

ALTAR'D PEOPLE

I recently had an appointment with one of my many physician specialists—the one who did my reverse shoulder replacement, back in March 2023. After he examined the shoulder's x-ray and did a strength test on me, he stood there staring at me. I wasn't sure what was going on, wondering what was wrong, until his nurse explained to him, "Kevin has lost 90 pounds, and so there is a lot less of him!"

I am thoroughly enjoying this weight management program, because I love the way it is altering the way that I look and feel. I have not felt this good in decades! As stated above, I have lost 90 pounds since I started this program in mid-September, and looking back at my weight nine years ago (topping off at 435 pounds back then), I have lost 165 pounds. When I told a man in our church about having lost that amount, he quickly shared with me that he himself weighed that very same amount—165 pounds—and that made me think, "I have lost (name)!" I am becoming an altered man!

In the month of April, I will offer a worship series entitled "Altar'd People." Four characters from the Bible will be our focus: Noah, Abraham, Elijah, and Paul. These people were altered by their own relationship with God...and it began when they learned to worship the Lord first and foremost in their lives. I am calling them 'altar'd people'—where the ALTAR of God's worship can ALTER the life of a believer.

Keith Miller, in his book *The Passionate People*, which he had co-authored with Bruce Larson, describes two kinds of people: **basement people** and **balcony people**.

Basement people are the discouragers in our lives. They may be people from our past, or present, but their words go with us everywhere we go. They are the negative influences in our lives, and their words go something like this: "You can't do that" or "That's a stupid thing to do" to "When are you going to get it right?" or "You will never get it right" to "You will never amount to anything." Basement people divert us from our hopes and dreams. They constantly point out what is wrong, rather than what is right with us. Basement people cause a room to light up when they leave.

CARRIERS OF THE SPIRIT

CARRIE

In contrast to them are the balcony people. They are people who are full of love and cheer us on. They encourage us to be loving, courageous followers of Christ. They sit in the balcony of our lives, like a heavenly cheering section, saying, "You can do it" or "We believe in you" to "You are special to us." Balcony people are the great encouragers in our lives, and we all need them!

The question for all of us is who will we be? Will we be basement people or balcony people? The choice is ours to make. Balcony people try to lift people up to where they are, but basement people try to drag people down to where they are.

There is no question who God wants us to be. He wants us to be balcony people, and He will help us to be balcony people. What we need to do is come to the altar of our faith—that initial moment when we began our relationship with Jesus Christ. For it is then that we can also become 'altar'd people!'

Embrace grace!
Pastor Kevin (aka Rev Kev)



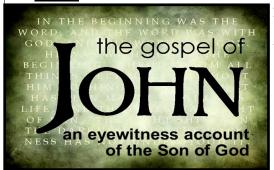
Adult Bible Study with Pastor Kevin Tuesdays ~ 9:30am ~ Library



This study continues into the month of April with the following sessions:

April 2 ~#5 Jesus & the Disciples **April 16** ~#7 Following Jesus **April 9** ~#6 Prayer **April 23** ~#8 Jesus in Jerusalem

NEW STUDY COMING!



What would it have been like to witness Christ's life on earth? The apostle John wrote about Jesus' earthly ministry, from the perspective of one who was there. He saw Jesus teach, heal, pray, die, and live again. In this Bible study, we will be brought face-to-face with the Son of God—who He is and what it means to follow Him.

April 30 Session One: The Living Word—Come and See!

May 7 Session Two: New Life—Living Water!

May 14 and May 21 — <u>NO</u> Bible study

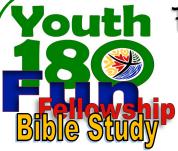
May 28 Session Three: Bread of Life—Who is This Jesus?

June 4 Session Four: Light in the Darkness—Good Shepherd

June 11 Session Five: Life and Death—Perfume and Praise

June 18 Session Six: Comfort and Challenge—Jesus' Farewell

Then...Bible study will be on summer break...resuming Aug. 6



From the 3rd Floor Realm of...

Terry Lasut, Director of Youth Ministry

<u> April Schedule</u>

Sunday April 7th ~ 5:30-7:30pm Youth 180 & KidsRock join together in the Fellowship Hall for a Bible Lesson, Games, Fun Activities, Crafts & Yummy Snacks!

Sunday April 14th ~ 6:00pm Bible Study, Fellowship, Games & Snacks (Youth Café)

Sunday April 21st ~ 6:00pm Bible Study, Fellowship, Games & Snacks (Youth Café)

Sunday April 28th ~ 6:00pm Bible Study, Fellowship, Games & Snacks (Youth Café)

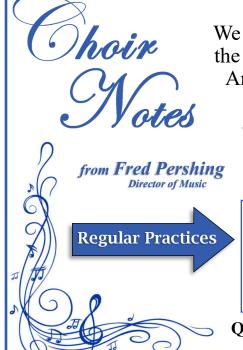
Subject to change with ample notice...



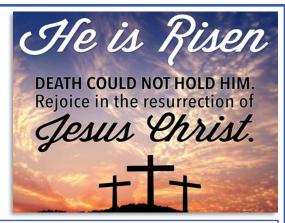
Youth 180 wishes to thank everyone for their support of our SOUP SALE for church camping scholarships... either by making or purchasing quarts of soup last month in March.

If you are interested in making a contribution to our camping scholarships for our church to be able to send children and youth to summer church camp, please mark your donation as "Camperships."





We are in the euphoria of Easter; the Triumph of Christ continues. And, so our choirs will reflect the Easter Joy and the Rebirth of Spring.



SUNDAYS 9:00am Children's Chimes (Bell Room)

5:30pm Halo Youth Choir (Choir Room)

THURSDAYS

6:00pm Chancel Chanters (Sanctuary)

6:30pm Bonnie Ross Ringers Bell Choir (Sanctuary)

7:30pm Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

Questions??? Would you like to take part in this weekly fellowship??? Please contact the church office at 724-834-3111.



Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 18 ~ 8:30am-12:30pm

So, while you are doing your spring cleaning, remember that we can use housewares and clothing, but we can't take larger furniture items. The set up will be on Friday, May 17, beginning at 9am. If you are able to help with Friday set up or on the day of the sale, please call Sherry Miller at 412-932-5309. We will also need help taking leftover items to organizations that can use them.





Rummage

After the 10:45 Worship service, the church picnic will begin at 12:30pm, at the Heather Lund Pavilion at Mt. Odin Park. The United Methodist Women will provide chicken, hot dogs, paper goods, and drinks. Any donations of side dishes would be gladly accepted. This event is free and a great time of fellowship for our church family. Hope you can join us!



A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a tax-smart way to support the First United Methodist Church. Starting when you turn 70 1/2 years old, you can make a QCD from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). No income tax will apply to that withdrawal. Starting in the year you turn 72, each year you can choose to designate all or a portion of the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA to the church, and you will not count the gift in your adjusted gross income, so you won't pay income taxes on the amount. The amount you

give will count toward your RMD for the year. You can also name the church as beneficiary for all or a portion of your IRA, and there are tax benefits. Please consider these options, to support the mission and ministries of our church. Please contact your financial advisor or your IRA administrator, for instructions on how to do this. Contact the church office at 724-834-3111 to obtain the tax identification number.



We Graciously Thank

Deborah Weinstein for sponsoring our

April Gnome Watermelon Truck of the Month in Loving Memory of Lawrence V. Dunlap



Next Distribution: Friday, April 12th @ 10 a.m.

Thursday Afternoon "Set-up Team" April 11th

- Arrive 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to help prepare boxes & bags on tables.

Friday Morning "Distribution Team" April 12th

(arrive 8:00 a.m. -or whenever you can- at glass doors on S. Maple)

- We need to unload the truck, pack boxes & bags in Fellowship Hall, & distribute at 10.

Distribution-Day Instructions

All activity will be **outside**

- Stay in your car, register in parking lot adjacent to YMCA on S. Maple
- Continue across street, in front of glass doors, and your car will be loaded







Food Pantry Ministry Contact:

Mallory Baker 570-765-0781 mallory.n.baker@gmail.com



Find us on FACEBOOK:

First United Methodist Church - Greensburg

Regular Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

(May change without notice...thank you for your understanding & patience)

WiFi Network

Name: Greensburg First Password: Jeremiah2911



Ken B. ~ John & Julie Buchman ~ Janet Craig ~ Bob & Kay Garris ~ Leigh Gorman ~ Dave & Ginny Grandey ~ Janet Heindel ~ John & Robin ~ Diane K. ~ Ken Keiser ~ Pastor Kevin & Amy ~ Gerald Kruba ~ Steven L. ~ Dorothy M. ~ John M. ~ Evelyn Makarsky ~ Melanie ~ Nate ~ Rose P. ~ Don Riggle (father of Chelsey Steeves) ~ Nicole Savage ~ Don & Laurel Sedlacko ~ Ann Thomas ~ Kerry Thompson ~ Ed Wagner, Sr. ~ Barry & Jayne Walker ~ Clarence & Betty White ~ Fred Whytsell ~ Dave Wichrowski ~ family of the late Rev. Bob Wilson ~ peace in our lives, in our communities, in our country, and around the world

Remembering those who wish to, but cannot be among us.

Allan Pierce, Marge Trumbetta Brookdale (500 Brouwers Drive, Latrobe, PA 15650)

Paulette Hood Hempfield Manor (1118 Woodward Drive, Greensburg, PA 15601)

Vivian Engel Loyalhanna Care Sr. Suites (543 McFarland Road rm. 209, Latrobe, PA 15650)

Donna Bush, Norma Gump, Charlotte Sonafelt

Westmoreland Manor (2480 S. Grande Blvd., Greensburg, PA 15601)



Teachers/Helpers
are needed
to help guide
and train up
our
young disciples

Prayer Chain Partners

Contact the church office, or make note on your Welcome/info. card, to get the prayer chain going...
724-834-3111

churchsecretary@greensburgfirst.org



Continues to meet in the prayer room

Monday evenings at 6:30

Questions? Contact the church office at 724-834-3111

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 15 E. 2nd Street, Greensburg PA 15601 Phone: 724-834-3111

15 E. 2nd Street, Greensburg PA 15601 Phone: 724-834-3111 Church website: www.greensburgfirst.org

Rev. Kevin R. Haley Peaches Clark Fred Pershing Jim Caffrey, Jr. Terry Lasut Ruth K. Hughes Bob Coder Anthony McKenna Custodians Pastor pastorkevin@greensburgfirst.org
Secretary churchsecretary@greensburgfirst.org
Director of Music tumusic@comcast.net
Associate Director of Music puppycat1955@gmail.com
Organist ruthkhughes@gmail.com
Treasurer
Outdoor Maintenance (lawn care/snow removal)

Simply Spotless Cleaning LLC

Healing Hearts Support Group

The April meeting of Healing Hearts will be off site, but we would still like you to join us. Call/text Sherry Miller, at 412-932-5309, for further details.

Losing a loved one is difficult, and moving forward is painful and lonely sometimes. Please join us, as we journey together to our new reality. You are NOT alone!



Find Encouragement with us...Be an Encouragement to us.

Board of TRUSTEES

Jim Swank (chairperson)

Richard Briggs Ellen Matthews Chad Miller

Karen Pershing Mark Steeves Mike Sweeney Randi Wichrowski

The Trustees are already planning our annual yard clean-up for late spring. Our tentative date is June 22nd

and **we could use several volunteers** to help trim hedges, remove dead or unwanted shrubbery, plant grass, spread mulch, weed and lay down retardant material, shovel river rock into place, mow, and bag debris. Normally, this work takes about 2 hours, but this year – because of the ambitious project with river rock – it may take a bit longer, unless we get plenty of help. Please help, if you are able, even if it is only for an hour or so it will make the overall job go smoother and faster. Assuming we have enough workers, we will assign the work by categories and be otherwise organized, so we are efficient and not standing around wondering what to do next. Another reminder will appear in the May edition of the *Circuit Rider*.

Five (5) years ago, the Trustees and other volunteers did a walk-around inspection of the entire church building. This produced quite a list of items that needed our attention. The cited concerns were addressed in quick order. Our intention was then to do this type of assessment every five years, to ensure things weren't being overlooked. Well, it's time again for that undertaking. The Committee was unanimous in our thinking to continue doing a review, so you will be alerted to a time when this will occur, and we need your assistance. It's not hard to do, and your help will be much appreciated - as well as enabling us to make sure the church continues to look good and be in good repair.

Also, we want to remind you that the church exterior will undergo a face-lift this spring. *Raimondo Restoration* will soon start cleaning the stone and brick facade, repair and seal mortar joints, and generally make our church smile! There should be no disruption of church activities, parking issues, or dangers entering or exiting the building. Things will look different for a while, but your patience will be requested, as God's house is renewed.

Submitted by Jim Swank





We Rejoice in the March 17, 2024 Sacrament of Baptism of Gianna Louise Kish

born August 30, 2023 to Ryan & Rachel Kish Proud Grandparents: Greg & Tracy Barr





March TOTAL: \$282.86

benefitting **UMCOR**(United Methodist Committee on Relief)

Next Collection Date: April 21st

to benefit

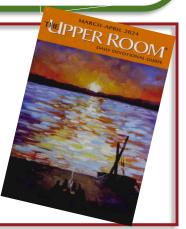
Camp Allegheny *

Thank You!!!



Daily Devotional for March/April

is STILL available in the media rack in Sanctuary Hall.





Our first 2024 Outreach project will be on Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12, for the

Church World Service Blanket Sponsorship Sale.

For \$10, you can sponsor a blanket that will be given to people, anywhere in the world, who have suffered from a disaster. We may not be able to be physically

present to help, but our blankets can show people that there are others in the world who care about them. Please join us again, as we participate in world-wide ministry, to support those who need our help.

To participate, simply mark your check or envelope "BLANKET."

Questions...Volunteer Opportunities...Fundraising ideas?

Contact Sherry Miller 724-537-9366 sherrymiller8966@gmail.com



ARE YOU INTERESTED in CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

We would love to welcome you!

Simply contact Pastor Kevin to discuss what church membership is all about, and the ways you can be received into the congregation (via profession of faith, or via transfer from another church).

Check off the box on your Welcome/Information card that reads "Interested in Church Membership" or contact Pastor Kevin at the church office:

call (724)834-3111 email pastorkevin@greensburgfirst.org call/text (814)706-7788

The **Rev. Robert C. Wilson**, 89, of Greensburg, died, Monday, March 11, 2024, at Select Specialty Hospital, Latrobe. He was born in Uniontown, March 5, 1935, a son of the late William Orris Wilson and Mary Elizabeth Jerrell Wilson. Prior to retirement, he was pastor of First United Methodist Church, Greensburg.

Rev. Wilson was a member of the Lions Club, Elizabeth Township, former member of Free and Accepted Masons, Salvation Army Board, past president of Rotary. He was a member of Alpha Psi Omega, KA Order, Worship, Social Concerns Committees of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of UMC. He initiated Way of the Cross in Coraopolis and Greensburg. He also was member of Ministerial Association of Greensburg and on Board of Directors Sherwood Forest Theatre. Rev. Wilson was Pastor Emeritus of First United Methodist Church Greensburg, graduate of Uniontown High School, Bethany College, Boston University School of Theology. His church appointments were in West Virginia, Massachusetts, and Western Pennsylvania. His last three church appointments were Coraopolis, Murrysville, and Greensburg. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Jeanne E. Ainsley and Lois E. Newcomer; a brother, James M. Wilson. Rev. Wilson is survived by his wife, Margaret Joan "Peg" Campbell Wilson; daughter, Mary Lynn Wilson; son, David

Scott Wilson; grandchildren, Andrew Scott Wilson and Meghan Grace Wilson. Arrangements were handled by Kepple-Graft Funeral Home, a worship service was officiated by Pastor Kevin Haley and Rev. Russell Shuluga, and interment followed in St. Clair Cemetery. He requested that any memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church, 15 E. 2nd St., Greensburg, PA 15601.



Monday, April 1 at 6:30pm

in the Trustees Room (lower level of the church)









11 12 1 9 3 8 4 7 6 5

Please RSVP by April 10 to the Church Office



Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30pm

in the Lounge (lower level of the church)

Tuesday, April 16 at 6:00pm

The committee will be meeting in the church library to review our financial picture and the faithfulness of this church!





Sunday, April 21 at 6:30 pm Holiday Park UM Church 81 Sandune Drive, PA 15239

All church officers are encouraged to attend this annual meeting of the Greensburg District.



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Sunday School Class Locations

Age 4 thru Grade 5 (Room 304-upper level) Grades 6 - 12 (Youth Café-upper level) Genesis Adult Class (Library-lower level)

Class Locations Genesis Addit Class (Library-lower level)						
	Church Office CLOSED 6:30pm Centering Prayer (Pmyer Room) 6:30pm Trustees (Trustee Room)	9:30 _{am} Adult Bible Study (Library) The Gospel of Luke Session Title "Jesus & the Disciples"	3	4 10am-1pm 12-Step (Fellowship Hall) 6pm Chancel Chanters 6:30pm Adult Bells 6:30-8:30pm Women's 12-Step 7:30pm Chancel Choir	5	6
7 Communion 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9am Kid's Chimes 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (Sanctuary) (also via livestream) 5:00pm Youth Halo Choir 5:30-7:30 KidsRock & Youth 180 join for Activities & Fun!	5:30pm Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)	9 9:30am Adult Bible Study (Library) The Gospelof Luke Session Title "Prayer" 6:30pm SPRC (Lounge) Staff Parish Relations Committee 6-8:00pm Master Gardener Seed-to-Supper Outreach (Fellowship Hall)	RSVPs due for Fella+Ship 7:00 _{pm} Concert w/ Mark Kroos (Sanctuary)	11 10am Staff Meeting 10am-Ipm 12-Step (Fellowship Hall) 1:30pm Food Pantry Set-up (Fellowship Hall) 6pm Chancel Chanters 6:30pm Adult Bells 6:30-8:30pm Women's 12-Step 7:30pm Chancel Choir	8-10am Food Pantry unload Truck & Set-up 10am Food Pantry Distribution (S. Maple glass doors)	9:00am Fella•Ship Men / Boys Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9am Kid's Chimes 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (Sanctuary) (also via livestream) 2:30pm Worship at Redstone (Greensburg) 5:30pm Youth Halo Choir 6:00pm Youth 180 (Youth Café)	Circuit Rider Article DEADLINE 6:30pm Centering Prayer (Prayer Room) 6:30pm Healing Hearts (off-site)	9:30am Adult Bible Study (Library) The Gospelof Luke Session Title "Following Jesus" 6-8:00pm Master Gardener Outreach (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Finance & Stewardship (Library)	17	18 10am-1pm 12-Step (Fellowship Hall) 6pm Chancel Chanters 6:30pm Adult Bells 6:30-8:30pm Women's 12-Step 7:30pm Chancel Choir	19	20
21 "Pocket Change for a Purpose" 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9am Kid's Chimes 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (Sanctuary) (also via livestream) 5:30pm Youth Halo Choir 6:00pm Youth 180 (Youth Café)	5:30 _{pm} Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 _{pm} Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)	9:30am Adult Bible Study (Library) The Gospelof Luke Session #5 "Jesus in Jerusalem" 6-8:00pm Master Gardener Seed-to-Supper Outreach (Fellowship Hall)	NO Church Council in April next meeting on May 22 nd	25 8:30am Circuit Rider Assembly Team (Church Office) 10am-1pm 12-Step (Fellowship Hall) 6pm Chancel Chanters 6:30pm Adult Bells 6:30-8:30pm Women's 12-Step 7:30pm Chancel Choir	26	27
28 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9am Kid's Chimes 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (Sanctuary) (also via livestream) 5:30pm Youth Halo Choir 6:00pm Youth 180 (Youth Café)	6:30 _{pm} Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)	30 9:30am Adult Bible Study (Library) The Gospelot John Session #1 "The Living Word Come & See" 6-8:00pm Master Gardener Seed-to-Supper Outreach (Fellowship Hall)				

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



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