



# First News First

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 7

AUGUST 2014

## First United Methodist Church of Mechanicsburg

### From the Pastor

YOU ARE INVITED.....WE ARE INVITED.....to become Partners in Mission with Bishop Park. The following invitation comes to us from the Superintendents of the Susquehanna Conference:

Dear Susquehanna Conference,

**Time and time again we are amazed by your passion for missions.** The Mission Central warehouse with its many hubs is an example. There are food pantries, community meals, youth programs and children's ministries, shoe banks, clothes closets, diaper distributions, disaster recovery, rehabilitation ministries, Volunteers in Mission, and so much more.

**You reach out to your neighbors** with compassion whenever there is a need; whether fire, flood, an illness, a death, and so much more. **You reach out to your communities** with service and care – feeding, clothing, diapering, building, rebuilding, cleaning, and more. **Your reach extends throughout our nation** by providing for disaster relief in the South, the Northeast, New Jersey, Arkansas and elsewhere. **You reach out around the world** by building wells throughout Africa; building churches and schools in Sierra Leone, Central and South America; sending computers to Guatemala, Africa & Honduras; teaching bible school in Haiti; building playgrounds in the West Bank & Bahamas; sending school supplies to improvised countries; sending medical supplies and financially supporting staff in hospitals in Africa and India, and sending toys to children in Africa... the list goes on.

Let us share some good news... **our Bishop has the same passion!** Mission makes his heart sing!

Bishop Park is creating a new thing – the **Bishop's Partners in Mission**. Partners in Mission is people for mission. Partners in Mission is 100% for mission. Every penny will go to mission - missions such as Imagine No Malaria, Mission Central, the World Service Fund, Volunteers in Mission (VIM) teams. Bishop's Partners in Mission (Advance #7090) us a newly created fund that will support many critical mission projects in our community, our nation , and our world. The fund is about the vision that the Susquehanna Conference is a church **Alive in Christ** for mission and that **together we do make a difference** in our communities

*(Continued on page 2)*

#### Dates to Remember

- Aug 3 .....Holy Communion
- Aug 4-8.....Vacation Bible School
- Aug 8 .....FUMC Pool Party
- Aug 16 .....UMW Yard Sale Book Sale
- Aug 19 .....Senior Fellowship
- Sept 7 .....“Kick Off” Sunday/Church Picnic

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*From the Pastor (Continued from page 1)*

and in the world. Bishop Park is asking for partners (individuals, congregation, and church groups) to pledge \$100 a year to the fund.

**Pray about it. Talk about it. Become a partner** yourself or get a group together. Join us as Partners in Mission with Bishop Park.

Grace and peace,

### **The Cabinet**, Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church

A copy of this invitation along with much additional information are included in the "Bishop's Partners in Mission" brochure which can be picked up at the First Church's Welcome Desk.

## **Finance**

<b>Through June 30, 2014</b>		
<b>(50% of year)</b>		
<b>General Fund</b>		
2014 budget	\$ 885,000	
Expected income	\$ 442,500	
Actual income	\$ 432,961	(49% of budget)
Deficit	\$ 9,539	
Actual expenses	\$ 419,752	
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$ 5,718	
<b>Legacy Campaign</b>	\$ 2,527	

It is important that normal levels of giving are maintained during the summer travel months. An easy way to do that is to sign up for electronic giving. Forms are available at the Welcome Desk or the church office. You can also contribute through our web site using a credit card.

Based on recommendations from the Finance Committee and the Trustees, the Administrative Board approved applying the proceeds from the sale of the Keller Street rental properties to the church debt. This means our outstanding debt is now under \$80,000. This is great news and should provide inspiration to eliminate the entire debt as soon as possible.

## **History Committee**

### **First Church Oral History Project**

The Anniversary Committee, with the support of church staff, has launched an oral history project. This project involves interviewing long-time church members in an effort to learn "what it was like back then." In order to get this project off the ground, we need volunteers willing to interview some church members. Many of these folks are in nursing homes or unable to attend church. If you are interested in helping with these interviews, please contact one of the following persons:

Tom Mullikin 766-4052 email: townem@aol.com

Carvel Markley 766-4346 email: markleyc@comcast.net

or contact the church office (766-4611). We need a team of interviewers for this project. Once we have a list of interested persons, a planning meeting will be scheduled.

Thank you for your support.

*FIRST NEWS FIRST*

**Editor:** Kristin Brown

The **September** newsletter deadline is **August 15**.

All submissions should be received in the church office on or **before** this date. **Early submissions are always welcome!**

## Staff-Parish

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### Staff-Parish Open Meeting

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee invites interested members of the First Church community to attend our annual open meeting to be held in the Adult Sunday School Room at 7:00 pm on September 9. Attendees can observe a typical meeting and participate in a discussion related to FUMC staff issues and the operations of the Staff-Parish committee.

## Fellowship

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**FUMC Pool Party** August 8, 8-10pm  
at the Mechanicsburg Pool

Come to swim or just sit and visit! Bring your chair and a snack to share. Drinks will be provided.



**The widows/widowers** group will dine at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg on Tuesday, August 12th. We will meet in the church parking lot at 11:00 a.m. for car pooling choices. Please call Bonnie Guyer at 766-0145 if you plan on attending.



**FUMC Book Club** August 12, 7pm.

Looking for something to read this summer? Pick-up a copy of Bowling Alone by Robert Putnam (inexpensive used copies available at Amazon.com) and join in on the discussion at the home of Janice Bowen (720 Eppley Road, Mechanicsburg)! Questions? Contact Janice at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 766-4611 x112

**Senior Fellowship** August 19, 1-3 p.m.

All senior members are invited to come for a casual time of fellowship and light refreshments in the Guyer class space just beyond the church library. Susanna Reppert-Brill will entertain us with a presentation on 'The Victorian Language of Flowers'.

Please contact Janice Bowen (766-4611 x112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) for more information.



**Sharing Garden Goodies** August 23, 9-12 a.m.

Calling all gardeners and bakers! The Care Team invites you to the church kitchen on August 23<sup>rd</sup> to bake zucchini bread. We will then assemble goodie-baskets of bread and home-grown vegetables for delivery to some of our homebound members. If you have any extra goodies from your garden to share (tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, squash, etc.), please place them in the marked collection basket in the tower entrance the week prior to August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you! Questions? Contact - Janice Bowen (766-4611 x112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com))

## Adult Ministry

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### Thanks for Wearing Your Name Tag!



Thank you so much for wearing your name tags at worship! Have you noticed that our name tags have helped the newcomers in our midst? They act as an invitation for people to greet one another and they help newcomers to get to know us more easily.

Think about it: How many relationships are you missing out on because you don't know someone's name?

So keep on wearing them and let's make it a habit! Check your mailbox... If you don't have a name tag please contact Tina Eaton or simply write your name down on the sign up sheet located by the Welcome Desk in the main lobby.

*Always be eager to practice hospitality! (Romans 12:13)*

### New Bible Study for Fall

A brand new in-depth Bible study called "Covenant" is set to begin September 2 on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. It will be facilitated by Anne Horton and will be held in Fellowship Hall. The goal of this study is to deepen our understanding of scripture while also helping us respond together in answering God's call to a faithful life in Jesus.

"Covenant" is broken into three, eight-week sections: "Creating the Covenant" examines how the covenant community is created and established, "Living the Covenant" focuses on how the community lives out its covenant in faithful love, and "Trusting the Covenant" looks at the crises that sometimes arise and how we are to trust in God when troubling things happen.

Cost of Participant Guides is \$19.99 if you purchase each of the three sections separately, or \$49.99 if you purchase a package that contains all three sections together.

If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity, please see the display and sign up in the main lobby. If you have questions, please contact Tina Eaton at 766-4611 or email [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com).

### 2015 Dominican Republic Mission Trip

After a successful Youth Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic in 2013, planning has begun for a return trip in July 2015. The purpose of this trip is to strengthen First Church's ties with the people of Cristobal and to further the ministry of the Church. This trip is intended to be a trip for those who are at least 18 years old and are able to travel and serve independently.



A planning meeting is scheduled for August 4 at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall and the registration form and deposit are due that evening. If interested, please read the trip information and registration packet

## Adult Ministry

for more details. This packet includes important dates and the financial expectations for participants. This can be found in the main lobby or on our website, [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com). Contact Tina Eaton at 766-4611 or email [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) if you have any questions.

### “Out & About: Responding to our Call to Ministry” Summer Sunday School 2014

What are we called to? We are called to ministry. What does that mean? It means to be a ser-vant... to be someone’s hope, and to humbly, gently and patiently care for and do for others just as Jesus did - he set the perfect example for us!

Join us as we continue through this summer to engage in various ministries, missions and discussions focused on serving others. Come to actively participate, gain new experiences and discover or rediscover your calling to serve others “**out & about**” in God’s world.

... *Lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God...* Ephesians 4:1-4

#### Summer Sunday School Schedule

<b>Aug. 3</b>	Coffee & Conversation: Discerning Your Call to Ministry	<i>Bring a breakfast treat to share</i> and enjoy conversation with others of all ages in small groups. Discussion questions will focus on exploring your personal calling to serve.	Evangelism Committee
<b>Aug. 10</b>	Youth Mission Trip: Hurricane Sandy Relief in New Jersey	Catch up on the adventures of our Youth and their leaders as they share their stories of service and blessings in New Jersey. Engage in an activity that will further aid this mission.	Youth Department
<b>Aug. 17</b>	Sierra Leone	Together we will hear about the upcoming mission trip planned for the fall and prepare felt-board materials to give as a gift to our sister church. <i>Note: This is a “BYOS” (bring your own scissors) event!</i>	Mission Committee Members Tiffany Holland and Sarah Jones
<b>Aug. 24</b>	Mission Central	Hear about how children and their families are affected through the gift of a school kit, see pictures of children helped and work together to prepare school kits.	Children’s/Adult Departments, Guest Speaker from Mission Central
<b>Aug. 31</b>	Sticky Bun Sunday: Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts	<i>Bring your favorite sticky buns to share</i> and stay to learn more about spiritual gifts. Tools and information will be provided to assist everyone in identifying their personal spiritual gifts.	Evangelism Committee

### Fall Kick-Off

Don’t forget to join us for “Kick-off” Sunday on September 7! Regular Sunday School classes will begin meeting that morning at 9:30 am (look in the September 7 bulletin for more information). The church picnic will be held at the Adventure Zone Playground Pavilion at 3:30 pm that afternoon and outdoor worship will be held at the picnic at 6 pm.

## Children's Ministry

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### Vacation Bible School Snack Donations

If you would like to contribute a snack item for VBS this year, please place boxes of TastyKakes (any kind, but please no crumb cake or peanut butter), Animal Crackers, or Goldfish Crackers in one of the snack baskets placed along the tower entrance or at the information desk. Thank you so much for blessing the children of VBS with snacks!!

## Choirs

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### Ring In the News

Except for playing for Jon and Kelsey Snyder's wedding this month, the Handbell Choirs have been rather quiet this summer. You will find us at the UMW Second Hand Sale August 16<sup>th</sup> selling the food, and maybe a few of our "choice" 2<sup>nd</sup> hand items!

It's hard to believe we're thinking about it already, but rehearsals will begin again the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in ringing handbells please don't hesitate to call and join us! We love new members! Grades 7 through adult are welcome! Call Kathie Bittenbender at 697-6257 or email RBittenben@verizon.net.

Mark your calendars now - Our next Hosse Community Day is Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Make Music a Part of Your Life

Time again to start SONshine Singers!

When? September 7  
 What Time? 5:15-6:00 pm  
 Where? Choir Room  
 Who? Grades 6-12

This is a get together time with some singing, snacks and fun, fun, fun!

Why should you come?

Praise God with Music  
 Serve First United Methodist Church  
 Lots of Fun  
 Snacks Each Week  
 Special Parties

**Come! Bring a Friend!**  
**So..... Make music a part of your life!**

## Worship

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Sunday Morning  
 Worship Services  
 8:15 am &  
 10:45 am  
 Sunday School  
 9:30 am

Sunday Evening  
 Anchor Worship  
 7:00 pm



**The 4th Sunday at 4:00...**

an interactive and inclusive ministry for those with developmental disabilities, their families, friends and care givers.



August 16, the United Methodist Women will be hosting a yard sale in the church parking lot. Each spacious spot is still the low price of \$10 and sign up is first come first serve. The sale will run from 8 am to 1 pm. The UMW will have delicious baked goods for sale and the Church Library will be offering great bargains on books. Contact Donna Nichols at 249-9477 or [djnichols43@hotmail.com](mailto:djnichols43@hotmail.com) to reserve your spot.

As an outreach to the community, we will be giving away school supplies to visitors with children. We are asking the congregation to donate supplies for this project. Please bring the following items: small box of crayons, #2 pencils, erasers, blunt scissors and glue sticks.

Thanks in advance. Whether you are buying or selling, it will be a day of bargains and fun in the parking lot!

Church Yard Sale, Bake Sale and Book Sale	
Saturday, August 16, 2014	
8:00 am to 1:00 pm, church parking lot	
Rain or Shine!	
Fill out and return to Donna Nichols 249-9477 or <a href="mailto:djnichols43@hotmail.com">djnichols43@hotmail.com</a>	
Bring Your Own Table!	
Name: _____	Date: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____
Payment of \$10 enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/>

The need for **"Dress A Girl Around the World"** dresses continues, as long as our congregation is willing to sew these sweet articles of clothing. There is a box on the floor out in the Narthex for you to drop off your dresses. It is located next to the Mission Table. The Martha Circle thanks all who have sewn. We will continue to mail the dresses to "Hope For Women International" for distribution. Again Thank You! There are purple labels in Flossie Ryder's mailbox, along with some directions. Each dress should have a label sewn on the front of the dress. We have already collected 62 dresses!!! Thank you for your incredible help with this outreach mission!

## FUM Circle Meetings

### DEBORAH CIRCLE

Sandy Walton\*  
790-9131 or  
[swalton54@comcast.net](mailto:swalton54@comcast.net)

### MARTHA CIRCLE

Marley Ann Schmick\*  
697-2233

### MARY CIRCLE

Janice Bowen\*  
796-0809 or  
[jjgbowen@yahoo.com](mailto:jjgbowen@yahoo.com)

### RUTH CIRCLE

Beryl Morgan\* 697-3554

***New Members are always welcome!***

*\*Contact Circle Leader for dates & times*

## UMW District Calendar

**August 16** - UMW Yard Sale and Book Sale. Bring your stuff to sell or come to buy more stuff! Watch for details.

**September 13** - Annual Day. Camp Hill UMC\*

**November 23**- World Thank Offering and Mission Meal.

\*All District events can be viewed on the conference website at [susumc.org](http://susumc.org), Harrisburg District UMW

## Health & Wellness

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First United Methodist Church and Penn State Extension will be teaming up again to offer the **StrongWomen/Growing Stronger Program** this fall. This is a 12-week program geared for middle-aged to older women **and men** and is based upon years of research on how strength training and proper nutrition improve the health of women and men of all ages. The program was developed to help individuals increase their strength, bone density, balance and energy and help them look and feel better. Participants will meet two times a week for one hour sessions. There is a \$90 fee for this program and participants may want to provide their own hand weights and ankle weights.

**The evening classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays, September 8 – December 1, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., in Room B-003.** Mandatory paperwork must be completed in order to participate in the program and individuals over age 70 must get a doctor's permission. Past participants must pre-register.

For more information or to register for the program, go to: <http://extension.psu.edu/strongwomen/events> and click on "upcoming events" or contact Nancy Rouch at 258-8954 or the Penn State Extension office at 240-6500. Registration opens **August 18, 2014.**

## Library

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If you have ever worked in the library, you'll know what I mean when I say I am always thinking two weeks ahead of myself. Setting the due date stamp two weeks in the future always puts me in the mindset of the future. So writing the newsletter for August while it is only the second week of July is sending me into a mental panic. Raise the alarm, summer is almost over and I am not ready for that. Okay, take a deep breath and focus on today's date. So here is what to read to make the last month of summer slow down. Some think the Amish have a slower lifestyle and after reading some of this month's offerings, I will let you decide for yourself.

Beverly Lewis is a long time favorite in the library and in her latest book, **Child of Mine**, she is collaborating with her husband David. Kelly Maine is living every mother's nightmare - her child was kidnapped. For eight excruciating years Kelly has been searching for her daughter and time is running out. Finally, a private investigator turns up one tiny clue, and it ignites the flame of hope in Kelly. This is an excellent book by two writers who know how to tug at your heartstrings. Just a warning - you won't be able to put this book down, and you'll need a box of tissues handy.

If you would prefer to laugh instead of cry, the third installment of the *Half Stitched Amish Quilting Club* is due in the library in early August. **The Healing Quilt** finds newlyweds Emma and Lamar Miller deciding to retire in Saratoga, Florida. Emma has found so much satisfaction teaching others to quilt, she insists on taking her quilt supplies with her. They are barely settled when Emma offers a quilting class. A pregnant new mom, a wheelchair bound teen, a new widow, a charter boat captain and an ill artist form the new group that learn to quilt and bond together to face life's challenges. Written by Wanda Brunstetter, she provides a lot of laughs to lighten up what could be a sad tale. Check out the first two books to meet all the unlikely students in Emma's quilting classes as they find friendship, faith, healing, and restoration while gathered around their quilts.

Don't miss out on our big book sale on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. The library will be accepting gently used adult and children's books, DVDs and CDs for this sale until August 12<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds of this sale keep all the latest fiction books on the shelves throughout the year.

See you in the library,

Pam & Donna



## Facilities

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First Church's office wing has seen a flurry of activity in the past month. Rooms 102 (Little Friends Nursery School Director), 103 (Juniper Tree Counseling Center), 104 (Facilities Manager), 105 (Helping Hands classroom) and the first floor restroom were all painted consistent with the color scheme (i.e., Cinnamon Whip, accented by Chutney Brown) of the church office. The first floor (and second floor) hallways were painted a soothing Green Tea color. The Green Tea paint was also used as an accent color in the painting of room 203 (Finance Director), 204 (Associate Pastor), 207 (conference area) and the second floor restroom where Desert Powder was used as the primary color. Judi Buddenbaum and Kristin Brown deserve the lion's share of credit for this painting facelift, with an assist from Tina/Josh Eaton and Janice/Heather/Maya Bowen. Thanks also to George Canonizado for his tireless efforts in moving "stuff" around so the painting could happen. Everything looks great!

Speaking of great, have you noticed the shine on the tile floors in the narthex, Gathering Area, first floor of the education wing, and various rooms/hallways in the lower level of the office wing? A slight slowdown in daily activities around the facility for the summer has afforded George an opportunity to spruce those floors up and really make them shine. Awesome effort on his part!

Settlement on the properties the church owned at 118 & 120 West Keller Street occurred on 20 June, so we are now officially out of the landlord business. Thank you to the entire congregation for your prayerful support during this process. Based on Administrative Board approval at their June meeting of a recommendation from the Trustees, the net proceeds from the sale of the Keller Street properties are being applied to the existing church debt as we strive to eliminate that debt altogether and plan for the future.

Special thanks also to Eric King for his efforts inside and outside the building over the past month. Eric completed the removal process of the stair treads in the Frederick Street stairwell from the main floor down to Fellowship Hall. I am in the process of measuring, cutting and "dry-fitting" the new treads for this stairwell, with a stated goal of having all of this work done before Vacation Bible School is held in early August. Eric also patched and painted an area in the ceiling of the Christian Fellowship classroom that had been damaged by an earlier roof leak. In addition, Eric sprayed for weeds and constantly cleans up brush in the gravel and paved areas of our parking lots to keep things looking sharp around our exterior. Thank you, good and faithful servant!

Nail Construction completed another phase of our iron railing restoration initiative, this time two small railings (and one concrete step) along King Alley near Frederick Street and a railing at the steps outside the back corner of the Guyer classroom. Nail Construction is now restoring the railings in the exterior stairwells that run from ground level to the back sides of Fellowship Hall and the Music Room.

The Borough's Highway Department recently filled the large potholes in King Alley for the second time this year. A more permanent fix of the King Alley surface is not in the Borough's plans at this time. Sorry!

Things are happening. Projects are getting done. Please keep me apprised if you see something that needs fixed or improved so that we can focus on making our facility welcoming and inviting to all who enter.

Roger Walton, Facilities Manager

## Volunteer Opportunities—outside FUMC

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### Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region - Volunteer Needs

Hosting: get your place of worship involved (we are interfaith!)

Opening up your congregation for guests to stay at 4x/year, Preparing meals, Bringing in items for breakfast and lunch, Staying overnight with the guests, Driving 15-passenger van morning and/or evening

Partnering:

Similar to hosting, but your congregation never has the families at your congregation—you are partnered with another congregation; Your volunteer(s) assist in the same ways listed above

Day Center volunteers

Spend time at the Day Center in afternoons and weekends; This role is to be a “presence” at the Day Center and to answer phone calls

Donations

Monetary donations

Personal items (see website for updated list of needs) <http://www.familypromisehcr.org/donate>

Board Members

Committee members

Day Center, Finance, Fund Raising, Human Resources, Information Technology, Network Relations, Public Relations, Transportation

To learn more about Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region and for contact information go to their website—<http://www.familypromisehcr.org>

## Educational Opportunities

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### Strengthening Families Program for parents and youth 10-14

The teen years can be challenging for all families... SFP 10-14 can help parents and teens tackle the challenges together!

What to expect?

A seven week program that meets one night each week

Each session begins with a free family meal; Free childcare is provided for younger siblings

Each week during the first hour parents and youth meet separately but work on similar skills. During the second hour youth and parents have fun together as they play games and do family projects.

Youth sessions include discussions, group skills practice and games

Parent sessions include video presentations, group discussions and skill building activities.

This program is free for all families with a child between the ages of 10—14.

Fall session: Tuesdays, 5:30-8:00 pm starting September 30 at Grace United Methodist Church, 216 Market Street, Mechanicsburg. For more information or to register, contact Marla Reichart at 766-7652 Ext. 250 or [mreichart@umhcservices.com](mailto:mreichart@umhcservices.com)

### Mental Health First Aid

Sometimes, first aid isn't a **bandage**, or **CPR**, or the **Heimlich**, or calling **911**.

Sometimes, first aid is **YOU!**

## Educational Opportunities

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You are more likely to encounter someone in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. Mental Health First Aid teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to people with the signs and symptoms of a mental problem or crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social, or self help care. Anyone can take the 8-hour Mental Health First Aid course — first responders, students, teachers, leaders of faith communities, human resources professionals, and caring citizens.

First Church will be hosting a Youth Mental Health First Aid Course, Thursday, September 25, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. This is an 8-hour public course for adults living or working with youth ages 11-18 and for senior high school students. To register contact the church office at office@fumchurch.com or 766-4611. The cost is \$40, including lunch. Members of a United Methodist church attend at no cost. CEUs for... UMC Pastors - .8; Teachers-Act 48; Human Resource Professionals, EMS personnel

## Church News and Notes

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### Thank you...

*I want to thank all the wonderful 1st Church family who helped me since the passing of my wife, Bettie. The out-pouring of help was tremendous.*

*I want to thank Art Davis and Ken Rapp for giving me communion. Also, Janice Bowen and family. Janice provided me with transportation when I needed to go to the doctors. Her husband, John, and crew trimmed all my bushes.*

*A special thanks to Devon & Gary Betz who helped me in many, many ways for at least a year.*

*I am in assisted living home now and with a handicap and 92 years of age that's where I belong. Thanks again to all and God bless you.*

*Art Murray*

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*Thank you to the pastors & congregation for prayers, hugs and cards during my recent surgery.*

*Beryl Morgan*

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*Dear FUMC Fellowship,*

*I want to deeply thank you (as individuals and as community) for your many gifts, caring words and actions as my family and I moved from FUMC. It has been such a blessing and an honor to be in relationship with this church in so many ways for the last 19 years. I have loved being a pastor and director of the counseling center. I have tremendous appreciation for leadership of FUMC that has given so deeply of themselves through these years. It has been my deep and esteemed privilege to work with dedicated and competent staff over the course of my life at FUMC...and what an extra bonus to have had such incredible fun in that journey! I have enormous gratitude for the ways you as a community of faith have helped me grow, and have cared for my family during these years. We all are different people out of our relationships, in many levels, during our time at FUMC.*

*Thank you especially for your gracious and generous goodbye gifts to us .... and for the wonderful goodbye party! What a spectacular time we had...including the international skype with Jess! Of course, being roasted by my own family (thank you, Zach, Jess and Jim!) was also a revealing time for all of us! And so, to each of you, to Dave Florey and SPRC, to Mike Minnix and the marvelous FUMC staff, I humbly say thank you.*

*It has been quite a journey, folks! It has been glorious, hard, and fun. I am not the same as the woman who walked into FUMC 19 years ago. Especially, I will never ever forget the joy of working alongside Mike in times of challenge,*

## Church News and Notes

### Special Birthdays

Grace Koser .....August 2  
 Jane Heller .....August 3  
 Helen Kelly .....August 10  
 Doris Sweger .....August 11  
 Pauline Trace .....August 12  
 Lois Morland .....August 16  
 Jo Barth .....August 27  
 Victor Norris .....August 29  
 Foster Creamer.....September 4  
 Bill Neumyer.....September 4  
 Truman Peters.....September 4  
 George Rehfuss.....September 16  
 Ike Bomboy .....September 20  
 Lil Thomas.....September 22  
 Bill Seig.....September 27  
 Peggy Shenberger....September 28

*Addresses of these members can be found in the Church Directory.*

### Special Anniversaries

♥ Louis & Jo Barth married 62 years on August 2  
 ♥ Don & Barbara Shover married 56 years on August 2  
 ♥ Art & Fran Davis married 56 years on August 9  
 ♥ Paul & Marge Robinson married 53 years on August 12  
 ♥ Ike & Nancy Bomboy married 72 years on August 15  
 ♥ John & Dolores Shell married 60 years on August 15  
 ♥ Jim & Joyce Parfet married 51 years on August 18  
 ♥ Les & Ruth Reed married 70 years on August 23  
 ♥ Harry & Joyce Woods married 61 years on August 23  
 ♥ Gerald & Patricia Sheely married 56 years on August 24  
 ♥ Bob & Judy Wertz married 51 years on September 1  
 ♥ Richard & Alberta Knause married 64 years on September 2  
 ♥ Ed & Ginny Johnson married 50 years on September 3  
 ♥ Bill & Betty Etter married 71 years on September 4  
 ♥ Milt & Dolly Dougherty married 64 years on September 23  
 ♥ Richard & Marley Ann Schmick married 50 years on September 26  
 ♥ Paul & Lorraine Strock married 61 years on September 27

### Love & Sympathy ...

to the family upon the death of Ann Minnich on June 23, 2014.

to the family upon the death of Karen McAuliffe's step-sister, Nancy Mann, on June 29, 2014.

to the family upon the death of Dave Bennetch's father, Fred, on July 8, 2014.

to the family upon the death of Helen Ritter's sister, Esther Moul Magaro, on July 14, 2014.

*growth, deepening of understanding and seeking God's direction. I've always felt that life sometimes makes more sense as I look backwards. As I look backwards, I am gratified by where I believe we as a congregation, as church leaders, and as a staff have moved. I am thankful for the dedication of this church to stand for what is most important for the movement of God's kingdom, rather than for the satisfaction of our individual wants. May that sense of selfless commitment continue.*

*Please welcome Pastor David Reed and his family with your FUMC generous spirit. Continue to bless and pray for your pastors and staff (and their families), for your lay leadership, and for each other. Look towards our God for your direction, and simply show your love for Him in how you treat each other. How good it is to be part of the ever unfolding love of God.*

*And now back to the task of unpacking, continuing to sort through and simplify our 'stuff' and orienting to our new world! We are doing well as we adjust to this new life of work and home. Jim's recovery continues, and both of our ministries are full. Our children are thriving in their adult lives, which brings us great joy. For the first time in our marriage (and for me since I was 24 years old) weekends are free. We are visiting other churches, have been to the shore and the Poconos. I have scheduled days off. Life is good and we are thankful.*

*Many blessings to each of you, Lucretia (Jim, Jess and Zach)*