

# ***The First Forecast***

*of*  
***First United Methodist Church***

FUMC, 200 East Third Street, Lewistown, PA 717-248-4618

Volume 27 No. 2

Why?

March 2019

## **WHY?**

I'm guessing you have asked that question once or twice. Me too! As a child, I heard:

† “Go get a bath.” Why? “Because.”

† “Pull weeds out of the garden.”  
Why? “Because.”

† “Get ready to go to church.” Why?  
“Because.”

† “Don't do that.” Why? “Because.”

† “Do this.” Why? “Because.”

Every day we encounter those moments when we ask why. What would our lives look like if instead of asking why, we followed through and did the task, didn't do the task, or some other action that was asked of us? Guess we have been stained by the old adage to question everything, including authority.

The healthy part of asking why is to gain knowledge and insight for a particular cause or situation. To habitually ask why, especially when you probably know the answer, is counter-productive.

As we move into Lent and toward Holy Week in April, we often wonder why Jesus had to die a horrific death on a Roman cross. Wasn't there a better idea God could have spawned to save humanity? Why didn't God create us as robots that would obey every divine mandate and all of our lives would be filled with bliss?

Fact is, we should be thankful that God chose free will to be offered to us in the Grand Design and that it, free will, allows us the freedom to ask the question, “Why?”





Paul in Romans 12 suggests that we should renew our minds and that in itself requires us to use reason and ask questions, to weigh the evidence, and to come to some conclusions about all the ‘whys’ in the world.

Won’t you consider seeking your family, friends, coworkers, and classmates to ponder the deep ‘whys’ of our life here on this earth and invite them to join you in worship and small group Bible studies? If you and I ask the ‘why’ question, you can be sure there are many around you who ask it or want to.

**We offer the following opportunities for you to engage the question at:**

† Our Ash Wednesday Service at Trinity UMC on Wednesday March 6 at 7 PM

**And our Lenten Luncheons each Wednesday at 12 noon** in the following churches:

1. March 13 – Sacred Heart
2. March 20 – Salvation Army
3. March 27 – FUMC
4. April 3 – St. Mark’s Episcopal
5. April 10 – Lewistown Presbyterian

**As well as our Men’s Lenten Breakfast schedule Saturday’s at 7:30:**

1. March 2 - First UMC
2. March 9 - Wesley Chapel UMC
3. March 16 - Rhodes Memorial UMC
4. March 23 - Watts Memorial UMC
5. March 30 - Lake Park UMC
6. April 6 - Grove Memorial UMC
7. April 13 - Grace UMC
8. April 20 - Granville UMC
9. May 4th - Trinity UMC - Women's Appreciation Breakfast

We will have our traditional **Seder Meal** on Maundy Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup>,

**Good Friday Stations of the Cross** at Sacred Heart at 11 AM and then our Cross walk through town at 12 PM

**A worship service April 19<sup>th</sup>** at 7 PM at FUMC.



**Easter Sunrise at Lind** Memorial Cemetery at 6:30.

**We'll gather in worship at 8 and 10:30 AM on Easter morning** to proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus to the world! **He is Risen!**

PS: If you are asking “why” the pastor just gave so many opportunities to worship, I can tell you it is “because.” ☺ ☺





### March 3

8:00/10:30 AM Worship  
 9:10 Sunday School  
 8:00 Liturgist: Karen  
 10:30 Liturgist: Karen

### March 10

8:00/10:30 AM Worship  
 9:10 Sunday School  
 8:00 Liturgist: Randy Fluke  
 10:30 Liturgist: Tom Heckman

### March 17

8:00/10:30 AM Worship  
 9:10 Sunday School  
 8:00 Liturgist: Randy Fluke  
 10:30 Liturgist: Tom Heckman

### March 24

8:00/10:30 AM Worship  
 9:10 Sunday School  
 8:00 Liturgist: Randy Fluke  
 10:30 Liturgist: Karen

### March 31

8:00/10:30 AM Worship  
 9:10 Sunday School  
 8:00 Liturgist: Karen  
 10:30 Liturgist: Tom Heckman



### March S.S. Teachers

**Nursery – TBS**

**Pre-School – K** *Aleta Harpster*

**Grades 1-2** *Bonnie Zannino*

**Grades 3-5** *Tina Stoner*

**Grades 6-9** *Tracie Hughes*

**Grades 10-12** *TBS*



## greeters

8:00 *Roger & Helen Searer*

10:30 *TBS*

*Outside Greeters*

*TBS*





Nursery Attendants

March -  
Sandy Matthews



Junior Church  
Bonnie/Julie



Kangaroo Kids  
(with Jr. Church)



*"Let the  
little children  
come to me ...."*

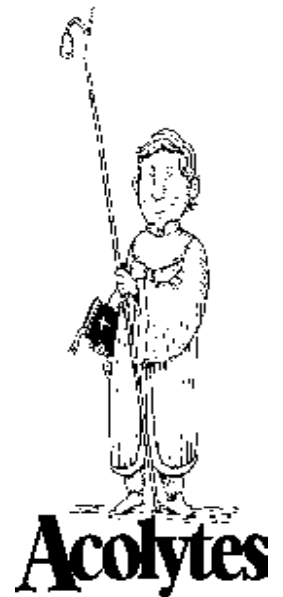
MATTHEW 19:14

### Children's Message

March 3      Bruce Buffington  
March 10     Pastor Randy  
March 17     PR or PK  
March 24     PR or PK  
March 31     PR or PK

### Acolytes -

March 3  
Saddie/Jocelyn  
March 10  
Emily W./Alissa  
March 17  
Serenity  
March 24  
Josh/Roman  
March 31  
Amonie/Emily J.





*The Good Eggs are churning out their legendary peanut butter, coconut, and butter cream eggs. Sales hours are M,T,TH,F from 9-11:30 AM. The Egg Hotline is 717-242-1539.*

***Koinonia Women's Fellowship  
St. Patrick's Potluck Dinner  
@ Karen Doberneck's home  
March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6 PM.***

*Bring an Irish dish to share.  
Devotions/Blessing – Aleta*

***All women are invited  
to join us for good  
food, fun, and  
fellowship.***



***Spa Day here @ FUMC!***

*March 10<sup>th</sup> beginning @ 12:30, you can enjoy a spa treatment for \$30 and/or a Facial and Massage treatment for \$30. Contact Rylie Ream or Crystal Ferencz for details and how to sign up.*

*(Crystal is a licensed massage therapist)*

***I love all the Christmas cards the church sent to me – especially from Gail Mayes, Pastor Randy, Lynne, Aleta, and all the others. I had a social worker who told me your church was probably the best one in Lewistown – for all its good works and social services. Carol Booher visits me here every once in a while. Take care and God bless you. From your good friend, Jill Raymond***





# FUMC Finance and Attendance

## Regular Offerings

Feb 3	\$6,917
Feb 10	\$4,347
Feb 17	\$6,124
Feb 24	\$5,601



Unpaid Bills - **\$0.00**

## Attendance

Feb 3	140
Feb 10	134
Feb 17	156
Feb 24	147





**In accordance with privacy policy @ Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital you need to inform Rev. Karen McCachren (248-1011 or 437-6023) or the church office if you are hospitalized and desire a visit.**

**Prayer Chain Line:**

Call 248-8459 or 242-1655

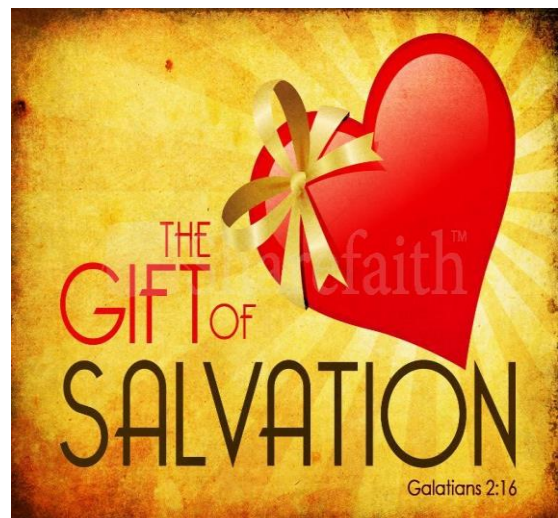
Open to anyone with a prayer request or anyone willing to pray for requests.

Purpose The prayer chain provides confidential intercessory prayer.

To request prayer or to become a praying member call:

Dave or Karen McCachren at 248-8459,  
([kmccachren@comcast.net](mailto:kmccachren@comcast.net)) or  
Laura or Bruce Buffington @ 242-1655,  
([lkbuff122@gmail.com](mailto:lkbuff122@gmail.com))

***Our prayers for health and wholeness are shared with:***  
*Pam Meloni, Betty Baxter, Bill Laughlin, Jim Ream, Jane Wagner, Tibby McClure, Marilyn Lohman, Lauri and Jim Dulis, Lisa Benner, Ashley Wagner, Diana McCormack, Charles Reynolds, William Kephart IV, Charles Royer, Teagan Harris, Dave Hostetter, Ellen Amspacker, and Steve Wilson.*







Well..... it is that time of the year already!! Time to start planning the Community Vacation Bible School. We here at First Church will be hosting this year. And..... we are going to AFRICA!!! Stay tuned for more upcoming information!! Questions can be directed to Elaine Baxter.





## March

1. Tim Thompson
2. Phyllis Dickson
5. Abb Dalby
8. Lynne Westlin
9. Sam Caldwell
13. Barry Bargo
18. Stu Ellis
18. Michelle Snyder
20. Dave Bowers
20. Pam Kennedy
20. Jaden Ream
22. Paula Pierce
25. Rose Baumgardner
26. Cindy Seaholtz
28. Doug Lynch
29. Sue Fluke



## The Altar Flowers

### March 3

The altar flowers are presented to the glory of God.

### March 10

The altar flowers are presented to the glory of God.

### March 17

Flowers are presented to the glory of God.

### March 24

The flowers are presented to the glory of God.

### March 31

The flowers are presented to the glory of God.

*Lily/World Hunger forms are @ the Welcome Center and will be in next month's*

*newsletter. If you would like one mailed, please call the office.*





***First U.M. Church Staff  
Ministry Staff:***

Pastor: **Rev. Randy Hughes**

Pastor E-Mail: [rhughes@susumc.org](mailto:rhughes@susumc.org)

Deacon of Caring Ministries: **Rev. Karen McCachren**

Deacon of Caring Ministries E-Mail: [kmccachren@comcast.net](mailto:kmccachren@comcast.net)

Education Director/Youth Leader: **Heidi Bracken**

Education Director E-Mail: [heidi.bracken@gmail.com](mailto:heidi.bracken@gmail.com) 724-516-5527

Outreach Coordinator: **Jen Lynch** [responder1824@msn.com](mailto:responder1824@msn.com)



***Music Staff:***

**Choirs Director:** Katie Becker

**Organists:** Dr. Fred Benner, Lauri Dulis, Richard Hamler

***Support Staff:***

**Custodians:** Joe Lingle, Cassie Shank

**Office Manager:** Rob Hagenberger

Church Office Hours:

**Monday through Friday 7:00 AM - Noon**

**Phone: 717-248-4618 Fax: 717-242-4757**

**Email:** [fumc200@outlook.com](mailto:fumc200@outlook.com)

**Website:** <http://fumclewistown.org>

**Facebook:** *First United Methodist Church of Lewistown*



**FUMC Worship Services** Sunday morning @ 8 AM and 10:30 AM.

**Sunday School** @ 9:10 AM, Nursery Provided, Safe Sanctuaries

Compliant

***The Newsletter Deadline  
is always the 15<sup>th</sup>  
of each month!***





# March 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Good Eggs</b> <b>M,T,TH,F begin @ 8 AM, Sales M,T,TH,F</b> <b>9:11:30</b> <b>717-242-1539</b>					1	2 7:30 AM Lenten Breakfast @ FUMC
3 8/10:30 Worship 9:10 Sunday School	4 6:30 PM Bible Study 7 PM Ray of Hope	5 6 PM <b>Koinonia St Patrick's Potluck Dinner @ Dobernecks'</b> 4:30-6:30 <b>JAM</b>	6 10:30/7 Bible Study 5-7 <b>Youth</b>	7 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Choir 8 PM AA	8	9 7:30 AM Lenten Breakfast @ Wesley Chapel
10 8:00/10:30 Worship 9:10 Sunday School <b>2 PM Chess Club</b>	11 6:30 PM Bible Study 7 PM Ray of Hope	12 4:30-6:30 <b>JAM</b>	13 10:30/7 Bible Study Noon Lenten Lunch @ Sacred Heart 5-7 <b>Youth</b>	14 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Choir 8 PM AA	15	16 7:30 AM Lenten Breakfast @ Rhodes Memorial
17 8/10:30 Worship 9:10 Sunday School	18 6:30 PM Bible Study 7 PM Ray of Hope	19 4:30-6:30 <b>JAM</b> 7 PM <b>Trustees</b>	20 5-8 PM <b>Wrestling Banquet</b> 10:30/7 Bible Study Noon Lenten Lunch @ Salvation Army 5-7 <b>Youth</b>	21 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Choir 8 PM AA	22	23 7:30 Lenten Breakfast @ Watts Memorial
24 8/10:30 Worship 9:10 Sunday School <b>2 PM Chess Club</b>	25 6:30 PM Bible Study 7 PM Ray of Hope	26 4:30-6:30 <b>JAM</b> 7 PM <b>Ministry Council</b>	27 10:30/7 Bible Study Noon ' <b>Lenten Luncheon/Banquet</b> ' @ <b>FUMC</b> 5-7 <b>Youth</b>	28 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Choir 8 PM AA	29	30 7:30 AM Lenten Breakfast @ Lake Park
31 8/10:30 Worship 9:10 Sunday School						