



2020 Roll Call

All Saints Sunday-November 1

- Robert Brice (Bob) Meyer 5/5/1947-4/8/20
- Robert (Bob) Davis 7/27/1935-4/30/20
- Coyeta Jayne Miller 3/21/1923-7/27/20
- Betty (Jayne) Bennett 6/10/1933-8/17/20
- Shirley Ann Retherford 10/10/1935-10/25/20

Community In School (CIS) Sarah Benson asks for Individual Chip Bags, Fruit Snacks, Individual Gold Fish or Cheese Crackers; individual cookies, Little Debbie Snack cakes, slim Jims, Kleenex Boxes, & Individual packs, Clorox Wipes & Sanitizer small bottles. Bring them to the church. Thank You! Sarah



Recharge Meals started back and 115 people received meals thru the drive thru in parking lot. **First & Third Wednesdays each month from 5:30-6:30. Due to Covid-19, until further notice, meals will be "to-go" only.**

Those who took a meal don't have to call. If you don't want a meal, please call the **Church Office @ 489-4558.**
Nov. 4th served 125!!!

Contact Us:

Rev. John E. Huff
Senior Pastor
John.huff@inumc.org
812-592-0359

Rick Peelle
Director of Music & Worship
nccgardensps@aol.com
765-220-2336

Carol Meyer
Church Secretary
hfumc@firsthagerstown.org
489-5536 (After office hours)

Connect with Us-
www.firsthagerstown.org
Church Phone - 765 - 489-4558

First Hagerstown
United Methodist Church



FIRST NEWS AND NOTES

A Newsletter of The First United Methodist Church in Hagerstown

November/December 2020



Pastor Pen: I write this final Pastor Pen of 2020 reflecting on all that has occurred this year. We started this year journeying through Soul Shift, seeking to shift our lives and mindsets from the world to the kingdom. Then COVID19 hit and we were forced to navigate a pandemic together. Worship moved online, our ministries adapted and changed so that the mission of our local church remained at the forefront. Our discipleship went from seeking reach out to our community to actively loving our neighbors and caring for the vulnerable. Many in our congregation have battled through a Covid19 infection, and even some have found themselves caring for loved ones who were hospitalized due to complications.

In the midst of all the pain, distance, division, sickness, and hurt, I am hopeful. Yes, I am hopeful. I am hopeful for these reasons below:

The good news of Jesus Christ is still Good News and our Mission has not changed.

The body of Christ was made to do its best work in times like these.

God is not distant from God's people.

As we prepare for the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, now is a time for God's people to be living out our faith as much as possible. People need hope, and we have hope to share. People need love and belonging, and we have unconditional love to share and a community where all belong. People need good news, and we have the best good news to share.

Now is not a time to hide our faith but to live it boldly and be the hands and feet of Jesus. Adopt a family struggling for Christmas. Send Christmas cards to those at home or in nursing homes. Take a moment as a family to share what you are thankful for every day.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas! Pastor John

Nettle Creek Children need you. Joe & Mindy Smith need you to help the children for Christmas. Contact them @ the Township Trustees Office 765-489-4824

Looking Deeper from Pip, the Church Mouse

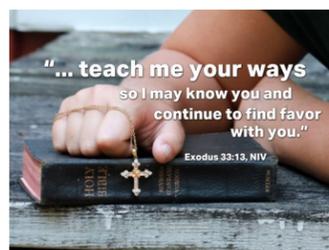
1 Samuel 16:7...The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at outward appearances, but the Lord looks at the heart.

There was an odd looking older woman who dressed and acted like a homeless person in my small rural community. She was often seen walking on the edge of the highway between our town and her smaller hometown 10 miles north. Many nights she slept on the floor in the corner of the laundromat there. The owner allowed her to stay and he would bring her coffee and a sweet roll in the morning. Some days she talked as we rode if she was still there.

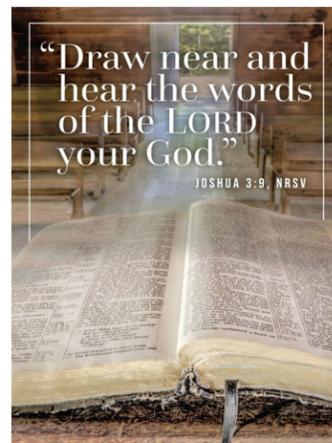
I got to know her after a couple of Rescue Squad calls when I was a volunteer EMT. The first time she had been knocked down by a car; was unresponsive at first and then confused. The second time she had a grand mal seizure in the diner. We talked during the 40 minute transports to the ER. I discovered she was an intelligent woman with an interesting life story; not at all what I expected from her appearance and furtive manner in public settings. She had been an administrative assistant in a federal government office in Washington DC. While retrieving a file from a huge ceiling high file cabinet, it all crashed down on top of her. She had a traumatic brain injury leaving her with severe headaches, seizures and altered behaviors. She spent a long time in hospitals for her physical and behavioral issues before getting a disability pension and settlement. She bought a small house. However sometimes night terrors would drive her out of her house. Those were the nights she slept in the laundromat. She walked to our town because she liked our diner and the sweet rolls at the bakery next door. She usually ate alone and refused most invitations to eat with others. I and others offered her a ride when we saw her walking which she sometimes accepted, especially in wet or cold weather. **Continue P#2**

First United Methodist

199 South Perry Street
PO Box 65
Hagerstown, Indiana 47346



ATTENTION: No in person till further notice.
All on line worship available.
firsthagerstown.org



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 2
Hagerstown IN 47346
CART-RT.SORT
Return Service Requested

Pip Continues: Some days she talked as we rode together and other days she never said a word, looked away and was wringing her hands. She was appreciative on her good days. On her troubled days, I was glad to know she got home safe.

A small group of people regularly looked after her as she allowed. Small towns often take care of their neighbors in need-even if they look or act strangely. Appearances can be very deceiving. The Holy Spirit often sends us nudges to look with caring eyes at someone who doesn't look or dress or acts like us. God can see their hearts and yours, too. The Lord wants us to love all our neighbors, as best we can,

Sympathies

Our Church family extends sympathies to Shirley Retherford's family and friends. Shirley passed away Sunday, October 25, 2020.

She was a very active and faithful member. Having been a missionary herself, her passion was the Missions Outreach in our church. The first committee, Shirley, Marvin Culy and Betty Foulke began our first Missions Conference & Faith Promise in the late 70's.

She was a prayer warrior concerned about members and friends of our church. She leaves her two sons, Rick & Mike, granddaughters Linsey & Lauren, sisters, Connie Rhodus & Marsha Foulke, Lisa, and brother Joe Elwood.

UMW President Mindy Smith Shares with You & the Congregation!

Fall Greeting! Hope you all had a chance to be out and enjoy the beautiful fall leaves. Even though I dread the long cold season ahead of us I do enjoy the beautiful fall foliage. Some days I'm sure the red trees are my favorites, other days I know it's the yellow. I'm sure the light shining on the yellow leaves reminds me of the Light that God wants us to let shine out of us.

Our United Methodist Women's program book this year has focused our lessons around Let Your Light Shine and I've tried to share many examples of UMW doing just that. Several examples I'm sure you'll remember hearing about include our support of projects at the Lucille Raines Residence, which is supported wholly thru monies paid by our members. Many thanks for your help in keeping the Lights and your help in keeping the lights (and air conditioner) shining there.

We had two opportunities to be together in General Meetings over the summer and early fall and were blessed by our fellowship.

So I guess the biggest "News" I have to share just now is about how many of us as United Methodist Women and many other caring women of our congregation, have come together to restart Wednesday Night Re-Charge Meals.

With a committee of eleven members we decided to call our membership roster and reach out to as many as possible with the chance to get a meal on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday night of each month.

We served our first restart Re-charge Meal on Oct. 21st. We had an overwhelming response of 115 meals served. It's not to late to become part of our list to be cooked for just contact Carol at our church office or call me and we'll put you on our list.

One of the Light scriptures in our lesson book was "Let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in Heaven. "Matthew 5:16 CEB

Our family at Hagerstown UM Church is still working at sharing that LIGHT in Hagerstown and Wayne Co. Make sure you are a part of this effort in some way. It's not to late to become part of this new outreach:

1. Sign up yourself or someone you know who is in need of light.
2. Cook something or donate items.
3. Help package or wash dishes
4. Pass out meals at the front of the church
5. Deliver to shut ins
6. Pray for God's continued blessing on this ministry. You can reach me at 765-238-5461 if you want to participate in any way. We're very excited about the direction this is heading and want to keep the momentum going.



80+ & 90+ Happy Birthday

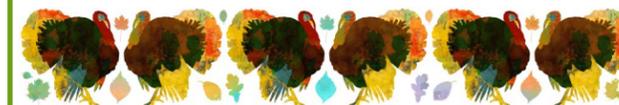
Phil Bond November 9

301 S Elm St Hag.

Ron Luellen November 12

2030 Chester Blvd Bldg.2H101

Richmond 47374



Member & Friend Susan Sanders moved to live with her daughter. New address: 906 White Pine St New Carlisle OH 45344



80+-90+ Mary Asche December 7
c/o Steve & Debbie Cox, 4696 W Co Rd 400S
Winchester47394

Don Hilbert December 15
521 Jones Rd Hagerstown

Bertha Davis December 18
c/o Dick & Sue Crossley, 8628 N Lacy Rd Hag.

Ginny Ozbun December 28
50 S Pearl St Hagerstown



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Treasurer Greta Gustin

September 2020 Report



September monthly results reflect \$2,488 less revenues vs. last year with there being one less Sunday. Monthly expenses were relatively level this year versus last year. The refunded Health Insurance was offset by the timing of paying the property insurance. This translated to a (\$2,072) loss for the month of Sept.. YTD our Operating Loss would have been (\$3,111) without the PPP \$\$ versus a loss last year of (\$11,314). With the PPP we have a \$15,689 gain YTD 2020. YTD our average monthly spending is \$1,000 below budget. Cash Accounts (Checking \$54,857; Savings –Good Building \$21,308; Savings IN United Methodist \$47,099 totals \$123,264 Designated Funds: Operating Fund \$28,608; Faith Promise \$13,172 Designated Giving \$13,078 = \$123,264 Savings GOOD Fund in Bank \$21,308 Notes: Annual Operating Budget total is \$174,761 Per week is \$3,361 Average Monthly \$14,563 Actual YTD spending average month \$13,536

UMW Continues: A couple of important things to share before I sign off. Our circles decided to take on the task of sending Sunshine Boxes to our College Students. We sent some fun stuff and yummy treats to 16 young people who have been involved with our church in some way in the recent past. We are already receiving some heartfelt Thank You's. Good job of providing Light Circle Sisters.

The last thing I can think of is making sure everyone is aware of our decision to Not have a Cookie Walk in 2020. My Executive Committee could not see anyway to safely provide cookies to our friends and neighbors during these uncertain times. My thought since our executive decision is to suggest to all our Bakers that they consider making a donation of the estimated money they spend for their ingredients to our UMW treasury to be used for Youth Projects. Please prayerfully consider this. God bless you as we face our two Biggest Holiday Seasons in this unusual year of 2020. God is Good.....Mindy

