

A time of silence for personal confession

Loving God, you have granted us mercy, grace, and forgiveness through the gift of your Son Jesus Christ. We can never be worthy of your love. The sacrifice of Jesus offers us pardon and healing.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: This is the good news of Jesus Christ! While we are yet sinners, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God; Amen.

Offertory

They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed; all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.

Deuteronomy 16:16b-17

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

❖Closing Hymn

#569

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

The chancel rail is open for prayer as you feel led by the Spirit

❖Benediction

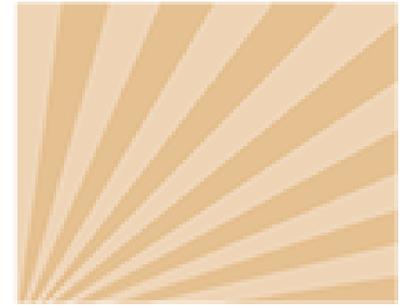
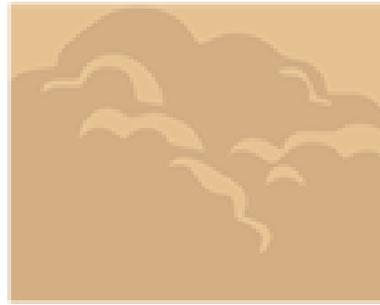
❖Community Blessing

#359 Refrain

“Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed”

Postlude

⚡Unless otherwise noted, worship resources are from Discipleship Ministries of the UMC.



SECOND SUNDAY
in
LENT

First United Methodist Church

"Growing, Loving & Serving in Christ's Name"

Rev. Sara J. Wrona, Pastor

Gloria Womer, Don Sheaffer, Elaine Brenneman Co-Lay Leaders

Gail Varine, Organist / Choir Director

LFUMC.org

LFUMC251@comcast.net

pastorsarajw@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell: (724) 882-9627

Second Sunday of Lent

- ❖ We know that everyone is differently abled so please stand or sit as best suits your comfort level.

Greetings & Announcements

Prelude

As the music begins, be silent, be thoughtful, and be reverent, for this is the House of the Lord. Before the service, speak to the Lord. During the service, let the Lord speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.

- ❖ Centering Chorus #140 Refrain
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

❖ Call to Worship

Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift, that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.

We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.

Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept that new life is not just possible but given as a free gift of grace.

We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.

Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has always rested on grace.

We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.

Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by day.

We gather as people guided by the promise of new

life, a promise fulfilled by Christ, whose path we follow. †

- ❖ Opening Hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #297

❖ Opening Prayer (in unison)

Infinite Love, heart of all life, you loved this word into being with such love as to birth yourself among us, Love begotten as the Beloved. Your presence does not separate but unites; love does not push away, but embraces; you do not condemn, but save. Trusting this, we know we are loved, never rejected. Thanks be to God! Amen. †

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Gloria Patri

#70

Choir Anthem

Children's Moment

Pastor Sara

Sung Prayer of Illumination

Refrain (x2) #601

"Thy Word Is a Lamp"

New Testament Lesson

Romans 4:1 - 5, 13 - 17

#979

❖ Gospel Lesson

John 3:1 - 17

#924

Message

Pastor Sara J. Wrona

"Chasing the Promise"

❖ Hymn

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

#301

Prayer of Confession (in Unison)

Merciful God, we come before you acknowledging our faults and our failures. We seek the world's approval rather than yours. We turn away from those in need and those who live on the edges of society. We forget the plight of those who are marginalized. We remain quiet when we should speak up and speak out. We separate ourselves from those whom we deem not worthy of our attention.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

TODAY, Sunday, March 1, Second Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM -Sunday School

10:00 AM -Worship Service

Mission Journey meeting after worship

WORSHIP LEADER: *Elaine Brenneman*

GREETERS: *Dianne LeSueur*

USHERS: *Don & Brentta Sheaffer*

MONDAY, March 2

6:00 PM -VBS Planning Meeting in overflow area

6:45 PM -Choir Practice

TUESDAY, March 3

6:00 PM -Lenten Study

7:00 PM -Women's Prayer Group (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, March 4

6:00 PM -Trustee's Meeting

THURSDAY, March 5

1:30 PM -Witness Meeting in the Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, March 6

11:45 AM Lenten Lunch at Cross Roads - Deacon Amy Santoriello speaking

SATURDAY, March 7 - Turn clocks ahead one hour!

SUNDAY, March 8, Third Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM -Sunday School

10:00 AM -Worship Service

Mission Journey meeting after worship

WORSHIP LEADER: *Gloria Womer*

GREETER: *Pam McGranor*

USHERS: *Leslie Buckingham & Chris VanDervort*

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**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**Wednesday, March 11 Finance/Council Mtg**

**6 p.m.**

## First United Methodist Church, Leechburg Prayer List

"...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place."

2 Chronicles 7:14 - 15

**Please be in prayer for Family and Friends:**

Alex Anto, Bryan, Larry Blankenship, Katie Brayshaw, Jodie Britner, Ray Bryan, Camdyn, Dee Coleman, Dan, Lana Daugherty, Pat Daugherty, Bob Davis (Pr. Sara's stepdad), Emily, Esther, Richard & Marilyn Harmon, Debbie Hill, Theresa Hunter, Ruth Hyer, Phyllis Lamison, Gil Lazarotti Beth Learn, Dianne LeSueur, Alexis Martin, Colleen Morrill, Duncan Morrill, Niko and family, Rachel, Linda Sarver, Sam Sheaffer, Rose Sklar, Peggie Trapolsi, Victoria Taylor, Gail Varine, Chloe Womer, Katy Wrona, and the families of Ronald Anderson & Nancy Morrill.

**Our Homebound Members:**

Margie Anto, Norma Ewing, Dolores Hepburn, Betty Hunter, Polly Lambing, Lois Learn, Rodger & Gina Morrill, Carol Parsons, Stan & Sally Peppler, Grace Pettner, Myrtle Prunty, Dave Sherbondy, Bob & Vange Stewart, Dick & Dee Waugaman, Helen Weaver.

**Any changes please let Pam know in the office.**

Our Church Leadership

Greensburg/Pittsburgh District Superintendent Rev. Paul Ritchey

Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball  
& the WPAUMC Appointive Cabinet

WPAUMC Conference Staff

UMC Council of Bishops

The Church Universal

Our Nation

The People of the Ukraine

Church Missionaries & Agencies throughout the World

Those Who Are Marginalized throughout the World

The Middle East

All those impacted by the storms

### LENTEN OFFERING BOXES

This year we have Lenten coin boxes for collecting your Lenten offering. Your donations help fund our campership program to send children and youth to one of our church camps. We will be collecting these until Palm Sunday.

### CROCKPOT MINISTRY

The Crockpot Ministry is beginning again in March. The dates are: March 11, 18, and 25. Please sign up if you can help.

### PLASTIC BAGS NEEDED

The Leechburg Food Bank is asking for used plastic bags for their food distribution. They use 300 bags every time they pack monthly. Please bring them in and put them in the overflow area. Thanks for your help!

### SPECIAL OFFERING

The first Sunday of each month (through June) we will collect a special offering for Rise Against Hunger. This year the event will be held here at LFUMC in September. More details to follow.

### BISHOP'S VISIT & LUNCH

Due to the Bishop coming to worship with us on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be having Communion on this day instead of March 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, we will be having a luncheon after worship. Please use the sign-up sheet if you can attend. Thank you!

### LENTEN LUNCHESES

Here is the schedule for the Lenten lunches beginning at 11:45 a.m. at Cross Roads Church

March 6, Deacon Amy Santoriello, Hebron

March 13, Dr. Sandy McKee, LFUMC

March 20, Pastor Jim Arter, FELC

March 27, Pastor Wayne Gillespie, Forks-Zion

### LENTEN STUDY 2026

This will be a six-week study on Tuesdays at 6:00 P.M. continuing on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Messy Church will resume Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. The sign-up sheet is now available in the vestibule.

### WPAUMC 2026 DISTRICT RESTRUCTURING

The District Structure Task Force was convened to assist the Annual Conference in discerning how best to realign district boundaries and leadership structures in response to changing missional realities, clergy deployment needs, and the faithful stewardship of people and resources. Guided by the Bishop's vision and in consultation with the Cabinet and Conference leadership, the task force has focused on **recommending a reduction from ten districts to four supervisory areas**; developing district leadership models that emphasize mission, flexibility, and strong lay involvement; and identifying ways to promote greater consistency in required processes across districts, particularly those related to clergy formation and support.

This work remains in progress. The task force continues to listen carefully to feedback from clergy and laity across the Conference and to evaluate the proposed plans as they are refined. For more information, please see the conference webpage directly related to the district restructuring: [wpaumc/2026-district-restructuring](http://wpaumc/2026-district-restructuring).

Throughout this process, the task force has prioritized transparency, equity, and clear communication, with the goal of strengthening connectional ministry and positioning the Conference for faithful and effective leadership in the years ahead.

## CANCELLATIONS

If there should be a need to cancel services due to weather conditions, etc. or any evening events during the week, please tune into KDKA (Channel 2), or WPXI (Channel 11).



We have an ongoing fundraiser through Pizza Hut in Lower Burrell. On the last Tuesday of each month, the next date is **March 31**, we are asking that you help support us by either dining in or doing carry-out at the Lower Burrell Pizza Hut. We receive 20% of the net sales for everyone that presents a coupon that night. Everyone has to eat supper so why not support your church while feeding your family. **Coupons are in the vestibule!**



**COMMUNITIES OF TRANSFORMATION AWARENESS WALK  
JUNE 13, 2026  
ROARING RUN**

**ONLINE GIVING QR CODE**

