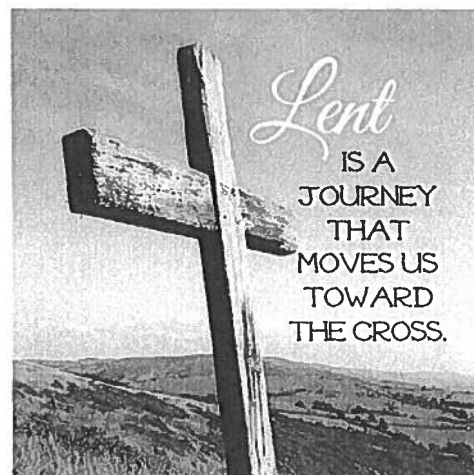
 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
KITTANNING PA 16201
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

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ARC LINK
NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2019



ALLEGHENY RIVER CHARGE

Senior Pastor: Rev. Deb Kociban

Associate Pastor: Brenda Sommerville Schall



First United Methodist Church-301 N Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA 16201 724-548-4312

Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11:00 AM **email:** fumchurch@windstream.net

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 – 4:00 PM **Website:** firstchurchkittanning.com

Fax: 724-548-5157 Rainbow Road: 724-543-7569

Parsonage- 307 N Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA 16201 724-543-4808

Ford Memorial United Methodist Church-1024 Fourth Ave, Ford City PA 16226 724-763-1540

Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11:00 AM **email:** fordmemc@windstream.net

Office Hours: Website:

Manorville United Methodist Church-P.O. Box 174, 800 Water Street, Manorville PA 16238

Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM Youth Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM

Office Hours: Website:

email mumc@windstream.net 724-763-1254

Union Avenue United Methodist Church-421 Union Ave, Kittanning PA 16201 724-543-5012

Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM **email:**

Office Hours: Website:

Apr 1

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE,

Please get articles to Audrey no later
than March 18th. Thank you





Pastor Deb's Message

I'll give you a new heart, put a new spirit in you. I'll remove the stone heart from your body and replace it with a heart that's God-willed, not self-willed.

Ezekiel 36:26 (The Message)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

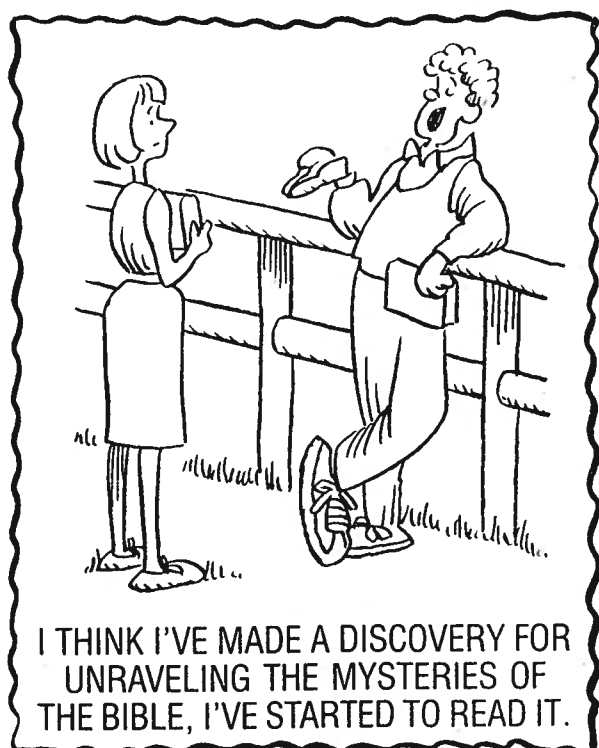
My Aunt loved to take family photos. Whenever we were together there her camera was. She especially loved to take pictures while we were on vacation. We have pictures standing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, pictures taken at historical sites around Pennsylvania, and the occasional picture simply taken in the backyard. For several years when I was about 6 or 7 years old the family pictures all have one thing in common. I am not facing the camera. The only thing you see is my back.

As we begin to journey through the Lenten season remembering our sinfulness and the grace of God displayed in Jesus, we should be encouraged by the words of the prophet Ezekiel. God is already fully aware of our stubbornness and willfulness to do this life by ourselves and in our own way. God already knows that our hearts toward God and towards others is sometimes as heavy as stone. And yet, God has promised to put a new heart, and a new spirit within us and to give us a heart that longs to do God's will and not our own. All this is accomplished when we believe in the Resurrected Christ.

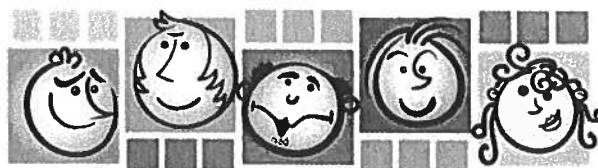
My back was turned in the photos because I was too stubborn to turn around. I did not like having my picture taken every 10 minutes and everywhere we stopped. So, I did the only thing a 7-year-old can do, refuse to cooperate. If my Aunt was not going to stop photographing us then she would have to do it with my back turned! And so, she did. I have relented over the years and will pose and smile nicely for the camera, but I still don't like it. Some things will never change!

But thanks be to God, for God has changed our hearts when we accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. We no longer live according to our own willfulness and stubbornness and carrying around a heart of stone. Now we have been given new hearts filled with desire to seek God's will and overflowing with the grace and love of Jesus. During our Lenten journey let us endeavor every day to put our new hearts to work doing the will of God with love.

Blessings,
Pastor Deb



I THINK I'VE MADE A DISCOVERY FOR
UNRAVELING THE MYSTERIES OF
THE BIBLE, I'VE STARTED TO READ IT.



MEETING

Bishop's General Conference Debrief Meeting:

This meeting will present decisions made at the Special General Conference with a time for questions. It will be on **Saturday, March 2nd** at First United Methodist Church, 301 W. Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767. It will be from 4-6:50 PM. All laity and clergy are invited to attend this important meeting.

MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

March 3, 2019

Last Sunday after Epiphany
Exodus 34:19-35, Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:12, Luke 9:28-36

March 10, 2019

1st Sunday in Lent
Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Romans 10:8b-13
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16, Luke 4:1-13

March 17, 2019

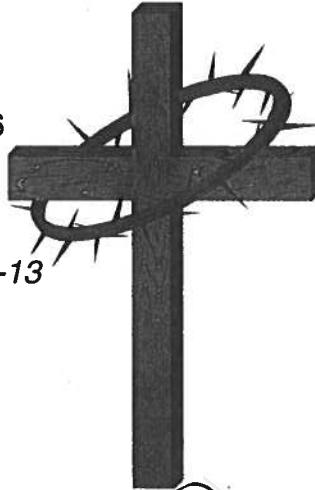
2nd Sunday in Lent
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

March 24, 2019

3rd Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

March 31, 2019

4th Sunday in Lent
Joshua 5:9-12, Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



(First Church)

WELCOME CENTER READERS

3 Sarah Heckert
10 Melissa Flanders
17 Karen Scaife
24 Beverly Patton
31 Mary Jo Lipski



3 Sue Hankey
10 Jim Ternent
17 Natalie Green
24 Merissa Smith
31 Karen Scaife



(Manorville)

FINANCIAL TEAMS

3 Jim Boarts & Jack Bennett
10 Judie Reesman & Luella Bennett
17 Bob & Dianna Brocious
24 Lynn Sibley & Sandy McKee
31 Lois Hawk & Kay Rupp

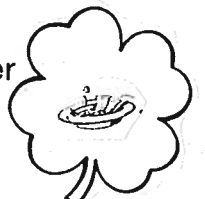


GREETER- Mike Snyder



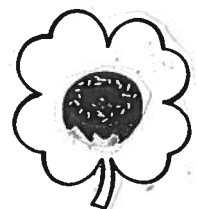
USHERS

3 Sandy McKee & Lynn Sibley
10 Jim Orton & Jim Boarts
17 Steve Arblaster & Mike Snyder
24 Lois Hawk & Nancy Gaul
31 Lynn Sibley & Sandy McKee



DONUT SPONSORS-2019

Mar-Lois & Hyatt
Apr-Lynn & Sandy
May-Lisa Czapor
June-Chuck Coffman
Jul-Steve Arblaster
Aug-Bob & Di Brocious
Sept-Mike Snyder
Oct- Jack & Lu Bennett
Nov-Jim Orton
Dec-JB& Nancy



Cost is \$25, donuts have increased in price to \$26.97. You are asked to please clean up afterwards. Thank you.

SOUND SYSTEM

3 Tim King
10 John Wolfe
17 Bill Lemons
24 Tim Scaife
31 Gabe Smith



COUNTERS

3 Ternent
10 Yankasky
17 Flanders
24 McKelvey
31 Scaife



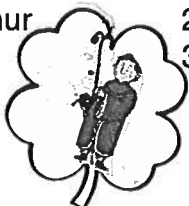
USHERS

3 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski & Communion
10 Epworth/Melissa Flanders
17 Epworth/Melissa Flanders
24 Oxford/Mark Ferguson
31 Oxford/Mark Ferguson



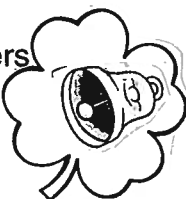
ACOLYTE

3 Ryan Bish
10 Dane Dimond
17 Isaac Zielinski
24 Joey Kachur
31 Ryan Bish



BELL RINGERS

3 Carlee Beers
10 Max Dimond
17 Chelsea Beers
24 Dane Dimon
31 Caden King





CASUAL CHURCH

(Manorville)

6:00 PM second Wednesdays of the month. Everyone is invited and are welcome! Food, fun, fellowship, worship

Wednesday, March 13th

Minestrone soup and corn chowder, assorted drinks and desserts.

Musical program-Bruce Shaffer



SIFT LUNCH

(First Church)

Thursday, March 21, 2019

12:00 Noon-Covenant Center

PROGRAM: Nadine Wise, Silver Sneaker Instructor at YMCA-the importance of balance and how to improve yours.

MENU: Irish Stew, Crackers, Roll & Butter, Sherbet

Reservations by Monday, March 18th



RAINBOW ROAD PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

(First Church)

Rainbow Road will be having Open House on Monday, March 11th from 6:00-7:30 PM. if you are interested or you know of someone who is, please invite them to come see our classroom and meet our teachers. We are also accepting applications for 2019-2020. We have programs for 3 and 4-year-old children. If you have any questions, please call Linda Scaife, Registrar, at 724-664-5347

VBS 2019

(First Church)

Mark your calendars, grab your camera strap and buckle your seat-belts. **VBS 2019** will take you on a wild adventure—with elephants and egrets, polar bears and penguins, cockatoos and crocodiles. As we seek out exotic animals, we'll also find snapshots of real-life encounters with Jesus in Scripture. Kids will go from bewildered to believing as they get **In the Wild** at this summer's VBS.

June 17-21. 9:00-noon Children ages 3 years thru 6th grade. Helpers and help needed in all areas from coloring and cutting decorations at work days or at home ahead of time, planning games, making nametags, being a crew leader to teaching the lessons the week of VBS. We hope to see you there!



LICENSING SCHOOL

(Manorville)

Manorville will be hosting the Licensing School on Saturdays in March thru April (excluding April 20) with graduation April 27th. Prayers are asked for the students who are on the road to being a pastor on some level-Local, CLM, ordained, or anything in between. Saturdays in March from 9:00-5:00 PM. Pastor Sara Wrona is the registrar.



First Church's Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a Family Game Night on **Saturday, March 23rd** from **6:30-9:30 PM** in the Covenant Center.



We are going to have a game night
At the Covenant Center, it will be all right
Bring cards or your favorite game to play
And mingle and listen to what all have to say
Bring yourself something to drink
And if you wish, a snack to help you think
We hope lots will join the fun,
It's for children, adults, and everyone.

Questions, please call 724-548-4312

DAFFODIL DAYS

"Hope By the Bunch"

March 18-24, 2019 in
Armstrong County Support
the American Cancer
Society/local "Relay for
Life" by buying bunches of
daffodils. Call 724-834-
5116 with questions.



TRUSTEE

(Manorville)

Our next Trustee Work day is **Wednesday, April 3rd** at 1:00 PM. All hands on deck. Lots of things need fixed up-inside and outside. Your assistance would be appreciated.

6 LENTEN FISH DINNERS

(First Church)

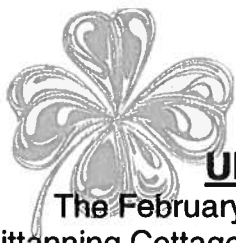
Our first Lenten Fish Dinner will be held on Friday, **March 8th** and will continue through Friday, April 12, 2019 at the Covenant center from 4:30-6:00 PM.

MENU: Baked or Fried Fish or Sloppy Joe Sandwich
Baked Potato, Curly Fries or Macaroni & Cheese
Cole Slaw or Applesauce, Roll, Beverage & PIE
Adult \$9.00 Children \$4.00



Come and eat, bring your family and friends.

We need pie bakers and workers to help for all 6 Fish Dinners. Can you help? If so, please fill out the sign-up sheet in this newsletter and let us know if you can help and which weeks. Keep the top half as your reminder and return the bottom half to the church. Thank you!



UPDATES ON MINISTRIES

UNION AVENUE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UPDATE

The February 4, 2019 meeting of the Union Ave. United Methodist Women was held in the Kittanning Cottages Community Room with 6 members in attendance. The meeting was opened by Karen Wolfe-president, Hostess-Carolyn Ingram, Minute Missions-Peggy Say, Prayer Calendar-Donna Titus.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

I have not received any notification from Shop 'n' Save as of this meeting for use of the Hot Dog Hut for 2019 as a fund raiser. The funds raised by UAUMW and donations from church members in 2018 were used for the following missions:

Blessing Bags	Blessings in a Backpack	Turkey Fund	Shut-in Baskets
Feeding The Hungry-Salvation Army	School Kits-UMCOR	Laurie Potter-missionary	
Collection of food for Lenape Tech	Community Action Agency-Christmas Family		
Ramps of Hope	Christmas Sock Tree for Veterans (100 Pairs)		

We received Thank You cards from Community Action and our Christmas family with a picture of the children we supported for Christmas.

HAPPENINGS AND NEW BUSINESS FOR 2019:

1. We will be making baskets for our shut-ins in March.
2. Will ask for a volunteer for the reading program for 2019 at the next meeting.
3. We will continue to support the Ruth Smith Home.
4. The Tin Can Man from 1st Church reminds anyone who would like to donate cans for recycling and to raise money for 1st Church missions that only pop cans and cans made of aluminum (drink cans) can be used-not all cans.
5. It was discussed about helping to sponsor a person studying for the mission field through Red Bird Mission. Will make a decision next meeting.
6. As per the ARC newsletter for January 2019, used pill bottles will be collected. Please remove labels.
7. Manorville is collecting shoes in good condition to be taken to Conference for missions of Erie-Meadville District
8. Do we want to sell Rada Cutlery as a fund raiser? Will decide next meeting.
9. We will send money for Prayer and Self Denial + postage and part of our pledge to the District UMW.
10. Peggy will schedule May 6, 2019 with the Adrian store for our Mother/Daughter banquet to hold the date. We will decide our menu next meeting.

Meeting adjourned with our next meeting to be on March 4, 2019.

Secretary, Ellen Nelson



MANORVILLE NURTURE COMMITTEE NEWS

The end of January brought our Souper Soup Sunday. We had nine different soups and grilled cheese sandwiches to enjoy. We also had homemade bread from Pastor Brenda. Everything was so delicious and the fellowship was so good that no one wanted to leave. We will be having our next fellowship lunch on March 17th at noon. There will be a sign-up sheet so we know how much food to prepare. We had a bake sale at our spaghetti dinner and did quite well. Thank you all for your baking and for your buying! Hope to see you at MUMC on the 17th. Love you all. As always, thank you for your support.

In Christ, Judie Reesman



MISSIONS AND MISSIONS UPDATES

2019 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

(First Church)

Our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity continues.

In 1995 a project was started in First Church Vacation Bible School to teach our children about missions-helping other people. Collecting aluminum cans to raise money for Habitat for Humanity has been our VBS mission emphasis ever since.

In 23 years, through June 22, 2018, we have collected 705,440 cans, giving \$11,996 to Habitat. Over the years several other churches, fire halls and community individuals have joined in.

We invite our sister churches to join in our aluminum can collection. I will supply a collection container for each church that is interested and pick up their cans monthly. If your church is interested, let me know 724-548-7124 or 724-859-0819.

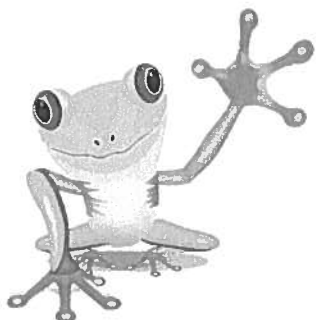
Cans received (January 15-February 15) 4,140

Cans received since end of VBS June, 22 2018—21,399

Please continue or start saving aluminum cans of all sorts (pop, tea, fruit juices, health drinks, power drinks, beer and any other type of aluminum cans).

Drop them off at the ramp behind the church at any time. Thanks to the folks at Arc Manor for continuing to save their 195 drink cans and to be in Mission with us.

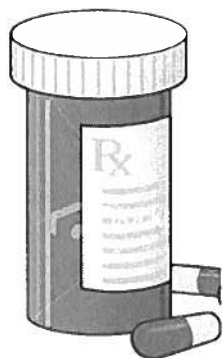
Thank you, The Can Man (Jim Ternent)



PILL BOTTLE MISSION

(Manorville)

Manorville is continuing to collect empty pill bottles of all sizes and colors. When you empty them bring them in to Manorville (with personal info removed). You can use Goo-Gone to remove the sticky residue. They will then be washed, dried and sorted by color and placed in large Ziplock bags to be shipped to African or Asian countries. In many small villages the people don't have "containers" to take the medicines home with them. This is a win-win. They won't be going into our landfills but going for a second good use. They will be collected at least thru the summer.



EASTER CANDY ORDERS

(Manorville)

We will be selling Easter candy starting at the Spaghetti Dinner **(February 16th)**.

Milk chocolate, white chocolate, and krispy. All sizes of crosses and Easter symbols. Proceeds go towards the powder room. Support your church and fill your kids' Easter baskets.



FORD CITY FOOD CUPBOARD

(Manorville)

A reminder that there is a basket right inside the front door for your generous donations to the Food Bank. Bags, cans & boxes of staples are always needed to feed the disadvantaged who are signed up for assistance. God bless you. A list of suggested (regular monthly) items is on the back table.





MISSIONS FOR MARCH

(First Church)

Our church family will have a dual Missions focus for March:

1. Paint Project for Life Choices - One of the needs that Life Choices has is to paint the patient rooms in their Butler clinic. We will assemble a **'paint team'** to help this need, gathering at 7:45 a.m. at the Covenant Center on **Saturday, March 16**, leaving by 8:00 AM, painting until early to mid-afternoon. (I can feel your excitement as you read this!) Wear paint clothes and bring a bag lunch. (Anticipation of a good lunch is very important!) Life Choices will provide the paint and tools, we just need to provide the **'people power'**. We welcome anyone in our churches to participate. Just let Kathy, Meaghan, or Janet know.

Since this paint day for Life Choices is a "hands on project", involving no monetary expense on our part, we will offer another opportunity to us to financially give:

2. Rise Against Hunger - We look forward to participating again in this international hunger relief program. First Church will host it on **Saturday, September 21** at the Covenant Center. As host church we will need at least 20 persons (8 years and older) to join the assembly line (takes about 3 hours), a group of able persons to help set up tables and bring in boxes (probably at 7:30 AM, taking only about 1 hour.), and one or two groups of pleasant kitchen helpers (to handle an early morning snack and lunch). About 6 or 7 other nearby churches will join us on the 21st, donating their financial gifts and bringing their assembly line volunteers. This event will involve about 90+ people and is why, as host church, we will need to do our share to help this day be a success. During March we will begin to collect our financial gifts toward our share in **Rise Against Hunger**.

May God inspire us as we give of ourselves and help lift up others. God bless, Missions Team-Kathy Piechowicz, Meaghan Volek, and Janet McKelvey

"If you cannot feed a hundred people, then feed just one." Mother Theresa.

UMCOR KITS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(Manorville)

Manorville has begun collecting items for the Health Kits, Flood Buckets, and School Kits. These kits could go anywhere in the world to assist people who have suffered disasters in their lives. Eastbrook Mission Barn collects them and they are shipped out to areas in need. Lists are on the back window. Some items have been changed so be sure to check the new lists before purchasing them.



2019 Lenten Schedule

Tuesdays 7pm		
Date	Speaker	Host Church
March 12 th	Rev. Ed Walters	First Methodist
March 19 th	Rev. Sue Foster	St. Luke's UCC
March 26 th	Rev. Mike Bobbitt	First Baptist Church
April 2 nd	Rev. Deb Kociban	Simpson Bible Church
April 9 th	Rev. Carl Johnson	Cornerstone Asm of God


FORD CITY MINISTERIUM

The Ford City Ministerium is also hosting Lenten evening services. The dates for those are March 11th, 18th and 25th as well as April 1st and 8th. These are casual services that begin with a potluck dinner at 6:00 PM followed by a brief service. Ford Memorial will be the host church for all services which are held in the social hall.

Wednesdays at Noon at Grace Presbyterian Church		
Date	Speaker	Food
March 13 th	Rev. Dana Wilmot	Grace Presbyterian
March 20 th	Lt. Luke Barney	The Salvation Army
March 27 th	Fr. Doug Dorula	St. Mary's
April 3 rd	Rev. Mark Brady	First Baptist Church
April 10 th	Pastor Walt Marr	TBD

Good Friday Service Friday, April 19th at 12:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran.

The speaker will be: Rev. Joshua Webb



Give thanks
to the LORD,
for He is good.

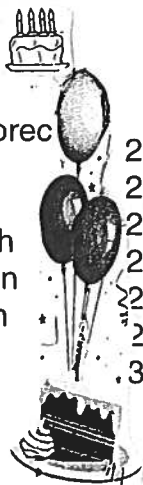
Psalm 118:29

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST CHURCH

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Pastor Brenda Sommerville Schall
 3 Alice Ternent
 4 Thomas Hicks
 4 Glenn Krozely
 6 Trenton Podvorec
 7 Dan Cornman
 10 Tom Hicks
 11 Amanda Leech
 12 Linda Cornman
 13 Barb Gaughan
 19 Tara Green
 20 Franklin Tarr
 21 Janessa Shriver
 21 Gabi Zielinski
 22 Larry McKelvey
 25 Lora Williamson
 27 Bob Buzzinotti
 27 Tim Scaife
 30 Lilah Hogamier



ANNIVERSARIES

- 17 Tom & Tara Hicks-7 years
 21 Derek & Tara Green-10 years
 27 Tony & Robyn Green-9 years

MANORVILLE

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 John Welch
 8 Gertie Black-98
 12 Nicholas Shaul
 12 Tia Brocious
 15 Luella Bennett
 20 Taylor Relich
 21 Doris Schmela
 25 Ashley Zolocsik
 27 Leia Maria Wolfe (JB's g/dau)
 30 Lois Hawk
 31 Elly Lucia Russelburg



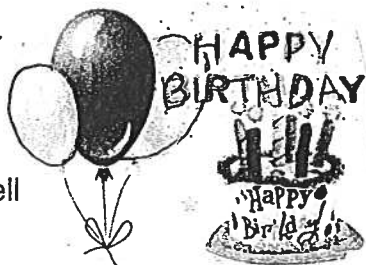
ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Andrew & Pam Snyder
 18 Tamie & Glenn Lytle
 20 Ed & Lorraine Zielinski

FORD MEMORIAL

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Grace Kamer
 17 Jill Strong
 21 Eva Say
 22 Abby Skillen
 27 Beulah Mitchell



UNION AVENUE

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Joyce Martin
 10 Toby Long
 11 Roberta Matthews
 21 Anita Fine
 21 Hap Cornish
 25 Gretchen Ulsky



ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 William & Suzanne Stivason
 8 Bruce & Donna Shaffer

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed and you would like it to be, please let Audrey know. Thank you