

THE GOOD NEWS



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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have discovered a simple truth about ministry. No money means no ministry. Yet, while I know that money itself is a lifeless thing, when it is put to use by dedicated Disciples, great things can happen, as we have seen. One recent example that comes to mind is tornado recovery. Because you have given graciously, we were able to bring some relief to our neighbors in Kentucky and beyond!

As such, I think it is important to say thank you as often as possible to the full body of Christ who give sacrificially of their time, talents, and resources. The ministries of St. Marys UMC would not, and could not operate without you. Thank you for being faithful to take part in the work God has given us to do in our community, and to the ends of the earth.

Because of your faithful giving in unity, love, labor, and prayer we gave 100% of our apportionment for 2021, both Conference and District. Your generous response enabled us to fund a year of strong ministry and mission. Thank you for being an important instrument of God's grace to the people of God.

(Continued on the next page —>)



St. Marys UMC

Little Kanawha District

West Virginia Conference

Northeastern Jurisdiction

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Your giving was so generous and our operating costs were down due to the pandemic, we had more money than we needed to do ministry within the walls of the church. So Church Council and Finance committee gave some away on your behalf. You can read more about that on page 6 of this newsletter

Nonetheless as we look back on the year past and remember with thankfulness God's blessing upon us, let us not forget the present. We have anew budget and challenges to meet. Please begin praying about how God is calling you to give. Let us each, in light of God's blessings, come each Sunday prepared to take a personal faith-reach as we consider what we will give to the church in this new year.

With faith and dedication, just like last year, we can enable our budget for 2022 to underwrite great things for God. I therefore encourage you to pray and tithe each week. Consider committing a tithe — 10% of you income — if you aren't already. If you're not at 10%, commit to increasing by 1% or 2% this year. Let us strife to keep on target each month with our budget so that God can move mountains that will make our journey smooth.

Thanks again for taking part in the life-changing ministry of our community! My prayer is that as a community of faith we will do all we do for God's glory!

Blessings & Love,
Clare

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Board of Trustees:

George Little, Chair	Sue Morgan	Mae Lewis
Andy Hickman, Vice-Chair	Doug Poling	Gary Loughner
Liz Campbell, Secretary	John Davies	Clare Sulgit

St. Marys United Methodist Church

Leaders – 2022

Members of the Church Council

Max Powell, Chair	Clare Sulgit	Keith White
Randy Nutter	Gary Loughner	Beverly Stutzman
Pat Mays	Karen Conaway	Judy Nutter
Carla Conaway	Louise McLaughlin	Melissa Carder
Diane Braun	George Little	Bill Carder
Al Thacker	Suzanne Rouse	Margaret White
Rick McCullough	Jim McKnight	Pam Hamilton
Mice McGee	Sheila Hickman	

Members of Staff-Parish Relations:

Melissa Carter, Chair	Lori Barnhart	Brian Westfall
Richard Conaway	Tim Ambrose	Keith White
Frank Ennis, Vice-Chair	Beverly Stutzman	Bryan Poling

Finance Committee:

Diane Braun, Chair	Carol Carder	Mindy Hadley
Danny Davis	Robbie Evans	Al Thacker
Sherie Poling	Keith White	Max Powell
Randy Nutter	Beverly Stutzman	Clare Sulgit
Melissa Carder	Liz Loughner, Vice-Chair	Gary Loughner
George Little		

Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development:

Clare Sulgit, Chair	Gretchen Himmeger	Karen Conaway
Jim McKnight	Karen Carpenter	Sharon McGee

(Continued on page 2)



United Methodist Men

Meet on the 3rd Sunday morning for breakfast
at 8 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

All men are welcome



UPCOMING BREAKFAST MEETINGS

February 20th

March 20th

2022 DATES TO REMEMBER

Church Council - 7 PM

January 11, March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13, November 8

Trustees - 5 PM

January 9, March 13, May 15, July 10, September 11, November 13

Finance Committee - 6 PM

April 12, July 13, October 11

Lay Leadership and Nominations - 6 PM

May 25, July 20, August 10

Staff-Parish Relations - 6 PM

United Methodist Women News



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

The unit meeting is the 1st Monday of each month at 6 PM
in the Chapel
(executive committee meets at 5 PM).

FEBRUARY

Kindness Circle - Saturday February 5th at 10 AM

Executive Committee - Monday February 7th at 5 PM

Circles - Monday February 7th at 6 PM

MARCH

Executive Committee - Monday March 7th at 5 PM

Circles - Monday March 7th at 6 PM

Kaki Reckard Abicht enjoys the United Methodist Women's vegetable soup they sell at the annual bazaar so much that she wanted to give extra support to this missions fundraiser. She is offering to help collect the quart jars used each year and will even give a carnation for free to anyone returning jars to the Greenhouse in St. Marys. Please spread the word and thank Kaki for her generous support!



Did you know that our weekly radio broadcast airs on Sunday mornings at 9 AM on 93.9 FM. Our weekly worship video posts at 10:30 AM on our 2 Facebook pages and on YouTube. These are outreach ministries the church supports through its budget. Please share this information!

GIVING

TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED

December 5	\$10,652.00
December 12	\$10,780.00
December 19	\$4,470.00
December 24	\$720.00
December 26	\$3,887.00

ATTENDANCE

IN PERSON ONLINE

December 5	43	134
December 12	48	75
December 19	63	86
December 24	54	167
December 26	51	161

Ministry Support

A strange thing has occurred during the Pandemic: our congregation has been blessed by God with more money than we need to operate. We became aware of this during 2020 and made a gift to Neighbor Network of \$1,000. As we moved into 2021, the Finance Team began to discuss how we could responsibly use those funds. We firmly believe that when God blesses us, we are to be blessing to others and, after a year of discussion, that is what we attempted to do.

At the end of 2021, we determined what a healthy balance in our checking account would be, how much of our excess money should be placed in the Emergency Fund and where to distribute the rest. Church Council also approved this plan.

We gave donations (on your behalf) locally to: Neighbor Network, Boys and Girls Club, Senior Nutrition Program, Habitat for Humanity, and Christian Outreach Center. For the conference level, we gave to Tyrand Cooperative Ministries and Heart and Hand House of Philippi. Internationally we gave to a 3 point United Methodist charge in Malawi with a strong children's ministry.

We as a congregation operate under the guide of Matthew 25:31-46 to care for the least of these. We felt all of these ministries do just that in their location.

Hundreds of lives will be affected because of the generosity of God through St. Marys United Methodist Church. Thank you!

Neighbor Network Highlights for the Month of December

Total Donations: 194

Total Customers: 866

Total Families receiving services: 122

(Gabriel Project– 13, total of 15 children)

(food - 242)

(utility assistance-2)

Total Thrift Store Transactions: \$7,588.27

Total Donations to NN: \$6,330.00

Total Expenses: \$11,861.63.00

Number of Volunteers this month: 13

NEIGHBOR NETWORK **FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

Our Neighbor Network partners with Mountaineer Food Bank for a monthly food giveaway. It is held at the Marina beginning at noon. Volunteers are always need and ask to be at the Marina by 9:45 AM. You may also know someone who would benefit from the distribution. Pleasants County residents only please.

Upcoming dates are:

*February 11th, March 11th, April 8th, May 13th,
June 10th, July 8th, August 12th, September 9th, October 14th,
November 16th (Wednesday), & December 9th*

THANK YOUS

To My Church Family:

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. I am blessed to be a part of the choir and this wonderful church.

God Bless,
Mark

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful Christmas gift. Having such a supporting church family is truly a blessing. Playing the organ and accompanying the choir each week is also a blessing for which I shall always be grateful. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Love,
Barbara Maston

Dear "Other" Church Family,

I am beyond blessed to have you as my brothers and sisters in Christ and my friends. Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift. I truly enjoy working for this church and I'm truly blessed to have two Church Families. Thank you so much for allowing me to be a small part of your church.

Love,
Deb

Thanks so much for the Christmas gift! God's Spirit shines in all the kind things our church does for others.

Thank you!
Doug

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. You are a true gift to David and our family. You bless us in a variety of ways, and we appreciate you and your support. Have a blessed New Year!

Love and blessings,
Clare

A QUICK GUIDE TO CHURCH SAFETY PROTOCOLS **DURING COVID-19**

Green - All activities resume without restrictions, masks are strongly encouraged for those who are not vaccinated.

Yellow - All activities resume without restrictions, masks are strongly encouraged for those who are not vaccinated.

Gold - All activities resume without restrictions, masks are strongly encouraged for those who are not vaccinated. Choir can sing in worship.

Orange - Masks and social distancing required inside the church. Singing during worship with masks on. Choir can practice in the Chapel while socially distanced, but will not sing on Sunday mornings. Bulletins will resume. No meals.

Red - Masks and Social Distancing required inside the church. No singing during worship. No Choir practice or singing on Sundays. No bulletins. No meals.

We remind folks who are using the church for any gathering regardless of the COVID map, please clean and disinfect the space you were in. Thank you.

To the good people of the United Methodist Church:

You folks have a way of always helping out the community. Please know that we recognize your many acts of kindness and thank you!

In fact, I had written the enclosed donation check before learning about your vaccination clinic. That too will be added to your list of good deeds!

Thank you for your continued generosity of sharing your parking lot with us throughout the year. We then have more parking spaces opened up for our customers to use. And I'm sure they're grateful for the convenience and your thoughtfulness too!

So as we count our blessings this Christmas, we'll count you! May your celebration of Christmas be filled with Peace, Love & Joy!

Merry Christmas,
Tamy Hammett Smith

9 And Phillips Pharmacy Employees



JANUARY

Eleanor Little	1/8
Anerl Leggett	1/12
Marshall Norman	1/12
Joe Fleegle	1/13
Morgan Poling	1/13
David Fetty	1/15
Natalie Ferrell	1/16
Liz Carpenter-Eddy	1/16
Reece Westfall	1/16
Sheila Hickman	1/20
John Lanham	1/22
Patricia Moore	1/23
Thomas Thacker	1/23
Judy Nutter	1/25
Angela Scadden	1/26
Ty Flower	1/27
Chris Lewis	1/29
Darla Carpenter	1/29
Treasa Davies	1/29

FEBRUARY

Debbie Thomas	2/1
Donna Barksdale	2/2
Bev Fitzpatrick	2/2
Sharon McGee	2/4
Andrew Simonton	2/5
Margie Elder	2/6
Steve Pickens	2/7
Maya Morrison	2/9
Frank Ennis	2/9
Andrea Watson	2/10
Charmel Radcliff	2/11
Drew Wells	2/12
Asa Nichols	2/12
Mildred Harden	2/13
Katee Conaway	2/14
Samantha Eisenman	2/14
Nancy Main	2/15
Kacie Conaway	2/16
Tammy Poling	2/19
John Davies	2/20
Maureen Maiden	2/20
Betsy Metz	2/20
James Poling	2/20
Angie Dalrymple	2/21
Karen Carpenter	2/21
Brian Westfall	2/21
Joe Conaway	2/22
Melissa Carder	2/22
Martha Sams	2/25
Kathy Elder	2/26
Sara McKnight	2/28

MEETINGS

JANUARY

- 4 FINANCE - 6 PM
- 9 TRUSTEES - 5 PM
- 11 CHURCH COUNCIL - 7 PM

MARCH

- 8 CHURCH COUNCIL - 7 PM
- 9 SPRC - 6 PM
- 13 TRUSTEES - 5 PM

EVERY MONTH

First Mon. - UMW Circles - 6 PM

Third Sun. - UMM - 8 AM

Fourth Wed. - UMW - 6:30 PM

Other Groups Meeting at our Church

2nd Mon. Habitat for Humanity 6 PM
& Middle Island Ramblers 4-H 7 PM

PRAYERS FOR:

Paul Tallman
Betty Moorhead
Brent Payne
Kenadee Antill
Ginger Poling
Joan Robey
Suellen Simonton
Caroline Hill
Johnna Cochran
Margo Ingram

Shirley Seaboy
Martha Hockenberry
Joe & Thomasine Troisi
Benny & Ruth Wagner
Carolyn Ashkar
Don Dearth
Larry Dew
Kym Holdren
Avery Clickenger
Pat Hawkins

Debbie Bailey
Philip Starks
Dwight Davis
Bev Fitzpatrick
Campbell Barnhart
Maddie Collins
Emma Jean Dobbins
Art Smith
Terri Gellner Huls
Matt Taylor

Tina Maston
Mike Davis
Jennifer Furr
Amy Stemple
Ruth Blauser
Dave Taylor
JD Williamson
Eddie Nutter
Dwayne Barnes
Adalynn Gunnoe



*Christian Sympathy
is extended to the
friends & family of
Donna Mae Harding
(Mother of Don Harding
and Dianna Lewis)*



Active Military

Nate McHenry

Vanessa Reese

(Daughter of David Reese)

The 2021 Church Information Guide is available at the church. We are working on the 2022 Church Information Guide. Please check your current one to make sure your information is correct.

The January-February Upper Room

Is available at the church.

Want one mailed to you? Just let us know.

Outreach Ministry Opportunities

- Neighbor Network food pantry needs:
Boxed Mac. & Cheese, small pkgs. of Hamburger & Hot Dogs, Soup Beans, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Syrup, Soup, Instant Potatoes, Crackers, Pork & Beans, Canned Milk, Complete Pancake Mix, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, oil for cooking
- Size 5 diapers for Neighbor Network

Upcoming Dates

February 5 **Kindness Circle at 10 AM**

February 7 **UMW Exec. Committee at 5 PM**

UMW at 6 PM

February 11 **NN Food Distribution at 9:45 AM**

February 20 **UMM at 8 AM**

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