

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parkersburg, West Virginia
10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026



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

Prelude Op. 68 No. 41 Schumann
Bryar Greene

+Call to Worship Liturgist, Barbara Knopp
As we gather and as we disperse, as we rise and as we sleep, as we eat and play and work,

We offer God praise.

As we wash our car, scrub the dishes, rinse the grime of the day from our hands,

We offer God praise.

As we feel the tips of the grass on our feet, the wind against our face, the sun on our backs,

We offer God praise.

Come, let us worship God who creates, redeems, and sustains us to live out our praise in all we do!

We come as people formed by grace to offer God praise with our whole selves now and in all the ordinary moments of our lives! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026

+Opening Hymn A Mighty Fortress Is Our God No. 110

Opening Prayer

Pastor Shari

Scripture Reading

Psalms 145:8-9, 14-21

Special Music

In the Garden

arr. Mier

Sermon

Pastor Shari

Sermon Text

Psalms 139:7-9; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 23:4

Psalm 16:11; Matthew 28:20

Holy Communion

Page 12

Prayer

+Hymn

Break Thou the Bread of Life

No. 599

Offering & Offertory

Be Still, My Soul

+The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

+Prayer of Thanksgiving & Blessing of our Gifts

+Closing Hymn

Come, Thou Almighty King

No. 61

Blessing/Benediction

Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

arr. Bober

(Please be seated during this time of personal reflection.)



We want to thank our guest musician this morning, Bryar Greene, for sharing his musical talent with us. Bryar's grandparents are members of First Church, Jim & Joanne Greene.

RECEPTION LUNCHEON to welcome Pastor Shari and family is right after the Worship Service downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

VISITORS: PLEASE FILL OUT A VISITOR CARD AND DROP IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE. THEY ARE LOCATED ON THE BACK OF THE PEWS. THANK YOU AND WELCOME!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST 9

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (UMH 828)
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Attendance last week 36

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today **Welcome Luncheon for Pastor Shari, after worship, F. Hall**
Monday (District interviews, parlor, all day)
(Circles Dinner/Meeting, F. Hall, 5:30 pm)
Friday (AA Meeting, F. Hall, 7-9 pm)
Saturday (LE Council Meeting, F. Hall, 5 pm)
Sunday Sunday School, upstairs, 9:15 am



The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by Charlie & Marilyn Casto in honor of their 61st wedding anniversary on August 7.

BLESSED ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO
Charlie & Marilyn Casto August 7

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

Congregational Giving for 07-26-26	\$ 2,234
Congregational Giving Y-T-D	\$ 113,453
Actual expenses Y-T-D	\$ 107,449
Other gifts: Parkersburg Urban Ministries \$550; Music Dept. \$85; Church Utilities \$10	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO James Greene Aug. 7
Judy Crichton Aug. 8

**How cool is it
that the same God
who created mountains
and oceans and galaxies
thought the world
needed one of you, too?**



our website: <https://www.firstumcparkersburg.org>

Phone 304.428.0111

Office Hours

Tuesday thru Thursday-9 am to 4 pm

Friday-9 am to noon

Church Staff

Pastor: Shari Dawn Stilgenbauer (cell #304.210.6380)

email: pastorsharidawn@gmail.com

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: Barbara Knopp Acolyte: Allison Poole

Greeters/Ushers: Bob & Sarabeth Harris

Communion Stewards: Cindy Lucas & Barbara Knopp

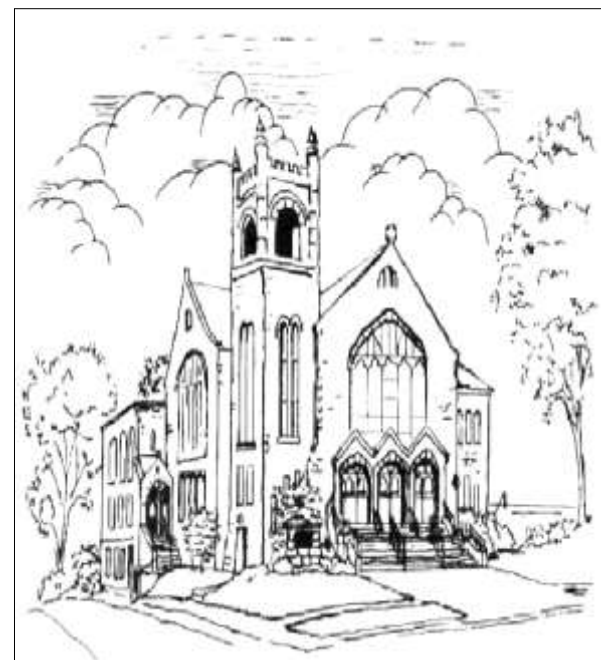
Communion Coordinator: Bev Brannock

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Shari Stilgenbauer

Parkersburg, WV

August 2, 2026



OPEN
HEARTS

OPEN
MINDS

OPEN
DOORS

Prayer Needs

AMERICA

FIRST UMC

IN THE INTEREST OF KEEPING THE PRAYER LIST **CURRENT**, I HAVE REMOVED SOME NAMES THAT I DO NOT KNOW THE STATUS OF THE PERSON. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO LET ME KNOW IF ANY NAMES NEED TO BE ADDED BACK THAT ARE NO LONGER ON THE LIST. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP. Cindy

Carol Power

Charlie & Marilyn Casto

Cindy & Ron Ferrell

Connie Twyman

David Taliaferro

Jan Davis

Karen Gorrell

Lee Carrico

Logan UMC

Margaret Stemple

Mike Brannock

Nathan Corathers/family

Pam Corathers

Scot Harper

Sharon Hennen

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.

