



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

11:00 AM

Joys and Celebrations

Announcements

Chimes of the Trinity

Prelude

*Whiter than Snow*, Composer William Fischer  
Duet Dr. Sandra Fortune and Janice Russell

Please be seated and prepare for worship with quiet meditation and prayer.

Introit

*On Eagle's Wings*

Call to Worship

We gather here, where God would teach us  
**to be more compassionate, to be more loving.**

We gather here, where Jesus would teach us  
**the wisdom to choose forgiveness over holding a grudge, the language of hope so we may speak to all.**

We gather here, where the Spirit imparts wisdom  
**so we might know how to share grace, so we would learn to welcome in this place. Amen.**

\*Hymn 389

*Freely, Freely*

\*Opening Prayer

\*Apostles' Creed 881

\*Gloria Patri 70

Offering of Our Gifts

Offertory

\*Doxology 95

Anthem 452

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

Children's Sermon

Sandra Fortune

Prayers and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer 885

Choral Response

*Amen*

Scripture Reading

*Matthew 18:21-35*

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*Forgiveness*

\*Hymn 402

*Lord, I Want to be a Christian*

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction

*On Eagle's Wings*

\*Postlude

Items in **Bold** are unison. Items with an asterisk (\*) denote standing as you are able.

Announcements

**Upcoming Dates to Remember**

- ◆ **October 21: Bazaar**
- ◆ **October 31: Trunk or Treat**
- ◆ **November 5: Pick up Thanksgiving Bags**
- ◆ **November 19: Filled Bags returned**

Blessing Box is today, September 17.

We're cleaning out the closets at FUMC and the following items were found: a four-slice toaster, a blender, a buffet range (hot plate), a stainless sterno food warmer, and a crockpot. If any of these items are yours, please plan to retrieve them by Sunday, October 1, or they will go looking for a new home at the Boutique.

Nominating Committee: After worship on September 24. Members are Pam Stout, Billy Walker, Sharon Holder, Louisa Littlejohn, and anyone else who wants to participate.

District Conference: 3 pm Sunday, September 24 at Gray UMC. All church officers are invited to attend.

Annual Bazaar and Chicken BBQ is October 21. Signup task sheets are posted near the mailboxes. There are tasks for everyone. Stay tuned for more information as the date gets closer.

UWF meets second Thursday of the month.

Men's Group meets the third Saturday of the month.

Concerns: If you want to make changes to the prayer list or to have an announcement placed in the Sunday bulletin, please contact Pastor John Crabtree.

Online: Please remember you can join both the weekly "Coffee with Pastor John" and Sunday Worship services on YouTube, Facebook, or the church website. These videos are also archived on YouTube and Facebook.

Volunteer Schedule

| Date   | Coffee        | Greeters    | Children's Sermon | Children's Church | Bulletin Board |
|--------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 03-Sep | Littlejohn    | Brown/Auld  | Communion         | Payne             | Payne          |
| 10-Sep | Payne         | Holders     | Yates             | Pennington        |                |
| 17-Sep | Holder        | Sijthoffs   | Fortune           | Walsh             |                |
| 24-Sep | Bellamy/Smith | Evans/Peake | Crabtree          | Bontrager         |                |

Reverend John Crabtree, Pastor  
 Church Phone (423) 727-7554  
 Pastor's Phone (423) 494-4045  
 Pastor's Email: revcrab@gmail.com  
 Dr. Sandra Fortune, Organist  
 Janice A. Russell, Pianist