



# June / July

# TOWER TOPICS

## Summer Worship Series

### Our Book of Hope

**June 22** - Revelation 2:1-7, 22:1-5  
"Our Hope: Remembering Your First Love"

**June 29** - Revelation 2:8-11, 6:9-11  
"Our Hope: An Eternal Perspective"

**July 13** - Revelation 2:12-17, 13, 14  
"Our Hope: Holding Fast to Truth"

**July 20** - Revelation 2:18-29, 19  
"Our Hope: Balancing Passion and Truth"

**July 27** - Revelation 3:1-6, 7:9-17  
"Our Hope: Awakening from Spiritual Deadness"

**August 3** - Revelation 3:7-13, 21:1-4  
"Our Hope: An Open Door of Opportunity"

**August 10** - Revelation 3:14-22, 21, 22  
"Our Hope: Christ's Persistent Pursuit"

*Pastor Scott is looking for bulletin cover art that represents what you see when you read any of the passages in this series. We would also welcome any poems, reflections, or other forms of art that represent the images of hope given in the Book of Revelation. Please submit your work at least one week prior to the date it represents. You can do so by either emailing it to [firstumc@firstunitedmethodist.com](mailto:firstumc@firstunitedmethodist.com) or by dropping it off at the FUMC office during office hours (M-TH 9am-4pm & Fri 9am-12pm).*

# Zeffy

## Make a Donation to First UMC

First Church has partnered with a digital peer to peer network called Zeffy! It's a convenient option to make donations in the absence of a check or cash. We chose Zeffy because it has partnered with many other United Methodist churches and reputable charities. It also does not cost your or First Church anything, so 100% comes to First Church. You don't need to download an app. Just use the QR code and it will take you to the website! Go ahead, give it a try!



## Mission: Discipleship Team Leaders

Pastor Scott is meeting with the Mission: Discipleship Team Leaders on **Sunday, June 8** after Worship

## Mission, Faith, and Fellowship

Nothing brings a congregation together like joining together to share Faith while helping others. This Spring we have joined together in large and small groups to turn John Wesley's words into actions. Here are a few missions that we have helped:

**Cridlin Food and Clothing Closet:** Each month for many years we have donated food to Cridlin. Now, we are being asked to give a little more. Lynn Cummings has agreed to a Pounding - a way to welcome newcomers with small pond gifts. WE aren't being asked to bring pound cake, but a wide list of other items. Since our first Pounding was more "an Ounce", we will continue the ingathering through June.  
Work together teams

**Rise Against Hunger:** Our first Rise was a joyful success for First Church. On April 5, we left the building and joined other District churches at the Huntington Mall to fill food bags for hungry people. Nearly 100 First Church folks took part. This week, I learned that our food bags are headed to Ukraine.

**Flower Sale:** After much confusion, UWF got our flower order. We gained nearly \$400 for the mission work of women, children, and youth.

**Undie Sunday:** Once again we honored our Moms with undies. 276 pieces were contributed-179 went to Cridlin. 97 plus a dozen tooth brushes went to Ebenezer.

**COME/MIM:** On May 18, 9 Rivers District had an ingathering of money and goods for Ebenezer Outreach and Heart+Hand, South in S. Charleston. Our contribution was \$2300 from the Mission Grant Fund.

**Ebenezer Outreach :** Plans are complete and now we are working on publicity and fund raisers. If you know of any agencies who want to be involved in children's welfare, let Jane Morse know. If you are willing to be on a newsletter mailing list, will have a sign-in list on the Fellowship Room Table.  
-Jane Morse

## Cridlin Pantry

Cridlin Pantry is asking for our help! For the month of **June**, they need **96 boxes of spaghetti noodles**, and for **July**, **96 boxes of Tuna Helper**.

Let's all pitch in by bringing a few boxes with us the next time we come to church. Together, we can help feed our community and share God's love in a practical way.





## Sanctuary Choir

The Sanctuary Choir had a wonderful time preparing and executing the "Witness of Water" program on May 18<sup>th</sup>. It was terrific to be joined by **HARMONIA**, a quartet from Chillicothe, OH (who happens to be directed by my sister, Barbara Nowlin). That's nepotism at its finest! And we're thankful for our own *daughters of dance*: *Amelia Adkins & Hannah Webster & teacher Shelby Nelson Burcham* for their interpretation of "**Bridge Over Troubled Water**".

One of our own choir members, John Floyd gifted us with original poetry for the occasion, as did Randall Adkins. And Randall's grandson, Mac Markun, was generous enough to lend his artistic skills to a beautiful mural, as well as the bulletin cover. And many thanks to Susan & Jack Welch for sound & decorating help. And of course, we need to thank our faithful and talented choir members for all their (mostly) uncomplaining work to make this program shine. We will miss their music over the summer months, but they've more than earned a brief reprieve.

During the summer months we will be tapping folks to help with music, so if you (or someone you know) would like to be part of this ministry, please let me know. Stay tuned for a joint musical program in August with St. Paul Lutheran Choir – something special to look forward to.

## Notes from Debbie Bradley

I hope everyone was blessed & impressed with the year-end programs of the kids' and adult choirs. We enjoyed preparing them for you and are very thankful for all the help we get in producing them.

## Wesley Children's Choir

Did you count all those sheep & lambs in "*The Lost Sheep*"? Many of those were donated by members of the congregation; many thanks! Rhonda Adkins and Carolyn Waggoner are the best choir assistants anyone could have. And what a great job Jack Welch and Susan Nickels do in setting up and running sound and video - not to mention cooking! You can always count on great costumes when you have the professionals like Ashleigh & Jeanette Bannon involved. Allie Bright, Katrina Lee and Schauna Chambers are ALWAYS helpful and they volunteer assistance with all kinds of things. And it's not possible to have a more cooperative pastor than Scott Sears. Being surrounded by such generous and caring people makes all the difference and helps our music ministry thrive.





## Congratulations!

We want to congratulate all of the people that are moving into new chapters of their lives. Whether you are starting preschool, heading to kindergarten, diving into middle school, venturing into high school, taking on college, or starting a new job; we celebrate you, pray for you, and will always be rooting for you!

## Scholarship Opportunity

If you are in college or going into college and have not received a scholarship letter by June 6, please contact Schauna Chambers via email at [schambers@firstunitedmethodist.com](mailto:schambers@firstunitedmethodist.com) or phone (304) 634-9684. Applications are due by June 29 at the church office or by emailing Schauna.

YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAM SCHEDULE	
VBS Decoration Prep	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 6pm
Last Day to Register for Camp	May 31 <sup>st</sup>
VBS	June 1 <sup>st</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> 5pm-8pm
Pickleball & Prayer	June 17 <sup>th</sup>
Camp session 1	June 29 <sup>th</sup> - July 4 <sup>th</sup>
Pickleball & Prayer	July 7 <sup>th</sup>
Camp Session 2	July 13 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup>
Youth Planning Committee	August 3 <sup>rd</sup>
ACE Adventure	August 10 <sup>th</sup>
Pickleball & Prayer	August 11 <sup>th</sup>
Welcome Back Messy Games	August 17 <sup>th</sup>

## Youth Dates:

**June 17** - Pickleball & Prayer

**June 29-July 4** - Camp Session 1

**July 7** - Pickleball & Prayer

**July 13-18** - Camp Session 2

**August 3** - Youth Planning Committee

**August 10** - Ace Adventure

**August 11** - Pickleball & Prayer

**August 17** - Welcome Back Messy Games

## Hiking Church

The summer months have reached us, so we will be moving our hiking church to the early mornings at 9am. Please contact Schauna with any questions (304) 634-9684

**June 22** - Barboursville Park

**July 13** - Beech Fork Campground

## Grace and Gravel

Grace and Gravel is a walking group that will be starting out weekly at Ritter Park at 8:30am every Wednesday. We will meet by the playground, do a short devotion, then start our walk. So come, join us and beat the midweek slump! Please contact Schauna Chambers with any questions.





## A Big Shoutout!

A big shoutout to all of the volunteers and anyone who has donated to Vacation Bible School! You all are the reason we are able to deliver amazing events to our children, youth, and community. Your love and support is what keeps our children's ministry shining bright! On behalf of the children and myself, thank you so much!

-Katrina Lee



## News from the Woods

Summer is here and Asbury Woods is busy preparing to host many groups and spend time outdoors.

Important reminders:

- **Father's Day Picnic will be on June 14 (9:00am - 3:00pm)** with the pool open, breakfast and lunch served, and the rest of Asbury Woods activities available. Come check out the new playground. Donations accepted to cover food and other expenses.
- **Asbury Woods Swim Lessons will be June 26 - 29.** Registration is open and more information available on our website [www.asburywoodswv.com](http://www.asburywoodswv.com).
- **Summer camp** will be two sessions. Hope your kids are looking forward to an amazing camp experience.  
**1st and 3rd week of July.**
  - **Watch our Facebook page for Saturday Community Swim days.**

Asbury Woods appreciates your continued support and participation. If you ever want to visit, please visit our website, [www.asburywoodswv.com](http://www.asburywoodswv.com), and email us or contact Chris Thomas or any other staff. Asbury Woods is a place for everyone at all times

-Chris Thomas

## Thank You Notes

We would like to thank FUMC for being so accommodating and caring for John's Celebration of Life service. Pastor Scott, Rhonda Adkins, Jack Welch, Keela and crew in the nursery, Susan Nickels and her food army (preparers) made the day a true Celebration.

-The Cummings Family

Dear Members of the FISH class of FUMC,

Thank you for your recent donation of Easter Baskets to the Christian Associates/Cridlin Food & Clothing Pantry. Your continued support to our mission is greatly appreciated. We were able to pass out special Easter dinners and Easter Baskets to those families most in need in our community. The families were overwhelmed and extremely grateful. Thank you for your generosity.

The Cridlin Food & Clothing Pantry is blessed to serve the needs of approximately 400 individuals each month. If you haven't had a chance, we would love for you to come and visit us on MWF between 12:00-2:00pm to see the results of your donations at work.

In Christ's love & spirit,  
Lynn Cummings



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> VBS	<b>2</b> VBS	<b>3</b> VBS	<b>4</b> VBS	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 12:00pm Discipleship Team Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 1:00pm Dorcas Circle	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Ebenezer Pre-K Graduation Ceremony	<b>13</b> 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Father's Day <i>Schauna is preaching today</i>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Youth - Pickleball & Prayer	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Juneteenth <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>20</b> 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 12:00pm SPRC Meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Asbury Woods Camp Session 1 Begins	<b>30</b> Camp					

06/02 Cooper Cummings

06/03 Amelia Razi

06/03 Abby Rutherford

06/04 Elliot Hughes

06/07 Talley Sergeant

06/07 Randall Adkins

06/08 Lane Aldridge

06/08 Jacob Fischer

06/09 Lucy Brown

06/10 Bethany Adkins

Tiffany Broce

Mike Conley

Aubrey Thomas

JT Winkler

Will Winkler

06/11 Robert Young

06/12 August Meade

Amy Young

06/13 Alma Johnson

Fletcher Kinsey

06/14 Brian Bradley

06/15 Quinn Eddins

Daniel Fulks

06/16 Natalie Campbell

06/18 Ashley Brown

06/19 Sarah Spurlock

06/21 Olivia Woodward

06/24 Lillian Lee

Gina Reeves

06/26 Emma Conaway

Tom Fulks

06/27 Carrie Tanner

06/28 Bob Ganzer

Kimberlee Lockwood

Tara Rhoten

Rylie Richardson

John Vigilanco

06/29 Kathy Bartram

Dona Bunn

Marshall Wolfe

06/30 Jessie Alford

Bennett Cooke



# Birthdays

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**



		1 Camp	2 Camp	3 Camp	4 Fourth of July <i>Office Closed</i> 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	5
6	7 Youth - Pickleball & Prayer	8 1:00pm Dorcas Circle	9	10	11 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	12
13 Asbury Woods Camp Session 2 Begins	14 Camp	15 Camp	16 Camp	17 Camp	18 Camp Ends 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 6:30-9:00pm NA Meeting	26
27	28	29	30	31		

07/03	Jared Bradley
07/05	Cindy LeGrand
07/06	Oscar Yoost
	Jim Cunningham
	Brooklyn Gonczy
	Cindy Legg
	Tracie Long
07/07	Diana Maue
	Betsy Grandstaff
	Malloy Matthews
	Gwyneth Yoost
07/08	Heather Barker
	Christopher Duncan
	Jeff Riedel
07/09	Jared Divita
07/10	Drew Birkhimer
	Rachel Ward
07/11	Reid Adkins
	Noah LeGrand
	Robert Neighborgall
07/13	Jane Morse
	Rowan McCoy
07/14	Patryk Ray
07/16	Catina Naegele
07/17	Andy Huckabee
	Zelda McKenna
07/18	Kristin Turner
	Molly Archer
07/19	Lillian Sergeant
	Vicki Buell
07/20	Alyssa Tschop
	Ashleigh Bailey-Bannon
	Kicker Chiles
07/21	Jeanne Anne Rutherford
07/22	Hannah Webster
	Jane McColgan
	Scott Sears
	Amy Ward
07/23	Erin Bradley
	Richard Trimble
07/25	Keegan Rowe
07/26	Blake Anderson
	V Turbayevskiy
07/27	Michelle Massie
	Aleigha Myers
07/28	Brenda Harlow
07/31	Mark Conner



**First United Methodist Church**  
**1124 Fifth Avenue**  
**Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2288**



Phone: (304) 522-0357

[firstumc@firstunitedmethodist.com](mailto:firstumc@firstunitedmethodist.com)  
[www.firstunitedmethodist.com](http://www.firstunitedmethodist.com)

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Pastor: Scott Sears  
Music Director: Debbie Bradley  
Director of Youth & Young Adult  
Ministry: Schauna Chambers  
**Director of Children's Ministries:**  
Katrina Lee  
Finance Secretary: Amy Ward  
Church Hostess: Susan Nickels  
Office Manager: Allie Bright

**Sunday Worship Opportunities**

Small Groups 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.



## **Next Tower Topics Deadline: July 23**

### **In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

***Eternal God! Grant us gratitude enough to look backward and be thankful;  
courage enough to look forward and be hopeful; faith enough to look  
upward and be humble; kindness enough to look outward and be helpful.***

***Together let us pray...For those grieving, sick, or homebound,***

Randall Adkins, Dawn Aikin, Kathy Bartram, Pat Broce, Chase Childers, Chris  
Chiles, Debbie Conley, Mark Conner, Mark Cornell, Mel Cummings, Jackie Eplion,  
Sonny Hammer, Brian Justice, Emma Mace,, JD & Diana Maue, Jane McColgan,  
Steven McGill, Beth McVey, Bob Palmer, Nancy Palmer, Jack Patrick, Sally  
Richards-Bartram, Marlene Sheets, Dan Smith, Ed & Alice Stone, Jean White,  
Carolyn Waggoner, Gene Weekly Carole Wilson