

First United Methodist Church  
15 E. Second Street  
Greensburg, PA 15601

## **AUGUST SUMMER NEWSLETTER**

Due to the part-time hours of the interim secretary, we're doing a Summer Newsletter instead of the regular Circuit Rider. Please read it carefully for pertinent information and dates and times of events.

### **BIBLE STUDIES/INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP**

This Fall's Book Study is entitled *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*; and with its commencing, GBFUMC will be kicking off its Intentional Discipleship Path! We'll be joining Jesus from his baptism, the temptations and moving through his ministry to the people he loved, the healing he brought, the parables he taught and the enemies he made. And as we start our faith journey, we will learn how to be like Jesus and be the followers he is calling us to be. Tuesday Book Study will start on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and be held on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM. Wednesday Evening Book Study will start on September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. For more information, please see Pastor Net.

### **MEMBERSHIP CLASSES**

This Fall's Membership Classes will be held Saturday mornings from 9-10:30. Anyone wishing to become a member, please see Pastor Net.

### **A WALK WITH WESLEY: Every Person in Ministry.**

A Fall Retreat at Olmsted Manor in Ludlow, Pennsylvania, a retreat center of the Western Pennsylvania United Methodist Church, will be held for anyone wishing to explore ways the First United Methodist Church of Greensburg can expand and enhance its ministries to the congregation and to the community by—as Wesley emphasized—putting faith and love into action. Workshop leaders will be Dr. Sharon Schwab, a retired UMC pastor of Warren United Methodist Church, and Dr. Mark Hecht, Senior Pastor of Warren United Methodist Church.

The retreat will occur from Sunday through Tuesday, September 16-18, 2018. We will leave Greensburg at 1:00 PM on September 16 and return at 5:30 PM on September 18. The total cost is \$265, which includes a private room, bus transportation, all meals and all gratuities.

Please indicate your interest in attending by Wednesday, August 15. Space is limited. Payment for the Retreat is due by Saturday, September 1. You may call the church office for a registration form and/or for more information.

### **CHOIR NOTES**

All our choirs will return after Labor Day weekend.

### **EKKLESIA**

Our communion service of word and song is on Saturdays at 7 PM. Featured musicians for the Month of August are:

August 4 – Linda Rose, Piano; August 11- Rev. Dean Ziegler, Piano; August 18 – Chiz Rider, Trumpet; August 25 – Nikesha Moore, Voice and Piano.

### **FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY SUMMER CLASS**

Classes are Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Library—August 1- Lesson 8: Real Estate and Mortgages and August 8-Lesson 9: The Great Misunderstanding.

## **FOOD BANK**

July was certification month for our 84 clients. We are now able to accept new clients. We are always in need of items for our Share Table—non-perishable food items, paper products and personal care items are greatly appreciated by those who come to us for help. Our Food Pantry is the second Friday of each month and donations can be made any time during the week or on Sundays. Thanks to Alice Croushore for sponsoring the August Truck of the Month in honor of the missions of the church.

## **HEALING HEARTS**

Healing Hearts continues to meet the third Monday of the month at 6:30 PM, but for the summer months, is meeting outside the church. If you would like to join us, please call Sherry Miller at 724-837-9366 for more information and to find out the location of the next meeting. Experiencing loss is devastating, but you are not alone. Join us.

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Centering Prayer: August 6, 13 & 20 at 7:00 PM in the Prayer Room

Finance and Stewardship: August 15 at 7:00 PM in the Lounge

## **OUTREACH**

Collections for Happy Feet will continue through August. The “feet” will be in the back of the sanctuary during church or you can put your check in the offering plate with Happy Feet in the memo line. This is such a great way to help kids who may not have the opportunity to have new shoes.

Also, if you missed the Christmas in July tree, you can always make donations to the Holiday Dinner fund by putting your check in the offering plate or sending it to the church office with Holiday Dinners on the memo line.

## **POCKET CHANGE TO US...A LIFELINE TO DESTITUTE CHILDREN**

Thank you, congregation, for your Pocket Change gift to Redeemer Christian Foundation, Inc.! Here is an idea of what your \$293 donation accomplished for the children in Pakistan: \$30 – a jug of sanitary drinking water; \$150 – ten student desk chairs; \$35 – medical aid allowance for one month; \$78 – 75% of our assistant teacher Celestine’s pay for one month.

Pocket change to us...a lifeline to orphaned and destitute children in Pakistan. Thank you, as well, to the youth at FUMC Greensburg who have come together to sponsor Angel Waris, a student at Redeemer Christian School. The youth will soon have the opportunity to Skype with Angel in order to gain a better understanding of what it is like to live in a country that persecutes Christians.

With heartfelt thanks for ALL that you do for the children,

*Bev and the children, staff and Board of Directors of RCF, Inc. (A501c3 non-profit ministry)*

Visit us at: [RedeemerChristianFoundation.org](http://RedeemerChristianFoundation.org)

## **SPARK MISSION TEAM**

SPARK Mission Team applied for and received a grant of \$2,000 from the Methodist Foundation to continue the transportation project for another year. This project provides bus passes to individuals from the homeless shelters who are in need of transportation to seek housing and employment, to allow them to get to doctor’s appointments, court appointments and other necessary destinations. For those who own a vehicle, it allows us to give them a parking permit. The other crucial benefit it provides is photo IDs and birth certificates without which no employment, housing or services are available. We consider this grant as validation of the important work that the team is doing and are extremely grateful to receive it.

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

The UMW would like to thank everyone who helped with the Church picnic. Lots of volunteers are needed to put the picnic together and we appreciate everyone's help to make it happen.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the Saturday, September 22, Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. If you would be able to come in and help with this event, please contact Sherry Miller at 724-537-9366.

The third annual Holiday Extravaganza will be held on Saturday November 10, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please plan to come and shop and have some lunch with us. Many crafts and vendors will be participating and the UMW will be selling food and baked goods. It would be a great place to do some Christmas shopping and find one-of-a-kind gifts. If you can help or bake, please contact Sherry Miller at 724-537-9366.

Don't forget that the UMW has Rada Cutlery available all year round. Contact Mary Ann Herd at 724-834-2731 with any questions or orders.

If you are interested in helping with Funeral Meals, please contact Sherry Miller for more information to sign up to be on our list of volunteers. Donations to the Funeral Meal Fund are always welcome and will be used to provide meals for those who have suffered a loss and ask for our help.

## **YOUTH**

Laramie Cowan has been our youth director for more than a year and has recently graduated from Seton Hill University with a degree in journalism. She has now been hired full time in her field. Congratulations, Laramie!! She has generously offered to continue helping with our Sunday night youth group while the church searches for new leadership for our youth program. However, she is not available Sunday morning. We need several adults to teach youth Sunday School from 9:30-10:30 AM. **Can You Help??** We have a delightful group of young people who are eager to learn and continue their faith journey. Please prayerfully consider working in this ministry. If you have any questions or would like to help, call Kathy Griffith at 412-613-8569.