

The Circuit Rider
September, 2020
The First United Methodist
Church of Princeton
316 South Church Street
Princeton, Illinois 61356
815-872-2821
www.princetonfirstumc.com



From the Pastor's Pen

So we are now six months from when we started to do things differently in the church, in our lives, in our world. Where do we stand? I imagine few of us back in March really thought things wouldn't be basically back to 'normal' by now. COVID-19 has certainly had longer lasting effects than we originally thought. Thankfully we are now back to having in-person worship service, but they do look different than before. We usually have about 50 people; talented vocalists sing songs for us; I keep talking to a stuffed monkey in lieu of children; hundreds of people from several states watch the service online and at the time that works best for them. And a positive – the sermons are shorter now as we limit time spent in the building! Together, we've been able to weather this storm (as well as the derecho last month) pretty well. It's not been a lot of fun, and many of us have had to get used to something new that was considered an unchanging rock in our lives. But we've done it for six months – congratulations!

That's the good news...the bad news is that we'll have to keep doing this for longer. While I know we would love to just have everything back the same, we know it can't be. In order to be safe and healthy, we need to be vigilant. I can say that I am very thankful for the grace the PFUMC family has shown over the last six months. While things certainly have not gone all the ways we would have liked, people have been very willing to sacrifice and do what was needed for the health of all. I'm very thankful for that. Trust me – none of us are getting all of what we'd want! But we're still here; we're doing good works; we're providing for the spiritual needs of our community. As always, thank you for your support!

So that you have an update on some of the typical fall activities, here is what we know at this time: As long as Bureau County doesn't get worse in terms of the infection rate, we will continue to offer both in-person and internet worship services on Sunday. See the plan for the HOPE service printed later in this newsletter. Sunday School – The

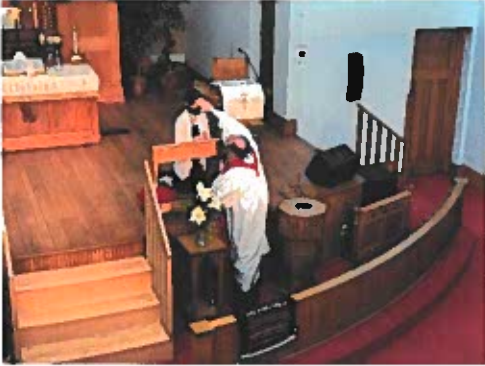
Younger Adult class and the College-Age group will continue to meet like normal. The older classes continue to be on hold – we'll announce in worship when they start up again. For children – our new Christian Education Director Kelli Pelham is working on a hybrid model of Sunday School for our kids. They will have the option of attending at the church or online. Unfortunately, we are still not allowed to have a functioning Nursery at this time. PDO – We are exploring the possibility of opening up this program to a limited amount of students in mid-September. Youth Group – A survey is going out to youth and parents to decide what they want to do. Mission Possible Kids – Kelli P will make decisions with this soon. Confirmation – PR has asked the parents for the youth's availability to meet. Hopefully we'll complete the final four or five meetings this fall. Meetings – We will continue to give the option to other various groups to meet in person in Cushing Hall while socially distanced, or via Zoom. The Chairs of these groups will make the decision. Social events – Unfortunately we continue to be under the guidance that states we can't serve food, and we have to limit the social contact we have in large groups. So we had to cancel events like the annual Picnic, and groups like 55 & Rising are re-thinking what they are able to do. I know that social interaction is a big part of the church experience, but we just can't do that well at this point. We pray and work for the day when we can do those things together again. Baptisms, weddings, funerals – The church is allowed to do these, but following the proper guidelines. I've been blessed to do three baptisms, two funerals, and a wedding in the church building this summer. Each was done differently than I'd ever done them before, but they worked! So if you have one of those spiritual needs, please let me know and we'll get something worked out. If there's something I haven't covered, please contact me and I'll give an update as I'm able.

The year 2020 will go down in history as being very different than any other year. We've had to change, grow, adapt. We've been frustrated and mad, and we've found we *can* survive without doing some things we thought we'd always be able to do. We long for what we had, but we're making it through – with God's help. May we continue to lean on our own resourcefulness, the help of others, and most importantly – God's grace to guide us through the rest of this year!

With God's blessings, Pastor Ryan

Pastor Ryan's cell phone: 815-499-6314
Pastor Ryan's e-mail: revryansutton@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR WEDDING/BAPTISM



Despite the restrictions and all the “No You Can’ts” that have ensued as part of a pandemic, we have been able to participate

in several “Nothing is Impossible for God” moments at our church. In August, Pastor Ryan baptized two children, both from the same family and both by their own request. Alyssa Marie Scott (10 years) and Alexander John Scott (7 years), children of Tonya Gewin and grandchildren of John and Jean Gewin, were baptized on Sunday, August 16 with their family and church family looking on proudly. Congratulations, Alyssa and Alex, on your baptisms!



On Saturday, August 1, Mike McKune and Kelly Davis celebrated their love for each other among family and friends (via live-stream and in-person). Their love and dedication to each other as they spoke their vows was evident to all who were a part of it. It was a beautiful ceremony officiated by Pastor Ryan. Congratulations, Mike and Kelly McKune! We

wish you well as you continue your journey in life together!

REPORT ON SECOND STORY AND SCHOOL SUPPLY FUND COLLECTION

In August, PFUMC collected change in our monthly Change the World drive for two projects – the Second Story teen center and providing school supplies for those in need. We are pleased to announce that at this point, Second Story received \$193.98 and School Supplies received \$103.17. Thank you so much for your generosity!

PFUMC WELCOMES TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome to our church staff two new very talented people. Kelli Pelham (*pictured at right*) has been hired as our new Christian Education Director. She comes to us from the great state of Alaska! She, her husband Jonathon, and three of their children moved to Princeton from ‘up north’ two years ago. They became members of our church in January of this year. Kelli has a lot of experience working in the church. She has been a church administrative assistant, a discipleship coordinator overseeing educational programs for children and adults, and has also worked with kids in a school setting. We look forward to working with Kelli as she oversees our children’s spiritual growth!



A new position in our church is the Audio/Visual Director. We are happy to announce that Josh Bush (*pictured at left*) has been hired for this position. Josh, his wife Fallon, and son Landon came to our church about four years ago and have been instrumental in making things work well. Josh has certainly shown this in stepping up to make sure the church services are reaching people this summer. We are happy to have Josh on board to run the equipment, train others and see what else we can accomplish with our internet outreach.

Whenever you see these two need additions to our church staff, please welcome them and maybe even make their lives easier by volunteering!

HELP WITH AUDIO/VISUAL

We will truly need people who have audio/visual experience, or are willing to learn 'on the job' to help out and train with Josh Bush in September. If you

could help us regularly or on a rotating basis, please contact Pastor Ryan. We would certainly appreciate it! We are willing to train!

CHOIR AND BELLS THIS FALL

Fall is here and the music department will be returning to the 8 am service. However, due to COVID-19, things will look a little different. The choir will be done virtually. We are recording the piano music and the choir is singing to the recording. I will mesh it all together and then record the sound and choir (lip syncing) together for a recorded performance. Its not as complicated as it sounds. If you want to join us let me know. You can sing with the choir without leaving your home!

The bell choir will be reduced to six players. Six people make it easy to comply with mask and social distancing requirements. We have plenty of music for six players and will be performing live!!

Karen Newby, Choir and Bell Choir Director

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

As we get ready to come back to the building for worship services, we need volunteers to help with various jobs. If you are comfortable coming to church for the 8 am service, please contact Pastor Ryan or the office to sign up. There are plenty of tasks to accomplish – from door holder to Sanctuary guide to cleaner/wiper-downer! We need about four volunteers per service to run things smoothly at the start. So please be willing to share your gifts and talents with your church if you're excited to get back to worship. We can certainly use your help!

Liturgist Training

We have a good rotation of people who can be called upon to help on Sunday mornings with the worship of God. But we can always use more talented people to help out! If you are interested in being a part of this group (helping out every 3 months or so), contact Pastor Ryan. We will have a training event coming up in September and will start working the individuals into the rotation in October. Talk to Pastor Ryan if you have questions or fears – it's relatively easy and no one has passed out from fright yet!!!

Our Table Update

Due to current restrictions, we are not able to have the Monday Our Table meals as we normally have. But the leadership group would still like to provide for those facing food shortages in our community. We are currently in communication with the Bureau County Food Pantry to see how we can help. We are also planning to provide grocery cards in the month of October to regular patrons of Our Table who are in need. If you would like to help, please consider giving to the 'Change the World' change offering in September as we raise the funds for this. The Our Table Board will continue to monitor the situation, and keep thinking of ways to help provide food for those who need it.

Young Adult Study Group

If you are a person in the 18 to 25 age range, we've got a group for you! A small group of our young adults have formed and are meeting to study and have discussion. If you are interested in joining, please contact Abby Davis at 815-878-9740 or Pastor Ryan in the church office.

SOFTBALL STANDINGS

We celebrate with the Summer Church Softball League that – even amongst the challenges of COVID-19 and all the safety measures that accompanied it, as well as a shortened season - the First United Methodist Team won third place in their season/tournament play this year. Congratulations, FUMC Team! We are proud of you!

SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS!

CHANGE THE WORLD FOR SEPTEMBER – Our Table

We are planning to provide grocery gift cards to those who are hungry in our community. Those who attended the Our Table ministry will be invited to receive these. But we have to raise some funds first! If you would like to contribute to this food-providing ministry, please drop your coins (and bills!) in the jar in the Narthex. Thank you for provide this most basic of needs!

HOPE SERVICE UPDATE

In late August, a group of people who normally attend the HOPE worship service met to talk about what they like about the HOPE contemporary service, how we can make it even better, and what

should be done about the fall season. We had a very good discussion and Pastor Ryan learned even more about the history of contemporary worship at PFUMC and hopes for the future. As we are now in the middle of pandemic times, no major changes were made but we are planning to have additional discussion sessions in the future to make the service what those attending want it to be.

The group decided that in order to be as safe and healthy as possible – and that there haven't been a lot of people attending this service since in-person worship began again, the HOPE service would continue on hiatus for the fall season. We plan to start it back up again in either the winter or the spring – when the pandemic eases and guidelines allow us to. But that doesn't mean we won't be able to hear contemporary music! We will incorporate some of these songs into the 8:00am service on a temporary basis to give a richer blend of music. And throughout the fall, we plan to record completely contemporary services and premiere them on our Facebook page and YouTube channel at 10:30am on certain Sundays. We want to provide our faith family with quality worship that feeds the soul; we will do that even during the strangest of times! Remember that these changes are temporary and we'll continue to dialogue about how we can best provide for the worship needs of our congregation when we are back to 'normal'. Thank you as always for your grace and understanding!

SEPTEMBER 6 COMMUNION

Once again, we will offer Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month in several different ways. For those who come to the 8am service, the individual packs of the wafer and grape juice can be picked up prior to going in the Sanctuary. Then we will eat and drink this Holy Meal together during worship. If you decide not to come to the service, Pastor Ryan will be in the parking lot at 9:15am with prepackaged, sealed, and blessed communion packs. He will wear a facemask and gloves. A wafer and grape juice container will be provided for each occupant in the car. He will say a blessing, you can take the elements, and then head home – knowing you've received that blessing from God. Join either way to participate in our Savior's Holy Meal!

PASTOR RYAN'S BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Ryan's study class has met during the summer, and will start meeting on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. It includes Bible study, followed by a discussion of life events. If you are interested in joining, please contact Pastor Ryan or Shelley Orwig for dates and information. The next meeting will be Sunday, September 13.

IN-CHURCH MEETINGS

We are now able to have meetings and gatherings at the church again! If you have 50 or less people in your group, you are invited to have your group meet in Cushing Hall. We have a designated space set up; you must follow all the proper rules and procedures. Please contact the church office to set up each meeting so we don't book groups on top of each other.

METHODISTS ON THE MOVE

The Adult Ministries Committee would like to announce that 'Methodists on the Move: 2020 Version' will be taking place this year on Sunday, September 27.

Please join us by participating in one of four activities:

1. making cards,
2. doing yard work at a local home,
3. shopping for a Food Pantry, or
4. buying and delivering treats to our local first responders/ hospital workers.

If you would like to participate, please let Marcia in the church office know by Sept. 20 which activity you would like to do so that we can make adequate plans for all who want to help out. The mission work will begin around 9:00am. Thank you!

BLOOD DRIVE - Sept. 24

Just a reminder that PFUMC will host the bi-monthly Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, Sept. 24 from 11:30am to 5:30pm. Sign up at the Red Cross' website for your appointment.

MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER

Education – Sept. 8 at 6:30pm
Staff/Parish – Sept. 8 at 5:45 pm via ZOOM
Our Table Committee – Sept. 15 at 5 pm
Adult Ministries – Sept. 16 at 4:30pm
Trustees – Sept. 21 at 6:30pm
Missions – Sept. 24 at 6:30 pm
Red Cross Bloodmobile – Sept. 24 from 11:30-5:30
Finance – Sept. 28 at 7 pm via ZOOM

ZOOM MEETINGS

We hope that you were able to be a part of our committee ZOOM meetings that we have had during the spring and summer months. Most have been successful although there have been some struggles. We apologize if you have had problems connecting. Technology does have its advantages and at times some difficulties. If you have a computer with a webcam, we will be able to see and hear you. If not, you can still join in by phone and you'll be able to hear and talk. All the information will be emailed to

you a day or so before the meeting. See Pastor Ryan if you have questions.

WORSHIP VIDEOS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Sunday worship videos are always available on PFUMC's youtube.com channel. To view them, simply type www.youtube.com into your internet browser. Then search for 'Princeton IL First United Methodist Church'. When you see one of our videos show up on your screen, click on it. If that's not the one you want to view, simply click on where it says 'First United Methodist Church' under the video that's playing. Then you'll be able to see the whole selection of videos you can choose. Videos are also available on the church's Facebook page – just scroll down until you find the one you want!

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2020 now in November

Due to concerns over the coronavirus and meeting with about 1,000 people in one space, the Northern Illinois Conference of the UMC has decided to hold their 2020 Annual Conference virtually. We will in essence have a gigantic video conference call to perform the essential business of the Conference. There are about 7 people representing our church at this event, so please be in prayer on Saturday, Nov. 14 as the work of the larger UM Church is accomplished.

REFRESHMENTS

As we return to in-person worship, we will not be allowed to prepare or serve "community shared" drinks and treats after worship service. Hopefully, we will be able to share our conversation and our snacks again soon.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL PERSEVERANCE

This has been a very difficult time for everyone in the world with all the changes that have come into play. But with all the difficulties have come some bright spots. So, on behalf of the PFUMC Finance Committee, we would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the people who have continued to contribute financially to the ministries of our church. Because of your dedication, the staff has continued to be paid; new technological items needed to get internet services out could be purchased right when they were needed; we could do the committee work of the church by upgrading our Zoom account! By keeping up your regular giving, our church can continue its ministries in providing

the love of God through Christ in our community and around the world. We ask that you continue that dedication as you are able so we can keep sharing that divine love with others. Again, thank you very much for your dedicated giving in difficult times. May God continue to bless you with generous hearts and good health!

Just a reminder that we have numerous ways in which you can get your financial giving to the church.

1. Via mail – 316 S. Church Street in Princeton.
2. In the locked white mail box near the main glass doors of the building.
3. Via your bank's on-line banking program. A physical check is then mailed to the church.
4. Through an automatic withdrawal (EFT/ACH) taken from your checking, savings or investment account. This can be done through your bank, or at our bank. **If interested, contact Marcia for the banking information (i.e. routing number and account number).**
5. Through PayPal. Just visit our website (princetonfirstumc.com) and click on the 'giving' button. Then follow the instructions. You can set it up for a one-time use, or on-going. See Marcia in the office if you have difficulties. *(FYI, the Finance Committee has decided to give credit for 100% of your PayPal gift – including any fees you paid).*

Again, thank you so very much for dedication in getting financial funds to us. We continue to do ministry because of God's grace and your support. May we continue to do what God is asking us to provide at this time!

NEWS OF THE FLOCK....



RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS/SURGERY:

Dale DeRose
Mary Jane Dolk
John Prinz

IF YOUR LOVED ONE IS IN THE HOSPITAL, PLEASE LET THE CHURCH KNOW WHERE THEY ARE AND THEIR STATUS. MOST HOSPITALS DON'T LET THE CHURCH KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS ADMITTED.

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

We share the grief with our church members,
family and friends on the passing of...

*Kristen, daughter of Sharon Sweger, on August
10th.*

Please keep these families in your prayers as they
mourn their loved one's passing.

Notes of Thanks:

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out with
phones and office work while I was on vacation.
They include: *Sharon Smith, Melody Powell, Rita
Dunlap, Kate Newby, Vicki Mair, Julie McCutchan
and Sherri Parker.* Your help was so valuable in
keeping the office running while I was away.

Marcia Peddicord

From Agnes Dunn: Once more, I want to say
'thanks' for the cards and words of encouragement
from all, even though I can't thank each one
personally. It has been a long haul, and per the latest
report, things are on the downhill slide. My leg
could break anytime, which would mean losing the
leg or a replacement. The doctors are saying surgery
is risky. A bone graft is not a good choice, so I'll go
for the surgery. No surgery date is set yet, but lots of
doctor visits. Rev. Terry came to talk to me, and he
said: "Yesterday is gone; today is here; this is it; live
it to the fullest; love and follow the Lord. Why worry
about tomorrow when it may never come?" It isn't
easy to do, but I'm trying. Thank you for the prayers

The Prayer Corner...

Remember in your prayers... all of our
members in nursing homes and spouses,
*Bill Wendle's sister & brother-in-law, Jan Heaton,
Pam (Carol Byrd's sister-in-law), Agnes Dunn,
Micah Wilmoth (son-in-law of Bill & Marg Wendle),
Bob Pollard (Pat Etheridge's brother), Bonnie
Schnaiter (Jenn Schnaiter's mother-in-law), Terry
(Christy Gramer's & Jennifer Merth's cousin), Paul
& Pat Eddy, Pat James, Brian Pierson (son of Roy
Pierson), Linda (Becky Guither's friend's
grandmother), Jean Gewin, Janet (Christy
Gramer's friend), Dale DeRose, Elinor Nelson, Joe
Depoy (Anna Roadhouse's nephew), John Prinz,
Howard Bence (friend of Patti Presthus), Harry
"Babe" Barton (friend of Alice Shofner), family of
Kristen, (daughter of Sharon Sweger), Christy
Olson & family, Health Care workers, the lonely, the
homeless, victims of social injustice, victims of
COVID-19, fire fighters and emergency personnel*



Parent's Day Out

If all goes well, we have a tentative start date of
September 15th for Parents Day Out! We are working
to make sure that we have all requirements for the
children and teacher's safety in place first and
foremost. We are changing rooms with the Sunday
school class to give us more space to stretch and
play! Teachers are set, plans are under way, and we
are looking forward to a great season! Be on the look
out for more details to come, video orientation
included.

If you know someone who would like to enroll their
child, we are accepting up to eight kids. If they are
interested in having their 2-4-year-old attend PDO,
please have them message Kelli for an application.
Our session will be running Tuesday and/or
Thursday from 8:30am - 11:00am, with tuition
costing \$10 a day. Kelli can be contacted by email at
fumcpr.ced@gmail.com or on the PDO Facebook
page.

Sunday School

Hello everyone! The plan thus far is to have in
person Sunday school available starting September
13th at 9:15 am. We will also have an online version
available for those watching from home! If you are
planning on attending either in person or online
please contact Kelli Pelham at
fumcpr.ced@gmail.com or call/text at 907-978-
9089 so she can get the curriculum set up for each
family.

Also! If you are interested in helping lead or assist
the children's Sunday school class, we welcome the
help. Give Kelli a call or drop her an email, and we
can work on making that happen. Volunteers are a
blessing and a necessity when it comes to fully
functioning programs in the church.

In-person Sunday school classes will be observing all
requirements for helping keep the children and
teachers safe. This will include special entrances and
exits for class, as well as social distance and
sanitizing stations. If you have any questions or
concerns, you can contact the church or Kelli.

ACOLYTES

We are looking to start having acolytes again. To
keep things safe, we are looking at only one per
Sunday service. If your child has been through the
training and would like to start again, please let
Kelli Pelham know so she can get you on the

schedule. If you have a child in K - fifth grade who is interested, let us know so we can get them started. Thank you so much!



OUR MIDWEEK CHILDREN'S PROGRAM IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Thank you for your patience. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the church office or Kelli at fumcpr.ced@gmail.com.

Our midweek program Mission Possible Kids will be taking a break this fall. We are in the process of bringing some new and exciting changes to the program! We will call this our "Under Construction" mode for now. Kelli has put together a survey in regard to preferences with the children's midweek service. If you would like to have an opportunity to add your input, drop her a line at fumcpr.ced@gmail.com and she can email it right over to you! Thank you all for your patience as we work to make this a great season for the children!



FUMC YOUTH HAPPENINGS

The Youth have been enjoying meeting this summer. Socially distanced while enjoying the great has been a great way to do devotionals and have discussions. This month we studied the Good Samaritan parable and talked about what terms we would use for 'Samaritan' in our current culture. It made for a great discussion and I am amazed at how mindful our teens are-no matter the age.

After being disconnected for so long, it has meant a lot to be able to connect in this way. I really appreciate how great all the parents and teens have been at being so flexible with all the changes that have been going on. I don't think there is an aspect of their lives that has not been impacted by all this. August gave us some time to evaluate what we wanted Youth Group to look like and what we wanted to plan for in the coming year. I have no worries that they will be able to adapt to any changes that will be thrown at them. One of the changes you will see is that Junior High and Senior High will

continue meeting at separate times. It allows us to have the smaller groups and connect easier. It also helps us social distance better. With the changing landscape, it allows everyone to reevaluate how and why we do the things we do. The age groups will still have times when they are all together throughout the year.

Be on the look out for more updates with Youth Group! - *Kelly McKune*

Financial Report General Operating Fund July 2020

Income		
Pledges	\$22,131.25	
Plate	73.00	
Interest	18.10	
Pass Thru	<u>2,049.78</u>	
	\$25,224.12	
Disbursements/Expenses		\$(23,396.13)
General Fund Bal, July 31		<u>\$ 1,827.99</u>

Eight Months of Apportionments have been paid to date.

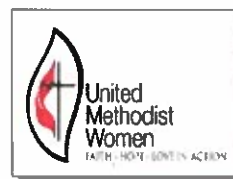
Respectively, Fallon Bush, Treasurer

2020 Pledges

Pledges for 2020	\$258,065.01
Pledges received thru July	148,380.91

At 58% of the year completed, we have received 58% of pledges toward our budget in 2020.

Marcia Peddicord, Financial Secretary



Let Your Light Shine

UMW Calendar

Sept 23	1 pm – UMW General Meeting Via in-person/ZOOM Program: True Wahlgren – Insider's View of D.C.F.S.
Oct 21	1 pm – UMW General Meeting Via in-person/ZOOM Program: TBA
Nov 18	12 noon – UMW Board Meeting 1 pm – Thank Offering Hostesses: Pat Eddy, Rosie Baumgartner
Dec 2	12 noon Program: PHS Madrigal

Choir
May 2022 UMW Assembly - Orlando,
Florida

UMW UPDATE

By Julie McCutchan

School has started—in a very different way than what we have been used to. A big thank you to teachers, parents, administrators, and students who are adapting to these busy times. Our prayers go out for their safety, health, and learning in the coming year.

UMW adapted as the Elgin and Aurora Districts co-sponsored a beautiful Day of Renewal featuring Jane Rubietta speaking via live-stream on Facebook on August 1st. The theme was “Celebrating at the Well....Peace Hope and Healing in our Desert Places.”

Then Mission u was presented in three sessions, on Zoom, with Rev. Young Mee Park presenting the study “Finding Peace in an Anxious World,” using Reinhold Niebuhr’s “Serenity Prayer” as an outline.

Now we have the opportunity to meet the challenge of turning our faith, hope, and love into action in new ways in 2020. Our September meeting is scheduled for Wed. September 23rd. Those who feel comfortable meeting at church will meet at 1 p.m. in Cushing Hall with masks and social distancing. We may make it a Zoom time as well---keep posted. True Wahlgren will give her program (originally scheduled for October) “Insider’s View of D.C.F.S.”

We were scheduled to host the DeKalb District UMW Fall Meeting here on September 26th. This will now be a virtual meeting. Pray for the leadership team as they plan and adapt to presenting with new technology. We are working to make this available to those who do not have computers.

Our mission may be a bit challenged during 2020, but with the power of the Holy Spirit we will learn, grow, and ADAPT!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sally Farrell
Cheyanne Taylor
- 2 Roger Bruyn
- 3 Joan Gibbs
- 4 Ed Pakosz
- 8 Connie Lind
Angela Noble
- 9 Katherine Beavers
Deb Eckberg
Alyssa Pleasant
- 13 Dorothy Denton

- Heather Moore
- 14 Sheryl Noel
Carol Pakosz
- 15 Carolyn Anderson
Ron Denault
Pamella Jackson
Jenah Sims
- 16 Les Orwig
- 17 Lark Fisher
- 18 Matthew Denault
Deanna McCutchan
- 20 Bob Hudson
Christine Rucinski
- 23 Sierrah Taylor
- 25 David James
Jeffrey Lucas
Riley Lucas
- 26 John Damon
Romala Dolk
- 27 Nolan Frank
Rebekah Pickett
- 28 Mert McIntosh
Patti Nelson
- 29 Braydyn Kruse
- 30 Daniel Brewer
Peggy Hopper
Marissa Pelham

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Rex and Ann Lasson
- 8 Jon and Tara Knipper
- 16 Scott and Jodee Zelenik
- 17 Jay and Lara Schneider
- 18 Larry and Deb Lawson
- 22 Ivan and Charon Freeberg
Emmet and Hazel Sims
- 25 Stuart and Lynette VandeVenter
- 26 Lyle and Brenda Lund

If you are a member or regular attender who has a birthday or anniversary this month and your name does not appear on this list, please contact the office to update our files.

MONTHLY REFRIGERATOR CLEANING

The Trustees have begun doing a monthly cleaning of the Kitchen fridges to make sure there is not moldy food in them nor completely out-of-date items. All groups and individuals are asked to make sure that a date and group name are put on stored food. Please also follow the expiration date on the

packages, as expired food is susceptible to being thrown out for health reasons. Please contact the Trustees if you have questions. Thanks for helping us keep our Kitchen safe and sound!

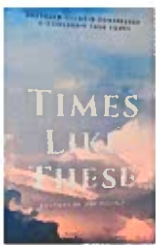
AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM

If you are going to order from amazon.com, please remember to use [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile). For every order that you make through amazon's charitable giving site, our church receives .5% of the money you spent. And it doesn't cost you anything more! If you have questions, please call the church office and we'll walk you through how to register PFUMC as your charity of choice.

55 & Rising

Our group will not meet in September due to ongoing restrictions. The trip to the Celebration Belle that was scheduled for September 10 has now been cancelled. Stay tuned for our newsletter postings as we hope to be back at our normal meetings as soon as we are allowed.

Booklet of Devotions



During the months of March and April, the Discipleship Task Force, led by Rev. Caleb Hong and Karen Bonnell, DeKalb District Co-Lay Leader, collected and published daily devotions, poems and prayers through the UMCNIC conference Facebook page. The submissions

were so popular and received so many comments that they decided to develop a booklet of these submissions entitled "Times Like These." The booklets are now available for download at www.umcnic.org (or pick up one on the table in front of the church office). Or you may purchase one or more on smile.amazon.com for the cost of \$7.25 each. The funds collected from each book will be donated to UMCOR's COVID-19 relief fund. Many clergy and laity submitted items to this book, including Bishop Sally Dyck, District Superintendent Brian Gilbert, and our own Certified Lay Minister, Marcia Peddicord.

Tornado Safety Guide

Roughly 1,000 tornadoes per year are reported to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Tornadoes are intense, violent storms that feature a column of air that extends from a thunderstorm cloud to the ground.

Tornadoes can occur anywhere in the world. However, the US experiences more tornadoes than any other country. According to Verisk's Property Claim Service, tornadoes accounted for 39.9% of insured catastrophe losses from 1997 to 2016 and the average annual loss on these severe storms was \$11.23 billion.

Tornadoes, although impressive to watch, are volatile storms with great power. They have the capability to flip cars, destroy buildings and send deadly debris flying into the air. Intense winds can reach more than 200 miles per hour.

The Department of Homeland Security notes that there are many things people can do to keep themselves safe from tornadoes before, during and after these storms.

Before:

Understand and learn about the risk for tornadoes where you live. People in the midwestern and southwestern US have a greater risk of experiencing tornados than those elsewhere in the country.

Establish a safe room in your home, which can be a basement or a cellar. In rooms with no below-ground levels, the safest place is a small, interior room on the lowest level away from windows and doors.

Sign up for emergency alert warning systems that cater to your area so you know well in advance if a tornado is coming. Practice what to do in the event of a tornado so the entire family knows what to do if disaster strikes.

Keep tornado readiness supplies handy. These include clean water, batteries, flashlights, a battery-powered radio, and packaged nonperishable foods.

During:

Move indoors into a safe location for the duration of the tornado. Tornadoes blow through quite quickly so timing is of the essence. If you cannot get to shelter, lay down flat in a low-lying area.

Do not go under a highway overpass or attempt to outrun a tornado in a vehicle.

Take additional precautions by shielding your head and neck with your arms or putting furniture and blankets around you to protect against debris.

Keep small children and pets close by and protect them as best as possible. Strapping an infant into a vehicle safety seat may be a good safety measure.

After:

Assess the situation for safety after the tornado has moved through. Watch for downed electrical lines and check for the smell of gas. Do not turn on any appliances or switches if you detect the aroma of gas.

Do not try to move anyone who seems seriously injured unless they are in immediate danger. Call and wait for help if needed. It may take time for emergency personnel to reach you.

More information is available at www.ready.gov/tornadoes.

ACOUSTIC WORSHIP SERVICE

on a Saturday night!

Because we are living in different times, Pastor Ryan is going to do something different this fall. On a Saturday night in September and also in October, he is planning out a worship service that will be different from the norm. In September, it will be 'acoustic'. He will play the piano for all the songs - and they will be the ones YOU choose that evening! There will be a sermon as well as joys and concerns - all in about a 45-minute span of time. Then you can head out to eat or watch a movie! This is not to take the place of any service - simply to provide an additional service in a different way. Then in October, this Saturday night service will feature contemporary music. Be watching the Sunday morning announcements and the mid-week devotional for the days and times.



The world according to Student Bloopers

Excerpts from Richard Lederer's 8th-grade students at St. Paul's School

(spelling and punctuation are not corrected)

The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Guinnesses, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, asked "Am I my brother's son?" God asked Abraham to sacrifice Issac on Mount Montezuma. Jacob, son of Issac, stole his brother's birthmark. Jacob was a patriarch who brought up his twelve sons to be patriarchs, but they did not take to it. One of Jacob's sons, Joseph, gave refuse to the Israelites.







The inhabitants of Egypt were called mummies. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere, so certain areas of the dessert are cultivated by irritation. The Egyptians built the Pyramids in the shape of a huge triangular cube. The Pramids are a range of mountains between France and Spain.

Pharoah forced the Hebrew slaves to make bread without straw. Moses led them to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments. David was a Hebrew king skilled at playing the liar. He foughth with the Philatelists, a race of people who lived in Biblical times. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 500 wives and 500 porcupines.

Watch for more of Richard's excerpts in coming newsletters.

September 2020 at First United Methodist Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6 8 Worship with communion via in-person or live-stream 9:15 am - 10:15 am "Drive-thru" communion in parking lot</p>	<p>7 </p>	<p>8 Emmaus Reunion Gp at Big Apple 5:45 Staff Parish via ZOOM 6 Elm City Bells Sextet 6:30 Education (SS Room) 7 Young Adult Study Gp</p>	<p>9 Princeton Chippers 4 Princeton Chippers to record Sunday's song</p>	<p>10 11:15 PMA via ZOOM 1:30 Jr. Hi Youth 6:30 Nominations via ZOOM 7 Sr. Hi Youth</p>	<p>11 9:30 Prayer Shawl Gp</p>	<p>12 Marcia on call at Perry</p>
<p>13 8 Worship via in-person or live-stream 9:15 RALLY SUNDAY Sunday School Begins 9:15 Pastor Ryan Bible Study (in person)</p>	<p>14 10 Monday Bible Study at Zearing Park</p>	<p>15 8 Emmaus Reunion Gp at Big Apple 8:30  5 Our Table Board Meeting - Cushing Hall 6 Elm City Bells Sextet 7 Young Adult Study Gp</p>	<p>16 4 Princeton Chippers 4:30 Adult Ministries 7 Choir-Meet via ZOOM to record Sunday's song Marcia on call at Perry</p>	<p>17 8:30  1:30 Jr. Hi Youth 7 Sr. Hi Youth Marcia on call at Perry</p>	<p>18 9:30 Prayer Shawl Gp</p>	<p>19 Marcia on call at Perry</p>
<p>Marcia on call at Perry 20 8 Worship via in-person or live-stream 9:15 Sunday School via in person/ZOOM 9:15 Pastor Ryan Bible Study (in person) Marcia on call at Perry</p>	<p>21 10 Monday Bible Study at Zearing Park 6:30 pm Trustees in Cushing Hall</p>	<p>22 8 Emmaus Reunion Gp at Big Apple 8:30  6 Elm City Bells Sextet 7 Young Adult Study Gp</p>	<p>23 1 - UMW General Mtg in Cushing Hall or ZOOM 4 Princeton Chippers</p>	<p>24 8:30  RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE in CH 11:30 am - 5:30 pm 1:30 Jr. Hi Youth 6:30 Missions 7 Sr. Hi Youth</p>	<p>25 In-Person Worship: Social Distancing reqd Facemasks expected No Hymnals/Bibles Bulletins provided via e-mail on Fridays</p>	<p>26 Marcia on call at Perry DeKalb District UMW Fall Virtual Meeting</p>
<p>27 8 Worship via in-person or live-stream 9 am - Methodists on the Move</p>	<p>28 10 Monday Bible Study at Zearing Park 7 pm Finance Committee</p>	<p>29 8 Emmaus Reunion Gp at Big Apple 8:30  6 Elm City Bells Sextet 7 Young Adult Study Gp</p>	<p>30 4 Princeton Chippers 7 Choir-Meet via ZOOM to record Sunday's song</p>			



The First United Methodist Church of Princeton, Illinois
Sunday Worship Services

Worship Service
Sunday School for All Ages (September-May)

8:00 a.m.
9:15 a.m.

Reverend Ryan Sutton
Fallon Bush
Josh Bush
Vicki Cabral
Dan Dace
Kelly Davis
Charles Gebeck
Pat James
Al Kniss
Karen Newby
Marcia Peddicord
Kelli Pelham
JoAnn Roberts
Chris Rucinski

Pastor
Treasurer
Audio/Visual Director
Lay Leader
Custodian
Youth Director
Organist
Pianist
Chancel Choir Accompanist
Handbell Choir Director/Chancel Choir Director
Administrative Assistant/Financial Secretary
Christian Education Director/PDO Director
Head Custodian
Nursery

Church Office
Church General E-mail
Church Website

(815) 872-2821
fumcsecretary@gmail.com
princetonfirstumc.com

The First United Methodist Church of Princeton
316 South Church Street
Princeton, IL 61356

**POSTMASTER:
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**Jesus will never “leaf” us
September 2020 Circuit Rider**