



# First News First

May 2017

Monthly News of First United Methodist Church  
of Mechanicsburg

*Opening Doors With Christ,  
One Another and Our Neighbors*

## "An Audience of One"

For the past several years, First Church has had the same worship schedule. Every Sunday morning at 8:15 we celebrate worship with printed responses and prayers, hymns and choruses accompanied by the organ, and anthems by our adult choirs and bell choirs. At 10:45, our worship style alternates. Twice a month, 10:45 is much like 8:15. On the other two Sundays, we sing more contemporary songs led by a praise team accompanied by keyboard, guitar, drums and other instruments.

Over the past two years that I have been your pastor, I have found that alternating worship styles at 10:45 has its pluses and minuses. On the plus side, those who attend this service are able to experience a variety of excellent music from our sanctuary, youth, children's and bell choirs, as well as from our praise teams. The quality of our music is outstanding! Personally, my experience at 10:45 has been overwhelmingly positive, regardless of which style of worship is offered!

On the minus side, having different styles of worship on alternating weeks can be confusing for those who attend regularly and for visitors. In addition, I have heard many concerns from members of our choirs and congregation about possible changes to a more contemporary style every Sunday. At the same time, I have heard equally as many concerns from those who are engaged by a more contemporary style and believe it is important to the future growth of the church.

While we have taken preliminary steps to explore the options for 10:45, there are no set plans for what the future of the service will be. Conversations are underway at Administrative Board, at our worship design team, and with our music and program staff. As they continue, there are several things upon which we all agree:

- We want to make the most of all of the musical talent with which God has blessed our church.
- We want to stay engaging to the younger generations, those we currently have, those we hope will return (like our college students), and those we have yet to meet.
- We want to stay engaging to the older generations, whose experience and wisdom is so valuable in our life together.
- We want to be open to new music and forms of worship, and we want to pass on the hymns, prayers, and rituals of our Christian faith to the next generation.
- We want to be consistent in our worship style at 10:45, so that those who regularly attend and those who are first-time guests know what to expect when they come to the service.
- Above all, we want to remember that, whatever the style of worship, we offer it for **God as an audience of one**. Of course, as we offer worship to God, we receive many blessings as well!

As our leaders and staff continue to follow the Spirit's lead for 10:45, I value your prayers, your input, and your participation. I am so grateful for the opportunity to spend Sunday mornings worshipping our Risen Savior with all of you!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Denny

## Worship

Sunday Morning  
 Worship Services  
 8:15 am & 10:45 am

Sunday School  
 9:30 am



### The 4th Sunday at 4:00...

an interactive and inclusive ministry for those with developmental disAbilities, their families, friends and care givers.

## Sermon Series

### "Here I Am to Worship: Blessing God in a Strange Land"

The fact that people come to worship is something of a miracle. Why would anyone leave the comfort and warmth of their bed on a Sunday morning, put expensive gasoline in their cars, search for a parking place that sometimes is some distance away, sit in a room that is usually either too hot or too cold, sometimes next to people you don't even know? It makes no sense, unless there is a God who is real, who is above us and beyond us, but also beside us and within us, who created and sustains all things, who is worthy of our worship.

This morning we continue our celebration of Easter with a series of sermons on the First Epistle of Peter. Peter writes about the power of gathering together in worship to a community of Christians living in a foreign land. His invites them, and us, to come before God as we are, with our praises, our struggles, and our aspirations. Join us throughout this Easter Season as we turn our hearts and minds toward the Risen Lord in worship.

April 23	"Here I Am to Praise!"	I Peter 1:3-9
April 30	"Here I Am, Forgive Me"	I Peter 1:17-23
May 7	"Here I Am, Heal Me"	I Peter 2:19-25
May 14	"Here I Am, Feed Me"	I Peter 2:2-10
May 21	"Here I Am, Transform Me"	I Peter 3:13-22
May 28	"Here I Am to Offer My Life"	I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

## Holy Communion

	May 7	Loaves and Chalice
	June 4	Loaves and Chalice
	July 2	Pew Service
	August 6	Loaves and Chalice
	September 3	Pew Service
World Communion	October 1	Loaves and Chalice
First Sunday in Advent	November 26	Pew Service
Christmas Eve, 8:00 and 11:00	December 24	Loaves and Chalice

## Music

### May/June Ministry of Music Sunday Morning Schedule

May 7	Sanctuary Choir & Joy Ringers (8:15); Praise Team (10:45)
May 14	Sounds of Worship (8:15); Junior Choir, Children's Choir & Praise Ringers (10:45)
May 21	Sounds of Worship (8:15); Praise Team & Youth Choir (10:45)
May 28	Sounds of Worship (8:15); Sanctuary Choir (10:45)
June 4	Sounds of Worship (8:15); Sanctuary Choir (10:45)

## National Day of Prayer



### May 4 Community Prayer at Noon and Free Lunch!

You are invited to join with thousands of other churches across our nation to participate in the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4.

Each year on the first Thursday in May, our nation pauses to observe a National Day of Prayer. On that day, we have an opportunity to emphasize the importance of prayer as a testimony to who God is, what we believe, and the fact that our nation was founded upon the truths of God's Word.

**New this year**, we will have a community prayer at noon in the sanctuary, followed by lunch. The lunch is free, and there is no need to register. Just come and pray with us!

If you cannot attend at this time, we encourage you to pray from your home or place of work.

For more details, go to [nationaldayofprayer.org](http://nationaldayofprayer.org) or contact Debbie Karns at [dekarns@comcast.net](mailto:dekarns@comcast.net).

## Praying Our Way Forward

Beginning January 1 of this year, our United Methodist Council of Bishops launched a 75-week prayer initiative called, "Praying Our Way Forward." Across the U.S. and around the world, each annual and central conference has been assigned a week to engage in focused prayer. Our Susquehanna Conference is assigned the week of May 7-13.

A few months ago, Bishop Park and the Cabinet asked Pastor Keller to coordinate this effort for our conference. He has been working with a team of pastors and laity from each of our seven districts. Janice Bowen from First Church has served on the team from our Harrisburg District.

Each district has been assigned a day during the week. The Harrisburg District's day is Sunday, May 7. There will be prayer gatherings in churches throughout our district at different times during that day. Our Mechanicsburg cluster churches will meet at First Church at 4:00 p.m. for a one hour prayer service.

In addition, we are invited to join in a 24 hour prayer vigil that will take place in our district on May 7th. You are welcome to pray at home for 30 minutes during the day. Please use the link below to sign up for a time to pray.

<https://ttsu.me/PhoB>

The Lord Jesus has entrusted to us the same world-transforming mission he entrusted to his disciples long ago. Like them, he has given us the two remarkable gifts of the Holy Spirit and prayer. He has also given us the great promise that with prayer, "nothing will be impossible."

## Finance

**Financial Report—through March 31, 2017**  
25% of year

### General Fund

2017 budget	\$ 935,000	
Expected income	\$ 233,750	
Actual income	\$ 228,828	(24% of budget)
Shortfall	\$ 4,922	
Actual expenses	\$ 216,053	

Before we enter the summer vacation and travel season, a great way to make sure you are current with your pledge is to sign up for electronic payments. It's easy and secure and you can change at any time if necessary. Forms are available in the Welcome area or at the church office.

## Trustees

Trustees Workday at the church is scheduled for May 6th at 8:00 am. ALL our welcome.



**Come and  
Join Us!**

## New Members

Please welcome our newest members who joined First Church on April 2.



Greg & Anna Harris  
Children: Brady, Juliette  
and Enzo



Mike & Jenn James  
Children: Olivia and Logan



Amber Lewis



Molli Leedy & Bonnie Leedy



Molli Leedy with her husband,  
Richard Stover  
Children: Emma & Jakob Stover

## Missions

### Grocery Bagging for Bethesda Mission

On the third Wednesday evening of every month members of First United Methodist Church gather at Mission Central to bag groceries for Bethesda Mission. All are invited to join and be a part of this mission opportunity. Join us at Mission Central on May 17 at 6 pm. Contact Eric King at [eeking@verizon.net](mailto:eeking@verizon.net) for more information.

### Penny Report ~ Now Located at the Sierra Leone Display in the Tower Hallway

Help support the Sierra Leone Well Drilling Project by dropping your pennies, or any loose change, into the *Change for Water* Bucket. One hundred percent (100%) of your donations are used to provide training and dig wells that supply safe drinking water for schools and communities in Sierra Leone. There were 2,540 pennies contributed this past month for a total to date of \$12,779.44.

**Thank you for a great a month of donations and for your continued prayers and financial support!**

### CRU News

Please continue to keep our 4 CRU Missionaries, Matt & LeeAnn Herring, Jenna Mengle and Bethany Robinson, in your prayers.

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jenna.mengle@cru.org



March 2017

**March** was filled with so much fun and seeing God work near and far! After a lot of heavy things happening on campus in February, I was excited for a change of pace. Most of this month's highlights came from Cru's spring break conference in Panama City Beach, Florida. Miami took 31 students and 6 staff to the conference, where we met nearly 500 other college students that had a shared spring break. There, we heard from phenomenal speakers, learned how to share our faith clearly, worshiped in song together, were challenged, and spent fun time on the beach. A few super encouraging stories from the trip come from Claudia and James who were both on their first trip with Cru.

Claudia is a student I wrote about a few months ago, who I met on the club field hockey team and was praying for as our friendship grew this year! She came to PCB with us, and it was a blast being in ministry with her, living with her and also seeing her grow. Here is what she said, "Attending 'Big Break 2017' with Cru was such an eye-opening and enriching week spent with so many wonderful people. God, the beach, and new friends: I can't think of a better combination! Talking with strangers on the beach was nerve wracking, but so rewarding for I grew in my faith while spreading the Word of God." Praise God for her encouraging experience and for the fire he started in her for Him!

James is a freshman at Miami and was in my car for the trip (15 hours both ways!). James had one of the biggest life changes I've seen on campus this year, in such a short amount of time. After the trip home, He earnestly got out of the car with more personal, spiritual and emotional maturity than when he got in just a week before. James said this about his experience, "PCB was the first time I gave my life completely to Christ. I felt a lot of freedom from my sins and felt like nothing was holding me back anymore. Also, I never thought I would be comfortable talking to random strangers about my faith until I actually tried it."

It was an incredible privilege to get to take students on a faith stretching trip to grow in leadership and spirituality! I know God will use the Big Break conference for His kingdom!

Back on campus I've gotten to enjoy my normal mentoring appointments and spend time with new students from our most recent interest surveys.



It is Miami tradition for men's condos to cook for the ladies on the PCB trip, below is our dinner group!



The Miami group (staff and students) shared one meal together at the end of the week to celebrate the trip!

### Prayer Requests:

- Claudia, James, the other students and staff to transition back onto campus after a lot of spiritual growth in PCB (and Montenegro Spring Break )
- The end of the semester would set students up for growth and a fruitful summer
- Personal faith as I start taking the next steps in continuing with Cru.
- Our seniors who are anxiously approaching graduation.

### Praise the Lord:

- PCB was incredibly encouraging, challenging and fun! We had a safe trip and saw the Lord work first hand!
- Cru had a wonderful Semi-formal dance with a great turn-out and positive feedback.
- We sent 6 students and several staff to Montenegro for spring break where they had the chance to encourage full-time staff and short term interns in their ministry. The trip was encouraging and fruitful!

Thank you for your eternal investment whether it be through prayer and/or finances. Because of you, the trip to PCB and my time on campus is possible! I am continually grateful and humbled by your giving!



My van buddies: Danny, Lydia, Claudia, myself, Kelli, Mary Kate & James

gratefully,  
Jenna

1011 Arrowhead Drive apt. 12 Oxford, OH 45056





**Bethany Robinson**  
Missionary in the Susquehanna Valley

Mailing address:  
**1035 Rural Ave.**  
**Williamsport, PA 17701**



"The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26

This verse really resonated with me as I prepared for my week in Philadelphia (Mission Liberti) for my Spring break trip. I love where it talks about His face shining upon me.

I grew up in the country and so cities never seem to be something I am drawn to or want to spend a lot of time in. I see God's face/beauty in nature and rolling hills, not a huge concrete city.

I was super challenged whenever I realized that God's face is in everything. His face is in the brokenness of each of us, it is in the grass, it is in the wall to wall world of Philly.

Whenever that reality came into my mind, I was convicted of thinking that my mind was so narrow to believe that God's beauty is only in areas where "I like" and "connect with" best.

One of the staff members of Philly Cru stated, "How much more does God care about people than nature". He created us in His image. I love being reminded of that. During the rest of my week in Philly with serving the city and sharing Jesus to college students I had a fresher perspective of why I was there. I was there to serve the people well despite their brokenness.

This whole trip was amazing in so many different ways. I gained from it so much that I decided to spend part of my summer back in Philly with Mission Liberti serving the city.

Even though I am not a huge fan of the city, God is going to stretch me in ways I don't even know about yet. We are called to be uncomfortable, not comfortable.

Prayers for our fundraising dinner for students (Fellowship Dinner). Focus on Jesus, not ourselves.

Prayers for people who heard the Gospel during our time in Philly. Pray that their hearts would be softened.

Prayers for seeing Jesus in everything, not just the things I easily see Him in.

Blessings,  
*Bethany Robinson*  
Bethany Robinson



First United Methodist Church,

In the Old Testament, there's a story of a guy named Mephibosheth (yes, that's his real name). At a young age, Mephibosheth was physically dropped and then crippled in both feet. Similarly, we've all been metaphorically "dropped" at one point or another, haven't we? Many times by people we're close to. People we love.

On Wednesday night, I spoke at Cru on this story from 2nd Samuel. I shared about myself, and some of the ways that I have been "dropped" in my past. The good news with Mephibosheth was that he was helped up by David, the king, and invited to his table. In the same way, Jesus, the Real King, extends his hand and offers healing for our crippled-ness, and invites us to his table.



Many students at West Chester have been "dropped" in their past. As a result of this "crippled-ness", they find ways to cope so they don't have to feel the pain within. It may be through drugs, alcohol, people pleasing, anger, anxiety, being controlling, being manipulative, blaming, binge eating, etc. However, it is becoming more common that students are turning to pornography.

Addiction to pornography is an epidemic that is sweeping the world. In 2016, people watched 4.6 billion hours of pornography at just one website. 93% of boys and 62% of girls are exposed to internet-based pornography during their adolescent years. 96% of young adults are encouraging, accepting, or neutral in their view toward pornography. The statistics are staggering, but true.

(Source: Barna's study The Porn Phenomenon)

Along with another staff member, and resources from a ministry called Pure Desire, we have started a sexual purity group for our male students. The purpose of this group is to help them understand that addiction to pornography is about more than sex: it is a way to cope with the pain deep within their souls. We meet early in the morning and use a few practical tools they can implement throughout their week to help them see true heart change rather than behavioral modification.

Women are often forgotten about when it comes to the issue of pornography. However, 33% of women aged 25 and under go searching for porn at least once per month. 56% of women in that age group have gone looking for it at least one time in the past. LeeAnn's heart for women who are sexually broken caused her to start a sexual purity group using a resource from Pure Desire called Behind the Mask.

Women experience an immense amount of shame if they have become addicted to pornography. Our culture has "normalized" pornography usage for males, but for females it is still a taboo subject. The statistics above show that porn usage among women is very real. The Behind the Mask group gives our female students who struggle with a pornography addiction a safe place to be vulnerable and heal in the process.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help students who love Jesus heal from their addiction.

With grateful hearts,

Matt and LeeAnn

## Fellowship



Celebrate summer with your First Church family at a Harrisburg Senators baseball game and picnic on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>! The game starts at 6:00 pm, but head over early to enjoy an “all you can eat” picnic buffet with your friends! The buffet, which is open from 4:30 – 6:30 pm, includes hotdogs, hamburgers, BBQ chicken, baked beans, potato salad, mac & cheese, chips, popcorn, cookies, soda and water (vegetarian options are also available if you let us know by the

registration deadline)

June 10<sup>th</sup> is also the Senators “Faith Day”, so come to enjoy a pregame concert by *Seven* from Messiah College and a postgame concert by *True Heart*.

The church is partially covering the expense of the ticket and picnic, so take advantage of the low cost... only \$20.00 for adults (ages 13 and up) and only \$10.00 for children ages 4 – 12 (kids ages 3 and under are free).

Please sign-up and pay **no later than May 28<sup>th</sup>** if you would like to attend – there is a sign-up sheet in the binder at the Welcome Desk. No registrations can be accepted after that date. Questions? Please contact Patti Herring at [famlyzeke@verizon.net](mailto:famlyzeke@verizon.net) or Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) or call 766-4611.

Don't miss this great event for all ages!



### Ladies Spring Banquet – Saturday, May 13

All women and children are invited to the Ladies Spring Banquet on Saturday, May 13 at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. An evening of wonderful food and entertainment is planned. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$6 for children ages 3 to 12, under 3 are free. Proceeds from the banquet will support the Youth Mission Trip to Wasilla, Alaska. Questions or ticket information, contact Bob Wertz, Jr. [wertzfive@gmail.com](mailto:wertzfive@gmail.com).

Please return this form with your payment:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Adults @ \$9 each \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children (ages 3 to 12) @ \$6 each \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children under 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

*(checks may be made payable to FUMC with Ladies Banquet in the memo section)*

Payment may be given to Bob Wertz, Jr., Barry Eaton, or placed in the **Scrip Box** in an envelope.



## Library

On this beautiful April day, I definitely have spring fever. I am having visions of hot summer days beside some bright blue water with an icy glass of tea and a good book. And I think I have the perfect book series for anyone with spring fever. See if you agree.

Irene Hannon is one of my favorite mystery writers although she started out as a romance writer for Harlequin. Sometimes she goes back to her roots, but in the Christian romance genre. Her latest book **Sand Piper Cove** is the third in the trilogy set in Hope Harbor. In Sand Piper Cove Police Chief Lexi Graham is busy not only raising her young son by herself, but also policing her small Oregon town. She has no time for romance or God. Then she runs into ex-con Adam Stone. Adam has spent the last eighteen months in Hope Harbor rebuilding his life after prison. He thinks of God as his refuge. He also thinks he might have lost his mind when the first woman to interest him in a long time is the police chief. Lexie meets Adam after his dog has been slightly injured, and she decides to ask for his help to guide a wayward teen. As they work together, sparks begin to fly—much to the surprise of both of them. I won't give away the ending—I will let you discover that poolside. If you enjoyed this book, you might want to check out the first two in the series, **Hope Harbor** and **Sea Rose Lane**.

If you need an excuse to stay poolside a little longer, Terri Blackstock has Casey Cox returning in the new mystery of the *If I Run* series. If you read the first book, aptly named **If I Run**, you know that Casey Cox was framed for the murder of her best friend who was trying to help her solve her father's murder. The problem is someone in the police department doesn't want this cold case solved. So, Dylan Roberts, a war weary veteran with PTSD, is hired by the victim's parents who don't believe the police when they say Casey murdered their child and her best friend. Yet with all the evidence pointing to Casey, Dylan still doesn't believe Casey is a murderer. He might be able to clear the case if only Casey wasn't on the run. That's all the beans I am spilling about the first book. The new book **If I'm Found** finds Casey still on the run, still trying to collect evidence that she didn't commit any crimes, and still needing to stay hidden. Once again, her heart for justice and the underdog lead her to help an abused child, bringing Casey out of the shadows. And she knows if she is found, she will be dead before she ever enters a jail cell. Find out if either Dylan or Casey can find justice and maybe a bit of peace for themselves.

If neither of these books is just right for your spring reading program, come in and let us find the perfect book for you.

Just a reminder our annual book sale will be August 19<sup>th</sup>. That gives you plenty of time to weed your personal collection and donate those unwanted books to the library. Then get ready to stock up at this great sale.

See you in the library!

Pam & Donna

## Day of Pampering

### The Love of "Day of Pampering"

At the time of this writing, Easter is only two days away. I think of Easter as the greatest Love story. What greater Love is there than the God of the universe giving His own Son so that we might be redeemed; and the Love of Jesus to be faithful and obedient unto the cross. We are given many gifts in life, but this!! So, what is our gift back to God? That we would bestow a similar gift....love that is offered freely, willingly and without expectation. Loving, not to be loved; but simply loving to love. This is the love that is found each year at Day of Pampering. Our gift to some very special women in the community and even our gift to one another, but mostly, a piece of our gift back to God. Thank you so much to everyone who played a role in this year's Day of Pampering. Thank you for this gift of love. ~Lisa Wickenheiser



### FUM Circles

*New Members are always welcome!*

#### **DEBORAH CIRCLE**

Sandy Walton ~ 790-9131 or swalton54@comcast.net  
meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

#### **MARTHA CIRCLE**

Marley Ann Schmick ~ 697-2233  
meets the 1st Tuesday of the month

#### **MARY CIRCLE**

Janice Bowen ~ 796-0809 or jjgbowen@yahoo.com  
meets the 4th Monday of the month

#### **RUTH CIRCLE**

Beryl Morgan ~ 697-3554  
meets the 1st Wednesday of the month

#### **COVERED IN LOVE**

Sandy Bennetch ~ dsebennetch@comcast.net  
meets Wednesday mornings, 9:30 to 11:30 in  
Fellowship Hall

#### **SQUARES AND PRAYERS**

Tammy Snyder ~ 439-0355 or tamsnyde@gmail.com  
meets Mondays, 9-11 am in Fellowship Hall

#### **KNIT AT NIGHT ~ ALL LEVELS OF KNITTERS WELCOME**

Mary Helm ~ mthelm4@yahoo.com  
meets the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm in Room B002

### 2017 Events:

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>July 6-8</b>    | Mission U - Three day mission education conference at Bucknell University (scholarships available) |
| <b>July 29</b>     | Mission U Sampler Day at Chambers Hill UMC, Harrisburg   |
| <b>August 19</b>   | UMW Yard, Book and Bake Sale to benefit local missions   |
| <b>October 7</b>   | First Church hosts the Harrisburg District UMW Annual Day  |
| <b>October 14</b>  | Susquehanna Conference Annual Day, Camp Hill UMC   |
| <b>November 19</b> | World Thank Offering and Mission Meal  |

Contact Lori Hoffnagle at 732-6430 with questions about any of these above UMW events

**Mission U** – three day mission education conference at Bucknell University (scholarships available). See link for registration information: [http://susumc.org/files/ministries/special\\_connection/mission\\_u/Mission\\_u\\_2017\\_Reg-Mailer.pdf](http://susumc.org/files/ministries/special_connection/mission_u/Mission_u_2017_Reg-Mailer.pdf).

## From the Director of Outreach

### Location, location, location!

You may have noticed that upcoming church events have been posted on one bulletin board (another one to come soon). Look for it near the alley entrance. There is also an area for community events on the same board. No need to search around the church for event information.

Another bonus, you can take a mini version of the flyer with you! Feel free to take the mini version, located below the flyer in pockets, with you or share with a friend. We want to make it easier for you to learn about all the wonderful events happening at First Church and the community.

Don't forget to 'Like' us on Facebook and share everything going on at First Church with your friends! Our Facebook page is called: "First United Methodist Church of Mechanicsburg, PA."



## Access Ministry Moment

*So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Matt 28:19*

I want to share a personal experience with you. I got involved in Access Ministry sometime after our daughter, Tracy, acquired a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in an auto accident. One of the first projects the Access team worked on was Day of Pampering (DOP). Personally, I thought this event sounded impossible to accomplish. And it would have been if I was doing it solo. Fortunately, I was part of a team and this team believed we could do this through Christ who strengthened us. (Phil 4:13)

DOP has been a huge success only because of the support from First Church, the community and God's Blessing. Not only are the lives of caregivers blessed, but the service providers and church volunteers are blessed by this event as well. A service provider new to DOP this year can't wait to be involved next year. Our actions speak louder than words. The love shared at DOP lasts much longer than lip service.

In April, a member of the community spoke with the Access Ministry team. One point she shared was First Church is known in the special needs community because of our DOP event. I was so struck by this point as I drove home that night. We are making an impact in a part of the special needs community (the primary caregiver), but there is still so much more to be done. Our commitment must be to every member of the special needs community. (Matt 28:19)

Access has lofty goals. More community attendance at Rejoicing Spirits. A special needs Sunday School class. A peer program to provide one on one support of a special needs individual. Being an inclusive church. These are just a few of our original goals. And a few of us can't do it alone.

Take a leap of faith! It was on a leap of faith that DOP came to be. Take a leap, jump in and Get Involved! Be part of a team. For more information, contact Karin McHale, Access Ministry Chair, at [karinmch@comcast.net](mailto:karinmch@comcast.net).

## Health & Wellness

### March Blood Drives

Please consider donating blood in the month of May. Listed below are the dates for blood drives in our local area. You can also go to [www.cpbb.org](http://www.cpbb.org) for additional blood drives.

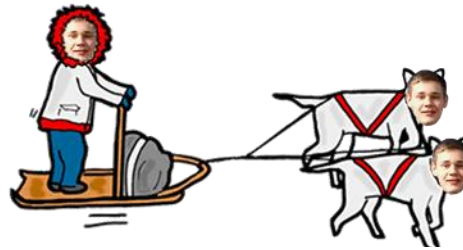
5/2/17	3pm to 7pm	Denny's on the Carlisle Pike
5/3/17	12pm to 4pm	PinnacleHealth Fredricksen (part of West Shore Hospital building)
5/5/17	8am to 7pm	Fox Center 120 S. Filbert St. 17055
5/7/17	8:30am to 11:30am	Christ Presbyterian Church 421 Deerfield Rd. Camp Hill 17011
5/12/17	8am to 3pm	Cumberland Valley High School (Eagle Lobby – west side of building)
5/13/17	10am to 2pm	Benny's Pet Depot 5202 Simpson Ferry Rd. 17055
5/13/17	8am to 2pm	Dillsburg PickleFest 2017 – intersection of Greenbriar Lane and Impala Dr. in Dillsburg
5/14/17	8am to 11am	Mountain Ridge Church 32 Big Dam Rd. Dillsburg 17019
5/18/17	3pm to 7pm	Buffalo Wild Wings Carlisle Pike
5/21/17	7:30am to 12:30pm	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church 310 Hertzler Rd. 17055
5/22/17	12pm to 5pm	Bob Ruth Ford along 11/15
5/23/17	3pm to 7pm	Range End Golf Course – Dillsburg
5/30/17	2pm to 7pm	HealthSouth Rehab 175 Lancaster Blvd. 17055
5/30/17	2:30pm to 7pm	Big Bob's Flooring - 97 Gateway Dr. 17050 (Gateway Plaza)
5/31/17	9am to 1pm	Turnpaugh Health and Wellness – 310 Lambs Gap Rd. 17050

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## Youth Department From Mechanicsburg to Alaska!

You thought the Iditarod was a long race at 1,049 miles, but from Mechanicsburg to Alaska the trek is 4,197 miles! But don't worry we aren't getting there by way of dog sled. You can get the 2017 mission team to their destination for serving this summer by taking an Iditarod envelope.



Help all our sled teams make their way from Mechanicsburg to Alaska by helping us get rid of all 200 envelopes.

Each envelope is denoted with a number and that number corresponds to the financial donation you are offering to make (1=\$1, 2=\$2, 3=\$3,.....200=\$200). But we aren't just asking for your financial commitment, we are asking for you to be a part of our team! **Pick a sled and join in!** Inside each envelope is information about our trip. Things you can learn about Alaska, information about the trip, ways you can be praying for us and even information about team members. Please consider taking an envelope and fill out the return slip (located inside the envelope) along with the financial contribution to Lisa Aronson by June 1st.

Keep your eyes peeled for additional ways that you can be supporting the team. Thanks for all your help and all your prayers!



*"We are going to Wasilla, Alaska to serve alongside Mat-su Evangelical Covenant Church to assist them in their children's, youth, and community ministries because we are salt and light of the world, called by Jesus to serve all the nations."* - 2017 Team Mission Statement



All our welcome to 4G (our youth fellowship time) on May 21 for our 2017 Senior Celebration. Similar to the past tradition of graduating seniors speaking at the Psalm 150 service, Grateful Grads is the opportunity for graduating seniors to share their testimonies, experiences at First Church, and offer gratitude to the congregation that have been alongside them as they have grown up. Following this service in the green chair section of the sanctuary (6:00-7:00) we then have a game show style competition with our seniors to see which 2017 grad will walk away with the Senior Showdown trophy. Come cheer them on in the Multipurpose room from (7:00-8:30) which will concluded with an ice cream social.

**Scholarships**

The Trustees offer scholarships for anyone who is enrolled in post-high school education of any kind. Applications are available on line or you can get one from Lisa Aronson or Cheryl Mengle. Applications are due to Cheryl Mengle by **June 1st**. You can put completed applications in Cheryl's mail box at church, or email to: [cmengle57@gmail.com](mailto:cmengle57@gmail.com).



**Graduating?**

Please help us out by filling out this form and letting us know if you are graduating this year. Completed forms should be returned to the youth department by May 7<sup>th</sup> in order to have your information included in the Graduation Sunday bulletin.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Graduating from:**

High school      Undergrad      Masters      Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of school:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Degree Earned:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Planning to attend:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Branch of service/employment:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Degree being pursued/future Plans:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**If pursuing post high school education, when is your anticipated graduation date?  
(Month/Year)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fall Contact Information (This is important if wishing to be included in our adopt a college student outreach):**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We plan to celebrate our graduates on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 during our services. (8:15 and 10:45)**

**Will you be present for this celebration?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

After the 10:45 worship service on June May 21<sup>st</sup>, all graduates are invited to a time of fellowship with the pastors at 12:15 pm at JoJo's.

**Will the graduate be attending the luncheon on May 21<sup>st</sup>?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Thank you for your response!**



## **I m p a c t 2 0 1 7**

**July 26 – July 30, 2017**

A dynamic spiritual experience you won't want to miss!

### **Interested in going to Impact?**

- ✓ Complete Registration form
- ✓ Attend a pre-Impact meeting
- ✓ Have a current medical form on file in the youth department
- ✓ Turn in the all paperwork into the Youth Dept by:

### **Paperwork Deadlines:**

**\*\* May 21, 2017 \*\*** (for discounted rate)

**\*\* June 4, 2017 \*\*** (for regular rate)

**\*\* June 5-July 23, 2017\*\*** (for late rate)

IMPACT is a 5-day camping experience that focuses on cultivating a relationship with God and enhancing relationships within our youth ministry. Join us as we camp out in Tent City and daily make our way to the main stage for transformative worship, speakers, dramas, and dances, and end every night with a main stage band and a camp fire back at our camp site. Families are always encouraged to attend this event together with their youth but youth may also attend alone. If your family enjoys camping, this is a great way to spend time with your teenage kids and their friends in a Christian atmosphere. We encourage families to camp on site with us! Registration forms are located in the youth form area and on the church website.



**Looking for a game for a Birthday Party? Family Reunion? Grad Party?**

***9 Square is a great party game!***

It is one of those unique games that easily include everyone no matter their athletic ability.

Have smaller kids? The 9 Square can be lowered! 9 Square is always a hit!

**The Youth Department rents out their 9 Square as a fundraising opportunity. How does it work?**

- Contact Lynn Rapp to schedule your use of 9 Square
- Make out a check to FUMC with "Youth – 9 square in the memo" for \$100 (\$50 deposit, \$50 donation)
- We will give you verbal instructions and the special keys for setting up/taking down 9 Square
- Return 9 Square with no damage and we will return your \$50 deposit and put the other \$50 towards our youth mission trip fundraising.

(If you have a friend wanting to borrow 9 square, we ask that you as a church member schedule and rent the 9 square to make it easier for us to track the use our equipment.)

**CONTACT Lynn Rapp if interested: [klsrapp@msn.com](mailto:klsrapp@msn.com)**



# Church News and Notes

## Love & sympathy...

to the family upon the death of Norma Bingham’s Aunt Martha.  
to the family upon the death of Nancy Robinson’s mother on April 11.

## Thank yous...

To Our Funeral Luncheon Team:

Thank you very much for the wonderful meal you prepared for my daughter Judy’s memorial service on Saturday, April 1. I know all the hard work it takes to put this together and gratitude was expressed by many who attended.

Love and blessings to you,  
Roxann Guyer

Dear First Church friends and family,

It has been three years that you've been caring for me due to health issues and the loss of my husband, Bill. You have shown me the heart of Jesus through the meals you have brought for my family and me, your phone calls and cards, flowers and rides, prayers, visits and hugs. May God bless you with the same generous love you have poured out to me. Thank you, I've been blessed!

Sue Higgins

We want to thank our wonderful church family for the phone calls, cards, visits and delicious soups and breads while Ginnie recovers from ankle replacement surgery. We are truly blessed.

Roy & Ginnie Miller

## Special Birthdays

Jean McAfee ..... May 5	Bill Morland ..... June 6
Milt Dougherty..... May 8	Thomas Hartsock ..... June 14
Annabelle Elder ..... May 10	Joe Moomaw ..... June 14
Jane Gunder ..... May 11	Dolly School..... June 16
Grace Gensler..... May 12	Caroline Brown ..... June 21
Vesta Rynard..... May 18	Joanne Reed ..... June 23
	Beryl Morgan ..... June 30

## Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Bob & Cheryl Erikson married 50 years on June 2
- ♥ Gerry & Darlis Aumiller married 59 years on June 7
- ♥ David & Sandra Coover married 59 years on June 14
- ♥ Paul & Liz Nesmith married 62 years on June 19
- ♥ Jack & Grace Koser married 64 years on June 20

## Church Staff

### SENIOR PASTOR

**Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller**  
766-4611 ext. 103  
pastordenny@fumchurch.com

### ASSISTANT PASTOR\*

**Rev. Dr. David Reed**  
766-4611 ext. 117  
pastordave@fumchurch.com

### YOUTH PASTOR

**Lisa Aronson**  
766-4611 ext. 113  
uthrock@fumchurch.com

### DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP\*

**Tina Eaton**  
766-4611 ext. 104  
adultministry@fumchurch.com

### DIRECTORS OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY\*

**Dawn Fisher**  
**George Canonizado**  
766-4611 ext. 102  
kidscount@fumchurch.com

### DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE\*

**Janice Bowen**  
766-4611 ext. 112  
wecare@fumchurch.com

### DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH\*

**Lori Hoffnagle**  
766-4611 ext. 115  
outreach@fumchurch.com

### OFFICE MANAGER/FINANCE SECRETARY

766-4611 ext. 101  
**Kristin Brown**  
office@fumchurch.com

### FACILITIES COORDINATOR\*

766-4611 ext. 105  
**Tom Ziegler**  
facilities@fumchurch.com

### CUSTODIANS\*

**George Canonizado**  
**Matthew Miller**  
766-4611 ext. 109  
maintenance@fumchurch.com

### FINANCE DIRECTOR\*

**Nancy Robinson**  
nrobinson@fumchurch.com

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/SANCTUARY CHOIR\*

**Jody Brinley**  
Brynleawesties@comcast.net

### ORGANISTS\*

**Gail Leinhos**  
**Tom Mullikin**  
**Seth Wickenheiser**

### YOUTH CHOIR/SOUNDS OF WORSHIP CHOIR\*

**Gail Leinhos**  
leinhosdav@verizon.net

### BELL CHOIRS\*

**Kathie Bittenbender**  
rbittenben@verizon.net  
**Jon Snyder**  
jonsnyde@aol.com

### PRAISE TEAM\*

**Allison Ometz**   **Trace Morgan**  
ometz@msn.com   traceintune80@gmail.com

### INTERIM JUNIOR CHOIR\*

**GERI NUSS**

### CHILDREN'S CHOIRS\*

**Lorette Cale**  
lorettecale@gmail.com

### DIRECTOR OF LITTLE FRIENDS NURSERY SCHOOL\*

**Chris Sims**  
lfns@fumchurch.com

\*PART-TIME

*FIRST NEWS FIRST*  
Editor: Kristin Brown

The **deadline** for submitting  
articles for the **June** issue is

**May 15**

Early submissions always  
appreciated!