



TRANSFIGURATION
of the Lord

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-6858

www.irwinfirstumc.org

irwinfirstumc@comcast.net

Rev. David S. Lake – Pastor

Zaq Phillips – Youth Minister

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

February 15, 2015

Transfiguration Sunday – Prayer Shawl Dedication

GATHERING & WELCOME

***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

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

MUSIC OF PREPARATION 8:15 “Blessed Be Your Name”

10:45 “Festive Praise” – Temple Bells

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: God calls us to the mountaintop.

P: God, we come!

L: Christ invites us to the place where the Spirit’s presence is revealed in power and glory.

P: God, we are here!

L: The Spirit offers us a revelation of the Living Lord.

P: As we worship this day, open our eyes to your presence, O God, and transfigure our lives to mirror your own!

L: Amen.

P: Amen!

***UNISON PRAYER**

God, open our eyes to experience your glory. Make us like Peter, James, and John, who left daily life behind as they climbed your mountain to touch the divine. Make us like Elisha, who refused to leave his mentor and teacher Elijah in pursuit of a special blessing. May we, who are gathered here today, be doubly blest by your presence with us, in all your power and glory, on this Transfiguration Sunday. Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 203 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**

Children come forward during the last verse.

DEDICATION OF PRAYER SHAWLS

DEDICATION HYMN No. 143

“On Eagles Wings”

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

(Our Children's Collection this morning will be used for the Prison Outreach Ministry. Please see the announcement for more details.)

ANTHEM 8:15 "Do They See Jesus in Me?"
10:45 "Here Am I, Send Me" – Chancel Choir

RESPONSIVE READING No. 783 Psalm 51

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "In Heaven Above"

***DOXOLOGY No. 87, v.4**

**"These gifts we now bring, these presents, these tokens,
These words can convey it, the joy of this day!
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
This song we now offer in honor and praise!"**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

God of Transformation, we come together as those who have met you on the mountaintop. We have each had our holy encounters with you; and in those moments, we have wanted to stay on the mountain and retreat from the world. We know that is our longing, not yours. So as we offer our gifts this morning in response to your blessings in our life, remind us that our mission begins as we leave this place, and help us hold our memories of those mountaintop encounters with you in our hearts. We pray boldly in Jesus' name. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 453 "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

The Altar is open during the hymn.

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 (NRSV) Mark 9:2-9

SERMON

***HYMN OF PARTING No. 371 "I Stand Amazed in the Presence"**

***BENEDICTION**

***MUSIC OF PARTING "Postlude in B Flat"**

***Those who are able, please stand.**

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Today, Sunday, February 15

Transfiguration Sunday

Prayer Shawl Dedication

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School
9:30 Confirmation Class
10:45 Worship
2:00 FISH & CHIPS
4:00 Temple Bells
4:45 SonShiners

Monday, February 16

7:00 Dartball -H

Tuesday, February 17

9:00 Men's Work Group
5:30 Gym in use
6:15 TOPS
7:00 SPRC
7:30 NA

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday/Lent Begins

11:30 Mid Week Lenten Service
@ United Church of Christ, Main St., Irwin
6:00 Fellowship Night – Simple Supper
7:00 Ash Wednesday Service
7:00 Yoga

Thursday, February 19

5:00 Irwin Chili Cook Off and Wing Thing
6:15 C Bells
7:00 Disciple
7:15 Choir

Friday, February 20

Evening – Scrap-booking in the gym
(See announcement for more details)

Saturday, February 21

Morning – Scrap-booking in the gym
6:00 Alternative Worship

Next Sunday, February 22

7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Newsletter Deadline

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School
9:30 Confirmation Class
10:45 Worship
2:00 FISH & CHIPS
4:00 Temple Bells
4:45 SonShiners

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S COLLECTIONS: Our Children's Collection for the next two weeks will be used for the *Prison Outreach Ministry*. *Prison Outreach Ministry* continues weekly interactive Bible studies in Western Pennsylvania correctional facilities. The health of the ministry is stable. It has maintained its presence and programming at 4 Pennsylvania State facilities and two Federal facilities. Unfortunately our mission field continues to grow. In 1974 there were approximately 4,000 inmates in state facilities. In 2014 there are more than 51,000 inmates.

A second aspect of the ministry is helping address the needs of inmate children. When a parent and/or parents are arrested many times there is no one who will take responsibility for the minor children. If they are under ten years of age they are placed into foster care. Children between the ages of ten and seventeen are placed in regional Emergency Youth Shelters. For ten years we have helped an average of 400 children a year at the Emergency Youth Shelter in Ebensburg by providing clothes, toys, backpacks, and duffle bags.

Statistics: SCI Laurel Highlands 5 volunteers 35-40 participants. FCI Loretto 3 volunteers 30 participants. FPC Loretto 3 volunteers 27 participants. SCI Forest 2 volunteers, 35-45 participants. FCI McKean 3 volunteers 55 participants. SCI Pine Grove 1 volunteer 8-12 participants. SCI Greene 1 volunteer 5-12 participants.

As with all ministry programs financial help is always needed to purchase study materials and Bibles. Office expenses also require funding. In addition to monetary needs, we have an immediate and ongoing need for Spanish speaking volunteers given the ever increasing number of Hispanic inmates. This is especially true in Federal facilities. We also need prayer. Our ministry needs to be added to prayer lists for continual prayer for the inmates, their families, and our volunteers both present and future.

Our vision for the future is to be able to offer the Disciple Bible Study program in the Western Pa correctional facilities which we currently do not have a program. Our vision also includes opening short term programs in county jails. For the last ten years while serving as the Missionary/Director of the *Prison Outreach Ministry*, I was employed full time in the private sector. As of August 2014, I have decided to cease that employment and to use that time and energy to further develop our prison ministry. This should allow us to expand our programming to reach more men and women inmates and to help their children as well.

Sincerely,
Randy S. Datsko
Missionary Director, Prison Outreach Ministry

All kids to camp!: 2/1 - \$234.02 2/8 - \$302.50

HEARTS TO GOD, HANDS TO WORK MINISTRY our dedication will be today at both services. Stitchers, please see Leanna, Burnetta, or Cindi for Dedication Cards before the services.

A SIMPLE SUPPER will be served at 6:00 PM on Ash Wednesday. Supper will consist of soup, bread, and beverages. After our Simple Supper we will gather in the sanctuary for the Ash Wednesday worship service. Come join us for the start of the Lenten season.

CONFIRMATION! It's that exciting time in our Christian journey when we offer confirmation class! If you are in sixth or seventh grade or older, would you like to confirm your Christian faith and grow in your walk with our Lord? Classes will cover discussing the Christian faith, studying the Bible, understanding how/why we worship, traditions & sacraments of the church, who we are as Methodists, and how we use our faith everyday. Sessions will begin on today during the Sunday School hour (9:30-10:30). If you have any questions, please contact Pastor David at 724-863-6858. Hope to see you!

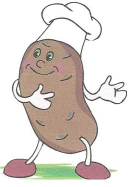
GREETERS – Greeters are need for both services. These friendly people stand at the door greeting all who attend our services. They welcome and provide directions to visitors. This is a job for all ages.

THE LIVING LAST SUPPER: Living Last Supper yard signs may be picked up next Sunday, February 22. If you still have a sign from previous years, you may place it any time after that day. Please be sure to ask permission before placing a sign on someone else's property.

THE NURSERY is looking for volunteers for 2015. Each week we need two attendents in the nursery during the 10:45 worship service. They are normally only scheduled three or four times a year so that no one is missing the worship service every week. There are positions available for both adults and teens. If you would like to help in the nursery please contact the church office.

(The state of Pennsylvania and the United Methodist Church do require that anyone working with children have their Act 33 & Act 34 clearances on file in the office. The forms are available in the church office and our church will pay the fees involved in obtaining the clearances.)

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: All articles for the March 2015 newsletter are due in the office by Sunday, February 22nd. Please email your articles to fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net or drop a hard copy of it off in the office. Articles received after February 22nd will be printed in the April newsletter.



SPUD BAR – We are planning a spud bar on Friday Evening, March 6th, 5PM to 7PM to include drinks & dessert. This is a part of the “Church Talents” Fund Raising & proceeds from the dinner will go to our church.

EASTER CANDY SALE! The Finance Committee is selling Easter chocolates from Wilson Candies. Pick up a brochure and order form on the table in the narthex. Please complete your order form and place it in the church office door slot along with your payment. Catalogs can be recycled and placed back on the table for others to use. **Orders are due by Sunday, February 22nd**. Candy will be available for pick up on Sunday, March 22nd. Proceeds from this sale will go to the church general fund.

EVENING BUILDING ATTENDANT: Do you know anyone who is responsible, friendly, and would like to make a little money by helping out our church? FUMC - Irwin has a need for an individual to help us out for a few hours on weekday evenings. The individual has the option of working two to four evenings per week based on a mutually agreeable schedule. The job description is security, open/lockup, snow removal, lights, stairways, setup/cleanup meetings, emergencies, assistance to people in meetings & limited cleaning. If you or a friend is interested, please call the SPRC chairperson. Thank you!

ATTENTION LADIES: If you're a scrapbooker or crafter I am having a get together Friday evening and all day Saturday, February 20th and 21st here in the gym. It's always fun to get together with the ladies and get the creative juices flowing.

SAFE SANCTUARIES 2015

The changes in PA law that you need to know.

Earlier this year, Governor Corbett signed into law House Bill 435 to increase protection for children and youth in Pennsylvania. There are several aspects to HB 435 that will affect the local church.

Beginning at age 14, all volunteers dealing with children, youth and vulnerable adults will be required to have clearances. **If they have been a Pennsylvania resident for at least ten years**, volunteers will now need to have the State Police criminal background check (Act 34) and the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance (Childline, Act 33). **If they have not been a PA resident for at least 10 years**, they will also be required to obtain an FBI clearance. **These clearances will now have to be updated every three years.**

If you volunteer or are involved with the children of the church you may need to update your clearances. There is a binder in the office with the names and dates of the clearances we have on file. Please check the binder, if you are in the gray area you will need to up date your clearances. There will be forms available in the office. Please use the envelope provided, and place the completed clearance forms in the office door slot. The church will pay the fees. The completed forms have your personal information on them, Please do not leave the completed forms lay on the desk or in a mailbox.
