

THE CALLER

A NEWSLETTER FOR FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030-2502

Phone No. 215-946-5800 Email: fhumc@yahoo.com

The Reverend Gary Dimovitz, Pastor

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September 1 - October 31, 2023

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PASTORS CORNER

Hello First UMC Family,

I want to start off by saying that I hope you all have enjoyed your summer because autumn is quickly approaching. And as new seasons approach, we find new joy in the experience because there is something peculiar about seasons. We tend to enjoy them when they first begin, but when their end draws near, people are often ready for a change. Let's look at summer for instance. We all enjoy the transition from the jackets and pants of spring as we look forward to the warmth of summer and shorts, flip flops and sandy beaches. But as the summer wears on, we struggle to get through the ninety plus degree heat waves that inevitably come each summer. But when the seasons change, we find joy in knowing that those brutal heat waves are behind us. And as autumn begins, we find new joy in the beauty of the changing leaves and cooler days that don't involve as much sweat. There is new joy in each new season and the seasons are one of the ways God constantly brings us new joys.

I am reminded of a text from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: ² a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ³ a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, ⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, ⁵ a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, ⁶ a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, ⁷ a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, ⁸ a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.* You see, God is teaching us the importance of changing seasons. And our faith has changing seasons as well. For example, Ecclesiastes said that there is *a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing*. As a church family there will be seasons where we refrain from embracing so that we can nurture our own personal spiritual growth. Then after our season of personal growth, we embrace our family to help them grow. We do this by volunteering to serve in a youth group or a study group or mentor group so that someone else can learn and be inspired. There are new joys to be found in seasons of helping others through various church ministries. I pray that as you consider changing the seasons of how you live out your faith, you also consider the new joys that come with each new season.

Sincerely,
Rev. Gary Dimovitz

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

Trunk or Treat will be held Saturday, October 21st from 2-4pm. Rain date will be Sunday, October 22nd from 2-4pm. If you do not want to decorate your trunk and hand out candy, we are accepting candy donations. Art has agreed to be our grill master again this year. Hot dogs, chips and soda will be available for purchase during this event.

Sunday, December 3rd we will be going caroling again from 1-4pm. A potluck lunch will be held after the service. This is always such a fun time! Please consider joining us to spread some Christmas cheer.

Our annual Cookies with Santa will be held on Sunday, December 10th from 1-3pm. We will be requesting donations of cookies for this event. Thank you in advance for your help to make this event so magical for the children.

The First United Methodist Church 2nd annual chili cookoff will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024. Mark your calendar and start prepping your winning recipe!

Thank you from First UMC Special Events Team.

PANTRY NEWS

This year we will be putting together 75 boxes to give out for Thanksgiving. Watch for sales and consider shopping early. All items are needed by November 19. Thank you in advance.

NEED 150 ITEMS OF EACH:

TURKEY STUFFING
BOXED MASHED POTATOES
CAN YAMS
GREEN BEANS
CORN
CAN TURKEY GRAVY

NEED 75 ITEMS OF EACH:

CRANBURY SAUCE
FRUIT COCKTAIL
BOWNIE MIX
CAKE MIX
ICING
PIE CRUST
CAN PUMPKIN FILLING

As items come in, we will keep you updated on what is still needed. Thank you from the Lester Bahrt Food Pantry!

TRUSTEE REPORT

Hi, Everyone.

Hope this finds everyone doing well. The new sidewalk sections have been successfully completed and are looking good. Again, we need to thank Wayne Schadler and sons for removing the tree at the Stop Sign on the In -Driveway. Wayne has saved the church a lot of money so please reach out to him with a big “Thank You.” We are in the process of getting bids to replace the lighting in Fellowship Hall and 3 outside lights which do not function. Presently PECO gives great discounts on lighting when you replace it with LED fixtures. Please keep all in prayer that this can be accomplished within the next month or so. The power of prayer is amazing. Thank you! Have a wonderful month.

Trustee Chairperson, Peggy

CHARGE CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

First UMC Charge Conference

Saturday, November 4 @ 10:00 AM

Location: St. Paul's UMC

2131 Palomino Drive, Warrington, PA 18975

Attendance is required for everyone in leadership at First UMC. All other members are encouraged to attend and vote.

READ AND REFLECT

Joshua’s instruction to God’s people in Joshua 24:14-18

“Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶ Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷ It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸ And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.”

SAVE THE DATE

First UMC annual Church Bazaar. November 18, 9AM-2PM.

Contact Nicole Dempsey to reserve your table! \$20 each

We will need help with cooking on November 17 and with selling the day of the bazaar.

Phone 267-249-5362 or Email Nikkid912@gmail.com

Thank you,
Nicole

SAVE THE DATE



First United Methodist Church
of Fairless Hills Presents:

DESIGNER BAG BINGO

10 Regular Games with gift cards

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH
at 7PM Doors open at 6pm

Location:
ST. FRANCIS CABRINI
325 S. OXFORD VALLEY ROAD
FAIRLESS HILLS, PA 19030

\$30 IN ADVANCE
\$35 AT THE DOOR
feel free to BYOB

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:
Call Peg: (215) 752-1044
Text Elsie: (609) 743-5891
VENMO: @Elsie-BailyAllen

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY
GREETINGS TO:

3 Glenn Esling
3 Betty Mickley
6 John Schadler
6 Alfred Erdossy
6 Rebecca Carr
8 Becky Holgate
12 Nicole Dempsey
13 Athen Strawmyre
13 Gertrude Delano
15 Garney Morris, SR
16 Barbara Bubb
17 Gabriella DiCarlantonio
18 Marc Nikoden
19 Art Holgate
19 Ralph Katzmar
20 Lyn Wilhelm
22 Diane Funk
26 Brad Wilhelm
26 Barbara Krushnowski
27 Dale Allen
28 Kayla Toth

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY
GREETINGS TO:

3 Rachel Nguyen (Slack)
3 Allyson Capelli (Malandra)
3 Daniel Dempsey
6 Glenna Kelly
6 Kelly Jo Stevenson
7 Theo Nguyen
7 Michelle Baptiste
8 Aspen Yeager
9 Susan Erdossy
11 Susan McCleary
11 Courtney Yeager (Stoop)
16 Olivia Ryan Lere
19 Bonnie Burris`
21 Carolyn Simmons
23 Sandra Putnam
25 Linda Stoop
25 Antonio Carr
27 George Kacey
29 Janine Allen
30 Eugene Wilhelm
31 Melissa Swidra

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRANTS ARE:

2 Richard & Sandra Spickler
3 Garnett & Michelle Morris
3 Kalman & Kathleen Toth
5 John & Barbara Swenson
5 Todd & Linda Stoop
20 Edward & Peggy Malandra
22 Steve & Allyson Capelli
25 Shawn & Rachel Kane
27 Joseph & Barbara Krushnowski
30 Mike & Andrea Evanick

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRANTS ARE:

10 George & Carolyn Kacey
29 Alfred & Susan Erdossy
29 Glenn & Beverly Esling