

First United Methodist Church

NEWSLETTER

Pearisburg, Virginia 24134 [921-1021]

November 2020

Dr. Brian Burch, Pastor

CHANGE IN Worship Plans November 1 & 8

To provide additional protection for our church members, our sanctuary services are canceled for these two Sundays. Our 9 a.m. parking lot service and online services will be available.

Wow

Thank you for your incredible acts of appreciation. This October we were infected with COVID-19. During our time of required quarantine, you as a church were incredible. Prayers, phone calls, text messages, gifts of food, food and supplies delivered from all over joined a constant stream of support. Thank you for being a church that makes an impact. By the way, your love was observed by others. The Burch family knows that one person who has dropped out of the church saw you all in action. Thanks for being the church.

Brian & DeAnne Burch

You Were Heard

In August, you as a church body spoke clearly. Before our partnership with Imagination Station could move forward, you wisely suggested some clarifications and protections must be put into place. Both sides needed a written agreement. The extra expenses needed to be discussed. Clarification about a host of details including the preschool should be addressed. With Alan Leet guiding the Daycare Task Force over two dozen discussion points were developed. The final agreement is a blessing to both the church and Imagination Station. This partnership allows more children to be in a daycare facility that provides the space needed during this crisis. Without our willingness to share our building, a number of these children would have to go on a waiting list. This agreement protects our church so that we can do more ministries.

November Worship All Saint's Day (11/1)

Rev. Morris Fleischer was our 9 a.m. Parking Lot preacher. He preached from Revelation 7:9-17. You know Morris as the pastor with the longest tenure in Giles County. He started his career as a radio disc-jockey in Kingsport, TN and is excited about preaching on 88.1 FM this Sunday. Brian Burch's on-line message was from 1 John 3:1-3. The saints we remember this year are all women: Dorothy Gaskell, Ellie Miller, Alice Harman, Carrie Trout, Carol Grey, Rebecca Breeden, Sue Payne, and Barbara Adams. Each of them blessed our church congregation.

After Election Sunday (11/8)

Kathy Mitchem, our newest member, is also interested in serving the Lord as a pastor. So, this Sunday, she is bringing her years of guest speaking in Floyd County to us. This is the Sunday after Election, who will win, will we know a winner, will it depend upon hanging chads, the Supreme court, or mail-in ballots? In a similar fashion when we talk about the end-times do United Methodist believe the rapture will come pre-tribulation, post-tribulation, or mid-tribulation? When will the rapture take place? Who all will be saved? Do Methodists even believe in the end times? Pastor Brian will answer these questions in our Online worship service.

Shoe Box Sunday (11/15)



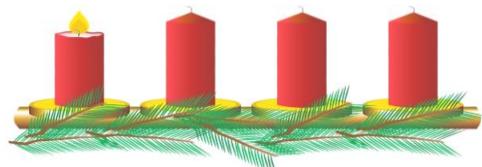
This Sunday is the day to turn in all your donations for the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box collection. Pastor Brian looks forward to preaching at all three services again. "Wakey, Wakey, Eggs and Bakey" is his sermon title based on 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11. The title might not sound as religious as "Awake Thou that Sleepest" but the Biblical command is the same, "encourage one another build each other up."

Sunday before Thanksgiving (11/23)

The First Thanksgiving was after a disastrous year. Death, limited food, and tremendous change. Yet, the pilgrims gave thanks. What will our response be to 2020? It's over. Don't ever want to repeat it again. A complete waste. A disaster. Or could it be a call to give Thanks to the Lord who brought us through? Pastor Brian is preaching "If there Ever Was a Year to Give Thanks" from 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.

First Sunday in Advent (11/30)

"Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down." Sometimes we pray that the Lord would come down and be with us. Perhaps we even say, "Come quickly Lord!" Would it be a day of great celebration or great wrath? Jesus did come to that little town of Bethlehem. He also declared he would come again. Isaiah 64:1-9 talks about the coming of the Lord from the Old Testament perspective. Few of us will be ready for Christmas this Sunday, but are we ready for the coming of the Lord?



MEMORIAL GIFTS

Were given this month in loving memory of:

*Barbara Adams
Thomas Moye*

Stewardship Report-Budget

Received October a year ago.....	\$ 18,763.50
Received October.....	\$ 16,756.52
Received Y-T-D a year ago	\$ 190,972.44
Received Y-T-D	\$ 180,488.67

Future Dreaming

Which door do you use when you come to the church? If you are a visitor, do you know which door to use? Kay Houck recalls her second Sunday worshipping in our church years ago. She had to park at the far end of the Education wing and wander through the entire church trying to find the sanctuary. Most folks enter the sanctuary through the back door by the garden with its narrow passageway. Also, when the weather is less than perfect everyone gets a tad damp. Could there be a better plan? The October Church Council meeting agreed to a proposal that would allow us to receive a gift of some tentative designs for a new entryway for us to use for dreaming a better future.

In Memoriam

Barbara Adams
October 25, 2020

Our condolences go out to Carl Adams and family at the passing of his wife, Barbara Adams. Barbara was a member of Pearisburg First UMC since November 10, 1974.

Costume Contest Winners

The crowd favorite with Charlie the Dog. Yet, the rules were clear, only children could enter so, Charlie was disqualified. Brooklyn won the Walmart gift card. Ellie won the Dairy Queen gift card and Elijah won the McDonald's gift card. Thank you to all our contestants.

Missions in November

Shoebox Ministry: Yes, we are prepared to make this a priority. Sharing joy in the coming months around the globe is going to be a huge need. If we can make a child smile and share the good news of Jesus is an even greater deal. What should you buy? It and other items need to fit inside a shoebox. It is going to be shipped around the world. It is going to be opened by real children who desperately could use a quality gift. Deadline for gifts is Sunday, November 15.

Angel Tree: It seems way to early to think about this. Yet, by December 18, Leisa Palmer from the Giles County Christian Service Mission is going to provide Christmas gifts for around 300 Giles County children. Are you interested in adopting one of these children? Contact the church and volunteer today.

Thanksgiving Meal: We are considering options of how to keep this annual mission in action. How can we send a meal to our shut-ins and let them know that this Thanksgiving especially they are loved? We will keep you posted when a quality solution is found.

Collecting for Preschool

The preschool will be doing a fun craft project for Thanksgiving. This project requires coffee creamer bottles. If you have any you can donate, please drop them off at the church. See picture for type needed.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Non-Profit Org.
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Pearisburg, VA
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