



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 8, 2017

Epiphany Sunday

January Memory Verse – Psalm 46:10

“Be still and know that I am God.”

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

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

MUSIC OF PREPARATION “Pastorale”

***CALL TO WORSHIP No. 738 Psalm 1**

L: Blessed are those who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked;

P: or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

L: but their delight is in the law of the Lord,

P: and on God’s law they meditate day and night.

L: They are like trees planted by streams of water that yield their fruit in season, and their leaves do not wither.

P: In all that they do, they prosper.

L: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff which the wind drives away.

P: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment; nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

L: for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,

P: but the way of the wicked will perish.

***PRAYER OF LIGHT**

Strong covenant God, save us from being self-centered in our prayers, and teach us to remember to pray for others. May we be so bound up in love with those for whom we pray that we may feel their needs as acutely as our own, and intercede for them with sensitiveness, with understanding, and with imagination. This we ask in Christ’s name. Amen.

***SONG OF LIGHT No. 2173 (TFWS) “Shine. Jesus. Shine”**

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

(Our Children’s Collection this morning will be given to Bethany House.

Please see the announcement for more details.)

ANTHEM 10:45 –“Covenant Prayer” – Chancel Choir

PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Take My Life and Let It Be”

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

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

***HYMN No. 221 “In the Bleak Mid-Winter”**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

For our joys we say: “Praise the Lord.”
For our concerns we say: “Lord, hear our prayers.”

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON SCRIPTURE John 14:15-17

SERMON “The Covenant”

ANOINTING OF CHURCH LEADERS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION III Pg. 15

THE INVITATION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SACRAMENT

(All are welcome. Please follow the directions of the ushers.)

***HYMN No. 254 “We Three Kings”**

***BENEDICTION**

***MUSIC OF PARTING “Procession of the Magi”**

*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

Saturday - 13 Sunday – 78

SERVING YOU TODAY

GREETERS: 8:15 – Mike, Cheryl & Jason Kirsch 10:45 – Ethel Rosenberg & Edith Bush

USHERS TEAMS: 8:15 – Men’s Group 10:45 - Tom Lehner

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

NURSERY: Our Nursery (birth through age 5) is open during the worship services. If no attendants are present, parents are still welcome to use the nursery however they must stay with their children.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The Altar flowers today are presented in honor of the 65th Wedding Anniversary of Bill and Elaine Mays.

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.**

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 8

Epiphany Sunday/Communion

- 8:00 Prayer
- 8:15 Worship Service
- 9:30 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship Service
- 12:15 SonShiners
- 12:30 Choir Members Christmas Party
at Abruzzi's

Thursday, January 12

- 11:00 Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
- 6:15 C Bells
- 6:30 NA
- 7:15 Choir

Friday January 13

- 9:00 Food Bank Truck (Help Needed)
- Gym Closed

Monday, January 9

- 6:30 Grief Support
- 7:00 Dartball - A

Saturday, January 14

- 9:00 Food Bank (Help Needed)
- 6:00 Alternative Worship Service

Tuesday, January 10

- 9:00 Men's Work Team
- 6:15 TOPS
- 6:30 Witness
- 7:00 Trustees
- 7:30 NA

Next Sunday, January 15

- 8:00 Prayer
- 8:15 Worship Service
- 9:30 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship Service
- 12:15 Un-hanging of the Greens
- 12:15 SonShiners

Wednesday, January 11

- 1:00 Bible Study
(Assemble Room by the Pastor's office)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S COLLECTIONS: This week our children's collection will be given to Bethany House, in the impoverished community of Northview Heights in North Pittsburgh. This is one of the organizations supported by the Greensburg District. Their mission is to prepare children, youth, and adults of that community, academically, socially, economically, and spiritually for lifelong learning, achievement, health and prosperity. They work to provide quality supplemental education to children in preschool to the age of 18. Their focus is on those whose means do not allow for extra educational endeavors. <http://www.bhaweb.org/>

PDF 12/25 - \$96.50 1/1 - \$65.00

Pastor Bruce and Bonnie want to thank everyone for the cards and gifts during Christmas. We love you.

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 today, January 8, 2017. After today the 2016 financial records will be closed and all credits will go toward the 2017.

UN-HANGING OF THE GREENS: Next Sunday, January 15th, we will be taking down the church decorations immediately after the 10:45 AM service. If we have as many people stay to help as we did during Hanging of the Greens, we should be done in no time. Please plan on staying to help.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: All information for the February 2017 Newsletter is due in the office by Sunday, January 22nd. Please email (preferred) your information to fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net or write it down and leave a copy on the office desk. Please do not call to submit your information. Any information not received by Sunday, January 22nd will be published in the March 2017 Newsletter.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, February 5th and run through Sunday, April 9th. The classes will be held during the Sunday School hour and Pastor Bruce will be the instructor. Youth who are interested in attending the Confirmation classes in preparation for becoming a member of our church should contact Pastor Bruce (724-747-6098 (call or text) or email at preacherptl@gmail.com) or the church office (724-863-6858.)

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES: Membership classes for those wishing to join our church, and those who would like a refresher course about the United Methodist Church, will take place during the Sunday School hour from Sunday, February 19th through Sunday, March 26th. The Confirmation class will be joining the Membership class for these sessions. Pastor Bruce will also be leading these sessions.

**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

Winter can be beautiful and fun. It can also be dangerous. The guidelines below come from the American Red Cross.

As temperatures drop this winter, the American Red Cross offers ten steps people can take to stay safe during the cold weather.

1. Layer up! Wear layers of lightweight clothing to stay warm. Gloves and a hat will help prevent losing your body heat.

2. **Don't forget your furry friends.** Bring pets indoors. If they can't come inside, make sure they have enough shelter to keep them warm and that they can get to unfrozen water.
3. **Remember the three feet rule.** If you are using a space heater, place it on a level, hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away – things such as paper, clothing, bedding, curtains or rugs.
4. **Requires supervision** – Turn off space heaters and make sure fireplace embers are out before leaving the room or going to bed.
5. **Don't catch fire!** If you are using a fireplace, use a glass or metal fire screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs.
6. **Protect your pipes.** Run water, even at a trickle, to help prevent your pipes from freezing. Open the kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals out of the reach of children. Keep the garage doors closed if there are water lines in the garage.
7. **Better safe than sorry.** Keep the thermostat at the same temperature day and night. Your heating bill may be a little higher, but you could avoid a more costly repair job if your pipes freeze and burst.
8. **The kitchen is for cooking.** Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.
9. **Use generators outside.** Never operate a generator inside the home, including in the basement or garage.
10. **Knowledge is power.** Don't hook a generator up to the home's wiring. The safest thing to do is to connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator.



For more information on how to stay safe during the cold weather, visit [winter storm safety](http://www.redcross.org/news/article/Top-Ten-Red-Cross-Cold-Weather-Safety-Tips).

<http://www.redcross.org/news/article/Top-Ten-Red-Cross-Cold-Weather-Safety-Tips>

We would like to add one more tip.

Please check on your elderly neighbors and the shut-ins in your area. Call them to be sure they are OK, make sure their sidewalks are clear of snow and ice, make some soup or a batch of cookies to take to them. Let them know that they have not been forgotten.

HOSPITAL CALLS: The area 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.