

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parkersburg, West Virginia September 13, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost



The United Methodist Church's vision statement is: 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

Holy, Holy, Holy

arr. Helvey

+Call to Worship

Liturgist, Dawn Sundquist

Psalm 103: 8-13

103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

103:9 He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

103:10 He does not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to our iniquities.

103:11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

103:12 as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

103:13 As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

+Opening Hymn

When in Our Music God is Glorified

No. 68

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

Choral Anthem

First UMC Sanctuary Choir

Now Let Us All Praise God

by Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; that we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia! All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever. Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever. Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; that we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia!

Sermon Text

Romans 14:1-12

Sermon

Pastor Shari

Prayer

+Hymn

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

No. 390

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Redeemed

arr. McDonald

+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

+Closing Hymn

We Are Called

TFWS 2172

Blessing/Benediction

Postlude

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Kim

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

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!



We are blessed to have
the choir back with us
this morning.



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 20

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45, or Psalm 78 (UMH 799)

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

Attendance last week 32

Online 7

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday (Circles Dinner/Meeting, F. Hall, 5:30 pm)

Wednesday (Girl Scouts, old Youth Room, 5-7 pm)

Thursday Handbell Choir Practice, 6 pm
Choir Practice, 7 pm

Friday (AA Meeting, F. Hall, 7-9 pm)

Saturday (Organ Workshop, noon)
(Lived/Exper. Council Meeting, F. Hall, 5 pm)

Sunday Sunday School, upstairs, 9:15 am

ITEMS THAT ARE IN () ARE NOT CHURCH EVENTS; THEY ARE FOR
GROUPS USING OUR FACILITY.

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

Congregational Giving for 09-06-26 \$ 3,342

Congregational Giving Y-T-D \$130,665

Actual expenses Y-T-D \$130,313

Other gifts: Upper Room \$20

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Ty Ellenwood Sept. 19

LATROBE ST. MISSION DINNER

The list for the Latrobe St. Mission dinner, which is on September 28, is now up on the bulletin board. You have lots of choices for helping donate the various items that are needed. As always, volunteers are needed for prep, serving at the Mission, and clean-up. Thanks in advance.

SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING STOUT MEMORIAL UMC

Saturday, Sept. 19 10 am-1 pm Stout UMC, 3329 Broad St.
(Light refreshments provided)

This three-hour Safe Sanctuaries training helps you create a Safe Sanctuaries policy for your church and equips you to teach volunteers in your local setting. The training covers: why policies are essential, screening staff and volunteers, supervision, cyber safety, and responding to and reporting abuse. After completing this training, you will receive a certificate of completion and resources to help you craft your local church policy and additional training. This in-person training teaches you how to write a Safe Sanctuary Policy for your local church and enables you to teach the material in your local setting. A simplified training for volunteers (covering supervision, screening, and mandatory reporting) can be found on the Conference's online learning platform, Portico at <https://wvumc.myabsorb.com/#/login>

All materials will be provided for this training. If your church has a current Safe Sanctuaries policy, please bring a copy. For a current copy of the West Virginia Conference Safe Sanctuaries policy, please visit <https://www.wvumc.org/safe-sanctuaries>. Support and training (both in-person and online) are possible because of your fair share giving. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Questions? email Shea James at sjames@wvumc.org

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: Dawn Sundquist Acolyte: Allison Poole

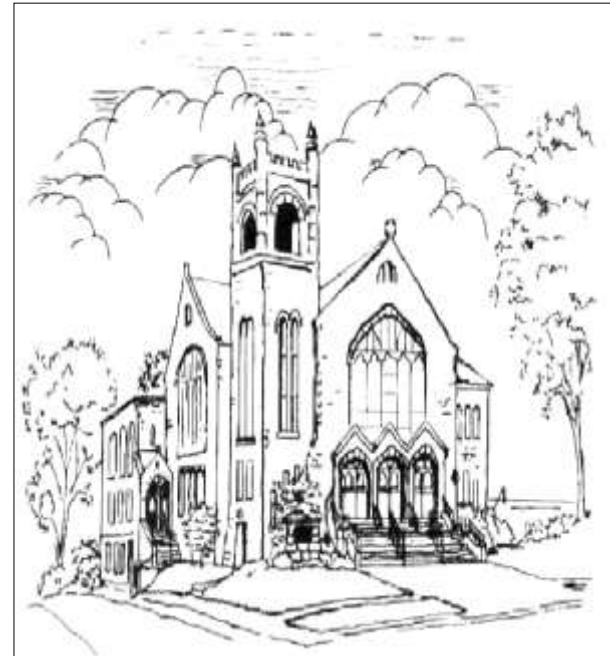
Greeters/Ushers: Julia Lee & Janet Ray

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Shari Stilgenbauer

Parkersburg, WV

September 13, 2026



OPEN
HEARTS

OPEN
MINDS

OPEN
DOORS

Prayer Needs

AMERICA

FIRST UMC

IN THE INTEREST OF KEEPING THE PRAYER LIST **CURRENT**, please let Cindy know of any changes or additions that need to be made. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

Carol Power	Jennifer Powers	Mike Brannock
Charlie & Marilyn Casto	Karen Gorrell	Nathan Corathers/family
Cierra Hammond	Larry Clinton	Pam Corathers
Cindy & Ron Ferrell	Lee Carrico	Phyllis Kidder
Connie Twyman	Logan UMC	Scot Harper
David Taliaferro	Margaret Stemple	Sharon Hennen
Jan Davis		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.

