

**CHURCH FINANCES AS OF MARCH 2023**  
**MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW**

January Income	\$24,871.47
January Expenses	<u>\$37,248.84</u>
Month Ending	- 12,377.37
February Income	\$27,600.41
February Expenses	<u>\$33,710.61</u>
Month Ending	- 6,110.20
March Income	\$25,079.10
March Expenses	<u>\$24,824.56</u>
Month Ending	254.54

At month end, we are at a  
Positive \$254.54 (BUDGET VS ACTUAL)

January – March we are at a Negative \$18,233.03  
(UNDESIGNATED INCOME VS EXPENSE)  
**BUILDING EXPENSES ALONE (January – March)**  
**ARE AT A**  
**NEGATIVE \$17,328.71**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS FEEL FREE TO CALL OR STOP BY THE OFFICE AND SEE JOYCE.**

**[joyce.shaffer@irwinfirstumc.org](mailto:joyce.shaffer@irwinfirstumc.org) or call 724-863-6858**

THE CHURCH AND ITS OFFICE RUNS TRANSPARENT, IF ANYONE HAS QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT FINANCES REACH OUT TO THE OFFICE MANAGER, JOYCE. YOU CAN REACH HER BY - STOPPING IN THE OFFICE DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS WHICH ARE MONDAY – FRIDAY FROM 10-2, BY CALLING HER AT 724-863-4977 OR BY EMAIL AT [joyce.shaffer@irwinfirstumc.org](mailto:joyce.shaffer@irwinfirstumc.org).

*Altar Flowers*



The flowers on the altar are in honor of Ron and Katie's birthdays, from Robbyn.



**First United Methodist Church**  
310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642  
724-863-6858 - [www.irwinfirstumc.org](http://www.irwinfirstumc.org)  
[office@irwinfirstumc.org](mailto:office@irwinfirstumc.org) Like us on Facebook  
Rev. Bruce R. Judy, Pastor - 724-747-6098 (call or text)  
Dianne Runser - Music Ministries  
Ronald Slavin - Youth Ministries  
Laura Willby - Contemporary Music Coordinator

**April 16, 2023**

**Holy Humor Sunday**

**Memory Verse - *Philippians 2:10,11***

***“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”***

**GATHERING & WELCOME**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

**MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY**

**THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**

**THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**MUSIC OF PREPARATION**

**“Music Box Bellody” - Cathedral Bells**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP No. 861**

***Psalm 148:1-6, 13, 14***

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord, in the heights!

**P: Praise the Lord, all his angels, praise the Lord, all his hosts!**

L: Praise the Lord, sun and moon, praise the Lord, all shining stars!

**P: Praise the Lord, highest heavens, and all the waters above the heavens!**

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded and they were created,

**P: Who established them forever and ever, and fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.**

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name alone is exalted, whose glory is above the earth and heaven.

**P: God has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful ones, for the people of Israel who are near their God.**

**ALL: Praise the Lord!**

**\*HYMN No.**

1. Deck the halls with Easter lilies, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Dance a jig and sing the sillies, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
At the devil, mean, old bloke, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
On whom God has played a joke, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!

2. Devil thought he'd won the battle, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Pranced around high in the saddle, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Did not know God's special plan, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
To resurrect the Son of Man, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!

3. Merry Christians rejoice and sing, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Now's the triumph of our King, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Lord of Life is ris'n this day, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Let the world rejoice and say, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!

4. Songs of joy to Christ our head, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Lives again who once was dead, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Life was purchased by his loss, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!  
Died our death upon the cross, Fa-la-la-la-la-le-lu-ia!

**"Deck the Halls"**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

For our joys we say: "Praise the Lord"  
For our concerns we say: "Lord hear our Prayers"

**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

**\*GOSPEL READING**

*John 20:19-31*

**SERMON**

**"Why the Story of Thomas?"**

**\*HYMN No.**

**"TAKE TIME TO BE FUNNY"**

1. Take time to be funny, rejoice in the Lord  
Let laughter explode and have fun with God's Word  
For laughter is healing, gives strength to the weak  
God loves to see smiles, they lift up the meek.

2. Take time to be silly, it's good for the soul  
Too many are somber, grabbing control.  
Let go and let God's love wash over your soul  
Hea-ven-ly transcendence can be your life's goal.

3. For humor is holy, it sanctifies life,  
Replenishes hope and oft softens advice  
It undercuts sorrow, deflates haughty pride  
So smile and hang on, rejoice in life's ride.

**CHILDREN'S CHAT**

**CHILDREN'S OFFERING**

The Children's Offering for the month of April will be going to a local mission.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**"My Didn't It Rain" - Chancel Choir**

**WORD OF GOD**

*1 Peter 1:3-9*

**PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERING**

**\*OFFERTORY**

**"Sunshine in My Soul"**

**\*DOXOLOGY No. 2026**

**"Halle, Halle, Halleluja!"**

Halle, Halle, Halleluja! (3 times)  
Halleluja! Halleluja!

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

**\*HYMN No.**

**"Hark the Herald Angel Said"**

Hark the Herald Angel said,  
Why seek Jesus with the dead?  
He's not here, as you can see,  
Gravecloths lie where he would be.  
On your way now, tell the others,  
Jesus will be with his brothers.  
Sisters, too, he wants to see  
On the hills of Galilee.  
Hark the Herald Angel said,  
He is risen from the dead.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*MUSIC OF PARTING**

**"I've Got the Joy"**

**ASSISTING WITH TODAY'S SERVICE**  
Worship Host - Robbyn Slavin  
Music Leader - David Lyons

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK AT FUMC**  
Saturday Evening - 20  
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. - 93 10:45 a.m. - 151  
Facebook, YouTube, Zoom - 16

**\* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help with a deep cleaning of the first two floors of the church.



Jobs include light duty and heavy lifting.

Cleaning will take place the week of June 26 - June 30  
Anytime that you can help between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Please call the church office to sign up and help out!  
Your dedication to the church is greatly appreciated.

**BLESSING BOX** - We stock our Blessing Box with toiletry items for those who are in need of them in our community. The need at this time is very great and we hope you can help. If you have donations of new items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner, bath soap, deodorant or any personal hygiene items, please bring them to the church when you come for Saturday or Sunday services. Please be sure that all items are new and in their original packaging. If you have any questions about the Blessing Box, please contact Pastor Bruce or Ron. Additional Blessing Boxes are located in Irwin at the First Assembly of God Church on Oak Street (canned goods) and at the Cheesecake Café on Main Street (books.)

### Anybody Welcome

The Sanctuary is open and available for prayer and meditation.

Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Please sign in and out on the volunteer sheet found on the office half door.



**SALVATION ARMY DIRECT NUMBER** - 724-331-7832. If you know of anyone in need of our services please do not hesitate to call.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Camp:** It is time to start planning your church camp experience! Brochures are available on the NOW table in the June Coons Room and information is available online. There are camps for children, youth, and adults at Jumonville, Wesley Woods, and Camp Allegheny. Our church will now pay 50% of the camp cost for members of our church and for persons attending here. Register and have a great time at camp! If you have any questions, contact Debbie Weaver.
- **Safe Sanctuary Training:** If there is anyone in need, there will be a training held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Open to all. Contact the church office or Ron, if you are interested.
- **If you would like more information about the state of our church regarding disaffiliation, you can visit this website: askumc.com or visit the conference website to find the link: www.wpaumc.org**
- **OLDIES DANCE FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023, 6:00 P.M. COME JOIN THE FUN!**

## HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

What IS Holy Humor Sunday?

The idea behind it is that God played the greatest practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. One website about this special Sunday states: Holy Humor Sunday services not only give Christians an opportunity for ongoing celebrations of the greatest miracle in human history - Jesus' resurrection - it also gives each of us an opportunity to celebrate, and give thanks for our own smaller resurrections in this world and this life.

From time to time in our earthly lives, many of us have been dead - from illness, depression, physical injuries, emotional wounds, the loss of loved ones, financial losses - and yet have come alive and endured while looking forward to the Great Resurrection.

Laughter releases tension and we have enough of that these days. We all need to stop taking ourselves so seriously. We need to recognize that this is really God's world and He has so much in store for us. We put too much emphasis on what's wrong and what's bad with it.

As part of the festivities, we are proclaiming TODAY as Holy Humor Hat Day. Feel free to be as silly as you can. This is a chance for everyone to relax, smile, even (GASP!) LAUGH in church! Celebrate the joy we find in our faith! Remember – laughter is the best medicine!

Looking ahead: Below you will find the upcoming Gospel readings for the next two week:

April 23: *Luke 24:13-35*

April 30: *John 10:1-10*

### **LOST AND FOUND**

There is a black, XL Ororo coat hanging in the coat room, between the Narthex and the June Coons Room. If it is yours, please grab it and take it home.

### **Wendell's Vision**

Could you use some assistance with those pesky tasks at your place? Maybe you just need some help reddin' up around your place. Great, we might be able to help with that!

Wendell's Vision is a ministry where volunteers from our church can check off those "To-do list" items from around your house. For you folks who attend Irwin First UMC regularly there may be hope in your future...so get those pencils ready to check off some tasks.

To start the process, you will want to fill out a request form. They can be found in the June Coons Ministry Center on our ministry station. Take one, fill in the information, and return it to the church office. All requests are vetted and if approved, are passed on to us. We will then contact you for an evaluation visit to discuss the task(s) and possible timeline. Some projects/tasks may be out of our expertise, but we'll only know if you make a request. Our volunteers are dedicated to doing the best they can to make your situation better. But we are limited by availability, experience, skill sets and having the right tools for the job. With that in mind, we are always welcoming more volunteers to the cause. If you might be ready to answer the call to this ministry, please let us know by filling out a form from our ministry station (next to the request forms) and turn it in at the church office.

People need help with those tasks that they just can't do any longer, are too dangerous to attempt, lost the person who always did it in the past, just need assistance, just don't want to do that anymore or maybe, just can't afford to pay someone to do it. Many reasons exist...but it doesn't change the "WHY", only that things need done!

**Let's work together to make a difference in our fellow believers' lives.**

Coordinators, Patty & Jack Osterman

**The UMW and N.O.W. Committees  
are holding a**

*Purse Auction Fundraiser!*

**Sunday, April 23rd - 12:30 PM**

**Mystery Purse Fundraiser,  
bid on your favorite purse,  
and enjoy the surprises  
inside when you win!**

**UMW providing lunch  
\$7/person**



**First United Methodist  
Church of Irwin**

**310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA**

**724-863-6858 • [www.irwinfirstumc.org](http://www.irwinfirstumc.org)**

### **"Share Your Faith"**

A new class held by Brian Rendulich

**When - May 3, 10, and 17**

**Time - 6:00 p.m.**

*Faith*  
is not hoping  
**God** can  
it is knowing  
He **Will**



## **THIS WEEK AT IRWIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Feel free to contact Pastor Bruce at any time if you are in need of pastoral care.

His contact information is as follows: 724-747-6098 (call or text) -  
[preacherptl@gmail.com](mailto:preacherptl@gmail.com)

### **Sunday, April 16 - Holy Humor Sunday**

8:15 a.m. - Worship Service  
10:45 a.m. - Worship Service  
12:15 p.m. - Temple Chimes  
6:30 p.m. - Volleyball

### **Monday, April 17**

9:00 a.m. - Quilting  
6:30 p.m. - Cub Scouts  
7:00 p.m. - Dartball

### **Tuesday, April 18**

8:00 a.m. - Senior Activity Center  
6:00 p.m. - Basketball  
7:00 p.m. - Finance  
7:00 p.m. - SPRC  
7:30 p.m. - NA

### **Wednesday, April 19**

8:00 a.m. - Senior Activity Center  
10:00 a.m. - Quality Control meeting  
1:00 p.m. - Bible Study  
Zoom Meeting ID# 894 9312 8220, Password: 104289  
5:00 p.m. - Youth Group  
6:00 p.m. - Safe Sanctuary Training  
6:00 p.m. - TOPS  
7:00 p.m. - Zoom Prayer Group Meeting  
Zoom Meeting ID#: 311 4389 930, Password: 3U22u3  
7:00 p.m. - AA

### **Thursday, April 20**

8:00 a.m. - Senior Activity Center  
6:00 p.m. - Basketball  
6:00 p.m. - Girl Scouts  
6:15 p.m. - Cathedral Bells  
6:30 p.m. - NA  
7:15 p.m. - Choir

### **Friday, April 21**

6:00 p.m. - Oldies Dance

### **Saturday, April 22**

9:30 a.m. - Lay Speaker School  
6:00 p.m. - Contemporary Worship

### **Sunday, April 23**

8:15 a.m. - Worship Service  
10:45 a.m. - Worship Service  
12:15 p.m. - Temple Chimes  
12:00 p.m. - Mystery Purse Auction  
1:30 p.m. - Lay Speaker School  
6:30 p.m. - Volleyball

**HOSPITAL CALLS AND VISITS** - If you or someone you know is in the hospital or would like a visit from Pastor Bruce, please call the office or you may call/message Pastor Bruce directly at 724-747-6098. *Remember, Pastor Bruce cannot provide care to our congregation if he does not know there is a need.*

### **IN PERSONAL CARE AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES**



Catherine Mowery - Red Stone Greensburg, Lois K. - Ridgeview Residential Care, Wanda H. - Walden View; Mary Greene & James R., Sr. - St. Anne's Home, Greensburg; Altozoe S. - Hempfield Manor.

### **CONTINUOUS PRAYER**

Pam T., Abbie, Bill K., Burnetta G., Brent L., Carol A., Cindy M., Cliff R., Daryl S., Diane B., Floyd H., Harry A., Heather, Jackie S., James B., Jane W., Jeret B., Jen, Jill F., John B., John D., John and Cheryl M., Joyce T., Judy, Kate G., Kathy S., Keith C., Kent G., Larry, Maria B., Marlin P., Marybeth H., Mary, Megan S., Megan Y., Mike P., Molly A., Nedra G., Pat M., Patty W., Paula, Penny, Renee, Rick and Mary Ann C., Ron M., Robert, Rose H., Roy, Rue, Sandye C., Shirley B., Sheila L., Terry and Deb Y., VI N., Virginia I., William

**Missionaries:** Bob & Natalie F. and Family (India), John and Diane K. (Mexico) and Connie Wieck.

***If there is a name you would like added to the prayer list, please contact the office at 724-863-6858.***

### **THIS MONTH'S PRAYER LIST**

*We will change the prayer list the first Sunday of each month. Please contact the church office with names for the list.*

Nancy , John, Anne D., Craig C., Debbie W., Denise D., Ed C., Ethel R., Family of Mary U., Jennifer G., Kathy U., Ken B., Kevin G., Kristen H., Kristi S., Jameson W., Justin H., Jonathan and Felicia W., Linda H., Marlene W., Pam K., our world, Military and First Responders, our Country and Leaders, job situations and those traveling.

### **MILITARY PERSONNEL**

Joe P., William R., Tanner G., Tim N., Brandon D., Colby S., Angelo W., Nicholas P., David J., Amanda M., James G., Emery M., Makayla L., Mark R., Sara D., Jeremy L., Carl B., Dylan A., Thomas C. and Edward J. III.