

CELEBRATING 225 YEARS
2024
First United Methodist Church
 ♦ ♦ ♦ 1799 - 2024 ♦ ♦ ♦
BELIEVING ♦ WELCOMING ♦ SERVING



**A Service of Worship
 for the Lord's Day
 Sunday, September 8, 2024
 8:30 and 10:45 am**

† Indicates a time to stand, if you are able

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ~arr. Dale Wood

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

We celebrate You, the Creator of all good things.

God of wonder, we come together as a community of faith.

We worship You, our Savior and Redeemer.

God of love, we come together as a community of faith.

We feel Your presence, Spirit of truth and knowledge.

God of wisdom, we come together as a community of faith.

Bless our time together, as we worship You in faith and thanksgiving.

† **HYMN of PRAISE**

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

UMH 160

† **CALL to CONFESSION** (*responsively*)

As people of faith, we believe that God hears our prayers. When we humbly approach God with our prayers of confession, our brokenness is mended, our wounds are healed, and our lives are made whole. We offer our prayers, believing that God hears our cries for help. The Holy Spirit is calling to us: “Come, My children; lay your burdens down.” Let us pray:

O Lord, this world around us is a confusing and chaotic place. Our time is claimed by the everyday hustle that distracts our focus. The noise and the constant activity often keep us from hearing You call us to follow You, to learn about You, to live in Your ways.

As Your church, we offer to You our hurts and wounds, and also our shortcomings and fears. As people of faith, we ask for wisdom to learn and grow. Open our hearts and minds to Your redeeming love. We believe in Your promises, God of wonder, love, and wisdom. Hear us now as we silently pray for peace in our world and in our lives...

†**SILENT PRAYERS for PEACE**

†**WORDS of ASSURANCE**

†**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

Romans 12:14-21 NIV

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

MINISTRY in MUSIC (10:45)

***Freddye Stover, solo / Mike Huston, guitar
“Just a Closer Walk With Thee”***

SACRAMENT of HOLY BAPTISM (10:45)

Brothers and sisters in Christ, through the sacrament of baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Holy Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. I now present Isla Rae Ansick for Christian baptism.

The Pastor addresses the parents...

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Parents: I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Parents: I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Parents: I do.

Will you nurture this child in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example, she may be guided to accept God's grace for herself, to profess her faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

Parents: I will.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The Pastor addresses the congregation...

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life, and include these people now before you in your care?

With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these people with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

The Pastor pours and blesses the baptism water...

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray: Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos, You swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah, You saved those on the ark through water. After the flood, You set in the clouds a rainbow. When You saw Your people as slaves in Egypt, You led them to freedom through the sea; their children You brought through the Jordan to the land which You promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of God's mercy each day!

In the fullness of time You sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John, and He was anointed by Your Spirit. He called His disciples to share in the baptism of His death and resurrection, and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare Christ's works to the nations,
His glory among all the people.**

Pour out Your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and she who receives it, to wash away her sin and clothe her in righteousness throughout her life, that, dying and being raised with Christ, she may share in His final victory.

All praise to You, Eternal Father, through Your Son Jesus Christ, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen!

The Pastor now performs the baptism...

Isla Rae Ansick, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; and I place upon you the sign of the cross for Jesus who died for your sins. Let us pray silently...

Isla Rae Ansick, may the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister in Christ.

Through baptism, you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.

May the God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you, that you may live in grace and peace!

~Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today is Isla Rae Ansick, born April 9, 2024 daughter of Douglas Raymond Ansick and Elicia Ellen (Lint) Ansick, granddaughter of Ed and Jill Lint; great-granddaughter of Bill and Carole Beam

MINISTRY in MUSIC

(8:30) ***"On Eagles Wings"*** ~arr. Doug Wagner ***Fred Pershing, solo***
(10:45) ***"With a Voice of Singing"*** ~Martin Shaw ***Chancel Choir***

PRESENTATION of BIBLES (10:45)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MINISTRY in MUSIC (10:45) ***Freddye Stover, solo / Mike Huston, guitar***
"Something To Believe In"

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!

SHARING of HIS TITHES and OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY ***"My Redeemer"*** ~McGranahan/Smith

†**THE DOXOLOGY** ~means "Praise be to God" (*sung in unison*) **UMH 94**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God all creatures here below! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

†**PRAYER of DEDICATION**

†**HYMN of FAITH** ***"Jesus Loves Me"*** **UMH 191**

A READING from the GOSPELS **Matthew 5:38-48 NIV**

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE

“Eyes and Enemies”

Pastor Kevin Haley

Worship theme: “The Greatest Sermon Ever! (Sermon on the Mount)”

A SERVICE for CONFIRMATION (10:45)

The Pastor questions the confirmand; then the Pastor and his parents lay hands upon him...

Nevin Michael Miller, the Lord defend you with His heavenly grace, and by His Holy Spirit, confirm you in the faith and fellowship of all true disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen!

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I commend to your love and care this young man, whom we this day receive into the membership of this congregation. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

We rejoice to recognize you as a member of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome to this congregation called Greensburg: First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

Go forth in peace, and be of good courage; hold fast that which is good, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may the blessings of God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be with you and remain with you always! Amen!

†HYMN of COMMITMENT

Tune UMH 89 (*Ode to Joy*)

“Bless All Those Who Nurture Children”

~written by John A. Dalles ©1994

- 1. Bless all those who nurture children, sharing knowledge, showing love, who by faithful words and actions lead young lives to God above!
Bless all those whose voice and presence, deep devotion, dignity, motivate the church to reverence, guiding Christ’s community!*
- 2. Jesus taught both by example, and with words of lasting worth;
Christ has given ways to sample hints of heaven here on earth!
In the same way, Christian teachers model true humanity,
demonstrating in their witness glimpses of eternity!*
- 3. Bless these lives of dedication—days and seasons, weeks and years,
spent in serving congregations, spreading joys and soothing tears!
Bless these lives so firmly planted in the grace the Savior brings,
flourishing as God has granted, soaring high on Spirit wings!*

†DISMISSAL with BLESSING

†THE POSTLUDE

“In Peace and Joy I Now Depart” *~arr. Healey Willan*

†GOING FORTH to SERVE

Liturgist: **Dennis Kennedy**

Tech Team: **Nevaeh Hirst, Cheyanne Miller**

Rally Day ~ September 8 ~ Read Proverbs 15-16; 2 Corinthians 1

- 8:30 am Worship (*Sanctuary*)
- 9:30 am Coffee/Fellowship (*Sanctuary Hall*)
- 9:40 am Sunday School for All Ages →
- 10:45 am Worship (*Sanctuary*)
- 2:30 pm Worship at Redstone (*Greensburg*)
- 6:00 pm Youth 180 Cookout (*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 ~ September 9 ~ Read Proverbs 17-18; 2 Corinthians 2

- 6:30 pm Board of Trustees (*Trustee Room*)
- 6:30 pm Centering Prayer (*Prayer Room*)

Tuesday ~ September 10 ~ Read Proverbs 19-20; 2 Corinthians 3

- 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (*Church LOUNGE*)
- 6:30pm Staff/Parish Relations Committee (*Church Lounge*)

Wednesday ~ September 11 ~ Read Proverbs 21-22; 2 Corinthians 4

Thursday ~ September 12 ~ Read Proverbs 23-24; 2 Corinthians 5

- 10 am-1 pm 12-Step (*Library*)
- 1:30 pm Food Pantry Set-up Team (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Chanters rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:30 pm Bonnie Ross Ringers Adult Bells rehearsal (*Bell Room - Lower Level*)
- 6:30-8:30pm Evening Women's 12-Step (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

Friday ~ September 13 ~ Read Proverbs 25-27; 2 Corinthians 6

- 8-10:00am Food Pantry Truck arrives & organize supplies (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 10:00 am Food Pantry Distribution (*Glass Doors on S. Maple*)

Saturday ~ September 14 ~ Read Proverbs 28-29; 2 Corinthians 7

Prayer Requests:

Bob / Bob B. / Ken B. / Becky / Bette / Bill /
 Brian / Bob C. / Betty D. / Dennis & Terry /
 Frank / Nancy Gillpatrick /

*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.***

Dave & Ginny Grandey / B. J. Graves / Kathy Gustafson / Pastor Kevin & Amy Haley /
 Diane & Michael Hall / Jeremy / Joyce / Kathi / Dorothy M. / Evelyn Makarsky /
 Melanie Marody / Ron McCutcheon / Nan Peschel / Allan Pierce / Robin & John /
 Darlene & Sam S. / Tom S. / Don Sedlacko / Kerry Thompson / Julie Watts

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*)
- Betty & Clarence White** Concordia (*Monroeville*)
- Myrna Baer, Shirley Kahler** St. Anne Home (*Greensburg*)
- Donna Bush, Norma Gump** Westmoreland Manor (*Greensburg*)

TODAY

- **Rally Day** ~ we begin our Fall Christian Education Season, give Bibles to our third-grade students and hold a Confirmation for one of our youth!
- **Sunday Morning Coffee/Fellowship Hour** continues every Sunday, between worship services, RETURNING to Sanctuary Hall.
- **Sunday School for ALL AGES** begins at 9:40 am. See calendar page for details/locations.
- **Youth 180 Cookout** at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

THIS WEEK

- **Board of Trustees** will meet on Monday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 pm in the Trustee Room.
- **Centering Prayer** meets weekly on Mondays at 6:30 pm in the Prayer Room.
- **Tuesday morning Adult Bible Study** continues at 9:30 am in the Church LOUNGE... please note the change in location. See back page for detail on dates and topics.
- **Staff/Parish Relations Committee** will meet at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 10, in the Lounge.
- **Food Pantry "Set-up" Team** will meet on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall, to prepare tables, bags, and boxes for supplies & distribution on Friday.
- **Adult Music Ministries** continue. See page 6 under Thursday, Sept. 12, for choirs, times, and locations. Do you want to join this weekly time of fellowship? Call the Church Office.
- **Food Pantry "Distribution" Team** will meet Friday, Sept. 13. The delivery truck arrives at 8 am when we unload, organize, and prepare the supplies in the Fellowship Hall, with actual distribution at 10 am at the glass doors on S. Maple. Please step forward, if you can help.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Pocket Change for a Purpose** ~ Sunday, Sept. 15 ~ to benefit Food Pantry Holiday Gift Cards
- **Children & Youth Music Ministries RESUME** ~ Sunday, Sept. 15
 - 9:00 a.m. Children's Chimes (*Chapel*)
 - 5:30 p.m. Youth Halo Choir (*Choir Room*)
- **Circuit Rider DEADLINE** ~ Sunday, Sept. 15 ~ for October monthly newsletter
- **Healing Hearts** ~ Monday, Sept. 16 ~ 6:30 pm (*Church Lounge*)
- **Finance & Stewardship** ~ Tuesday, Sept. 17 ~ Finance & Stewardship (Church Library)
- **RSVPs due for Fella•Ship** ~ Wednesday, Sept. 18 ~ to Pastor Kevin or Church Office
- **Team Huddle** [SPRC, Church Council, Trustees] ~ Wednesday, Sept. 18 ~ 6:30 pm (*Fellowship Hall*)
- **Fella•Ship Men & Boys Prayer Breakfast** ~ Saturday, Sept. 21, at 9:00 am (*Fellowship Hall*)
- **Church Council** ~ Wednesday, Sept. 25 ~ 6:30 pm (*Church Lounge*)
- **Congregational Meeting** ~ Wednesday, Sept. 25 ~ 7:00 pm (*Fellowship Hall*)
- **Circuit Rider Assembly Team** ~ Thursday, Sept. 26 ~ 8:30 am (*Church Office*)

The **Worship Bulletins**

are sponsored by Betty Daverse, to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of **Jean & Edwin Mason.**

The **Chancel Flowers** are placed by the family of
and in Loving Memory of **Charlotte Sonafelt.**

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 a Welcome Card (inserted in this bulletin).

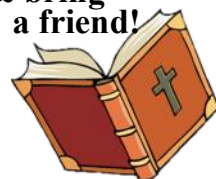
Bible study on Tuesday mornings @ 9:30 am

THE BOOKS OF RUTH & ESTHER

Join Pastor Kevin, as he leads us on a 12-week study of the Old Testament books of Ruth and Esther, the only two books in the Bible named for great women of faith.

September 10	Session #6	ESTHER — Standing Firm
September 17	Session #7	ESTHER — Responsibility
September 24	Session #8	ESTHER — Courage
October 1	Session #9	ESTHER — Pride
October 8	Session #10	ESTHER — Earning Rewards
October 15	Session #11	ESTHER — Justice Arrives
October 22	Session #12	ESTHER — Faithfulness

**Bring your Bible
& bring
a friend!**



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)*

Wi-Fi 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
Fred Pershing	Director of Music	tumusic@comcast.net
Jim Caffrey, Jr.	Associate Director of Music	
Terry Lasut	Director of Youth	alasurettery@gmail.com
Ruth K. Hughes	Organist	ruthkhughes@gmail.com
Bob Coder	Church Treasurer	
Anthony McKenna	Outdoor Maintenance	
Custodians	Simply Spotless Cleaning LLC	