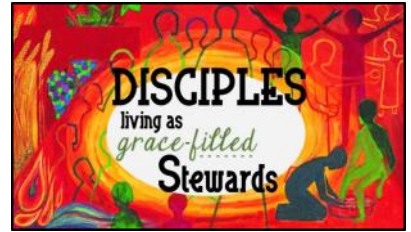




**A Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day
Sunday, November 19, 2023
8:30 and 10:45 a.m.**



† *Indicates a time to stand, if you are able*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

“Thanksgiving Suite” ~Charles Callahan

† **CALL to WORSHIP** (*responsively*)

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that comes from heaven:

who knew you and chose you before the world began;

who loves you so much that He calls you His own children;

**who has brought you from darkness into light
and filled you with His glorious power;**

who has prepared an inheritance for you that will never spoil or fade;

who encourages and strengthens you in every good deed and word;

who comforts you in your troubles, so that you can comfort others.

This is our God, the source of all things, the One for whom we live.

Let us worship God together!

† **HYMN of PRAISE**

“We Gather Together”

UMH 131

† **A PRAYER of THANKSGIVING** (*unison*)

Heavenly Father, we thank You and praise You. You alone are God. You are the Creator of everything. We lift high and worship Your holy name. Help us to serve You with joy. Help us to love You with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. Help us to love ourselves as You love us. Help us to love others as we love ourselves. Help us to live humbly as we follow You. For You are our Good Shepherd; You are good and full of mercy. You are always faithful. Your grace and love cover each generation with forgiveness and hope. You are Father, Son, and Holy Spirit... forever and ever and always. We worship You, we praise You, and we live for You alone. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen!

† **SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST**

†**GLORIA PATRI** ~means “Glory be to the Father” (*sung in unison*) **UMH 70**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end! Amen! Amen!

A READING from the NEW TESTAMENT **II Corinthians 9:1-5**^{NIV}
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

MINISTRY in MUSIC **Chancel & Halo Choirs**
“This is the Day” ~Dan Forrest

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE **Pocket Change for A Purpose**
~benefits 12-Step Hospitality Fund

MINISTRY in MUSIC **Fred & Karen Pershing, Duet**
“All Good Gifts” ~Schwoebel

PASTORAL and the LORD’S PRAYER (*unison*)
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever. Amen!

†**HYMN of PRAYER** **“Now Thank We All Our God”** **UMH 102**

A READING from the NEW TESTAMENT **II Corinthians 5:14-21**^{NIV}
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE **“Compelled to Love!”** **Pastor Kevin Haley**
Worship theme: “DISCIPLES—Living as Grace-Filled Stewards”

A HARVEST CELEBRATION!
~see pages 4 & 5

SHARING of OUR GIFTS and HIS TITHES
THE OFFERTORY

“Prayer” ~Robert Schumann

†OFFERTORY RESPONSE (*sung in unison*) TFWS 2036

Give thanks with a grateful heart! Give thanks to the Holy One!

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son!

Give thanks with a grateful heart! Give thanks to the Holy One!

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son!

And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"

Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"

Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks!

†PRAYER of DEDICATION

†HYMN of COMMITMENT

UMH 694

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

†DISMISSAL with BLESSING

†THE POSTLUDE

"Praise Ye the Father" ~Charles Gounod

†GOING FORTH to SERVE

LITURGIST: Jim Swank

TECH TEAM: Nevaeh Hirst, Cheyanne Miller

ACOLYTE: Ethan Miller



Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
Wednesday, November 22nd

7:00pm in our Chapel

Come and praise God with us, as we share with one another how thankful, grateful, and blessed we are this Thanksgiving!

The Chancel Flowers are given by Dave & Kathy Baker, in Loving Memory of **Kathleen "Keiki" Hamilton** on what would have been her 89th Birthday.

The Worship Bulletins are sponsored by the Stillman family, in Loving Memory of the Nov. 18, 2022 passing of **Mary H. Stillman.**



I love this season of the year! It brings back memories from my days of working on farms—milking cows, baling hay, harvesting corn and soybeans. The rich harvest themes of abundance, celebration and sharing lend themselves to some thoughts about stewardship.

We are in the ‘harvest’ season of the ministry of our church as we approach the end of the year. If we see the gifts that we have shared through the church as helping to produce our harvest, your gift-sowing was wonderful! Your generosity is a tribute to your faith, and is also a reflection of the blessings of God in your lives as followers of Jesus Christ!

Please continue your generosity as we approach the new year of 2024, knowing that costs for many things are increasing in all of our lives—which also means for your church. Yet I have full confidence in this church family that you will rise to the challenge of our harvest — in order to bring more and more people to Jesus to find salvation and love!

Embrace grace!
Pastor Kevin

◆ FOUR WAYS TO GIVE ◆

IN PERSON

You can bring your offering to worship on Sundays or drop it off at the church



BY MAIL

First United
Methodist Church
15 East 2ND Street
Greensburg PA 15601



ONLINE

Information for this can be found on our church website: greensburgfirst.org



TEXTING

Text 833-796-0358 and then follow the instructions to register, to give, etc.



Our church is a vital and active outreach center for the greater Greensburg community! We continue to reach others with the hope and love of Jesus Christ.

The incredible privilege to be the church—in these days of confusion and chaos in our culture—enables us to provide a calming influence to those around us as we offer faith-based responses to current life situations.

This is why we are here—to be the church of Jesus Christ, serving our Lord with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness—making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world! And as members of this church, we strive to worship God passionately, to love others extravagantly, and also to witness boldly within the world around us.

God's Word emphasizes that giving is a gift for us, not from us. We are most like Christ when we give, since He is the ultimate Giver! And if becoming more like Jesus is why we are her, then giving is really a blessing and a privilege for the giver.

**Remember: we have been blessed
to be a blessing to others!**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday ~ Nov. 19 ~ Read Acts 8-9

- 8:30am Worship (*Sanctuary*)
- 9:00am Children's Chimes (*Nursery*)
- 9:30am Coffee/Fellowship (*Sanctuary Hall*)
- 9:40am Sunday School for **ALL** Ages →
- 10:45am Worship (*Sanctuary*)
- ~~5:30pm Youth Halo Choir (CANCELLED)~~
- 4:30pm Youth 180 & **KidsRock** Thanksgiving Feast (*Fellowship Hall*)

Elementary age 4-grade 5
(rm. 305 - upper level)
Youth grades 6-12
(rm. 302 - upper level)
Genesis Adults
(library - lower level)

Monday ~ Nov. 20 ~ Read Acts 10-11

- 5:30pm Girl Scouts (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 6:30pm Centering Prayer (*Prayer Room*)
- 6:30pm Healing Hearts (*Lounge*)

Tuesday ~ Nov. 21 ~ Read Acts 12-13

- 9:30am Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Kevin (*Library*)
- 6:00pm Finance & Stewardship (*Fellowship Hall*)

Wednesday ~ Nov. 22 ~ Read Acts 14; James 1-4

- 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship (*Chapel*)

Thursday ~ Nov. 23 ~ Read James 5; Acts 15-16 Church & Office CLOSED

Friday ~ Nov. 24 ~ Read Galatians 1-3 Happy Thanksgiving!!

Saturday ~ Nov. 25 ~ Read Galatians 4-6; Acts 17

Prayer Requests:

Ken B. / family of Robert Bankosh /
Carole Beam / Tim Clark / Debbie D. /
Denny D. / Larry D. / Gary Ebert /
JoAnn Fisher / Myla Fullman / Dave & Ginny Grandey / Elaine H. / Diane Hall /
Ken Keiser / Pastor Kevin / Steven Long / Evelyn Makarsky / Melanie Marody /
Ron McCutcheon / Anthony McKenna / Judy Molter / Ruth Rehfus /
Sam & Darlene S. / Don Sedlacko (Jr. & Sr.) / Cindy Shaffer / Watkins family

Please write prayer concerns on attendance cards
in the bulletin, **check the box(es)**
and place them in offering.
**Requests are listed in the bulletin for 3 weeks,
unless renewed.**

Those who
wish to...
but cannot
be among us.

Allan Pierce, Marge Trumbetta Brookdale Latrobe
Paulette Hood Hempfield Manor Greensburg
Vivian Engel Loyalhanna Care Sr. Suites Latrobe
Donna Bush, Norma Gump, Charlotte Sonafelt
Westmoreland Manor Greensburg



Angel Tree
for Local Children
Now thru Dec. 10

To participate, just choose an angel tag, list your name and contact info on the clipboard. Then, all you need to do is purchase the clothing/item listed on the tag, and return it (*unwrapped & angel tag attached*) **by December 10** to the box by the tree.

TODAY

- **Pocket Change for a Purpose** ~ benefits 12-Step Hospitality Fund
- **Children's Chimes** rehearse at 9:00am in the Nursery on Sanctuary Level.
Contact Fred Pershing at 724-836-2955 for details or with any questions.
- **Sunday Morning Coffee/Fellowship Hour** continues every Sunday morning, between Worship services, at the tables in Sanctuary Hall.
- **Sunday School** classes for ALL ages at 9:40am (*see calendar page for locations*)
- **Halo Youth Choir** will NOT rehearse tonight.
Contact Karen Pershing at 724-836-2955 with any questions.
- **Youth 180 & KidsRock** join together at 4:30pm for their Thanksgiving Feast in the Fellowship Hall. Questions...Contact Terry Lasut, Director of Youth.

THIS WEEK

- **Centering Prayer** meets weekly on Monday evenings at 6:30pm in the Prayer Room.
- **Healing Hearts** will meet at 6:30pm on Monday, Nov. 20, in the Church Lounge.
- **Tuesday-morning Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Kevin... "Priorities"** concludes on Nov. 21 at 9:30am in the Church Library. Bring your Bible & bring a friend!
See back page details on the upcoming Advent Bible Study *"The Case for Christmas."*
- **Finance & Stewardship** will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall.
- **Thanksgiving Eve Worship...**Join us at 7:00pm on Wednesday, Nov. 22, in the Chapel.
- **Church & Office CLOSED** on Thursday & Friday, Nov. 23-24...Happy Thanksgiving!

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Tacos & Trees** ~ Sunday, Nov. 26 ~ 5-8:00pm ~ Come for a delicious taco bar, then stay to help "deck the halls" as we decorate the church.
- **Church Council** ~ Wednesday, Nov. 29 ~ 6:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
- **UMW Thanksgiving Celebration** ~ Thursday, Nov. 30 ~ 5:30pm (Fellowship Hall)
- **Christmas Dinner & Concert with Chiz Rider** ~ Saturday, Dec. 2 ~ 5:30 Punch & Appetizers (Lounge) / 6:00 Dinner (Fellowship Hall) / 7:00 Concert (Sanctuary)

FIND IT IN THE MEDIA RACK

- 2023 Charge Conference Report
- Upper Room for Nov./Dec.
- Poinsettia Order Forms
- Chancel Flower/Bulletin Sponsorship Forms

STROLL DOWN SANCTUARY HALL

- Angel Tree for Local Children
- Food Pantry Gnome-Themed "Truck of the Month" Sponsorship Board

The Red Rosebud

is placed in honor of the November 10, 2023 birth of **Everett Aurelius Walker**.
Parents: Jeff & Maranda Walker. Big Brother: Jackson

Welcome home to First United Methodist Church!

Sunday morning Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:45 in the Sanctuary

(Livestream worship continues at 10:45)

We are glad that you are with us in worship today! Greensburg:First is a church where you can come to learn that God loves you just the way you are, but that God also loves you too much to let you stay this way. God wants you to become more like Jesus! If you do not have a church home of your own, we hope that you might prayerfully consider becoming a part of our church family, as we reach out with love and in the name of Jesus Christ! **Also, please help us get to know you,**

or to be able to contact you in the case of an emergency/cancellation,
by filling out an Attendance Information Card (inserted in this bulletin).

NEW 4-Week Adult Bible Study
for the Season of Advent
Tuesdays @ 9:30 am

THE CASE FOR Christmas

Evidence for the Identity of Jesus



We will dig into the true Christmas story, to sort out the fact from the fiction, and sort out all the hype from the holiness. *The Case for Christmas* study will help you reflect on the gospel story of the birth of Jesus in a focused, group-oriented way that might change the way you view the season.

The author, Lee Strobel, reveals what he discovered from consulting experts on the Bible, archaeology, and messianic prophecy, as he sought to separate the truth from the tradition.

In each session we will explore:

- ◆ What the Bible actually says about Jesus' birth and how you can know it's accurate.
- ◆ Whether the Christmas story actually happened or developed from myths of the day.
- ◆ The Bible's claim that Jesus was born of a virgin, and why it's important to your faith.

Nov. 28 Session 1 Setting the Record Straight

Dec. 5 Session 2 Beneath the Fake News

Dec. 12 Session 3 A Mind-Boggling Proposition

Dec. 19 Session 4 The Prophetic Fingerprint

There will be no study on Dec. 26 & Jan. 2 (a new study will RESUME Jan. 9)

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



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Church website: www.greensburgfirst.org

Rev. Kevin R. Haley	Senior Pastor	pastorkevin@greensburgfirst.org
Peaches Clark	Secretary	churchsecretary@greensburgfirst.org
Rev. Robert C. Wilson	Pastor Emeritus	
Fred Pershing	Director of Music	tumusic@comcast.net
Jim Caffrey, Jr.	Associate Director of Music	
Terry Lasut	Director of Youth	alasuterry@gmail.com
Ruth K. Hughes	Organist	ruthkhughes@gmail.com
Bob Coder	Church Treasurer	
David Shaner	Outdoor maintenance (lawn care/snow removal)	
Custodians	Simply Spotless Cleaning LLC	