

A testimonial dinner was being given for the town's leading citizen. He was called upon to tell the story of his life:

"Friends and neighbors, when I first came here 30 years ago, I walked in to your town on a muddy road. I had only one suit on my back, one pair of shoes on my feet and all of my earthly possessions were wrapped up in a red bandana tied to a stick I carried over my shoulder. Today, I'm chairman of the board of the bank. I own hotels, apartment buildings and office buildings. I own three companies with branches in 49 cities. I am on the board of all the leading clubs. Yes, my friends, your town has been good to me."

After the banquet, an awestruck teen approached the great man and asked, "Sir, could you tell me what you had wrapped in that red bandana when you walked into this town 30 years ago?" "Well, I think, son, that I was carrying about \$500,000 cash and some \$900,000 in government bonds" (King Duncan, pp. 301-302).

Daah! With almost a million and a half in assets, it is easy to see where one would be successful. But is true success being rich? Is more money the key? What about material or position or status or something else? I believe that we find true success by looking at Jesus' life. As we discover him in scripture, we notice some powerful words that he spoke which characterized his life and, it is safe to say, words that he wanted to see characterize our lives:

- "Don't worry about anything..." (Philippians 4:6). Jesus knew that his heavenly Father had already provided for all of his needs. He knew that his heavenly Father was with him at all times. And Jesus' trust in his heavenly Father was complete. We, too, can fully trust God!
- "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment" (Matthew 22:37-38). Jesus' love for his heavenly Father was his great priority. He had a personal relationship with the Father. Jesus was fully sold out to God – completely and fully committed. We, too, must place God first. When we do, everything else falls in line.
- "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged" (Matthew 7:1). Jesus did on occasion judge others, but he knew the complete story. We never do, so we must be very careful about judging; if we do judge, we will be judged the way we judge others. It is far better to respond with compassion!
- "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9). Jesus held this up as a great virtue; those who pursue peace will find that blessings follow.
- "Father, forgive them..." (Luke 23:34). Jesus forgave those who tortured him and approved of his execution, even though he was innocent. Jesus knew the freeing power of forgiveness. And since he was following his heavenly Father's will, he forgave by looking through his Father's eyes. So can we!
- "Do to others what you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12). This is known as the Golden Rule and greatly agrees with the 2nd greatest commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). What a better world this would be if lived this way!

Jesus was God in the flesh. He spoke truth, and that truthful word dwelled in him richly. Taking any one of these sayings and focusing on it, praying over it, and practicing it, can be deeply impactful. Following each directive would change a life.

Jesus was not rich, did not have much material, or any great position or status, but what he had was powerful and eternal – he had the word of God. And he believed it and lived it.

Lord, may your Word be as important to us, and help us to find our greatest success in being like Christ.

Amen.

In God's love and peace,

Brian

First United Methodist Church ✠ 315 Kerens Avenue ✠ Elkins, West Virginia 26241

Church: 304-636-0660 ✠ www.fumcelkinswv.com ✠ Rev. Brian Seders, Pastor ✠

Dear Families and Friends,

We need YOU to make our directory complete! To celebrate our church family and strengthen the bond within our congregation, we welcome you to be a part of our upcoming new directory.

A new directory:

- Preserves this special time in the life of our church
- Becomes a lasting record of our current membership
- Helps us connect faces with names

We are partnering with Lifetouch for this important project. Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait. You can sign up for photography at our church after services.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATES

Wednesday - Friday	September 4 – September 6, 2019	2-9 p.m.
Saturday	September 7, 2019	10-5 p.m.

For your convenience, all photography and portrait viewing will take place at our church with NO sitting fee. You will have a variety of poses taken. One pose will be selected for the directory. In addition to your complimentary 8x10, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits on the day of your portrait session. Lifetouch's portrait price lists are available at the sign-up table for those who would like them prior to photography.

Be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to be professionally photographed. We are looking forward to seeing you in our directory. I am encouraging 100% participation!

Your Pastor,

Brian

P.S. Your photography session will take about an hour, during which time you will check-in, be photographed and view your portraits. If you need help scheduling a photo session you may contact Lynn Ritter at 304-636-5483 (home) or 304-642-6483 (cell)



Photo Directory Update

Sign-ups have begun for our new church directory and it will not be complete without you! Each Sunday from now through August 25, you will have the opportunity to register for a photo time. Photographers from Lifetouch Studios will be present to photograph families in the FLC beginning Wednesday September 4, 2019 and continuing through Saturday September 7, 2019. Times are as follows: Wednesday – Friday 2-9p.m and Saturday 10-5p.m.

You may sign up for your photo session in the overflow section of our sanctuary immediately following both worship services. If you would like to arrive early (10:30 a.m.) for the 11:00 a.m. service, you may register before the service begins. You may also contact Lynn Ritter to register.

Thank you in advance for being part of our directory.

Lynn Ritter 304-636-5483 (landline)

304-642-6483 (cell)

Director of Christian Education
Kary McAtee

In Children's Church and Sunday School, we will be learning about David and his family. This will be a great month to talk as a family about wisdom. What have you learned from your family? What wisdom do you want to share with your children? What wisdom have you learned from your children?



August 4th – David and Samuel: David was chosen to be the future king. God looks at our hearts. (1 Samuel 16:1-23)

August 11th – David and Abigail: Abigail made peace between David and Nabal. Families make peace. (1 Samuel 25:1-42)

August 18th – David and Mephibosheth: David kept his promise to his best friend, Jonathan, and his family. (2 Samuel 9:1-13)

August 25th – David and Solomon: Families share wisdom. (1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:1-15)

LOOKING FORWARD

Back to School Splash!

Sunday, August 18th

2:30 to 3:30 swimming at the YMCA

4:00 food in the Family Life Center of

First United Methodist Church

For safety, all children must be accompanied by an adult to attend.

Contact Kary McAtee for more info. 304-636-0660

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

Another successful week of VBS at FUMC has come and gone. Through food, skits, music, crafts, science, mission projects, and Bible stories; fifty-two children, from Pre-K through 5th grade, learned that “God is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us!” We discovered together that God empowers us to “Go Beyond with: faith, boldness, kindness, thankfulness, and hope.”



Our VBS Mission Project for 2019 was UMCOR School Supply Kits. Together we collected 34 packs of crayons, 13 rulers, 208 pencils, 17 erasers, 14 pencil sharpeners, 12 two gallon zip top bags, 23 pairs of scissors, 35 notebooks, and 26 packages of loose leaf paper. Our children's church children packed the kits for distribution to children in need. When we come together we can go beyond for others!



Thank you to Allysun Hammond and Shirley Shiflet from the Alliance church for being our mission commander and EP-320 puppeteer for the week. Thank you to Otterbein church for sharing some of their leftover decorations with us. Thank you to Jeremiah Jasper and Woodford church for partnering with us again this year in Bible story time, as well as, supplying and serving dinner for Monday and Wednesday evenings. We can do far more than we imagine when we work together for God's kingdom!

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VBS VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS! THE SUCCESS OF THIS OUTREACH EVENT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR TIME, TALENTS, AND LOVE OF KIDS! WE WERE VERY BLESSED TO HAVE HAD OVER 60 VOLUNTEERS AT VBS THIS WEEK!



SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS 2020!
SUNDAY, JULY 19TH – THURSDAY, JULY 23RD

MUSIC NOTES



Gale Poe

We are enjoying many folks and their musical offerings in the summer months at the 11:00 a.m. service. The Praise Band, *Heart of Worship*, was present in July. In addition, Judy Riffie (and husband Bill), Linda Wagner, and the VBS children also sang. In August we are looking forward to some duets, a quartet, solos, and a trio. Our church is blessed when these folks cheerfully offer their gifts as a complement to worship, along with the spoken Word.

Summertime is good for all of us on so many levels - warmer weather brings a regular afternoon shower to shake off dust and shine the leaves, and many of us tend gardens and flowers that show off bounty and beauty. I want to believe that folks' schedules relax in the summer, but I am not so convinced of that being true. We, all of us, stay busy, as if there is some badge of honor given to us when we eliminate stillness. I remember back in the day, Mother and Daddy making iced coffee, and taking it to the back yard to enjoy, along with a kitchen chair. My family never owned lawn furniture until I was grown and living on my own, so our kitchen chairs suited for iced drinks, and bean stringing, and apple peeling, and sometimes simply listening to rustling leaves and singing birds; the kitchen table sometimes made its way outside for whatever purpose.

Here are some photos that make me smile. Among them, you will see the Children's Choir, the handbells ready for Cantata, singers and ringers post-Cantata, the ripped-out wall between the handbell and choir rehearsal rooms (a suite that serves us very well), the guys patching carpet so that we did not have to re-carpet the entire space (the very best rowdy guys!). There is a picture of multi-colored half moons. Wait. What? Out of place isn't it... The story of that photo will be revealed in September. Blessings to you from the Music Ministry.





Operation Christmas Child

We will kick off our Operation Christmas Child "Christmas in August" on August 4th.

It is never too early to shop for Operation Christmas Child. Items that are needed are now on sale at Walmart.

Crazy Art Crayons - 25 cents 70 sheet spiral notebooks 25 cents and check other Back to School displays for items needed for shoeboxes such as erasers, scissors, pens, glue sticks, colored pencils, etc.

Volunteers are needed to assist in getting items ready to pack. If you want to be a part of this ministry contact Bob Cowgill at 304-636-6367.



HEY PARENTS

First United Methodist Church is starting a PIONEER CLUB!



WHAT IS A PIONEER CLUB?

Each week this Christ-centered program integrates spiritual and personal development to help boys and girls Kindergarten through 5th grade to build healthy relationships with caring Christian adults, peers and, most importantly, Christ. And most of all, Pioneer Club is FUN!

WHEN DOES THE PIONEER CLUB BEGIN?

Thursday, September 26, 2019 for a Family Night. Food, Fun and Fellowship. Don't Miss Out!!! Any questions contact Shelley Hyre 304-704-7039.



The United Methodist Men served a light supper to those attending Vacation Bible School on Sunday evening, July 21st. Since many members enjoy summer vacation during the months of July and August, there is nothing scheduled for the month of August at this time.

United Methodist Women

NEWS FROM THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Welcome Back Brian and Susan

The FUMW hosted a welcome back reception for Brian and Susan Seders on Sunday, July 14 following the 11 am service. Punch and cookies were provided to those in attendance. Thank you to all the circle members who brought cookies for the event and those who set up and cleaned up. We are pleased to have Brian and Susan returning for another year.

The following are pictures from the reception:



Circle 3 Helps Mission Committee

Members of Circle 3 provided a variety of food items that were delivered by the Mission Committee to Emergency Squads within the county. Thank you to the members of Circle 3.

Executive Committee Plans for Women's Retreat

The Executive Committee have been busily planning for the Saturday, September 21st day long retreat. Five impressive speakers have been engaged. Inspirational music will be provided by The Heart of Worship. A lovely catered lunch has been planned. Promotional information and registration forms will soon be distributed. We are looking forward to another successful day of fellowship and worship. Mark your calendars and invite others to attend. We are opening the event to women throughout our community. Hope to see many of you there.

August Mission Minute

FUMC Mission has had a very busy month. The end of June found us with a community tragedy with the Harman area flood. With torrential rains devastation found its way back to Randolph County. The people of Randolph County and our State pulled together to help the Harman area clean up and rebuild. Our mission committee provided brooms, mops, buckets, cleaning supplies, water, hotdogs and buns. A number of people have volunteered their time as well to assist with clean up and recovery. That's community!

I was overwhelmed with emotion when I rounded the corner from my home on S. Kerens Avenue to find 28 people in the parking lot of Hair Graphics for our community walk. We held our walk Friday, July 12 at 7 pm. After a time of discussion and prayer, we split into groups of 3-4 people and walked around town. We handed out twenty-nine bags filled with pre-packaged food items, hygiene products, a Gideon New Testament Bible, and resource information to those in need. We went to share the love of Christ to our community and that's what we did. As Brian mentioned in his sermon the following Sunday, one of our people talked with a man and his wife. The man had given his life to Christ at a recent tent revival and wanted to be baptized. Once the couple was found later, they came to the parking lot of Hair Graphics. Brian talked with the man about his salvation and his intent to be baptized. The man was baptized right there in the parking lot with a bottle of water. What a blessing it was to be a part of the community walk.

Our next Mission Committee meeting will be Sunday, August 18, 2019 at 12:15 pm in the parlor. If you are interested in missions please join us for this meeting.

In His Service,

Kim Urban

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 Rigglesman
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		

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

to the families of

Ashton Berdine upon the death of his father,
Syl Fretwell's upon the death of his nephew, Brian Morris,
and Carolyn Shepler's upon the death of her brother.

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

The Circuit Rider
August 2019

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 McAtee
kary@fumcelkinswv.com

Financial Secretary: Julie Civiello

Music Director: Gale Poe

Pastor Emeritus: Basil Hensley

Custodian: Angela Kisner

Nursery Worker: Jennifer Wanless

