

FIRST NEWS AND NOTES

A Newsletter of The First United Methodist Church in Hagerstown

July & August 2018



The Pastor Pen

During the month of July we celebrate our freedom as a nation which was established and ratified on July 4, 1776. Those gathered on that day were united by a common belief, "that all human beings are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." As those gathered signed their name to a document to be sent to a tyrannical government, they took a grave risk in being arrested, judged, and executed for acts of sedition.

As followers of Christ, we are called to stand against the injustices around us. Martin Luther King Jr. said it best, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." MLK's statement is based on the sole belief that Jesus did not come to be served but to serve. He came to stand with the oppressed, marginalized, enslaved, and voiceless. He talked with a Samaritan woman, took residence with tax collectors, and even challenged the laws of capital punishment by refusing to kill a woman alleged to have committed adultery.

We, the Body of Christ, those that gather every Sunday to praise and worship the God of all peoples are called to give our lives in service just as Christ served the world. We celebrate our freedom from sin and death, and proclaim to the world that this freedom can be theirs' as well.

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Grace and Peace, Pastor John



Youth Work Camp



The summer months of July and August are just around the corner and I have a lot of fun things in store! In July, the Youth and Tweens will have plenty of opportunities to enjoy the summer and take part in some awesome events as well! In August, there will be some unique chances for the Youth and Tweens to experience things they may not have experienced before!

Before I go too deeper into my article, I want to take some time and thank all the parents, students, adult volunteers, prayer partners, and youth that participated or assisted in making our Summer Mission Trip possible! It was truly a blessing to lead this trip and to work with the adults and youth that attended. On Sunday July 15th, there will be a Youth Sunday, where we hope to bring back as many of the participants and allow them to share their experiences with you!

As far as Sunday mornings go, everything will continue as usual. The Tweens have been working on small service projects with Erin Doerstler. They may begin implanting new focuses this summer, but they will also begin planning their next service/outreach project. The youth will be continuing Wesleyan Study practices with Amy Zetzel. On Sunday nights, both groups will continue with topics I hand select to hit home on things that are going on in our society and their everyday lives. But be prepared! I have a few surprises up my sleeves and we may see the return of some of our favorite activities such as nerf wars, bonfires, and maybe even some fun new water games!

I would also like to note that if you did not attend the Summer Mission Trip, I am in need of new/ revised youth packets. This will become more important as we close in on our next Youth Lock-in! No date has been selected yet, but Mark and I will begin discussions during these months and will have a date selected and released prior to the next Newsletter! Within that same realm, I will also need to update all background checks on adults that wish to serve with the youth or children. Within these two months, expect a letter that asks if you would like to renew your background check.

July 15th Youth Sunday

Recent Youth-Work Camp

Gabby Block, Sophie Foust, Alivia Pierce, Teresa Rojas, Trey Sharp, Adrianna Gonzalez



Adults: Adam Duell, Pastor John Huff and Greta Guth Gustin

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- *80+ Birthday List





Happy Birthday 80+

July 2nd-Jeanine Carey turns 80
6481 St Rd 1 Hagerstown

Betty Murray July 2 & Rev. Herschel July 15
The Addison House 2244 Q Ave Apt 111 New Castle 47362

Bob Davis July 27 298 N Plum St Hagerstown
Jo Johnson July 28 5952 Tidewater Dr Hagerstown
Joyce Wampler July 29 146 17th Av N St. Petersburg FL 33704



August BIRTHDAYS

Jackie Harrison August 5
298 S Perry St Hag.
Priscilla Sherry August 28
11 E Southmarket St Hag.

Invite Your Friends

Fun Stuff Happening for Youth

7th—12th 2nd & 4th Sundays 6³⁰ - 8

Tweens (4th-6th) 3rd Sundays 6:30-8 pm

Sometimes there are changes. Always check with Adam

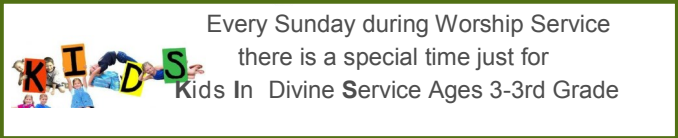
Ages Birth thru 3rd Grade

Bring the Kids

Fun stuff happens

Every Sunday

Morning



News from Our UMW President Mindy Smith



It's summer on our Calendars and time just keeps speeding by. I know some of you are busy at the Wayne Co Fair this week as our Church Family has been well represented at the events I've attended. It's good to see our kids involved in such a character building, life enriching experience. Keep up the good work Kids (& their Adult Leaders)

Our United Methodist Women's Assembly was held in Columbus, OH May 18-20. We were represented by Jean Dilley, Karen Leonard, Sharon Howell, and Maryann Pollard. They have shared some positive reports of their trip. Mission U will be our next **BIG EVENT**. Several of our members will attend July 17-20. This years Project for Mission U is to improve the lives of Women rescued from Human Trafficking. Many of these women can't find a way to become useful, productive citizens again and therefore return to the familiar life they have known. UMW are offering them Hope by sponsoring their training at Beauty College. To start working in a Salon when their training is completed they must have new professional grade equipment. So Mission U's focus is to provide them the funds needed to purchase the necessary equipment. Hopefully you've seen this information in your bulletin and want to be a part of this worthwhile project. ***See page 4.** Think of the impact we can have in these women's lives by combining our money to help. UMW members will be at the doors to collect your giving the next two Sundays.

Closer to home is the **Annual In-Door picnic**. A time of food, fun and fellowship, this is one of the meetings we all look forward to. With no business on the agenda, this really is a night of fun and fellowship. We invite ALL women of the church to come and be a part of this relaxing evening. We'll start with a pitch-in meal at 6 p.m. Monday July 9th and a program (entertainment is always a surprise!) Hope all you ladies will consider spending the evening with us!

Another UMW event to mark your calendar for is the August 25th General Meeting at 9:30 a.m. This will be an Educational Meeting where we learn more about another Mission U topic-The Prison Pipeline, looking at causes and solutions for why so many young men end up in prison before finishing High School. We hope you'll be interested in learning more about why this has become such an epidemic in our nation. As with all Morning General Meetings, you can expect a delicious brunch and meaningful fellowship as part of your morning. We would also welcome any men to attend as this is a topic concerning their gender.

Keep looking for new ways to serve Jesus and our Community, Mindy Smith

To Brighten Your Day



Help our Children Start School on a Positive Note

School Begins Soon If you would like to assist in supplying children's school supplies or clothing and shoes, please contact the Jefferson Township Trustee Joe P. Smith right away. Call 489-4824
Estimate average cost of supplies to be \$50.00 & \$75 for an outfit and shoes.
Last year your participation assisted 82 students begin their school year.

Living ...



17% of all the financial gifts given through the church offerings are used to support ministries outside the church walls in our community, our country, and around the globe. We invite you to live out your faith by helping to transform the world through acts of hospitality, care and service.

Gleaners July 26 & August 23
Volunteer your helping for this
Mission outreach!

UMW
Continue saving postage stamps &
box labels. Containers located in Narthex.

Food Donations Always Needed Community Food Pantry

Place food donations in the shopping carts
located in the front hallway of the church.

Or

Drop off at the Trustee's Office, 37 E Main St
Jeffersontwpwayne@comcast.net

Bud & Connie Rhodus celebrated their 55th wedding
anniversary June 30



Steve & Debbie Cox celebrate July 3rd 48 years
July 14 Marvin & Dottie Culy celebrate 63 years

Don & Caroline Benedict's 56th July 14

Jim & Sharon Howell's 50th July 14.

Congratulations from Your Church Family



Stewardship Report

2018 Total Giving for Church Ministries (Budget) = \$100,779.

YTD Faith Promise (Mission) = \$3305

YTD Total Giving for GOOD Fund (Capital Projects) = \$1343

2018 YTD Total Giving for Hours of Service = 655

Offering Envelopes

The church no longer identifies those that give by a number. Our giving records are maintained by the name of the giver either on the envelope used or by the name on the check. You may still designate your giving on the envelope to the same categories as we have always had: Church Ministries (budget), Faith Promise (missions), GOOD Fund (Capital Projects), and other special offerings or gifts.

We have also provided space to acknowledge the numerous gifts of time that our congregation gives to the church and our community. These are all gifts of love!

Did you pray for someone, read to the children, attend Bible study, work at the Thrift Shop, etc.? Put down your hours you volunteer on the bottom of the offering envelope. It is amazing to see hours you've given for God.

My Offering
Sunday Worship 10:15 am
FIRST CHURCH
www.firschurch.org

Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don't eat them and where thieves don't break in and steal them. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21

Name _____ Date _____
My loving gift of treasure for God's Kingdom:
Church Ministries \$ _____ Faith Promise \$ _____
GOOD Fund \$ _____ Other: _____ \$ _____
My loving gift of time and talent to others:
I gave _____ hours of service to _____
I gave _____ hours of service to _____

Giving Thanks & Celebrate

Rev. Arch Hawkins, former pastor 1989-1992, retired Sunday, June 24. He expresses a "Thank You" to our church for allowing him three and one-half years to serve as pastor in Hagerstown. It was a good experience for him and he enjoyed his years here feeling he grew.

We are happy to report from our **Mobile Pantry** on **May 24**;
Total lives touched 406 Total food distributed 11,972 pounds
In June: 553 Lives touched & 11579 pounds

To the church: Thank you so much for all of your thoughts and prayers and putting me on your Prayer Chain. It was very humbling. Thanks, Ashley Lester & Family (Neda Lester's daughter-in-law)

To all: Communities In Schools at the High School would like to take time to thank everyone who donated items for the students. The students have enjoyed and appreciated your generosity. Thanks Again! Nancy Williamson

Thank you for supporting the **Genesis of the YWCA**. Through your generosity, we are able to provide services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. You have greatly helped us in our endeavor to improve the lives of our clients and their children. No matter the size of the gift; be it sponsoring one of our fundraising events, it is appreciated. You can and do make a difference.

Rebecca J. Studebaker, Exe. Director

Actions taken by the Leadership Table recently:

Church financial Audit Report approved as presented with no critical issues.

Gas stove in kitchen will be replaced with two electric stoves at minimal cost to HFUMC.

Nominating Committee

selected

Greta Gustin Church Treasurer

Bob Warner Finance Chair

Don Sturgeon Staff Parish Relations Committee.

Minutes available by request in the Church Office.



Raleigh Doerstler was recognized at K.I.D.S.

She received a Bible and a farewell as she moves to the 4th Grade.

She is the daughter of Mark & Dreu Doerstler.

The Hope Center in Indianapolis is working to rebuild the lives of young women who have escaped Human Trafficking. One of their vocational programs is to train these women as beauticians.

HOPE CENTER-ed HANDS

Our hands to their hands

Checks are payable to UMW Mission u
and put "For Hope Center" on the memo line.

Contact Us:

Rev. John E. Huff

Senior Pastor

John.huff@inumc.org

812-592-0359

Adam Duell

Director of Family Ministry

aduell01@yahoo.com

317-709-4250

Rick Peelle

Director of Music & Worship

nccgardenspso@aol.com

765-220-2336

Carol Meyer

Church Secretary

hfumc@firsthagerstown.org

489-5536 (After office hours)

Connect with Us-

www.firsthagerstown.org

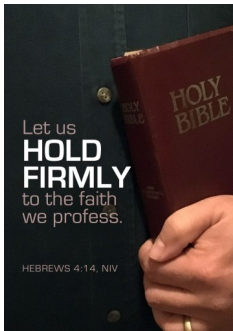


First United Methodist

199 South Perry Street

PO Box 65

Hagerstown, Indiana 47346



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