



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-6858

www.irwinfirstumc.org

irwinfirstumc@comcast.net

Like us on Facebook

Rev. Bruce R. Judy, Pastor - 724-747-6098 (call or text)

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

Ronald Slavin – Youth Pastor

Laura Willby – Contemporary Music Coordinator

April 11, 2021

Holy Humor Sunday

April Memory Verse – Philippians 4:13

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

The service is under the control of the Holy Spirit.

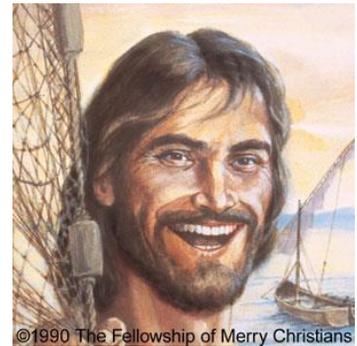
GATHERING & WELCOME



OPENING PRAYER “Prayer to the God of Laughter”

Lord of laughter, open our eyes to see through the absurdities of this brazen century and to confront them with good humor rather than faithless despair. Help us to smile while the wealthy worry or the politicians strut and dissemble. Give us the grace to chuckle at technological vain-glory or the self-praise of the entertainment industry. When ignorance poses as dogmatic, scientific wisdom, or the devil’s slaves pretend to be angels of light, enable us to laugh heartily with the faith and daring that is born of your Easter victory.

Lord of laughter, when we take ourselves too seriously, laugh at us until we come to our senses. For your love’s sake; Amen



***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

MUSIC OF PREPARATION “With Great Joy” - Cathedral Bells

***CALL TO LAUGHTER**

L: Sing a new song!

P: A joyful melody of springtime glory and rebirth.

L: Sing praises to our Still-Laughing Easter God.

P: Who has rolled away the bindings of yesterday.

L: Immerse your anxiety and despair in the fountain of new birth.

P: We place our visions and hopes on the table of wine and wheat.

L: For God has taken ordinary things.

P: And made them extraordinary.

***HYMN “Take Time to Be Funny” (Holy Humor Hymn), v. 1 & 3**

1. Take time to be funny, rejoice in the Lord
Let laughter explode and have fun with God’s Word
For laughter is healing, gives strength to the weak
God loves to see smiles, they lift up the meek.
3. For humor is holy, it sanctifies life,
Replenishes hope and oft softens advice
It undercuts sorrow, deflates haughty pride
So smile and hang on, rejoice in life’s ride.



WORD OF GOD Acts 54:32-35

The Believers Share Their Possessions

³²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.



**PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERING
OFFERTORY “We Will Dance”**

DOXOLOGY No. 2026 (TFWS) “Halle, Halle, Halleluja!”

Halle, Halle, Halleluja! (3 times)
Halleluja! Halleluja!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

***HYMN “Down in My Heart”, v. 1 & 3**

1. I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart (3x)
I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart
down in my heart to stay.

Refrain:

And I’m so happy, so very happy, I’ve got the love of Jesus in my heart,
and I’m so happy, so very happy, I’ve got the love of Jesus in my heart.

2. I have the love of Jesus, Love of Jesus, down in my heart (3x)
I have the love of Jesus, Love of Jesus, down in my heart,
down in my heart to stay.

Refrain:



SPECIAL MUSIC “A Place in the Choir”

<https://youtu.be/sTKJUx18TL4>

Chancel Choir, SonShiners, and Congregation

CONFESSION AND CREED

L: We believe in God, who made us in His image.

P: We live, we love, we laugh, because we are like Him.

L: We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.

P: He had the last laugh on the devil when He rose from the dead.

L: We believe in the Holy Spirit, coequal and coeternal with the Father and the Son.

P: Our counselor, our guide, our motivator - He is our joy!

L: Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too seriously, when we don't claim the happiness that is rightfully ours as your children, when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world.

All: Restore to us the joy of our salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

For our joys we say: "Praise the Lord."

For our concerns we say: "Lord, hear our prayers."

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN



SERMON SCRIPTURE 1 John 1:1-10

The Incarnation of the Word of Life

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ²The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete.

Light and Darkness, Sin and Forgiveness

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

L: The Word of God for the children of God.

P: Thanks be to God

SERMON

***HYMN "Rejoice in the Lord Always"**

Chorus

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say, rejoice!



*BENEDICTION

"Let us develop cheerful hearts that will be able to cheer others.
The peace of Christ be upon you; the joy of Christ be within you, and the love of Christ be among you."

***MUSIC OF PARTING "Sunshine and Joy Medley"**

(Please allow the ushers to direct you as you leave the sanctuary.)

***Please stand if you are able.**

ASSISTING WITH TODAY'S SERVICE

Worship Host – Robbyn Slavin

Song Leader – David Lyons

ALTAR FLOWERS: The Altar flowers this morning are presented by Nellie Wiancko in honor of her birthday.
Happy Birthday, Nellie!

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Feel free to contact Pastor Bruce at any time if you are in need of a pastoral visit.

724-747-6098 (call or text) or email at preacherptl@gmail.com

Sunday, Sunday, April 11

Holy Humor Sunday

8:15 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM)

9:30 Harvesters Adult Class,
Prayer Shawl Group, BYKOTA

9:30 Toddler – 5th Grade Sunday School
(see announcement)

10:45 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM) Facebook, YouTube, and
Zoom (Meeting ID# 633 303 454 Password
104289)

Monday, April 12

6:30 Cub Scouts
6:30 Grief Support

Tuesday, April 13

7:00 Trustees
7:30 NA

Wednesday, April 14

9:30 Salvation Army
10:00 QC Meeting
10:00 Prayer Group Meeting
(Zoom Meeting ID#311 4389 930, Password 3U22u3)
1:00 Bible Study
(Meeting ID: 89493128220, Passcode 104289)
5:00 Youth Center
7:00 AA

Thursday, April 15

6:00 Girl Scouts
6:15 C Bells
6:30 NA
7:00 Choir

Friday, April 16

6:00 Brown Bag Meal

Saturday, April 17

6:00 PM Contemporary Service with Dinner

Sunday, April 18

8:15 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM)
9:30 Harvesters Adult Class,
Prayer Shawl Group, BYKOTA
9:30 Toddler – 5th Grade Sunday School
(see announcement)
10:45 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM) Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom
(Meeting ID# 633 303 454 Password 104289)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday, April 20 – 7:00 PM – Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 22 – Newsletter Article Deadline

Tuesday, April 27 – 7:00 PM – Church Council Meeting



ANNOUNCEMENTS – 4/11/2021



WENDELL'S VISION: We are hopeful that by May/June we may be able to assist any or all of the requests coming into the church office for vetting. We are looking for the volunteers on our list from the start to confirm their status, as well as, those who would want to become a member of this ministry. We will be starting to look at requests after Easter. If you would like to fill out a request form and turn it into the church office you can do so at any time. Once the requests are vetted, we will begin to schedule visitations to evaluate the requests for assignment

of volunteers. If your need is a burden financially, please make that know on the request. Support is available for those who may qualify. We are currently concentrating on attendees of First Irwin UMC. Some tasks/projects may not be possible due to time frame needed, volunteer experience, weather conditions for outside work, cost prohibited, scope of the task/project, etc. That shouldn't stop you from making a request. We would continue to ensure that all party's will be as safe as possible during the execution of work at your homes. This means you will be responsible for the safety of the volunteers doing the task/project in a productive climate/setting.

If you are scheduled for a visitation for your request, we will explain the logistics of the ministry and come to an agreement to the time frame and financial responsibility of its completion.

Please keep this in prayer and give God the glory!!!

Coordinators, Patty & Jack Osterman

ATTENTION GRADUATES: Any one graduating from High School or College this year please call the office (724-863-6858) or Ethel Rosenberg (724-864-3833.) We would like to know your future plans.

High School Graduates: Where you are graduating from, if you are going to college (what college and your major,) or your employment plans.

College Graduates: Where you are graduating from and your degree, if you are continuing in school, or where you will be employed.

BROWN BAG MEAL: The meals will be handed out every Friday from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM while supplies last. This will continue until further notice.

Monetary donations to help fund this mission are always accepted. Please make your check payable to "FUMC" and put "Community Dinner" in the memo line. If you would like to help with this mission, please contact Robbyn Slavin.



Bible Study
With
Jim Remaley

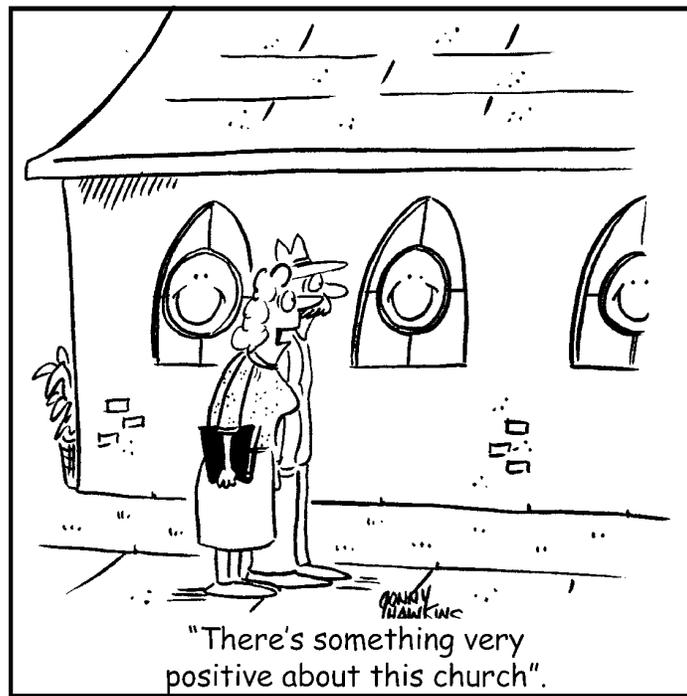


- Starting: Wednesday, April 14th at 7:00 PM
- Where: FUMC, Irwin
- Questions: Please contact Jim
- Cell: 412 445 6288
- Email: jimbo1113@hotmail.com

TODDLER – 5TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL: this age group has not yet returned to in-church Sunday school. Please use the contact information listed to participate in the Zoom classes:
Toddler Zoom Sunday School - 2-4 year old children - please email or call Dawn Capecci 412 651 2503, missdawn25@yahoo.com or Donna Weber 724 864 4954, donnam_weber@yahoo.com for more information and the Zoom instructions.

Preschool - 5th grade Sunday School - 9:30 AM on Zoom. For more information please contact Becky at 412-816-1906.

Please note: Our church Secretary/Receptionist is in the office Monday through Friday until noon. She can be reached at 724-863-6858 or fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net Our church Financial Secretary/Office Manager is in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays. She can be reached at 724-863-8658 or joyce.shaffer@irwinfirstumc.org Please call before coming in to make sure someone is in the office to assist you.



Bible passages are taken from the New International Version (NIV) of the Holy Bible.

Call to Worship is taken from "The United Methodist Hymnal"

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A Place in the Choir Written by: Bill Staines Lyrics © BMG Rights Management, Copyright: © 1978 by Mineral River Music

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Laughing Jesus Clipart

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ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS: Please contact Pastor Bruce or Ron if you have questions.

For computer or smartphone:

Go to Zoom.com Click-Join a meeting
 When prompted enter Meeting ID, then a screen will pop up to enter password.
 (The Meeting ID & Password are noted with the service or meeting)
 You will enter the “meeting space”. If you move your mouse to the bottom of the box,
 it will show you the different options, like chat and video.

For landline or cell phone (Audio only):

Dial 1-646-558-8656. Enter meeting number and follow the prompts. (The Meeting ID & Password are noted with the service or meeting in “This Week at our Church.”)

MICROSOFT TEAMS INSTRUCTIONS:

For laptop or desktop computer, Smart Phone & Tablet: Please follow the instructions on the reminder email that you receive from your committee.

For landline or cell phone (Audio only): Dial 724-936-1197. Enter the Conference ID when prompted. Follow the prompts. Please contact Eric Platt at eric.platt@irwinfirstumc.org or 412-841-7655 if you have questions.



THE SALVATION ARMY UNIT OF IRWIN has its own phone number. If you know anyone in need of our services please have them call 724-331-7832. The office hours for the unit are Wednesday mornings from 9:30 until 11:30.

HOSPITAL CALLS AND VISITS: If you or someone you know is in the hospital or would like a visit from the pastor please call the office or Pastor Bruce. *Remember, Pastor Bruce cannot provide care to our congregation if he doesn't know there is a need.*

Pastor Bruce receives calls or texts at his cell phone number 724-747-6098

******* IN PERSONAL CARE & REHABILITATION FACILITIES *******

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dorothy B. ~ Asbury Heights, Mt. Lebanon | Marge O. ~ The Grove at Irwin |
| Wanda H. ~ Redstone, N. Huntingdon | James R., Sr. ~ St. Anne's Home, Greensburg |
| Doris C. ~ Golden Heights (Harrison City) | LaVerne F. ~ Walden's View |
| Altozoe S. ~ Hempfield Manor | |

Shirley McCune is at Redstone, Greensburg.

******* CONTINUOUS PRAYERS *******

Brent L., Kurt W. & Family, Cheryl & John M., Tim & Diane N., Rick H., Marlin A & Nancy P., Joe S., Joe L., Virginia, Jennifer N., Curt E., Cheryl H., Valerie M., Patty H., Jeff M., Donna H., John B., Joe and Wava, Dean and Dorothy, Chris E., Rose N., Sara C., Jeanne and Larry A., Fred & Barb S., Mischa & Suzanne S., Diane B., Les H., John G., Noah C., Craig C., Red, Dawn, Amy P., Chuck K., Pat M., Jane I., Ashley, Stu S., Shawn S., Christa L., Rhonda, Beverly and Tom D., Laura, Marlin F., Stephanie S., Dave W., Bill & Elaine M., Kim V. Paul & Iva Lou B., Jackie S., Andrea, Lesley K., Debbie N., and Cliff R.

Bob & Natalie F. & Family (Missionaries in India) Connie Wieck (Missionary)

***** THIS MONTHS PRAYERS LIST *****

*We will change the prayer list the first Sunday of each month.
Contact the church office at 724-863-6858 with names for the list.*

Vi, Tom and Peggy, Sandy L., George and Kelly, Paul and Michelle, Neil and Alma, Yvonne I. and family, Janice, Eugene W., Joe K., COVID 19 Concerns, Our world, Medical & Emergency Personnel, First Responders and Military, All Essential Workers, Teachers and Students, Businesses, The Unrest in Our Country, Our Country and Leaders, Pastor Bruce & Bonnie, Ron, Burnetta G., Royce A., Bob, Cindi P., Bill & Elaine M., Kathy, Amy H., Bob N., Bella D., Helena G., and Sandra W., D. White, The Marie Harrison Family, Trish, Bill B., Mary Alice, Susan M., Jesse D., Rolan's Family, The Pierce Family, Mary G., LaVerne F.

***** SERVICE PERSONNEL *****

Brandon D. – Korea Colby S. – Iraq Sara D.
Angelo W. – Oklahoma City Nicholas P. – Schofield Barracks, HI Jeremy L.
David J. – Afghanistan Amanda M. – Texas Carl B.
James G. – Texas Emery M. – Japan Mark Russak Edward J. III

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**April 10, 2021
Holy Humor Saturday**

**April Memory Verse – Philippians 4:13
“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”**

Welcome

Announcements

Memory Verse

Opening Prayer

Worship Music:

*Unstoppable God
Another in The Fire*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns/Prayer

Offering

Worship Music:

*Resurrection Power
Miracles*

Scripture & Message

Closing Songs:

