

The Circuit Rider



First United Methodist Church, Harlan
Monroe Chapel United Methodist Church

MAY 2021



WELCOME TO PASTOR LORI SHANNON

Pastor Mike is on renewal leave and during this time First and Monroe Chapel UMC's are fortunate to have Pastor Lori Shannon fill in for Pastor Mike from **April 11th through May 31st**. We thank her for her willingness to step-in. Here is a brief description per Pastor Lori:

My first career was as an English teacher and I was a UNI graduate. I taught for 32 years (mostly in Manning) and retired in 2009. Prior to my retirement, I attended the School of Lay Ministry, completed it in 2009, and began serving a small church in the area in 2010. I became a licensed local pastor in 2015 and continued to serve in that church until 2020. I live in Manning with my husband Jack. We are members of Kirkman UMC and actually lived in Harlan for a time when we were first married, so we have many connections with the area. I enjoy writing, painting landscapes, being in theatrical productions and bicycling.

GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Congratulations to High School graduating seniors: *Brenden Bartley, Joe Evans, Brooke Goshorn, Reanna Obrecht, and Abby Swank*. We wish them success in their future endeavors! They will be recognized during 10:30am worship on **Sunday, May 16th**.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



United Methodist Women meet Wednesday, May 5, at 9:30am for Executive Committee. Sarah Circle meets Thursday, May 13, at 7:00pm, and Rebekah Circle meets Wednesday, May 19, at 9:30am. The annual Salad Buffet will be held in August this year. More information will be relayed in July.

CHANGE to COME

It was announced last month that Pastor Mike has been appointed to serve as pastor of the Cherokee United Methodist Church, effective July 1st of this year. Pastor Steve McElroy has been appointed to serve here at First and Monroe Chapel UMC's beginning this July. Pastor Steve currently serves the Norwalk UMC. He and his wife Alison will make the transition to Harlan the end of June.



SUMMER MISSION TRIP



Details are being looked into for a mission trip to the Tree of Life Ministry this Summer. Tree of Life is a Multi-Denominational, Cross-Cultural Mission and Relief Agency located on the Rosebud Reservation in Rosebud, South Dakota. They offer a Soup Kitchen, Thrift Store, as well as help with home repairs. More information to come.

WEDNESDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Wednesday MYF program wrapped up on April 7th. Thank you to the teachers for their time and dedication this past year and to the kids for attending the weeks that MYF was able to be held. A big thank you to the reliable Kitchen Crew who graciously adjusted to whatever changes were needed this past program year.



SPECIAL THANKS

Ronda Evans has served First UMC for almost 2 years as our Christian Education Coordinator. Recent events have led to her resignation this past month. We thank her for her enthusiasm and dedication, coordination and leadership with Wednesday activities, the Christmas Program, and Bible School.