

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TARENTUM

Prayer List—Current & Ongoing Concerns

Announcements
Sunday, January 4 2026

Cheryl Stobert	Joe McAninch	Rich Masiarik
Peggy Bonfiglio	Liv Gerhart	Nikki Adamchik
Brynlee Haggerty	Deanna Hoover	Ken Misejka
Joan Lee Koontz	Susan Mooney	Dave
Nancy Nock	Leah Kapp	Declan Cox
Bill Tilman	Lysle Kapp	Rob Bogan
Debbie Wampler	Mark Reid	Mike Dunmire
Larry Wampler	Carl Bonfiglio	Kathy Stewart
Brady Woodward	Ken Irvine	Kelly Nobles
Gina Stonfer	Angela Peters	<u>Military</u>
Jennifer Kapp	Linda Lucas	Georgette Spencer
Keith Kunkle	Kathy Smith	Dylan Banbrook
Glenna Mervosh	Rosemary Rushford	<u>Our Mission Partners</u>
Richard Cavanaugh	Chloe Bauer	The HOPE Center * AVAC
Maryann Cavanaugh	Polly Ross	Tarentum Friendship Garden
Aidan Blanchflower	Cheryl Huet	Fourth Tuesday Community Dinner
Sandy Holderbaum	Tracy Ehrenberger	

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, please see Rev. Phil or contact the church office at 724-224-2550 or office@fupct.org.

Welcome to First United Presbyterian Church of Tarentum!

- * Our Nursery is open and staffed with an individual with all clearances! Parents are welcome to drop off children 4 years of age and under, or stay with them in the nursery. A live feed of our service will be broadcast in the nursery. A "Cry Room" for parents and children is located directly across from the elevator.
- * There is no junior church today as we celebrate communion.
- * If you are a first-time visitor please fill out the yellow card located in the pew racks so that we can keep in touch about news and events at First UP Church!

About Us

The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the people of God. In Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, God unites all of us through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual preference, gender identity, disability, geography or theological conviction. Christ invited any and all to the table who wished to follow Him. At First United Presbyterian Church we believe in doing the same. A community is only as strong as its most marginalized member and at First United Presbyterian we seek to rectify the idea of community as a set people who see all people as beloved children of God.

Keep In Touch

WWW.FUPCT.ORG

FACEBOOK

First UP Church—
Tarentum

EMAIL

Send your contact information to office@fupct.org to be added to our email list! Receive our weekly newsletter, event updates, and Sunday worship information!

CONTACT

office@fupct.org
724-224-2550

Prayers

Prayer for the Morning:

God, you make old things pass away and declare new things to be. As I am renewed in my baptism this morning, help me to confirm my baptismal vows in my life today. Amen.

Prayer for the Evening:

Holy One, you stretched out the heavens and spread out the earth, and in that context I give you this small day that I have lived. Now may I sleep, safe and secure in your covenant promise to me that I am your beloved child, in whom you are well pleased. Amen.



Contact Us!

Rev. Philip A. Beck, Pastor
pastor@fupct.org

Jessica Jones, Admin. Asst.
office@fupct.org
412-216-6314

Abby George, Choir Director
ahill880@icloud.com
484-725-9870

Denise Olson, Organist
dlo@zoominternet.net

Pastor Bob Henry
Parish Associate
henry2@consolidated.net

Rev. Art Seaman
Pastoral Advisor
artseaman@windstream.net

Ways to Give

By Mail

Checks can be sent directly to the church at:
First UP Church
PO Box 2
Tarentum, PA 15084

Online

Our website has a direct giving portal that will allow you to use your bank account, credit card, or debit card. It is a safe and secure option for one-time gifts or recurring donation. Please go to www.fupct.org and click the "GIVE NOW" link.

Through Your Bank

If you use online banking, you can set up a one-time or a recurring donation through the bill-pay option when logging in to your personal account. Checks will be sent to the church directly from your bank.

If you need help or additional information, please contact Jessica Jones at office@fupct.org or call her at 724-224-2550.

Scan here to give online!



TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Elder of the Month— Jesse Smioth

Church Calendar

Sunday, January 4th—Epiphany Sunday

9:30am—Coffee Hour

10am—Kids Club Sunday School
Sunday School for all ages
Choir Rehearsal

11am—Worship & Communion

12pm—Deacons Undecorate

Sunday, January 11th

9:30am—Coffee Hour

10am—Kids Club Sunday School
Sunday School for all ages
Choir Rehearsal

11am—Worship

4pm—Youth Group

Upcoming Meetings

Session Retreat—Saturday, Jan. 17th at 10am

Congregational Mtg.—Sunday, Jan. 25th at 12pm

Deacon of the Month— Dean Hoover

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Chancel Flowers are available for many Sundays in the new year! If you would like to honor or remember a loved one, please contact the office at 724-224-2550 or office@fupct.org to reserve your Sunday. The cost is \$40.



The flowers are provided free of charge to the church in order to support the Needy Family Fund.

LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Food Pantry Donations

We continue to collect donations of non-perishable items for the food pantry at the Tarentum Garden.

All donations of non-perishables and boxed goods are welcome!



GEORGE SPENCER MEMORIAL BENCH

The choir of First UP Church invites you to join in an effort to purchase a memorial bench to place on the church grounds in memory of George Spencer. If enough is given, a second bench will be placed at the Tarentum Garden, where George spent much time and effort tending to the garden beds. If you would like to contribute, please note "Spencer Memorial" on the check or envelope.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Committee Annual reports are due to the office by Tuesday, January 6th. Please email your report to office@fupct.org or drop it off in the office!

COMMUNITY DINNER THANK YOU

If you have helped with a community dinner in any way, you are invited to a Thank You Dinner!

Join us on Sunday, January 18th in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm. Contact the office to RSVP at 724-224-2550 or email office@fupct.org.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2026



The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national effort to support local food banks and pantries. This year, our challenge will be alphabetical by last name. A-M is challenged to bring peanut butter, soup, and mac and cheese. N-Z is challenged to bring canned ravioli or canned pasta, canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc), and spaghetti. The team with the largest total of items wins bragging rights and the chance to pick three favorite hymns for an upcoming worship service.

Bring in your non-perishable food and toiletry items to the narthex for donation to the AVAC Food Bank and the Pantry at the Tarentum Garden. The collection ends on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11th!

A Note from Rev. Phil | January 2026

January 2026

Dear Beloved of First United Presbyterian Church of Tarentum,

I pray you find this well. When you read this, I will be away with the Beck Five (that's what we call ourselves) to Australia. It is a long-delayed trip that was to occur after Kathryn's graduation from college, but Covid destroyed that plan. So ... five plus years later we are doing what we had planned to do years previous.

You are in good hands while I am gone (and I am really gone, no email, text, social media which means no communication until I return on January 9). Pastor Bob Henry and Rev. Art Seaman will be covering the pulpit and any emergencies that might arrive. While the office is closed from December 23 - January 4th, Jessica will be periodically checking voicemail and email messages.

January is another chance for new beginnings. Personally, I am not a fan of New Year's resolutions - probably because I rarely keep any more than two weeks which is not enough time to create a new habit. That said, there are chances for these new beginnings. In the life of the congregation we will ordain and install new Deacons and Elders while we also say thank you to those who have served. We will start up our monthly Fourth Tuesday Community Dinner (it was quite the success) on January 27th from 5:30-6:30pm. If you have helped before, we could use you again. If you haven't helped before, we could always use more helpers.

January also brings the Souper Bowl of Caring. Traditionally we have done left side vs right side in our challenge, but we are going to change things up. As I write, I realize that some of us might not know what the Souper Bowl of Caring is. The Souper Bowl of Caring was started years ago in a church in Texas where on Super Bowl Sunday the youth collected Soup and also money to support the local food bank. It took off and so began the Souper Bowl of Caring. We have embraced the Souper Bowl of Caring not just as a day, but as the whole month of January through Super Bowl Sunday which is February 8th.

Here is the scoop. Alphabetical by last name is the challenge this year. A-M is challenged to bring peanut butter, soup, and mac and cheese. N-Z is challenged to bring canned ravioli or canned pasta, canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc), and spaghetti. The team with the largest total of items wins bragging rights and the chance to pick three favorite hymns for an upcoming worship service.

As we look forward, I do want to take a moment and look back and say thank you. Thank you for your grace. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for showing up to worship. Thank you to saying yes to community dinners, workdays at the garden, coming to Sunday School, helping with the kids events, passing out meals to our neighbors, doing "odd jobs" around the church, singing in the choir, ringing the bells, welcoming folks as they come through the doors, running the video Sunday after Sunday, assisting with our youth group, locking up the church, donating oodles of soup, pasta, sauce and other items for the Free Little Pantry, making coffee, doing dishes, tidying up rooms, decorating, giving financially regularly and generously, and the list goes on.

Recently I had a friend ask, "How do you do it all?" I don't. We do. Together. Together we have made a difference in our neighborhoods. Together we have supported one another in times of joy and in times of sorrow. In a world that seems so divided most days, perhaps we can be an example that what matters most is community, love, care, grace, and hope.

Peace,
Rev. Phil



January Birthdays

- 1 Robert Henry
- 4 David Sue
- 7 Jennifer Peck
- 8 Karly Sala
- 9 Lynn Jacques
- 9 Leah Kapp
- 10 Chet Olson
- 14 Joey Stone
- 15 Roxanne Schaff
- 19 Natalie Dickerson
- 22 Denise Wagner
- 27 Kellan Kilgore
- 28 Emeryn Cochran
- 30 Lauren Cottone
- 30 Jill Kunkle
- 31 John Gilette

January Anniversaries

- 26 Ed & Susan Malarkey

As With Gladness of Old Men

1 As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led to Thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Him whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare At that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

4 Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep:
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea.

2 O Savior, whose almighty word The wind and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep, And calm amid its rage did sleep:
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea.

3 O Holy Spirit, who did brood Upon the chaos wild and rude,
And bade its angry tumult cease, And gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea.

4 O Trinity of love and power, All travelers guard in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

What Star is This With Beams So Bright

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, More lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn King, Glad tidings of our God to bring.

2 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed";
And lo! the Eastern sages stand To read in heaven the Lord's command.

3 O Jesus, while the star of grace Impels us on to seek Your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse The guidance of Your light to use.

4 To God the Father, God the Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
May every tongue and nation raise An endless song of thankful praise.