



London, Ohio Est. 1813

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE TOWER CALL

November/December 2022

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### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### Children's Church

In the near future on Sunday mornings after the Children's Moment, children will be invited to go upstairs for Children's Church. Scott Higgins is teaching this group, but is in need of another adult volunteer (in keeping with our Safe Sanctuary policy). Please contact Scott or Pastor Dave to volunteer—for one Sunday a month or every Sunday! This group does not meet on Sundays where we are serving Holy Communion so the children and receive communion.

#### Ignite! Youth Group

Sunday evenings at 6-7:30 PM our Ignite! Youth Group meets at the church (or sometimes there are special activities elsewhere). Our Director of Youth Ministries, Katelyn Hanna needs an adult volunteer to be present for these meetings. This is in keeping with our Safe Sanctuary policy. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board by the elevator doors, or contact Katelyn at [katelyn@londonfumc.org](mailto:katelyn@londonfumc.org).

#### London Old-Fashioned Christmas

On Sunday, November 27 our church will be hosting several activities for this annual event. The hours this year are 2-6pm. The London High School band and choirs will be performing in our sanctuary.

Volunteers are needed to help with our **Soup and Sandwich Café** in the Fellowship Hall. Funds raised will be split between our Ignite! Youth Group and another charity (in past years we have donated to Sufficient Grace or the Madison County Food Pantry). Please see Mikki Budd or text or call her at (614) 330-0252.

Volunteers are also needed to help with our cookie decorating station and kids craft area. Cindy Gross is coordinating this, and will need several volunteers. Please see Cindy or contact her at 740.506.5840 or [cgross57@yahoo.com](mailto:cgross57@yahoo.com)

#### The Welcome Table

Our church will be serving Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 22. Please call or text Cathie Littleton for menu and details—(614) 589-3114.

#### DOWNLOAD OUR APP!

You can download it from our website, [www.londonfumc.org](http://www.londonfumc.org)

There is an instructional video on the website for online giving - [www.londonfumc.org](http://www.londonfumc.org)

Our directory is online for members. Access it from our website—contact Gail for the password. [gail@londonfumc.org](mailto:gail@londonfumc.org)



## The Pastor's View

Reverend Dave Leckrone

Senior Pastor

I've discovered there's no point in pining for something that's gone and won't return, but still I do miss the days when Christmas season started the day after Thanksgiving. Over the past fifteen or so years the Christmas season has crept up on Halloween, and this year I saw Christmas decorations out in some stores in September. That's just the way it is now.

But with this reality I want you to remember the why of the seasons we are approaching and celebrating.

For example the why of Thanksgiving is to give thanks to God for the blessings He gives us. This first occurred in the commonwealth of Virginia in 1607, and was the clear and stated point for this day set by President Washington for Thursday November 26th in 1789. In 1863 President Lincoln set the date for this thanksgiving as the last Thursday in November, and President Roosevelt signed the day into federal law as the fourth Thursday in November in 1942. We must not lose the day, nor the reason for it.

And in the busyness of the holidays, we must also hold onto the why of Christmas, which is that in the fullness of time, meaning God's good time, a savior was sent, to save the world from sin and death. Think about that for a minute: to be saved from sin and from death. Awesome does not begin to describe what God has done for us.

In the midst of all that the next two months brings, don't lose sight of the why, and think about what your response could be to God, who has truly given us grace upon grace

May the peace and assurance of Jesus Christ be with you now and always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Dave". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

Pastor Dave

## Ignite! Youth Group News



### *Youth Adventures:*

Some youth group members had an exciting day at the Renaissance Festival. Walking around, there were immersive experiences through watching jousting, knight fights, and even getting the opportunity to (safely) throw knives! Sara and Lilly were able to meet new friends and create memories that will last a lifetime.

The youth group will be heading out to a local farm for their next excursion in November. Stay tuned for more fun adventures and check out the youth bulletin board in the church for current pictures of the lively outings.



### *Personal note from the Director:*

I am quite humbled by the huge welcome my husband and I have received here at First United Methodist Church. It has been refreshing to attend a church where everyone knows

(continued on page 4)





everyone (or close to it). My husband and I have prayed for a congregation where we can truly grow our roots; you all are an answer to those prayers!

I am quite excited about the opportunity to be the Director of Youth Ministries and plan to make every effort to teach the students about our Lord while creating a safe space for them to wrestle with their beliefs. Fostering a relationship with Christ is of the utmost importance and I intend to teach them the tools they will need in order to have a fruitful life walking deeply with Jesus, if they choose to do so.

I am constantly reminded of the words of Isaiah, *"If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all."* As the world continues, destruction and divide progresses. If we are not firm in our faith and trust in Jesus, then we too will be divided and destroyed. My hope for the youth and future generations to come is that they know Jesus intimately and have a faith where they are able to stand firmly on so that they bring peace as they walk in the way God has for them.

Please continue to join me in prayer over our youth. Pray that they may be led in wisdom, have a teachable heart, and choose to walk deeply with the Lord God. Pray also for me, that I may always have a humble heart before the Lord and guide the students in the way they need.

~Kate

*"We were created out of love, for Love."*



It's time to donate new, unwrapped toys for the annual Holiday Helpers Firefighter Toy Drive! Rick and Sheryl Dickerson are once again heading up this toy

drive for our church. This is such a wonderful outreach ministry. Working with the Madison County Department of Job and Family Services, toys are distributed to children who may not otherwise receive a toy for Christmas. **The deadline to donate is: December 4.**

Join Us!



Madison County Area Emmaus Community

## EMMAUS COMMUNITY GATHERING

First United Methodist Church of London  
52 N. Main St, London, OH 43140

**Sunday, November 13, 6:30pm**

Bring a dessert to share and plan to fellowship with your Emmaus brothers and sisters.

We are updating our contact information for all Madison County community members.

Please send the following information to Kim Lattimer-Reeder: [artistkrl@icloud.com](mailto:artistkrl@icloud.com)

**name, email, postal address,  
phone number, walk # and location**



Join our facebook group to keep up on our community happenings!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/703663240676903>





# OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

*in downtown London, OH*

## SUN, NOV. 27



### FUN FOR ALL!

#### 12:30PM

**FREE AT LONDON STATE THEATER:**

- *A Christmas Story* - Showtime 12:30pm

#### 2PM-6PM

##### ABOUT TOWN

- Holiday shopping
- Face painting
- Carriage rides
- Christmas crafts
- Christmas story readings
- Cookie decorating
- Caroling & live music
- Christmas wreath raffle

##### AT MCDONALDS

- Meet Santa & Mrs. Claus and Reindeer
- Cindy-Lou Who & The Grinch
- Disney Princesses

##### AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:

- Soup, sandwich and dessert cafe fundraiser benefiting Sufficient Grace and the FUMC youth group programs.
- Performances from London High School band & choir
- Cookie decorating & crafts

##### FOOD TRUCKS

- Tortilla Street Food
- Schmidt's Sausage Truck
- Little Bear
- Flatbread Impressions

**PRESENTED BY THE 1811 DOWNTOWN DISTRICT**

Design by Jackie Call, Santa portrait by Peters Photography & printing donated by The Procter Store



## Poinsettias



The Worship Team will be decorating the Sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas and taking contributions for the Christmas Eve Altar decorations. The deadline for placing orders is Sunday, December 11. The poinsettias will be on display in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve and will be available to take home following the 11pm Christmas Eve service. Please complete the form below, enclose your payment and drop-off or mail to the church or place in the offering plate. Make checks payable to FUMC and please indicate "Poinsettia" in the memo line. Please print!

### **One Poinsettia - Red, Pink, Jingle Bell (red and white) or White (circle one)**

☐ In memory of      ☐ In honor of      ☐ In gratitude of      ☐ In celebration of

Given By (*as it will appear in bulletin*): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of person(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Second Poinsettia - Red, Pink, Jingle Bell (red and white) or White (circle one)**

☐ In memory of      ☐ In honor of      ☐ In gratitude of      ☐ In celebration of

Given By (*as it will appear in bulletin*): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of person(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Third Poinsettia - Red, Pink, Jingle Bell (red and white) or White (circle one)**

☐ In memory of      ☐ In honor of      ☐ In gratitude of      ☐ In celebration of

Given By (*as it will appear in bulletin*): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of person(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Altar Arrangement Donation**

☐ In memory of      ☐ In honor of      ☐ In gratitude of      ☐ In celebration of

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given By (*as it will appear in bulletin*): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of person(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Poinsettias: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$15.00 each

Total Donation for Altar Arrangement \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed for all purchases \$ _____
--

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Your E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you need more space, please use back of this form.**

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gail Baker at the Church, 740-852-0462 or [gail@londonfumc.org](mailto:gail@londonfumc.org). Mail to: FUMC, 52 N. Main Street, London OH 43140





### SAVE THE DATE—DECEMBER 24, 7PM AND 11PM

Christmas Eve candlelight services have been a cherished tradition for churches in the United States and around the world for many years.

This year will be no different, as First United Methodist Church of London plans special services to mark the coming of Christmas.

Our church has offered candlelight services for well over 100 years (possibly 200 years) – no one knows exactly how long, but the tradition of candlelight services itself traces back to Europe in the 1600s. It is a meaningful way to symbolize the light of Christ coming into the darkness in the world.

The advent wreath with the Christ candle in the center emulates the light of Christ. One candle of the advent wreath is lit each Sunday of December until the final one — the central Christ candle — is lit for the Christmas Eve candlelight service. The Advent candles represent hope, peace, joy and love.

Then we take that candle and light everyone's candle from that light, and you can see the light on the congregation's faces. The light of believers is magnified and has all the symbolism of light when Christ was born.

First United Methodist Church will have candlelight services at 7p.m and 11p.m

### Sisters in the Lord



Praying Women Warriors of Praise and Worship, Sister to Sister, Heart to Heart, Walking BOLDLY with the LORD! Faith, Fellowship, & Fun. Celebrating GOD's Blessings and the blessings of being a Woman of God and letting Our Lights Shine for GOD! We are Sisters in the LORD encouraging and inspiring one another at our Monthly gatherings! "Fuel for the fire!" Sharing the blessings of GOD! Walking Boldly where He leads! Sisters On One Accord with the LORD!

If you have questions about this group, see Mikki Budd or Twila Boyd. All women of the church are welcome to attend. No reservation required.

#### Upcoming Sisters in the Lord gatherings

- ◇ November 12 at Faith Assembly, 2600 US Rt. 40 1pm-3pm
- ◇ December 10 at River of Life Church (pastor Gay Gossard), 4453 Big Plain-Circleville Rd. 1pm-3pm

# A non-denominational share/support group for all who are grieving

**All are welcome**

**Date:** Wednesdays beginning November 9  
**Time:** 7:00pm

First United Methodist Church of London  
52 N. Main Street, London oh 43140



When a loved one dies, facing the holidays can be difficult for those in grief. When we're mourning, it can be hard to feel jolly and full of cheer.

Beginning November 9th, London First UMC is offering a grief group. The group will offer a safe space for people in grief to share with one another and find support as they mourn.

**Contact:** Beverly Hume, MDiv, 614-746-3962  
untanglelifeknots@gmail.com

## CONTINUAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Evone Banks, Carolyn Blauser, Buddy Byers,  
Sue Jackman, Bea Riegel, Dave & Marty  
Shaw, Sally Sisterhen, Betty Stidham

## CURRENT PRAYER REQUESTS

Carol Albright, Corinne Baker,  
Harriet Baker, David Bell, Laura Beyer,  
Barbara Bogenrife, Kim Braddock,  
Allison Carpenter, Jayden Clark,  
Marguerite Cooley, Toni Daniels,  
Woody Draper, Allison Engle, Linda Evans,  
Tylor Freeman, Gladys Griffith,  
Carole Gordon, Jane Hackworth,  
Mick Harris, Linda Holloway,  
Gary and Cindy Hoback, Roger Horsely,  
Gary Hunter, Bill Justice, Patrick Madden,  
Jessica Martin, Melinda McKenzie,  
Whitney McKenzie, Norieta McMunn,  
Beverly Miller, Chuck Miller, Anna Nichols,  
Nancy O'Hara, Pauline Persing,  
Dylan Lee Prophater, Walter (Bud) Purnell,  
Michele Ramsey, Sean Sabulsky,  
Wyatt Setty, Christine Shuff,  
Robert Stallings, Marilyn Stewart,  
Rob Suter, Diana Vick, Heather Vollman,  
Jack Waterman, Kenneth Weimer,  
Barb White, Donna Wilson,  
Gretchen Wingert, John & Glo Foote's  
daughter Tami

## SERVING ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

Army Major John Crisp ~  
Navy Lt Commander Tom Crisp ~  
Sgt First Class Mathew Rowley

*Please pray for the family and friends  
of those who have given their lives  
for our nation.*

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**November  
Liturgist**  
Don Weldon

**December  
Liturgist**  
Lorraine Terry

**November Ushers**  
Joe Brackett, Chair  
David Emrick  
Mary Emrick

**December Ushers**  
Matt McCann, Chair  
Karen Summers

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<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1001623>



# THANK YOU VETERANS



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED • 11TH NOVEMBER • VETERANS DAY

**November 6, 2022**

**During our 10am worship service on Sunday, November 6 we will honor those among us who served or are serving our country in our military services.**

**Our church has a proud heritage of members who have dedicated themselves to our freedom. Your service to our country is so appreciated. God Bless You!**

*Please mark your calendars for*  
**Sunday, December 18, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**

*Madison County Arts Council presents*

## *Sounds of the Season*

*A Holiday Celebration of Music*

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

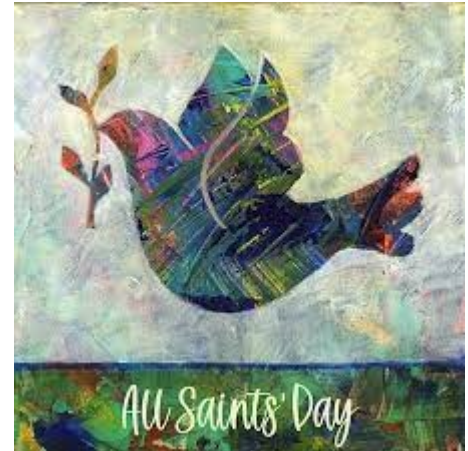
**52 North Main Street - London, Ohio**

*Vocal and Instrumental Selections*

*Audience Christmas Carols*

*Organ Selections on First Church's historic  
Johnson & Son/Muller Pipe Organ*

**\$10.00 suggested donation**



**All Saints Day**

**Sunday, November 20, 2022**

As is our United Methodist tradition, we honor the Saints of our church who have gone before us in the past year with a special ceremony during our 10am worship service. This year we will honor the memory of:

Diane Byers, Barbara Cligrow,  
Sheryll Green, Geraldine Henry,  
Ted Hunter, Gene Pass,  
Roger Shyrock, Kathy Shoaf and  
Dan Snell.

If you know of someone who has entered into God's Glory this past year who is not on our list, please contact us immediately.



David & Dorothy Kellar	November 01, 2015
Kelley & Pamela Meredith	November 07, 2009
Joe & Sue Mosier	November 10, 1972
Tom & Melinda Straley	November 12, 1983
Jerry & Terry Reynolds	November 14, 1992
Dan & Dixie Truxall	November 17, 1973
Kevin & Kim Downing	November 19, 1988
Phil & Felica Isaacs	November 20, 1982
Henry & Mandy Comer	November 21, 2004
Sid & Ginny Edwards	November 22, 1959
Dave & Jill Leckrone	November 30, 1996
Robert & Jen Minner	December 09, 1995
Aaron & Abby Dunham	December 12, 2009
Bill & Janet Jones	December 16, 1991
Paul & Caren Rarey	December 16, 2019
Eric & Marie Brunner	December 18, 2000
Rick & Lisa Davis	December 22, 1989
Steve & Beverly Hume	December 29, 1980
David & June Mohr	December 30, 1983

Jessie Minner	November 01
Tyler Dickerson	November 04
Anita Stringer	November 04
Gail Baker	November 05
Kenny Davis	November 05
Kyra Leckrone	November 05
Sydney Miller	November 05
Pat Anderson	November 08
Kali Boyd	November 08
Pam Dailey	November 08
Beth Garverick	November 09
Sandra Minner	November 09
Marilyn Stewart	November 09
Mindy Foucht	November 10
Madison Grimm	November 10
Jill Jones	November 10
Zane Foucht	November 11
Desaree' Long	November 11
Matt Rowley	November 11
Kyle Bell	November 13
Greg King	November 13
Robin (Jan) Schoeller	November 13
Edie Stroup	November 13
Ric Bell	November 14
Benjamin Davis	November 14
Terrill Hay	November 14
Bill Kelly	November 15
Tina Pace	November 15
Luca Schoeller	November 16
Gladys Griffith	November 17
Logan Cleaver	November 18
Henry Comer	November 18
Piper Gowdy	November 18
Chris Shellabarger	November 18
Helen Studebaker	November 18





Chantal Weldon	November 18
Richie Boyd	November 20
Jim Moore	November 20
Michael Ater	November 21
Josie Cover	November 21
Tori Yoder	November 22
Paul Gross	November 23
Avery Semler	November 23
Garrett Weldon	November 23
David Jackman II	November 25
Tim Wilson	November 25
Seth Evans	November 26
Lily McClelland	November 28
Adam Rowley	November 28
Parker Clawson	November 29
Reese Duffey	November 29

Lester Hamblin	December 03
Katelyn Hanna	December 03
Cameron Jasper	December 03
Jeff Kepner	December 03
Annette Rinesmith	December 03
Donald Weldon	December 03
Richard Flax	December 05
Emma Townsend	December 05
Katie Dennison	December 06
Darlene Abner	December 07
Noah Hunter	December 08
Betty Stidham	December 08
Melissa Fellure	December 09
Abby Finney	December 09
Joan Hay	December 09
Charles Johnson	December 09
Caleb Craig-White	December 10
Brandon Miller	December 10
Denise Roach (Worthington)	December 10

Hayden Conley	December 12
John Foote	December 12
Howard Reynolds	December 12
Dorothy Kellar	December 13
Mike Potts	December 14
Benjamin Risner	December 14
David Junk	December 15
Raymond Higgins	December 16
Bob Snyder	December 16
Dick Snyder	December 16
Douglas Finney	December 17
Sid Edwards	December 18
Addison Leach	December 18
Mark Weese	December 18
Andrew Bennett	December 19
Barb Lindsay	December 20
Ryan Crisp	December 21
Rachel Lewis	December 21
Max Ford	December 22
Payton Rowley	December 22
David Mans	December 23
Alli Moore	December 23
Jan Potts	December 24
Holly Salyer	December 24
Buddy Byers, Jr.	December 25
Debra Hay	December 26
Robert Higgins	December 26
Ryan McClelland	December 26
Scott Stromquist	December 26
David Barker	December 27
Rachel Jordan	December 27
Nancy Weese	December 27
Tom Davis	December 28
Quincy Gross	December 28
Jackie Barker	December 29
Elizabeth Cleaver	December 29
Lizzie Rumpz	December 29
Melinda Scott	December 29
Jim Shade	December 29
Vincent Cover	December 30
Christi Payton	December 30



We frequently have guests stopping by for a tour of our beautiful church. Dave Emrick happened to be here with the Zoo Crew on a Friday morning, and gave these OSU graduate engineering students from Taiwan the grand tour!

### DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION?

We are aware that some of our members have cancelled their home phones and are using cell phones instead. Please contact Gail Baker,

[gail@londonfumc.org](mailto:gail@londonfumc.org) or 740-852-0462 to provide your correct phone number if you have changed. Additionally if you have changed email addresses, please let Gail know.

If you have a birthday or anniversary and are not on these lists, it is because you have not provided us with birthdates and/or anniversary dates. Please help us keep your church records up to date.

### Staff

Resident Bishop.....Bishop Gregory Palmer  
Capital Area South Superintendent.....Rev. Dr. Timothy L. Bias  
Senior Pastor.....Rev. Dave Leckrone  
Executive Assistant, Tower Call Editor.....Gail A. Baker  
Director of Youth Ministries.....Katelyn Hanna  
Director of Music/Organist.....Jeff McConnaughey  
Financial Manager.....Tara Shoemaker  
Custodian..... Sandy Fisher  
Webmaster.....Brian Benedum

### For Pastoral Needs:

Pastor Dave Leckrone:  
Office Phone (740)852-0462



### **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LONDON**

52 North Main Street, London, Ohio 43140

Telephone: 740.852.0462 Fax: 740.852.7606

Website: [www.londonfumc.org](http://www.londonfumc.org)

Email: [fumc52@londonfumc.org](mailto:fumc52@londonfumc.org)



Thank you so much to those of you who financially supported our Fall Baked Steak or Pork Tenderloin dinner.

A huge thank you to the many volunteers who baked cakes and cut and boxed them, fried steaks and pork tenderloins and loaded them into the roasters, prepared the seasoned green beans, prepped the potatoes for mashing, made and dished up the cole slaw.

Thank you to everyone who set up the garage and the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to the runners, those who dished up the meals, those who handed out water and ice cream, those who added cake and slaw to the orders and those who did clean up. Thank you to the dishwashing crew. Thank you to those who received or counted and deposited the payments.

Finally, a huge thank you to the one who orchestrates this event each time, the chair of our Board of Trustees, Tim Wilson.