

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor Susan's Note.....	2
Pastor James' Note.....	3
Music Director.....	4
Events.....	5
Financials, Camp.....	6
Calendar.....	7

UPDATE– The Merger

Our congregation voted to merge with Pine Street United Methodist Church on Sunday, June 2, 2024-unanimously. The Pine Street Church congregation voted unanimously to merge with Faxon-Kenmar Church on the same day. What a big decision for both churches. May we continue to move forward in taking those steps for God's kingdom through joining forces with other disciples of Christ here in Williamsport.

After months of exploration, praying and discerning, our congregation determined that our best path forward is to merge with Pine Street Church to enhance and expand our ministry and mission. Due to the decline of membership, finances and people to carry out the ministry, mission and administration of our congregation, we took a brave, faithful step to merge.

The team of 8 (four people from each congregation), our consultant and two Project Managers, Lisa McGinniss from Pine Street and Jan Warren from our church, met on June 9, 2024. During our afternoon meeting, we framed out the plan for the next two months for our transition. Our last Sunday worship as Faxon-Kenmar Church is at 10 a.m. on June 30. The first Sunday worship of the newly merged Pine Street Church is at 10 a.m. on July 7. Let us trust that God will open the way to work through us to bring love and peace and hope to our Williamsport community and places around the world.

Jan Warren will be our "point person" to guide us through our necessary steps of transition, as she consults with Lisa McGinniss and Rev James Wooster at Pine Street Church. Jan can be reached by email at kunesj@comcast.net, or by phone at 570-971-5026. Please contact her with your suggestions, so that we may benefit from experience and ideas from you.

Please see other notices in our newsletter about our remaining merger steps. Watch for additional updates in the coming weeks. And, as always, pray for God's Holy Spirit to be working in the middle of our changes. Thank you.

Notes from Pastor Susan

Seasons of the life of our church and the season of our ministry together these last 6 years have been rich and full! As with all seasons, there is an ebb and flow. We experienced the joy of our full life of ministry and mission at our 75th Anniversary Celebration this Spring. We have remembered the many disciples of faith in our congregation over the decades of years of our life as Faxon-Kenmar United Methodist Church. God has been in the mix of our life together. God has called people into a life of faith-little ones, youth and adults. And we, as the people of Faxon-Kenmar Church have responded to God's call in ministries locally and to people in need of hearing about the healing power and love of Jesus. Praise be to God for the many who have served God in this way to bring love to our world, to bring the message of the saving grace of Jesus. Our church has been a light to the world!

Jesus is the risen Christ! We are Resurrection People! We believe in the risen Christ-who is the resurrection and the life! We claim Jesus as Lord at the time of our baptism. We understand as disciples of Jesus that following the path of Jesus brings a transforming power into our lives-a power that allows us to see and experience life, the life of Jesus, as a path of LIFE and not death. The choices of Faxon-Kenmar Church and Pine Street Church to merge are the choices to follow Jesus, the risen Christ. We live out our life as Resurrection People when our Faxon-Kenmar season comes to an end and we expand our ministry into our life together with the people of Pine Street Church. With all of our hard work as the Council and the congregation, the prayer and the discernment, we come to the end of one season and the beginning of a new season. May God continue to show the way. May we remember the teachings and preaching of Jesus to guide our next steps. May the place in the world known as Williamsport, PA feel the presence of the resurrection, as we take action and move forward. We have an awesome God! Let us remember Jesus' promise to his followers- I will be with you always.

Rev James Wooster is the pastor of the current Pine Street United Methodist Church. Pastor James will be the pastor of our new merged Pine Street Church. He looks forward to the first Sunday worship as a merged congregation on July 7 at 10 a.m. I love the way he is planning for that first worship together-marking a new season of faith for all. The new congregation will begin the first Sunday together entering the worship time from outside-signifying that the new congregation is beginning! I am thankful for the deep faith, energy and view of ministry that Pastor James has. He will be your new spiritual leader and will continue to care for you and your walk of faith in a very special way. I thank God that Pastor James is your new pastor.

My ministry has been rich and full. I am completing my ministry with you at the end of June. This time will, also, mark the end of my ministry. I am thankful that God brought our congregation here at Faxon-Kenmar and me together in ministry. What a joy it has been to work with you as God's servants for these past six years. We have experienced worship, dug into the bible, prayed together, reached out in mission, made tough administrative decisions, sang God's praises of lament and joy and discerned God's path for us for the future. I pray that God will continue to work with each of us to be servants in the way that Jesus calls us to live. Praise be to God for walking with us through our life of service. God's Peace, Pastor Susan

A note from Pastor James

To my Brothers and Sisters at Faxon Kenmar,

The Apostle Paul often began his letter with a commendation, let me do the same. Over the past two years, you have had many difficult conversations and many painful decisions. You could have put those conversations off indefinitely and chosen to use your resources to keep your doors open as long as possible. But, you have been brave enough to confront those realities head-on. Rather than using your resources to keep yourselves comfortable, you have stepped out in faith and chosen to build the kingdom through what you have. In doing so you have set an example of faith and good stewardship that should be an inspiration to all of us. Thank you for that!

I regret that I am not able to be with you at the final service in the Faxon Kenmar building on June 30, but I am looking forward to our first worship service as a merged congregation on July 7. What an exciting day that will be! Weather permitting, we'll gather outside on Pine Street and enter the sanctuary as one congregation. We'll reconsecrate ourselves and the building as we step into the future together. We'll celebrate our oneness in Christ through remembering our baptisms and breaking bread together in Holy Communion. Afterwards, we'll share a meal together.

Over the next several weeks, we'll be working on merging membership records, financial statements etc. Unless you have requested other arrangements, your memberships will automatically transfer to Pine Street along with all the church records. If you use offering envelopes, you can continue to use the ones you have. If you give electronically, you will need to visit our website and enter your giving information. If you need help with that, please reach out. Soon you'll start receiving our "weekly news" and monthly newsletter via email.

There are a number of places you can jump into ministry right away. We would love to have you as part of our Sunday morning Hospitality team or our Sunday morning Kids team. We'll be happy to have you by our side when we volunteer at the food bank or helping with a blood mobile. If you like working outside, our building and grounds team will be able to find a place for you. We'd be blessed if you participated in our special music through the summer or joining the choir come fall.

I look forward to what God will do as we come together as one.

Grace and Peace

Pastor James

Pine Street United Methodist Church—570-323-4604

A HUGE THANKS TO MY FRIENDS

David Koskey writes: THANKS to everyone for their outpouring of support as I have weathered spinal fusion surgery and recovery. Thanks for the cards, the prayers, the visits, the texts, the emails, the food, the phone calls, and most importantly - the love and support from my church family. These weeks of recovery have given me much time for personal reflection.

As I have dealt with the pain and the struggle of getting back on my feet, I have truly been blessed by people who care – MY DEEPEST APPRECIATION!

FINAL THOUGHTS from your Director of Music

I look forward to being back at the keyboards in June. My body with its aches and pains had to catch up to my desire to serve at the organ and piano. Some medical problems could be fixed, others not. Arthritis is not going to get better and it seems to continue to make “music making” a challenge. It is with joy that I return for a few more weeks as we worship together. However, my heart is heavy as I anticipate the end of June and the end of our time together at Faxon Kenmar UMC. We have sustained a rich musical heritage over the years, long before I arrived on the scene. Music has been a life flowing source for many in our worship services. Our choirs, bells, instruments, and soloists have given us so much inspiration through sharing music created by gifted composers who share their faith through the music they compose. I’m thankful for those who rose to the challenge of music making and for what we were able to accomplish with God’s help! In the couple decades I have been with you, I remember not only Sunday morning music. but also Summer Music Camps, Sunday afternoon Community Concert Series, and yearly sacred Festival Choirs that combined the talents of so many in our community. I’ve appreciated the fellowship we as musicians have shared. THANK YOU to all who have participated in any way in the music program. We have been blessed by your participation. One thing I have experienced myself is that music never dies. There is always a tune running through my mind, drawing me closer to God. May HIS music give you comfort, strength and love as you journey forward.

Calling Inspirational Singers!

We will sing one final choir anthem on Sunday, June 30th.

Rehearsal on Sunday June 30th at 9:15 AM in the choir room. We will not be wearing choir robes. Anthem: “Jesus, Take My Hand” - Nix

In June, **SPECIAL MUSIC** will return to our worship services:

June 2 – Jamie Chambers, Flute

June 9 – Diane Thomas, Liturgical Dance

June 16 – Jan Warren, Flute

June 23 – Scott Schell, Vocal and Guitar

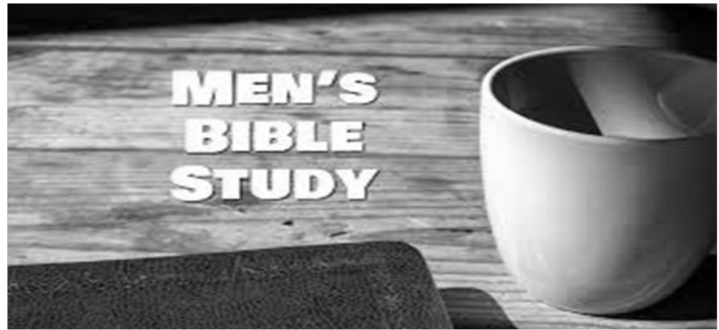
June 30 – Susan Phillips, Vocal Solo

Our choir, the Inspirational Singers will also sing.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 4	Brendan Jesus
June 6	Marsha Cunningham
June 9	Janet Wible
June 20	Debbie Neubold
June 22	Donald Garver



The Men's Bible Study continues through June. We meet in the Upper Room at 9 AM on every other Monday morning. ALL MEN are invited to join us! We use the Max Lucado book "They Walked with God" (40 Bible Characters Who Inspire Us) to begin each Bible Study.

Here are the dates and subjects of our June gatherings:
 Monday June 10 - The Crippled Man at the Gate
 Monday June 24 - Two Criminals

Fellowship Dinner
 June 29 at 6 pm
 Stiner Hall



All members and friends are invited to our dinner
 You don't have to bring anything
 You don't have to pay for the meal
 Come join us as we look to our future.

Sign-up on the Welcome Center



RISE UP BAKERY

Order options sent out weekly!
 Call our office at 323-7272
 for how to be on that list.



**UNITED CHURCHES OF
 LYCOMING COUNTY
 VACATION BIBLE
 SCHOOL**

Sunday, July 21st – Thursday, July 25th
 Saint John's-Newberry United Methodist Church
 2101 Newberry Street, Williamsport

New!! Free Supper 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.
 VBS 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. each evening
 designed for ages 4 – 12 and special abilities adults

LIVESTREAMING

We are livestreaming with our camera technology on some Sundays, due to only having one person who is able to run the camera. On other Sundays, a laptop camera will be used to livestream, which brings you the worship, but not viewing all of the action.

APRIL 2024 STEWARDSHIP

Offerings for Budgeted Current Expenses

Member Pledges	\$ 6,273.00
Other Current Exp. Offerings	<u>472.10</u>
Total Offerings	\$ 6,745.10

Budgeted \$1,923/week (5 weeks)	\$ 9,615.00
Total Offerings	<u>6,745.10</u>
Actual income less than budgeted income	\$ 2,869.90

Non-current Expense Offerings

Capital Funds Pledges	\$ 125.00
Capital Funds - fundraising	476.64
Missions Shares	116.00
Missions Committee	184.00
Shares of Ministry	100.00
Native American Ministries	195.00
Interest	<u>630.13</u>
Total Non-current	\$ 1,826.77

Summary

Member Pledges	\$ 6,273.00
Other Current Exp. Offerings	472.10
Non-current Expense Offerings	<u>1,826.77</u>
Total	\$ 8,571.87



CHURCH SUMMER CAMP— EXPERIENCES FOR ALL AGES

Susquehanna Conference camps are taking registrations. Pick up a hard copy of camp information at the church office, or register online at suscrm.org. Wesley Forest is our closest camp—it is 1/2 hour west of Lewisburg. All camps provide a wide variety of activities such as swimming, athletics, Bible Study, worship, hikes, boating, nature study, and more. A summer staff member works together with weekly volunteers to create an environment of faith and fellowship. Every program will take advantage of the natural surroundings, develop a community, and worship God in a Christian camping setting.

Camp is for all ages, and is a great way to learn about Jesus and meet new friends. There are so many options, you are sure to find something you love! Here are just a few:

Special Friends	June 16-20	Ages 15-40
Spark Mini Camp	June 23-26	Grades 1-4
Camp Splash	July 7-12	Grades 3-6
Create!	July 14-19	Grades 7-12
Wacky Mini Camp	July 28-30	Grades K-2

Scholarship funds are available for anyone with financial challenges—so don't miss out! Sign up today!

June 2024

First Worship as Merged Church is

Sunday, July 7, 2024—10 a.m.

441 Pine Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 10:00 am Worship	3	4	5	6	7	8
11:15 Church Conference Mtg 7:00 pm ALAnon	7:00 pm NA				7:00 pm AA	
9 10:00 am Worship	10	11	12	13	14	15
12:00 pm Team of 8 Mtg w/ Consultant 7:00 pm ALAnon	9:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 NA	6:00 pm Williamsport Music Club dinner 7:30 Williamsport Music Club Program			7:00 pm AA	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:00 am Worship 7:00 pm ALAnon	7:00 pm NA		4:30 Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm Car Club		7:00 pm AA	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:00 am Worship 7:00 pm ALAnon	9:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm NA	7:00 pm Music Club			7:00 pm AA	6:00 pm Fellowship Dinner at Stiner Hall
30						
10:00 am Last Worship at Faxon-Kenmar UMC 7:00 pm ALAnon						

Faxon Kenmar
United Methodist Church
1301 Clayton Avenue
Williamsport, PA 17701

JUNE 2024

CHURCH E-MAIL:
fkumc@comcast.net

PASTOR'S EMAIL:
shalverstadt@susumc.org

WEBSITE:
<https://faxonkenmar.org>

CHURCH PHONE:
570-323-7272

FAXON-KENMAR UMC

JUNE

2024

OUR PURPOSE:

TO MAKE DISCIPLES
OF JESUS CHRIST BY:

MEETING JESUS,

KNOWING JESUS,

SHOWING JESUS

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor: Susan Halverstadt

Music Director: David Koskey

Admin. Asst: Sherry McKinney

Financial Sec.: Ann Bennett

Custodian: Cathy Daugherty

CHURCH COUNCIL:

Chair – Sheila Koskey
Jack Seely, Bob Bowers, Joe
Hunt, Deb Dodson, Nancy
Bowers, Cathy Green