



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. David S. Lake – Pastor

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry



February 21, 2016

2nd Sunday of Lent

WORSHIP HOST: 8:15 – Nellie Wiancko 10:45 - Dawn Capecci

GATHERING & WELCOME

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

MUSIC OF PREPARATION “Like a River Glorious”

LENTEN CANDLE CEREMONY

Bartholomew/Nathaniel (Tim Saporito)

James the Lesser (Mike Osborn)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: The Lord is our light and our salvation,

P: ... whom shall we fear?

L: Though adversaries encamp against us,

P: ... **God conceals and protects us from harm.**

L: Though enemies seek to bring us low,

P: ... **God lifts us up to stand on higher ground.**

L: Sing to the Lord with songs of joy.

P: **Make melody to the Lord, our God.**

L: The Lord is our light and our salvation,

P: ... whom shall we fear?

***OPENING PRAYER**

Mysterious One, in terrifying darkness you descended to Abram while he slept. In the secret place of our dreams, in the darkest night of our fears, you come to us and overshadow us, filling us with hope and dread.

Your power draws us like a moth to the flame. Hear us when we cry out to you, O God. Be our light and our salvation. Teach us the ways of heaven, that we may be children of your promise. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 103 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

Children come forward during the last verse.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

(Our Children’s Collection this morning will be used for “Disability Awareness.” Please see the announcement for more details.)

**ANTHEM 8:15 – “I Hill Called Mt. Calvary” - Deb Andrison
10:45 – “The Lord Is My Light” - Chancel Choir**

RESPONSIVE READING No. 758 Psalm 27

PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Meditation on 'Power in the Blood'”

***DOXOLOGY No. 87, v.4**

**These gifts we now bring, these presents, these tokens,
These words can convey it, the joy of this day!
Then grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
This song we now offer in honor and praise!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

Dear God, our Savior, you grant us citizenship in heaven. In your Son Jesus, we find peace and freedom from the consumerism of this world. May our minds be set not on earthly things, but on your ultimate purposes. Help us to place our hope in you. In trust, we dedicate these gifts for your service. Let more people come to know your saving help in Christ, our Lord. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 419 “I Am Thine, O Lord”

The Altar is open during the hymn.

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN

***SCRIPTURE (NRSV) Philippians 3:17-4:1**

MESSAGE

***HYMN OF PARTING No. 561 “Jesus, United by Thy Grace”**

MUSIC OF PARTING “Flourish on 'Salzburg'”

***Those who are able, please stand**

We express our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Katherine Clohessy. Katherine passed away on Wednesday, February 17. May God comfort all those whose lives she touched.

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK
Saturday Worship – 18 Sunday 8:15 – 53 10:45 – 85**

SERVING YOU SUNDAY, February 21st

GREETERS: 8:15 – Tom & Sandy Lehner

10:45 – Sara Campbell

USHERS TEAMS: 8:15 – Men's Group 10:45 – Lou Berta

SOUND TEAM: 8:15 – Fritz Runser 10:45 - Josh Burger, Penny Brant

NURSERY: Our Child Care Center (birth through age 5) will be open today during the 10:45 service. The attendants today will be Jennifer Dudik & Michelle Bilinsky.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The altar flowers today are presented in memory of:

Alice Fennell's birthday - by her husband, Glenn. The butterflies in the arrangement are to honor their five grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Daralyn (Patosky) McKeel – to commemorate the fifth anniversary of Daralyn (Patosky) McKeel's Homegoing. Questions linger. The void remains. Still, our God is sovereign.

Please return the plastic flower vases when you are finished with them.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Today, Sunday, February 21

2nd Sunday in Lent

8:00 Prayer Time

8:15 Worship

9:30 Sunday School for all ages

10:45 Worship

12:15 Sonshiners

2:00 FISH & CHIPS

2:30 Living Last Supper

Monday, February 22

Newsletter Deadline

6:30 Grief Support

7:00 Dartball - Home

Tuesday, February 23

6:15 TOPS

6:00 NA

Wednesday, February 24

11:30 Mid-week Lenten Service

(United Church of Christ, Main St)

5:30 Gym in use

7:00 Yoga

Thursday, February 25

6:15 C Bells

7:00 Disciple

7:15 Choir

8:15 LLS Choir

Saturday, February 27

Gym in use

6:00 Alternative Worship

Next Sunday, February 28

3rd Sunday in Lent

8:00 Prayer Time

8:15 Worship

9:30 Sunday School for all ages

10:45 Worship

12:15 Sonshiners

2:00 FISH & CHIPS

2:30 Living Last Supper Rehearsal

Pulpit Side

Women's Book Study: There will **not** be a Women's Book Study on February 24th as shown on the Newsletter calendar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S COLLECTIONS: The Children's Collection today will be for *Disability Awareness*.

Designated offerings collected on *Disability Awareness* enable churches to be more welcoming, creating environments where outsiders can become insiders. Because of the generosity of United Methodists throughout the Western Pennsylvania Conference, congregations receive grants to help turn barriers into open doors. Churches install elevators, build ramps, and designate handicapped - parking areas near entrances. The entire Disability Awareness Sunday Collection remains in the conference to help churches with accessibility projects. For more information of the programs provided through the United Methodist Church go to <http://www.umdisabilityministries.org>



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“Bethany House, McKeesport:” 2/14 - \$109.00

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Our Easter Candy Sale is now underway. This year we are ordering from *McFeelys Gourmet Chocolates* located across the street from our church. Order forms were included in your February newsletter or there are extra ones available on the table in the narthex. Please place all orders and checks (payable to FUMC) in the office door slot by **Sunday, March 6th**

Lent/Easter Quiz

(Monday – Friday during Lent)

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/lent-quiz-test-your-knowledge-of-the-season? ga=1.201395857.1823834676.1454675431>



February 10, Ash Wednesday

How were ashes imposed in the early church?

February 11

When did United Methodists start the ‘imposition of ashes?’

February 12

Does The United Methodist Church have official rules for observing Lent?

February 15

What does the term ‘Lent,’ which comes from ‘lencten,’ mean?

February 16

How did the early church observe Lent?

February 17

What snack food has significance during Lent?

February 18

Why do people give things up for Lent?

February 19

Many people fast during Lent. How often did John Wesley fast?

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: All articles for the March Newsletter are due in the office by Monday, February 22, 2016. Please submit your articles by email at fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net or by leaving a printed copy in the office. Articles not received by February 22nd will be published in the April newsletter.

NURTURE: Change of date for "Camp Sunday"! Our Camp Sunday will be on Sunday, March 13th! Remember to wear "camp clothes" that week to church. Join us after each service in the parlor for smore's and hot chocolate and pick up a 2016 camp brochure. If you've ever camped at Jumonville, Camp Allegheny or Wesley Woods and would like to share a camp story with me, or if you have any questions regarding camp registration, please call or e-mail Laurie Saporito (Camp Steward) at 724-864-5649 or cts72@hotmail.com.

2016 Community Mid-Week Lenten Services

“Fruits of the Spirit”

Sponsored by the Men’s Prayer Fellowship at
First United Church of Christ, 400 Main Street, Irwin, PA
Hymn singing - 11:30 AM Worship - Noon
Song Leader: Hervey Steiner Pianist: Jimmie Ruth Caughron
Signer: Connie Bridgeman

Wednesday, February 24

Topic: Joy Speaker: Shelli Prindle

Wednesday, March 2

Topic: Patience & Gentleness Speaker: Rev. Nick Poole

Wednesday, March 9

Topic: Faithfulness Speaker: Dr. Ronald Wakeman

Wednesday, March 16

Topic: Self-Control Speaker: Rev. Al Kimmel

Wednesday, March 23

Topic: Peace Speaker Rev. Ron Durikz

***Lunch is provided by Colonial Grille at 12:30 for a fee.**

THE LIVING LAST SUPPER: The *Living Last Supper* is ON! We have all the actors. Now we need your help. If you would like to sing in the choir, please come to rehearsals on Thursdays at 8:15 PM beginning February 18 (next week). Yard signs are in the assembly room near the Pastor's office. Please be sure to ask permission before posting on someone else's property. Placement near stop signs or lights are best, since people have time to read the information. Pocket posters and large posters will be available soon.

Upper Room: The March/April issue of the Upper Room is now available in the narthex. Holy Week devotions are in this issue. This small devotional helps us gain a deeper spiritual experience. Pick one up today.

Lent/Easter Quiz Answers

- Feb 10:** In the early days of the church, pastors did not dip their thumbs into the ashes to draw the shape of a cross on your forehead. Instead, they poured or sprinkled ashes over your head.
 - Feb. 11:** This practice became part of our official worship resources in 1992 when General Conference adopted *The United Methodist Book of Worship*. It is optional to use it.
 - Feb. 12:** The United Methodist Church does not have official guidelines on how individuals should observe Lent. Some choose to give up a certain food or restrict activities such as television watching, shopping or social networking. Some choose to give away clothing or possessions, or volunteer more, or increase time spent in prayer.
 - Feb. 15:** Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means “spring.” The root words mean “long days,” and this combination probably refers to the increasing daylight at this time of year. Lent’s 40 days represent Jesus’ time in the wilderness, enduring temptation and preparing to begin his ministry.
 - Feb. 16:** In addition to being a time to remember the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus, the early church used Lent to prepare converts for baptism, and to offer opportunities for those who had been separated from the church to be reconciled. In addition to being a time to remember the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus, the early church used Lent to prepare converts for baptism, and to offer opportunities for those who had been separated from the church to be reconciled. Today Lent remains an ideal time to remember our baptism and to reconcile relationships with those we may have harmed. All of this signifies to us our sinfulness and the sacrifice of Jesus which makes our forgiveness possible.
 - Feb. 17:** The twisted pretzel is said to have its roots in Lent. According to legend, a 7th century monk made bread from flour, water, and salt—no eggs or milk because they were avoided during Lent. He then formed it into the shape of a common prayer pose of the day, hands on opposite shoulders. You have to turn the pretzel upside down to see it.
 - Feb. 18:** Many people give something up for Lent like chocolate, social media, shopping, or a bad habit. These are modern-day adaptations of the spiritual discipline of fasting or abstinence. John Wesley encouraged early Methodists to regularly practice abstinence or fasting as an act of piety, like praying or reading the Bible. He also taught that fasting was best when coupled with acts of mercy such as giving to the poor. Rather than giving something up this Lent, you might choose to add a practice during Lent to achieve one or more of the same goals.
 - Feb. 19:** John Wesley fasted from all food beginning after the evening meal through mid-afternoon the next day, twice a week. He thought the practice an important form of penitence which allowed more time for prayer and believed it was more meaningful combined with giving to the poor.
- Jesus went into the wilderness to fast for 40 days and nights. Fasting during Lent is a way of tuning in to the Christian idea of sacrifice. The United Methodist Church does not have official guidelines for the practice of fasting. Individuals are encouraged to make the best choice based on their personal situation.