



First Family News

December 2022 Volume 48 Issue 12



WORSHIP
10:10 AM
LIVE STREAMING ON FACEBOOK
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM
YOUTH GROUP 6:00 PM



Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM
Christmas Day 10:10 AM



THANK YOU FROM

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**WE ARE SO APPRECIATIVE OF ALL WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH OUR
2022 HOLIDAY BAZAAR. THE MONEY RAISED ENABLES US
TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO MISSIONS LOCALLY,
IN THE U. S. AND AFRICA.**



December Message From Pastor Lee

Dear brothers and sisters in faith,

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent.

Our church calendar is divided into four main seasons: Advent, Epiphany, Lent, and Pentecost. The most important season among them in Christianity is Advent. According to The United Methodist Church Book of Worship (238), “Advent is a season of four weeks including four Sundays. Advent derives from the Latin *adventus*, which means ‘coming.’ The season proclaims the comings of the Christ – whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate. Each year Advent calls the community of faith to prepare for these comings; historically, the season was marked by fasts for preparation.”

Over the years, the meaning of Advent has been changed to generally mean the coming of Christ: It could be the season to celebrate the first coming or the season to prepare for His second coming. In other words, this season is for celebrating the beginning of God’s salvation with the birth of Jesus Christ and for preparing for His second coming as the judge at the end of the world.

In addition, there is one more meaning -- God continually comes in words and Spirit. It means the presence of the Holy Spirit as the Counselor, whom Jesus Christ promised to his disciples at the end of his works on Earth (John 15: 26).

Therefore, Advent includes the coming of Jesus Christ in the past, the second coming of Jesus Christ in the future, and the presence of the Holy Spirit, who continually stays and takes care of us in the present.

In conclusion, these three viewpoints are very important and meaningful to us. However, we need to focus on the second coming of Jesus Christ now because we need to prepare for the future when Jesus Christ comes again rather than only celebrate His birth.

We need to spend this season with a holy heart for being ready to stand fairly in front of God when we meet Him. Also, we need to spend this season with the new hope, and the promise of Jesus Christ that he will come again. If we spend this season with these attitudes, we can celebrate a true Christmas this year.

May God bless you!

Rev. Sang Hak Lee



**MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF
Charles & Betty Tesauro
Given by
Beverly Coppersmith**



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

Lights of Love is back.....We will be placing lights on the evergreen tree outside the Church by the stairway entry on the Parsonage side of the Church Building during the Advent Season. We invite you to participate by giving a "light" to be placed on the Lights of Love tree in honor of or in memory of — those you love and cherish.

For a donation of \$5 per person / light, we will put a light on our tree. We will make a complete list of names available

for the February Newsletter:

Given By, In Honor Of, and In Memory Of.

All proceeds will go to support our Youth Group.

Please send the bottom portion of this form along with check or cash to:
First United Methodist Church, Lights of Love Tree, 140 N St. Marys Street,
St. Marys, PA 15857.

Please use one form for each person. Extra forms available in the Welcome Center and / or the Old Kitchen.

I WISH TO GIVE A LIGHT IN

IN HONOR OF IN MEMORY OF

GIVEN BY:

(Name(s))

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable to **First United Methodist Church**
(in the memo: Lights of Love)



Send a Note to Our Shut-Ins



Chuck	Patterson	785 Johnsonburg Rd.	St. Marys	PA	15857	Elk Haven
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	
Norm	McCoy	763 Johnsonburg Rd	St. Marys	PA	15857	Pinecrest Manor



REMINDER

Food Donations for the Christian Food Bank can be put in the box in the old kitchen or brought into the church office.

FROGGY STITCHERS

(the Froggy Stitchers meet in Asbury Hall on Thursdays)

The Froggy Stitchers Quilt Club have finished their community project for 2022. This year they chose to make receiving blankets and quilts for the Guardian Angel center. We donated 31 quilts, 41 receiving blankets and 13 crochet blankets.

We also continue to make comfort quilts for cancer patients. Whenever one of our members hear of someone with cancer, we give them a comfort quilt as soon as possible. We also give these quilts to others that need comfort because of a serious problem with their health. Pictured are members with representatives of the Guardian Angel Center and our quilts.



YOUTH GROUP

Sunday Evening 6-7 PM

AT CHURCH PAVILION (WEATHER PERMITTING) 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 9:00 AM

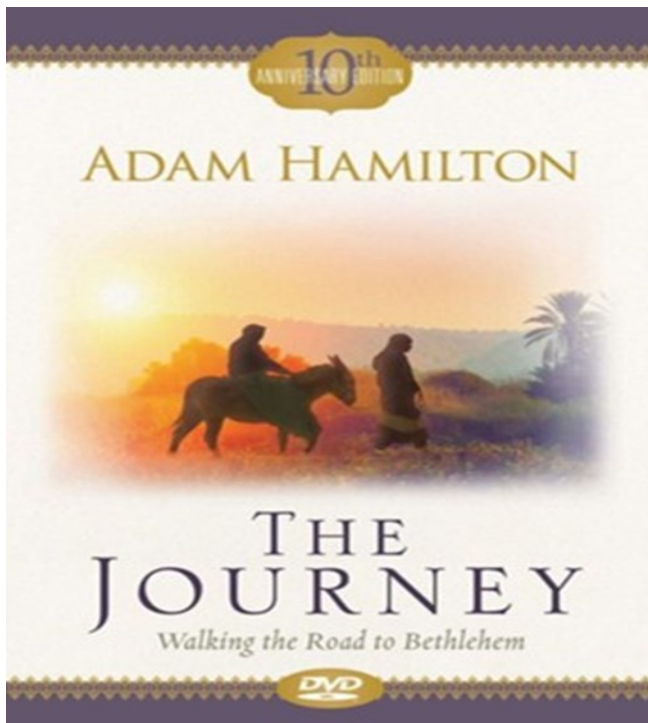
Classes being offered this school year are Kindergarten/1st grade, 2nd -5th grade & 6th,7th,8th grade. These classes meet downstairs. The Adult Class meets in Asbury Hall.

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.

***ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM***

***BEGINNING, DECEMBER, 2022
ASBURY HALL***



The Journey

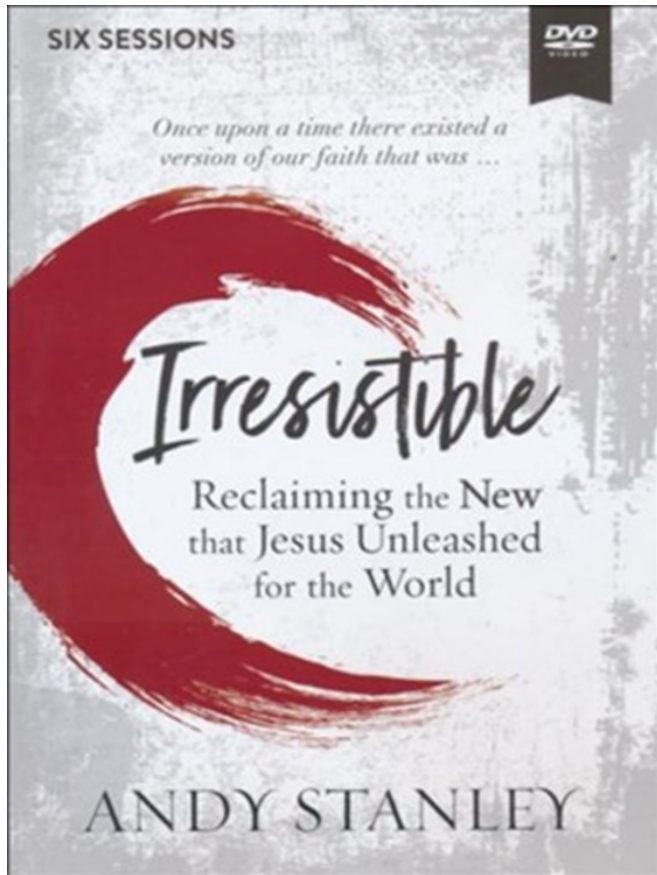
In *The Journey* video Bible Study, Adam Hamilton invites us to the Holy Land to research the customs, practices, and beliefs of the first century in this look at the people and places in the Christmas story.

He travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Hamilton once again approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.

Join us for this study based on portraits of the major characters and places in the Christmas story. Hamilton journeyed to the Holy Land to research this project, sharing customs, practices, and beliefs of the first century that open new windows to our understanding of the birth of our Savior.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
LEADER: SHAWNA GRIM

BEGINNING, January, 2023
ASBURY HALL



**Irresistible, Reclaiming the New that Jesus Unleashed
For the World**

Once upon a time there was a version of our faith that was practically . . . **irresistible**. What did first-century Christians know that we don't? In this six-session study, Andy Stanley will invite you to embrace the version of faith that, against all odds, initiated a chain of events resulting in the most significant and extensive cultural transformation the world has ever seen. A version we must embrace if we are to be salt and light in an increasingly savorless and dark world. Two thousand years ago, Christians risked persecution and death for the sake of their faith. What would happen if 21st-century believers followed their lead? Taking you back to a time when Christianity couldn't be ignored, marginalized, or eradicated, Stanley shows how the early church turned the world upside down---and how we can recover that same faith.

Andy helps us consider the faith modeled by our first-century brothers and sisters who had no official Bible, and little chance of survival. What made their faith so irresistible? Andy will invite you to embrace the faith that caused the most significant cultural transformation the world has ever seen and how Jesus's arrival signaled that the Old Testament was fulfilled and its laws reduced to a single verb - **love** - to be applied to God, neighbor, and enemy.



Activity Bags for Children
available in the back entryway.
Each bag contains hand sanitizer & tissues.
Feel free to take your
drawings or pictures home.

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.



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**

***During the month of October
Bowls of Love served a total of 320 meals***

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



**CHRISTIAN COUNSELING
ASSOCIATES OF WESTERN 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 CCAWPA@gmail.com

2022 United Methodist Women Looking Ahead

Monday December 5—Christmas Party

Have you ever thought about all the cooking and baking that goes on for
the UMW Annual Holiday Bazaar?

Here's a rundown of all the items they worked so hard making this year.

108 Apple dumplings
120 bags of Noodles
300 Pumpkin Rolls
5,300+ Cookies
45 pints Hot dog Sauce
350 quarts Chicken Rivioli Soup
125 quarts Beef Vegetable Soup
70 half-dozen packages of Sticky Buns
70 half-dozen packages of Sweet Rolls
300 pies—Apple, Blackberry, Blueberry, Pumpkin,
Apple Cranberry and Strawberry Rhubarb

The women are self-funded and 99.9% of the money raised by the UMW goes to missions.

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 Carol Cunningham
UM Women President Sharon Herzing



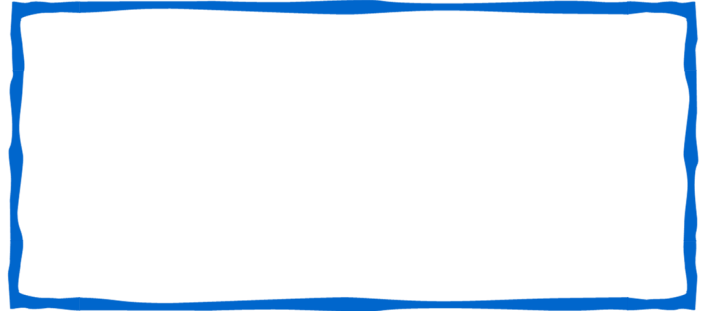
First United Methodist Church
140 N. Saint Marys Street
Saint Marys, PA 15857-1236

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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.



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.

