

THE REMARKER

A Publication of First United Methodist Princeton, WV
A Place to Trust ♦ A Place to Become ♦ Church in the Heart of Princeton



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Pastoral Transition

Immediately following worship service on Sunday, June 9th, the Staff-Parish Committee will hold a celebration of Pastor Scott's and Pam's service at First Princeton for the past seven years. We will meet in the Family Ministries Center. Pastor Scott's last worship service with us will be June 23rd.

We will welcome Pastor Tom and Barbara McDowell on Sunday, July 7th.

Please keep an eye out for additional details on this transition in our worship bulletins.

First United Methodist Church of Princeton, WV

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I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me... (Ephesians 1:3-7a)

Okay, first of all, I must admit to using this passage of scripture a little loosely when it comes to its original context. Paul writes this from prison to the people he is hoping to see in the not too distant future. I am sharing these words with you as I think about my departure from this community in the very immediate future. And, just so you know, I am going to Huntington (not prison... unless you are a WVU fan, of course).

However, the time has definitely come for me to reflect a little on all that we shared over the past seven years.

I still recall the excitement we felt when we learned we were coming to Princeton First UMC and how that excitement grew upon meeting many of the people here. I recall my first Sunday here – mainly because the cameras and microphones made me so nervous, I wasn't sure I was going to make it through worship.

I recall great times of worship, fellowship, conversations both long and short, and wonderful times of growing together as we studied the Bible. I learned here how important it was that as one teaching from the Bible I need to be ready to admit the most important lesson anyone can learn – “I might be wrong, but I believe...”

I recall funerals of people loved by the congregation and by their pastor.

I fondly remember the prayer and support I felt through the loss of my Dad and every single kidney stone. I cherish the way this congregation embraced my family and lovingly helped nurture us all in the faith.

I know I have made mistakes along the way that may have hurt someone. Some of those mistakes were known by me and I want you to know that I did my best to make things right. Some of those mistakes are probably not known by me. So, if I have hurt you or offended you in any way, please know that I would welcome the gift of grace of your forgiveness. Some of you have made mistakes that have hurt me. At times I had the courage to say something and we have made peace. At other times, I have not been so courageous but I still extend in my heart all the grace to you that I would desire for myself.

In not too many weeks, this change in pastors will be a fading memory to us all. You will be – let me stress that – you WILL BE welcoming and loving Rev. McDowell and his family!! I will be working on building relationships with First UMC, Huntington.

In both places, though, I will be sharing the same prayer that is above. It is a prayer of introduction and leaving, so I will be saying it over and over until at least Christmas. And I will be adding these words to it as well: “And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more so that we will all be living proof of a loving God.”

Peace,
Pastor Scott





BRANDON ROLAND, YOUTH DIRECTOR

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C.I.A. YOUTH



PACKING FOOD BAGS FOR FEEDING HUNGRY CHILDREN. WHEN THIS EVENT STARTED, FUMC PRINCETON SENT BAGS TO 70 CHILDREN. THIS HAS GROWN TO 153 IN 2019.

I hope everyone had a blessed Easter and is having a great spring so far! One of my personal favorite youth events happens this time of year, our annual 30-hour fast titled 30 for 70. We call the event 30 for 70 because in the first year Becky and I partnered with Feeding Hungry Children ministry they were sending 70 food bags to children each weekend in our local schools, and we were fasting 30 hours to raise awareness and funds for our Feeding Hungry Children ministry.

We had another very successful 30-hour fast this year! The event was Friday and Saturday, April 26-27. We had 16 student participants and about 15 adult participants. For 70% of the students who

participated, this was their very first 30-hour fast and the first time fundraising or collecting any food items. We split the groups into teams and they have a friendly competition with a scavenger hunt on Friday night and a lot of games on Saturday. But we also do service projects in our community. We sent the participants to Bluefield Union Mission, Princeton Tender Mercies, and Amy's House of Hope. They helped Vicki Horton prepare, package, and deliver lunches to our homebound church members. The participants worked here at the church with our Feeding Hungry Children and Thread Loving Crafters ministries. I really wanted to educate our students, families, and participants on our own ministries, how they serve our community, and how they could get more involved.

The teams played games and all of the games were designed to make them experience hunger in a different aspect. Some of the games tested their logic,



communication, and physical skills while having an empty stomach as they were over 24 hours into their fast. I wanted to show them that some of the children that we support through Feeding Hungry Children still have to go to school hungry, they still have to take tests and complete their school work, and they still want to play and have fun. I wanted to show them how difficult it can be for these children who experience hunger and still have these things to accomplish. We also had Bible lessons and looked at how Christ calls us to serve the least of these, how fasting can help us stay in love with God, and how God's unique love is the key to being able to love everyone, even our enemies.

It was also incredible to see all of the church family that we had come and be a part of this weekend or dropped by the church to give donations. I have wanted this event to become a church-wide event and I believe that I saw the makings of that this weekend. I want to thank all



of the adults who helped drive our students around, helped with game stations, Vicki Horton for helping prepare the meal for the homebound members, those that gave monetary and canned food

donations, helped me at the church behind the scenes, Karen Thorn and her crew that helped prepare the break fast meal, Scott for leading us in communion to break our fast, and for everyone who prayed for us during our fast!



SORTING SLEEPING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS AT AMY'S HOUSE OF HOPE.

This weekend our students collected \$2,836 to help our Feeding Hungry Children ministry and 914 canned food and non-perishable items that will be divided up between Bluefield Union Mission, Tender Mercies and Amy's House of Hope. I could not be more proud of our students! We have an incredible group of young people and I am glad the church and community was able to see that during this weekend!

Here are a few key dates as the youth program is about to take a break for the summer months and will enter into a summer schedule of events:

- May 19th - 2019 Fumcies - End of the year awards celebration in FMC Gym from 4 to 6PM.
- HEGF Fundraiser - Flamingo Fundraiser - Starting on Monday May 27th.

I also want to ask for your prayers for the young adult and college group's upcoming mission trip to the Bronx, NY. The mission team consists of Corey Mann, Cole Hollifield, Stephen Linkous, Madison Knight, Allie Sears, Rachel Johnson, Kristine Price, and myself, Brandon Roland. We will be leaving Sunday, May 12th, and will return Saturday, May 18th. Pray for our safe travels, God's loving protection, and that we will be able to share the love of Christ in the neighborhood of Mott Haven.

Thank you!

In Christ's Love,
Brandon Roland

Congratulations to our Class of 2019 High School Seniors

Madison Austin, daughter of Jim and Heather Austin

Cade Fix, son of Robbie and Krista Fix

You're Invited!

Children's Choir Program

At 9:30am on May 12th, we will hold our annual Mother's Day Brunch in the Family Ministries Center gym.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom. II Corinthians 3:17

Our Mother's Day Worship (May 12th at 10:50) will be a program of Liberty and Freedom. The Children's Choir will celebrate the freedoms we enjoy as Americans and the nothing-like-it FREEDOM we have in Jesus Christ.



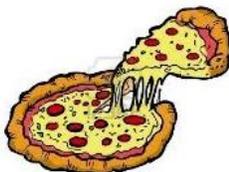
Our Children's Choir Mother's Day Program

MAY 12, 2019

10:50am

Created by Sherrie Price

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36



PIZZA PARTY

The Children's Choir will have an end of the year celebration on Wednesday May 15th at our regular Wednesday Night/Church Night time from 6:00-7:30.



BARBARA BALLARD, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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Office Hours: Mon: 9-10am; 11-12pm; Tues: 1-2pm; Wed: 12-2pm, 5:30-8pm

Sunday: 9:30am-Noon

Lenten Study and Princeton Parish Food Drive

Along with all of our church's other study groups, the children participated in Wesley's "Three Simple Rules" (for following Jesus) study during Lent this spring. Sunday School teachers Miss Sandy, Miss Amanda, and myself were so pleased with the kids' understanding of John Wesley's role in starting our denomination as well as his three simple rules to guide us in how we live out our faith in community. Through their discussion and artwork, they shared ways of how they could "Do No Harm" and "Do Good" (both to people and God's creation), and "Stay in Love with God." One lesson activity was completed on Easter Sunday during the Children's Message, when they interviewed Pastor Scott about practices he uses to stay in love with God.

We are very grateful for all of the extra Princeton Parish donations from the church family that went along with the goals of this study. Our nursery caregiver, Sabrina Mick, was volunteering at the Parish ministry during this time and she reported that it was a very busy time, and the generous donations from our church were very much needed and appreciated!

During these church-wide lessons, all ages were challenged to grow in their relationships with God, and believe that He will empower us to love God and our neighbor. I know we will see the fruit of this learning experience in the days ahead.



MISS SANDY EXPLAINS THE WEAVING WORK OF THE THREAD LOVING CRAFTERS GROUP TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AS PART OF THEIR CHURCH TOUR OF MISSION SPACES DURING THE "DO GOOD" THREE SIMPLE RULES LESSON.



THE CHILDREN LEAD US IN WORSHIP DURING OUR COMBINED SHOW-OFF NIGHT/DISCIPLISHIP KICK OFF.

MINISTRY NEWS

Thread-Loving Crafters (TLC)

TLC had the pleasure of working with the youth at the 30/70 fasting event. We were able to make fleece blankets and to teach them how to weave on a loom to make mats for the homeless.

We continue to work on our regular projects such as blankets, prayer shawls, hat and scarf sets, and more. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5:30pm and every Friday at 10am in the Family Ministries Center. Contact the Church Office with any questions on how to serve with this ministry!



FASTING YOUTH BUSIED THEIR HANDS WITH TLC, MAKING FLEECE-TIED BLANKETS.

On behalf of the staff at Child Protect, I would like to express warm thanks for the beautiful handcrafted items donated by TLC for the silent auction at the recent Chef's Battle Child Abuse event. This, our biggest annual fundraiser, helps us to continue providing vital services to the most vulnerable members of our community. Thank you as well for all the good you do all year.

Sincerely, Twyla Hersman

Parish News

Thanks to everyone who donated food, clothing, toiletries, and household goods to the Parish House over Lent. As some of you may have heard in the Mission Minute a few weeks ago in Worship, the need is steadily increasing. In case you didn't, here are the numbers from the first three months of 2019:

Last year the Parish House served 753 single or family units.

- In January of this year there were 92 food bags and 65 clothing bags given.
- In February there were 126 food bags and 109 clothing bags.
- In March there were 168 food bags and 144 clothing bags.

If these numbers continue, the Parish will double the number of bags donated in 2018. Please, remember the Parish House when you shop and continue to bring the requested food staples.

Volunteers sort and bag clothes and food starting at 10:00 am every Thursday morning at Kee Street UMC. Enter through the door under the sign if you are interested in helping.

The Parish is in the process of setting up a Facebook page and a website. Both will be extremely helpful for getting information out about the various events the Parish holds.

There will be a Pentecost Service June 9th with Dinner at 5:00pm and Worship at 6:00pm at Mount Horeb UMC. If you need more information, contact Janet Painter at 304-910-6214.



College News – Graduation Announcements!

Colton Fix, son of Krista and Robbie Fix, is graduating from New River Community and Technical College with an Associate Degree in Welding and Technology. He will be working for West Virginia Pipeline.

Cole Hollifield, son of Elizabeth and Jeff Hollifield, is graduating cum laude from Concord University with a Bachelor of Science in Pre-Professional Chemistry with a Minor in Biology. He plans to take a gap year which will include some job shadowing at the hospital and preparation for the MCAT test before going on to medical school.

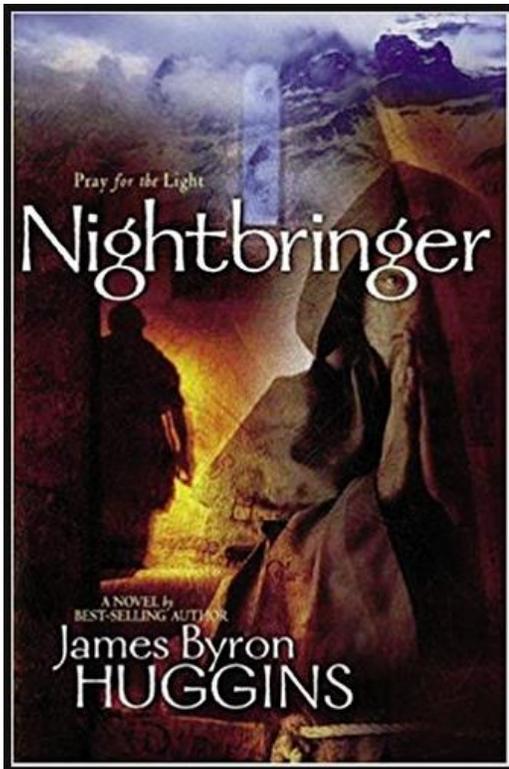
Isaac Mick, son of Sabrina Mick, will be graduating summa cum laude from Concord University with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics. He will be seeking employment.

Austin Smith, son of Patti and Rodney Smith, is graduating from Washington and Lee with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry with a Minor in Mathematics. He plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Brittany Smith, daughter of Patti and Rodney Smith, is graduating from Washington and Lee with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. She will attend Washington and Lee University School of Law.

Abbey Stafford, daughter of Pam and Will Stafford, is graduating from West Virginia University with a Masters of Business Administration and a Juris Doctor. She will be seeking employment after sitting for the West Virginia bar exam in July.

Library News



Nightbringer by James Huggins

“An ancient evil has darkened the abbey halls and turned the once-peaceful monastery into a murderous battleground. The abbey monks and a group of visiting tourists find themselves locked in a hopeless battle with an unstoppable force. Cut off from the outside world by a sinister snowstorm, the abbey’s defenders must fight for their survival and for their very soul. But from among the defenders arises an ageless holy warrior who alone wields the skill and power to stem the bloody tide of evil. In the epic battle that will decide the fate of all involved, the warrior must not only struggle against a familiar foe of mythic might but also rediscover the faith and love that have carried him through a thousand battles.”

The church library has 10 donated copies of this work of fiction to be given away. If you would like a copy, write the word “Night” next to your name on the Connect card or mail your request to the church office (PO Box 304).

Also, there are a few free copies of “Three Simple Rules” by Rueben Job still available. If you would like one of these books, write “Job” next to your name on the Connect card or submit your request to the church office (PO Box 304).

THANK YOU NOTES

We, the Princeton Senior High School Class of 2019, wish to express appreciation for your donation for Project Graduation. Your support will enable our class to safely celebrate one of the most important events of our lives.

Thanks to the many church members who took the time to send Valentine's Day Cards. I read them to Jean. Their thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Jerry Bailes

To everyone that participated in planning and serving the dinner for our family after the funeral. Thank you for providing our family with nourishment and a comfortable place to visit and love on each other!

With love, Bob and Martha Lohr

TRANSITIONS

In Memory

Edith Dodd Carr	August 18, 1924 – March 22, 2019
June Bishop Cline	September 29, 1926 – April 10, 2019

Transfer from Another United Methodist Congregation

Linda Hawkins	April 7, 2019
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Transfer from Another Denomination

Corey Mann	April 21, 2019
Mark Passeri	April 21, 2019

MEMORIALS and GIFTS

A gift was given to Feeding Hungry Children in loving memory of Neil Lohr by:

Edward and Mary Ruth Austin
 Glenna Belcher
 Ruth Boyles
 Geraldine and Terry Childress
 Larry and Martha Cook
 Betty Cutlip
 Harry Farmer
 Mary Lou Fensom
 JoAnna and Ott Fredeking
 Ben and Sandy Gay
 Hickman's Pharmacy
 Robert Jackson
 Norman and Nancy Jones
 Bridgette Pendleton
 Jeremy and Amanda Wensch

A gift was given to the Church Library fund in loving memory of Neil Lohr by:

the Men's Prayer Breakfast
 Jerry and Patty Flanagan

A gift was given to Feeding Hungry Children in loving memory of Edie Carr by Edward and Mary Ruth Austin.

A gift was given to the Odell Huffman Scholarship fund in loving memory of Edie Carr by Geraldine and Terry Childress.

A gift was given to the Choir Scholarship fund in loving memory of Edie Carr by Jerry and Patty Flanagan.

A gift was given to Princeton First United Methodist in loving memory of Edie Carr by:
JoAnn and Ott Fredeking
Mary Kuntz

A gift was given to the Church Library fund in loving memory of Toni Porterfield by Jerry and Patty Flanagan.

A gift was given to the Church Library fund in loving memory of Jerry Thompson by Jerry and Patty Flanagan.

A gift was given to the Easter Offering in loving memory of Clyde and Ina Farley and Bess Brookfield by Dan Farley.

MARCH - APRIL 2019 ATTENDANCE

Date	Sunday School	Worship	Online	Date	Sunday School	Worship	Online
3.3.19	53	141	26	4.7.19	51	132	-
3.10.19	50	144	-	4.14.19	56	121	23
3.17.19	66	140	30	4.21.19	40	201	20
3.24.19	57	160	-	4.28.19	83	158	28
3.31.19	63	158	24	Easter Sunrise		75	2
Ash Wed.		38		Tenebrae		52	8



EASTER FESTIVAL! BRASS AND TYMPANI JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR ON EASTER SUNDAY, ALL UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. CHARLES CHANDLER.



- May 01 – Gene Fields
- May 01 – Austin Smith
- May 01 – Brittany Smith
- May 02 – Jim Austin
- May 02 – Gina Moore
- May 03 – Kathy Dooley
- May 04 – Ella Sarver
- May 07 – Tierney Quesenberry
- May 07 – Kelley Rose
- May 08 – Buddy Fry
- May 11 – Shirley Halsey
- May 11 – Lauren Thompson
- May 12 – Nathan Elmore
- May 16 – Sarah Johnson
- May 17 – Cheryl Merritt
- May 20 – Megan Massie
- May 20 – Ron Steenson
- May 23 – Giff Coulbourne
- May 24 – Steve Comer
- May 24 – Rebecca Johnson
- May 24 – Alison Lester
- May 25 – Shanley Quesenberry
- May 27 – Joanna Thompson
- May 28 – James Graham
- May 29 – Makenli Roberts

May Anniversaries

- May 1 – Ben & Sandy Gay (54)
- May 16 – David & Sarah Johnson
- May 25 – Bill & Cindy Lewis
- May 30 – Jerry & Jean Bailes (73)

- June 01 – Ella Biggs
- June 01 – Will Horton
- June 04 – Tanner Veneri
- June 10 – Lori Comer
- June 10 – Betsy Horton
- June 13 – Alden Presley
- June 15 – Stephen Linkous
- June 15 – Randy McCormick
- June 16 – Bob Ballard
- June 17 – Jerry Flanagan
- June 17 – Ramonia Kessinger
- June 17 – Tony Veneri
- June 20 – Gail Rector
- June 23 – Jacob Flanagan
- June 24 – Linda Kennedy
- June 29 – Addison Sarver

June Anniversaries

- June 1 – Adam & Alston Sarver
- June 4 – Sam & Janet Thurmer (64)
- June 6 – Jon & Kathy Casey (51)
- June 7 – Brandon & BJ Roland
- June 8 – Don & Ramona Stanley
- June 9 – Kelley & Debbie Massie
- June 10 – Michael & Stephanie Bowling
- June 10 – Bill & Jan Wilson (60)
- June 16 – Ted & Debbie Gillespie
- June 16 – Norman & Nancy Jones (63)
- June 17 – Robbie & Krista Fix
- June 18 – Steve & Lori Comer
- June 20 – Jeff & Cathy McNew
- June 21 – Larry & Martha Cook
- June 27 – Marshall & Peggy Lytton (60)
- June 29 – Jason & Jessica Pritchett