

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.3397 email: cfumc@citynet.net web: www.cfumc.org



*Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor
Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor
Brett Miller, Director of Music
"A Holy, Healthy, and Loving Community
Striving to Know Christ
and to Make Christ Known"*

September 26, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WORDS OF WELCOME -----Pastor Harry Jenkins

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

PROCESSION OF LIGHT ----- Kate Thrush

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We have been called to walk the faithful road,
And to choose the way of God's justice.

People: We are here because we believe strongly that our God is good,
and that we live in that goodness. We are here to proclaim our faith
and to seek direction along this faith journey.

Leader: Come together, then, to be God's people.
Follow Christ and listen for the good things that God has done.
Rise up in praise and thanksgiving.

People: We will share with others the goodness that we have found in God.
May our live be an expression of that goodness.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, in birthing us into this world you have shared a great gift — life in all its dimensions. For the joys and sorrows, for the smiles and tears, for health and suffering, for belief and doubt, we praise you. May your benevolent Spirit guide us in this life, and in the life that knows no end. Amen.

HYMN #139, v. 1, 2, & 4- - - - - "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

MUSICAL OFFERTORY- - - "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" /arr. Joel Raney

Dr. Jessica Scott, piano; Brett Miller, organ

SCRIPTURE LESSON - - - - -Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.'

But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.'

If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.

If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.'

And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

‘For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.’

SERMON-----“Thurza’s Song”-----Pastor Jenkins
(You are encouraged to use this space for notes.)

INVITATION

HYMN #469, v. 1, 3 & 4 -----”Jesus Is All the World to Me”

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

*Our appreciation to the following
for assisting with today’s worship service*

*Kate Thrush — acolyte
and
Suzie Faris, Randy and Tammy Matheny, Nancy Ferber — greeters
and
Randy Matheny — videographer*

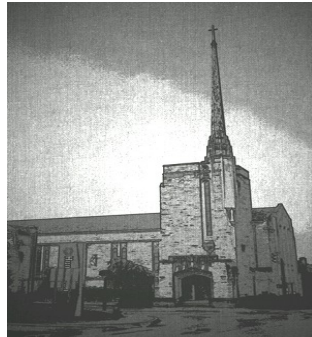
BLESSING BOXES

Fulfilling Christ's command to "feed my sheep", Blessing Boxes are scattered throughout Clarksburg. One is right outside our 2nd Street entrance.

Claim a Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday to fill the Box with drinks and non-perishable/"ready to eat" foods. Please remember when choosing items to folks likely do not have access to stoves, ovens, refrigeration, pots, pans, or even a can opener. Thanks!

Some supplies are here at the church, or donate your own.

CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN HELP! 623-3397



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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CHILDREN AND WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

Beginning Sunday, October 3rd, we will resume our practice of:
...offering a Children's Sermon within morning worship,
...providing Children's Church during a portion of the worship hour.

Children's Church will be held in Rooms 207/209, under the leadership of Candy Atkinson.

Because we follow "Safe Sanctuary" practices here at First Church,
A 2nd adult is required to be in the room ... so we need your help!

If you can assist Candy with this ministry, please contact her at 304-771-2360.