



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-6858

www.irwinfirstumc.org

irwinfirstumc@comcast.net

Like us on Facebook

Rev. Bruce R. Judy, Pastor - 724-747-6098 (call or text)

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

January 1, 2017

First Sunday after Christmas

WORSHIP HOST: Tracy Hawley

GATHERING & WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

***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 **“Just Another Christmas”**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Shout to the Lord your praises!

P: Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!

L: For God’s might and power are established in the universe!

P: God’s transforming love beckons us.

L: Come, let us worship God whose Light bursts forth into our darkness!

P: Let us praise the God of salvation who brings us home. AMEN.

***UNISON PRAYER**

God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus’ birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

***HYMN No. 117 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (tune: Auld Lang Syne”)**

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS No. 2233 “This Is Where Children Belong”

(Our Children’s Collection this morning will be given to the Outreach Committee for their Thanksgiving Basket program. Please see the announcement for more details.)

ANTHEM **“Come, Follow that Star”** – Chancel Choir

WORD OF GOD **Hebrews 2:10-18**

PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “O Little Sweet One”

***CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY (tune: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)**

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.
Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,
As we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

God, our provider, we marvel that you care for each individual personally. Thank you for giving Joseph dreams for guidance and a trusting heart to follow you. Help us to discern the nudges and leading of your Holy Spirit. May we take action swiftly in response to your call to compassion for people in need. Bless them in practical ways through our church’s ministries. We dedicate our tithes and offerings in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***HYMN No. 219 “What Child Is This”**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 Matthew 2:13-23

MESSAGE

READING (Worship Host – see below)

Reader 1: Whew! This year is almost over! What a relief!

Reader 2: I never thought I would get through it all. For some reason there seemed to be more demands on me and on my time than ever before.

Reader 1: I know what you mean! Now we are looking at a new year. I don’t know if I’m ready.

Reader 2: I don’t think we are ever ready for what’s coming.

Reader 1: I have to admit it, I am not exactly looking forward to starting another year. I didn’t get done all the things I should have gotten done during the last year.

Reader 2: Well, you can’t go back and retrieve that stuff, you know.

Reader 1: I wonder what will be different this coming year.

Reader 2: I wonder if I will be different this coming year. I wonder if I will be more prepared to do all that I have to do.

Voice: Quiet your spirits. God is with you. You do not have to finish this year by rushing headlong into a new year. Give yourself some quiet time. Be at peace. God is with you.

Reader 1: I know. I've got to let go of slavery to a schedule and take some time just to be quiet, calm--just to be.

Reader 2: I've got to take a better look at the things that are important, not spend so much time plotting and planning.

Voice: Come to me, you who are weary and find your burdens heavy. I will give you rest.

Reader 1 and Reader 2: We come to you this day, gracious Lord, exhausted from all the activities of the season. It seems that we spend so much energy, time, and resources in preparation, and then when it is over, we collapse. We wonder what happened to all the enthusiasm we had. Lord, forgive us for placing our energies in getting and gathering. Give us peace and strength to renew our commitment to you. Remind us again to look around at the many ways in which we can be of service to you by serving others. Help us move forward in our compassion and not collapse in our witness. Heal us, merciful Lord, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Voice: Though the world swirls around you and exhaustion threatens to overtake you, rest your spirits in the great God of all creation who is with you now and forever! God will give you strength and restore your spirits.

***HYMN No. 251 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"**

***BENEDICTION**

L: Let us go into the new year with Jesus, common in origin with us.

P: We go into the new year with Jesus, who treats us as family, as brothers and sisters.

L: Let us go, placing our trust in God, just as Jesus did.

P: We go as children of God, with Jesus by our side.

L: And all of God's Christmas people say together:

P: Amen!

***MUSIC OF PARTING "We Three Kings"**

The service is under the control of the Holy Spirit.

The altar rail is always open.

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

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Christmas Eve: 5:30 – 155 7:30 – 201 11:00 – 107 Christmas Day – 88

SERVING YOU TODAY

GREETERS: Lee Stewart

USHERS TEAMS: Tom Lehner

SOUND TEAM: Penny Brant, Josh Burger

NURSERY: Our Child Care Center (birth through age 5) will be open today but no attendants will be on duty. Parents are welcome to use our nursery but must stay with their children.

2017 CALENDARS: There are 2017 Calendars on the table in the Narthex. Ott's Funeral Home had them printed with our church worship services and contact information on. Please take one home with you.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Office - 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday thru Thursday

8:00 AM – Noon on Friday

Pastor Bruce – 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

724-747-6098 (call or text) or email at preacherptl@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact Pastor Bruce if you are in need of a pastoral visit.

Today, Sunday, January 1, 2017

New Years Day

10:00 Combined Worship Service

No Sunday School Classes

Monday, January 2

Office Closed

7:00 Dartball - H

Tuesday, January 3

Office Closed

6:15 TOPS

7:00 Outreach

7:00 Nurture

7:30 NA

Thursday, January 5

2:00 John Forte Memorial Service

6:15 C Bells

7:15 Choir

Saturday, January 7

4:00PM-6:00PM Singles Spaghetti Dinner

(see announcement & Dawn Capecci for details)

6:00 Alternative Worship Service

Next Sunday, January 8, 2017

Epiphany Sunday/Communion

8:00 Prayer

8:15 Worship Service

9:30 Sunday School

10:45 Worship Service

12:15 SonShiners

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION: All receipts for items that you have bought for the church and wish to be reimbursed for, or wish to have credit for on your annual giving statement, must be turned in by January 8, 2017. After January 8th the 2016 financial records will be closed and all credits will go toward the 2017.

CHURCH CLEANING DAY-SAVE THE DATE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

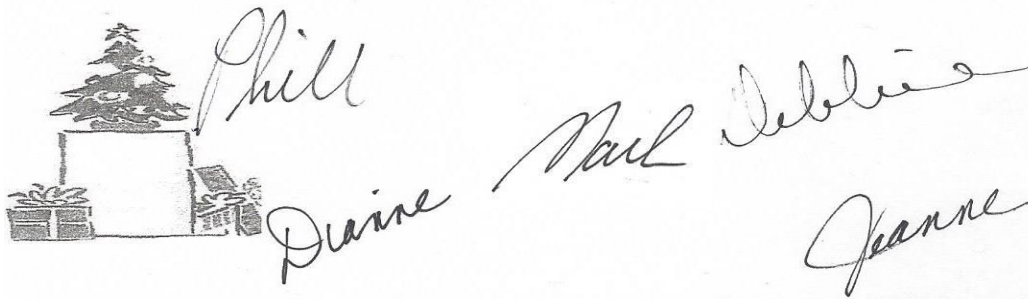
Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 9:00 AM

Each volunteer will be assigned a project area to work on your own or in small groups. Please bring your bucket and rags! All help will be used and appreciated! We have a large old church and all areas need cleaned out and scrubbed down.

If you have questions, please contact Becky Rudy 724-493-3734

YOUTH MINISTER JOB OPENING: Are you a motivated, grace-filled Christian looking for part-time work? Join our team at Irwin First United Methodist Church! This position is roughly 20 hours/week and includes planning/coordinating/promoting activities with our youth and their friends to increase their faith. Activities include weekly youth group meetings, periodic youth events (fellowship, service projects, retreats), and some assistance with high school Sunday School. Personal commitment to Christ; working with youth using creativity, understanding, & kindness; Biblical worldview; and strong organizational/communication/team-building skills are necessary. Music/guitar skills, preaching capabilities, and computer/multi-media skills are a plus. Future potential growth into additional areas of ministry are available if mutually agreeable! Please send resume & cover letter to: Irwin First United Methodist Church, 310 Oak Street, Irwin, Pa 15642. Or email: fumc.debbie.offmgr@comcast.net

Any questions, please call the church office at 724-863-6858



The FUMC staff wishes to thank everyone for the gifts we received during the Christmas season. We greatly appreciate your kindness and generosity, not only through the holidays, but all through the year.

CANCELING SUNDAY SERVICES: Unless state officials declare a “State of Emergency” which requires all non-emergency personnel to stay off the roads, services will be held here at FUMC.

Please evaluate the roads in your area to determine if they are safely passable. If you are not comfortable traveling on the roads surrounding your house, please stay safe and stay home.

In the event that Pastor Bruce does cancel services, he will contact the area TV stations, provide them with the cancellation code for our church, and give them specific information. The cancellation will then be listed with others in the area.

Please do not call the church to see if services are being held. This takes our custodian away from his tasks of preparing the building for services, clearing snow and ice and spreading salt on the sidewalks, and in every way ensuring that our property is safe for our worshipers and the community.

Winter weather is always unpredictable. All-in-all, please use your best judgment, err on the side of caution, and stay safe.

Committee Chairs – If you cancel your meeting please remember to contact the custodian ... if possible by 4:00 PM. They are paid to prepare the church for your meeting and stay while people are in the building. If no one is meeting, they are making a special trip, sometimes in very bad weather, to be here for no reason. **Again, if you cancel your meeting please remember to contact the custodian.**

CHILDREN’S COLLECTIONS: This week our Children’s collection will be put into our Pastor’s Discretionary Fund (PDF.) Our pastor uses this fund to help those in our church and community when a need arises.

PDF 12/25 - \$96.50

Christian Singles Fellowship




Attention ALL single, meaning never married, divorced and widowed friends:

Do you feel lost in the church and not sure where you fit in because you don’t have someone or you don’t have kids? If so come and join us on January 7 at 4:00 PM in the Kiwanis Room for dinner and fellowship. We will discuss how we can “fit” in at the church. I would like to start a Christian Singles Fellowship at the church where we can get together study the Bible, play games and learn how we can help in our churches. This group is for adults who graduated high school and older.

HOSPITAL CALLS: Excelsa Hospitals will no longer call the church to let us know when our parishioners are in the hospital. If you or someone you know is in the hospital, please call the office or Pastor Bruce to let us know. We will need the name of the patient, the hospital and the room number if available. It's better to get multiple calls than none at all.





Remember, Pastor Bruce cannot provide care to our congregation if he doesn't know there is a need.



Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:  **A**  **E**  **I**  **O**

" _ _ M TH _ L _ GHT _ F
TH _ W _ RLD. WH _ _ V _ R
F _ LL _ WS M _ W _ LL N _ V _ R
W _ LK _ N D _ RKN _ SS."
J _ HN 8:12, NIV