

First United Methodist Church

2011 Annual Report



Beyond the Walls

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a letter from the pastor

There are all kinds of walls we must face in our lifetime. Some we overcome with age and wisdom, some we tear down through faith and conviction while others we simply accept as 'the way things are'. Some walls we create in order to enhance our status or to escape our fears while others are created slowly through years of rejection and cultural stereotypes. Yet somewhere, deep inside all of us, we long for a world where labels and conformity no longer matter and we are free to dream and become all that we once believe God created us to be.

It is my mission in life, as your pastor and friend, to awaken this desire within you and enable you to experience the liberation and joy that's waiting for you beyond the walls. I believe we all want to live without barriers, borders or blame; we really want to live and grow old with others knowing that their hearts are so full of forgiveness, patience and love. If you are a follower of Jesus, this desire should be even more intense and more obvious. His consistent call throughout Scripture is to move people beyond the doldrums of this life into a new kind of Kingdom with a whole new attitude. There is a simple truth that we all know, but often choose to forget: *true life is found beyond ourselves*. A life without walls enables us to see God, the world and the purpose of our lives more clearly.

2011 was by every measure an exciting year that moved some very large walls. We are indebted to our spiritual leaders who believed in God's purpose for us, who guided us through difficult decisions, who worked, prayed and helped us find a way, and who continued to challenged us to give our very best. Through their dedications and the heart of our people, we are poised to begin a new year as boldly and faithfully as those who laid the cornerstone.

2012 is the centennial year for First United Methodist Church, a perfect time to honor the countless men and woman who dedicated their lives to Christ and on whose shoulders we now stand ready to embark on a whole new chapter in the church's story. Yet even as we turn the page, we must pause and ask ourselves what future generations will remember of our faithfulness, our dreams and our commitment to the Cause of Christ.

In the pages that follow you will find the story of God's people living out the message and mission of Christ, dedicated to creating a community without walls, learning to love one another without fear and without regret. I hope and pray that it becomes your story too.

Blessings,



Dear God,

Thanks for all you have done.
I truly appreciate everything :)

2011 Milestones

- Property acquisition located at 434 Williams Avenue for \$76,000
- New Youth Director hired in September – Tammy Burge
- Sixth consecutive year that FUMC has met or exceeded our 100% fair share apportionment commitment to the West Virginia Annual Conference.
- \$259,000 from personal donations and revenues in support of First United Methodist Church.
- First United Methodist Church finished year with an additional cash reserve of \$6,205.
- Personal donations increased 4.7% over 2010 giving.
- 43 donor commitments to 2012 Church budget equaling \$101,000—a \$10,000 increase over 2011 donor commitments.
- Fire Alarm System has been upgraded.
- Learning Center increased to 62 children and 57 families
- Vacation Bible School – 126 children and 85 adult volunteers
- **Mission Minded**
 - over \$4,800 given for local mission not including time and talents
 - over \$14,000 raised for International Missions
 - Two international mission trips (Ghana and Haiti)
- Monthly Community Breakfast
- Community Clothes Closet
- 40 Days of Love Church-Wide Study

New Members - 14

Baptisms – 7 Youth, 3 Adult

Church Council Report

When I look at the First United Methodist Church (our Church), I see this church through my own individual lens of a person in their early (ok, mid-) fifties, trying to live in an increasingly complex and demanding world and yet trying to understand and live under the grace of a loving God and by the standards organized and interpreted by a church body and tradition.

My view recognizes that living in a changing world requires adaptation. Our own church building, which is the third dedicated building which has housed our congregation, has been expanded and adapted at least three significant times to meet our congregation's changing needs for educational and service-related spaces. This adaptation has allowed the church to adapt to demographic changes, to grow and to flourish in the past.

Our world is now changing so rapidly that our youth and young adults have almost grown up in a different world than we have. Information flows more rapidly, areas of turmoil and issues of human interest are instantly available to billions of people, and they are communicating and obtaining information in ways that we did not even imagine a few years ago. In response, our Church is reaching out to embrace these new technologies—electronic communications are being utilized to pass information concerning scheduling, activities, bible studies, stream sermons and provide reflection and program information. Our website, www.fumcwilliamstown.net, has been developed into the go-to place for church-related information and programs for this new information-technology-oriented population. Our youth leaders communicate via email and establish blogs and Facebook pages to engage and connect with our youth and young adults—which are the ways that our youth (and future leaders) prefer to communicate.

The Church leadership has tried to address the tension of providing meaningful worship experiences among its varied populations by holding multiple worship services on Sunday mornings and appropriate activities directed at all demographic groups. The Church leadership is aware that the varying needs, desires and preferences of these different demographic groups provides an unresolved tension which exists as an undertow to the ebb and flow of the Church's programs. To this end, a 5 year planning process has been initiated to begin to seek the perspectives, needs and concerns of the various groups and begin to plan for a future which will allow us to embrace each other in Christian Unity and optimize our Christian Mission.

It's as hard for an individual to describe the Grand Canyon as it is to try to encapsulate all of the good things that the individuals of the First United Methodist Church are doing to engage its members and the community. From our music ministries to our outreach programs our Church strives to continue to engage its members and the greater community to strive for and live a life pleasing to God.

Chip Pickering, Church Council Chair

Membership Statistics

Members at the close of 2010	459	
Profession of Faith	11	[Male – 3, Female – 8]
Received from other Denominations	4	[Male – 2, Female – 2]
Removed by Death	11	[Male – 5, Female – 6]
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Members at the close of 2011	463	

CONFIRMATION

Baptized but not confirmed at the close of 2010	80
Received as Baptized Members	4
Confirmations (baptized to Full Membership)	3
Baptized but not confirmed at the close of 2011	86

BAPTISMS

Adults	3
Youth	7

WEDDINGS 1

FUNERALS 13

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

Average Worship:	190	
Average Children's Sunday School	27	
Average Youth Sunday School	8	Evenings 10
Average Adult Sunday School	25	

TRUSTEES: care and stewardship of God's Blessings

The Mission of the Trustees is to oversee the care and stewardship of the buildings and property of the First United Methodist Church in order to fulfill the mission and vision of the church.

In September, the Church took a leap “beyond the walls” when we purchased the property located at 434 Williams Avenue. This expanded our footprint and challenged us to discern how the new property will be used. There are so many exciting possibilities for ministry expansion and addition. We need to prayerfully consider all the possibilities for these resources that will be pleasing to God. Funds for this purchase were in our savings and the church is still debt free. Insurance was added to cover this property in the amount of \$86/year.

The Trustees continued the work of protecting our church's physical and financial assets. Our beautiful but aging building continues to provide challenges. Escalating costs and a growing demand for space and facilities by all age groups continues to be a challenge as well. Repairs were made to toilets, the kitchen oven, various light fixtures, and the large vacuum cleaner. New Air fresheners were placed throughout the building. Four new door windows were purchased to make all doors compliant with Safe Sanctuary Rules. The Fire Alarm Conversion for the entire building was completed at the cost of \$9,815. The roof valley replacement is underway at this time.

The Trustees continue to support the annual organ tuning, the elevator inspection and annual safety test, the annual heat/AC maintenance, snow removal, custodial supplies, and the office copier and duplicator. They also maintain the landscaping, mowing and cleaning of the church property and the newly acquired property. A new big screen television was hung in the sanctuary to support our worship and music ministries.

Every light that lights our way, every air conditioner coil that makes our sanctuary comfortable, every shingle that protects our heads from rain and snow, and every piano and organ that needs tuned is protected and maintained by the Trustees so that in all things God is glorified.

2011 OPERATING EXPENSES

Church Utilities (water, gas, electric):	\$18,737
Parsonage Utilities (water, gas, electric):	\$4,414
Williams Ave Utilities (water, gas, electric):	\$195
Insurance: \$6,100	
Copiers: \$2,105	Custodial supplies: \$2,400
General Repairs/Maintenance	\$20,771
Includes (Snow Removal, Air Freshener installment, elevator repair and inspections, organ tuning and repair, Fire alarm upgrade, large Screen TV, Various Light Bulb and fixture repair, , heat/AC maintenance)	

PROJECTS FOR 2012

Replace Carpet in the Youth Room	\$4,000
Possible replacement of two aging A/C Units	\$5,000
Cleaning of all carpets and stripping and refurnishing all tile flooring, tree Removal & Trimming, Landscaping, A/C Repair, repairs on new property as ministry needs arise.	

BUDGET FOR 2012 – \$65,000

WORSHIP: the heart of the Christian life

When human beings enter into the joyful celebration of the glory of God and the goodness of God's gift of life, normal prose breaks into poetry, normal voices break into song, normal postures break into dancing, and people don't simply become more religious – they become more alive.

Our goal, then, is simply to enable the Life of God to be experience and embraced. We firmly believe that what you worship, you imitate, and what you imitate you ultimately become.

By making worship the highest value of our fellowship, we are guided by those timeless values that make life more rewarding, less contentious and wonderfully full of meaning.

God deserves our worship because His love is endless, His generosity limitless, and His grace boundless. In worship God breaks through our shell of self-importance to embrace the frightened child hiding inside.

2011 Activities

"Have you Seen My Son" Drama (4.2)	Children's Christmas Pageant (12.18)
Blessing of the Home (1.17)	Confirmation Sunday (5.16)
Beth Moore CD for Mother's Day	Rick Warren CD for Father's Day
Church-Wide Study – "40 Days of Love"	Large Screen TV in Sanctuary
Decorate for Advent, Christmas, Easter	Devotionals for Christmas, Easter
Sponsored Soup Dinner for Haiti on April 6 th	Directional Signs
New wireless hearing devices	Seder Meal

Volunteer Opportunities

Communion Stewards – prepare Communion elements for worship, clean up afterwards

Acolyte Coordinator—help acolytes with robes, lighter and scheduling

Ushers – provide bulletins, welcome packets, count & record attendance, answer questions, etc.

Media – computer savvy people create slides, run MediaShout, record audio for podcasts

Children's Worship – lead or assist in children's worship with music, message or mentoring

Music – play or sing with joyful exuberance for worship or for other special services

Praise Band Adult Bells Adult Choir Children's Choir Special Music

Drama – direct, assist, costumes, lights, scripts for adult or children's drama presentations

Wedding Support – help bride and groom create a memorable wedding service

Decorations – banners, paraments, candles, flowers for worship or special occasions

Budget for 2012 – \$5,000

MISSION: the Christian life in Action

“When you carry out acts of kindness, you get a wonderful feeling inside. It is as though something inside your body responds and says, “Yes, this is how I ought to feel.” – Rabbi Harold Kushner

We have a passion to be a mission-driven church, because we believe every person has a passion to help people, to feed the hungry and to help restore dignity and hope to our neighbors. A mission-driven church is therefore participative rather than simply representative. Our goal is make missions the essence of church-life rather than philanthropy of the church.

Everyone can and should be in missional activity every year. This may simply mean praying for mission events, supporting financially mission activities or studying the Biblical foundations for missional outreach. We are all called to the mission field, and that field may be our own backyard.

We continue to see more and more people stepping out and serving in outreach ministries like the community breakfast, clothes closet, food pantry, as well as participating in yard work and home repair for the elderly. Financially we support local compassion ministries like Women’s Care Center and FaithLink.

“It is not so much that God has a mission for his church in the world, but that God has a church for his mission in the world... mission was not made for the church; the church was made for mission—God’s mission.”

2011 ACTIVITIES

Local Mission Opportunities – \$4,879

Clothes Closet	Community Breakfast	Heart and Hand, Inc. (\$1,000)
EVE Women’s Shelter (\$500)	FaithLink (\$500)	Women’s Care Center (\$1,000)
Santa Shop	Wmstn Food Pantry	Discretionary fund (\$1,879)

Regional Missions – \$3,012

Burlington House	Ebenezer Outreach	Heart & Hand House
House of the Carpenter	Scott’s Run Settlement	Tyrand Coop. Ministries
Upshur Parish House	Gayle Lesure, Clarksburg	Frances Coffey: Bluefield

Global Missions - \$14,396

Ghana Mission Trip	Nicaragua Clinic (\$500)	Africa University, Zambia
HMS Haiti Orphanage (\$3,898)	Rhwanda Mission (\$2,500)	Japan Emergency (\$10)
UMCOR Undesignated (\$790)	Liberia Mission (\$1,857)	World Service Fund (\$5,341)

Special Sunday Giving - \$604

Day of Remembrance (\$186)	UM Student Day (\$50)	Human Relations (\$20)
One Great Hour of Sharing (\$90)	World Communion (\$58)	Black College Fund (\$200)

CHILDREN: a gift from God, a vision for tomorrow.

Children's Ministry strives to nurture children, from birth thru 6th grade, with the knowledge, understanding and security they need to begin to develop their own exciting journey of faith. As we engage children in Bible activities, singing, praying, learning Bible verses, sharing, discussing right and wrong, and talking about the needs of others, we are laying the groundwork for disciple making.

We **TEACH** the Bible in a kid friendly way and teach Bible truths and how to use them in their every day lives every Sunday during our Sunday School hour.

We **REACH** children and families of our church and the community while shaping their hearts and minds through Vacation Bible School. VBS is one of the greatest opportunities FUMC offers to reach all people by sharing God's plan in a fun and non-threatening way. VBS is a wonderful time to reach out and build relationships with those friends and families of our community and share a small portion of their summer with people that love the Lord. Spring Heights Summer Church Camp is another way that we can reach our children with God's word. Church Camp is an opportunity for our kids to get away from the clutter and distraction of our lives and just be completely available to God. No cell phones, no video games, no tv, just time to re-center themselves in preparation to face the struggles that our kids face on a daily basis.

We **LOVE** and lead kids to Christ through activities such as the Santa Shop, Family nights, Movie nights, Easter Egg Hunt, Sweet Apple farms, and the Christmas Pageant. These events are non-threatening ways to introduce families to our church and hopefully to attendance so that we can begin to lead them to Christ through love.

We **EQUIP** children to be Jesus followers through events like Advent Event, Resurrection Angel Breakfast, PALS Children's Church, Mission opportunities such as American Leprosy Fund, Haiti Orphanage support, and Reading to Raise the Roof. All of these things combined teach our children what's important and how we can put our love of God into action. They teach the children that God IS LOVE and from birth to death, He taught others how to do His work. By engaging children in missions we teach children to follow in Jesus' footprints and give with love unconditionally.

~ Kianna Anderson

2011 ACTIVITIES

Average Sunday Morning Attendance

Nursery	5	Sprouts	15	LiveWires (4-6 grade)	6	Children's Church	25
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Special Activities

PANDAMANIA (VBS)	Children	126	Volunteers	85
Christmas Pageant	Parent's Nite Out		Sweet Apple Farms Fall Event	
Easter Egg Hunt	Father's Day Photos		Angel Tree	
FaithGirlz	Girls Scouts		Boy Scouts	
Trick or Treat for Unicef	Children's Newsletter		Easter Egg Hunt	

Volunteer Opportunities

Sunday School Teacher (training available)	Nursery Aids	VBS Volunteer
Christmas Pageant Dir.	Children's Church Leader (training available)	
Easter Egg Hunt Coord.	Resurrection Angel Breakfast Coord.	

2012 Budget - \$10,000

LEARNING CENTER: where children are priceless treasures from God

The Leap Ahead Learning Center is an outreach ministry that invites families and children to learn and grow in a Christ centered environment. Our lessons are Christian based and our teachers are focused on providing the best care to God's children.

The Learning Center continues to thrive. We currently have 9 teachers on staff and over 60 children registered. Our teachers are focused on maintaining the quality of the program. Our goal is to continue to reach out to families and their children by offering them an affordable and safe place to bring their kids for spiritual, educational, and social learning and skills. We are constantly amazed at the response from our parents regarding the quality of our program.

"If you ever need a letter of reference, please let me know. I would be absolutely pleased to write one for your program. My daughter's Kindergarten teacher wanted to know what we had done with her to teach her to read so early. I told her that it was all due to Leap Ahead Learning Center and the teachers there. We discovered that three of the four children that are showing excellent reading skills are all students of the Learning Center!" ~Molly Floding

We have reached capacity. The Learning Center is still self funding at this point and doing very well but that can change very quickly due to tuition turn over or economy. We feel that teacher support is integral to the success of the program. We would like to be able to give our teachers training and education opportunities that would increase their knowledge of children and educating our young ones. We would also like to begin to build a scholarship fund for LALC for families that cannot afford to send their children to Preschool and do not get into public pre-k. We would need to research and put together some qualification guidelines for this fund.

The Learning Center has become an important part of Children's Ministry and is a wonderful opportunity to open our doors to families from, not only our community, but surrounding areas.

Directors: Kianna Anderson & Tammy Burge

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES (Monday – Thursday 9 – 12, September through May)

Lily Pad	Turning Twos	Linda Riddle, Katie Karcher	5 children
TadPoles	Turning Threes	Amanda Cozzens, Niki Lightfritz	15 children
Froggies	Turning Fours	Marina Webb, Sheryl Fetzner	18 Children
Leap Frogs	Pre-K	Theresa Truax, Vicki McIntosh, Keryn Miller	23 Children

COMMUNITY IMPACT: Total Children 62 in the program at this time and 57 different families.

2012 Budget - \$1,000 + use of the facilities and office supplies

COMPASSION MINISTRY: a ministry of Healing and a Gift of Hope.

Compassion Ministry is comprised of individuals who are gifted with a caring heart for persons who are hurting. They carry out Jesus' instructions to visit the sick and lonely.

Many persons confined to their home or living in an extended care facility never see the face of another person, aside from those who are paid to care for them. They wait hoping that someone will notice that they are lonely and hungry for a touch, a kind word or someone to talk to. Other people suffer from chronic illnesses and some are grieving the loss of a loved one.

It is our mission to express the love of Jesus Christ through personal visits, cards and gifts of love. Our ministry extends beyond the walls of the church and its members to anyone who may need to experience the love of God. We become His arms of love and voice of hope as we reach out in kindness to soothe hurts and to give comfort and the reassurance that no one is ever forgotten.

Everyone is invited to become part of this gratifying ministry.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – our prayer shawl, lap robe ministry is our latest attempt to reach out and express our love in a tangible way that will continue to provide hope and comfort long after our visit. You are invited to join with us by purchasing yarn, knitting or crocheting, learning to knit (a small group will be forming soon) or delivering these shawls and lap robes. (contact Shelley Ash for more information)

"I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. ... "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:36, 40

~ Marilyn Croucher

2011 ACTIVITIES

Visits to hospitals and extended care facilities.

Card Ministry

Care Notes to Grieving families

Help with grief meals

Help with Senior Adult Luncheon

Home Touch Newsletter

Buy, wrap and deliver Holiday Gifts

Prayer Shawls

Deliver Altar Flowers

Deliver Upper Room Devotionals

Special musical programs at Emeritus (contact Karen Young for more information)

Serve Communion at Emeritus (contact Karen Fenton for more information)

2012 Budget \$200

HOSPITALITY: transforming strangers into friends

The purpose of the Hospitality Ministry is to offer the love of Christ to our guests and welcome them in such a way that they would be transform from strangers into friends.

We understand that it is difficult to break into a church where everyone is comfortable with their own routines, expectations and their own friends. Being a newcomer is like going to someone else's family reunion. Everybody knows each other, has histories and experiences in common, but you don't know quite what it is or if you are intruding on sacred turf. It is our purpose to leave no one on the edge—we want to include everyone into the family, by opening our doors and our hearts and giving them a place in our shared story and on-going ministry to share the transforming love of Jesus. ~ Jennifer Fenton

Mission

1. Make every visitor, member, or guest feel they are special and belong here.
2. Eliminate barriers the inhibit visitors, guest and member from experiencing God.
3. Decrease the stress, anxiety, and confusion visitors may experience.
4. Create a positive, inviting spirit among visitors and members.
5. Encourage transformation from visitor to member.

Higher Grounds (every Sunday except Summer months)

- o Coffee, tea, hot chocolate (set up and clean up)
- o Doughnuts or other goodies

Greeters (every Sunday for both worship services)

- o Schedule and send letter out quarterly
- o Approx. 40 Greeters cover both services on a rotating basis
- o Greeter training held in August 2010

Fellowship Meals

- o Approx. one meal every two to three months
- o Potluck or provided main dish, side dishes and desserts were donated
- o Set up, clean up, shopping, and decorations by core Hospitality Team
- o Hospitality Team purchased paper products or used kitchen supplies

Chili Cook Off for Haiti

- o Over \$1400 raised for UMCOR Haitian relief

Seder Meal

- o Donated items: crock pots of beef stew, angel food cakes, strawberries, etc.
- o set up and cleaned up
- o Over 90 in attendance

Newcomer Tea - Welcome newcomers and introduce to church leaders

It's A Boy Signs - 100 signs purchased and distributed cost - \$500

Christmas Eve Reception - HT provided punch, hot apple cider, and coffee

Welcome Packets – information for visitors of ministries, and mission

Youth: enabling youth to follow Christ, serve Christ and become like Christ

To make a lifelong commitment to follow Christ, we must first learn about the person of Jesus Christ. We make curriculum and Bible study our number one priority. We do this through Sunday School, Sunday evening youth meetings, lock-ins, and special events.

Our second priority is to teach our students to serve Christ. We do this through our mission projects and friendship building. Our after school fellowship program is a great way for our students to learn to reach out to others. Our students are bringing friends who do not attend this church (and some who do not attend any church). We are also planning a lot of mission projects and trips to get them outside their comfort zone and into a world different from the one they live each day and in the process experience Christ's message in a new way.

Our final priority is to help our students become like Christ. If they have learned to follow Christ and serve Christ, we pray that this will be the natural next step. To mentor this outcome we want to put the students in close contact with as many healthy, mature Christian adults as we possible throughout the year.

They say that children learn what they live. We want to fill their lives with the abundant life of Christ. ~ Tammy Burge, Youth Director

2011 ACTIVITIES AND MILESTONES

In 2011 our youth participated in Compassion International, 30 hour famine, confirmation class, Creation Festival, FUMC VBS, Family Friday Night Out, Parents Night Out, Go Ahead and Label Me a Jesus Freak Lock-in, Girls Night Out at the Vine, Community Breakfast, Fall Workshop, and a Community Youth New Year's Eve Party.

Our fundraisers consisted of making/selling snowman and a Chic-fil-a Spirit Night.

We are excited to support and encourage Esther Dehmlow and her mission trip to Ghana

2012 PLANS

January: Winter Jam, District Youth Rally

February: Parents Night Out Event

March: Revolve Tour

March/April: Confirmation

April: 30 Hour Famine

May: Garden Critter Fundraiser

June: Promotion Sunday, Music Festival

July: Mission Trip to SC, FUMC VBS

August: Church Picnic, Ohio River Sweep

September: Back to School Event

October: Fall Craft Fair Fundraiser

November: Fall Workshop, Lock-In

December: Parents Night Out, Community New Year's Eve Party

We are also planning at least one Youth Sunday worship service, local mission projects, fellowship events with other church youth groups, and opportunities for our youth to serve with adults in the Praise Band, Bell Choir as well as other adult groups, projects, and functions throughout the year.

2012 Budget – \$10,000

BOY SCOUTS Troop 215: Be Prepared

2011 was a busy year for Troop 215. Last January we went cabin camping at Camp Kootaga, where we participated in the Allohak Council Iditarod competition. The Troop also went to Cabelas and attended a Wheeling Nailers Hockey game. Troop 215 week spent a week at Camp Kootaga Summer Camp and earned the Bladen Powell Award. We also captured 1st place in the Camp Wide Games and all the boys [and most adults] received the Trails Award for hiking all Camp Kootaga Trails. Andrew Essig was the only boy to win the Ironman Award for that week of camp, for being able to complete a week long Triathlon type event. It including the Polar Bear Plunge, a mile long swim at 6:00 AM in the icy waters [well maybe not icy, but cool] of Camp Kootaga pool. Brian Roberts and Josh McClung worked at the camp as councilors. Brian was in-charge of the environmental and nature activities at the camp. Josh assisted where he could, and lead the Frontiersman program the week Troop 215 was at camp, helping fellow Troop 215 Boy Scout Ben Harris earn his 1st Frontiersman Bear Claw. Josh was also inducted in the Order of the Arrow, Boy Scout Honorary that week. We have also done some smaller camping trips, bike rides, marched in the Williamstown Memorial Day Parade/Program; We organized the Fall Area Community Food Drive; helped with the Fireman's Ice Cream Social; the WES Santa Shop at FUMC by moving the truck loads of presents to be sold to WES students; we also had a Christmas Bowling Party with our Brother Cub Scout Pack 299, who also participated in some of our other activities.

“The purpose in Scouting is to find the good in every boy and develop it.”

Sir Robert Baden-Powell

We had two Boy Scouts [Collin Van Horne and Andrew Essig] finish their Eagle Scout Projects, both of which are improvements to the Williamstown Recreation League Soccer Field. Collin built a nearly 1000' chain link fence to separate the soccer fields from the railroad tracks. Andrew repaired and converted an old shed into a concession stand. They were 2 of 65 boys to earn the Eagle Scout Award in 2011, in the Allohak Council.

Troop 215 is self sufficient, holding a few fund raisers thru out the year, and we appreciate FUMC members support on those. Troop 215 also wants to thank First United Methodist Church for sponsoring us and providing the terrific facilities your Church has to offer. We are always looking for new Boy Scouts and leaders, if any FUMC members are interested.

Current Membership: 10 Boys

Cliff Essig, Scout Master

The Cub Scout group consists of 20 kids ranging from 6-11 years of age with ~ 6 adult leaders/committee members. The majority of funding to operate this program (~\$1000/yr) is generated through popcorn sales by the cub scouts; with additional support coming from donations by parents. The cub scouts get involved in various activities designed to be fun while instilling Christian values, promoting family interaction, supporting community service events, and learning basic skills. Examples of some these activities the cub scouts got involved with over the past year include:

- Fall & summer weekend camping @ Camp Kootaga which involved activities such as archery, BB guns, swimming, sporting challenges, survival skills, etc.
- Summer weekend camping at Burr Oak State Park where we went hiking, fishing, swimming, and stuffed our faces with s'mores.
- Indoor camping in the FUMC multi-purpose gym with games, movies, etc.
- Hiking and trash pickup
- Helped with the FUMC community breakfast
- Helped set up for the WES Santa Shop @ FUMC
- Passed out fliers and collected food for the Williamstown food pantry
- Making blankets for the EVE shelter
- Built Cub mobiles and raced them at the Williamstown boat ramp
- Built pinewood derby cars and raced them
- Egg drop challenge requiring kids to build a light weight egg protector from standard household items.
- Swim party & picnic
- Marched in the Memorial day & homecoming parades
- Completed achievements to earn badges/pins within their respective dens
- Bestowed the highest honor in Cub Scouts, Arrow of Light, on 3 scouts --> Brennan Watt, Liam Walker, and Alex Harris.

Of all the events and activities, by far the favorites for cub scouts were the pinewood derby competition and the weekend camping trips.

With the coming of the New Year, we continue to plan outdoor adventures, support events helping the community & church, and provide activities that are both fun and educational for the young kids.

Derek McClung, Scout Master

GIRL SCOUTS: building girls of courage, confidence and character



Girl Scouts®

Girl Scouts: building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.

Girl Scout Troop 5522 continues to feel blessed by the FUMC church family. Our troop has both children and youth age students in our troop of roughly 40 girls.

Our troop is totally self-supporting. We sell nuts/candy in the fall and cookies in the winter.

Our girls work hard to earn many badges, try-its and interest project awards. Some events we have been involved in this year include: Camping, swimming, picnics, mini golf, baseball games, geocaching, hiking, knot tying, lasing, cooking, letterboxing, pinewood derby car racing, roller skating, dancing, service projects, lock-ins, parades, Thinking Day and more.

2012 marks the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting in the US. Our troop will be making a trip to Washington DC for 4 days to join Girl Scouts from around the world for a celebration on the mall. The girls have been saving money for two years in anticipation for this event.

If you would like to get involved with this group of precious girls or you know someone who would like to be a Girl Scout please contact Tammy Burge at 304-375-2020 or tammysue@suddenlink.net

Thank You

FUMC for allowing us to continue to be part of your family.

Tammy Burge
Girl Scout Coordinator

Daisies	7
Brownies	14
Juniors	11
Cadettes	11
Adult Leaders	8
Cookie Sales	7,500+ boxes

United Methodist Women: providing opportunities to grow spiritually, to become more deeply rooted in Christ, and to put faith into action.

United Methodist Women is a community of women whose purpose is:

- To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ.
- To develop a creative supportive fellowship.
- To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Organized Units of *First United Methodist Church*

The Executive Board of the Williamstown Unite meets the first Monday of every month at 1:00 pm. Plans for mission giving, circle programs and special events are discussed and the circles carry out these plans.

There were three active circles in 2011: Esther -- Ruth Circle, Mary Martha Circle, and Sarah Circle. In 2012, however, Esther -- Ruth and Mary Martha will merge as one afternoon circle. Sara Circle meets in the evening.

Mission Initiatives	2010	2011
Pledge to Mission	\$1,095	\$1,100
Candle burning for Mission	--	\$20
Special Mission Recognition	\$80	\$160
Gift to Mission	\$20	\$20
Gift in Memory	\$20	\$25
World Thank Offering	\$100	\$98
West Virginia Mission Projects and Church & Community Workers	\$300	\$300
UMCOR	\$25	\$25
Kids Count	\$10	\$20
Dorothy Lee Scholarship (foreign students at WWC)	\$20	\$20
Church Women United	\$25	\$25
American Leprosy Foundation	\$100	\$100
Least Coin	\$25	\$25
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial	\$100	\$115
Total Gifts to Mission	\$1,945.00	\$2,053

Service Projects

- Health Kits to Annual Conference for UMCOR
- Cookies, Fruit and other treats to shut-ins for holidays
- Serve in Local Food Pantry
- Visits to assisted Living, Rehab, nursing homes and shut-in residents
- Provide food for dinners when needed
- Care Packages to College Students



God



Stewardship
a way of life

What do you want to do through me this year with the life and gifts you've given me?

Stewardship is a way of life. It connects all of us into a covenant community and moves us from being observers to active participants in the ministry, mission and story that is *First United Methodist Church*. Stewardship as a way of life reflects the life of Jesus in us, it honors our faith tradition and those who served before us, and it honors our ongoing desire to offer practical expressions of generosity, hope and grace.

I hope every member of *First United Methodist Church* will be intentional about their spiritual growth and church stewardship this coming year. If you have not yet completed a stewardship commitment card for 2012, please use the enclosed stewardship card to state your commitment to the cause of Christ. I am grateful to the 43 individuals and families who have already stated their 2012 stewardship commitment. For all of us, let us set our personal and spiritual goals in Christ and trust in Christ to complete the good work within us.



Stewardship
a way of life

MY STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

With Gratitude to God and as an expression of my commitment to Jesus Christ and His Church, I commit myself to serve FUMC with TIME, TALENTS and ...

Financial Support of \$ _____ (total) Check if you want pledge envelopes

Payable in the amount of \$ _____ Check if you want an automatic giving form

Per Week Month Year

First United Methodist Church, 304 W. 5th St., Williamstown, WV 26187 / 304.375.6386

Our Commitment to Christ in 2012

Estimated Operating Budget for 2012

\$299,755

Staff-Parish

Pastor	\$53,000
Secretary	\$15,986
Youth Director	\$14,000
Custodian	\$6,500
Financial Secretary	\$2,400
Organists	\$2,000
Nursery Workers	\$4,500
Bell Choir Director	\$750

Taxes and Insurance \$38,859

WV Annual Conference & District \$57,700

Trustees \$65,000

Office Supplies \$10,000

OPERATING EXPENSES \$270,555

Program Ministry

2012 Budget

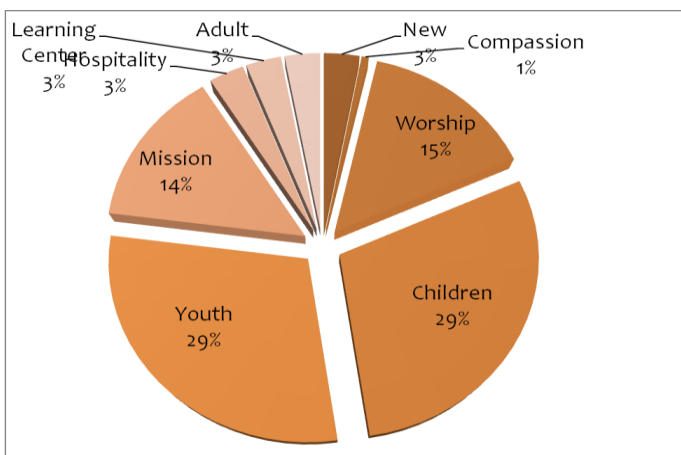
New Programs	\$1,000
Worship	\$5,000
Children	\$10,000
Youth	\$10,000
Hospitality	\$1,000
Learning Center	\$1,000
Compassion	\$200
Adult	\$1,000

MINISTRY EXPENSES **29,200**

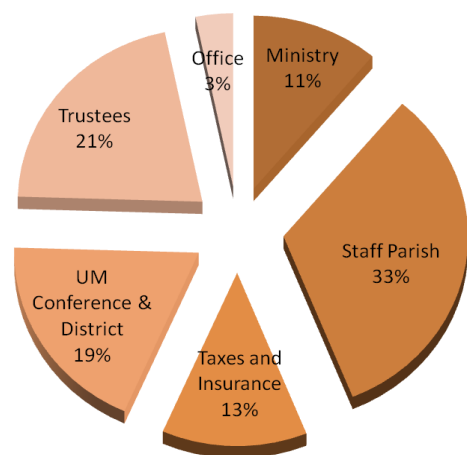
TOTAL

\$299,755

Program Ministry



Church Budget



Philanthropy Snapshot

Philanthropy snapshots for 2011 include:

- *\$259,000 from personal donations and revenues in support of First United Methodist Church.
- *First United Methodist Church (FUMC) finished year with an additional cash reserve of \$6,205.
- *Personal donations increased 4.7% over 2010 giving.
- *43 donor commitments to 2012 Church budget equaling \$101,000—a \$10,000 increase over 2011 donor commitments.
- *6th consecutive year that FUMC has met or exceeded our 100% fair share apportionment commitment to United Methodist Church (West Virginia Conference).
- *General funds year-end balance is \$123,000. *FUMC Endowment assets year-end balance is \$201,000.

Please review the Personal Giving Worksheet and consider how you may take an additional step with Christ this year through your personal monthly giving in support of the Church and its ministries. Two examples for consideration and contemplation:

*You are giving \$10 monthly to the Church. Consider taking one (\$11 monthly) or two (\$12 monthly) additional steps of faith.

*You are giving \$25 monthly to the Church. Consider taking one bigger (\$33 monthly) or smaller (\$30 monthly) step of faith.

If you have not yet provided a 2012 stewardship commitment card in support of the Church's mission and activities during its centennial year, please consider doing so.

Personal Giving Worksheet

MONTHLY GIVING—A Step with Christ

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
\$1	\$17	\$33	\$50	\$67	\$100	\$133	\$167	\$183	\$200
\$2	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250	\$275	\$300
\$3	\$33	\$67	\$100	\$133	\$200	\$267	\$333	\$367	\$400
\$4	\$42	\$83	\$125	\$167	\$250	\$333	\$417	\$458	\$500
\$5	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$550	\$600
\$6	\$58	\$117	\$175	\$233	\$350	\$467	\$583	\$642	\$700
\$7	\$67	\$133	\$200	\$267	\$400	\$533	\$667	\$733	\$800
\$8	\$75	\$150	\$225	\$300	\$450	\$600	\$750	\$825	\$900
\$9	\$83	\$167	\$250	\$333	\$500	\$667	\$833	\$917	\$1,000
\$10	\$92	\$183	\$275	\$367	\$550	\$733	\$917	\$1,008	\$1,100
\$11	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,100	\$1,200
\$12	\$108	\$217	\$325	\$433	\$650	\$867	\$1,083	\$1,192	\$1,300
\$13	\$117	\$233	\$350	\$467	\$700	\$933	\$1,167	\$1,283	\$1,400
\$14	\$125	\$250	\$375	\$500	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,375	\$1,500

Giving Opportunities

Participation in the life of church is essential for spiritual growth. Together we share the blessings and responsibility of this faith community. Through the church we experience growth through generosity, giving and forgiving. The opportunities to give listed below are intended to spark your interest and warm your spirit. Our intention is simply to inspire and enable your ability to live gratefully and generously.

Direct Deposit via Checking or Savings Account

As we begin a new year, lots of things are starting anew. Why not think about a new way of giving? Why not consider making your church offering by direct deposit. In 2011, church members contributed \$28,000 to the Church through direct deposit.

A direct deposit authorization form is enclosed for your convenience. Simply use the form to customize the date of your bi-weekly or monthly contribution to the Church, include a voided check or savings deposit slip, sign and date the form. It's that easy to make a world of difference.

Traditional Giving During Service

This is the easiest and most effective. Enclose cash or a personal check in the offering envelope found in the pew pocket each week and drop it in the offering plate as a part of your worship experience. Please be sure to include your name for your quarterly tax statement.

Personal Giving Envelopes

Many people have grown up having a box of envelopes to keep track of their giving and motivate them to keep current. If you would like a box of envelopes for your stewardship plan please contact the church office and we will see that you get them.

Wills and Bequests

Many of us will choose to make a special gift to the Church through will or a charitable bequest. All such gifts should be designated to "First United Methodist Church of Williamstown."

Planned Giving

The United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia can confidentially assist you in making planned gifts to the church. Foundation gift planning professionals can provide information concerning both current tax and estate tax implications for gifts of stock, real estate, and life income gifts.

First United Methodist Church

304 West Fifth Street
Williamstown, WV 26187
(304) 375-6386

Authorization Form

Debit Authorization for Direct Deposit of Church Contributions

By signing below, you are authorizing the The Church to electronically charge (ACH) the account identified below for the amount(s) indicated on a recurring basis. Such funds will then be credited as a contribution to the First United Methodist Church, Williamstown. The ACH draws will be twice a month- the fifth and twentieth. You have the flexibility to insert any amount in either or both dates. If the fifth or twentieth falls on a weekend or federal holiday, the charge will be made the next business day. All amounts drawn in this manner will be recorded as contributions to your current year's individual giving record. Should you decide to revise the amount of contributions or discontinue the service, this can be done by completing a subsequent Authorization Form.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE# _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please contribute to the Church by making direct deductions from my account:

AMOUNT:

FIFTH OF MONTH \$ _____

TWENTIETH OF MONTH \$ _____

NAME OF BANK/SAVINGS & LOAN/CREDIT UNION:

ROUTING NUMBER _____ (First nine digits at bottom of ck)

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

Checking

Savings

Please enclose a voided check or savings deposit slip with this form.

AUTHORIZATION TO BEGIN:

I authorize the First United Methodist Church of Williamstown WV to deduct church contributions from the above listed account in the amounts indicated on the Fifth and/or Twentieth of each month.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

AUTHORIZATION TO STOP:

I wish to discontinue my participation in this contribution plan. I therefore authorize the First United Methodist Church to discontinue taking all amounts from the account currently authorized.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____