

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Location

1. **Where are you located?** Dingmans Ferry United Methodist Church (DFUMC) is located at 115 Myck Road in Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328. Myck Rd is off of Park Rd (by Child's Park), across from the Delaware Ambulance Corps. We are about 25 minutes from Milford, PA.

Parking and Accessibility

1. **Where do I park?** We have plenty of parking with an upper and a lower parking lot. You can drive right up to the church door if that is easier for dropping off passengers.
2. **How accessible is the church?** There are no steps to enter the front entrance of the church and handicapped parking spaces are available. There are two ways to enter Fellowship Hall, which is on the lower level. We have a Stair Chair inside the front entrance, and there is also a ramp from the parking lot down to Fellowship Hall.
3. **Where are the Bathrooms?** Bathrooms are located on the lower level and accessible through the regular stairs or chair lift. There are handicapped bathroom stalls available.

Worship Service and Music

1. **What are your worship options?** We have 2 worship services to help meet your schedule and needs: Coffee Hour is available on Sundays and follows the 10AM Worship Service.
- **Sunday Service from 11:00am:** This is a traditional family worship service with Sunday School classes for children ages Pre-K through Grade 12, and a nursery room is available for infants and toddlers. The Sunday School classes join the service for communion and children's time message.
- **"Thirsty Thursdays" at 5pm:** This is a contemporary praise service with a free flowing worship style and children actively participate. The service is held downstairs in Fellowship Hall and

includes a light meal, music, a short message and fellowship/activities.

2. **What type of music do you play?** The Sunday Church services offer traditional organ and piano music from the choir.
3. **What is the Passing of the Peace?** Passing of the Peace emulates how Jesus greeted his disciples. The typical greeting is "The Peace of the Lord Be With You" and the response " And also with you." People move around the church to shake hands or touch elbows, while others may hug. It's our way of extending a warm welcome both to visitors and church members in the spirit of fellowship.
4. **Should my children attend the worship service with me?** Children are welcomed to attend the Sunday service with you or they can go to Sunday School after *Children's Time* (approx 10:15am). You are free to take infants/toddlers to the nursery room anytime if needed. There is an intercom in the nursery so you can hear the church service. Visitors are always welcomed at the Sunday School program.

Children and Youth Programs

1. **What are the ages for the Sunday School Classes?** We are currently offering a one-room Sunday School class offered for children ages 3 Yr - Grade 8 and meet weekly to learn Bible Stories and God's Word. We look forward to growing our program as our Sunday School numbers increase. Visitors are always welcomed at the Sunday School programs. Come a little earlier to help get your children settled.
2. **What is the Nursery Like?** The Nursery is designed for infants and toddlers and is a safe place, equipped with toys and baby furniture. Parents are also welcome to take their child to the nursery at any time if a quiet space is needed. There is an intercom in the Nursery so you can hear the church service.
3. **Have Background Checks Been Done on Sunday School Teachers?** Yes, the safety of children is a priority at our church and we have a Safe Sanctuary Policy in effect that requires Background Checks for our staff and volunteers that work with children.

4. **What family programs do you offer?** Our Family Ministry Committee offers family oriented events that are open to the public and church members. These include: Seasonal Festivals, Easter Egg Hunt, and a Spring and Fall Yard Sale and Kids Clothing Giveaway.
5. **Do you offer Vacation Bible School (VBS)?** - Yes, Vacation Bible School is scheduled each summer in June/July . VBS includes lessons from the Bible, games, crafts, singing, outdoor play, snacks and lots of fun for everyone! The program is designed for children from age 3 up to kids who have finished 5th grade.
6. **Do you have a Preschool Program?** Yes, we have the "Tree of Life Preschool" which is a faith-based preschool program for children ages 2.8 years to 5 years old. There are 2-Day, 3-Day and 5-Day programs available. The curriculum is based on early childhood principles and provides a caring, interactive learning environment. We also offer a Playgroup session called "The Treehouse" on Fridays from 12:30 - 2PM for Parents and Toddlers.

7. Communion

1. **When is Communion Offered?** Communion is offered on the 1st Sunday of the month during our Sunday service. The Lord's Supper is a holy meal of bread and wine (juice) that symbolizes the body and blood of Christ. By sharing this meal, we give thanks for Christ's sacrifice and are nourished and empowered to go into the world in mission and ministry.
2. **How is Communion Served?** In the Methodist tradition, the communion elements are grape juice (not wine) and bread. Participants come up to the center aisle to receive the bread and dip it into the wine. This is called the "Intinction" method. We also have gluten free wafers and a separate chalice available. (*For hygiene reasons, we are currently using disposable communion.)
3. **Who can take Communion?** Everyone, regardless of age is or religious affiliation, is welcome to join us in this sharing. We practice "open communion," welcoming all who love Christ, repent of their sins, and seek to live in peace with one another. Children from the Sunday School classes are welcome to join as well.

4. **What is a Love Feast?** The term Agape or Love Feast was a religious meal among early Christians that seem to have been originally closely related to the Eucharist and then later practiced by the Moravians. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, introduced the Love Feast to the Methodist Church. In the early days, due to the lack of ordained Methodist ministers, there were few opportunities to take Communion, Therefore the Love Feast was substituted when a Lay Servant serves the bread and wine as a meal, rather than an ordained minister blessing the communion elements.

Ministries

1. **What ministries and missions is the church involved in?** Community Outreach and Service are a major component of DFUMC. We all can make a difference in someone's life by donating our time, talent, donations or money. Visit the Ministries menu tab to see more information about these programs and events.
- **Local Outreach** - Free London Broil (Dates announced during the year), spring and fall Clothing Giveaways, Baby Blessings Pantry, Food Pantry, Holiday Baskets and Christmas Angel gift donations, Adopt a Highway Roadside Cleanup, Pastor's Outreach Fund, and Nursing Home Ministries, Red Cross Blood Drives.
 - **Regional & Global Outreach** - Shared Ministries of UMC

Spiritual Growth

1. **Do you offer Bible Study?** Yes we have 2 Bible Study groups that meet weekly to study and discuss the Bible.
- **Pastors' Tuesday Morning Bible Group from 10am-11:30am** - Meets in the Sanctuary
 - **Wednesday Evening Bible Study from 6:30pm-7:30pm**- Meets in Pastors Office (lower level)
2. **What other options are available?**
- Join us for the Weekly Prayer Meeting Thursday Nights 8:30pm
 - Come to the **Grove for Prayer & Meditation**. This is a specially designed outside Prayer Garden near our lower parking lot that engages visitors in a variety of individual and/or group prayer experiences.

- Visit the Spiritual Tab to see more information about these programs and links to devotional readings.
- 3. **Do you have a Request?** Our Prayer List includes the names of anyone who may need prayers of healing, support, comfort or encouragement and we keep these people in our daily prayers and in our prayers at worship service. We have two types of prayer lists: Public and confidential. Anyone can have a name added to either prayer list by contacting Pastor Sungduk Kim or by contacting the Church Secretary by phone 570-828-2288 or through email at dfunc@verizon.net. You can also enter the prayer request on the Contact Us form. The Prayer request icon is also listed on our Home Page.
- **Public Prayer List** - This list (which can include minimal details and last names are not necessary) is sent by email to our prayer chain.
- **Anonymous Prayer Book** - This is an anonymous prayer list for those confidential prayers given to the Pastor. Due to confidentiality these prayers cannot be lifted out loud during our Sunday services during prayer time, so this list is put into a Bible and placed onto the altar as a prayer offering to God. It is presented at the beginning of each service and removed at the end to be destroyed, keeping its confidentiality.

Groups

1. **What social groups are available?** In addition to teams that work on ministry projects, we have several social groups. Send an email to dfunc@version.net and the Church Secretary will put you in touch with the person in charge of that group.
- **Joy Circle - United Women of Faith Group** - Meetings times vary from Sunday mornings, Sunday lunch or evenings. Joy Circle also hosts a picnic in August and a Christmas party in December and supports many service projects and missions in the church.
- **Men's Fellowship Group** - This group does not meet on a regular basis but does host the annual Chicken BBQ Fundraiser in August and also works on church projects as needed.

- **Drama Group** - The Drama Group are a diverse and talented group of church members who host an interactive Mystery Theater Dinner each year in the fall that is a big fundraiser for our church. Rehearsals start in the summer and individuals and families are welcome to join the fun as Actors, Stage Crew and Dinner helpers.
- **Dingmans Ferry Wood Carvers** - This group meets on Wednesdays from 9am-12pm and includes men and women from our church and the local community. Wood Carvers work on projects, provide guidance and assistance to each other and enjoy the camaraderie. The group welcomes carvers at all levels and will work with beginners to help them get started.

Call the church office (570) 828-2288 for more information on any of the aforementioned groups.