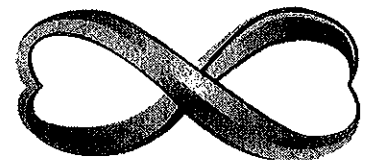


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
KITTANNING PA 16201
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
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KITTANNING PA 16201
PERMIT NO 14



Monthly Messenger



Love Never Ends

FEBRUARY 2012



MARCH NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE, TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 21, 2012

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Dr. Allyn L. Ricketts, Ph. D
CHURCH SECRETARY: Audrey Green
ORGANIST: Kathy Mago
SEXTON: Valerie Kachur
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Barb Gaughan
NURSERY ATTENDANT: Linda Powell
MESSENGER VOLUNTEERS:
Carolyn Gallaher, Sally Krozely
June Pollard, Donna Hidinger
Linda Scaife, Carol Wolfe

WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

PARSONAGE: 724-543-4808

E-MAIL: fumchurch@windstream.net

WEB SITE: www.firstchurchkittanning.com

FAX: 724-548-5157

RAINBOW ROAD: 724-548-7569

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:00 PM



YOUR STYLE OF EVANGELISM

Did you know that God created some people in the world to hear his gospel in just the way he created you to share it? I mentioned last month that our Conference Evangelism Team is sponsoring a series of events around Western PA to talk about ways in which you can be involved in evangelism. Some of us went to the event in DuBois and now our Sunday School class has started to look at the same ideas based on a book called Becoming A Contagious Christian by Bill Hybels and Mark Mittleberg. These authors suggest that we can find several people in the Bible who share God's good news in different ways according to their personalities, and that we can do the same.

Maybe you are a direct person like Peter. This does not mean that you can be rude or irritating or flippant with people, but it means that you have a personality that lets you be up-front with people. Are you the kind of person who has the courage to ask the hard questions of people? This is not my primary means of evangelism by any means but I have a little streak of this style that shows up at times. It is the right thing to do on occasion to challenge people as to where they stand with God or how their spiritual walk is going. As the book says, "Some people are just waiting for a contagious Christian who won't beat around the bush, but who'll clarify the truth of Christ and challenge them to do something about it." Some people are ready for a direct challenge and some are not. If you have the kind of personality that God will use for this direct approach then you need to be very careful to use wisdom and be sure that your challenge is based on love and God's grace and not just a desire to get a jab in. If you like responding to people this way, but all it does is irritate them, then it may not be your style of evangelism.

If you are not Peter maybe you are Paul. Paul used a more intellectual approach. As I said to the class in DuBois you do not have to be an intellectual to find that this approach is your natural style. If you are an organized person, and inquisitive person, someone who tends to focus more on ideas than feelings, then this may be your natural way of sharing. There are people around us who struggle with questions about the Christian faith. Their main stumbling block to faith may be these questions. As you build a relationship with such people you may naturally be the one to help them search through and find answers that will open the door to faith as the Holy Spirit uses your own personality traits. One good thing about having this style these days is that there has never been more resources available to help you and there has never been more of a need in our world for this kind of sharing.

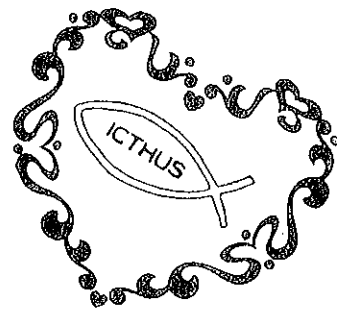
In the next couple months we will look at four more styles that may just fit who you are as God calls you to share the gospel with the world. Jesus did not give a choice about sharing the gospel but he has shown us that we can do it without becoming some one else. God can use who you are to share his love—don't hold back.

Soli Deo Gloria (To God Alone be the Glory)
Maranatha (Come Quickly Lord)
Allyn

Our Mission and Vision...

ICTHUS-the fish –an early Christian symbol. It reminds us of our mission at First Church. How are you helping each area to improve in our church? This is our mission - how are you participating in it? Are you helping us to...

- I--Invite and challenge people to come to faith. [EVANGELISM]
- C--Celebrate God's presence through powerful worship. [WORSHIP]
- TH--be Thoroughly equipped for your walk of faith. [CHRISTIAN EDUCATION]
- U--Use the gifts God has given you to serve. [DISCIPLESHIP]
- S--Set aside a portion of your personal resources to be returned to God. [STEWARDSHIP]



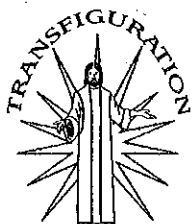
WORSHIP FOR FEBRUARY



February 5, 2012
 11:00 AM, Communion, Choir
Sermon: The Gospel As A World View—
Humanity without God
Romans 1:24-32



February 12, 2012
 11:00 AM
 Proverbs 1:8-19, Jude 5-10
Sermon: The Gospel As A World View—
God Is Just
Romans 2:1-11



February 19, 2012
 11:00 AM, Choir
 Psalm 4, James 1:19-25
Sermon: The Gospel As A World View—
Everyone Knows
Romans 2:12-16

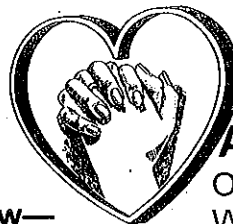


February 26, 2012
 11:00 AM, Lent
 Isaiah 52:1-7, Philippians 3:1-7
Sermon: The Gospel As A World View—
False Spirituality
Romans 1:8-17



Just A Reminder

Have you remembered First Church in your will? What a powerful way to recognize God's goodness in a lasting way.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Our sanctuary will be open Wednesday, February 22nd for quiet communion from 12:00-1:00 PM and 4:00-7:00 PM. Come as you are able and stay for as long as you like. Directions and guides will be available to help you start the Lenten season in God's presence.



ACOLYTE

5 Cierra Hoffman
 12 Hayley Hoffman
 19 Sierra Aires
 26 Payton Zielinski



READERS

5 Communion
 12 Pat Wolfe
 19 Rachel Ricketts
 26 Kathy Mago



COUNTERS

5 Scaife
 12 Krozely
 19 Thomas
 26 Muir



SOUND SYSTEM

5 Jalissa Muir
 12 Greg Lemons
 19 Tom Thomas
 26 John Yankasky



USHERS

5 Albright/Dan Wolfe & Communion
 12 Albright/Dan Wolfe
 19 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski
 26 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski

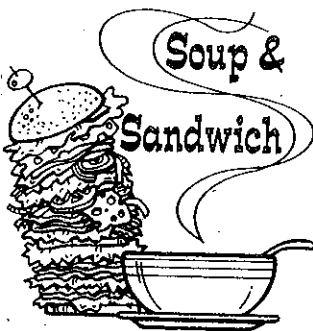


WELCOME CENTER

5 Beverly Paulin
 12 Joe & Sarah Heckert
 19 Janet McKelvey
 26 Ken Pierson



ALL CHURCH OFFICERS

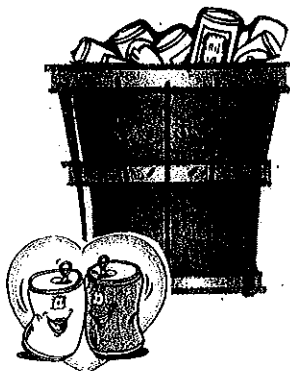


You are invited to be our guest at a fellowship event to honor you Monday evening February 20th at 6:30 PM. This year we need to change this event somewhat and so we are asking that you **call the church office by February 10th to let us know if you can attend.** This would be our regular Finance and Council evening but we are going to forego those meetings as much as possible as we share in a soup and sandwich time together and talk a little about our effort together as the leadership of First Church. This event was started by our Natural Church Development Team and is one attempt to both honor those willing to take leadership in our church and offer some help in developing leadership skills.



**FEBRUARY
SIFT LUNCHEON**

WHEN: Noon, Thursday, February 16th
WHERE: Covenant Center
MENU: Meatloaf
PROGRAM: to be announced
**Reservations are due by
Monday, February 13, 2012**



VBS 2012 CANS

In the past month (through January 15th) we received 2,682 cans for our 2012 Vacation Bible School collection to help Habitat for Humanity. Our total since VBS 2011 is 14,558 cans. Thank you to those who brought in cans. Please continue to save or start saving aluminum cans—pop, fruit juice, tea, health drinks and beer cans. Drop your cans off at the church ramp anytime. Thank you, The Can Man

6 LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Our First Lenten Fish Dinner will be held on Friday, February 24th and will continue through Friday, March 30, 2012 at the Covenant Center from 4:30-6:30 PM.

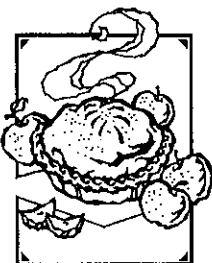
MENU: Baked or Fried Fish or Sloppy Joe Sandwich
Baked Potato or Curly Fries
Cole Slaw or Applesauce, Roll
Beverage and PIE



FISH FRY

Come and eat, bring your family and friends. Help support our fund raising efforts to raise finances for our church programs and missions.

We need pie bakers and workers to help for all 6 Fish Dinners. Can you help? If so, please fill out the sign-up sheet in this newsletter and let us know if you can help and which weeks. Keep the top half as your reminder and return the bottom half to the church. Thank You!



RAINBOW ROAD

Rainbow Road is accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. If your child will be three or four years old before September 1st he or she would be eligible. Applications are available in the church office or online at www.firstchurchkittanning.com.

WINDOW RESTORATION UPDATE

We now have \$5414.00 towards the Holy Sepulcher Window. Now thank we all our God.



Growing in Missions

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36

These words of Jesus have always been comforting and motivating to me. Aren't they to you, too?

Jesus knows our world is filled with complications and so much need. He also calls Christians to be the salt and light in His world. He calls you and me to make a difference. The Missions Committee of our church is gearing up to help us do just that...make a difference!

Each month will provide an opportunity to reach out and care in Christ's name. Look over these opportunities:

- Last month we were provided a time to help fund a Haitian mission trip for college students working with Jeremy & Jessica Andrews.
- On Feb 5th our Youth will stand at the doors to collect "Super Bowl" offerings. Your coins and dollars will go to a "yet to be named" local ministry.
- In March our clothing donations will benefit the school nurse at Kittanning Middle School. She has shared a need to have several pairs of stretch/work-out pants, in all sizes, on hand when a 6th, 7th, or 8th grade girl needs a change of clothes.
- In April we will collect monies to give to the Bible League. This international organization effectively plants Bibles, trains leaders, and plants churches where none exist.
- In May those wishing to participate in Life Choices Baby Bottles Blessings will be given the chance to help that local ministry educate and enhance lives of young pregnant women and their babies.
- More in the upcoming months...



Until then, know that our church is actively preparing to help us grow in missions, to be the salt and light in our world. May God bless each one of us as we consider how we can help our church be a more mission-minded, giving, and loving church!

Lastly, if you are burning with desire and enthusiasm to serve on this committee, contact me at either 724-543-5855 or jmmckelvey@yahoo.com

Thank You!

Dear First UM Church,

We deeply appreciated the opportunity to share in worship with all of you. It is always a joy sharing Gods word. Thank you for your generous gift of support for this ministry. You have blessed us! Thank you very much, Yours in Christ.



Roy & Janice Gearhart

Dear Congregation Friends,

Thank you for thinking of me this holiday season. Your monetary gift was most welcome and will be put to good use. May God always Bless each and every one of you.

Kathy Mago



CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

The following adult books have been given to our library:

Angels by Billy Graham

There's an Angel on your Shoulder by Kelsey Tyler

Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul 2 by Jack Canfield, Mark Hansen & LeAnn Thieman

Faith Lessons on the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah by Ray Vander Loan

God—After All by Mrs. Charles E. Cowman

Extravagant Grace by Patsy Clairmont, Barbara Johnson, Marilyn Meberg, Luci Swindoll, Sheila Walsh & Thelma Wells

Becoming A Woman of Grace by Cynthia Heald

Life With Father and Mother by Clarence Day

Life Support by Robert Whitlow

Always Beautiful by Kaylan Pickford

The Missing Books of the Bible Vol. II

Prophet by Frank E. Peretti



Please continue to return books when finished.

Remember... winter is a good time to enjoy a book with a cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate! Thank You, Carol Wolfe, Librarian



My Child...

You may not know me, but I know everything about you ... Psalm 139:1

I know when you sit down and when you rise up ... Psalm 139:2

I am familiar with all your ways ... Psalm 139:3

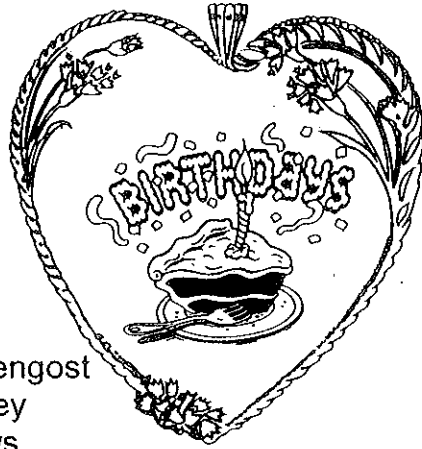
Even the very hairs on your head are numbered ... Matthew 10:29-31

For you were made in my image ... Genesis 1:27

*Love, Your Dad
Almighty God*

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Erica Scaife
9 Brenda Beers
9 Fred Blaney
9 Lynn Toth
10 Ruth Dalzell
11 Angela Clever
12 Tim Hellein
13 Moira Andrews
14 Bernie Green
18 Ken Gaughan
18 Larissa Schrecengost
20 Elizabeth Heigley
25 Jessica Andrews
25 Rachel Ricketts
28 Edna Heigley



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Dick & Bonnie Starr-70 years
16 Jake & Donna Hiding

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Kaitlin Gaughan on her recent engagement to Vince Edwards of Alliance OH. Kaitlin is the daughter of Barb & Ken Gaughan. They are planning a July 28, 2012 wedding.



In Christian Sympathy

We extend our Christian Compassion and concern to:

~Tom (Sandy) Scherf on the death of his mother, Nellie Scherf. Nellie passed away on Sunday, January 8, 2012.

~Herb (Pam) Coggon on the death of his mother, Hattie (French) Coggon. Hattie passed away on Friday, January 13, 2012.

Now that we have a full time nursery attendant and no longer require volunteers, I would like to welcome Linda and to thank my faithful staff (Linda included) who over the last several years gave unselfishly of their time and talents to tend to our youngest members. It is just another reminder of what a special Church family we have. Thank you all, Bonnie Bowser

NEWS FROM THE



Nursery

Altar Flowers

FOR 2012

We have a few dates available for altar flowers for 2012:

March 25

July 1

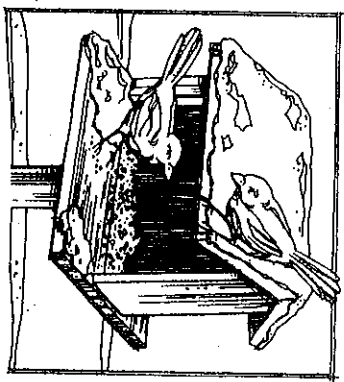
December 9 & 30


The regular flower arrangement is \$20.00. If you would be interested in one of these dates, please let the office know ASAP. Thank you.





FEBRUARY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion	6 8:30 AM CC Clean Team 6:30 PM Trustees	7 8:30 AM 3R's 2:00 PM We Surrender-CC 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Staff/Pransh	8 7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	9 7:00 PM Friday Night Circle Make Soup-CC	10 3:30 - 5:30 Pick up Soup-CC Reservations deadline for Leadership Event	11 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
12 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Cookie Fellowship 2:00 PM Camp 43 SUVCM-CC	13 7:00 PM Evangelism/ Outreach Mail out Devotionals	14 8:30 AM 3R's 2:00 PM We Surrender-CC 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 6:00 PM AM Vets-CC	15 6:00 PM Worship Team 7:00 PM Choir 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Chapter 519-CC	16 12:00 PM SIFT-CC 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	17 2:00 PM We Surrender-CC	18 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
19 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM Baby Shower-Smith-CC	20 6:30 PM Leadership Event 	21 8:30 AM 3R's 2:00 PM We Surrender-CC 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Camping Team NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22 7:00 PM Communion 12:00-1:00 PM Communion 4:00-7:00 PM Communion 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	23 7:00 PM Heavenly Daughter	24 2:00 PM We Surrender-CC 4:30 PM Lenten Fish Dinner	25 6:00 PM We Surrender-CC
26 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	27 7:00 PM Christian Education DO NEWSLETTER	28 8:30 AM 3R's 2:00 PM We Surrender-CC 6:00 PM Women Fellowship 7:00 PM Endowment FOOD BANK PICK-UP	29 7:00 PM Community Lenten Service 10:00 AM Weight Watchers 5:00 PM Weight Watchers			



SOUP SALE

We are having another Soup Sale. Soup will be PRE-ORDERED only and sold by the quart at a price of \$5.00. Soup can be ordered until Sunday, February 5th.



We have Turkey Noodle & Broccoli Cheese . You can pick it up on Friday, February 10th at the Covenant Center between 3:30 and 5:30 PM or on Sunday, February 12th after church. Please specify which day you will pick up your soup at the bottom of the page.

Please order on the form that follows and place in the offering plate or return it to the office. Thank you!



I would like to order:

SOUP	Turkey Noodle	Broccoli Cheese
No. Quarts		

I WILL PICK UP MY SOUP

FRIDAY _____ SUNDAY _____

(Please check one, Thank You)

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

PLEASE RETURN QUART JARS FROM THE LAST SOUP SALE. Thank You!

LENTEN DINNERS

Fridays from February 24th thru March 30, 2012 4:30-6:30 PM

CALLING ALL PIE BAKERS...

We will need approximately 35 pies each week.

➔ **PIE BAKERS—SEE OTHER SIDE** ➔

CALLING ALL WORKERS...

We will need approximately 25 workers each Friday to help serve and clean up.

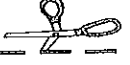
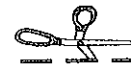
We appreciate your help in the past and hope you will help us once again this year!

Please complete the form below and return to the church, or phone Jim Ternent @ 724-548-7124. Thank You.

Keep this as your reminder

Date	2/24	3/2	3/9	3/16	3/23	3/30
Pies						
Workers						

Workers—come at 4:00 if possible.



Lenten Fish Dinners
Fridays from February 24th – March 30, 2012
4:30-6:30 PM
Covenant Center

Fried or Baked Fish or Sloppy Joe
Curly Fries or Baked Potato
Cole Slaw or Applesauce
Dinner Roll, Beverage and Pie

I will bake the **number of pies** shown on the date/dates indicated below:

Fri 2/24	Fri 3/2	Fri 3/9	Fri 3/16	Fri 3/23	Fri 3/30

I/We can help **serve/clean up** on the date/dates indicated below:

We can be there at ____ PM.

Fri 2/24	Fri 3/2	Fri 3/9	Fri 3/16	Fri 3/23	Fri 3/30

Name _____ Phone _____

IMPORTANT **PIE BAKERS MUST READ AND COMPLY**

State health and food safety regulations require that all pies made with milk, milk products or eggs must be baked in a licensed and inspected kitchen (such as a bakery, restaurant or our Covenant Center kitchen which is state licensed and inspected).

This includes crème, custard, pumpkin pies and cheese cakes. Fruit pies and other pies not made with milk, milk products or eggs can be baked in home kitchens.

Crème, custard, pumpkin pies and cheese cakes purchased from a bakery or a restaurant (which are not labeled "must be refrigerated") or are baked in a licensed home kitchen are acceptable.

The Covenant Center kitchen will be available for pie baking on Thursday afternoons and evenings and on Friday mornings. If you plan to bake pies in the Covenant Center kitchen, please let us know when so that we can schedule.

LENTEN GIVING-2012

This year let's look at some of the titles given to God all through the Bible. Maybe we are starting a tradition. Read the passage and look for that day's title for God. Each day place a praise offering in the envelope in honor of the greatness of God: A God so great that words cannot describe all that he is.

February

- 22...Revelation 1:8. _____
- 23...Psalm 24:10. _____
- 24...Hebrews 2:10 _____
- 25...Acts 10:36 _____
- 26...Daniel 7:13-14 _____
- 27...II Samuel 22:33 _____
- 28...Matthew 21:42 _____
- 29...I Corinthians 1:24 _____

March

- 1...Revelation 4:8 _____
- 2...Colossians 1:18 _____
- 3...Psalm 144:2 _____
- 4...Psalm 31:2 _____
- 5...Psalm 110:2 _____
- 6...John 10:11 _____
- 7...Luke 1:47 _____
- 8...Psalm 3:3 _____
- 9...II Thessalonians 3:16 _____
- 10...Psalm 86:15 _____
- 11...I John 2:1 _____
- 12...Psalm 42:11 _____
- 13...Isaiah 22:23 _____
- 14...Hebrews 12:23 _____
- 15...Proverbs 18:24 _____
- 16...I Corinthians 11:3 _____
- 17...Isaiah 57:15 _____
- 18...Acts 2:27 _____
- 19...Song of Solomon 5:16 _____
- 20...Psalm 34:8 _____

- 21...Luke 1:76 _____
 22...John 8:58 _____
 23...Genesis 2:4-25 _____
 24...Colossians 3:11 _____
 25...Psalm 72:1 _____
 26...Psalm 28:5 _____
 27...I Peter 2:6 _____
 28...Isaiah 28:16 _____
 29...Hebrews 12:2 _____
 30...Hebrews 3:1 _____
 31...Isaiah 32:2 _____
 April
 1...Isaiah 10:17 _____
 2...Isaiah 9:6 _____
 3...Jeremiah 50:7 _____
 4...Song of Solomon 3:2 _____
 5...I John 4:8 _____
 6...Isaiah 41:21 _____
 7...Revelation 15:3 _____

Be sure to save up your offering and place it in the envelope.
 Then be sure to fill out the information as this information is
 needed for the counters to give you accurate credit.

