

# First News First

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

From the Pastor's Desk....

In This Issue...



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Awe, summer is here! As I write this newsletter, it's mid May and the tomato plant I got at the Mission Central Plant sale is flourishing. This is a new experience for me as my plants often are not the "best" because I forget the regular waterings and feedings; but this year God has been caring for that! April and May has been particularly rainy, and when I am not cold from that rain, I am reminded to give thanks for the ways that God uses rain to water and care for the earth, plants, and creation.

This summer I am excited about our two series grounding worship this summer at First UMC. Around those series we will have some separate celebrations. June begins with Graduation Sunday on June 1st with a student preaching, Pentecost on June 8th (and our combined worship at 9am), and then Rev. Jim VanZandt sharing on June 15th while I am on vacation.

Our June/July worship series is the "Power of Prayer." Throughout scripture Jesus taught about the power and importance of prayer (not just to water our plants, but also about watering our souls). Today 67% of US adults say they pray at least weekly. As we pray, there are some questions that arise. How should we pray? What if my prayers feel stale? Why do my prayers go unanswered? Just to name a few!

During this series, June 22-July 13, I am going to invite us to commit to daily praying for our church at 1:35. Why 135? It's our address. Am or pm? I will be praying at pm, but if you are up, go for it at am. Why together? It's a reminder we are to set aside time to pray and we can pray together even from different locations around our community or while traveling. Pray about what? Each week we will have a church focus, but that's just a place to start.

Whether you can pray for 30 seconds or 30 minutes each day, I hope you will set your phone alarm or make yourself a post-it to join with others at First Church in prayer. May we be a church grounded in prayer, following in Jesus' ways, as we lift our prayers together.

On the journey together,

Pastor Mira



# Lifelong Learner



#### Sunday School Special Presentations/Activity - Multipurpose Room | 9:45-10:45

- June 15th Caitlin Smiles Activity
  - Join us in making kits for Caitlin's Smiles. This organization encourages children with serious health challenges to explore their uniquely creative talents by taking part in arts and crafts activi ties. We welcome participants of all ages to help us make several craft kits.
- June 29th Prayer Practices Activity
  - Pastor Mira will help us explore a variety of prayer practices to help us put into action the lessons learned in the June/July Sermon series on prayer.
- July 13th Presentation Lessons Learned from Estate Planning Mistakes Come hear Katie Dang share tips and lessons learned from her role helping others with estate planning as she helps us learn about things to consider as we think about details related to preparing and planning for the future.
- July 27th Presentation Youth Mission Trip
  - Come hear the team members who serve in North Carolina this summer. Learn about how they saw God move through the experience of supporting disaster relief efforts with Praying Pelican Missions
- August 10 Operation Warm Hearts Activity
  - Operation Warm Hearts is a local grassroots organization that aims to provide handmade items for those encountering homeless situations. All ages are welcome to help us make no-throw blankets

#### **United Women in Faith Mission**

This annual learning event for United Women in Faith will be held at the Best Western, Lewisburg from July 17 to 19, with express days on July 17 at the Best Western and July 26 at Chambers Hill UM Church, Chambers Hill. The topic for this year is Practicing Hope Together, led by Pastor Miguel Arenas. Registration is now open and can be found here: https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index. php?eventid=831693& or visit the conference website at susumc.org. If you have questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at <a href="mailto:linearing-new-normal-based-new-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-based-new-normal-base are invited!



#### Women's Summer Bible Study – James: Walking in Wisdom

This summer, join us for a 10-week women's Bible study as we walk through James: Walking in Wisdom by Lydia Brownback. This study encourages women to dig deep into Scripture through the summer months with thoughtful reading and reflection each week. We'll meet Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM at Pleasant View Park (rain location: First Church, Room 105) beginning June 11 through August 13. This is a space for conversation, encouragement, and accountability as we grow together in God's Word. Come for one week or join us whenever you're home — no pressure, just connection and study. While childcare isn't provided, children who are comfortable playing independently are welcome to enjoy the nearby playground during our time together. Bring your Bible, your study book, and a heart ready to grow we'd love to see you there! Sign up on Church Center or at the Registration Table to get a workbook and to be include in future communications regarding the study (Cost: \$11.00; Checks made out to FUMC with Women's Bible Study in the memo and given to the attention of Lisa Aronson)

#### From the Library

Since this newsletter is for June and July, I want to tell you the library will be having it's annual book sale in conjunction with the Women In Faith yard sale on August 16th. We are collecting gently used books, puzzles, CDs and DVDs. We cannot accept VCR tapes, textbooks, or encyclopedias. Please understand that we can only sell gently used items. We cannot recycle books—some items can be passed on to other sales, but otherwise we have to throw away items we can't sell or pass on. Please do this job for us before you donate. Having said that we are very grateful for your support and through this sale we keep the most



current Christian books on the shelf for your reading pleasure. Now on to the good part of this newsletter—new books!

While trying to decide what books to review this month, I came across Denise Hunter's latest book, *The Summer of You and Me*, and not only the title but when you see the cover it will confirm this is the perfect summer read. Though Ms. Hunter is known for her light romances, this book also has a bit of a mystery plot line. Main character Maggie Reynolds is a widow, having lost her husband Ethan in the war in Pakistan. Five years have passed, and she finally feels ready to move on with her life. When she joins her in-laws for a summer at Seabrook, her brother-in-law Josh plans to reveal that he has been in love with Maggie all his adult life, even when she chose Ethan over him. But before he can tell her how he feels, Maggie spots a man at the amusement park that could have been Ethan's twin. Before she can talk to this look-alike, he seems to vanish into thin air. Together Josh and Maggie search for this elusive man, but their search seems to turn up more questions than answers. I will let you discover how this mystery turns out, but plan to let the housework go to finish this book.

Wanda Brunstetter is well known for her Amish romantic fiction. Her new trilogy also has mystery woven into the story line, and the mystery isn't solved until the final book. The library has the first two books on the shelf: *The Protector* and *The Peacemaker*. The final book, *The Pretender* is not due out until August. In the books Rosa Petersheim has disappeared from the Big Valley without a trace. Her brother, Norman, has always been her protector, and he can't believe she has run away. Norman has let his life fall into shambles as he searches for his sister. In *The Peacemaker*, Rosa has still not been found and her boyfriend, Ephraim, has come under suspicion with many in the community turning against him. Rosa's best friend Ada has grown close to Ephraim, but can they really have a life in Big Valley with the dark clouds of doubt and accusation hanging over them? See if you can figure out the mystery while waiting for the next installment.

If neither of these books is right for you, stop in and let our volunteers help you find just the right book. See you in the library,

Pam, Annette, Mary, Marge, Deb, and Donna

## Praying Follower



#### **Summer Sunday School**

During the summer, the Guyer Class Sunday School invites all those looking for a class to their Sunday school to participate in the Cokesbury Adult Summer Bible Study called "Living Faith." Join others in this Bible study and conversation as you explore Paul's arrival in Corinth and his ministry there from the book of 1 Corinthians. Class meets in Guyer Room 123 most Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:45 (class participates in special presentations/activities).

## Passionate Worshipper



#### Pentecost Sunday | June 8th | 9:00 a.m.

One Church. One Family. One Service. Join us for a special combined service on June 8th at 9:00 a.m. as we welcome and celebrate our new members and confirmands into the First Church family. We are thrilled to have a chance to highlight the uniqueness of the Foundations and Gathering services and to come together to praise the Lord with one voice. Please know that the service will also last longer than the usual hour. Childcare is available for 5th grade and under. Following the service at 10:30 in the lobby, we will have coffee, refreshments, and fellowship. Sign up on church center or at the Registration table to bring a breakfast treat if able.

#### **Reminder: Update Your Safe Sanctuary Clearances**

If you volunteer with children or youth at First Church, it's time to check your Safe Sanctuary clearances! Pennsylvania state law requires all volunteers working with minors to renew their clearances every five years — and keeping them up to date ensures you're ready to serve when opportunities arise. Clearance instructions and links can be found on the First Church website under the Resources tab. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all our young people!

#### **Introducing the New First Church Service Shirts!**

We're excited to announce our brand-new First Church Service Shirts — designed to unite and identify us as we serve together in our community. Whether you're volunteering at an outreach event, helping with church ministries, or participating in a mission project, these shirts are a simple and powerful way to represent First Church with love and purpose. Wearing a service shirt not only helps others recognize who we are, but it also shows that we're working together as the hands and feet of Christ. Shirts are available for purchase now — order yours today and wear it proudly the next time you serve! Shirts are available for \$10.00 and can be ordered at the registration table or on Church Center. Participation Discount: If you participate in one of the Summer Sunday school activities (Caitlin Smiles on June 15th or Operation Warm Hearts on August 10th), you can get a shirt for \$5.00 (Checks made out to FUMC, t-shirt in the memo, and given attention of Lisa Aronson).



## Dedicated Missionary



#### **Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry**

First Church is pleased to support Isaiah 61 Ministries, a local organization that serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County. They provide a variety of services including a soup kitchen, clothing bank and Life groups. Specifically, First Church members prepare and serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. The next volunteer opportunities are Wednesday, June 18, 2025 and Wednesday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m. To find out how to get involved, contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com.

#### Pray for Our Youth Mission Team - North Carolina Disaster Relief

This summer, our youth mission team will be traveling to Mitchell County, North Carolina from June 29 to August 4 to assist with disaster relief efforts and share Christ's love through hands-on service. We invite the congregation to stop by the Mission Table in the main entrance hallway to learn more about the team and their work. While you're there, pick up a prayer postcard to take home as a reminder to pray for the team throughout their trip — for safety, strength, and the impact of their witness. Thank you for supporting our youth as they step out in faith to serve others!

#### **Share the Harvest**

If you have extra flowers, fruits, or vegetables from your yard or garden this summer, we encourage you to share them with your church family and community! Whether you leave goodies or take some home with you, please check out the Share the Harvest display set-up on the counter space near the children's department....as well as the shelf attached to the Little Free Pantry alongside the church parking lot. Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112) with any questions.

#### Gleaning 2025!

This growing season, we are excited to have the opportunity to once again glean locally in partnership with Oak Grove Farms! We will share the fresh produce with the individuals and families receiving support locally from One80 Ministries. If you haven't gleaned with us before, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 to have your name/contact information added to the FUMC 2025 'Glean Team' to receive additional information!

Gleaning 1 – Thursday, June 5th – 6 pm (meet in Oak Grove Farms parking lot)

Gleaning 2 - Thursday, July 2nd - 6 pm

"When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God" ~Leviticus 19:9-10.

# Relationship Builder



#### Solo Seniors Fellowship | Jun. 10, 11:30 a.m.

The Solo Seniors Fellowship will dine at Snapper's Restuarant on Tuesday, June 10th at 11:30 a.m. If you plan on attending, please call Bonnie Guyer at 717-766-0145. Transportation will be provided upon request.

#### Community Dinner, June 1, 2025

Our spring community dinner will be held on Sunday, June 1 at First Church of God on Main Street at 5:00 p.m. This collaborative event with other local churches blesses the downtown community with a meal, music and a gift card drawing, free of charge. The idea comes from the book 'Welcome to Dinner,

Church, which encourages churches to share a meal with their neighbors. We serve over 100 of our neighbors and friends at these meals. If you would like to help set up, serve or provide a food item, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at <u>l\_hoffnagle@yahoo.com</u>. Thanks for your support! The fall Community Dinner will be held on Sunday, September 28 at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

#### Friday Food Trucks at First, Save the Dates!

On **July 18**, we welcome Jazz 4 on the patio and a family-friendly movie and on **September 19**, we will partner with Sadler Health for a Fun and Fit Fair in the multipurpose room and music on the patio with Scott Hallman. Check our website for updated list of trucks attending each month.

The food trucks are a great way to meet our neighbors in a fun and casual atmosphere. We look forward to offering these events to our church family and our community. The food trucks serve from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. We can always use volunteers to help with parking, set up or tear down. Please contact Lori Hoffnagle@yahoo.com to volunteer or learn more. Hope to see you there!

#### Yard, Book and Bake Sale, Saturday, August 16

We are looking forward to the annual United Women in Faith Yard, Book and Bake Sale in our church parking lot on Saturday, August 16 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. See all the details below:

- Yard sale spots in the parking lot (2 parking spaces) will be \$15. You may reserve up to two spots. Proceeds benefit the United Women in Faith missions. For your convenience, you can easily sign up on Church Center starting July 1. Please contact Donna Nichols at djnichols43@hotmail.com to get the link.
- You may cancel up to August 1, with a refund, but no refund after that date (we will consider it a donation to the United Women in Faith).
- Support our wonderful Youth by **donating your treasures**! The Youth will sell the items to raise funds for future mission trips. Last year, they made over \$2,700 at the sale! The collection will start Monday, **August 4** and continue through Thursday, **August 14** in the multipurpose room. Please bring only clean, unbroken and working items. Questions about your donations, contact Lisa Aronson at <a href="utertailtright: utertailtright: 1.5.5">utertailtright: 1.5.5</a> at the sale! The collection will start Monday, **August 4** and continue through Thursday, **August 14** in the multipurpose room. Please bring only clean, unbroken and working items. Questions about your donations, contact Lisa Aronson at <a href="utertailtright: utertailtright: 1.5.5">utertailtright: 1.5.5</a> at the sale! The collection will start Monday, **August 14** in the multipurpose room. Please bring only clean, unbroken and working items. Questions about your donations, contact Lisa Aronson at <a href="utertailtright: utertailtright: 1.5.5">utertailtright: 1.5.5</a> at the sale! The collection will start Monday, **August 14** in the multipurpose room.
- The Children's Department will once again hand out **free school supplies** in handmade pencil pouches (thanks to our Squares and Prayers Group) to children who visit the sale.
- **The Church Library** will have a variety of books, puzzles, CD's, DVD's available for purchase. The library is asking for gently used children and adult books, puzzles, cds and dvds (Please no VHS videos, cassettes or encyclopedias) for our annual sale. Proceeds from the sale keep the most current Christian fiction on our shelves for your reading pleasure. Donations can be left outside the church library (near Alley entrance) on Sunday mornings or in the multipurpose room star ting August 5. If you have a large book donation, call Pam Van Kirk at 717-903-9196 or Donna Nichols 717-574-9894 to make arrangements for a drop off. Thanks in advance.
- The church **Handbell Choirs** will have food available for purchase to support their ministry of music.
- Enjoy tasty treats from the United **Women in Faith Bake Sale**! (We will be asking for donations of baked goods, so start thinking of something yummy to make!) To donate baked goods, con tact Denise Swank at dmom64@gmail.com or 717-795-8747.

There is something for everyone at the sale! If you have any questions, please contact Donna Nichols at djnichols43@hotmail.com or Lori Hoffnagle at l\_hoffnagle@yahoo.com. Thanks for your support!

#### Joy in the Morning - A small group invitation, Monday June 2, @ 1 pm

If you live with chronic pain or ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join in sharing discussion and supportive friendship with this small group. We meet monthly on Monday afternoons at Bethany Village's West Apartments Commons Room. Janice Bowen facilitates, drawing upon readings and devotionals. For more info.,information, contact Janice (717-766-4611 x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com)

#### **Greeting Cards to Share!**

Looking for a birthday card or wanting to send 'get well' wishes to a friend? Stop by the 'Card Ministry' display in the lobby outside the multipurpose room and help yourself to a card! If you'd like a bigger supply of cards or suggestions of who may appreciate receiving a card, please contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112)

#### **Visiting with Friends!**

If you miss seeing your friends at church due to issues such as aging or driving limitations, Janice Bowen would like to hear from you! Janice is interested in taking people with her for visits so that friends can remain connected by visiting in-person with one another! Whether you find yourself 'stuck at home,' no longer able to get out to church or you are able to get to church, but you are missing your friends who are 'stuck at home. Either way, Janice would love to hear from you! 717-766-4611 x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com

#### Senior Ice Cream Social | July 22, 1:30 p.m.

Whether you're a generational senior or a high school senior, we invite you to gather with us in Fellowship Hall for an afternoon of friendship, fun and made-to-order sundaes! Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112) with any questions.

#### Stay Connected This Summer - Youth Calendar Now Available!

Summer is here, and so is the Youth Summer Calendar — filled with opportunities to stay engaged, have fun, and grow in faith together! From service projects to social events and Bible studies, there's something for everyone. Pick up a copy in the youth lounge, behind the couches opposite the children's wing, or check it out online. Whether you're around all summer or just for a few weeks, we'd love to see you whenever you can join us! Let's make it a summer to remember!

#### Pickleball in the Park! Tuesday 5-7 pm

Join us on the Pickleball courts at Soldiers and Sailors Mechanicsburg Park! If the weather is unfavorable (excessive heat, rainy), we will play in the church multi-purpose room. No experience is necessary. Paddles/balls will be available to borrow if you'd like to learn how to play! Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions or to be added to the Pickleball email list for updates and weekly alerts.



# Generous Giver



#### **Financial Report**

Through April 30, 2025

General Fund

2025 Budget \$869,000

Expected Income YTD \$ \$289,638 (33.3% of year complete)

Actual Income YTD \$ \$287,756 (33.1% of budget) **Actual Expenses** \$277,054 (31.9 % of budget)

The financial report for April shows revenues very close to expectations for the year, which is wonderful to see. We are so appreciative of all gifts received for the operations, ministry, and facilities we use at First Church. Fortunately, expenses remain lower than anticipated so far this year.

The church debt for the parsonage stands at \$38,637, and the belltower loan stands at \$36,203, following a principal and interest payment on the belltower loan this past month.

We thank you for your continued generosity and prayers in support of First Church.

#### **Little Free Pantry**

Thanks so much for your continued support of the Little Free Pantry through your donations and monetary contributions. We are building up our supply to stock the pantry, but we still welcome your donations which can be dropped off at the church office or at the Alley Entrance in the marked basket. We are blessed to be able to offer this 'no barrier access point to food' to our neighbors. Questions about the Little Free Pantry, contact Lori Hoffnagle at <a href="mailto:lhoffnagle@yahoo.com">lhoffnagle@yahoo.com</a>.

#### Change for Water

Water is the foundation of our very lives. Yet, according to the United Nations, over 2 billion people lack access to clean, readily available drinking water. Help us to support well-digging efforts in Africa by dropping your loose change (or even paper bills) into the blue Change for Water bucket located in the lobby in front of the multipurpose room. Donations from May totaled \$76.46. We extend a

HUGE THANK YOU to all who gave! We are grateful for your donations!



#### Heading to Mechanicsburg's Jubilee Day?

Park with a purpose! On Thursday, June 19, our First Church Youth will be managing the church parking lot and accepting donations from those parking there. All proceeds will go directly toward supporting this summer's Youth Mission Trip. It's a great way to make your Jubilee Day experience meaningful thank you for helping our youth make a difference through service!

# Ringing in the News!

After our concert in May, The Praise Ringers might wind down a little for the summer, but Kathie says No! We are ringing Pentecost Sunday, June 8, hoping to use some drums and guitars with our piece! We plan to play each month this summer, although probably not the entire choir at once, so watch for us in church!

We really are starting to wind up - getting ready for next year's trip to Scotland for the International Handbell Symposium. We thank you for supporting our "eating out" efforts each month – going to Hosses in May. It's always fun to see many faces that you recognize at a restaurant. We are excited to announce we will be dining at the Camp Hill Panera Bread on Tuesday, June 17, from 4-8pm. This is for dining in or take-out. We hope to see you there! Watch the church news and bulletin announcements for other dining fun this summer!

We can't thank you enough for your prayers and support as we begin this exciting year. Our brochures about our trip should be here soon – you are invited to join us! Several of you have talked to us already and we're excited about that possibility. Have a great summer everyone.



# Stained Glass Class



There are two lamp stain glass windows at First Church. One is located on the first floor eighth window from the Frederick St Entrance and on the second floor the seventh window from the alley entrance.

The lamp is a symbol of wisdom and enlightenment. The lamp symbolizes the Bible, the Word of God, which is to illuminates our paths. The verse that we often think about when we see a lamp is *Psalms 109-105* "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

We also remember the chorus found in our hymnal (No.601) written by Amy Grant: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me, and nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.

Psalms 18:28 "It is you that light my lamp; the Lord, my God lights up the darkness.

In *Matthew 5:14-16* Jesus talks about light and lamps when he says "<sup>14</sup> You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

# First Church Mission Moments...

#### **Camp Prayer Partners Wanted**

It is a brand new camp season, and therefore the chance to pray for those going to camp. We look for prayer partners for our campers, deans, nurses, counselors, Junior Counselors, and our Camp Site Directors.

The Prayer Partner job description entails:

- Praying for an individual(s) during their week of camp
- Sending a 'printed' letter or card to your camper very early in the week (or before camp starts) so the note gets to camper while in camp. Some camps go from Sunday to Thursday and/or Friday or might only be for a weekend. I noted 'printed' letter or card because we are finding many of our campers (and now even the younger counselors/Jr. counselors) were never taught cursive, so "interpreters" are needed to translate your wonderful cursive messages.

If you have a preference e.g., camper, counselor, site director, etc. We always do our best to pair up everyone, send you the appropriate name(s), the camp dates/address and other brief directions. Surrounding each camp week in prayer is so important - for safety, for new friendships with others and most importantly with that special relationship with God. We know that camp builds authentic connections to Christ, community and creation.

Please reach out to Steve and Deb Noss if interested in being a prayer partner.

# Church Staff

#### Pastor:

Rev. Mira Hewlett 717-766-4611 ext. 103 pastormira@fumchurch.com

# Director of Office Management and Communications:

Kelsey Goll 717-766-4611, ext.105 communications@fumchurch.com

### **Director of Worship Arts:**

Sarah Pugh 717-766-4611, ext.119 worship@fumchurch.com

### Pastor of Discipleship & Youth:

Lisa Aronson 717-766-4611, ext.113 uthrock@fumchurch.com

## **Director of Congregational Care:**

Janice Bowen 766-4611, ext.112 wecare@fumchurch.com

# Director of Children and Family Ministry:

Katie Knorr 717-766-4611, ext.102 kidscount@fumchurch.com

### **Director of Finance:**

Amy Erno 717-766-4611, ext.120 financedirector@fumchurch.com

#### **Facilities Coordinator:**

Paul Zito 717-766-4611, ext.109 facilities@fumchurch.com

#### Custodian:

Candice Rudy 717-766-4611, ext.109 maintenance@fumchurch.com

#### **Praise Team Director:**

Sarah Pugh worship@fumchurch.com

## **Sounds of Worship Director:**

Flossie Ryder missflossie 42@gmail.com

## **Youth Worship Director:**

Allison Ometz allisonometzl@msn.com

#### **Director of Bell Choirs:**

Kathie Bittenbender rbittenben@verizon.net

## Organist/Accompanist:

**Brandon Rhody** 

# **Director of Little Friends Preschool:**

Janet Rice 717-796-0723 director@littlefriendspreschool.org

### **Timeless Connections:**

Patti Vogl 717-319-7318 pvogl@timelessconnections.org "I wanted to thank the FUMC members who helped me through my recent spine surgery. Your cards, calls, visits, not to mention the FOOD were very much appreciated. Thank you again for all the love I received. I'm so glad I belong to First Church!" - Marilyn Donak

#### A Word of Thanks:

Grace Brandt's children wish to thank First Church for all the birthday cards sent to their mother in celebration of Grace's 95th Birthday! Daughter, Crystal, shares that Grace "frequently mentions all of the cards she received and the fact that she is re-reading them. It helps her pass the day!"



Help us celebrate special birthdays for our church members turning 80 or older!



Dick Scott	June 2
Barbara Sil1	June 7
Bonnie Guyer	June 19
Reryl Morgan	Iune 30

Charlotte Hess	July 5
Veloice Washburn	July 6
Mary Beth Snoke	July 11
George Snoke	July 16
Frankie Carley	July 18
Mary Jo Skoglund	July 19
Dianne Burgard	July 20
Marian Eichinger	July 22
Harry Woods	July 27
[ean Adams	July 28









- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Neidig married 54 years June 4, 1971.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shannon married 54 years June 6, 1971.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Robert D'Agostino married 56 years June 7, 1969.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Aumiller married 67 years June 7, 1958.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Jim Chilton married 55 years June 20, 1970.
- ♥ Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Fugate married 53 years June 24, 1972...
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Larry Buddenbaum married 58 years July 1, 1967.
- **♥** Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Gensler married 52 years July 1, 1973.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Marlin Simmons married 59 years July 2, 1966.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. John Behel married 52 years July 7, 1973
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Gary Klinger married 60 years July 24, 1965.

FIRST NEWS FIRST EDITORS: Kelsey Goll The **deadline** for submitting articles for the August 2025 issue is **July 15**. Early submissions always appreciated!