



# The Remarker

First United Methodist Church



Princeton, West Virginia

Sharing God's Love ~ Teaching God's Word ~ Spreading God's Hope

January/February 2015

Volume 44, Issue 1

Thanks,  
Everyone!



## In this month's Issue:

Anniversaries	<a href="#">P 13</a>
Articles	<a href="#">P 12</a>
Attendance	<a href="#">P 6</a>
Birthdays	<a href="#">P 8, 9</a>
Calendar	<a href="#">P 15, 16</a>
Christian Education Directors	<a href="#">P 3</a>
Family Ministry Center	<a href="#">P 4</a>
Library News & Stuff	<a href="#">P 5</a>
Memorials	<a href="#">P 10</a>
News From The Third Floor	<a href="#">P 7</a>
Not Quite Home	<a href="#">P 2</a>
Stewardship	<a href="#">P 6</a>
Thanks You's	<a href="#">P 11, 12</a>
Transitions	<a href="#">P 6</a>

How do we even begin to say thank you to everyone who did so much to make our Advent and Christmas Celebration this past month a wonderful time? We can thank the Altar Guild for wonderful decorations and worship centers on the Altar. We can thank the Madrigals for their part in the Hanging of the Greens Service. We can thank all those who video taped our Advent meditations this year – Jerry Linkous, Cole Hollifield, Delaney Quesenberry, Faye Pullins and Janet Vaughn. We can especially thank Rick Dooley for the extra work he did in preparing those and going to different locations to film them. We can thank Barbara Ballard, Jordan Stadvec and Sarah Johnson for their wonderful work with the Children's Christmas Program. We can thank all those who decorated tables for

our Christmas Dinner but especially thank the Choir for raising the bar for this friendly competition next year!! (I see trains and drapes in our future!!) While we are on the Choir, we can also thank them and Ashley Vaughn for a wonderful Cantata along with Tom Bay and Rick Dooley for the Drama and Video Presentations that went with the Cantata. We can also thank Tom Bay and everyone who helped with the Live Nativity this year – there are so many souls involved in that endeavor I can't even begin to name them all! We can thank Aaron Rudy and Brenda Larue for keeping our facilities in tip top shape. And Christmas Eve...we can thank everyone for their presence on this special night of worship!!

Thank you...one and all!!

## **Not Quite Home**

### **PPGSW**

Okay, I know that those letters look very strange together. As someone in my family would probably say, "You need to 'buy a vowel' there, Scott." But believe it or not, these five little letters are very important to us as members of the United Methodist Church. They stand as reminders to all of us of the vows we take when we join the church to uphold it with our "Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness." So what does this mean?

**PRAYERS** – The Bible speaks often of prayer, but when I think about our membership vows, the verse that comes to mind first for me is: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) It is a reminder to us that prayer is something that we should do all the time and that it is something that should be done in the attitude of rejoicing. God has given us the incredible invitation to communicate with Creator of the entire universe as we "uphold our church."

I know that many of us remember to pray for people within our church as they have needs and concerns – we have one of the most dedicated groups of prayer warriors that I have ever witnessed in a church. However, one of the other things that we need to do without ceasing is to pray for every ministry of the church with rejoicing in our hearts. Give thanks for what God has done, is doing and will do. The greatest impact you will make in God's Kingdom begins with prayer. Join one of the prayer groups at the church! Start each day and end each day with a prayer for some part of the church and be in an attitude of rejoicing as you pray! God will do mighty things through us as we speak to him and allow God to speak to us.

We have three groups that meet for prayer that goes into "upholding" the church and you are welcome to join any of them. Women's Prayer group meets on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm. There is a Men's Prayer Breakfast that meets on two Fridays a month – watch the bulletin. There is also a prayer group that meets on Sunday morning at 9:30 in the Parlor. All of these groups focus on upholding the church in prayer!

**PRESENCE** – I know that by now almost everyone realizes that we failed to meet our attendance goal for 2014. We had set it at 180 and did not even average 170. The interesting thing about this average to me is that if those who are active in the church just show up 75% (3 of 4 Sundays) our average attendance would be over 190! And if half of those people would bring a friend to church with them once a month...well, you can see where that would go. We promise God when we become members of the local congregation that we will uphold that congregation with our presence. This is not about anyone in the church being upset with how often anyone else attends – it is about living out a promise we made to God.

But "presence" goes even deeper than just attending worship. I can be at home with my family for dinner but not be "present." (Please don't ask them for examples of this...just trust me that I am guilty as charged!) Presence is about giving our attention, our love, our very being to those who are



*Barbara Ballard, Office Hours: Mon. 10-12, Tues. 1-2 & Wed 12-2, Cell (304-920-8186)*

*Sarah Johnson Office Hours: Tues, Wed & Thurs 1-3, Cell (304-952-1416)*

*Office Number: 304-425-0064*



## **Cocoa Ministry and Live Nativity Thanks**

Thank you so much to the youth and adults who personified "Church in the Heart of Princeton" once again during our annual cocoa distribution during the Christmas parade. We served 280 cups of cocoa to the community members who watched the parade close to our church! Many thanks to Marcia Anderson and Shirley Halsey who ensured the cocoa was prepared and ready to be carried out to the fountain in time for the volunteers to start their service ministry.

Also, we greatly appreciate all of the donations of delicious soup, sandwiches, and cookies provided for our Live Nativity cast members and church family and community visitors during this year's inspiring outdoor drama. Thanks for the willingness of Martha Cook, Marcia Anderson, and Bob Ballard for providing a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all, in addition to working together to prepare and clean up the refreshment areas.

We couldn't offer these community ministries without your generous gifts of time and talents.

## **Children's Fellowship Time**

Winter Term 2015

Wednesdays 6:30-7:45, following the Family Dinner at 6:00pm, beginning **January 7, 2015**

For all K-5th graders.





*Barbara Ballard, Office Hours: Mon. 10-12, Tues. 1-2 & Wed 12-2, Cell (304-920-8186)*

*Sarah Johnson Office Hours: Tues, Wed & Thurs 1-3, Cell (304-952-1416)*

*Office Number: 304-425-0064*

**Coming soon!**

## **The GREAT DATE NIGHT.**

**with Mark Cable** *A fun and encouraging evening of music and laughter!!*

*Friday, February 6, 2015, 6:00p.m. FUMC Family Ministries Center Gym*

*More details to follow...*

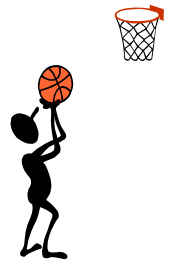
Ticket price to be announced, reduced priced tickets will be available to church members who bring an unchurched friend.

We will be hosting a few ski groups in January. Please continue to show them our great hospitality, if you are in the building!



### **UPWARD Basketball & Cheerleading**

Gym will be filled again with this great ministry, come be an active part of this community!



### **FMC Calendar January**

**Jan. 2 & 16, 2015 7:00am**

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Schell Hall

**Jan.: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays,** Upward practice 5:00-8:00, Gym

**Jan.: every Saturday** Upward basketball games, GYM

**Jan. 16 - 19** Troop 597 ski trip

**Jan. 30 - Feb. 1,** BSA Venture Crew 200 ski trip

### **FMC Calendar February**

**February 9 & 23, 2015 7:00 am**

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Schell Hall

**February 6, 2015, 6:00p.m.** The Great Date Night, Gym

**Feb.: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays,** Upward practice 5:00-8:00, Gym

**Feb, every Saturday** Upward basketball games, Gym



**Library News - And Stuff - Submitted by Jerry Flanagan, Librarian**



**LIBRARY NEWS & STUFF**

Jerry Flanagan, Librarian

**AND THE WINNERS ARE**

*Traditional Sounds of Christmas* (CD): Lynsey Artrip, Jean Bailes, Kelly Beechler, Nancy Duncan, Patty Flanagan, June Griffith, Joe Hampton, Mona Lester, Scott Sears, Ramona Stanley, Ann Struble, Mary Ann Thomas, Pat Veneri, Nina Payne, Vicki Horton.

*Humbug! Christmas Songs for the Scrooge in Your Life!* (CD): Nina Payne, Kaitlin Struble, Ramona Stanley, Patti Smith, Pan Sears, Scott Sears, Ali Mabry, Mona Lester, Todd Jones, Patty Flanagan, Lee Elmore, Nancy Duncan, Jerry Bailes, Lynsey Artrip.

*Worship* (CD): Lynsey Artrip, Patty Flanagan, Joe Hampton, Cheryl Merritt, Patti Smith, Brian Struble, Mary Ann Thomas, Nina Payne, Vicki Horton.

*The First Christmas* (Children's Book): Kaitlyn Artrip, Chris Hersman, Debbie Massie, Nina Payne, Vicki Horton.

*Amish White Christmas Pie* (Book): Nancy Duncan, Debbie Massie, Betty Musick, Pam Sears, Nina Payne.

Our next library give-a-way will be in February. The item(s) to be given away will be listed in the church bulletin. If you happen not to be in church one Sunday in January-February, or live away, or are in school out of town, the weekly bulletin can be found on the church web site,

[www.princetonfumc.org](http://www.princetonfumc.org).

**THOUGHT FOR THIS DAY**

“Leadership is significantly connected with readership. One of the sad misfortunes of depriving oneself of books is the simple lack of exposure to the broader world and broader history. Sometimes our misguided cultural notion of progress convinces us that whatever lies in the past or beyond our immediate culture is inferior to where we currently are, as if there are no real lessons that can be learned from looking backward. The real shame is that we spend more time listening to voices that won't outlast the day than we do listening to the voices that have outlasted history and transcended boundaries.”

Please start 2015 by reading a good book!

**Transitions**

**Certificates of Transfer to Another United Methodist Church:**

**Stephen Jeffrey and Brittany Nicole Maynard Cook – September 21, 2014  
to St. Marks United Methodist Church - Charleston**

**Allison Jo Clark Tack – November, 2014  
To Myers Park United Methodist Church - Charlotte, NC**

**In Memory:**

**Carl J. Schaffer**

**December 12, 2014**



**Stewardship & Attendance**

<b>ATTENDANCE – November 2014</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>10:50 AM Worship</b>
11.02.2014	78	182
11.09.2014	71	159
11.16.2014	71	171
11.24.2014	68	208
11.30.2014	60	189

<b>ATTENDANCE – December 2014</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>10:50 AM Worship</b>
12.07.2014	77	179
12.14.2014	71	216
12.21.2014	73	207
12.24.2014	Christmas Eve Services	268
12.28.2014	78	130

News  
From the  
3rd floor



Rebecca Schaeffer  
Director of Youth  
rdschaeffer@suddenlinkmail.com  
(304) 425-0064 - Office  
(717) 817-0719 - Cell

Office Hours  
Sunday 2-8:30  
Monday 8:30-4  
Tuesday 8:30-4  
Wednesday 8:30-8  
Thursday 8:30-12:30; 4-6



Youth Night  
Sunday's 5:15 - 6:30 pm

Bible Study  
Wednesday's at 6:00 pm



A Special thank you to Sarah Johnson, Vicki Horton, Sherrie Price, Ruth Boyles, Bridgette Pendleton, Karen Henkes, Pam Sears, Ella Veneri, Cale Veneri, and Pat Veneri who hosted and served the youth for our progressive Christmas Dinner. The food was fantastic and the hospitality overwhelming!



Jan. 13 & Feb. 10

Coffee & Food cart

Ministry



Jan. 14 & Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>

## Resurrection 2015



Jan. 23-25<sup>th</sup>

Gatlinburg, TN

## **January Birthdays**

January 02 - Brent Veneri  
January 03 – Brad Veneri  
January 04 – Anna Burger (90)  
January 04 – Judy Fleming  
January 04 - Claudia Repass  
January 05 - Anna Lee Greer  
January 05 - Matthew Kessinger  
January 05 – McKenzi Olonko  
January 07 – Joshua Olachea  
January 08 – Owen Biggs  
January 09 – Jordie Veneri  
January 10 – Ashley Vaughn  
January 11 – Rosa Haga  
January 11 – Shyanne Smith  
January 11 – Sahara Stanley  
January 12 – Ruth Lively (91)  
January 13 – Harry Montgomery (93)  
January 13 – Lindsey Warf  
January 14 – Lynsey Artrip  
January 14 – Bud Musick  
January 16 – Will Stafford  
January 16 – Janet Thurmer  
January 18 – Tori Craft  
January 18 – Chase Pilkins  
January 18 – BJ Price  
January 18 – Buster Smith  
January 18 – Bill Wilson  
January 19 – Brandon Beachler  
January 19 – Kelly Beachler  
January 20 – Chris Knight  
January 20 – Erin Sears  
January 21 – Amy Olachea

January 23 – Rhonda Clark  
January 24 – Glenna Belcher  
January 26 – Rev. Harold Russell  
January 26 – Ramona Stanley  
January 27 – Zach Ben Chaabane  
January 27 – Debbie Massie  
January 27 – Becky Schaeffer-Rowe  
January 27 – Zach Struble  
January 28 – Lee Elmore  
January 28 – Nick Warf  
January 29 – Alex Bay  
January 29 – Allison Beachler  
January 29 – Teresa Collis  
January 29 – Kay Presley  
January 30 – Madison Knight  
January 30 – Sarah Shaffer  
January 31 – Gail Burks  
January 31 – Christa Fama





## **February Birthdays**

February 01 – Bob Davis	February 15 – Rita Hill
February 02 – Ken Branch	February 16 – Carman Ball
February 02 – Katy Pack	February 17 – Cindy Bailey
February 03 – Drusilla Ferguson	February 17 – Wanda Farmer
February 03 – Lauren Imrich	February 17 – Aaron Hamm
February 03 – John Mark Mendez	February 17 – Stephanie Thompson
February 03 – Karen Thorn	February 18 – Mike Clark
February 04 – Vicky Bradley	February 18 – Cambel Fix
February 04 – Andrew Flanagan	February 18 – Aaron Rudy
February 04 – Aurora Knotts	February 18 – Rodney Smith
February 05 – Ann Graham	February 19 – Kira LeBlanc
February 05 – Bill O’Neal	February 20 – Norman Jones
February 06 – Savannah Knight	February 21 – Sandy Heinrich
February 06 – Bess Micheal (97)	February 21 – Bill Huffman
February 07 – Heather Austin	February 22 – Sandy Gay
February 07 – Lisa Bowling	February 23 – Jaycee Pritchett
February 07 – Debbie Gillespie	February 24 – Terry Graham
February 07 – Ellen Knight	February 25 – Jamie Belcher
February 08 – Wilma Bowling	February 28 – Betty Costello
February 08 – Peggy Edmunds	
February 08 – Matt Steenson	
February 09 – Greg Bostic	
February 09 – Dan Farley	
February 09 – Jerry Linkous	
February 10 – Bob Grim	
February 10 – Alice Smith	
February 11 – James Biggs	
February 11 – Danny McNamara	
February 12 – Alan Cook	
February 14 – Wayne Haga	
February 14 – Malik Seye	



## **In Honor and In Memory of**

### **Rudy Anderson**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Marcia Anderson

**General Fund**

### **Shirley J. Fleming**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Patty & Jerry Flanagan

**"Feeding Hungry Children" Fund**

### **Marguerite Ann Hinty Brown**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

William M. "Buster" Brown

Gregory & Cheryl Bulla

Patty & Jerry Flanagan

United Methodist Women

**"Feeding Hungry Children" Fund**

### **Woody and Hazel Pendleton**

#### **And Casey O'Neal**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Nancy O'Neal

**General Fund**

### **Clement E. "Clem" Crowe**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Ruth L. Boyles & Bridgette Pendleton

Charles S. & Rebecca Carter

Chris & Twyla Hersman

Scott & Karen Kephart

Mary G. McCue

Holliday Sunday School Class

Victory Crowe

Nancy Moore

**Memorial Fund**

JoAnna Fredeking

**Altar Guild Fund**

Ed & Susan Robinson

Mary Lou Fensom

**"Feeding Hungry Children" Fund**

Adult Bible Class

**Youth Scholarship Grant Fund**

Patty and Jerry Flanagan

**FMC Library**

### **Bert and Paulette Smith**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Dr. Norman and Nancy Jones

**General Fund**

### **Bernice Ellen Hamed Taylor**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Patty and Jerry Flanagan

**FMC Library**

Barb and Joe Hampton

**Feeding Hungry Children**

### **Frank Topping**

*a gift has been designated*

*by*

Dr. Norman and Nancy Jones

**O'Dell H. Huffman Scholarship Fund**



## **Thank You's**

*Your kindness is such a blessing...*

Thanks so much

*The Woodridge United Methodist Church*

*Woodbridge, IL*

(for the overnight use of the FMC on a youth trip)

*A thank-you note from Mercer School:*

Hi Pastor Scott,

Yesterday when Kent Thompson and I delivered the snacks to Mercer School the lady in the office gratefully thanked us for our deliveries. She stated that the kids who received the snacks were ecstatic and very thankful to get them.

*Joe Hampton*

To the Odell H. Huffman Scholarship Committee and Church Family,

Thank you once again for generously providing me with this scholarship. I'm so grateful for the continuous spiritual and financial support of my church family over the past four years.

Thank you,

*Sahara Stanley*

Rev. Sears,

Congratulation on your 1<sup>st</sup> place float in the Princeton Christmas parade! Awesome float!

*Jill Holliday*

*Thank you from Southern Thunder 6:*

Community support helps to make Southern Thunder a success. Thank you for your contribution (advertisement) and support in so many ways.

*The Marching Tigers*



## **Thank You's continued**

Dear Church Family,

On the morning of December 17, 2014, our mother and grandmother quietly left us behind as she broke free of the pain and suffering she had been experiencing for many months. We rejoice that she is now able to enjoy a new life free of hardships and illness, and that she was able to truly celebrate Christmas with her Lord, whom she loves so much, and with the saints who have gone before her. Mere words cannot express the gratitude we feel for the support and encouragement you gave us throughout the journey with your prayers, cards, calls, visits, meals, hugs, and expressions of caring and love. We cherish each of you and extend to you our heartfelt thanks.

In Christ's Love,

*Vicki, Will, Taylor and Betsy Horton*

*Ella Taylor*

*Nina, Lyle, Billy, Katie, Joseph and Kinzie Payne*

*Mary and Charlie Ward*

*Bill, Susan, William, Kirsten, and Hamed Taylor*



## **Anniversaries**



January 02 – Darryl & Mary Frances Morris

January 05 – Mike & Kathy Quesenberry

January 07 – Mike & Ronda Clark

January 12 – Gene & LaVerne Fields

January 15 – Terry & Peggy Wells

January 18 – Tom & Kim Bay

February 02 – Chris & Twyla Hersman

February 24 – Tim & Cheryl Merritt

February 26 – Alden & Kay Presley

## **Not Quite Home, continued**

around us in the church. We promise to “uphold” the church with our presence – so let’s just watch in 2015 how many times we find ourselves being present with other church members.

BTW...our goal for 2015 in attendance is 185. What can you do to uphold the church with your presence this year?

**GIFTS** – Here is yet another area of our membership vows that has many meanings. Promising to uphold the church with our gifts does mean that we will use those spiritual gifts we have for the good of God’s Kingdom but it also means that we will remember that financial stewardship is a key part of relationship with God.

Stewardship is all about caring for that which does not belong to us. The spiritual gifts we have – to teach, to pray, to uplift, to discern, to lead, to serve, to speak – are not OUR gifts to give to God. They have been given to us by God for us to use in the Kingdom. When we fail to do so, we are not letting anyone down but God...and yes, that is a huge understatement. The same is true of our financial gifts. They are not “ours” to use as we see fit. They are gifts to us from God that we are to give back to God in order for our relationship with God to continue to grow. Every time we withhold a gift that belongs to God, we are only hurting ourselves because it is our promise that we are breaking.

## **Not Quite Home, continued**

**SERVICE** – If prayers, presence, and gifts were not enough for us to offer to God when we joined the church, we also make a vow to uphold the church through our service. In short, that means that we will give our time to God's Kingdom just like we give everything else. There are so many ways that we can uphold the church through service – let me just point out a few:

Music Ministry – right now our Director of Music or our Band/Handbells Director would love, love, love to have you be a part of the choir, the band or the handbells. They are not looking for people who are professional musicians but they are looking for people who have a love of music and the gifts to share. Our choir, especially, has lost several members and I know that I would love to see that Chancel filled again in 2015. Is that a reasonable goal for us? ***Is God calling you to service in this way?***

Ministry in the Community – Our youth group is currently working on serving meals on Wednesday evenings in the downtown area. This area of service is looking for people who are willing to prepare food as well as those who are willing to go into the community and share God's love with just a little time and compassion.

Hospitality – Kim and Tom Bay are our new Hospitality Leaders this year and they will be looking for all kinds of service. Greeters for several areas of the church campus are being looked at and we will also have need of people who are willing to make a “doorstop” delivery to people who are guests in worship. Check with them to see how you can serve.

**WITNESS** – We end our vows with what I like to call the “invisible/visible vow” in our hymnal. If you look for the word in the printed vows, it is not there, however, our General Conference added it to the vows after the hymnals were printed. And yet, this is the most visible vow that we take. What does our life say about what matters to us the most? What do our words say are important to us? How are you being called to uphold the church with your “witness” in 2015.

I really did not set out to write such a long article for our first newsletter of 2015 but I just thought I needed the reminder as much as anyone else about what it means to be a member of God's Church! Please know that I share these words with rejoicing in my heart and hope that the best is yet to come for a Church in the Heart of Princeton.





**February 18th**



**Activity  
Calendar**

Use the graphic link above to view the

[First United Methodist Church](#)

[Activity Calendar](#)