



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

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**ARC LINK
 NEWSLETTER
 MARCH 2022**

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
 CLOSER TO JESUS

ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior Pastor: Rev. Deb Kociban

Lay Minister: Terri Wells



First United Methodist Church-301 N Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA 16201 724-548-4312

Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM **Email: fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 – 12:00 PM Website: firstchurchkittanning.com

Fax: 724-548-5157 Rainbow Road: 724-543-7569

Parsonage- 307 N Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA 16201 724-543-4808



Ford Memorial United Methodist Church-1024 Fourth Ave, Ford City PA 16226 724-763-1540

Worship 11:00 AM **Email: fordmemc@comcast.net**

Manorville United Methodist Church-P.O. Box 174, 800 Water Street, Manorville PA 16238

Worship 9:45 AM

Email: mumc@windstream.net 724-763-1254

Union Avenue United Methodist Church-421 Union Ave, Kittanning PA 16201

724-543-5012 Worship 9:00 AM

APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please get articles to Audrey no later than

SUNDAY, March 20, 2022. Thank you



Pastor Deb's Message

I think it's right that I keep stirring up your memory, as long as I am alive.
2 Peter 1: 13 CEB



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Aequorea victoria. Can't pronounce it? Neither can I. It is a fancy Latin name for a species of jellyfish that glows in the dark. I find that fascinating. Don't get me wrong, I find jellyfish to be weird because of their ghostly appearance, their squishiness, and their passive way of life. They can't swim. They are at the mercy of the ocean currents to move them from one place to another. What good are they? So why in heaven's name, did God think we needed a glow in the dark version?

The Lord has revealed to Peter that he will die soon. In the time he has left, he writes to the church to remind them that the Lord has given them everything they need to live godly lives. He encourages them to develop their faith through the practice of moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, and love for others. When they do these things, they will receive a rich welcome into God's kingdom.

The season of Lent lends itself to self-examination, to take stock of how we are living our faith in Jesus. Are we learning all we can about our Lord and Savior? How are we doing at developing our self-control when it comes to temptation? How enduring will our faith be in times of trouble? Are we living lives of moral excellence and godliness before others? Are we truly loving the unlovable?

We examine our faith lives in an effort to course correct our path where we see ourselves veering off the course that Jesus has laid out for us. Peter is well aware that we quickly forget that we are called to grow in faith so that we will glory to God and be a witness to Jesus for the world.

It turns out that these glow in the dark jellyfish produce a protein called apoaequorin (yep, can't pronounce that either.) Chemists have produced a lab-made version of this protein that is thought to aid in reversing memory loss and is found in over-the-counter memory enhancing supplements. I guess God had a plan for this strange glowing creature after all.

But if it's all the same to you, I'd rather let Peter stir up our memory and remind us that we are to never stop growing in faith. We are to constantly grow in moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, and love for others. This is our calling in Jesus. The jellyfish can just stay in the ocean!

Blessings, Pastor Deb



Terri's Message

Top of the day to ya! The most fun thing about March, other than my Birthday, is Saint Patrick's Day! Just having a little fun, wearing the green and eating pistachio muffins, they are green, that's my excuse, mmm. But, despite all the Leprechaun talk and stories of pots of gold, there lies a rich story about a man devoted to God who spread the Gospel

throughout Ireland. Patrick was born in Britain, at the time, of the Roman Empire (of which Britain was a part), which was on the verge of collapse. Barbarians were invading different regions of the empire. Roman legions (large groups of soldiers) had deserted Britain, making it vulnerable to attack. When Patrick was sixteen years old, Irish pirates invaded his village, destroyed it and took Patrick captive. He was put on a ship bound for Ireland. In Ireland, Patrick was sold as a slave and put to work as a shepherd for pigs. Life was hard for Patrick. He was exposed to a harsh climate and nearly starved to death. He was completely alone, but he turned to God for comfort and companionship. After having visions that directed him to leave Ireland and return to Britain, study ministry and become, ordained as a bishop. Patrick returned to Ireland to start sharing the Gospel about Jesus with the Irish people. Patrick's missionary work over the next thirty years was truly remarkable, spreading the gospel, baptizing and confirming countless believers and founding many churches and monasteries. Spreading the Gospel in Ireland was far from easy for Patrick. He faced frequent opposition and was in constant danger of being killed for his bold faith. Lorica, also known as "Patrick's Breastplate," is a special prayer of protection that Patrick would say. Many people read it today because it reminds them of Patrick's confidence in the Lord. Begin an Irish tradition, Google "Patrick's Breastplate" and read it. Knowing that he put his life on the line to serve the Lord. Praise God we are blest to serve our Lord without fear of death.

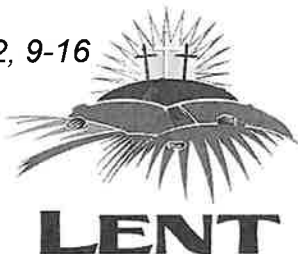
MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

March 6, 2022

1st Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13:



March 20, 2022,

3rd Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63:1-8,

1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

March 13, 2022

2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

March 27, 2022

4th Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12, Psalm 32,

2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

Pastor Deb and Terri will be preaching a Lenten sermon series entitled, "Me and My Shadow." The series will examine our "shadow-selves" that we like to hide from others. It will begin on Ash Wednesday and follow through to Easter Sunday.

CHARGE ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

The ARC Charge will begin the Lenten season with an all-charge worship service on **Ash Wednesday, March 2nd at 7:00 PM** at Manorville. Please join us as we begin this season of self-examination.



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Classes are being offered for all youth currently attending 6th grade and older beginning on April 3rd. It will be a 6 week course of study with Pastor Deb on Sundays from 4-6 PM. Please let the office or Pastor Deb know if your child will be attending by March 13th so that curriculum will arrive in time.

MARCH ALL CHARGE MISSION PROJECT

In March, members of the Allegheny River Charge will join in a local mission project to bring joy to the 80 residents of Premier Armstrong Rehabilitation and Nursing Facility. The Charge will be sending Easter Treat Bags to the facility. To accomplish this each church is asked to donate items for the bags.

- Ford Memorial will collect pens, pencils and individually wrapped packages of sandwich crackers.
- Manorville will collect notepads.
- Union Ave will donate candy and individual packs of tissues.
- First will donate travel size bottles of lotion, large print activity pads and stress balls.

We will gather at Ford Memorial to pack the treat bags so that the bags can be delivered during Holy Week. The date and time will be announced.

If you have questions, see any member of the Charge SPRC. Watch your church bulletin for updates.

What an exciting opportunity to share the love of God with others.

ALL-CHARGE EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

7:00 AM Easter morning

followed by a continental breakfast at Ford Memorial UMC.



THE CHOSEN



Come and see the second season of The Chosen on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM on March 9, 16, and 23 and 30th in the Library Room. We will watch 2 episodes each week. If you are interested in seeing The Chosen and have not seen the first season, let me know. I have the episodes on DVD and you can borrow them. The Chosen is the first multi-season series about the life of Jesus and the 12 disciples. Christians around the world are watching this excellent series. Please join us! Kim Yankasky



FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

SOUND SYSTEM

6 Gabe Smith
13 Tim Scaife
20 Dave Yanoschick
27 John Yankasky



COUNTERS

6 Scaife
13 Ferguson
20 Ternent
27 Yankasky



USHERS

6 Albright/Dan Wolfe
13 Albright/Dan Wolfe
20 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski
27 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski



SCRIPTURE READERS



BELL RINGERS

6 Ashley Yankasky
13 Madelyn Smith
20 Frankie Mauger
27 Dakota Mauger



WELCOME CENTER

6 Sarah Heckert
13 Melissa Bureau
20 Karen Scaife
27 Beverly Patton



FIRST CHURCH MARCH MISSION FOCUS

Our March Mission focus will be donating items for the Easter Treat Bags for the All Charge Mission Project. First Church is asked to donate travel size bottles of lotion, large print activity pads and stress balls. In March, there will be cards on the altar rail for you to choose which items you would like to donate. Thank you once again for your support.

Janet and Meaghan

THANK YOU FOR HEIFER INTERNATIONAL MISSION PROJECT



HIDEY-HO FIRST CHURCH!!!!



Walter, Wilma and the gang here---- just wanted to Horn-Bop In to say THANK YOU for your continued support. We've filled our ark and surpassed our \$5000.00 monetary goal in support of Heifer International. Your gifts will make life changing impacts throughout Southeastern Asia and continue to bring hope for years to come. Thank you once again!

FISH DINNERS

First Church will resume our Lenten Fish Dinners starting on Friday, March 4th. Unfortunately, we find it necessary to increase the price of a dinner to \$12.00 with a child's meal being \$5.00. Meal will include choice of fried or baked fish, choice of curly fries, baked potato, or macaroni & cheese, coleslaw or applesauce, roll and pie. Dinners will be served from 4:30-6:0 PM. Takeout will be available. We hope to serve dinners on each Friday, March 4-April 8 if fish remains available.





FIRST CHURCH LINK PAGES

RAINBOW ROAD

Rainbow Road Preschool, located at 332 North Water Street, Kittanning in the Covenant Center, is accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. There are classes two days a week for 3-year-olds (by September 1st) and three days a week for prekindergarten students. To receive an application or more information, contact the school at 724-548-7569 or the church office at 724-548-4312 or go online at www.firstchurchkittanning.com and click on the Rainbow Road Preschool tab.

MARCH SIFT LUNCHEON THURSDAY, March 17, 2022

PROGRAM: "Balance and Exercises" with Jimmy Morandini

MENU: Choice of Stuffed Pepper or Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers, Jello Salad, Ice Cream Sandwich

Reservations by Monday, March 14th by calling the church 724-548-4312 or emailing at fumchurchkittanning@comcast.net. Masks are encouraged and all CDC guidelines will be followed. This is Dine-in only. Please use the alley entrance.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP

Look for sign ups so we know an approx. number attending. However, no sign up is necessary. Hope to see you there!

March 20: Soup and Salad after church

Easter Egg Extravaganza

When: **April 3, 2022**

Where: Covenant Center

Time: Noon – 2:00 PM

Please come join the fun. We will have a light lunch (hot dogs, chips) followed by an egg hunt!



2022 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

We continue our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity

Cans Received January 15th-February 15th—2031

Total cans received through February 15th—31,672

Many thanks to everyone who is saving aluminum cans and bringing them to the church-at the ramp at the back of the church. If you haven't been saving aluminum cans, please start-soft drinks, juice, power drinks, tea, beer, cat food-**Aluminum only-NOT "TIN CANS"**, food, soup, etc.

Thank you, The Can Man, Jim Ternent



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3 Terri Wells

4 Glenn Krozely

6 Trenton Podvorec

7 Dan Cornman

11 Amanda Leech

12 Linda Cornman

29 Franklin Tarr



21 Janessa Shriver

21 Gabi Zielinski

22 Larry McKelvey

25 Lorie Williamson

27 Bob Buzzinotti

27 Tim Scaife



MARCH ANNIVERSARY

27 Tony & Robyn Green-12 years





FORD MEMORIAL LINK

MANORVILLE FINANCIAL COUNTERS

6 JB & Jack
13 Mike & Lu
20 Nancy & Nancy
27 Steve & Lu



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Grace Kamer
17 Jill Strong
21 Eva Say
22 AbbySkillen
27 Buelah Mitchell



MANORVILLE LINK PAGE

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 John Welch
11 Sheelagh Bonomo
14 James Warren Snyder
15 Luella Bennett
21 Doris Schmela
25 Ashley Zolocsik
27 Leia Maria Wolfe
30 Lois Hawk
31 Elly Lucia Russelburg



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3 Andrew & Pam Snyder
20 Ed & Lorraine Zielinski



EASTER FLOWERS order forms will be in the bulletin when we get it or you can give a donation towards the Ruth M. Smith Center in lieu of flowers. We will have silk lilies at the base of the cross as always.



UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S MEETINGS

The UAUMW Christmas Party and Meeting on **December 6, 2021** was held in the Kittanning Cottages Community Room with 14 in attendance.

Delicious food was from The Market on Reynolds and several group members. Beautiful table decorations, favors, great games and prizes were provided by Lynn Sibley and Sandy McKee. Once again, Bruce Shaffer blessed us with his beautiful singing and guitar accompaniment of Christmas carols and songs.

The UMW Service Pin was presented to Lynn Sibley by President, Karen Wolfe. Lynn is one of our UMW Ambassadors. She was chosen by our ladies because she is very active in our group, local and District programs, and many missions that we support. We are honored to have Lynn as a friend and member of our UMW.

Prayer Partners were chosen for 2022.

We welcome Claire Brown as a new member of our Group. We are so happy to have her with us. The Reading Program for 2022 will again be undertaken by Ellen Nelson. We truly appreciate her willingness to volunteer. Her participation in this important program will help us obtain our WPA UMW Mission Today Certificates.

We all left the Cottages with good memories of our Christmas Party and Meeting.

We will not have a meeting in January.

Our next meeting will be on February 7, 2022 at 2:00 PM at the Church.

President, Karen Wolfe



UNION AVENUE LINK PAGE

The **February 7, 2022** meeting of the UAUMW was held at the Church with 9 in attendance. The meeting opened with the reading of the " Purpose of the UMW" led by President, Karen Wolfe. Hostesses: Donna Shaffer and Ruth Gallaher. Devotions: Donna Shaffer- " Prayer and Self Denial- the (DHMR) Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner". Minute Missions: Karen Wolfe- " Action Week in Montana"- A Week of Daily Racial Justice Activities. Prayer Calendar: Karen Wolfe- Prayers for Sonia Cruz (DHMR) Texas and David Kennedy (DHMR) Maryland. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved. Motion made and approved to send the full 2022 Year UMW Pledge, the Prayer and Self Denial, and the Thank Bank offering payments to the UMW Indiana District Treasurer.

Motions were made and approved to:

1. Send \$200.00 to Cadence International. This is a Hospitality House Ministry for our U.S. Military Service Members. It provides many programs including housing, meals and Bible Studies. Ken and Christi Say are active members of this Christian Agency. For more information or brochures, contact Ken's parents, Jim and Eva Say at the Ford Memorial Methodist Church.
2. Sell hoagie coupons from Miller's Hoagies as a fundraiser.
3. Make Hygiene Kits for UMCOR again this year.
4. Make Blessing Bags for residents of Sugarcreek Personal Care Home. They will be delivered this May 25th.

Thank You's Received for Monetary Donations:

- .1. Community Action Program for Blessing Bags of Food.
2. Community Action Agency for Turkey Fund.
3. Kittanning Corps Salvation Army for Community family needs.
4. Eastbrook Mission Barn for programs .
5. Jenn Krueger for " UMW'S Generosity on Giving Tuesday 2021 of Warren County ".

Missions to think about for our next meetings:

1. Armstrong County Progressive Workshop
2. Ramps of Hope
3. UMCOR
4. Blessings in a Backpack
5. Food for Lenape Tech Students
6. Ruth M. Smith Home for their 100th Anniversary.
7. Community Action Agency for PHARE- Emergency 90 day Shelter Program



The meeting closed with the reading of the UMW Prayer. Our next meeting will be Monday, March 7 at 2:00 PM.

President, Karen Wolfe



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Joyce Martin
- 7 Jodie Martin
- 12 Marlene Bowser
- 29 Earl Wissinger



MARCH ANNIVERSARY

- 8 Bruce & Donna Shaffer-47 years



Lent



Soft Pretzel Recipe
 What you need:
 1 package yeast
 1 1/2 cups warm water
 1 tablespoon sugar
 1 tablespoon salt
 4 cups flour
 1 egg



Mix your yeast, water, sugar, and salt in a large bowl. Stir in the flour, and knead until the dough is smooth. Shape into the form of arms crossed in prayer and place it on a baking sheet. Brush the dough with a beaten egg to give it a shiny finish. Sprinkle the top with salt, and bake in an oven preheated to 425 degrees for 15 minutes.

The Legend of the Pretzel

In the Early centuries of the Church, Christians would fast on bread and water during the seasons of Advent and Lent. Around the year 610, a creative young monk decided to make a treat for the children who had learned to recite their prayers. Christians in those days prayed by folding their hands across their chests with each hand touching the opposite shoulder. The monk rolled his Lenten dough of water, flour and salt into the shape of two arms crossed in prayer. He named his bread *pretiola*, which in Latin means "little reward"; some stories say he named the bread *bracellae*, "little arms". German Christians called the bread *bretzels*, which over time became known as *pretzels*! The simple shape of the pretzel, reminds us to pray everyday.

L R L B D N J Q J K W B C K Q J C
 F Z K K E E W Y L O H V R K M V F
 K C R U C I F I X I O N H C P L Q
 V Y N N O I T A I L I C N O C E R
 K A T S M X G N I V I G S M L A Y
 P D S N E F P R A Y E R K F K C N
 F S A N E H T E P M K K F C K Q O
 A E C B N L S P A H R O C T L R I
 S N R N G G P A T S R M T L K C T
 T D I Y P B N M P G T F K B N X A
 I E F K X J Y I I T P E G F J E T
 N W I Z F S F V R N Q R R C L I
 G H C V O H E B M P S S Q E N B Y D
 P S E R W N N W B S S L A P F M E
 K A R L E P C G O H L N N N A N M
 Q O N S C R X R N R E N X R K R L
 W P S R H M C V T P L B Z B T W E

almsgiving
 ashes
 ash wednesday
 cross
 crucifixion
 easter
 fasting
 forgiveness
 holy week

lent
 meditation
 penance
 prayer
 prepare
 reconciliation
 sacrifice
 sorrow
 spring