

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parkersburg, West Virginia

April 26, 2026



A Celebration of the 4th Sunday of Easter

The United Methodist Church has a new vision statement: The UM Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections. Our mission remains *“To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”*.

+Please stand, as able. *Congregational responses are in bold print.*

Welcome/Announcements

Karen Whitacre

Centering Words Proclamation

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from
death into life.

Shepherd us, O God, beyond our wants, beyond our fears, from
death into life.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Prelude *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. Forrest

Call to Worship

Liturgist, Jonnie Camp
Refrain TFWS No. 2058

Refrain

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Refrain

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Refrain

Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Refrain

You have set me a banquet of love
in the face of hatred,
anointing me with love beyond my power to hold.

Refrain

Surely your kindness and mercy
follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Refrain

+Opening Hymn

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

No. 334

Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Refrain

Lesson from the Epistle

Peter 2:19-25

Children’s Time with the Pastor

Choral Anthem

The Lord is My Shepherd by Rutter

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For Thou art with me: Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me. Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full. But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Gospel Lesson

John 10:1-10

Sermon

What Abundant Life Offers

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- Monday Latrobe St. Mission Dinner, prep in the kitchen,
2:30 pm, serve at the Mission, 6 pm
(Circles Dinner/Meeting, F. Hall, 6 pm)
- Wednesday (Girl Scouts, 5-7 pm)
ZOOM Disciple Study, 7 pm
- Thursday Handbell Choir Practice, 6 pm
Sanctuary Choir Practice, 7 pm
- Friday (AA Meeting, F. Hall, 7-9 pm)
- Saturday Women's ZOOM Meeting, 8 am
CHURCH CLEANING DAY, 9 am
- Sunday **Sunday School**, upstairs, 9:15 am



The Latrobe St. Mission Dinner is tomorrow. The list of things that we are still in need of for preparation is on the bulletin board near the elevator. There is also a sign-up sheet for helping with the prep in the kitchen and serving at the Mission.



SATURDAY MAY 2 9 am
We will be working on cleaning & decluttering the rooms upstairs. Please come out to help!

COMING UP MAY 14 11:30 am
Tips on Hiring Contractors and Handymen!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED *no later than noon, Thursday, May 7th*

For more info, flyers are on the entrance tables.



There is a white laundry basket in the sanctuary for collecting the following items for **FAITH LINK** (A Volunteer Caregiving Program) for their Senior Hygiene Drive, now **through May 1**:
Soap (bar or liquid) Shampoo Hand Soap
Toothbrush Deodorant Lotion
Nail Clippers Other items not listed
LAST WEEK TO BRING ITEMS



The flowers in the sanctuary today are in memory of Denise Stone, Dawn Sundquist's sister and Jimmy's aunt. She passed away unexpectedly on April 17 at home.

Short Encouraging Bible Verses

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous."
2. Psalm 23:4 - "I will fear no evil."
3. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things."
4. Matthew 11:28 - "I will give you rest."
5. Psalm 34:17 - "He delivers them from all their troubles."

Website: firstumcparkersburg.org

Phone 304.428.0111

Office Hours

Tuesday thru Thursday-9 am to 4 pm

Friday-9 am to noon

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alicia Randolph Rapping (cell# 1.304.677.9376)

Administrative Assistant: Cindy Lucas

Financial Secretary: Rebecca Crooks

Director of Music/Organist/Pianist/Handbell & Choir Director:

Jimmy Sundquist

Custodian: Rob Bauer

Volunteer Staff: Deborah Shaffer, Certified Lay Minister

Those Serving Us Today

Liturgist: Jonnie Camp Acolyte: Allison Poole

Greeters/Ushers: Ed & Alease Goe

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parkersburg, WV

Rev. Dr. Alicia Randolph Rapping, Pastor

April 26, 2026



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE!

AMERICA

ISRAEL/PALESTINE

UKRAINE

Ada Franklin

Amanda Rubenstein

Andy Cordonier

Barrie Daniels

Carol Power

Cecil (Dina's brother)

Charlie & Marilyn Casto

David Hennen

David Taliaferro

Deborah Shaffer

Dina Andrews

Douglas Mitchell

First UMC

Gary Parsons

Jan Davis

Jaxson Harvey

Jim Rich

Karen Gorrell

Lee Carrico

Lisa Doyle Parsons

Logan Memorial UMC

Margaret Stemple

Marie Butler

Matt Taliaferro

Mike Brannock

Nathan Corathers/family

Pam Corathers

Rachel Long

Scot Harper

Sharon Hennen

Teresa Wade

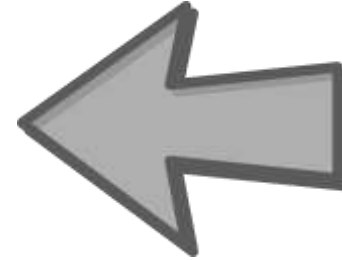
Tish Oney

Prayer Candles—Lighting candles is a devotional practice in which many millions of Christians the world over have found inspiration. Everyone is encouraged to light a candle and offer a prayer as we gather for worship. The candle will not be a substitute for the prayer of your heart, but an accompaniment. They are located to the left of the pulpit.



GERANIUMS FOR MOTHERS DAY

Flowers may once again be purchased for Mother's Day in honor or memory of mothers and those special women who have been a part of your life. They are \$5 each. They may be picked up following the service on May 10. Again, any flowers that are left will be planted around the church. Please complete the order form below and submit to the church office by **May 5**. **MONEY IS DUE WHEN ORDER IS PLACED.** Make check payable to FUMC with "Geraniums" on the *For* line.



INSERT

_____ Number of geraniums you want to
order (\$5 each)

MY NAME

IN HONOR of:

and/or

IN MEMORY of:

