

When I was 6 years old, the Pioneer 10 space probe was launched by NASA. It was designed to be the very first spaceship to cross the asteroid belt and to get up close and personal with Jupiter and some of Jupiter's moons. The probe used Jupiter's gravity to accelerate and sped off to the far reaches of the solar system. By January 2012, the last time that Pioneer's radio signal could be detected, it had traveled over 11 billion miles. "Perhaps most remarkable," wrote Leon Jaroff in Time Magazine, "those signals emanated from an 8-watt transmitter, which radiates about as much power as a bedroom night light, and takes more than nine hours to reach Earth" (Time, November 4, 1996).

Pioneer's engineers predicted that Pioneer 10 would function for only about 3 years. Nearly 40 years after its launch, it was still broadcasting. Its little transmitter did more than anyone could have ever imagined. There is a great lesson here. To God, our ability doesn't matter near as much as our availability. If we will just say "Yes" to serving Him, God will give us the power, the energy and the ability to minister on His behalf. Jesus said that God would even speak through us, "...do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you" (Matthew 10:19-20).

While it is an honor and a privilege to serve as an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, and in particular at Elkins First United Methodist Church, such a designation is not a destination or an end-all. It is part of the journey. We are all on a journey. One does not have to be ordained to heed the call of God. We are all called to minister. If our call is to speak, then speak for God's glory. If our call is to teach, teach for God's glory. If our call is to help the sick, then help the sick to God's glory. "Whatever you do," Paul said, "do it all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Ministry was never meant just for the ordained. We are all in this together – for the glory of God! God is calling. Some have answered that call. Have you? Remember, ability counts less than availability! If we say "Yes" to giving God the glory, He will provide the means to do so!

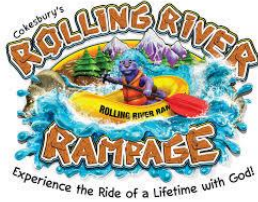
Yours in ministry together,

*Brian*

## DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kary McAtee

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018



Another successful week of VBS at FUMC has come and gone. Through food, skits, music, crafts, science, Bible stories, and mission projects; forty-eight children, from Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, learned that “When we pass through the waters, God is with us.” We discovered together that following Jesus means a life full of ADVENTURE, ACCEPTANCE, JOY, REST, and PEACE.

**THANK YOU TO:** ALL THOSE WHO FAITHFULLY ATTENDED VBS MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, EACH VOLUNTEER WHO SACRIFICED THEIR TIME TO SERVE THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF OUR COMMUNITY, FUMC MEN AND WOMEN FOR PROVIDING AND SERVING DINNER ON SUNDAY AND TUESDAY NIGHTS, WOODFORD UMC WOMEN AND MEN FOR PROVIDING AND SERVING DINNER ON MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, HERK KESSLER FOR PROVIDING PIZZA FOR THURSDAY NIGHT, JOYCE HAWSE FOR PROVIDING S'MORES FOR THURSDAY NIGHT, VICKI FISHER AND LYNN RITTER FOR SERVING DINNER ON THURSDAY NIGHT, SHELLEY HYRE FOR HER PHOTOGRAPHY AND SLIDE SHOW, CRAIG HYRE AND JANE CORLEY FOR THEIR ACTING AND PUPPETRY, DONNA HAMRICK AND HER REGISTRATION TEAM, CHARLIE FRIDDLE AND HIS SECURITY TEAM, SUSAN SEDERS AND HER MUSIC TEAM, PENNY FRIDDLE AND HER CRAFT TEAM, DIANA JOHNSON AND HER SCIENCE TEAM, TRUDY CAROWICK AND HER BIBLE STORY TELLING CREW, BRAIN SEDERS AND THE AUDIO VISUAL CREW, CHAPEL HILL UMC FOR LENDING DECORATIONS TO US, HARRY KRAMER FOR LEADING OUR ADULT CLASS, PRE-K GROUP LEADERS, KINDERGARTEN AND 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE GROUP LEADERS, 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE GROUP LEADERS, 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GROUP LEADERS, BUILDERS CENTER OF ELKINS AND BOB JONES FOR DONATING TO OUR MISSION PROJECT, KARLY WALLACE FOR VOLUNTEERING IN THE NURSERY, ANGIE AND RHONDA FOR ALWAYS GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND, INDIVIDUALS WHO DONATED TO AND PRAYED FOR VBS, JESSICA WILMOTH FOR PROMOTING OUR EVENT ON FACEBOOK, AND PARENTS FOR BRINGING THEIR CHILDREN TO ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE AT FUMC. (I apologize if your name or contribution was not listed above)



Our Pre-k class learns the story of Martha and Mary in the VBS Bible Story Station (picture left)



Our Kindergarten and First grade class decorates wooden cross magnets in the VBS Craft Station (picture right)

## THE CIRCUIT RIDER



Our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class learns a song and dance in the VBS Music Station (picture left)



Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade class participates in a buoyancy experiment in the VBS Science Station (picture right)



Jeremiah Jasper and David Hensley explain communion to a group of students (picture left)

Grooving to the music at closing assembly (picture below)



## PROGRAM UPDATES



This month in Sunday School and Children's Church, our character focus word is RESPECT. Respect means paying attention to one another. When you respect someone, it means you consider the person's feelings and needs. Respect also can mean looking up to someone. When we need help or advice, we go to someone we respect and trust. Jesus treated all people with respect. God wants us to treat people with respect, too. Jesus respected God. God wants us to respect Him, too. We will be hearing and responding to stories about how we show respect to God and one another.

August 5<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 12:9-14 "The Man in the Synagogue: Jesus showed respect for God and people"

August 12<sup>th</sup> – Luke 10:38-42 "Mary and Martha: We show respect by listening to one another"

August 19<sup>th</sup> – John 4:1-42 "The Woman at the Well: Jesus showed respect to the woman at the well"

August 26<sup>th</sup> – John 5:1-17 "The Man by the Pool: Jesus showed respect for God and for people"

# **Back to School Splash!**

**Sunday, August 19th**

**2:30 to 5:00**

**swimming at the YMCA**

**followed by food in the**

**Family Life Center at**

**First United Methodist**

**Church**

**For safety, all children must**

**be accompanied by an adult**

**to attend. Contact Kary**

**McAtee for more info.**



## MUSIC NOTES



Gale Poe

I continue to be grateful for the folks in the Music Ministry here at First Church Elkins. The choirs observe a summer break from the routine of preparing ensemble music, and we have the blessing of singers and ringers and instrumentalists who give time and energy and talent to God's glory. I appreciate the summer soloist time a lot, because it gives me the opportunity to visit with folks one-on-one, an opportunity that is not as easily accessed during the ringing/singing year.

Choir rehearsals resume this month - Monday, August 27 at 7:00 p.m. for ConwayRingers, and Wednesday, August 29 at 7:00 p.m. for the Chancel Choir. Both choirs will gather before those first rehearsals for their traditional Salad Supper. This is a light pot luck meal for the members of those groups (families will be included in the spring at our annual Music Ministries event).

The McChoir Sisters, a women's ensemble that was organized years ago by Jack Basil, will begin rehearsing in August in preparation for the Forest Festival Coronation. This is an event in which they have participated for several years; they are wonderful ambassadors in this community.

If you would like to join the choir(s), we happily invite you to join us. For more information, you may contact me at the church, or my cell: 304.940.3350, or any of the musical folks, who would be more than happy to share details with you.

I have always had an excitement and expectation about the musical possibilities as we enter weekly rehearsals. We never know how the Spirit will move us, but we do know to expect it with complete confidence. Before each rehearsal we have a time of sharing - good things, hard things, social concerns, funny stories. And then, we pray. Prayer changes how we love each other.

Choirs are one of the best examples I know of what the body of Christ looks like. We are all different - physically, emotionally, spiritually. Our journeys are all different. Personalities are bold, or reticent. Moods can be stoic, or guarded, or uncovered and unhidden. We all possess different gifts and abilities. We need all of these variations to show us the image of God. We are made in His likeness. How unlimited and infinite God is, to make us all so unique. It's true, that idea of all of us being God's unrepeatable handiwork.

Blessings to you from the Music Ministry.



In July, the United Methodist Men served snacks for the Operation Christmas Child Regional Meeting held in the Family Life Center. A special thanks to Vic Simmons, Shorty Gola, Mike Fisher, and Dick Hamrick for helping with this event.

The United Methodist Men also served supper the first night of Vacation Bible School. Children and adults enjoyed a menu of hot dogs, potato chips, veggies, cookies, and drinks.

The Methodist Men request that you keep Jim and Wilma Crowley in your prayers as they struggle through difficult times.

# United Methodist Women

## News From the First United Methodist Women

Welcome Back Brian and Susan

Brian and Susan Seders' return to ministry at FUMC was celebrated by a picnic lunch prepared and served by the members of FUMC women following the 11 am church service on July 1. Even though the event was held indoors, the food was a picnic style menu and tables sported red and white tablecloths, geraniums in quart canning jars and baskets of fruit resting on a tree slab along with a few visiting ants (plastic replicas) that always tend to arrive at any picnic gathering. The meal was topped off with ice cream sundaes and fresh baked cookies. A large crowd was in attendance to fellowship and extend greetings to Brian and Susan. We welcome them with open arms and open hearts.



### Vacation Bible School

FUMC women will be serving dinner one evening during VBS. Do not be surprised if you see them involved in other ways as well.

### Second Women's Retreat Set for Saturday, September 15

The retreat plans are moving forward with gusto. "Are We Making a Difference?" is this year's theme. If you missed last year you will want to join us for this event. It will be an uplifting day of learning and sharing. A light breakfast of pastries and drinks will be served by our members before hearing outstanding speakers that have been engaged to motivate and inspire us. A delicious catered luncheon is planned while the day will culminate with a hands-on activity for missions. All Methodist church women of the county will be extended a personal invitation from our own members who will be visiting each church in the near future. Watch for registration information that will be forthcoming.

### Upcoming Events

Executive Board Meeting August 27

**The Women of  
First United Methodist Church of Elkins  
Invite You to a Day of Faith and Fellowship  
“Are We Making a Difference?”**

**315 Kerens Avenue                      Downtown Elkins**

**Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>    9:00-3:00**

**\$10.00 Registration Fee for Lunch**

**Special Music by Susan Seders and “Of Things Above”**

**Speakers include:**

**Chris Wood, President of D&E College**

**Brian Seders, Pastor of First United Methodist Church**

**Becky Ashburn, Brenda Hermanson, and Peggy Knutti**

**Lunch catered by Dwayne Propst of**

**“Puttin’ on the Ritz” of Franklin**

**FUMC Registration Form**

**Due by Thursday, August 30th**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Church Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lunch Menu - Catered by Dwayne Propst of "Puttin' on the Ritz" of Franklin  
Green Salad, Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Corn, Green Beans, Dessert**

**Please return this form with the \$10.00 registration fee ...one form per  
person. You may hand deliver to the church office or mail form and fee to First  
United Methodist Women, 315 Kerens Avenue, Elkins, WV 26241. Make  
checks payable to FUMC Women. For more information, contact Mary  
Durham at 304-636-0632.**

**Please bring a donation of one or more hygiene item/items. In the afternoon,  
we will prepare kits for local distribution.**

\_\_\_\_\_

**FUMC Registration Form**

**Due by Thursday, August 30th**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Church Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lunch Menu - Catered by Dwayne Propst of "Puttin' on the Ritz" of Franklin  
Green Salad, Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Corn, Green Beans, Dessert**

**Please return this form with the \$10.00 registration fee ...one form per  
person. You may hand deliver to the church office or mail form and fee to First  
United Methodist Women, 315 Kerens Avenue, Elkins, WV 26241. Make  
checks payable to FUMC Women. For more information, contact Mary  
Durham at 304-636-0632.**

**Please bring a donation of one or more hygiene item/items. In the afternoon, we  
will prepare kits for local distribution.**



THE CIRCUIT RIDER



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Operation Christmas Child Summer Spectacular was just that, Spectacular! We had participants from 7 counties in WV and 1 from Maryland. There were 224 shoeboxes packed. Kid's games, shoebox resources, and the WVU Mountaineer was on hand for autographs and photos.

Special thanks to Susan Seders for the inspiring song, Jennifer Wanless for baking the pepperoni rolls, the Men of the Church who provided drinks and snacks, Allegheny Insurance who donated bottled water and all the Elkins OCC Team Members who worked hard to make it all happen and every person who participated.

We are changing the lives of children all over the world, "One Shoebox At A Time."

Patricia Parsons - Area Coordinator

Bob Cowgill, Logistics Coordinator Elkins OCC Team

---

### School will be back in session soon and the Backpack Food Program needs YOUR help!



We are presently collecting unmarked new backpacks and food items to include: granola bars, oatmeal, canned ravioli, fruit cups, veggie cups, snack cracker packs and puddings. Please drop off your items in the bin marked "BACKPACK PROGRAM" by the church office or you may make a donation and earmark your check "Backpack Program." This is an ongoing school project. Monetary, school supplies and food donations are always appreciated. Thank you for your continued support to help the children in Randolph County.

THE CIRCUIT RIDER

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

1	Bob Hinkle	9	Dixie Gutmann	18	Ann Rexrode	27	Bill Jordan
1	Gayle Walden	9	Connie Kemrite	19	Bonnie Batdorf	27	Ronald Moore
2	Patricia Forrishall	10	George "Rusty" Gainer	19	Connie Pingley	27	Brian Elmore
2	Isaac Winans	10	Leo Reed	19	Wesley Gibson	28	Lois Mahoney
2	Randy Blackburn	10	Grace Roy	19	Erika Pliska	28	Debra Fortney
2	Donna Jones	10	Michelle McKinnie	19	Cameron Wilson	28	Shelley Seibert
2	Lisa Kerns	10	Nicholas Kostakos	19	Kevin Wanless	28	Peggy Johnson
2	Aaron Bodkins	11	Anita Ferguson	20	Beverly Armentrout	28	Matthew Helmick
2	Alex Ritter	11	Alan Bennett	21	Christopher Davis	28	Drew Compton
3	Carol Bush	11	Mary Jo Hoyle	21	Mandy Gard	28	Natalie Norwood
3	Leslie Davis	11	Jeanne Crawford	21	Elizabeth Ferguson	29	Anna Ruth Collett
3	Mya Kalar	11	Matt Doerr	21	Maryland Hinkle	29	Bob Wamsley
4	Clyde McCartney	11	Jarrold Hickman	21	Brad Kittle	29	Meg Dailer
4	Lena Umbright	12	Carol Morris	21	Sarah Martin	29	Nick Barb
4	Cheryl Gilkerson	12	Laura Chapman	21	Nancy Simmons	29	Willa McWhorter
4	P.J. Harmon	12	Burr Corley	21	Jenna Stalnaker	29	Christian Brown
4	Tom Frost	12	Olivia Sayres	22	Marsha Chenoweth	30	Sara Leggett
5	Heather Antolini	12	Aaliyah Stottlemeyer	22	Natalia Stewart	30	Patrick Morrison
5	Patrick Spears	13	Steve Stemple	23	Kate Reed	31	Mike Hinchman
5	Jeb Smith	13	Ed Phares	24	Clifford Biller	31	Murray Reed
5	Adam Jones	13	Joy Shepherd	25	Betty McClure	31	Cheryl Riggleman
5	Jullian George	13	Paula Doerr	25	Jim Schoonover	31	Stephanie Teets
5	Korayon Weirich	14	Tom Schoonover	25	Brenda Jackson	31	Will Stout
7	Sara Hinkle	14	Jo Ann Barlow	25	Heather Croson	31	Shannen McClure
7	John Wilson	14	Jim McCloud	26	Ellie Casto		
7	Emma Quint	14	J.H. Smith	26	Jim Lambert		
8	Donna Trulik	14	Karyn Bennett	26	Mike Dyer		
8	Steve Herron	14	Tyler Davis	26	Alicia Lewis		
8	Kim Urban	14	Tatum Wamsley	26	Kayla Stewart		
8	Robert Smith	15	Lisa Wamsley	26	Adam Posey		
8	Grant Cupp	16	Greg Lewis	27	Russ Corley		
8	Sarah Calain	16	Bob Wilmoth	27	Tharon Jack		
8	Rose Corley	16	Curtis Harris	27	Sharon McQuain		



**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

*to the families of*  
David Begg and JC Wood.

# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1	Lee & Cherie Underwood	12	Tom & Jane Wamsley	19	Andrew & Jayme Gongola
2	Robbie & Susan Morris	12	Jim & Missy Poyner	19	M/M Murray Reed
3	Mark & LaDonna Rosencrance	13	Ryan & Laura Kennedy	20	Bill & Beth King
4	Nathaniel & Besse Rose	15	Bob & Faye Cowgill	20	Phil & Paula Heinke
5	Donald & Jo Ellen Jones	15	Barry & Carol Band	21	John & Kate Barger
5	Derrick & Hollie Pritt	15	Brad & Judy Kittle	23	Ronnie & Connie Kemrite
6	Dave & Barb Hanna	15	Chris & Lisa Wood	23	Steve & Joanne Gregory
6	Wayne & Carol Holt	16	Harry & Denise Kramer	26	Kevin & Leslie Widney
7	Scott & Christina Harris	16	Tharon & Judy Jack	29	Robert & Linda Wyatt
7	Jeremiah & Mandy Gard	18	Roy & Dee White	30	Syl & Carol Fretwell
8	Wayne & Kendra Schwartzmiller	18	Phil & Maryland Hinkle	31	Dave & Judy Vandenberg
9	Jeff & Debbie Welshonce	18	Mark & Dinah Tomblyn	31	Seth & Michelle Pratt
10	Jay & Jill Dailer	18	Ben & Leah Shepler		
10	Bruce & Joelle Kenney	19	John & Susie Gainer		

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

### UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

**We Care Meeting on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm in the Parlor.**

**Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Parlor.**

**Church Council Meeting on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Parlor.**

**Deadline for Pastor Evaluations in the District Office is Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Tyrand Highland Parish Picnic/Meeting will be on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>  
at 6 pm in Beverly.**

**BACK TO SCHOOL POOL PARTY on Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at the YMCA from 2:30 pm-5 pm.**

**Followed by food in the FLC. Contact Kary McAtee for more information, 304-636-0660.**

**Trustees Meeting on Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm in the Parlor.**

**District Picnic (Conference Papers Distributed) on Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
at Quiet Dell UMC – 5:30 pm**

**Rise Against Hunger Event on Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at D & E, 5:45 pm. It's an event for new and returning students, churches, youth groups and individuals in and around Elkins to work together on a service project.**

**Please plan to come join us, meet some new students, and learn about world hunger.**

**Please RSVP to Tina Vial at 304-997-4284 or [viala@dewv.edu](mailto:viala@dewv.edu).**

**United Methodist Women's Executive Board Meeting on Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>  
at 1 pm. (Subject to change.)**

**THE CIRCUIT RIDER**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
315 KERENS AVENUE  
ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA 26241-3852

**The Circuit Rider**  
**August 2018**

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

FIRST U.M. CHURCH

ELKINS, WV

PERMIT NO. 14

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM – 3 PM / Friday 8:30 AM – 12-noon PH: 304-636-0660

Pastor: Brian Seders (304-636-0406 Home)  
blseders@gmail.com

Office Manager/Treasurer: Rhonda Elmer  
rhonda@fumcelkinswv.com

Director of Church School of Ministries: Kary Kramer-McAtee  
kary@fumcelkinswv.com

Financial Secretary: Danielle Taylor  
danielle@fumcelkinswv.com

Music Director: Gale Poe

Pastor Emeritus: Basil Hensley

Nursery Worker: Jennifer Wanless

## THE CIRCUIT RIDER