

Welcome to

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors

December 23, 2018



New Song

Memory Verse:

“With all my heart I glorify the Lord!”

(Luke 1:46)

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

www.fumchurch.com



Sunday Services

Worship: 8:15 AM, 10:45 AM

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 AM



Welcome to First Church, we are so happy that you chose to worship with us! Here are some resources available to you this morning:

- **Children's Activity Packs** are located at the entrance and rear of the sanctuary.
- **Nursery Childcare** (under 3 years of age) is available during services (paggers available at the Check-In Childcare Greeter Desk).
- You are also welcome to bring your infant with you to worship! A **Comfort Corner** is available for your convenience, ask an usher for directions.
- **Wee Worship** (ages 3 to 5) and **Kids Worship** (ages 6 through 5th grade) follow the praise music at the 10:45 service. This program is designed to help children become accustomed to the structure and purpose of worship. Wee Worship is in Room 118 and Kids Worship is in Room 216.
- For **Hearing Assistance**, wireless receivers are available. See an usher for assistance.
- **Large Print Hymnals** are available, see an usher for assistance.
- **Seat Cushions** for the wooden pews are available at the Sound Desk located in the rear of the Sanctuary.

Thank you for joining us today and we hope to see you again! Please visit the **Welcome Desk** (located outside the multipurpose room) for more information and to receive a special gift.



FOUNDATION SERVICE ~ 8:15 AM

*"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ."
~ 1 Corinthians 3:11*

Gathering and Praise

Prelude

Welcome

*Greeting (Responsively)

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

People: Sing to the Lord! Bless his name!
Share the news of his saving work every single day!

Leader: Today we light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath.
We join our voices with those of Elizabeth and Mary long ago.

People: We sing with joy!
May all who hear the good news of our Savior's birth be filled with joy!

*Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent

*Hymn of Praise "O, Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 234

(Ushers will receive green prayer cards)

*Opening Prayer (In Unison)

Gracious God, our time of waiting is almost over. We pray for the day when you make all things new. When we feel pressed on every side on this earth, help us remember your greater purpose for us and for our world. Make us holy and worthy of your eternal glory. Amen.

Praise Chorus "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" 204

Please turn in your hymnal to No. 204. Words will not be projected on the screen

Proclamation and Response

Anthem "March of the Toys" Handbells

*The Gospel Luke 1:46-56 CEB Page 780

Sermon "Mary's New Song" Pastor Keller

*Hymn "There's a Song in the Air" No. 249

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Anthem "In the Manger" Women of Light

The Offering

Offertory "See the Baby" Women of Light

*Doxology "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow" No. 94

*Offering Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" No. 224

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please stand as able.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL ~ 9:30 AM

☪ Children's Sunday School ☪

- Classes for 3 year olds to 5th grade are using the Deep Blue Curriculum where kids dive deep into the bible and learn more about God, Jesus, faith and how it all fits together into life today. All classes learn the same bible lesson, but at different levels appropriate for their age.
- Classes for babies and toddlers are located on the first floor of the Children's Department. Check in with the greeter who will guide you to your child's room.

☪ Youth Sunday School: 4G ~ Morning Edition ☪

- **Middle School:** 6th-8th grade students meet in B003 for *Deep Discipleship*. Join us as we seek to grow deep roots of faith as we grow into more faithful followers of Jesus Christ.
- **High school:** 9th-12th grade students meet in the youth lounge for *Faith in Action: learn, lead, teach, and serve*. This week we will focus our time together towards learning about advent and Christmas.

☪ Adult Sunday School ☪

Walk-in visitors and new class members are welcome in all classes.

- **FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE** (Room 207) - A group of singles and couples age 25ish and above, but all are welcome. A discussion-based class that values friendship. Come discuss a variety of contemporary topics related to living out the Christian faith, compassion, and social justice.
- **FAITHFUL FAMILIES** (B001A, off Youth Lounge) - This class is made up of parents who are in the child-raising stage of life, and who enjoy discussion-based Bible studies related to living a faithful, Christ-centered life.
- **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP** (Room 223) - A multi-generational adult class that selects short-term studies which generate challenging discussion of Christian principles. Five different pastors will be featured in the DVD Advent study called "Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas". God sent Christ into the world as our Savior. Come join us as we learn how Christ sends us into the world to be his hands, feet, head, and heart. All are welcome.
- **GROWING IN CHRIST** (Room B004) - A mixed class of single adults and couples of all ages that select short-term studies intended to challenge thinking and create fruitful conversation of Christian principles.
- **GUYER CLASS** (Room 123) - A well-established group of elders in the church who study the United Methodist Quarterly Adult Bible Studies, which are designed as encouragement and instruction in living a life of faith.
- **HELPING HANDS CLASS** (Room 105 in office wing) - A group of active seniors who focus on studies designed as encouragement and instruction on living a life of faith. Interactive studies and discussions are led by several class members. Also, class members enjoy many Christian social activities together.

*For information on adult **Bible studies** held during the week and other **small-group opportunities** contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com.*



CONVERGENT SERVICE ~ 10:45 AM

"Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways."

Gathering and Praise

Welcome

*Greeting (Responsively)

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

People: Sing to the Lord! Bless his name!
Share the news of his saving work every single day!

Leader: Today we light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath.
We join our voices with those of Elizabeth and Mary long ago.

People: We sing with joy!
May all who hear the good news of our Savior's birth be filled with joy!

*Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent

*Opening Prayer (In Unison)

Gracious God, our time of waiting is almost over. We pray for the day when you make all things new. When we feel pressed on every side on this earth, help us remember your greater purpose for us and for our world. Make us holy and worthy of your eternal glory. Amen.

*Praise and Worship

"Joy to the World"
"Behold the Savior"
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Proclamation and Response

Children's Time..... Dawn Fisher and Anna Harris

(Following this time, children are welcome to leave for Wee Worship or Kids Worship)

Anthem..... "March of the Toys" Handbells

*The Gospel Luke 1:46:56..... CEB Page 780

Sermon..... "Mary's New Song" Pastor Keller

Prayer

The Offering

Sending Forth

*Closing Song "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*Blessing

**As you feel led, please stand or be seated.*



First News First

Weekly Edition

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

December 23, 2018

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack, John, Paul, and Michael O'Hara, placed by Elaine O'Hara.

The maché basket is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gayle Elder Anderson, placed by her mother, Annabelle Elder.

Lifelong Learner

Have you accepted the **Be One, Make One** challenge?

A Precept Ministries training on **The Essentials of Inductive Bible Study** is coming to Hanover January 26 from 9 am to noon. The training is free, but registration is required. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn how to engage in relationship with God through knowing His Word! To register, visit training.precept.org or contact Juanita Guise with questions at kguise@comcast.net.

Looking for new ways to **grow closer to Christ in 2019**? Look closely at the brochure inserted in the bulletin today and learn about our upcoming worship sermons series, Bible studies and opportunities for prayer. Our 2019 daily Bible reading plan is also contained in the brochure!

Praying Follower

Love & sympathy to the family upon the death of David Coover, on December 18th.

Hospitalized: Dave Leinhos

Special Circumstances: Tom Mullikin is at Messiah Lifeways

Recovering at home: Ron Burgard

Passionate Worshipper

Join us TODAY for our next **Rejoicing Spirits** service this afternoon at 4:00 pm. Fellowship with other Rejoicers in the multipurpose room following the service.

Dedicated Missionary

Relationship Builder

COME ONE, COME ALL! Looking for a place to fellowship with believers of a nearby Methodist church? You are warmly welcomed to join those of Fishing Creek Salem U. Methodist for a Christmas community outreach dinner, December 25, at 1 pm in the Fellowship hall. The church is located just 1/2 mile east of I-83, exit 35 at 402 Valley Rd., Goldsboro, 17319. If interested in making a reservation, please either email Jim Bateman: JBateman@homesale.com or call 443-604-8628.

Men's Winter Retreat - January 25-27, 2019. All Men of First Church are invited to join us for the annual Winter Retreat! We will be enjoying the facilities at Mt. Asbury Retreat Center. Registration forms are available at the church Welcome Desk. Deadline to register is January 10.

Registration is now open for the annual **Women's Retreat** to be held February 8 - 10, 2019 at Mt. Asbury Retreat Center. This year's theme is "Re-Purposed: Our New Life in Christ!" You can find the registrations at the Ministry Display Tables, the Women's Ministry window, our website or by contacting Lori Hoffnagle or Patti Herring. All women are invited!

Generous Giver

Think of treating yourself or someone else to dinner! Continuing into January, proceeds from several gift card purchases from FUM Scrip program will **benefit the 2019 Women's Retreat**. These are: Applebee's, Carrabba's/Outback Steakhouse, Cracker Barrel, Dunkin' Donuts, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Longhorn Steakhouse, Panera Bread, Red Robin, Subway, Texas Roadhouse, and TGI Friday's. Next order date is January 6! The Scrip box is located in the gathering area by the stairwell.

Thank You Bakers! Thank you to all who baked cookies and helped to make the cookie walk and Market Place of Miracles a success! This event was so well attended we even sold out of cookies!

From the desk of the Finance Director:

All offering to be included in the 2018 budget
is to be in the office no later than December 31, 2018 at noon!

All bills to be paid from the 2018 budget must be submitted by January 8, 2019.

CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Department Help – There are many opportunities available! Please check the clipboards under the children's department bulletin board or contact Dawn Fisher or Anna Harris. Even if you can help just one Sunday a month!

Christmas Eve Family Service- Join us Christmas Eve for this very special service for the whole family at 5:00pm.

Wonderful Wednesday – Will resume January 23rd! Have a beautiful and blessed Christmas with your family!

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay connected! We use Remind to send updates and reminders. Text @4gyo to 81010 to be added to the distribution text for "4G news".

Join us for 4G in January! What is 4G? 4G is the name and vision statement of our youth group. 6th-12th graders are invited to meet in the youth lounge from 6:15-8:15 on Sunday evening where we **GATHER** together to **GAIN** from the Bible as we **GROW** into more committed followers of Jesus as we **GIVE** ourselves to His kingdom purposes. Students wishing to come hang out early can come as early as 6:00. Specifics or time changes of each Sunday are communicated in the bulletin and Remind texts. 4G will resume on January 7.

Zeteo: Tickets are selling out. Contact Lisa if interested in attending to see if there are still tickets available.

Mission Trip: those 8th grade and up who are interested in participating in next year's mission trip to provide disaster relief in Conway South Carolina should fill out the application. Space is limited.

Confirmation Students: our second retreat of the year is coming up on January 11th and 12th (Friday 6-9, Saturday 9-12). Make sure to fill out a permission form. Also keep free May 4th for our spring trip to DC.

Dates to Keep in Mind: Zeteo (February 1-3), Confirmation Trip (May 4), Spring Retreat (April 26-28), Mission Trip (June 30-July 6), Impact (July 24-28)

Advent & Christmas Services and Event Schedule

December 23 - 4th Sunday in Advent

Worship 8:15 am & 10:45 am

Christmas Eve Worship Services

5 pm ~ Family Service ~ Designed for families of all ages, but especially sensitive to families with young children. Join Pastor Denny by the fireplace and hear the story of our Savior's birth. Service will conclude with candle lighting.

8 pm ~ Service of Christmas Eve Simplicity ~ Designed as a quiet, prayerful service for individuals and families. Simplicity marks this service with instrumental music, Communion, Prayer Time and a brief candle lighting service.

11 pm ~ Festival Service of Light and Wonder ~ Includes Holy Communion, lessons and carols, music by our choirs, and candle-lighting.



BE ONE. DISCIPLE MAKE ONE.



Week 52: Theme ~ *Savior*

Daily Bible Readings

- December 24** *The Need for a Savior*
Romans 5:6-21; John 3:16-17
- December 25** *Changed by the Savior*
1 John 2:1-6; John 14:15-21
- December 26** *Salvation and Wholeness*
Mark 1:40-45, 8:22-26
- December 27** *Living Hope*
1 Peter 1:3-9; Romans 5:1-5
- December 28** *Our Savior-Friend*
John 15:9-17
- December 29** Relax & Reflect
- December 30** Worship
- December 31** Celebrate! You Did It!!!

LEADING IN TODAY'S MORNING WORSHIP

Preaching..... Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller
Worship Leader..... Rev. John Shellenberger
Acolytes..... Carlee Guyer (8:15); Andrew Smithmeyer (10:45)
Organist..... Frank Heberlig
Sound & Media Bob Bittenbender & Jim Murdoch (8:15); Holly Kurten & Jim Murdoch

SERVING OUR CHILDREN DURING MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday School Greeter..... TBD
Worship Greeter..... TBD (8:15); Greg Harris (10:45)
Crib/Toddlers:..... Kelley King, Sarah Jones (8:15); Karen Smith, TBD (10:45)
Wee Worship (10:45)..... Brandy Zimmerman, Vicky Shambaugh, Jake O'Leary
Kids Worship (10:45) Tracy & Bob Wertz

This Week at First Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 8:15 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (various)
- 9:30 am Advent Study (MP)
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm Rejoicing Spirits (Sanctuary-All/MP)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

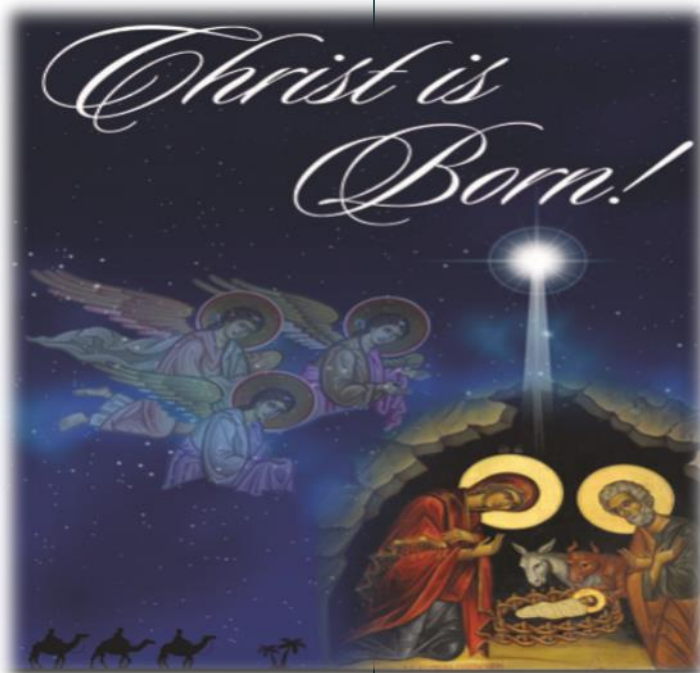
- 5:00 pm Family Service
- 8:00 pm Service of Christmas Eve Simplicity
- 11:00 pm Festival Service of Light and Wonder

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26-29

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 8:15 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (various)
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)



Ministry Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller
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Sanctuary Choir Director:

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Sounds of Worship Director:

Flossie Ryder
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Director of Bell & Chime Choirs:

Kathie Bittenbender
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Praise Team Co-Directors:

Allison Ometz Trace Morgan
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Organists/Accompanists:

Frank Heberlig
Karen Philp

Director of Little Friends Preschool:

Maria Petrilak
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Director of Juniper Tree Counseling Center:

Glenn Covert
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