FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parkersburg, West Virginia October 25, 2026
22th 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 *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Krug
First UMC Handbell Choir

+Call to Worship Liturgist, Lisa Parsons
Psalm 90
Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

+Opening Hymn *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* No. 584

Opening Prayer
Happy are we, O God, when our hearts are full, our ways are yours, our spirits enlivened by your call. Happy are we, O God, when our lives are guided by delight. We gather here today for just that, holy God. We gather to draw on all you would give us to be more fully yours. In Jesus' name. Amen.
(Written by Rev. Kaji S. Douša and posted on the Worship Ways website of the United Church of Christ at https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/ pentecost_21 _ october_25/)

Scripture Reading Acts 10:44-48

Choral Anthem *All Will Be Well* arr. Shackley
Through the love of God, our Savior, all will be well. Free and changeless is His favor; all will be well. Precious is the blood that healed us. Perfect is the grace that sealed us. Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us; all must be well. Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well. Ours is such a full salvation; all, all is well. Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding, holy through the Spirit's guiding; all must be well. We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well. Faith can sing through days of sorrow, All, all is well. On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying, in our living, in our dying, all will be well.

Sermon Text Matthew 22:34-46

Sermon Pastor Shari

Prayer

+Hymn *Love the Lord Your God* TFWS 2168

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Down in the River to Pray* arr. Hayes

+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 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* No. 557

Blessing/Benediction

Postlude *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* arr. Shackley
(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!**



This is the last Sunday in **Undie Sunday MONTH**. You can still bring items thru the end of the month (new socks, underwear, long johns, t-shirts, diapers, etc.) for distribution to the clothing closets of our Conference mission projects.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 1

Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 (UMH 830)
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12

ALL SAINTS DAY SCRIPTURE

Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 (UMH 769)
1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

Congregational Giving for 10-18-26		$ 2,203
Congregational Giving Y-T-D		$163,682
Actual expenses Y-T-D		$155,499
Other gifts: Pastor's Discretionary Fund	$50	
Latrobe St. Mission meals	$30	
Church utilities	$50	
Apportionments	$100	

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday	LATROBE ST. MISSION DINNER, prep, kitchen 2 pm, serve at the Mission, 5:45 pm
	(Circles Dinner/Meeting, F. Hall, 5:30 pm)
Tuesday	**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**, Assb. Rm., 4 pm
	(Pkbg. Choral Society Dress Rehearsal, Sanc., 6:30-9:30 pm)
Wednesday	(Girl Scouts, old Youth Room, 5-7 pm)
Thursday	Choir Practice, 7 pm
Friday	(Wedding Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 5 pm)
	(AA Meeting, F. Hall, 7-9 pm)
Saturday	**Alexa Barker/Braden Hubler Wedding**, 12 noon, Reception following in F. Hall – your Invitation is in your October newsletter, RSVP to 304.440.0243

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



LATROBE ST. MISSION DINNER TOMORROW – see the list on the bulletin board to sign up for helping with items needed and/or to sign up for prep here in the kitchen and /or serving at the Mission.

The dish towels seem to be disappearing from the kitchen. We have very few now. In case you took some home to wash them and forgot to bring them back, please check at home and return them. Thank you.

We had a record number of requests this week from people needing assistance with utility bills. Most had shut-off notices. Please keep in mind how fast the money contributed to the PDF account is depleted. There are many families in need. Thank you for your generous assistance.



DON'T FORGET. THIS IS NEXT SUNDAY.

Attendance last week 37 Online 7



PARKERSBURG CHORAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL CONCERT

NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1 3 pm

HERE AT FIRST CHURCH

ALL ARE INVITED.



We were saddened to hear the news from Mark Gaston's sister, Brooke, that Mark passed away at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown in the early morning hours of October 22. Mark will be greatly missed. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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.*

Next Sunday is ALL SAINTS SUNDAY. We will be remembering those church members who have passed on since last November. We will also recognize friends and family we have lost. Please submit names and pictures of those you would like honored by calling, emailing, or texting me in the office for inclusion by Wednesday of this week. I've already included Gary Parsons and Mark Gaston. Thank you. Cindy

---

When someone you love becomes a memory, The memory becomes a treasure.



Phone 304.428.0111
our website: https://www.firstumcparkersburg.org

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: Lisa Parsons Acolyte: Allison Poole
Greeters/Ushers: Joan McDonald & Julie Wojcik

Prayer Needs AMERICA FIRST UMC

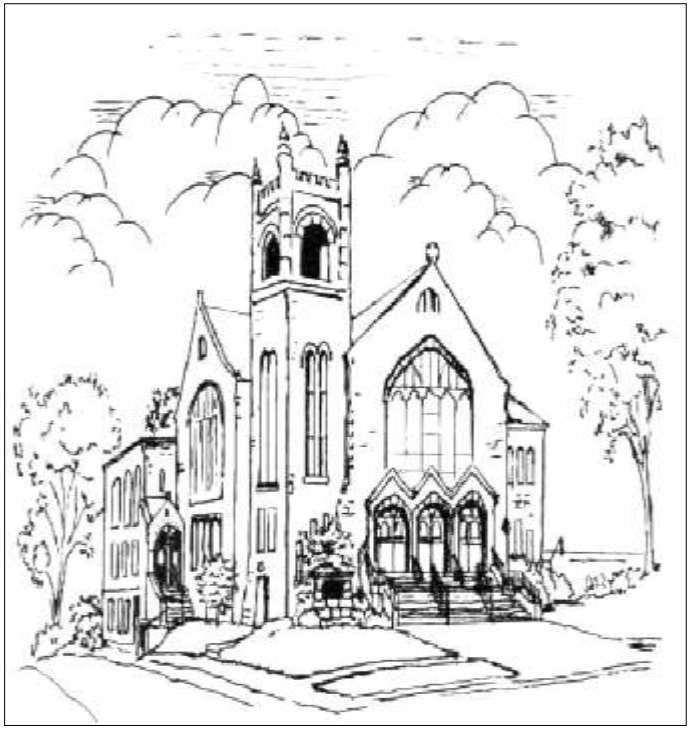
IN THE INTEREST OF KEEPING THE PRAYER LIST **CURRENT, please** let Cindy know of any changes or additions that need to be made. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

Carol Power
Charlie & Marilyn Casto
Cierra Hammond
Cindy & Ron Ferrell
Connie Twyman
David Taliaferro
Drue Farmer
Jan Davis
John Hathaway
Karen Gorrell
Larry Clinton
Lee Carrico
Margaret Stemple
Maria Hamlin
Mark Gaston family
Mike Brannock
Nathan Corathers/family
Pam Corathers
Raymond Myers
Scot Harper
Sharon Hennen
Tish Oney

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Shari Stilgenbauer

Parkersburg, WV
October 25, 2026



OPEN HEARTS OPEN MINDS OPEN DOORS

LIGHTHOUSE Congregation
West Virginia Conference The United Methodist Church