are interested in sharing your time, talents, and gifts in ministry with the Residents at Northview Estates every Tuesday 10:30 am - 11:30 am. Please see Pastor Angelique for details.

Please return this form to the church office. Thank you kindly!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

In an effort to update our membership rolls, directory, and computer database, please fill out the Membership Information and return to the church office.

Membership Information

	•			
	Head of Household	Spouse		
Title: (Circle one)	Mr. Mrs. Miss. Ms. Dr. Rev. Other	Mr. Mrs. Miss. Ms. Dr. Rev. Other		
Name: (First - Middle or				
Maiden - Last)				
Sex: (Check one)	Male □ Female □	Male □ Female □		
Birthday:	Date:	Date:		
Preferred or Nickname				
Address:				
City, State / Zip:				
Alternate Address				
Address:	From: To:	From: To:		
City, State / Zip:				
Home Phone:	() - Unlisted?	() - Unlisted? □		
Cell Phone:	() - Unlisted?	() - Unlisted?		
Email Address:				
Preferred Method of Contact				
Marital Status:				
Anniversary Date:	Date:	Date:		
Membership Status:				
Church Background:				
Sunday School Class:				
Baptized:	yes □ no □ Date:	yes □ no □ Date:		

Children

Name (first, middle, last)	Birth Date	Grade	Baptized	Sunday School Class
	Date:		yes □ Date:	
	Date:		yes □ Date:	
	Date:		yes □ Date:	
	Date:		yes □ Date:	
	Date:		yes □ Date:	

WPAC BUTLER DISTRICT NEWS

Lay Nominations Committee

Lay Servant Ministry School – Fall Classes - Saturdays 9:00 am-1:00 PM September 14, 21, AND 28, 2019 – New Castle: First UMC

Annual Conference June 6-8, 2019 at Grove City College: Registration for the 2019 Western PA annual conference session on the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference website at wpaumc.org/AC You'll also find an online form to request space in the display area and forms to download to request special meals or rooms for special meetings.

The Pre-Conference Journal is available now on the same page wpaumc.org/AC

Got Shoes? All God's Children Ministries and the Erie UM Alliance are conducting their annual used shoe collection now through July 1. There are drop-off locations in the Erie area now -- and bags of shoes will be collected during annual conference in June at Grove City College. <u>Get details</u>

Members of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference....We would love to have you as part of the team!

The Section Leaders Ministry Coordinators are looking for members to join our ministry team for the 2019 Annual Conference. Section Leaders serve within a team to facilitate legislation during Annual Conference. You do not need to be a Lay Member to Annual Conference (LMAC) or Equalization (EQ) member to serve as a Section Leader on a legislation team during Annual Conference. Serving on the Section Leaders Ministry team, does not limit you to facilitating a legislation team. We are also looking for members to serve as a team secretary or devotion leader.

The Section Leaders Ministry Team will be holding two training sessions. The dates are Saturday, April 6, 2019 and Saturday, May 4, 2019 beginning at 9:30 am conclude by 3:30 pm. This year our training sessions will be held at the UM Conference Center, 1204 Freedom Road, Cranberry, Pa.

Pre-registration is required for the training sessions so that arrangements can be made for resource materials and refreshments.

If you are interested in serving please register by contacting Dan Miller (<u>pastordan107@comcast.net</u>) and/or Guinevere (Guin) Gregory (<u>gp1954@comcast.net</u>).

On behalf of the Section Leaders Ministry Team, Thank you and we hope that you will join our team!

Blessings, Sharon Gregory

Conference Lay Leader Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church

WPAC BUTLER DISTRICT NEWS

Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference

July 18-21, 2019 Adult and Children mission u @ California U

FAITH NIGHT AT PNC PARK: 7th Annual Faith Night next season is going to be held on **Saturday**, June 22, 2019. It will be a 4:05 pm game vs. the San Diego Padres. With it being an earlier presentation and on a Saturday, we're expecting the largest turnout that we've ever had. Group reservations of 10 or more will begin next week. It is highly recommended making your group reservation as soon as possible do to the popularity of this event. You don't need to know the number of tickets right now. They are just taking deposits towards a block of seats (10 or more seats). You'll then have until Friday, May 17 to let them know your final number, at which point you'll also pay the balance. For group reservations: Chad Glover 412-325-4756.

Annual Conference News

2019 WPA UM Annual Conference

Thursday, June 6-Saturday, June 8, 2019

Register for the 2019 Western PA annual conference at https://wpa-reg.brtapp.com/AC2019. Deadline for Registration is May 17.

The Pre-Conference Journal is available now on the same page at wpaumc.org/AC

Author to Speak at AC: The Rev. Olu Brown, one of the speakers for WPAUMC's pre-Annual Conference Leadership Day for laity and clergy takes a critical and inspirational look at four aspects of 21st-century ministry and church vitality in his new book 4D Impact: Smash Barriers Like a Smart Church. His congregation is one of the fastest growing UM congregations in the U.S.

Leadership Workshop: Whether you're attending annual conference or not, you are encouraged to participate in the Conference-sponsored Leadership Workshop on Wednesday afternoon, June 5 at Grove City College. Bring a team from your church and learn together from Rev. Olu Brown and Kay Kotan.

Register here if you are NOT attending Annual Conference: https://wpareg.brtapp.com/LeadershipWorkshop2019 If you ARE attending, register as part of the Annual Conference registration form.

FUMCEC & HUMC NEWS



NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

New Membership Classes for HUMC and FUMCEC will begin on Sunday, May 26, 2019 at 2:30 pm in the Sanctuary of HUMC. For further information please contact Pastor Angelique at 724-846-1212.

COME OUT AND HELP!

May 11, 2019
Homewood UMC
Neighborhood Clean up
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Free lunch & Refreshments!

Clean-up Project

Please contact the church office at 724-846-1212

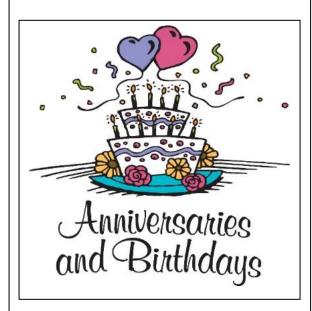




BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Date	Name	
1	Matthew Aiken	
1	Bob Dietz	
1	Bruce Durbin	
1	Crystal Natcher	
3	Ellery Hooker	
4	Kari Bender	
4	Tyler Janicki	
5	Bronson Lane	
5 5	Jamie Reed	
	Melanie Seaburn	
6	Gino Bellissimo	
6	Kimberly Hooker	
6	Ashleigh	
_	Householder	
7	Ben Mohr	
8	Cheyenne Biddle	
8	Mary Lou Doughty	
8	Ben Scala	
9	Kim Janicki	
10	Cecelia Weingart	
12	Gregg Lechner	
12	Rich Oliver	
13 14	Rody Polojac	
15	Tracy Ludwig Michael Cannistraci	
15		
15	Tyler Edwards David Hammersmith	
15	Debbie Wiley	
16	Amonae Bradford	
16	Tynan Hudson	
16	Erica Sylier	



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Date

Names

6	John and Deborah Squicquero	
•		
8	Rick and Terra Larkin	
10	Mark and Melinda Weaver	
11	Clarence and Carol Kingston	
12	Brandon and Kim Hooker	
16	Amber and Jordan Walls	
19	Clarence Edmonds & Rev.	
Angelique Bradford		
31	Melvin and Eva Ringer	
25	Stephen and Bonnie Baker	
27	Dave and Nancy Wilson	
29	Bruce and Tanya Bellissimo	
30	Donald and Janice Greathouse	

MAY BIRTHDAYS Date Name 19 Sue Reed Lori Blaine 20 Rod Dwyer 20 20 Brandon Hooker 20 Martin McWhertor 20 Landen Slevin 20 Kyler Slevin 21 Charles Schweinsberg III 22 Johnathan Welch 23 Greg Fox 23 Jamie Goebel 23 Dot Harman 23 Jonathon Kennedy 23 Maggie McWhertor 23 John Miller Kyle Smith 24 25 **Brittany Edwards** 26 David Biddle 26 Olivia Gaus 26 **Christopher Ludwig** 26 Cody Ludwig 26 April Lutz Virginia Purnell 26 27 Michael Farah 27 Mason Lechner 28 Shannon Gordon 28 David Kirkham 29 Elena Phillips

Jonathan Gardner

Alex Fox

30

30

FUMCEC CALENDAR

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	6:30 PCM-FH 2019 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	3	4
9:30 am-HUMC 9:00 am CP-CL 11:00 am-FUMCEC 12:00 pm – Cinco de Mayo Celebration Native American Ministries Sunday	6 6:30 pm BS-FH	7 9:00 am Q - QR & FH	8 6:30 pm CS-FH	9 6:30 PCM-FH 6:00 pm Carpenter's Project Meeting -FH	10	11
9:30 am-HUMC 9:00 am CP-CL 11:00 am-FUMCEC	13 6:30 pm BS-FH	9:00 am Q – QR & FH Fifth Grade Walking Tour at Church – QR&FH	15 6:30 pm CS-FH	16 6:30 PCM-FH	17	9:30 am UMW Meeting-FH
19 9:30 am-HUMC 9:00 am CP-CL 11:00 am-FUMCEC Last Day of Sunday School Heritage Sunday	20 6:30 pm BS-FH	21 9:00 am Q – QR & FH VOTE	22 6:30 pm CS-FH	23 6:30 PCM-FH	24	9:00 am Love Hope Baptist Women's Conference-Ramada Inn, Beaver Falls
26 9:30 am-HUMC 9:00 am – CP-CL 11:00 am-FUMCEC	27 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed 6:30 pm BS-FH	28 9:00 am Q – QR & FH 6:00 pm Carpenters Project Meeting-FH	29 6:30 pm CS-FH	30	31	

Calendar Index:

AR – Altruistic Room BS – Boy Scouts

CC - Church Council

CL - Church Lounge

CP – Choir Practice CS – Cub Scouts

ECM - Education Committee Meeting

FH - Fellowship Hall

FSCM – Finance & Stewardship Committee Meeting

FUMCEC - First United Methodist Church

HUMC - Homewood United Methodist Church

L – Library

MECM - Missions & Evangelism Committee Meeting

PCM – Pack Committee Meeting

QR - Quilter Room

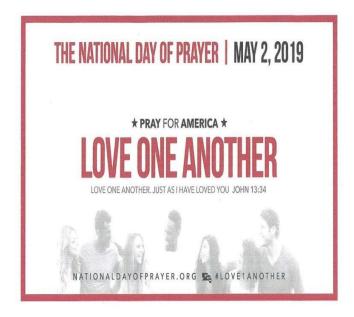
S - Sanctuary

TM – Trustees Meeting

UMW - United Methodist Women

WPCM - Worship Planning Committee Meeting

COMMUNITY NEWS



11:45am - 1:00pm

Ellwood City Community Plaza Lawrence Avenue

"Love one another. Just as I have loved you."

John 13:34 – Words of Jesus

In case of rain, event will be moved to the Badlands, 225 Fifth St.

A complimentary Luncheon will follow at the Bandlands, Ellwood City Survivor Celebration Saturday May 18, 2019 You and one guest are invited to attend the Survivor & Caregiver Luncheon to recognize and honor you. Registration begins at 2pm on Lawrence Ave, Survivor Celebration to start at 3pm with the luncheon to follow at the Dayspring.

If you desire to pick up your survivor t-shirt prior to the event you may do so Friday May 17th from 2-4pm at the Dayspring.

Love Hope Baptist Church

Women's Ministry Conference
Presents

Nothing Just Happens: God Has A Plan with

Rev. Michele Askerneese Valley Church of God in Sharon, PA

> Saturday, May 25, 2019 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Ramada Inn by Wyndham 7195 Eastwood Road, Beaver Falls, PA



COMMUNITY NEWS

2019 Carpenter's Project

Starting April 1st, The Carpenter's Project is accepting requests from homeowners. Those requesting assistance are eligible if they own the home they want repaired and are living in it. Those requesting assistance must live in the Ellwood City or Riverside School District. Projects include painting, power washing, shrub trimming, wheelchair ramp building, small exterior maintenance/repair/carpentry jobs, some window repair, etc. Priority is given to those who have not been helped in the past five years with the exception of a safety issue. There are no financial requirements. Donations are not required, but donations help us to help additional people. Homeowners may call Marsha Timblin 724-651-8776 or Steven Miller at 724-201-0295.

Have you thought about volunteering with The Carpenter's Project during the July 8-12 work week? You can volunteer one day or all five days. The volunteer forms and clearances are due June 20th. You may contact Steven Miller (724-201-0295).



BASIC AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES

Saturday - MAY 4TH
MAY 25TH BEGINNER'S

10:00 AM - NOON

Dayspring Gifts on Sixth

Classes are free and open to the public.

Instructor: MaryAnn Shaner
Phone: 724 - 272-4025

Lincoln High School Concert Choir is celebrating its 75th Anniversary with an

Alumni Benefit Concert May 11, 2019 at 7 pm

ALL PROCEEDS will benefit the Cindy Pertile Scholarship Fund



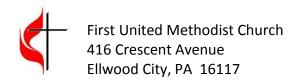
The Cindy Pertile Scholarship Fund will provide 2 types of scholarships for Lincoln students each year annually: (Performance trip scholarships and a college scholarship)

Over 100 LHS <u>Concert Choir</u> Alumni will be performing!

The choir will be singing: "Now and Forever", "Seasons of Love", "My Wish For You" and "I Sing the Body Electric", PLUS there will be solo appearances from some of Ellwood's most well known alumni!

Tickets are \$20 for Premium Seats and \$10 for all other seats. Every ticket is a reserved seat.

To reserve tickets, call 724-752-1591, ext 3002 or email fgreco@ellwood.k12.pa.us Tickets will also be on sale at the door. Doors open at 6 p.m.



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 Email: pastor@firstumcec.org

Jennifer Agnew, Church Administrator Email: secretary@firstumcec.org

Office Phone: 724-758-6278 Pastor's Cell Phone: 412-722-2806

Church Website: http://firstumcec.org/

Please feel welcome to call Pastor Angelique to schedule a pastoral care appointment if that is helpful to you

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.