

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parkersburg, West Virginia September 27, 2026

18th 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

Bourrée

by Bach

Ashley Clark, violin

+Call to Worship- Psalm 78: 1-4

Liturgist, Deborah Shaffer

¹Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

²**I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,**

³things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

⁴**We will not hide them from their children;**

we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and his might

and the wonders that he has done.

+Opening Hymn

Take Up Thy Cross

No. 415

Opening Prayer

Holy God, thank you for another beautiful day to worship you. Forgive us when we fail to see you and look for our own way. Help us to be more aware of your love and presence in our lives, forgive us. Open our hearts and minds to your message for us this day and help us to apply it to life so that we can bring you

honor and glory. Through Christ our Lord we ask these things, Amen.

Scripture Reading

Acts 3:1-10

Choral Anthem

My God, My Heaven, My All arr. Shackley

When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies, I'll bid farewell to every fear, and wipe my weeping eyes. And wipe my weeping eyes, and wipe my weeping eyes; I'll bid farewell to every fear, and wipe my weeping eyes. Should earth against my soul engage and fiery darts be hurled, then I can smile at Satan's rage and face a frowning world. And face a frowning world, and face a frowning world; then I can smile at Satan's rage and face a frowning world. Let cares like a wild deluge come, and storms of sorrow fall! May I but safely reach my home, my God, my heaven, my all. My God, my heaven, my all, my God, my heaven, my all; may I but safely reach my home, my God, my heaven, my all. There shall I bathe my weary soul in seas of heavenly rest, and not a wave of trouble roll across my peaceful breast. And not a wave of trouble roll across my peaceful breast. Amen!

Sermon Text

Philippians 2:1-13

Sermon

Pastor Shari

Prayer

+Hymn

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

See insert

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Raney

+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 *They'll Know We are Christians* TFSW 2223

Blessing/Benediction

Postlude *Country Dance* by Weber
(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!**

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER 4

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 (UMH 750)
Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

Congregational Giving for 09-20-26	\$ 13,701
Congregational Giving Y-T-D	\$146,237
Actual expenses Y-T-D	\$136,504
Other gifts: Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$400
Latrobe St. Mission meals	\$ 30

Attendance	Last Week	32	Online	6
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LATROBE ST. MISSION DINNER

It appears that all items have been taken for providing the items needed to prepare tomorrow's meal at the Mission. YAY! But you can still sign up for helping with food prep or serving at the Mission, which is needed.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday	Latrobe St. Mission dinner, prep in kitchen, 2 pm, serve at Mission, 5:45 pm (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)
Sunday	Sunday School, upstairs, 9:15 am

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Anne and Eric Poole	Sept. 28
Larry & Charlotte Clinton	Sept. 30

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.



Now mine eyes shall be
open, and mine ears attent
unto the prayer that is made in
this place.

2 Chronicles 7:15

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: Deborah Shaffer Acolyte: Allison Poole

Greeters/Ushers: Julia Lee & Janet Ray

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.

Bonnie Curry & family

Carol Power

Charlie & Marilyn Casto

Cierra Hammond

Cindy & Ron Ferrell

Connie Twyman

David Taliaferro

Drue Farmer

Jan Davis

Jennifer Powers

Karen Gorrell

Larry Clinton

Lee Carrico

Logan UMC

Margaret Stemple

Mark Gaston

Mike Brannock

Nathan Corathers/family

Pam Corathers

Phyllis Kidder

Scot Harper

Sharon Hennen

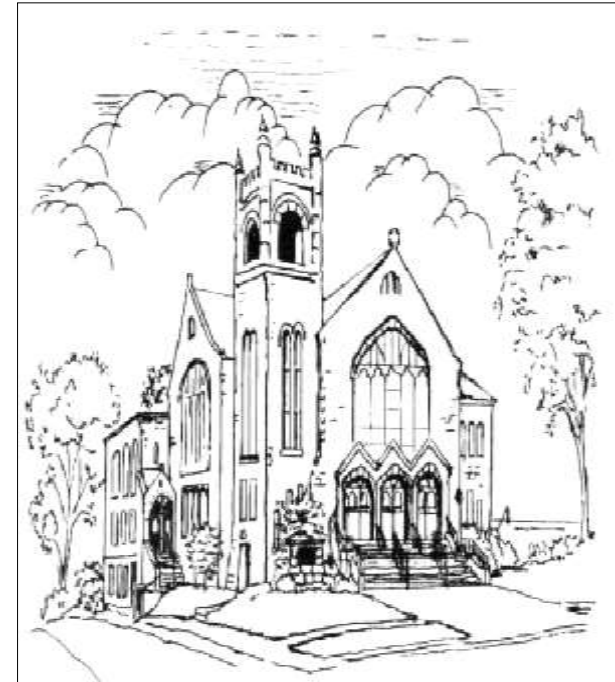
Tish Oney

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Shari Stilgenbauer

Parkersburg, WV

September 27, 2026



OPEN
HEARTS

OPEN
MINDS

OPEN
DOORS

