



# First News First

November 2019

## Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

From Pastor Denny's Desk...

### "Why Do You Give?"

By now many of you will have received information about our upcoming Consecration Sunday on November 17 at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. In addition to special worship services that day, during Sunday School at 9:30, we will also have a Ministry and Mission Fair in the Multi-Purpose Room.

An important part of Consecration Sunday is the invitation for each of us to make a financial commitment to support the ministries of First Church in 2020. As you prayerfully consider how much to give next year, let me ask you a question. **"Why do you give to support the ministries of First Church?"**

Not long ago I read an article by Pastor Rick Warren, author of [The Purpose-Driven Life](#) in which he listed eight reasons why people give. As you go down the list, think about what motivates your giving.

1. **People give because they trust the leadership of the church.** At First Church we seek to build trust by developing an annual budget that reflects our commitment to making disciples. We maintain careful and confidential records of giving, and have checks and balances in place to insure financial integrity in all of our expenditures. Our pastors, staff, and leaders are committed to being faithful stewards of your gifts.
2. **People give when they catch a vision, not when they see a need.** We have a big, bold mission that was given to us by Jesus in Matthew 28: "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Through your giving, we "open doors with Christ, one another, and our neighbors." We are making a great impact on people's lives!
3. **People give to experience the joy of generosity.** It feels good to give generously – it really does. A person who doesn't understand that has never given generously. The happiest people in the world are the most giving people. That's why the apostle Paul said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
4. **People give when they are inspired by models.** Perhaps you can identify someone that has modeled generosity for you. I've heard some wonderful testimonies from many of you at First Church about people that taught you to be faithful givers. Following their example, we seek to model good stewardship for others.
5. **People give when they are involved.** When you are involved in worship, in a Sunday school class or small group, or in serving, you see firsthand the importance of First Church in your life and in the lives of others. I definitely want to be part of that! Don't you?
6. **People give because they are asked to give.** At First Church, we regularly ask people to give. We ask, not just to pay the bills, but because giving is important to Christian discipleship. Pastor Warren writes, "The fact is we're doing people a favor when we ask them to give because they grow in faith, they grow in love, they grow in sacrifice, they grow in commitment, and they grow in character as they learn to give." We are committed to your spiritual growth! That's why we ask.
7. **People give when we make it possible for them to give.** At First Church we make it possible to give...every Sunday in the offering...through electronic giving...throughout the year as we support numerous special mission projects. We know the joy of generosity all year long!
8. **People give when their gifts are appreciated.** Do you know how very much the pastors, staff, and leaders of First Church appreciate your giving? We echo the words of appreciation the apostle Paul had for his friends in Philippi,

*I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. (Philippians 1:3-4)*

Dear friends, I am so looking forward to celebrating Consecration Sunday with you on November 17! What a privilege to share with you in the gospel as together we support Christ's great mission with our giving and our serving!

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Denny



### Take the Challenge!

It's never too late to accept the Be One, Make One Discipleship Challenge! If you haven't done so already, simply visit the Welcome Center display, pick up a Common English Bible, along with a Bible reading plan, and begin reading! Then come on Sundays to worship God and learn from the sermons, which dig deeper into the weekly readings. Want to go deeper still? Try journaling your thoughts as you study and pray. Blank journals are always available at the Welcome Center display for you to pick up.

### Bible Studies

Many of our fall Bible studies are in progress and will be wrapping up in November, but new short-term studies will begin during Advent. Keep an eye out in the November weekly bulletins for more details on upcoming studies.

### From the Library...

Before I tell you about this month's great books, let me pay tribute to Helen Kane, a library volunteer with more energy than I will ever hope to possess. Helen had many passions, with books being near the top. When she enjoyed a particular book, it was her mission to get someone else to have that pleasure as well. She also was a dynamo at our books sales. Helen, thank you and you will be missed.

Before you start stuffing your turkey and getting into the Christmas rush, there will be some books you won't want to miss reading. *The Deacon's Family series* by Suzanne Woods Fisher would be a timely series for the holiday season. **Mending Fences** is the first book and as the title implies, Luke Schrock, the main character, has a lot of repairing of friendships in his community of Stoney Ridge. After his stint in rehab, he is allowed to live at Windmill Farm under two conditions. He must make sincere apologies to each of his victims and ask each person what damage he actually caused them. He finds apologies easy but finding out the results of his careless actions are gut-wrenching. Can he accomplish this or must he move out? In the second book, **Stitches in Time**, schoolteacher Mollie Graber has come to Stoney Ridge for a fresh start and when her church asks for volunteers to foster troubled girls, she is more than eager to help. Her vision of happy times turns into reality the first time the police come to the door about her charges. It seems that nothing can break through these girls' hard shells, till Mollie discovers their love of horses. Reluctantly, local horse trainer Sam Schrock is drawn into Mollie's plan to knit the girls' broken hearts back together and just maybe Mollie and Sam's hearts will be knit together. Both books are on the shelf for your holiday reading pleasure.

My motto is a good mystery will keep your mind off your to-do list and your eyes off the dust. And, of course, I have an intriguing one for you. **Dark Ambitions** is Irene Hannon's third book in the *Code of Honor series*. Former Army Night Stalker Rick Jordan usually has his camp for foster children all to himself in the winter. But not this winter and his intruder has not only left a trail of blood in the camp, but also turned up dead two days later. With the help of PI Heather Shield, he sets out to figure out what happened. But someone really doesn't want them to find out and will stop at nothing to end the investigation. The ratings on this book are high, and several reviewers said the romance in this book is rated "swoon-worthy". So plan to stay up late. The first two books in the series are **Hidden Peril** and **Dangerous Illusions** which are both on the shelf ready for your reading pleasure, and all three are more than capable of allowing you to forget that dust!!!

Marge Synder is our newest volunteer in the library, and I hope you will give her a warm welcome. Though Marge is very knowledgeable about libraries, give her some grace as she learns the ropes—it won't take her long!

Meanwhile, we hope to see you in the library, and we will be getting out our Christmas books very soon.

Pam and Donna

### Keeping the Flame Alive!

In our most recent sermon series, "Revive," Pastor Denny shared 2 Timothy 1:6: "I'm reminding you to revive God's gift that is in you. . ." and he challenged each of us to discover and/or revive our Spiritual

Gifts. If you have not taken a Spiritual Gifts survey, simply go to [Ministrymatters.com](http://Ministrymatters.com), set up your account, and complete the assessment to create your personalized Spiritual Gifts/Ministry Profile. If you prefer to do this on paper, you are invited to pick up a Spiritual Gifts Survey at the Welcome Center display. Plan to complete your assessment, then attend the Ministries & Missions Fair on November 17th between 9:15 – 10:45 am in the multipurpose room. There you will discover many ways to use your Spiritual Gifts for God's glory through the ministries and missions of First Church and beyond! If you have questions, free to contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com). May you continue to keep the flame of God's gift alive!

### "Readers" Wanted!

Do you or your small group want to know more about the disABILITY community? If so, Joni & Friends have created The IRRESISTIBLE CHURCH Series just for you!

A Sample of just a few of the Booklet/Pamphlet Titles:

- Start with *HELLO*-Introducing Your Church to *SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY*
- We've *GOT THIS!* Providing Respite for Families *AFFECTED BY disABILITIES*
- Pathways to *BELONGING*-Creating *INCLUSIVE MINISTRY ENVIRONMENTS*
- Shout for *JOY!* Engaging the *WHOLE CHURCH* In *ACCESSIBLE WORSHIP*
- Call Me *FRIEND*-Building Compelling Relationships Through *ONE-ON-ONE MINISTRY*

Interested in reading any of these titles? Contact Steve Noss at [sdppp@msn.com](mailto:sdppp@msn.com) or (717) 697-5982

## Praying Follower



### Adopt a College Student!

Going off to college is a big step and can be a little intimidating. Show your love and support by adopting a college student! When you adopt, you are promising to pray, send notes of encouragement and send small care packages throughout the year. The focus of the adoption process is to cover the student in prayer and encouragement. If you have a desire to support our students while they are away at college, please see the Adoption Center at the ministry table outside the multipurpose room. There are pictures of students to adopt and instructions. If you have questions, please contact Lynn Rapp at [minion.youth17@gmail.com](mailto:minion.youth17@gmail.com). "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6

### Moms in Prayer

Did you know that we have several First Church women engaged in praying with a **Moms in Prayer** group? What a blessing is it to join other mothers and grandmothers in lifting our children in prayer! If you are interested in joining them, here's what you need to know:

- **Monday Night Group:** Prays for children at any age/stage of life. Meets here at First Church from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the Prayer Room (2nd floor elevator landing). Contact Deb Noss for information.
- **Thursday Morning Group:** Prays for students at the Kindergarten Academy, Northside Elementary, Elmwood Elementary and Mechanicsburg Middle School. In-home meeting in Shiremanstown from 8:00 – 9:00 am. Contact Anna Harris for more information.
- **Tuesday Morning Group:** Prays for College/Career children. In-home meeting in Mechanicsburg begins at 8:15 am. Contact Nadine Ogden for more information.
- **Wednesday Morning Grandmothers Group:** Prays for grandchildren. In-home meeting in Enola begins at 8:45 am. Contact Nadine Ogden for more information.

All mothers and grandmothers are invited and no prayer experience is required. What is prayed in the group stays in the group, so don't worry – your prayer requests will remain private within the group.

## Passionate Worshipper



### Worship

Sunday Morning Worship Services

8:15 am Foundation Service

10:45 am Convergent Service

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.

### Holy Communion

	November 3	Loaves and Chalice
First Sunday of Advent	December 1	Pew Service
Christmas Eve, 8:00 and 11:00	December 24	Loaves and Chalice



It's never too late to be a part of our growing music ministries! All are welcome!

**Handbell Choir** – Mondays 6:30-8p in the choir room – Kathie Bittenbender - [rbittenben@verizon.net](mailto:rbittenben@verizon.net)

**Sanctuary Choir** – Wednesdays 8-9p in the sanctuary – Sarah Pugh – [worship@fumchurch.com](mailto:worship@fumchurch.com)

**Sounds of Worship** – Thursdays, 7-8p in the choir room – Flossie Ryder - [florencewryder@yahoo.com](mailto:florencewryder@yahoo.com)

**Worship Band** – Thursdays 6:30-7:45p in the sanctuary – Allison Ometz & Trace Morgan

**Accompanist/Organist:** Karen Philip

For more information about any of our music ministries and creative arts, please reach out to Sarah Pugh at [worship@fumchurch.com](mailto:worship@fumchurch.com)

### New Sermon Series – “Living The Dream”

The American Dream is a dream of financial prosperity and success, as well as upward social mobility for our children and grandchildren. Being prosperous and successful is not wrong, but Jesus calls us to a dream far bigger and more compelling than the dream of just accumulating more stuff.

John Wesley gave simple advice on how to use money in ways that honor God and help God's big dream become a reality. "Gain all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can." In this series, we're going to focus on Wesley's principles on money as we commit ourselves to God's dream in and through our church. All are invited to join us on this journey!

- October 27                      If You Could Ask for Anything
- November 3                    The Excellent Gift                      (All Saints Day, Holy Communion)
- November 10                  You Can't Take It With You
- November 17                  Living the Dream at First Church      (Consecration Sunday)

### Service of Remembrance and Hope

If you are grieving this holiday season....missing your loved ones, experiencing loss of any kind....please join us for a quiet Sunday evening service on December 1st at 7pm. During this time we will gather to remember and honor the memory of cherished family and friends. Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611 x112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) for more information.

## Ringin in the News

We've had a busy fall, we appreciate those of you who have supported our Chicken BBQ and had dinner with us the night of the Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade. We've added a new member to our group – have you met Sarah Pugh? Now the holidays begin.....

Yep, it's almost Thanksgiving. The bell choirs are again making pies for you! On Saturday, November 23rd, there will be a pie aroma in the air! Make sure you've ordered your pies from a bell choir member, or in the book at the information desk. Pumpkin, Mincemeat, and Apple (Crumb Topping or Double Crust) are being made. And remember, you can order them baked, or frozen for you to bake at your leisure. Pick up times are noon to 2 pm that Saturday. Cost is \$9 a pie.

You will find us in concert in Heidlersburg, PA on Sunday evening, December 15 at 6:30 pm. And - our 15th annual Holiday Bell Concert at the Frederickson Library in Camp Hill is Monday, December 16 at 7:00 pm. We share the spotlight with a delightful harpist. This is always a fun time for all of us, come early for a seat!



## Dedicated Missionary

### Monthly Mission Opportunities:

**Mission Meeting** ~ The Missions Committee invites you to join in mission work! Next Missions Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. If you are planning to go on a short-term mission trip, please feel free to complete the application for financial assistance found on our website at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com), under the Missions tab. Questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

**Isaiah 61 Ministries** ~ First Church is pleased to support Isaiah 61 Ministries, a local organization that serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County. They provide a variety of services including a soup kitchen, clothing bank and Life groups. Specifically, First Church members help serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. The next volunteer opportunity is Wednesday, **October 16 at 6:30 p.m.** A carpool leaves from First Church at 6:00 p.m. for those who are interested. To volunteer, contact Tiffany Holland at [tholland1967@gmail.com](mailto:tholland1967@gmail.com).

### Change for Water ~ Located at the Sierra Leone Display in the Tower Hallway

This past month 3,100 “pennies” (\$31.00) were contributed to the Well Drilling Fund for Sierra Leone. Thank you to everyone!! Every penny helps so keep dropping your 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. **You can even throw in “paper” change ~ they’re the best!!**

### Sleep Out for the Homeless

On November 22nd and 23rd the youth of First Church and other local youth groups will be raising awareness and financial assistance for those struggling with homelessness. As we approach the holiday seasons many of us experience abundance: abundance of food on the Thanksgiving table and an abundance of gifts under the Christmas tree. We strive to help our students pause during this season to not only recognize and be thankful for what they do have, but to look beyond them to what others might need. Homelessness is not a vanishing problem and it strikes peoples and families due to numerous situations and realities. The Sleep Out allows students to gain an experience of homelessness (sleeping in cardboard boxes on a chilly night), raise money for those in need, and educates them on the realities of homeless situations. Please consider driving by First Church along Simpson Street after 4:00 PM on November 22 to donate your loose change to the students sleeping out for the night.

### Two OCC Mission Trips Planned!

The Missions Team invites you to a one-day trip to the OCC (Operation Christmas Child) Processing Center in Baltimore/Washington. We will travel from the church to the processing center and be given a brief training (15 to 20 minutes) and then be assigned to a station to process shoe boxes. This year, we are going on two different days! Tuesday, December 3 and Thursday, December 5. You can choose the date that works best for you. **Details:** Leave the church parking lot at 7:00 am, Carpool in vans to the

Processing Center, Wear comfortable shoes (as we will be standing on concrete), Bring a packed lunch, Dinner will be on the way home. We are limiting these trips to 10 people, first come, first served. There is no cost for the trip. (Must be at least 13 years of age). **December 3, contact Sue Brady at 717-512-2980. December 5, contact David Mengle at 717-319-8582.**

### Upcoming VIM Mission Trip

Next VIM Trip: January 14 to 23, 2020: Costa Rica. Cost is \$1,600, type of work is construction. Contact Ron Lucas at ronkar1976@comcast.net.

*What is United Methodist Volunteers in Mission?* UMVIM exists to promote, encourage and enable Christians to exemplify “Christian Love in Action” through short-term mission service locally, nationally and internationally. *How long has UMVIM been in existence?* The UMVIM movement began in 1976 and is organized by jurisdiction. The General Board of Global Ministries networks with the jurisdictional UMVIM offices, which in turn, coordinate with annual conference offices. *What is the ministry of UMVIM?* UMVIM teams work together to fulfill ongoing missional needs domestically and abroad usually serving for several days to several weeks. Their work includes construction and renewing of mission facilities, teaching, witnessing, conducting medical clinics, holding Bible studies or Bible School, and serving in disaster relieve and recovery efforts around the world. For more details: visit the website at susmb.org, **Contact Michelle Schwartzman, Susquehanna Conference Director of Volunteers in Mission, vim@susumc.org 717-766-7441 ext. 3105.**

## Relationship Builder



### Veterans Honor Wall

First Church needs your help in honoring our Veterans! We are looking for information to complete our First Church Honor Wall (located at the Frederick Street entrance). During November, we are asking for all **past and present Veterans to visit the display outside the multipurpose room and enter the following information in our Ledger: Name, Dates of Service, and Branch of Military.** Feel free to complete the information for a family member. Thank you for helping us to give our Veterans the honor they so deserve! If you have questions or have a Veteran picture to share, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4166, ext. 112.

### Family Game Night

Our Family Game Night is coming up on Friday, November 15th from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring the entire family for a great evening of games, food (Tacos!) and fun. All are welcome!



### Card Carousel

As we move into the late fall and Advent seasons, let's continue to focus on our value to be relationship builders. How, you ask? Here's one simple step you can take... Is there someone you know in our church family that you have been praying for? Is there someone who is sick, recovering after a stay in the hospital or is just missing from worship on Sunday mornings? Send them a card! Just visit our card carousel (graciously donated to us from ASMA Gifts), pick out a card and mail it off with your caring thoughts! You can find the card carousel at the Welcome Center display... check it out today!

### New supportive group forming in 2020!

If you struggle with ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join us for a spiritually-grounded monthly gathering beginning Monday, January 13th. This early evening group will focus on sharing and encouraging one another to live with greater hope and peace while navigating health issues. (Terry Ketrow and Janice Bowen, Co-facilitators) For more information, please contact Janice at 717-766-4611 x 112 or WeCare@fumchurch.com

## First Connections Gathering

The next First Connections time for fellowship will be held on Thursday, November 14th in the Tower Meeting Room (2nd floor children's Sunday School wing). Please join us between 1-3 pm to simply relax and visit with some First Church friends! Questions or need a ride? Ask - Janice Bowen at WeCare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112.

## Flu Shots

Sandy Leister will offer free flu shots in the Multi-Purpose Room on Sunday, November 17th from 9-11 a.m. for anyone age 9 or older. While offered at no cost, please bring your insurance information with you if you have it.

## Communication Awareness for Email Distribution Lists

For those who receive emails from the church staff (prayer letter, service opportunities, children's ministry newsletter, 4G news and information, newsletter, etc) and ever wish to be unsubscribed from a specific list, please respond to the sender and request removal. Please *do not click the unsubscribe link* unless you desire to have your email removed from all distribution lists and email communication.

Would you like to be added to email communications:

Newsletter and Church Information (contact Ellen Hill office@fumchurch.com)

Service Opportunities (contact Lori Hoffnagle outreach@fumchurch.com)

Prayer Letter (contact Janice Bowen wecare@fumchurch.com)

Youth Ministry (contact Lisa Aronson - uthrock@fumchurch.com)

Children Ministry (contact Dawn Fisher or Anna Harris - kidscount@fumchurch.com)



## Extravagant Hospitality

Hospitality is something we can all do all of the time, not just in church. Leave a kind note on someone's car and invite them to church. Our Ministries and Missions fair is happening soon, what a great time to invite friends and neighbors to join FUMC. We will have many church related organizations on display. Welcome those who are new and invite them to join our many activities. Also, don't forget it will soon be time for the youth Sleep-Out, a great time for the youth of our church to practice extravagant hospitality.

## Day of Pampering

FUMC is again preparing for a tremendous community outreach event called Day of Pampering (DOP). It will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020. The day will honor the tireless work of moms of children / wives of husbands with disABILITIES. These women give so much to others, often neglecting their own physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The Day of Pampering is a gift to them ... a day just for them. Please save the date for Saturday, February 29, 2020. Please pray for the attendees that God is calling to this year's event, volunteers to assist in planning, preparing and participating, and service providers to share their gifts and talents. Interested in helping? Contact Karin McHale at karinmch@comcast.net or (717) 379-8329.

## Little Friends Preschool Fall Festival & Silent Auction

Little Friends Preschool will host its annual Fall Festival & Silent Auction on Saturday, November 2 from 10am-1pm at First UMC. There will be a food sale and bake sale, free games and activities for children including face painting and a bouncy house and many items up for auction! 1/2 of the auction tables close at 11am, the other 1/2 at noon - so get there EARLY for the best selection! We have gift certificates to various businesses, restaurants and attractions. and there are more donations coming in daily! And we have tools from Ames True Temper, baskets from our Sunday School classes and Little Friends Classes, Handmade arts & crafts, and SO much more! Shop now for your one-of-a-kind Christmas presents! All proceeds benefit Little Friends Preschool.



## Generous Giver

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 30, 2019 75 % of year

General Fund 2019 budget	\$ 970,000
Actual income	\$ 701,828
Projected income	\$ 727,500
Actual expenses	\$ 663,819

Please pray for the mission of our church to open doors for our community, and to welcome newcomers to the Love of Christ through the ministry of First Church. Your prayers and gifts are needed and appreciated.

### Start Shopping for Your Shoebox Items Now!

Christmas is just around the corner and that means Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes! We have a tradition to try and fill more boxes than the previous year. To help with that challenge, there is a Shoebox Supply House, 208 Lurgan Avenue, Shippensburg, which offers discounted items specifically for OCC boxes. Most items are \$1 or less, so it's a great bargain! The hours are as follows:

Monday, Thursday and Saturday, each week through November 23, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. They accept cash or checks. If you have questions, feel free to contact David Mengle at [mengledm@verizon.net](mailto:mengledm@verizon.net) or contact the Warehouse at [jbradford01@comcast.net](mailto:jbradford01@comcast.net). Groups are welcome!

### Sweet Potatoes for New Hope

First Church is once again collecting donations of canned sweet potatoes for New Hope Ministries. The canned goods will be included in holiday food boxes that are being prepared by New Hope Ministries in Mechanicsburg for distribution to local families in need. Donations can be dropped off inside the Main Entrance of the church. Questions, contact Don or Debbie Karns at [dekarns@comcast.net](mailto:dekarns@comcast.net). Help us reach our goal of 300 cans!

### World Thank Offering

On November 24, during the 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. worship services, you will have an opportunity to join United Methodist Woman around the world to participate in the World Thank Offering. The collection will take place alongside the regular offering during worship. "The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of undesignated Mission Giving. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world." Thanks for giving!

### Save the date! Sunday, November 17 is Consecration Sunday

Soon you will see posters going up around the church, hear personal testimonies from members of our congregation during worship services, and receive information in the mail about this great spiritual renewal event. At both our 8:15 Foundation Service and our 10:45 Convergent Service, you will be invited to make a financial commitment to support Christ's mission in and through First Church. There will be a Ministry Fair during our 9:30 a.m. Sunday school hour as we celebrate how we are "Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors." You are blessed to be a blessing!

### Ministries & Missions Fair

Each year during this season of thankfulness we hold our Ministries and Missions Fair. It is a time when we contemplate how we are doing – do we cheerfully and consistently give, not only of our money, but also of our time and God-given talents in response to God's extravagant love? As we consider this question, the fair provides ways for us to connect our gifts with the world's needs. Are you looking for new ways to give and serve? Please come. Are you already involved in a ministry or mission and want to encourage others to do the same? Please come! ALL are invited to come to the Ministries & Missions Fair! This year it is scheduled on Consecration Sunday, November 17, from 9:15 – 10:45 am in the Multipurpose Room. In addition to our own ministry and mission tables, we are hosting several of the



community mission organizations that we work with, so please come to support and joyfully celebrate all the ways that we are bearing fruit and bringing glory to God! If you have questions or would like to reserve a table for your specific ministry/mission, please contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) or call 717-766-4611, extension 104.

### The Endowment Fund

I recently read and asked the question: “Do you know how to remain a biblical member of a Church? Give abundantly and serve without hesitation. Biblical church membership gives without qualification. Biblical membership views the tithes and offering as joyous giving. There are no strings attached. Biblical church membership serves and ministers as a natural way of doing things”. It is natural when we give to any worthy cause we want to see the gift and talents being used to improve a situation and/or in support of a need, as well as the results. We would also like to see the gift as perpetual in that it provides some type of future benefit to spiritual growth, dignity, health, society, and human comfort. The Endowment Fund through its perpetual structure embraces a means of spreading the good news of love and the Church’s commitments by supporting various mission opportunities. Stop by the Endowment Fund coffee café table at the Ministries and Missions Fair November 17 to have any questions answered on how you might consider supporting the Endowment Fund.

### Women's Retreat and the SCRIP Program

Need a gift idea, think of the SCRIP gift card program and benefit the Women's Retreat! For the months of December and January, proceeds from specific gift card purchases will benefit the 2020 Women's Retreat. The gift cards include: 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. The SCRIP box and order forms are located near the coffee prep area (Main entrance hallway, turn right, immediate left on the wall, near the stairwell). Any questions, contact Patti Herring at [familyzeke@verizon.net](mailto:familyzeke@verizon.net). Thanks for supporting the Women's Retreat!

### Calling all Bakers!

Who likes baking cookies? You do! The youth are asking for assistance from the cookie bakers among us to help us keep the “Cookie Walk” an ongoing, memorable and effective fundraising tradition. We are so excited to continue in partnering with the Market Place of Miracles and offering this one stop Christmas shop available to our community happening on December 14th, 2019! Please supply us with at least 4 batches of cookies (8-10 dozen) of the same variety, or more, of **homemade** cookies. Have a family favorite? Great we’ll take it. Want to try out a new recipe? That will do too. Fill in the information slip below with your name and your top two cookie options you would be willing to make. Because we want to have a large variety of types of cookies we will notify you of your cookie option that has been chosen upon reviewing your slip as well as details regarding cookie drop off and allergen concerns. **Slips should be returned no later than November 17th.** Any questions please contact the youth department at [minion.youth17@gmail.com](mailto:minion.youth17@gmail.com). Cookie walk benefits youth mission trips.

2019 Cookie Walk Cookie Baker Sign Up:

Baker’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Best Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cookie Option #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Cookie Option #2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to provide 4 batches (8-10) dozen of each option listed above.

**Please return this form to Lynn Rapp or place in the Cookie Jar (in Main Lobby) no later than November 18th, 2018**

# Women's Ministry

Any and all women are invited to participate in upcoming events and activities. This page gives you an overview of all the ways to connect. More information can be conveniently found in other parts of the newsletter or feel free to contact the person involved with the event. The Women's Ministry Facebook page has been created! Look for it on our FB page titled "First Church Women's Ministry" and feel free to join!

## United Methodist Women

### DEBORAH CIRCLE

Sandy Walton ~ swalton54@comcast.net  
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

### MARTHA CIRCLE

Marley Ann Schmick ~ marleyannrichard@gmail.com  
Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month

### RUTH CIRCLE

Joan Mains ~ mains.joan@yahoo.com  
Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at Hoss's in Mechanicsburg

### COVERED IN LOVE

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

### SQUARES AND PRAYERS

Nancy Eddy ~ naeddy3@aol.com  
Meets Mondays, 9-11 am in Fellowship Hall

### KNIT@NITE ~ ALL LEVELS OF KNITTERS WELCOME

Mary Helm ~ mthelm4@yahoo.com  
Meets the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Tower Meeting Room

## Other Opportunities to Connect

### DAY OF PAMPERING

**February 29, 2020**

Karin McHale ~ karinmch@comcast.net

### LADIES' SEPTEMBER TEA

Janice Bowen ~ wecare@fumchurch.com

### MOMS IN PRAYER

Deb Noss ~ sdppp@msn.com  
Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Prayer Room

### MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

**November 22 (9:15am)**

Tina Eaton ~ adultministry@fumchurch.com

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

**February 7 to 9, 2020:** Mt. Asbury Retreat Center  
Patti Herring ~ familyzeke@verizon.net

### ZUMBA Gold (low impact dance/aerobic exercise)

Multipurpose Room  
Tuesday at 1:00p.m. ~  
Mary Stine: freddlz@comcast.net  
Thursday at 1:00 p.m. ~  
Lisa Lynch: lisaloveszumba@gmail.com  
Pay as you go!

## Upcoming Events:

**November 24:** World Thank Offering and Mission Meal

**December 14:** Marketplace of Miracles and Cookie Walk, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. **Start thinking of the type of cookies you want to donate to the Cookie Walk!**

On November 24, during the 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. worship services, you will have an opportunity to join United Methodist Woman around the world to participate in the **World Thank Offering**. The collection will take place alongside the regular offering during worship. "The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of undesignated Mission Giving. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world." Thanks for giving!

The **Mission Meal** will take place in Fellowship Hall following the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Join us for a meal of barbeque, carrots, chips and dessert! Donations will be accepted for the meal and will support local organizations, such as New Hope Ministries, Neighborhood Center and Mission Central.

The **Annual Marketplace of Miracles and Cookie Walk** is Saturday, December 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are excited that Women at Risk, Change Purse, Ten Thousand Villages, She's Somebody's Daughter and Trades of Hope will be joining us this year. These organizations raise awareness and support victims of human trafficking and promote Fair Trade. Come shop for a cause! The extremely popular **Cookie Walk** promises a variety of homemade cookies, just in time for Christmas! Shoppers can choose from over 30 different types of cookies, including peanut and gluten free. Boxes will be provided. All proceeds benefit youth mission trips. Come early for the best selection!

**Registration is now open for our annual Women's Retreat** to be held February 7 to 9, 2020 at Mt. Asbury Retreat Center, Newville. This year's theme is Becoming a Woman of Excellence which will be led by church members. All women are invited for a time of fellowship, faith and fun, set in a beautiful retreat center with hotel-like accommodations. The registration form can be found in the newsletter, at the Display Table outside the multipurpose room, at the Women's Display Window and on the church website. Scholarships are available upon request. For more information, contact Patti Herring at 717-796-9721 or [familyzeke@verizon.net](mailto:familyzeke@verizon.net)



### Men's Small Group Video Series

We are now watching and discussing "Uncommon" with Tony Dungy. The viewing and meetings are at the Eaton home on the **first and third Wednesdays of each month. November dates are 11/6 and 11/20, from 8-9:30pm.** If you can join us on the 11/6 date, we will be discussing the 2020 Men's Retreat as well and will have a guest joining us. Contact Barry Eaton ([theeaton5@verizon.net](mailto:theeaton5@verizon.net)) or John Bowen ([bowenhome720@gmail.com](mailto:bowenhome720@gmail.com)) if you have questions or would like more information.

### Save the Date

Speaking of the 2020 Men's Retreat, start planning now so you can attend. The dates are March 6-8, 2020. Stay tuned for more details regarding registration information to come.

### Men's Breakfast

An open invitation is extended to any and all men who want to gather for good food and light-hearted fellowship on the first Saturday morning of each month. Please come join us at Brother's Restaurant, located at 705 Gettysburg Pike in Mechanicsburg. Our next gathering will be on **Saturday, November 2 at 7:30 am.** We usually sit over to the right and in the back. Hope to see you there!

### Men's Group Activities

On Friday, October 11 a group of FUMC men gathered together for a fun afternoon of golf at Armitage Golf Club. It was a beautiful sunny day and a great time that was only enhanced when several wives met up with us after golf and we all enjoyed a meal together at the Caddyshack Restaurant. Feedback was very positive so watch for this event to be planned again next year.

**Tool Pool** -A directory for any hand or power tools that you may need to borrow for one-time use. Contact Don Karns at [dekarns0107@gmail.com](mailto:dekarns0107@gmail.com).



## Church News and Notes

### Love & sympathy...

- to family and friends upon the death of Helen Kane on September 14th.
- to the Rouch family in the death of Nancy's mother, Edie Reinhart, on October 1st.
- to the Van Kirk family in the death of Jim's father, Wayne Van Kirk, on October 3rd.
- to the Karns family in the death of Debbie's mother, Barbara Evans, on October 19th.

### Special Thanks...

Bonnie Jeona would like to express her heartfelt thanks to First Church. She is deeply appreciative and grateful for all the cards, visits, and expressions of kindness she has received while recovering from hip surgery.

A number of our Rejoicing Spirits congregation participated in the 48th Annual CROP for the Hungry October 20th. The "Rejoice Walkers" as they called themselves want to extend their thanks to all that walked with them and donated to help feed those in need.

### Special Birthdays

Sadie Heim.....	November 1	Jo Nye.....	December 13
Brenda Snider .....	November 1	Helen Ritter.....	December 13
Liz Nesmith .....	November 4	Dolores Shell.....	December 13
Elvin Hess.....	November 6	Mary Buechel.....	December 17
Nancy Bomboy .....	November 12	Darlis Aumiller.....	December 21
Pat Marr .....	November 23	Joan Mains.....	December 23
Marlin Lehmer .....	November 24	Elaine O'Hara .....	December 26
Joyce Woods.....	December 1	Sandy Coover.....	December 28

### Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Richard & Joanne Reed married 66 years on November 4
- ♥ Lincoln & Veloice Washburn married 68 years on November 9
- ♥ Leon & Pat Bricker married 59 years on November 19
- ♥ Dave & Dolly Scholl married 68 years on November 22
- ♥ Don & Kay Coldren married 57 years on November 24
- ♥ Robert & Sara Meck married 67 years on November 25
- ♥ Roy & Ginnie Miller married 52 years on December 9
- ♥ Joe & Carol Moomaw married 54 years on December 24



**FIRST NEWS FIRST**

**Editor:** Ellen Hill

The **deadline** for submitting articles  
for the **December** issue is  
**November 15**

**Early submissions always  
appreciated!**