

The Circuit Rider Pastor Notes

Pastor Tim – November 2024

All Saints Day 2024

On the first Sunday of November we honored and named all those who had passed away from our number in the last years' time. "May we be empty and may we be filled as we remember those we have lost. May we find God in our empty places and may we find the love in memories of those that are no longer with us in the way we wished they would be."

Ministry Appreciation Days: Pastor, Staff, Laity

During the fall months, I am asking each of you to go out of your way and honor our employees, unpaid staff and all committed members and friends of the First United Methodist Church. A positive word or deed goes a long way to renew our team members in their vital work among us. "Do one small thing today and it will reap a big reward."

Stewardship Challenge and Report

The church has not yet reached our fundraising goal for 2024. Though all our bills are paid, we have had to dip into the church's own reserve savings to accomplish this. To date, we fall short of the monthly budgetary goal by \$10,000 each month. Would you consider a meaningful financial gift in addition to your normal tithing? Gifts of this nature may be received through December 25th. We can reach our budget goals together if we all take one step further than we are currently at. Contact me directly today if you want to help in the "F.U.M.C. Year-End Miracle Campaign 2024." pastortimedin@yahoo.com

2025 Vision with Measurable Goals

1. Hospitality – THE CONGREGATION will welcome 50 new families to worship
2. Discipleship – Add 5 New CLASS MEETINGS. Definition: A "class meeting" is an on-going covenant group that meets for spiritual growth and accountability as students of Christ
(Mill Brook Street; Lockett Family)
3. Service – 20 new persons complete SPIRITUAL GIFTS Discovery Process. Each participant will gain opportunities to serve confidently within our church and its many outreach programs

Staff Spotlight - Trinity and Angela - - Friendship Cards Can Be Received in the Church Office for Both**

Trinity Gray will serve as the FUMC Choir Director and is excited to join our ministry staff team here. She brings many gifts, abilities and talents that will be a blessing to this congregation. She grew up in the United Methodist Church and is excited to welcome each of you to be part of the FUMC Choir.

Angle Wolfe has begun to serve as the FUMC Custodian. She brings much energy and enthusiasm, as well as a friendly spirit to the work. Please take a moment to greet her when you are present in the church building throughout the week.



Walking Together in Faith: Reflections from October

Dear Friends,

This past month has been filled with meaningful moments that have deepened my connection with the people and ministries across the West Virginia Conference. From district days to my installation service, I have been both humbled and inspired by the faith and resilience I have witnessed in our churches.

In October, I had the joy of participating in district days with the Potomac Highlands District, the Mon Valley and Northern Districts, and the Nine Rivers District. These visits provided opportunities to listen to your stories and to worship, learn, and dream together. As I traveled from place to place, I was reminded of the profound truth in Paul's words to the church in Thessalonica: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just

as in fact you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11). I left each district day encouraged and grateful for the faithfulness I saw in your hearts.

A highlight of the month was the October 26th Service of Celebration at West Virginia Wesleyan College, where I was officially welcomed and installed as your bishop. Standing in Wesley Chapel surrounded by many of you, I felt a deep sense of hope. The worship experience, concluding with Holy Communion, reflected the unity we share as God’s people. I look forward with hope to what God will accomplish in coming years through our partnership in ministry.

I recognize that we are emerging from a season of challenge and transition. Yet, God remains faithful, calling us into a new chapter of ministry with fresh opportunities to embody Christ’s love. As we move forward together, let us hold to the promise of Psalm 46:1—“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” With God’s guidance, we will continue to grow, serve, and flourish as the body of Christ, united in our mission to make disciples and transform the world.

Thank you for welcoming Lee and me so warmly into your churches, communities, and lives. I am joyfully committed to serving as your bishop here in the West Virginia Conference. Together, we will continue building on the strong foundations already in place, trusting that God has great things in store for us. I am excited for the future and look forward to the journey we will share in faith, hope, and love.

It is a joy to serve as your bishop.

Blessings,

Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Resident Bishop
Holston and West Virginia Conferences

Hello from the Youth Department!

11/5	NO ENCOUNTER ELECTION DAY
11/14	YOUTH ROLLERSKATING 6-8 SKATEZONE BELINGTON NO ENCOUNTER ON 11/12
11/19	SPECIAL LESSON/OUTREACH 5:30 - MEET AT WALMART 6:45 - PICK UP AT DQ
11/26	NO ENCOUNTER THANKSGIVING BREAK
12/3	REGULAR MEETING/ GRADE CHALLENGE 6-7PM

October has certainly proved to be a busy month for us.

First, Encounter (our youth group for grades 6-12) started back. Several brand-new faces have started attending. November 19th will hold a very memorable outreach project for those in attendance.

Children's church is running smoothly with Nov. 3rd wrapping up our last lesson of the year in the park. We will resume once a month outdoor lessons in the spring. I have enjoyed watching the kids grow and learn together as we find gratitude for the beauty of God's creation. We are continuing our deep dive into the 23 Psalms.

On October 26th, FUMC hosted its annual Fall Festival. This year's event went extremely smooth with a new "traffic -flow" pattern. Appropriately 215 kids were in attendance plus their parents/ guardians. I cannot thank all those who stepped up and helped enough! Without each of you this event wouldn't have been the success that it was. Thank you all!

On November 14th FUMC kids grades K-12 are invited to a pizza and roller-skating party at Skate Zone in Belington. This is certain to be a fun event with lasting memories. I hope to see as many teens and kids there as possible!

With Love,

Natasha Evans, Youth Minister

Fall Festival



Lunch With Neighbors News



We are having a BIG YEAR! Our trends indicate that the food insecurity problems continue to grow. The number of meals served through November 18, 2024, was 25,430, which is more than we served last year. By the end of the year, we will have served over 28,000 meals. Lunch with Neighbors is thankful that we have been able to sustain the program, and our Neighbors are thankful that we are here to share food and fellowship. During our Forest Festival fund raiser we served 1,150 meals. For more information, contact Diana at 815-953-5236 or Greg at 417-489-1283.

FUMC UNITED WOMAN OF FAITH NEWS

The FUMC United Women of Faith (UWF) met on Wednesday, October 9 at 6:30 pm in the church parlor.

The meeting was opened with devotions led by Katie Kerns from a book entitled *A Woman's Heart*. The message was to remind us that "God is always there and He will meet with you wherever you are."

President, Catherine Poe, announced there will a district meeting of the United Women of Faith at Asbury Methodist Church in Belington beginning at 8:30 am on Saturday, November 9. Catherine invited others to ride with her if interested in attending.

Donna Trulik showed the quilt she made for the fall bazaar. As in the past, there will be tickets available for donations towards a drawing for a winner of the quilt. Dates to be announced.

Prayer shawls were readied for 2 women of the church with health issues to be delivered by members.

A discussion concerning the best meeting times resulted in the consensus of opinion that during the winter months the meeting times would return to daylight hours. The next meeting is Wednesday, November 6 at 11:30 am in the church parlor.

Scott Harris of Troop 88 from FUMC came to address the group about changes in the traditional Boy Scout organization and events for local troop. He stated that, at this time, the name of the organization is Scouting America. There are, currently, two "stand alone" girls in the group. The requirement is that it takes 5 girls to make a troop. He presented a summary of the current

activities of Pack 88; the need for fundraising for summer camping experiences; expressed the need for a troop leader for the younger group, which is of great concern; the number of scouts working on Eagle Scout status.

Mr. Harris and the group discussed dates that they could coordinate efforts for the Fall Bazaar and Country Store. The scouts are very instrumental in helping the women's group in carrying out this project. The scouts will set up tables on November 5. UWF members will begin organizing the sale on November 6. The Country Store will be open November 15 and 16,



United Women of Faith Praying Over the Shawls

November Meeting

The United Women of Faith met on Wednesday, November 6 at 11:30 am in the parlor. The bulk of the meeting focused on finalizing plans for the upcoming Country Store and Lunch event to be held on November 15 and 16. Lunches will be prepared and served by Boy Scout Troop 88 as a fundraiser to support scouting projects while proceeds from the Country Store will be used for the missions supported by the United Women of Faith. Tickets will be sold for a quilt and themed baskets.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 11. Everyone is invited to meet at the church at 11:15 and continue to the Arts Center to enjoy Christmas music provided by Raymond Godwin. This is always a yearly treat for the community. This is the Arts Center's monthly brown bag event. Bring a lunch and plan to join together for this special opportunity.

Catherine Poe

580-515-4464

Pioneer Club News

Pioneer Club is studying The Wordless Book. For those who do not know The Wordless Book is a simple way to present the Gospel to children and adults. It was first introduced in 1866 by Charles Spurgeon, who told the story of an unnamed minister who used the book to remind himself of his sinfulness and the cleansing provided by Christ. The colors in the Wordless Book represent different aspects of the Bible story: Black: Represents the sinful state of humanity. It's also known as the "dark page". Red: Represents the blood of Jesus. White: Represents the righteousness that God has given to believers through Jesus Christ's sacrifice. It's also known as the "clean page". Green: Represents growth. Gold: Represents the love of God and the glories of Heaven. This was so fun not only for the kids but for the volunteers. We decorate our tables and even the volunteers dress in the color for that night. One of the children was excited to see what the color was when he walked in the FLC and helped to turn the large book to the white page.

The Pioneer Club participated in the Fall Trunk or Treat at the church. The volunteers handed out Pioneer Club pencils, candy and small Jesus' figurines that one of the volunteers purchased for the children. If you did not see the large beehive it said, "I Want To Bee More Like Jesus".

November we are thankful for the church for encouraging the community kids to gather. We are thankful for the volunteers who spend their time each week preparing meals for the children and their families, creating fun crafts and activities, and for the teachers who share about Christ love. We are thankful for the children and their families who faithfully attend. We are thankful for the teens who come to help, serve the meal and assist the children each week. We pray in advance for a leader to join us and to lead our teens. We are thankful for the support of ministries like Lunch with Neighbors and the Backpack ministry who share the space each week in the FLC. We are thankful for the parents who help. We are thankful for the church employees, office volunteers and Pastor Tim for their help in many ways so we

The Pioneer families will gather in fellowship on Thursday, November 21st for Thanksgiving Dinner. December 5th, we share about Advent, teaching about HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE. December 19th is the Christmas Party.

January 9, 2025, we begin meeting weekly. Once a month we are adding life skills and excited the children can earn awards for their participation.

If you would like to know more about Pioneer Community Ministry, please reach out to Shelley 304-704-7039.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Pioneer Club Elementary and Teen Ministry Volunteers

MUSIC MINISTRY -- Choir Interest Form



Hello all! My name is Trinity Gray,

I've just arrived at the church and look forward to serving you as the choir director. I wanted to get a better look at who would be joining the choir this year and get to know you all a little better. I appreciate you filling out this survey, and I look forward to working with you!

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress.

[Choir Interest Form](#)

If you have difficulty completing the form online, come by the church office and let Jane know

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Children's Church – If you are interested in helping with the Children's Church, you will need a background check, and be Safe Sanctuary Certified, please contact Natasha for the details, 304-7046937.

Liturgist – Multiple volunteers needed for the 9:30 am and 11 am services. If interested, please contact the church office at 304-636-0660.

Serving Communion – Anyone willing to serve communion at the 9:30 am or 11 am service, please contact Lorryne Corley, 304-636-7649.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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1	Dinah Tomblyn	10	Ralph Wilmoth	18	Brandi Hedrick	28	LeEllen Phares
1	Lori Betler	10	Ashley Jones	18	Erin Dettinger	28	Emily Phillips
2	Kim Ellison	10	Nathan Haines	19	Beverly Johnson	28	Brian Seders
3	Angela Dembowske	11	Tina Mahoney	19	Ashley Basil	29	Donna Hamrick
3	Sara Ebel	11	Evelyn Robertson	19	Michael Antolini	29	Warren Elmer
3	Nick Patella	11	Paula Heinke	20	Lindsay Lambert	30	Melissa Hickman
4	Tim Conklin III	11	Tammy Westfall	22	James Yorkey	30	T.J. Jack III

4	Jayne Gongola	11	Casey Casto	22	Kimberly Barnett	30	Grace Winans
4	Richard Tyre	11	Ali Phares	22	Jack Antolini		
4	Matt Keller	12	Dick Proudfoot	22	Matthew Voge		
4	Alexis Wood	13	Randy Pugh	24	Teagan Barr		
5	Lanette Young	13	Mabel Weese	24	Michael Beckwith		
5	Mike Vance	13	Carol Fretwell	24	Sophia Boyles		
6	Lynn Ritter	13	David Gasserud	24	Carrie Wetsch		
6	George Corley	14	Nicholas Phillips	24	Madison Holland		
6	Charlotte Reed	15	Jay Gainer	24	MacKenzie Holland		
7	Kendra Kalar	15	Patty Gow	25	Darlene Marechek		
7	Lanny Propst	15	Delaney Johnson	25	Lisa Davis		
7	Charlie George	16	Annabelle Kennedy	26	Jenna Biller		
8	Debra Law	16	Frank Phares	27	Mike Ebel		
8	Dee White	16	Mike Taylor	27	Danielle Riggins		
8	Andrew Yorkey	17	Kristen Hinchman	27	Curt Woodford		
9	Mike Welshonce	18	Zachary Carowick	28	David Hensley		
9	Elizabeth King	18	Linda Wagner				

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1	Sterl & Shirley Dean	26	Wade & Angela Spraberry
1	Matthew & Holly Conrad	28	Chris & Liz MacVean
10	Max & Barbara Morgan	29	Jeffrey & Tara Meade
14	Bob & Dottie Wamsley	30	Bill & Brenda Brown
15	James & Merllene Yorkey		

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Connie Caudy	7	Olivia Seibert	16	Monica Wamsley	25	Barbara Tyre
1	Rhys Lefler	7		17	Bud Rexrode Jr	26	Jo Ellen Jones
2	Amon Marstillier	7		17	Lennox Ware	27	Tara Standridge
2	Jessica Wilmoth	8	Greg Godwin	18	Jack Batdorf	28	Barbara Criss
2	Autumn Trupo	8	Cassandra Lawson	18	Emily Bennett	28	Jessica Johnson
3	Jeff Barb	8	Eli McWhorter	18	Ella Berdine	28	Linda Patterson

3	Beth Conklin	8	Susan Sneed	18	Maggie Conrad	29	Karen Gainer
3	Bryan Davis	9	Sheila Gregoire	19	Frank Gola	29	Max Jones
3	Tim Edin	10	Elsie Bucher	19	Matthew Spessert	29	Carol Pizzino
3	Ryan Merriam	12	Mike Pizzino	19	Patrick Thompson	30	Chris Patella
3	Dallas Poyner	12	Carol Holt	19	JoJo Rhee	30	Michelle Pratt
4	Betty Jo Kostakos	13	David Ferguson	19	Barbara Wetsch	30	Todd Schoonover
4	Paul Grindle	13		20	D.K. Curtis-Golden	31	Lorrie Downs
5	Bonnie Marstiller	13	James Smith	20	Kathy Hitchcock	31	George Mallow
6	Eric Ferguson	14	Simmie Hoeft	21	Donnie Teter	31	Hollie Pritt
6	Sam Tuning	14	Mike McDowell	22	Dianne Marstiller		
7	Shawna Davis	14	Jacob Pritt	22	Lexi Reger		
7	Jay Dailer	14	Alexa Sanders	22	Brooks Spears		
7	Phil Hinkle	14	Emily Shobe	22	Judy Vandenberg		
7	Jennifer Gouer	15	Larry Jones	22	Sue Wolfe		
7	Amy Simmons	15	Noah Patella	23	Bill Basil		
7	Matt Tyre	15	Julia Preusch	23	Juliann Harlan		
7	Manda Pawelczyk	16	Emma Pingley	23	Jin Rhee		
7	Holly Elbon						

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

3	Dave & Donna Simmons	31	Steve & Kristin Satterfield
8	Jim & Sue Sayres		
11	Brad & Missy Reger		
16	Jerry & Bobbi Trimboli		
20	John & Laura Chapman		

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY
to the following families:

Mike Jack	Betty Schaffer	Carolyn Rice
Zelma Smith	Mabel Phares	Glenda Fitzwater
Becky Corcoran	Hollis Vance	Dick McDowell

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

315 KERENS AVENUE

ELKINS, WV 26241

The Circuit Rider

November 2024

NON-PROFIT ORG

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

FIRST U.M. CHURCH

ELKINS, WV

PERMIT NO. 14

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM – 3 PM / PH: 304-636-0660

Pastor: Tim Edin (304-777-7035 Cell)
pastortimedin@yahoo.com

Youth Minister: Natasha Evans

Pastor Emeritus: Basil Hensley

Certified Lay Minister: Lynn Ritter

Custodian: Angela Wolfe

Financial Secretary: Julie Civiello
Office Manager/Treasurer: Jane Corley

rhonda@fumcelkinswv.org

Choir Director: Trinity Gray

Handbell Director: Lisa Godwin

Nursery Supervisor: Crystal Price

