

2021 Fork UMC

250th Anniversary Year in Review



Fork UMC
*When You're Here
You're Home*



Jess Sparwasser won our 250th
Anniversary Logo Contest
organized by Kathy Franzoni
Used on letterheads, ball point
pens & T-shirts

Fork Road Historical Marker



The COVID epidemic impacted 2021 Activities

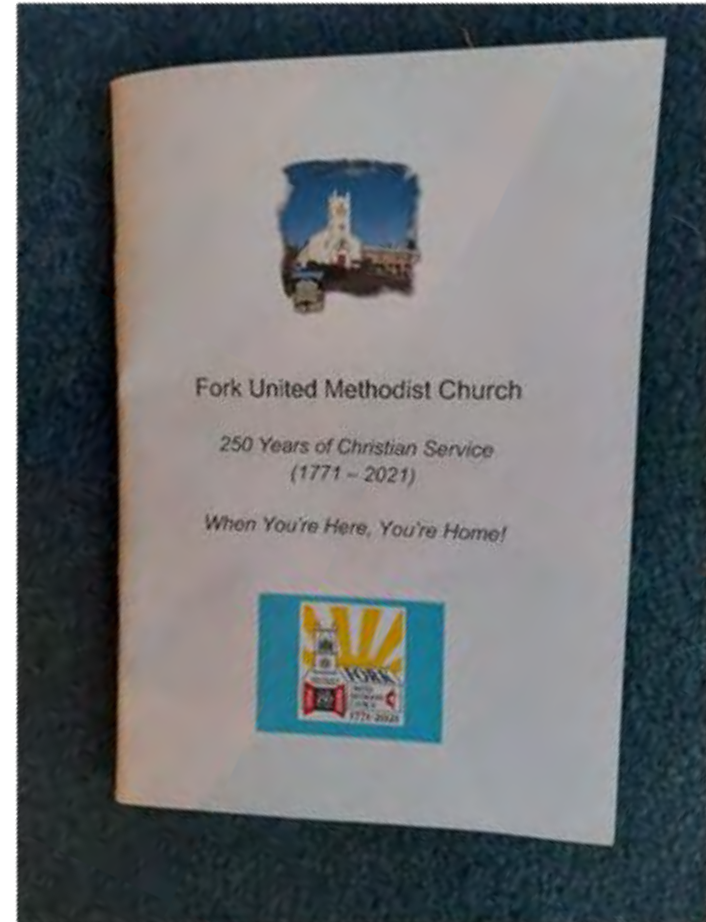
COVID19 had a huge impact on society starting early in 2020 and continuing into 2021. In addition to travel restrictions and business shut-downs, church doors were closed by government mandate. Thanks to the efforts of Mike Boyer, Don Keller, Karen Kerski and Pastor Montague, Fork UMC, like many congregations, adapted by 'airing' services via 'Zoom' and later 'live-stream'. When mandates lessened later in 2020 and in-person services could resume, Pastor Montague assembled a team to discuss 're-opening well'. As precautions, Bibles and Hymnals were removed; masks were required at all times; doors remained ajar for improved air circulation; and, to maintain the recommended six (6) foot 'social distance', every other pew was closed off with yellow caution tape. In addition, as the organist played hymns, congregants were asked to speak, not sing, the words. Over time, practices gradually relaxed. Hymnals and Bibles returned in 2021 and masks were only used while singing and while entering or exiting the Sanctuary. Interestingly congregants no longer stood to sing.

Committee meetings were often conducted remotely via Zoom. In addition, concerns over the potential for spreading COVID at large, indoor gatherings (Fellowship Hall), necessitated some schedule adjustments. For example, the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was cancelled, and the Homecoming Day celebration was shifted from April to October, resulting in deferring 'Memory Lane Day' to November and combining it with opening the 'Time Capsule' (more on these events later). Outdoor church activities generally proceeded on schedule while instituting measures to maintain recommended 'social distancing'.

Fork UMC 250th Anniversary Committee

Debbie Thomas, chair
Chris Boyer
Kathy Franzoni
Dave Heston
Patti Heston
Janet Jones
Don Keller
Karen Kerski
Rev. Daniel Montague
Don Smith
Eric Strumsky
Rebecca Strumsky
Ken Thomas
Ken West

Many thanks also go to:
Membership & Nurture Committee and chair,
Marlene Strumsky & to
United Methodist Women and chair, Kate King.
The 250th team could not do their work without
their cooperation and support.



Cover of 66 page pamphlet of the history of Fork UMC and the Fork area by Ken Thomas & Ken West

New Year Ring and Read January 1, 2021



Eric & Rebecca Strumsky led a host of bell ringers & scripture readers, sounding the bell a total of 250 times to welcome in 2021, our 250th Anniversary Year.
Left: Eric at the bell pull rope (aka as a 'sally')
Right: Les and Linda Bussard listen to readings



Below: Zoe Sparwasser rings the bell as her siblings wait their turn

Marlene Strumsky reads scripture



WBFF late news clip shows Ken Thomas reading scripture



Moving into the new year - 2021 Underway

Chris & Mike Boyer, Debbie & Ken Thomas placed a 250th 'Birthday Cake' outside the Ed Building. (Mysteriously, the cake occasionally 'walked about' to keep from ruining the grass.)



On alternate weeks at Sunday services, one of 26 questions about the history of Fork UMC or one of 25, decade at a time, lists of significant events during the church's 250 year history were presented.

Below Left & Center: Approved by Admin Council & funded by generous donation, Mike Boyer led efforts to install Solar Electric panels (PV) on the parsonage. God is Good. Before proceeding, an inspection revealed that the roof leaked & needed repair. The timely roof replacement thus helped avoid costly potential damage.

Below Right: Feb. 17, 2021, Ash Wednesday, dawned as Pastor Montague, Dave Heston & Mike Boyer prepared to bless & place the sign of the cross (in ashes) on nearly 40 persons driving thru while members of Fork & Waugh held a prayer vigil.



Parsonage PV Generation



2021 Moves Along



Left: Doris Isenock & Marlene Strumsky help Millie Emmel (in back) celebrate her 100th birthday. (our oldest living member)

Right: our longest Tenured member, Brownie Anderson (since 1944).



Plans don't always work out. With Ad Council approval & funding from a member donation, Karen Kerski led a project to design & install a new, electronic sign (middle). The new sign was very timely as we later learned the old sign (left) was rusty & in poor condition. Alas, after the upgrade, area residents complained. The permit, issued in **error** by Balto. County, was invalid for our more restricted area. The sign had to go or risk legal action. See modified new sign (right).

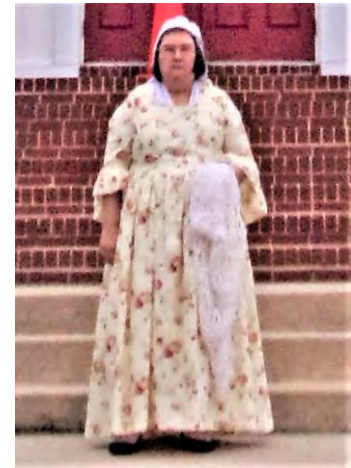
2021 Moves Along

Restricted to outdoor activities by COVID concerns, Marlene Strumsky held the annual Easter Egg Hunt March 27. Children in several age groups scurried about, quickly finding eggs hidden by adults & the youth group. To honor our 250th Anniversary, some special eggs held **250** cents worth of coins. Take home crafts were also available.

Concerned over the potential for spreading COVID at a large indoor event, **Homecoming** was postponed from April 18 to Oct. 17, 2021.

On May 16, 2021, Strawbridge Shrine curator Helen Kemp (below right) was a guest speaker. In costume, she explained that Robert Strawbridge, a contemporary of Francis Asbury, played a key role in the American Methodist movement. Fork 'Meeting House' was among his many stops, preaching here & helping organize the church. His extensive travels by horseback in the mid-Atlantic area helped give rise to the term 'circuit rider'. Below: Pictures of Shrine.

Below: Adam Breidenbaugh displays his haul



2021 Kingsville Independence Day Parade July 3, 2021



Left: Award winning Fork/Waugh entry in Kingsville Independence Day Parade



Above Right: Parade walkers: L to R Beth Lattanzi Pastor Montague, Kathy Franzoni at Kingsville VFC Hall (Not pictured: Mike Boyer also walked)

Below left Workers: L to R Tom Chenowith, Colin Payne, Jim Humphreys

Below Middle: Float is Ready to Go

Below right: Float driver Don Keller with Jim Humphreys (hat)



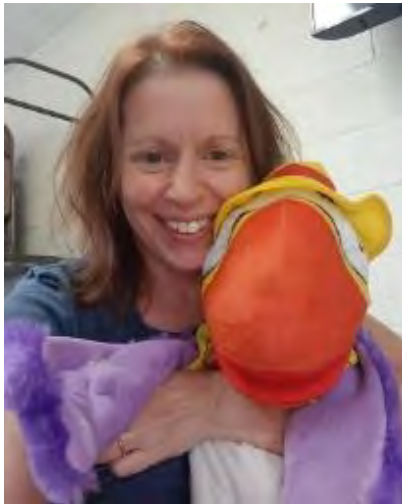
Vacation Bible School August 2021 - team effort



Right: Pastor Daniel Montague played the Lighthouse Keeper



Organized & directed by Patti McDonnell, the annual Fork/Waugh Vacation Bible School, "Adventure Island", was held daily at Fork from August 9-13 from 5:45 to 8 PM.



Left: Music leader & Puppeteer:
Jen McDonnell



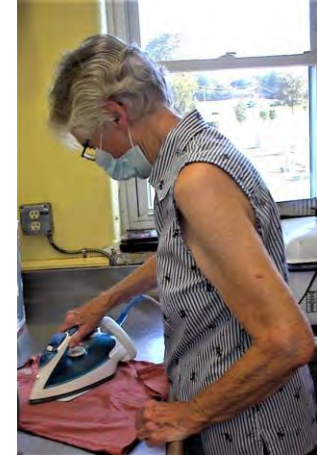
Vacation Bible School August 2021 - a team effort



Standing: Lisa Payne, Jen McDonnell,
Seated: Luke Edelmann, Patti Heston
Students not identified



With Sally West in the kitchen
(not shown), dinner is served
L to R: Eileen King, Betty
Batchelor, Pastor Montague, Zoe
Sparwasser, Kate King, Katelyn
Blethen, Wyatt Sparwasser



Chris Humphreys
prepares T shirts
w/VBS Logos:



Outside Fun & Games
Leaders (in light blue): Mike
Boyer, Chris Boyer, Maura
Payne, Luke Edelmann



Vacation Bible School August 2021 - a team effort



VBS Projects & Crafts



Facing camera: L to R: Chris Boyer, Mike Boyer, Luke Edelman, Gabe Sparwasser

Jess Sparwasser standing leads crafts assisted by VBS Director Patti Heston (R)



Leading students to refreshments!:
Left: Beth Lattanzi
Below: Sally West



250
Years
1771-2021



FORK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BACK-IN-TIME DAY

September 18 ~ 11 am to 4pm
12800 Fork Road, Fork, Maryland 21051

Living History actors & demos, food, family fun (bounce house, face paint). All are WELCOME!

Back in Time Day September 18, 2021

Right: Color Guard marching to gravesite of John B. Watkins

Below: Musket volley honors grave of former Md SSAR President John B. Watkins, as his daughter, Susan Watkins Freeman, receives plaque presented by current President John Davidson.



Right: Late 18th - early 19th century weapons displayed by Aquila Hall chapter of Md SSAR



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Mark Dubin of Md. Independent Blues describes uniforms, arms & political climate leading to the War of 1812



Colonel Aquila Hall chapter of Md SSAR
Encampment: Left Gen. US Grant



Left: Town Crier, Dave
Heston announces events



Right: 'New recruit', Private
Linda Bussard

Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



3rd US Infantry Civil War, Captain Wm.
Longnecker, commander

Right: 3rd US Inf. Civil War Officer's tent



Above: 3rd US Army solders
entertain with a homemade banjo



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Blacksmiths from Jerusalem Mills hard at work on a steamy summer day



WBFF film crew at work

Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Let's hear an Amen for former Fork/Waugh Pastor Mike Cantley who also sang & played guitar



Gathered for message & music



Left: Rev. Danny Breidenbaugh, raised in the Fork/Waugh charge, enjoys the activities as he prepares to warm our hearts with an inspiring message. Kate King in costume.



Right: Anastasia Breidenbaugh & Gabrielle Scott provide uplifting music. Anastasia's twin girls were just weeks old!

Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Left: Ad chair, Chris Boyer, with talents of Don Keller & Karen Kerski (Catalpha Ad & Design), created a huge wall sign, placed by Mike Boyer, big enough for all passers-by to see.

Right: Rev. Breidenbaugh, Don Keller & others take things in (Cindy Horn, Fork/Waugh secretary & husband Dale in straw hat)



Left: L to R: Charles Twining, Judy Ayres, Saleem Gauhar, Rose Ruppertsberger, Debbie & Ken Thomas, Linda Bussard listen to music & messages. In back, Mike Boyer leans in to listen.



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021

Food Court served delicious pit beef, turkey and ham sandwiches, along with funnel cakes, hot dogs and sodas to satisfy appetites



At grill, L to R: Kevin Edelmann, Bill Ayres, Don Smith, Mike Payne (not shown)



Servers: L to R Chris Humphreys, Patti Heston, Bob & Betty Batchelor, Sally West



L: Norma Belas waits to be served

R: It looks & smells so good!
What should we order?



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



We didn't overlook why we're here. Adjacent to the food court, Ella Weer offered prayers to all & placed boxes to collect for Missions. Patrons of the event could donate to the six (6) missions supported annually by Fork UMC. (Helping Hands, Manna House, Operation Finally Home, UMC Native Americans, Boy Scouts of America, UMC Board of Child Care)



L: Ella Weer interacts with Gen US Grant

R: Town crier Dave Heston lets Gen Grant know where things are.



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Don't people amaze you with their talents?
Face painting is always a hit with children.

L: Lisa Payne (standing) & Jennifer
Hollenback-Lee (seated) display their
creative side. Below, seated with back to
camera, Maura Payne who also painted
faces, announces 'Next'.



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021

Right: With COVID a concern, Eric & Rebecca Strumsky kept the bounce house clean, safe & orderly through the day so youngsters could enjoy.



Left: Fun for the younger set. The youth group later had some fun with this, too, as the bounce house did not get picked up before they met on Sunday evening.

Right: A member donated funds to replace the aging and no longer safe, playground. When Tony, Beth & son, Vincent Lattanzi ordered a new set, they were told COVID back-logged orders. Fortunately, the vendor had a cancellation. The Lattanzis were able to remove the old playset & ready the area for the new one, just in time for our Back in Time event. Coincidence?



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Attendees discovered how to find out more about their ancestors through the Baltimore County Genealogy Society.

Helen Kemp, curator of the Strawbridge Shrine and her husband. In costume, she provided information about the Shrine & early Methodism in the mid-Atlantic area.



Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



L to R: Kathy Franzoni, Mary Jane Breidenbaugh & Karen Chenoweth served Kettle-Corn, Ice Cream & Snow Cones.



Above: Karen Kerski readies kettle popcorn as Kathy Franzoni prepares to distribute ice cream from the freezer.



The Sanctuary doors opened wide for all. Docent Janet Jones answered visitor's questions.

Back in Time Day September 18, 2021



Taken by Don Keller after 9/19/21 Sunday service. Kneeling: Sadie Heston, Jen McDonnell, Lisa Payne, Colin Payne, Judy Ayres. Front row: Dave Heston, Kate King, Tom Chenowith, Patti Heston, Karen Chenowith, Elon Monnin, Jean Reeves, Eileen King, Marlene Strumsky, Linda Bussard, Brownie Anderson, Pastor Daniel Montague. 2nd Row: Dick Seim, Mike Payne, Mike Boyer, Jim Humphreys (hat), Chris Humphreys, Sally West, Ken West, Bill Ayres, Marion Anderson, Linda Theos, Betty Batchelor, Janet Jones, Bob Batchelor, Ken Thomas, Debbie Thomas.

Back in Time Day September 18, 2021

It takes a congregation. May God bless everyone involved, Thanks!

Town Crier/Master of Ceremonies: Dave Heston, Pastor Daniel Montague

Dessert Court: Mary Jane Breidenbaugh, Sara Breidenbaugh, Karen Chenowith,
Kathy Franzoni, Karen Kerski

Food Court: Brownie Anderson, Marion Anderson, Bill Ayres, Betty Batchelor, Bob
Batchelor, Linda Bussard, Kevin Edelmann, Luke Edelmann, Patti Heston, Chris
Humphreys, Eileen King, Kate King, Mike Payne, Don Smith, Marlene Strumsky, Sally West
Prayer, Donations, Church Docent: Ella Weer, Dick Seim, Janet Jones

Bounce House: Eric Strumsky, Rebecca Strumsky

Face Painters: Jennifer Hollenback-Lee, Lisa Payne, Maura Payne

Exhibitors: Aquila Hall Chapter of Sons of American Revolution (SAR), Balto County
Genealogical Society, Maryland Independent Blues, Maryland SSAR, Strawbridge Shrine,
3rd US Infantry (Civil War), Gen. US Grant (as portrayed by Brian Withrow)

Live Music: Mike Cantley, Anastasia Breidenbaugh & her sister, Gabrielle Scott

Inspirational Messages: Rev. Mike Cantley, Rev. Danny Breidenbaugh

Traffic, parking & signage: Buddy Breidenbaugh, Paul Franzoni, Ken West

Shuttle to off-site parking: Bob Jones, Janet Jones, Les Bussard

Utilities (electric, water, sound): Jim Humphreys, Colin Payne, Mike Boyer

Advertising: Chris Boyer, Karen Kerski, Don Keller, Les Bussard, Ken West

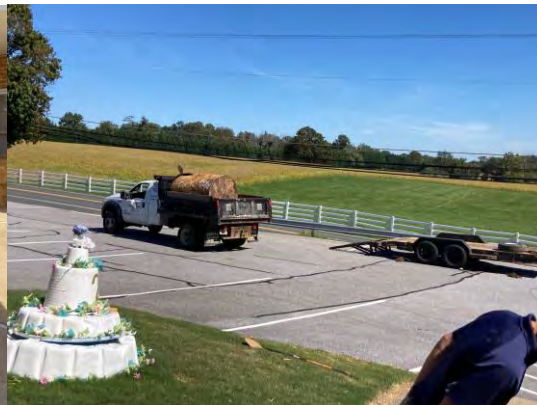
Set-up, break-down, relief to others as needed, etc.: Judy Ayres, Mike Boyer, Les Bussard,
Tom Chenowith, Amy Edelmann, Don Keller, Tony Lattanzi, Vincent Lattanzi, Sam Lee, Joey
Lee, Mel Lewis

New Education Building Fuel Tank September 27 2021



Mike Boyer led a project to remove the 60+ year old fuel tank under the lawn in front of the Ed Building portico. Buried tanks have a life expectancy of about 25 years & the tank had rusted through. Fortunately, the leakage was minor. The contaminated soil & tank were removed & taken away (below center). The hole was filled & lawn re-seeded. A new, above ground tank was installed near the A/C unit (below right).

Thanks to Mike our church avoided a potential environmental hazard.



C R O P Walk to Feed the Hungry October 16, 2021



Camp Chapel UM hosted walkers



Folks gather for the CROP walk to help feed the hungry



Pastor Daniel leads prayer as the walk begins



Walkers with placard "Trash bins are full, stomachs are empty"

HOMECOMING Service and Luncheon 10/17/21



**Celebrating 250 Years
1771 to 2021**

Homecoming Service & Luncheon October 17, 2021

Originally planned for April, our Homecoming Service and Luncheon was re-scheduled to October 17, due to COVID concerns. Pastor Daniel Montague arranged a beautiful service with Bishop Latrelle Easterling delivering an inspiring message to *Press On*, based on Philippians 3. Our job here on earth as Christian Disciples has not been completed, there is more to do.

A large assembly filled most of the available seats. Due to COVID protocols, attendees wore masks at all times. Members of Waugh church helped us celebrate in a joint 10 AM service (normal is 9:30 AM). Congregants sang heartily, accompanied by organist Jen McDonnell. In addition to folks that 'came back', we were blessed to have several distinguished guests and speakers. As these speakers concluded their brief remarks, Pastor Daniel received several Official Citations commemorating our 250th Anniversary.

After sounding the church bell, Eric Strumsky lights the altar candles as the service begins.



Homecoming Service & Luncheon October 17, 2021



Pastor Montague greets the congregation and welcomes our honored guests



Homecoming Service & Luncheon October 17, 2021



Above Left: D. S. Ann LaPrade leads prayer. Above: Bishop Latrelle Easterling delivers a compelling message. Prior to the message, Balto. Co. Executive Johnny 'O' Olszewski, Jr., Councilmen Wade Kach & David Marks, as well as, liaison for Md. Delegates Kathy Szeliga & Lauren Arian, Joan Hruz, all extended their congratulations to Fork UMC on our long history of dedicated service.

Homecoming Service & Luncheon 10/17/2021

Right: As services concluded, 250th Anniversary Team chair, Debbie Thomas, recounted the year's events to date & thanked guests for their remarks & members for their support. Debbie then extended an invitation to a luncheon following the service. Due to COVID concerns, the meal, planned by Patti McDonnell & Kathy Franzoni, was prepared & served outside along the Portico by



Sunshine Grill staff. Guests enjoyed baked ziti & a variety of sandwiches, salads & desserts with drinks courtesy of UMW. Seating was available in Fellowship Hall & at tables set up on the parking lot.



L to R: Balto Co Executive Johnny Olszewski, Jr., Councilmen David Marks & Wade Kach, Bishop Latrelle Easterling, D. S. Ann LaPrade & Pastor Montague pose after the 10 AM service.



L to R: Danny Briedenbaugh, Paul Franzoni, Julia Franzoni & others wait for lunch & watch as photographers record the event.

Trunk or Treat October 30, 2021



L to R: Les Bussard, Laura Blethen,
Chris Humphreys ready to treat little ones

Membership & Nurture Chair, Marlene Strumsky, organized the Annual Trunk or Treat for Oct. 30. Lots of goodies for children & adults, along with take home crafts & a 'hayride' through the cemetery. Due to COVID concerns, all activities remained outdoors.



L to R: Jim Humphreys, Janet Jones, Les Bussard,
Buddy Breidenbaugh & Pastor Montague



Looks like some treats in that
trunk!

Trunk or Treat October 30, 2021



Jim Humphreys takes a tour group in the Graveyard Express

Some scary,
some friendly
characters



Left: Joined by an animated witch, Marlene Strumsky & Eric Strumsky serve refreshments & distribute take home crafts

Right: Panda bear (Linda Bussard) with wicked witch



Trunk or Treat October 30, 2021



Kneeling Buddy Breidenbaugh (B.),
Pumpkin Jacob B., Tucker Sparwasser
holding Adam B., L: Christie B., R:
Mary Jane B.



Aiden, Katelyn, Laura & Don Blethen.
Chris Humphreys at right.

Jim Humphreys (rainbow hat) at left, Tucker
Sparwasser (orange) with Adam Breidenbaugh &
Trick or Treaters.



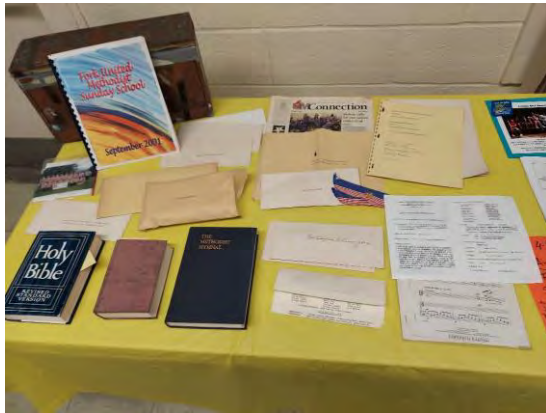
Memory Lane Day and Luncheon November 14, 2021

Memory Lane Sunday was enjoyed by all. During the service, Pastor Daniel reminded all to thank God for our memories of people & events who have shaped & guided us into disciples of Jesus Christ. He interjected photos & recollections of Fork UMC taken from a collection of stories & photos assembled by Ken West. Making the day memorable, the service concluded by baptizing Emma Louisa Habersack, daughter of Lisa & Christian Habersack and granddaughter of Rob & Janet Jones (not shown).



Following the service, the UMW hosted a luncheon with tasty sandwiches, desserts and drinks. Pictures of the luncheon follow.

Memory Lane Day and Luncheon November 14, 2021



Time Capsule Contents



Right: Lillian McAllister Deeble & daughter, Allison were among those who tried to help us locate a time capsule.

At the luncheon, the contents of a time capsule buried in the Ed Building Cornerstone were displayed. The items dated from the building's 1960 construction & from Fork's 230th Anniversary Celebration in 2001. Among the contents were a Bible, pix of the ground breaking. memorabilia from Sunday School children, etc. Thanks to Norm Gunnarson for removing the cornerstone to reveal the contents. Another capsule was reportedly buried near the north end of the Ed Bldg. but none could be found. Ken West (a retired BalCo detective) got 'leads' about possible locations from several persons, but fading memories proved inconsistent & 'targets' revealed using metal detectors (Joey Lee, Sam Lee, Ken West & Jim Humphreys) proved to be buried pipes, wires & debris - no time capsule was found. Perhaps the capsule was relocated during an earlier celebration?



Memory Lane Day and Luncheon November 14, 2021

Fork UMC **Time Capsule Contents** from Ed Bldg Cornerstone p. 1

1. Hymnal c1939 - Paul Abels
2. RSV Bible OT c1936, NT c1946 - Mrs. Stanley Appel
3. Methodist Church Discipline 1956 - pix of Rev. C. D. Cunningham, M. C. Armacost
4. Financial Campaign for new Educational Unit pamphlet
5. List of the building committee members
6. List of Women's Society members July 17, 1960
7. Bulletin from July 17, 1960 for laying of cornerstone
8. List of members from March 1960
9. List of office board, commissions and committees 1960
10. Minister Cunningham's business card
11. Quarterly conference list of committees 1960
12. Financial statement from July 6, 1960
13. General Conditions and Specifications Covering Education Building & Chang
14. Signatures of those present at laying of cornerstone July 17, 1960
15. List of Trustees from 1958 - 1963
16. Church school membership July 17, 1960
17. Guest Book from 2001
18. Sunday School Memory Book September 2001
19. Notes on Fork UM 4-H history & leaders (4-H celebrated 100 years in 2002)

Memory Lane Day and Luncheon November 14, 2021

Fork UMC **Time Capsule Contents** from Ed Bldg Cornerstone p. 2

20. 2001 Pictures

- a. Taken of Youth group on trip to Baltimore Harbor area
- b. Taken of Congregation on October 28 at 230th Celebration
- c. Choir in October
- d. Various
- e. Cub Scout Pack 779 October
- f. Jr. Girl Scout Troop 1663
- g. Brownie Troop 585
- h. Boy Scout Troop 779

21. Music scores, noting Helen Kadlec as organist/choir director

- a. My Savior sung by Fork/Waugh combined choirs Balto. N District Choral Festival April 20, 1997
- b. Go Now and Pass It On sung as a choral extroit (benediction response) by Fork/Waugh combined choirs at Thanksgiving Eve services and other events 1996-2001

22. October 28, 2001 230th Anniversary Celebration Bulletin

23. Copy of UM Connection October 17, 2001

24. Pilot Club sealed envelope

25. Herald Newsletter from 2001

26. Patriotic Ribbon with tie tac in the form of a flag

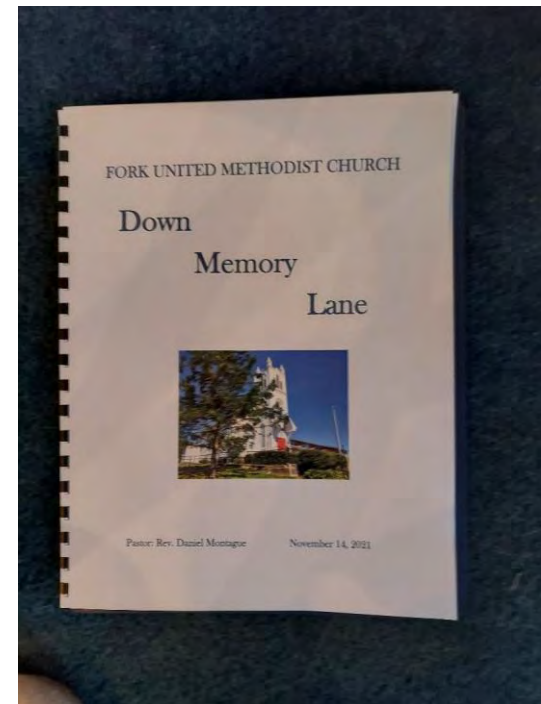
Memory Lane Day and Luncheon November 14, 2021

Items **Added** to Fork UMC Time Capsule 12/20/21

1. Inventory of contents of Time Capsule when opened on 11/10/21
2. Post Card ad for 9/18 250th Back in Time Day & Vacation Bible School Aug 9-13
3. Fork UMC 250 Years of Christian Service pamphlet w/ church & area history
4. Bulletin & Down Memory Lane Booklet from 11/14/21 Memory Lane Day
5. Pictures of youngsters: a. Gabe, Zoey & Wyatt Sparwasser; b. Gabe Sparwasser & Adam Breidenbaugh; c. Zoey & Wyatt Sparwasser with Jacob Breidenbaugh; d. Baptism of Emma Louisa Habersack on 11/14/21, with parents Christian & Lisa & Pastor Montague; e. Vincent & Maria Lattanzi; f. Joey & Carah Lee
6. Prayer from Pastor Daniel Montague
7. 2021 Penny, Nickel, Dime and Quarter
8. Typical mask and Communion Elements, both used during COVID pandemic
9. USB Memory Stick (eVersions use Microsoft Office Home & Student 2019)
 - a. Fork UMC 250 Years of Christian service Pamphlet (item 3 above)
 - b. Memory Lane Day booklet (item 4 above)
 - c. Year in Review of 2021 events (no hard copy)
 - d. History Questions & Answers and decade by decade Time-Line used on alternate weeks during opening of service (no hard copy)
 - e. Miscellaneous slides depicting events during 2021 (no hard copy)

Memory Lane Service and Luncheon November 14, 2021

The luncheon filled Fellowship Hall. Highlighting the day was a 45 minute PowerPoint slide show compiled by Ken West. The presentation recorded people & events over many years to present day. Ken even found some portraits of past ministers dating to the 1800s. **THANK YOU, KEN WEST!** His collection, of over 400 slides and growing was displayed on the Hall's TV monitor. Ken also assembled a booklet (cover shown below) of some 30 written recollections of Fork's people & activities & made a limited number of copies available to those interested. Clearly, those present enjoyed lively conversation & heart-warming memories.



Memory Lane Service and Luncheon November 14, 2021



Enjoying the meal & memories.
Note Ken West's slide presentation on back wall.



A good time for all. UMW served a tasty meal of sandwiches, desserts & drinks. Right: Rebecca Strumsky & Lisa Payne view the slide show & reminisce.



Above: Karen Chenowith standing

Below: Sally West, Adam with Mary Jane & Sara Breidenbaugh, Kathy Franzoni



Advent 2021



Left: 1st Sunday in Advent Nov. 28. At the service, Kathy, Paul, Nick & Julia Franzoni read scripture & lit the Advent candle.



Later that day, on a cold, crisp & clear evening, folks assembled for the 2nd Annual Christmas Tree lighting at 6 PM. Chris & Jim Humphreys donated this beautiful tree from their yard. Don Smith & Mike Boyer helped cut, erect and decorate it.



Left: Mike Boyer leads Youth reading the Christmas Story

Right: Angela Montague leads carolers as lyrics project on the wall.



Advent 2021

At the tree lighting, fire pits, along with hot dogs, marshmallows & hot cocoa helped create a festive atmosphere taking some of the chill out of the air. The fire pits helped keep warm in body & carols kept us warm in spirit.



Advent 2021

Cookie Night on Saturday, Dec. 4. Set up by Marlene Strumsky, & now a tradition, about 1000 cookies were prepared & bagged. Pastor Daniel took 150 bags to Manna House while the rest went to local businesses (Little Sunshines Day Care, Fork Vet., Gary's Auto, etc.) Membership & Nurture folks have this figured out, using an 'Assembly Line' that is quick & methodical. What would you expect from a Methodist Church?



Left: Debbie Thomas, Eileen King, Betty Batchelor & Marlene Strumsky finalize 'Assembly Line'.

Above right: Steve King, Debbie ?, Jim Humphreys, Debbie Thomas, Linda Bussard, Dave Heston, Eileen King & Marlene Strumsky walk along, picking cookies to bag. Right: Linda Bussard, Patti Heston, Jim Humphreys (back only), Chris Boyer, Eileen King, Dave Heston, Steve King walk as Chris Humphreys, Ken Thomas, Ella Weer & Judy Ayres add a Candy Cane & twist ties.



Betty Batchelor sets up.



Advent 2021



Betty Batchelor, Jim & Chris Humphreys decorated the Sanctuary while those attending the Sunday service on Dec. 5, 2021, came forward to place Chrismon ornaments on the tree.

The Membership & Nurture quarterly Birthday party on Dec. 12 concluded the 250th anniversary celebration activities with a special birthday cake - a 3D rendering of our Sanctuary. Led by organist Jen McDonnell, those present participated in a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday to Fork UMC.



Advent 2021

Christmas Eve 2021 from balcony



We had a great 250th celebration year & have much to be thankful for - God has been good to Fork UMC.

May this church & congregation continue to serve our Lord Jesus Christ into the future.