

The Remarker

First United Methodist Church



Princeton, West Virginia

A Place to Trust



A Place to Become



Church in the  of Princeton

January - February 2017

Volume 46, Issue 1

Adult Bible Study

Our next Bible Study for Adults will begin on January 11 and run for approximately 12 weeks. We meet in Schell Hall from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm.

The topic on this study will be a book by Rev. Morgan Guyton, "How Jesus Saves the World from Us."

Christianity has always been about being saved. But what Christians need saving from most today is the toxic understandings and behaviors we ourselves have been practicing! We have become precisely what Jesus came to stop us from being.

This is a book for Christians who are troubled by what we've become and who want Jesus to save us from the toxic behaviors and attitudes we've embraced. Offering antidotes for these toxic behaviors, such as "Worship, Not Performance" and "Solidarity, No Sanctimony," Morgan Guyton explains and offers biblical basis for how we can better participate in God's redemptive work.

There are many reasons to lose hope about the state of our world and our church, but Guyton offer one piece of good news: Jesus is saving the world from us, one Christian at a time.

Please join us for this study as we examine how the Bible teaches us "How We Love God," "How We Love People," "How We Gain Pure Hearts," "How We Gain Holy Bodies," "How We Live by Truth," "How We Read the Bible," "How We Teach Doctrine," "How We Use Sacred Space and Time," "How We Respond to Sin," "How We Take Sides in Conflict," "How We Follow our Shepherd," and "How We Grow as the Body of Christ."

If you have never taken part in one of our Wednesday evening studies, this is a great one! If it has been a while since you've made the commitment to be a part of a weekly study group – this is a better than good time to do it again!

Please contact the Church Office if you intend to be a part of the study so that we can order you a book! Thanks!!



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Not Quite Home

2017 will be here by the time you get this newsletter. A new year. A blank slate. A whole new chance to get things closer to the Kingdom God wants us to experience.

As your Pastor at First UMC, I want to invite you to join me in making 2017 “A Year of Generosity!”

In order to do this, I want to make sure that we don’t spend time talking about budgets, apportionments, and the financial needs of our church. Yes. You read that correctly. I don’t want to talk about those things. Instead I want to declare that we start a Generosity Revolution. Perhaps we can use these words to get us going:

We hold these truths to be self-evident that all people are created in the image of a loving, giving, and generous God. We believe that real life, true liberty, and eternal joy are only realized when we live lives of abundant generosity and sacrificial love.

Those are powerful words that should seem somewhat familiar to US History buffs! I would apologize for the rewrite of them, but they are not my original work. Rev. Scott McKenzie came up with them. (Kudos to him!!)

Now, I must admit, this past year was not my most generous year in ministry. I gave...but circumstances kept me from being as generous as I have been in years past. This hurt emotionally and spiritually. At times, I felt like I couldn’t be a true leader because I was less generous than I truly wanted. And trust me, I have already apologized to God for that and have asked for the strength to make this year – 2017 – a more generous year. I don’t do this because I feel some obligation to God, but because I know that when I live generously, I have the opportunity to receive grace from God in abundance – not monetary grace, but the grace of knowing that I am doing all I can to show how much I truly love my Savior through my generous giving to THIS church!!

I invite you to join me in making 2017 FUMC’s Year of Generosity!

If you are already giving generously to your church – congratulations and I encourage you to look at what a sacrificial gift might look like.

If you are like me and have fallen short in the last year, join me in making 2017 a better year.

If you have never taken a step towards generosity, think about all the wonderful ways that lives are changed at First UMC and realize that a life of generosity here will make a difference for generations and generations.

Let’s make 2017 the Year of Generosity!!

Grace and Peace,



Director of Children’s Ministries

Barbara Ballard, Office Hours: Mon. 9:00–10:00 AM; 11:30–12:30 PM, Tues. 1-2 & Wed 12-2, Cell (304-920-8186)

Office Number: 304-425-0064

Church e-mail: fumcdce@suddenlinkmail.com



Once again, we’d like to express our great appreciation to all who came out this Christmas season to support our Children’s choir musical and all–church Christmas carry-in dinner. There were many visiting friends and extended family, in addition to our own church family, who were inspired by the wonderful message of “Bows of Holly”, directed by Sherrie Price. The hard work of Sherrie, the children, Rick and Larry, and special actresses Jordan Stadvec and Laura Suroski was evident in their polished performance.

Special thanks to Ruthie Broyles, Bridgette Pendleton, and Vicki Horton who assembled wonderful crews to arrive early and/or stay late to help with set up and clean up. Also, we appreciate Larry Cook’s Exploring Faith class, who stayed to ensure everything was put away and to the men who worked quickly to tear down the tables and chairs to prepare the gym for the Upward practice the following day.

Children’s Fellowship Time for all K-5th graders

Winter Term resumes January 11th **Wednesdays 6:00—7:00 PM**

*Immediately followed by **Children’s Choir with Miss Sherrie**

7:00—7:25 PM Friends are welcome!



Miss Martha will, once again, be joining us to introduce the interesting Storytelling station. Miss Marcia will also be back with lots of fun crafts, and art activities in the Surprise Shoppe. Children are encouraged to invite friends to join us for this session’s times of learning, fun, and fellowship, as we experience “The Dream Team” and learn about each of Jesus’ disciples through visits by church family members.

Miss Sherrie will continue to provide fun musical experiences, as she prepares the choir for regular monthly performances during worship. We all look forward to their second Mother’s Day musical service, which includes drama by our wonderful group of elementary students.



January would be a great time to visit a Sunday School class!

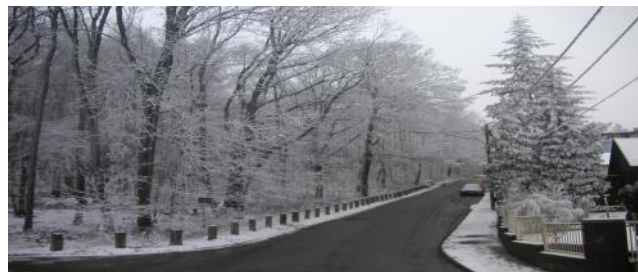
Adult options include the Renewal Class and the Young Adult class in the FMC and the Exploring Faith and Adult Class in the main building. A contemporary worship service is held once a month in the gym during the Sunday School hour.

Children's and youth Sunday School classes meet in the education wing on the second and third floors.

9:30—9:45 AM: fellowship, snack and prayer concerns

9:45—10:30 AM: lesson and activities

10:30 AM: visit Mr. Jerry's library or attend worship or preschool church



Many thanks to those who provided delicious soup, sandwiches, cookies and soda to feed our live nativity cast, church family and community guests again this year. Also, Kent Thompson, Bob Ballard, Sabrina Mick, and Janet Vaughn were all very helpful in keeping the food and drinks replenished. Larry and Martha Cook and Janet Vaughn made sure that was clean-up was efficiently accomplished. All of these giving spirits were greatly appreciated on that very cold evening.

We are so proud of Anthony Veneri for his successful first year coordinating the Live Nativity!!



News
From the
3rd floor



Rebecca Rowe
Director of Youth
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(304) 425-0064 - Office
(276) 245-9455 - Cell

Office Hours
Sunday 1:00 – 8:00 PM
Monday 3:30 – 8:30 PM
Tuesday 3:30 – 8:30 PM
Wednesday 2:30 – 8:30 PM
Thursday 2:30 – 8:30 PM




Youth Night
Sunday's 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Bible Study
Wednesday's at 6:00 pm




January & February Youth Activities

Bible Study Dates:
January 11, 18, 25
February 1

SNL Dates:
Jan. 8, 22, 29
February 5, 12, 19, 26



Escape Room

On January 15 the youth will be attempting to escape the Captain's Cabin at Out of the Box.



Special Thanks to Dave & Sarah Johnson for preparing breakfast for us in November and to Bob & Barb Ballard & Sandy Gay for our Christmas breakfast.

On Saturday, January 7, Upward games begin.



Please join us! Lots of volunteer opportunities including concessions, clock, water and score keeping.



Youth Prayer Breakfast will be held on Sunday Jan. 15 & Feb. 12 @ 8:30 AM. Be sure to join us for a great time of food, fellowship and prayer!

Progressive Dinner Feb. 8th

If you would be interested in hosting a course, please let me know.



Refreshment Cart



Dates: Jan. 8 & 22 / Feb. 12 & 26

In December, we were able to hand out Christmas stockings along with our hot chocolate to those who came for a Christmas meal. One lady was so happy she laughed with joy like that of a child when she received her stocking. We are so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful ministry.



Transitions

Baptism:

Brandon Michael Blane Beachler

November 13, 2016

New Members – Profession of Faith:

Brandon Michael Blane Beachler

November 13, 2016

Sydney Mounira Ben Chaabane

November 13, 2016

Mia Marie Christ

November 13, 2016

New Members – Certificate of Transfer from Another United Methodist Church:

Barbara Bowling Phillips

November 13, 2016

Kristine Jessica Price

December 04, 2016

Sherrie Ann Melvin Price

December 04, 2016

New Members – Certificate of Transfer from Another Denomination:

Kathy Maureen Clemons

December 04, 2016

Teddy Ryland Phillips

November 13, 2016

In Memory:

Betty Jean Moody

March 30, 1927 – November 06, 2016



TLC (Thread Loving Crafters) submitted by Kathy Tucker

Can you believe we are approaching our second year anniversary? What is even more astounding is all that we have accomplished over the last 2 years. We have made so many quilts, afghans, fleece tied blankets, boot cuffs, baby hats, hat and scarf sets, character hats, pillowcase dresses, little boy shorts, prayer shawls, and cancer hats. We have touched the lives of literally **thousands** as recipients and participants. Our skills have blossomed, our commitment has flourished, and our sisterhood has developed into an incredible bond. Christ is alive and well in our group the Thread Loving Crafters, TLC.

As reminder, we agreed that we would not get together if the schools are cancelled and if there is a delay during the winter months. I would hate to risk any falls or accidents.

PS: Marcia and Patty delivered more than 150 hat and scarf sets before Christmas!

Feeding Hungry Children

A HUGE Thank You!!

From The Feeding Hungry Children Team

The amazing congregation of First United Methodist Church truly has a Heart for Princeton's children and on behalf of those children we cannot begin to thank you enough for the many demonstrations of that love throughout our fall fundraising campaign and beyond. You are the best!

Attendance**ATTENDANCE – November 2016**

Date	Sunday School	10:50 AM-Worship	Online	TOTAL
11.06.2016	85	163	15	178
11.13.2016	94	200	20	220
11.20.2016	77	154	9	163
11.27.2016	64	161	20	181

ATTENDANCE – December 2016

Date	Sunday School	10:50 AM-Worship	Online	TOTAL
12.04.2016	91	188	23	211
12.11.2016	73	169	21	190
12.18.2016	67	165	30	195
12.24.2016	--	230	14	244
12.25.2016	19	139	30	169





January Anniversaries and Birthdays

January 02 – Darryl & Mary Frances Morris

January 05 – Mike & Kathy Quesenberry

January 07 – Mike and Ronda Clark

January 12 – Gene & LaVerne Fields

January 15 – Terry & Peggy Wells

January 18 – Tom & Kim Bay



January 02 – Brent Veneri

January 03 – Brad Veneri

January 04 – Anna Burger (92)

January 04 – Judy Fleming

January 04 – Claudia Repass

January 05 – Anna Lee Greer

January 05 – Matthew Kessinger

January 05 – McKenzi Olonko

January 08 – Owen Biggs

January 09 – Jordie Veneri

January 10 – Ashley Vaughn

January 11 – Shyanne Smith

January 11 – Sahara Stanley

January 12 – Ruth Lively (93)

January 13 – Lindsey Warf

January 14 – Lynsey Artrip

January 16 – Will Stafford

January 16 – Janet Thurmer

January 18 – Tori Craft

January 18 – Chase Pilkins

January 26 – BJ Roland

January 18 – Bill Wilson

January 19 – Brandon Beachler

January 19 – Kelly Beachler

January 20 – Chris Knight

January 20 – Erin Sears

January 23 – Rhonda Clark

January 24 – Glenna Belcher

January 24 – Jonathan Williams

January 25 – Barbara Phillips

January 26 – Rev. Harold Russell

January 26 – Ramona Stanley

January 27 – Zach Ben Chaabane

January 27 – Debbie Massie

January 27 – Becky 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 Anniversaries and Birthdays

February 02 – Chris & Twyla Hersman

February 24 – Tim & Cheryl Merritt

February 26 – Alden & Kay Presley (51)



February 01 – Bob Davis

February 02 – Ken Branch

February 02 – Katie Pack

February 03 – Lauaren Graham Imrich

February 03 – John Mark Mendez

February 03 – Karen Thorn

February 04 – Vicky Bradley

February 04 – Andrew Flanagan

February 05 – Ann Graham

February 05 – Bill O’Neal

February 06 – John Johnson

February 06 – Savannah Knight

February 07 – Heather Austin

February 07 – Lisa Bowling

February 07 – Debbie Gillespie

February 07 – Ellen Knight

February 08 – Wilma Bowling

February 08 – Peggy Edmunds

February 08 – Matt Steenson

February 09 – Greg Bostic

February 09 – Dan Farley

February 09 – Jerry Linkous

February 10 – Alice Smith

February 11 – Jamey Biggs

February 11 – Danny McNamara

February 12 – Alan Cook

February 14 – Malik Seye

February 15 – Rita Hill

February 16 – Carman Ball

February 17 – Cindy Bailey

February 17 – Wanda Farmer

February 17 – Stephanie Thompson

February 18 – William Michael Clark

February 18 – Cambel Fix

February 18 – Elizabeth HaWay

February 18 – Rodney Smith

February 19 – Madison Austin

February 19 – Kira LeBlanc

February 20 – Dr. Norman Jones

February 21 – Sandy Heinrich

February 21 – Bill Huffman

February 22 – Sandra Gay

February 23 - Eva Gates (97)

February 23 – Jaycee Pritchett

February 24 – Terry Graham

February 25 – Jamie Belcher

February 26 – Tabitha Hylton

February 26 – Jeremy Wenisch

February 28 – Betty Costello

February 28 – Jaclyn Snead



Thank You Notes

Thank you! We would like to thank everyone who gave to our “Pennies for Presents” this holiday season! Your generosity helped us raise \$1,119.00 and thankfully all of our residents did receive gifts from Santa. We were also very fortunate to have many of our residents “adopted”. It is our giving spirit and kindness shown towards others that truly brings this special season to life. May God richly bless you for your generosity! Thank you once again!!

*Residents and Staff
Princeton Health Care Center*

Thank you so much for the beautiful memorial book in honor of my daughter, Ashley Basham.

God Bless you!

Teresa Felts

Thank you so much in helping to provide the beautiful Memorial Volume in remembrance of my “adopted” mother – Betty A. Hamilton. It is a treasure book for me in recognition of her!

With a grateful heart, I am sincerely yours,

Carolyn White



Prayer Vigil for Jobs

Our church’s Prayer Vigil for employment opportunities in our community continues until mid January. We are very thankful for all those who are taken time each day to lift up this special prayer concern and we have already noted some economic growth announcements in our area! Please be faithful to the time ahead where you have agreed to pray. A prayer calendar is available in the Hallway outside of the Sanctuary.



Prayer Vigil



In Memory of

Elmer Hall Bay, Jr.

gifts have been designated

by

Earl and Ann Barrett

and

Cathy and Danny James

Susan and Rusty Whittaker

The Memorial Fund

Kelley and Debbie Massie

Higher Education Grant Fund

Bridgette Pendleton and Ruth Boyles

Belinda and Ed Pendleton

Feeding Hungry Children Fund

Michael Kile Burks

a gift has been presented for

Feeding Hungry Children Fund

by

Bridgette Pendleton and Ruth Boyles

Hylah Elizabeth Horton Lohr

gifts have been presented for

Feeding Hungry Children Fund

by

Mrs. Carol Lani Hill Arnett

Glenna B. Belcher

Gail and Jim Burks

Linda and Duval Bushong

Jerry and Terry Childress

Gerald H. Cooper

Maggie and Ed Croft

Betty Neil Cutlip

Debbie and Scott Daugherty

Mrs. Shirley O. Evans

Ms. Mary Lou Fensom

Fisher & Hodges CPAS

Suzy and Buddy Fry and Family

Lauren (Graham) and Matt Imrich, Mila and Blake

Dr. Norman and Mrs. Nancy Jones

Patricia A. Kiernan

Marcia Lohr

Debbie and Kelley Massie

Mariah K. Nunn

Valeda and John O'Dell



In Memory of

Helen and Joe Parish

Patty Lohr Pearson

Lucille Reynolds

Bridgette Pendleton and Ruth Boyles

Belinda and Ed Pendleton

Miss Gail Rector

Charlotte and Jerry Richeson

Florence Sarles

Peggy and Rod Thorn

Rebecca and Don Tillett

Pat and John Whitmore & Family

... in memory of

Hylah Elizabeth Horton Lohr

and in honor of

Robert N. Lohr

a gift has been presented for

Feeding Hungry Children Fund

by

Dr. Norman L. and Mrs. Nancy S. Jones

Hylah Elizabeth Horton Lohr

Ms. Rosanna Reaser

Ms. Gail Rector

Arthur Moody Scholarship Fund

In Honor of ...

Rev. and Mrs. Clifford Schell

gifts have been designated

by

Dr. Norman and Mrs. Nancy Jones

Odell H. Huffman Scholarship Fund

