**THE CALLER** A NEWSLETTER FOR FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030-2502 Phone No. 215-946-5800 Email: fhumc@yahoo.com The Reverend Gary Dimovitz, Pastor =============================================================November 1 – December 31, 2022 =============================================================

**PASTORS CORNER**

Hello First UMC,

Merry Christmas! That’s right, Christmas is just around the corner. And I am certain that, with Christmas being just around the corner, you will all be taking time to hunt for the perfect gift for your pastor (Hint, Hint). But all joking aside, we will all be spending some time shopping for gifts to give our loved ones and friends. And along with the time spent finding the perfect gift, there will also be money spent on the perfect gift. But what if I told you that there was a gift that you do not have to spend any time scouring the stores or the internet to find. And better yet, this gift will not cost you a penny. It is the gift of Jesus. When was the last time you told someone about Jesus?

We are living in a world that is in dire need of saving. There are individuals who are struggling and in need in a world where inflation and violence are escalating. In a day in age where selfishness and greed rise to the top and in a time in history where people’s hopes to live fruitful lives seem to be dashed to pieces by a future filled with uncertainty and hopelessness, we need Jesus.

But what does Jesus need? People who are willing to tell someone about Jesus. Give the message of the Gospel this Christmas. Jesus will walk with us in the struggle and provide for our needs. Jesus will fill the world with love to combat violence, selfishness and greed. Jesus will give us lives that are so incredibly fruitful that this world cannot contain the life abundant promised to those who love him. Jesus gives us a sure and certain hope of life eternal in God’s Heavenly Kingdom. Ah, but Gary, you didn’t talk about that inflation stuff. Jesus will give us treasure in heaven. If you have treasure, inflation won’t bother you a bit.

Jesus said in **Matthew 6:19-21, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** All those gifts we give will rot away one day. Where is your heart this Christmas season? Let us give the perfect gift of Jesus this year. Tell someone about Jesus. It is CHRISTmas after all.

Merry Christmas,

Rev. Gary Dimovitz

**UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS**

A big thank you to everyone who participated in our 2nd annual Trunk or Treat held on Saturday, October 22nd. We had just over thirty children stop by to trick or treat and enjoy some hot dogs fresh off the grill. And God blessed us with an absolutely gorgeous afternoon.

Sunday, November 20th we will have a potluck lunch from 11:30am-12:30pm. Everyone is welcome and a sign-up sheet will be created in the beginning of November. From 12:30-1:30pm we will hold a caroling practice. We ask anyone who will be joining us for caroling in December to please attend the practice. Following the practice, from 1:30-3:30pm, we will have a board game afternoon. This is sure to be a fun day!

We will put our singing practice to good use on Sunday, December 4th from 1-4pm when we will be caroling to our church family that cannot make it out of their homes. This was so much fun last year, and we cannot wait to do it again!

Cookies with Santa will be held on Sunday, December 11th from 1-3pm. We will have a sign-up sheet closer to the event so everyone can contribute cookies to the event for the children in our community. And of course, the highlight will be a visit from the big man in red.

Looking into the New Year, we are planning on having our Valentine’s Dessert and Dance again and Pastor Gary has requested a chili cook-off that we are looking to schedule at the end of February.

We have so much fun to look forward to. Please consider volunteering and/or contributing to each of these events. And if you are interested in volunteering during the Cookies with Santa event, please make sure your child abuse clearances are on file with our church office prior to the day of the event.

Thank you!

Krista Dimovitz

**SAVE THE DATE**

The Church Bazaar will be held November 5 from 9-2. Come look around and start your holiday shopping early or pick up some of the wonderful homemade food and baked goods being sold. Contact Nicole Dempsey to reserve a table for $20. 267-249-5362 or nikkid912@gmail.com

Thank you,
Nicole

**FIRST UMC CHARGE CONFERENCE**

We would like to extend an invitation to everyone to attend this year’s First UMC’s charge conference with the District Superintendent scheduled for Monday November 7 at 7PM in the church sanctuary.

**IMPORTANT**: The SPR team will meet with the District Superintendent at 6:30PM prior to the conference.

**All church leaders are required to attend this conference.**

**LESTER BAHRT FOOD PANTRY NEWS**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! As we come into the holiday seasons, there is even a greater need for food. The people depend on the pantry to help supplement their grocery shopping. Since the beginning of Bucks County Opportunity Council's year, which starts on July 1st, our numbers of families and individuals are as follows;

                                        2022     2021

Head of Household            508       417

Children (17 and under)     572       320

Adult (18 to 59)                  841       439

Senior (60 and older)          352       240

These numbers are for July, August and September. With the increasing number of people, that we are providing food for, we could use some donations. We are in need of canned fruit, canned potatoes, canned corn and spaghetti or tomato sauce.

Also, if anyone has an hour or two available on Wednesdays, come see us. Our most needed times are 8am to help set up, 9am to 12pm to cover lunches and help with the patrons and 4:45 to help clean up.

I would like to thank all the volunteers, Elsie, Lyn, Bonnie, Dawn Sue Mc, Andrea, Sue E, Dan, Sara, Ernie, Len, John, Brian and Pastor Gary.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Ecclesiastes 9:7 "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do , do it all for the Glory of God."

In Jesus' name,

Nancy Funk

**November Birthday Greetings To:**

 4 Marilyn Powers

 5 Kevin Banh

 6 Rachael McCleary

 6 Antonio Carr Jr

 7 Susan Stald

 7 Angel Carr

10 Dale Allen, JR

18 Virginia Shartle

19 Mary (Kitty) Nikoden

19 William Miller

24 Francesco DiCarlantonio

26 Eleanor Wilhelm

27 Mildred Lowry

28 Christy Wilhelm

28 Jeff Wilhelm

30 Austin Allen

**November Anniversary Celebrants Are:**

11 Antonio & Becky Carr

21 John and Rose Chesko

**December Birthday Greetings To:**

 4 Jennifer Funk

 9 David Packer

11 Doris Serfass

12 Vincent Wilhelm

15 Katherine McCleary

16 Amanda Dempsey

24 Carol Yocum

25 Carole Barone

29 Allison Harrison (Esling)

30 Juliana Blackmon

31 Sandra Spickler

**December Anniversary Celebrants Are:**

 7 George & Susan McCleary

16 Chris & Lorraine Ankenbrand

20 Dr. Ernest & Glenna Kelly

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

December 25, 2022

NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to pick up your flowers following the Christmas Eve service this year as there will not be a service Christmas Day. We encourage you to enjoy your flowers or use them to brighten the day of a friend, neighbor, or relative.

 Check here if you do NOT wish to take your flowers with you.

PLEASE FILL IN YOUR POINSETTIA CHOICE(S):

\_\_\_\_\_ RED

\_\_\_\_\_ WHITE

\_\_\_\_\_ PINK

Cost: $15.00 each

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERS: DECEMBER 5, 2022**

Please return your order form with your cash or check made payable to:

First United Methodist Church

840 Trenton Road

Fairless Hills, PA 19030

Memo Notation: Christmas Poinsettias