



First Family News

March 2023 Volume 49 Issue 3



SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULT CLASS 8:45AM—9:45AM
CHILDREN/YOUTH 9:00AM

FELLOWSHIP TIME
9:45AM —10:05AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:10AM
LIVE STREAMING ON FACEBOOK

CHOIR PRACTICE
11:30AM —12:30PM

YOUTH GROUP 6:00 PM

On March 4 from 9 am—Noon there will be a Liver Dumpling,
Ham & Bean Soup and Bake Sale

Then on March 11 our Youth will have a Spaghetti Dinner (Take Out)
from 4 until Sold Out.

Please support these 2 fundraisers.
More details can be found in this newsletter.

March Message From Pastor Lee

Christ's Letter

When I was a child, I was told sheep had bad eyesight and could not see very far. Due to this reason, they always would follow other sheep in front of them. But this information was wrong.

According to a resource, sheep depend heavily on their vision. They have excellent peripheral vision and can see behind themselves without turning their heads.

However, the resource said there is a reason they follow one another all the time. Sheep have a strong social instinct to follow the sheep in front of them. When one sheep decides to go somewhere, the rest of the flock usually follows, even if it is not a good decision. Then, the resource says, for example, that sheep will follow each other to slaughter. Or, the others are likely to follow if one sheep jumps over a cliff.

Because they follow others without reason, they don't expect what is waiting in front of them. I think we are the same as sheep. We don't know our future. Even though science is quite developed, there are still many things people cannot predict.

However, all Christians always look up to our God, our helper, guide, and Lord, and can find their directions from God. That is faith which is our benefit and power.

Of course, many people still deny or misunderstand our God. Sometimes, they partly believe in God in their own ways because they don't feel who God exactly is and what God's grace and love are in their lives.

1 John 4: 12 says, "No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." And Matthew 5: 16 also says, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Therefore, we who believe in God fully must become a way to prove God's reality in this world. We must be Christ's letter to others in this world to explain who God is and what His grace and His love are.

If so, how do we need to live?

We need to live as light and salt in this world. But don't be stressed about being light and salt.

Just think of Jesus Christ as our savior all the time in our daily lives and work and pray harder to show the image of Christ through our lives to the world.

On the 12th of February, our church made a big decision for our church's future. We now need to think more about following Jesus Christ through our lives. At that time, we will find the right direction for our church ministry.

As we know, Jesus emptied Himself from Heaven and came down here to live like a sinful man. So, it shows us that we need a process to be light and salt by emptying ourselves.

We need to empty unnecessary things to follow Jesus in our lives and fill our lives with Jesus' thoughts and directions.

Please listen. We must be changed day by day to be closer to God. We must grow in faith all the time. At that time, we can be God's people.

Don't pressure others to change themselves. Let's change ourselves first. We still don't do anything for God, the church, and others when we don't want to do it. Let's change this attitude from us first. Then, let's think about what Jesus would do if He were us. Then, let's show God's grace and love to the world through our ministry and lives.

Remember this scripture I mentioned above - 1 John 4: 12. "No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

God Bless you!

Rev. Sang Hak Lee



**MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF
Norman McCoy
Given by**

Tom & Jean Price
Fred & Diane Krug
Thom & Sandy Hoffman
Deanne & Floyd McAfoose
Richard and Priscilla Phillips
Ron & Faye Witmer
Ray Gornati
Carol Cunningham
Jim Horchen Family
Connie & Church Amendola
Jim & Teen Lewis
Bev Lyons/Mike & Tammy Lyons
Brenda & Gene Gornik
Muriel Grube
Sanford O. Grube
Cate Brier
Pam Hogan



**MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF
Pastor Lee's Mom
Given by**

Duke & Cathy Nesbitt
Marlene Pistner
Carol Cunningham
Joyce Fledderman
Mike & Cyndi Rippy
Thom & Sandy Hoffman



**MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF
Cletus Graver
Given by**

Carol Cunningham



**MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF
Linda Smith
Given by**

Mike & Cyndi Rippy
Mary Ann Glover
Paula Swasta
Sally Murone & Family
Patricia Keebler
Stacy & Scott McKee
Ronald Pistner
Rhonda Rust
Jim & Teen Lewis



**MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF
Beula Kestler
Given by**

Anonymous
Ron & Faye Witmer

Send a Note to Our Shut-Ins

Barb	Patterson	785 Johnsonburg Rd.	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Haven
Thressa	Brock	185 Center Street	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Towers, Apt. 404
Gary	Wonderly	185 Center Street	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Towers, Apt. 608
Alice	Steis	190 Taft Road	St. Marys	PA	15857	
Anita	Vollmer	Sunrise Road	St. Marys	PA	15857	

Disaffiliation Update

On February 12, a Church Conference was held to vote on disaffiliation.

96 members of our congregation attended.

The YES vote carried to disaffiliate with 84 YES votes, 12 NO votes and 0 ABSTAIN votes.

The Disaffiliation Committee is continuing it's work and has scheduled our meeting with the conference board of trustees, which will be Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Members of our committee are hard at work gathering all the documents needed for the trustee meeting. At that meeting the conference trustees will give us the final disaffiliation amount. Afterwards, our church will need to hold a church conference to affirm/accept the final disaffiliation amount. If affirmed, and the annual conference votes to accept our disaffiliation amount, all final paperwork, documents, and payments will have to be submitted to conference by August 16, 2023.

March Meetings

Mon. March 6 @7:00
Worship Committee

Tues. March 7 @ 7:00
SPPRC



Man to Man

The men meet on
Wednesday evenings
at **7:00 PM** at Church
All Men Welcome!



Time to get your items
ready to donate for our
UMW Rummage Sale

Coming June 16 and 17



Bowls of Love

Every Wednesday 4 PM-4:30 PM

DONATIONS OF DESSERTS APPRECIATED

For info or to volunteer please contact
Carol Cunningham 814-781-7401

CURRENT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHAIRS

Ad Board Chair Dave Fitzgerald
PPRC Chair Joyce Fledderman
Finance Chair Laura Horchen
Christian Ed Chair Shawna Grim
Trustee Chair Bob Buerk
Worship Chair Carolyn Hockman
Lay Leader Cathy Nesbitt
UM Women President Sharon Herzing



CHRISTIAN COUNSEL-
ING
ASSOCIATES OF WEST-
ERN PENNSYLVANIA

The mission of Christian Counseling Associates (CCA) is to provide excellent, accessible, and comprehensive counseling from a Biblical worldview.

Our counselors are experts in the field of clinical mental health and highly trained from accredited institutions. They are active in their local faith communities, have a heart for God, and are gifted in serving those who struggle with cognitive, emotional, and spiritual issues. .

Ready to make an appointment?

Call 724-396-1510 or CCAW-

Dear FUMC Members,

Thank You very much for your on going donations of food items to the Christian Food Bank! The food bank is 40 years old this year and was started by a member of your church and her friends. God continues to bless this local mission with generous support like yours.

God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

Liver Dumpling, Soup & Bake Sale



Saturday March 4

9 AM—noon

Liver Dumplings & Ham & Bean Soup pre-order by
calling

Carol - 814-781-7401 or

Church Office - 814-834-3016

Donations of Baked Goods appreciated and can be
brought in Friday or
Saturday Morning before sale.

Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, March 11

4:00 - Sold Out

\$10

Take Out Only

Dinner includes: Spaghetti,

Salad, Bread, Dessert

Proceeds benefit Youth Group



From the banks of the Nile River to the depths of the Red Sea, MOSES is a spectacular entertainment experience for the whole family!

Set adrift as a baby, he is an unlikely hero — until God calls him to lead His people out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Journey with Moses as he ventures through the wilderness, encounters God at the burning bush, and ascends to the top of Mount Sinai.

BUS TRIP to Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA

Saturday, April 22

Show starts at 11:00 am

Join the FUMC Youth Group to fill the bus!

Fullington bus picks up travelers at Walmart parking lot - time TBD

\$241/person (age 12 and over – \$186/age 11 and under) includes ticket to show and buffet dinner afterward at Loxley's Restaurant

Seats reserved on a first come first served basis

Contact Richie Lewis @ 814-562-0037 to reserve your spot!

Money due to Richie by March 12

Make out a check to *FUMC Youth Group*

Come join the fun with your church family!!!

Exercise Class with Cindy

Cindy Schuster is currently having an exercise class each Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 am in Asbury Hall. Each class will begin with a devotion, then some warm up stretches. If you are new to exercise class you don't have to be intimidated. Everyone can work at their own level and she will make modifications for those who are unable to get down on the ground by doing chair exercises. (Please bring a mat or beach towel.) Everyone is welcome, all ages, male or female. You do not need to be a church member to attend, find a friend to attend with you or make a new friend! Come join in!!

You may contact Cindy with questions at 814-321-4256



YOUTH GROUP

Sunday Evening 6-7 PM

IN ASBURY HALL GRADES 6-12

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, GAMES,
DEVOTION AND SNACKS
WE WELCOME ALL MEMBERS
AND NON-MEMBERS
BRING A FRIEND!

THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH IS
OUR CHURCH'S FUTURE!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kindergarten/1st grade,
2nd -5th grade & 6th,7th,8th grade.

These classes meet downstairs
at 9:00 AM

The Adult Class
meets in Asbury Hall at 8:45 AM

OUR CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

First United Methodist
Church of Saint Marys is Christ-
centered with open doors. We extend
our hands and hearts into the world to
alter lives for God's Kingdom.

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

9:00 AM—MONDAY IN Asbury Hall

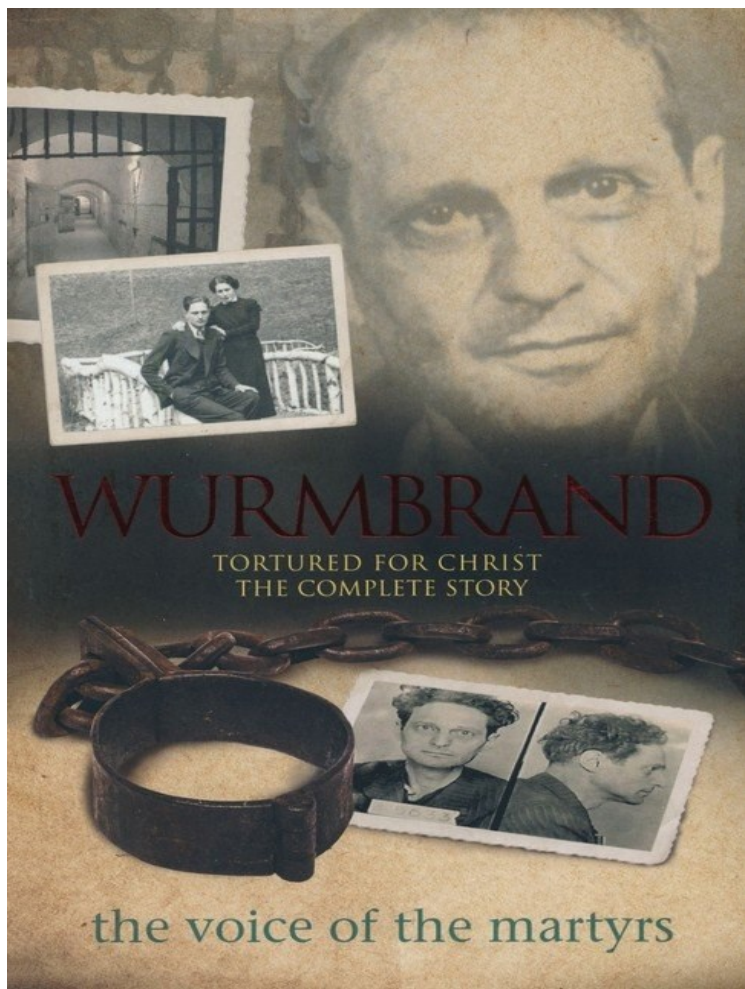
6:30 PM— MONDAY IN Asbury Hall

4:00 PM— THURSDAY IN Conference
Room

CONTACT Carol Cunningham
or Joyce Fledderman

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM

BEGINNING MARCH, 2023
ASBURY HALL



Wurmbrand: Tortured For Christ

On February 29, 1948, Richard Wurmbrand was arrested by the secret police. His crime? Leading Christian worship and witnessing - both of which were illegal under Romania's atheistic Communist regime. Because of Richard's faithfulness to Christ, he endured 14 years of prison and torture, while his wife, Sabina, suffered three years in a labor camp.

In spite of these hardships, Richard and Sabina had an unshakeable faith in Christ. *Wurmbrand* explores the inspiring lives of Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand. Your faith will be inspired as you go deep inside the darkest prison cells to see how the light of Christ continues to shine from the hearts of those totally committed to Him.

Before communism fell in Eastern Europe, Christians were often arrested and kept in prisons or labor camps where the communists went to great lengths to break their faith. We will explore real life story of a family whose faith endured. After living multiple imprisonments, the Wurmbrands began a ministry now known as "The Voice of the Martyrs" to bring awareness to the persecution of Christians. Hear their incredible story through Richard's and Sabrina's own voices and interviews with their son Mihai.

THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS is a non-profit interdenominational organization dedicated to assisting the persecuted church worldwide. VOM was founded in 1967 by Pastor Richard Wurmbrand, who was imprisoned by Communist Romania for fourteen years for his faith in Jesus Christ. Today VOM spreads the message of the persecuted church and sends help through a network of international offices. VOM is located in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and can be found at www.persecuted.com.

Join us for this exciting study. Sign up for the class and materials in the old kitchen.

Easter Flowers 2023

The Worship Committee is taking orders for flowers to be placed in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday service.

If you would like to help make the church look beautiful, please submit your orders and payment by *Sunday, March 19th*.

Orders may be given to Carolyn Hockman, the church office, or mailed to 652 South Michael Road St. Marys.

To assist us with this project, please submit your order as soon as possible.

Given by _____

Phone _____

I am NOT taking my plant(s) after Easter Sunday service _____

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

Given to the Glory of God _____

POT SIZE	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	COST	QUANTITY	TOTAL
6"	Azalea	Buds & blooms	15.00		
6"	Calla Lily	Assorted colors	14.00		
6"	Daffodil	Yellow trumpets	7.00		
4.5"	Hyacinth	Assorted colors – 1 bloom	5.00		
6"	Hyacinth	Assorted colors – 3 blooms	7.00		
6.5"	Hydrangea	3-4 blooms – snowballs, pink, blue	18.00		
6"	Easter Lily	1 stem	11.00		
6"	Mum	Assorted colors	13.00		
6"	Tulip	Assorted colors	7.00		
8"	Tulip	Assorted colors	14.00		

Please make checks payable to First United Methodist Church & write "Easter Flowers" in the memo



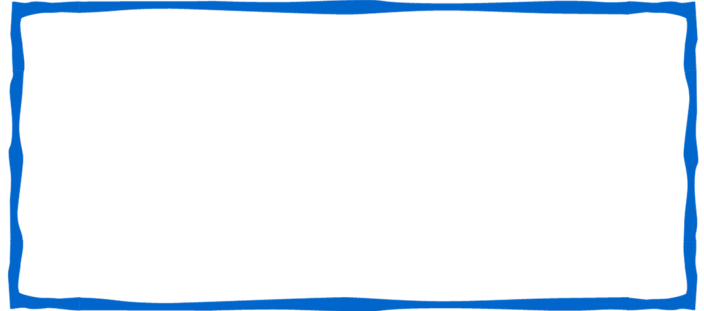
First United Methodist Church
140 N. Saint Marys Street
Saint Marys, PA 15857-1236

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
ST. MARYS, PA 15857
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Information

Phone: 814.834.3016
Email: fumchurchstmarys@gmail.com
Web: www.fumcstmarys.com
facebook.com/FUMC15857

Please let us know if your address changes.



Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, March 11

4:00 - Sold Out

\$10

Take Out Only

**Dinner includes: Spaghetti,
Salad, Bread, Dessert
Proceeds benefit Youth Group**

At Your Service

The Reverend Sang Lee

"PASTOR LEE"

Office Hours

**Monday through Friday
8 AM to 4 PM**

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & KEEP UP
WITH CURRENT EVENTS**

<https://www.facebook.com/FUMC15857/>

To Post anything on the Church's Facebook
page, please email or call
Pastor Lee or the Church Office.

**Liver Dumpling, Soup
& Bake Sale**

Saturday March 4

9 AM—noon

Liver Dumplings & Ham & Bean Soup