



First News First

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

From the pastor's desk...

“Lemons to Lemonade”

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When George, our Head Custodian at the time, walked into our church sanctuary on Friday, June 16, he discovered a big surprise! Pieces of broken plaster were scattered everywhere. He looked up and saw a large hole in the ceiling, 40 feet overhead. Soon, our Facilities Coordinator, Tom, and members of our Board of Trustees got busy. We submitted a claim to our conference insurance company. Contractors surveyed the situation and gave estimates for the repair. We hired a master plasterer. Eventually, contractors relocated the pews to the multipurpose room, and scaffolding took their place in the sanctuary. More than 200 square feet of our 110-year-old sanctuary was newly plastered and painted. Soon, new carpet will be installed. The new sound booth to support our upgraded digital sound system will be completed. We anticipate the sanctuary reopening and a great celebration in December!

In reporting to our congregation a few weeks ago, Jim Murdoch, Chair of our Board of Trustees, used the phrase, “lemons to lemonade.” He described how we were able to take the “lemon” of a hole in the sanctuary ceiling and make “lemonade,” enhancing our worship space in ways that will honor God and bless our congregation for years to come.

As I reflect on the challenges of these past five months, I am so very grateful to all of you. Amid the inconvenience of our sanctuary being closed, you have been resilient, continuing to worship faithfully. Many of you have worshiped in person, in the green chairs of the Sunday School auditorium. Others have continued to worship online. In addition, while we received some funding from our insurance claim, our church’s Endowment Fund, and individual donors, these wonderful renovations would not have been possible without your faithful, generous, weekly giving. Thank you!

Soon, we will announce the date for the Grand Reopening of our sanctuary! We will celebrate “lemons to lemonade,” but the “lemonade” will not be complete until this space is filled with a congregation gathered to glorify God in worship. If you’ve been absent from in-person worship for a while, the sanctuary reopening is the perfect time for you to return. It’s also a great time to bring a friend!

Rejoicing in the Lord, always, with you!

Pastor Denny





Daily Bible Reading Plan

God speaks to us through His Word, and our daily Bible reading plan is customized to go along with our weekly sermons! You can find the plan in our weekly worship bulletin and on our church website, fumchurch.com.

Sunday School | Sundays, 9:45 a.m.

Looking for learning and relationship-building while you are at church for worship on Sundays? Here's a list of studies going on during the month of November – new participants are welcome to join anytime!

- **Growing in Christ**

Target: Adults of all ages and stages of faith

Location: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com)

Beginning a new study on the **Book of Romans**. Walk, chapter by chapter, through Paul's letter to the church in Rome and watch videos filmed on location in areas critical to the early church.

- **Christian Fellowship**

Target: Adults of all ages and stages of faith

Location: Room B003

Contact: Wayde Leister (waydeleister@outlook.com)

Beginning a new six-week study written by Max Lucado, "**You Were Made for This Moment**." Journey through the Book of Esther and be reminded that God is active, even when he appears distant.

- **Helping Hands**

Target: Primarily 60+

Location: Room B004

Contact: Bob Wertz, Sr. (robert_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com)

Uses the United Methodist Quarterly curriculum. Lessons this month are focused on the theme "**Freedom**," which challenges those who have experienced God's gracious salvation to work for freedom and justice on behalf of others.

- **Guyer Class**

Target: Primarily 70+

Location: Room 123

Contact: Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com)

Uses the United Methodist Quarterly curriculum. Lessons this month are focused on the theme "**Freedom**," which challenges those who have experienced God's gracious salvation to work for freedom and justice on behalf of others.

Men's Groups

We encourage all men to build long-term, Christ-centered relationships with one another through small groups. While we have several different kinds of groups that meet, here are a few that meet for the purpose of learning and spiritual growth:

- **Men's Bible Study | Mondays on Zoom, 6:45-8:15 p.m.**

Currently studying the book of Mark, and newcomers are welcome to jump in anytime. If interested, contact Ken Guise at guiseken100@gmail.com.

- **Wednesday Men's Group | First and Third Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m.**

All men are invited to join this group (currently studying "Know What You're FOR", by Jeff Henderson). Meets at the home of Barry Eaton. Contact Barry at theaton5@verizon.net if interested.

From the Library

When I was a child, I often wished my birthday would hurry up and get here. (Believe me, I never say that now.) My mother would tell me, "You're wishing your life away, and someday you'll regret that you didn't enjoy each and every day." And was she ever right! Every month when I write this newsletter, I wonder where the month has gone, or maybe where has the year gone. Though I don't always succeed, I try to live in the present and enjoy each day as a present. And to segue to the present, let me tell you about this month's new treasures.

Oddly enough, three of my favorite authors are wrapping up their series this month. Lynette Eason is bringing to conclusion her "Elite Guardian" series, with *Defending Honor*. *Laila Rabinowitz was a tough as nails Mossad agent, until a betrayal led to her worst nightmare. Working with other women is a way for Laila to protect her heart but do a job she loves. Until her job is to guard playboy billionaire Preston Whittaker. Since his father and brother have died in a suspicious boating accident and Preston is next in line in the company, he needs round the clock protection. The best way to protect him is to have Laila pretend to be his wife. She doesn't mind putting her life on the line, but exposing her heart could be a catastrophe waiting to happen. I'll let you discover this plot with its high-octane twists and turns. If you enjoy this book, you might want to go back and read her first two books in this series, Driving Force and Impending Strike.*

Next on the ending way-too-soon series is "Love on the Santa Fe" by Tracie Peterson. *Under the Starry Sky concludes the series with the first two books Beyond the Desert Sands and Along the Rio Grande already on the shelf. Main characters Cassie Barton and Brandon DuBarko live in the southwest in troubled times. Mexican revolutionaries are determined to destroy the railroad, putting many lives in danger, and the war in Europe is a specter in the back of everyone's minds. What was once just a pleasant friendship between the two is blossoming into something much more. But, Brandon has a secret from his past that must be dealt with before he can commit to Cassie. With danger on several fronts and obstacles in their past, they have only God to rely on. But will they?*

Lastly, Irene Hannon is finishing her "Triple Threat" series with her new book, *Body of Evidence*. *Forensic pathologist Grace Reilly has noticed a curious pattern of death among the elder residents of her Missouri town. Now, all she has to do is convince Sheriff Nate Cox that these people did not die of natural causes, but were murdered. But, someone does not want the truth to be known. Danger lurks on every page of this gripping novel. If you haven't had a chance to read the whole series yet, Point of Danger and Labyrinth of Lies are on the shelf ready to keep you reading way past your bedtime.*

If none of these series interest you, stop in and let our volunteers help you find just the right book.

See you in the library,

~Pam and Donna



MOPS

MOPS (formerly mother of pre-schoolers) connects moms to a community of women who meet to laugh, support and embrace the journey together. We meet monthly from 6 to 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday evenings at the church September-May and have monthly outings for kids and parents. Every group meeting will include fellowship time over dinner, teachings/lesson time, small group discussion, encouragement and support from mentor moms and Christian devotions. The cost is \$32.00, which covers special guest speakers and dinner together. Contact Katie Knorr at kidscount@fumchurch.com for more details and to learn more or register today!

Cafe 21:12 "Come have breakfast" - Jesus (John 21:12)

Even Jesus saw the value of connecting in a casual setting with his disciples. He called them to the shore not necessarily for a structured lesson, but for a yummy meal. The breakfast on the seashore provided space for Jesus to connect with his disciples and encourage them for the mission that lay ahead. Students 1st-12th grade can come to the youth lounge during the Sunday school hour (9:45-10:45 a.m.) to check in connect, and collaborate with other students. We will have yummy breakfast treats and a casual space to gather together during our morning. Children kindergarten and younger can go to the Wee Worship room for their own fun time together!

- **We are getting ready to have our 29th annual Sleep Out for the Homeless on November 18-19**
- **The youth are starting to plan and find bakers for the Decemeber Cookie Walk - yum!!**
- **The youth participated in the S'nL Battleball Tournament in October and did great!**
- **Open now are sign ups for the Youth Winter Retreat. Don't miss the chance to get away for a weekend in December with your friends.**

Youth Ministry Snap Shot



Practicing for Battleball
Fall 2022

Praying Follower



November Prayer Focus – Home

In your prayers this month, try using the word **home** as a focus - it captures so many special things that we celebrate in November!

On All Saints Day, we take time to remember those who have passed away and honor the impact their lives have had on us, our families and our **homes**. You may like to use this special meditation in your prayers (full version available on umcdiscipleship.org):

Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices
made by those who have gone before us.
Bless us with special memories of your saints –
May we learn how to walk wisely
from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love.
Amen.

Thanksgiving also brings **home** into focus as we come together to share a meal and fellowship with loved ones and friends. This can be wonderful for some and challenging for others who have loved ones deployed, ill, deceased, living at a distance, have work obligations, etc. You may like to use this special prayer, adapted from a prayer written by Abigail van Buren (Dear Abby):

O heavenly Father, I
Give thanks for food and remember the hungry;
Give thanks for health and remember the sick;
Give thanks for friends and remember the lonely;
Give thanks for freedom and remember the oppressed;
Give thanks for family present and remember family absent.
Amen.

No matter what, during this season of thanks, remember to, "rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Weekly Prayer Letter

If you have not already done so, we invite you to sign up for First Church's FirstLink Prayer Letter to receive updated prayer requests and praises from our church family once a week. Contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com to share joys and requests and to sign up for the Prayer Letter email.

Passionate Worshipper



Spotify Playlist

On the first Wednesday of each month, we release a new monthly playlist on Spotify. Search for First UMC of Mechanicsburg, and click on the playlist titled *Where Words Fail, Music Speaks*. For non-Spotify users, click this link to listen to the playlist: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5rbHEYEfHei97cUI8rjwNJ?si=qzOB7cTVRg6iAU1L4BY2hA>



Service of Remembrance and Hope | Nov. 20, 4 p.m.

If you are feeling the burden of grief this holiday season, please join us for a time of worship and reflection to honor the memory of cherished family and friends at our Service of Remembrance and Hope. The service will take place in-person in the sanctuary and be recorded and available afterward for viewing

from home. Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) for more details.

Dedicated Missionary



Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry

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, Nov. 16, at 6:30 p.m.** If you would like to carpool or have any questions, please contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com.

United Women in Faith World Thank Offering Baked Good Giveaway

Support the United Women in Faith World Thank Offering on **Sunday, Nov. 20**, with your sweet tooth! Stop by the table outside the multipurpose room to pick up a tasty treat and make a donation to the World Thank Offering, which invites “individuals to respond to God’s abundant grace in the midst of change” and supports “national and international work to meet the physical and social needs of women, children, and youth in your neighborhood and around the world.” Stop by between worship services for a sweet treat and a chance to support this mission! If you can donate a baked good, please bring it to the display that morning. Contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com or 717-732-6430 with questions about UWF or the World Thank Offering.

Operation Christmas Child | Collection Runs Through Nov. 20

Bring the Good News to a child in need! First Church invites everyone to support Operation Christmas Child by filling a shoe box with gifts for the upcoming holiday season! First Church invites everyone to support Operation Christmas Child by filling a shoebox with gifts for the upcoming holiday season! Pick up the instructions and a box at the display under the balcony at church (or use your own shoebox), then fill your box with items suggested on the list (available at the display). Remember to bring your filled shoe boxes back to the church display by November 20, then we’ll send them off for delivery to children all over the world! To watch special stories from children who have received these gifts, visit vid-co.samaritanaspurse.org. Thanks for your support of Operation Christmas Child!



Feminine Hygiene Sewing Day

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual sewing day! 13 people spent an entire morning cutting and sewing, going above and beyond to make these necessary products for Mission Central to share with our sisters in other countries. Your hard work is making an impact. See you next year!

Volunteers In Mission

Are you thinking of going on a mission trip or would like to plan a trip? If so, the Volunteers in Mission team will be happy to support you and provide free training! **United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM)** is the short-term mission agency of the United Methodist Church. UMVIM volunteers any engage in outreach as a member of a United Methodist Church to serve their neighbors near and far. For more information on upcoming trainings or mission trips in the Susquehanna Conference, visit the UMVIM website: <https://www.susmb.org/vim/>.

Relationship Builder



November Hospitality Tip – Pay Careful Attention!

Acts 20:28 says, “**Pay careful attention** to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God.” Have you ever thought about hospitality this way? Hospitality and paying close attention go hand-in-hand! We interact with people each Sunday at

church, but how many of these people feel cared for by us? It is important to take some time each week to stop, look around and show kindness to others. Your uplifting word or kind action may change someone's life forever.

Joy in the Morning | Next meeting Nov. 14, 1-2 p.m.

If you live with chronic pain or ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join in sharing discussion and supportive friendship with this spiritually-focused small group that meets once a month. Terry Ketterow and Janice Bowen co-facilitate, drawing upon readings and devotionals. For more information, contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com).

Health and Wellness Presentation: Decluttering and Organizational Strategies | Dec. 4, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Is your home too F.A.T. (Full of Acquired Things)? Join us in the multipurpose room to hear from Carolyn Doerr, a Certified Relocation and Transition Specialist and owner and president of CaringTransitions of Mechanicsburg. Learn tips and tricks on the process of organizing – how to sort, arrange, allocate and purge excess possessions. With a step-by-step “diet plan” for the home, you can tackle even any home organization project with confidence. Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions.

Mount Asbury Christmas Light Show

This December, Mount Asbury Retreat Center (1310 Centerville Rd., Newville) will host its Third Annual Drive-Thru Christmas Light Show! See the angels as they talk to Mary, Joseph and shepherds and follow the star to the manger as you drive through thousands of lights in the forest and on the grounds of Mount Asbury. There's no need to register – just stop by on a **Friday, Saturday or Sunday, Dec. 2 through Dec. 18 between 6 and 9 p.m.** Mount Asbury requests a \$10 per car donation and will have hot chocolate and cookies available for purchase. Invite your family, friends and neighbors!



Follow the Facebook page for event news and updates here: [facebook.com/MountAsburyChristmasLightShow](https://www.facebook.com/MountAsburyChristmasLightShow).

Mount Asbury is also looking for **volunteers** to help make this an incredible experience! Find more information here: tsu.me/sbca4z. Patti Herring is on the planning committee and would love to see groups from First Church show their support!

First Saturday Men's Breakfast | Nov. 5 7:30 a.m.

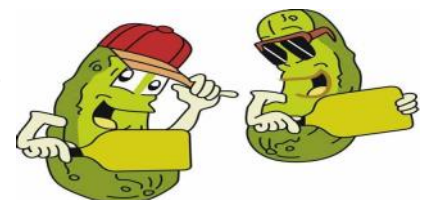
Join other men of First Church for good food and light-hearted fellowship on the first Saturday morning of each month at Brothers Diner (705 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg). Please contact Barry Eaton at theeaton5@verizon.net if you are interested in attending – it's sure to be a good time!

2023 Women's Retreat – Save the Date!

Preparations are underway for the 2023 Women's Retreat at Mount Asbury Retreat Center! The retreat will take place Feb. 3-5, 2023. New for this year, we have a One-Day option for those who wish to attend just on Saturday. This year's theme, “Anxious for Nothing,” is based on Max Lucado's bestselling book and will be led by church members. Watch for the registration form and see the website here with more details: <https://sites.google.com/fumchurch.com/womenretreat2023/home> Questions? Contact Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net with any questions. We hope to see you there!

Pickleball Continues this Fall! | Tuesdays at 5 p.m.

Whether you're a single player or double, whether you play pickleball every week or have never played, we invite you to join us on the pickleball court at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park! Bring a friend and assume we will be there unless it's wet and rainy! Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions.



Be Safe, Get Your Flu Shot!

Once again, flu shots (quadrivalent vaccine) will be offered by Sandy Leister, RN, for anyone over 18 years of age. Stop by room 105 (at the end of the main office hallway) on Sunday, Nov. 6, between 9 and 11 a.m. There's no need to preregister and friends and extended family members are welcome to come as well! Insurances listed below are accepted. Without insurance coverage, the flu shot costs \$40 (cash or check please, made out to VNA of Central PA). If you have any questions, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112. Accepted insurances include: Medicare B; Medicare B and a secondary insurance; Medicare B and AARP; Medicare B and commer-

cial (supplement); Railroad Medicare B; GHP; GHP Gold; Humana Gold; Humana Choice PPO.

New Church Directory!

Our office is in the process of building a new church directory! Please ensure that your directory information is up-to-date by Nov. 4 by filling out a Directory Profile Update form on a Sunday morning or updating your information on the Church Center app. If you would like a printed copy of the directory, please contact the church office (office@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611), and we will arrange to get you one in the coming weeks. Thank you!

Covered in Love Knitting Group

The Covered in Love Knitting Group has returned to in-person meetings every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and gathers downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to join if you love to knit, crochet or do some other kind of crafty work. Questions? Contact Judi Buddenbaum at 717-697-2524 or ljbuddenbaum@verizon.net.

Widows and Widowers Fellowship

The Widows and Widowers Fellowship will gather at Baker’s Diner (515 North US Highway 15, Dillsburg) on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 11:30 a.m. All widows and widowers are welcome to join us for lunch and companionship. Please call Bonnie Guyer at 717-766-0145 if you plan on attending. Transportation can be provided upon request.

Church Center App

Thanks so much to everyone who has downloaded the Church Center app! If you haven’t created an account on Church Center, visit fumchurch.com/resources/app to watch video tutorials and find answers to some of our most frequently asked questions. If you need assistance, you can always stop by our Church Center Helpdesk in the lobby before or after Sunday worship or contact our office (office@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611). We’re so excited about using this new tool to better connect our First Church family throughout the week!

Squares and Prayers

The quilters continue to sew and complete quilts at home. These quilts go to local hospices, fire and police departments and members of our church who are at need. Fidget mats are also being made and are available. Anyone who desires to sew kits together can find kits located near the Alley Entrance.

Generous Giver



FINANCIAL REPORT

Through Sept 30, 2022 **75 % of year**

General Fund

2022 budget	\$925,985	
Expected income-YTD	\$694,488	(75% of budget)
Actual income -YTD	\$657,438	(71% of budget)
Actual expenses-YTD	\$670,303	(72% of budget)

Receipts year-to-date through the end of September are about \$37,000 short of our year-to-date estimate. We are anticipating that donations that tailed off for travel during the summer months will catch up as members return to church. If you have been away, please keep our mission in mind, and we look forward to seeing how your financial commitment can help us open up the Word for more members of our community.

Expenses year-to-date are favorable to the budget, but a bit above our year-to-date income. The staff at First Church and its volunteers continue to be mindful stewards of the gifts of our congregation and are working to open doors to others for the glory of God.

We are grateful to all our congregation and guests who continue to support the work of First Church, as we serve the Lord by opening doors for all to know salvation through Jesus. With your gifts, we are up-

dating and improving our facilities in the service of our Lord. We continue to ask for your prayers, your presence and your support through service and gifts to the mission of our First Church family.

Change for Water!

Water is the foundation of our very lives. Yet, according to CDC estimates, only 2% of the population in Sierra Leone has access to clean, readily available drinking water! Help us to support the **Well Drilling Fund for Sierra Leone** by dropping your loose change (or even paper bills) into the blue Change for Water bucket located on the Sierra Leone mission table in the Main Entrance hallway. Donations from August totaled **\$15.44**. 100% of your donations will be used to provide training and dig wells for schools and communities in need.

Little Free Pantry Collection

Thanks for your support of the **Little Free Pantry** on our property. We have been able to keep up with the demand for food, but starting to run low. If you would like to donate items, there is a **collection basket** inside the Alley Door entrance at the church. **Most needed items include:** canned tuna/chicken, any type of boxed mac and cheese, small boxes of cereal, granola bars, individual snack items and small ready-to-eat meals. Please make sure they are non-perishable and not too far past the expiration dates. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com. Thanks for blessing our neighbors!

First Church Mission Moments...



Hi! My name is Jeff Hoffnagle. My wife Lori and I have been the coordinators for the 3rd Friday Food Truck events held here in our church parking lot since the beginning in 2017. My primary responsibility during the event is to welcome visitors, provide general hospitality and, along with a team of volunteers, assist visitors in finding a parking place.

Every month I plant myself at the entrance to our main parking lot along High Street. When a car enters our parking lot, I welcome them, help them with any questions they might have and point them in the direction of our other volunteers, who assist them in finding a parking spot. Over the course of the 6 years we've been doing this, I've gotten to know some of the neighbors who live nearby. One such neighbor who lives near the church is especially notable. In the early years of our food truck events, she would come home from work while the food trucks were there, get out of her vehicle, and race into her house, without so much as even glancing across the street at me. I looked for opportunities to engage with her, but sadly there were none. Then one Friday, she got out of her car and looked over at me. I said hello to her and she quickly said hello and again hurried into her house. The next month, we had the same exchange. Eventually, she felt comfortable enough with me to engage in small conversation. We continued to chat when she would arrive home and she began to see me as less of a threat. Finally, one day last year, she came home from work, we exchanged a few pleasantries and she went into her house. To my surprise, a few minutes later, she came out of her house with other members of her family and came across the street to attend our event. I conveyed how glad I was to see her come over and she smiled and replied back that they were excited to try it. Now she is a regular attender and our relationship has gotten much warmer. I look forward to seeing her and her family each month.

Jesus told us to love our neighbors as ourselves. He was then asked the question "Who is our neighbor?" In this situation, our neighbor is the woman across the street from our church, who was very hesitant to engage with me, but in her own time, came around and allowed me to develop a relationship with her and show her and her family the love of Christ. You never know how God will reward you and what the timing of his reward will be when you are obedient to His call and mission.





Daily Bible Readings November 2022

Tuesday, November 1	Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Wednesday, November 2	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Thursday, November 3	Luke 20:27-38
Friday, November 4	Mark 12:41-44
Saturday, November 5	Rest and Reflect
Sunday, November 6	Worship-Consecration Sunday “The Heart of Generosity”
Monday, November 7	Isaiah 12
Tuesday, November 8	Isaiah 65:17-25
Wednesday, November 9	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Thursday, November 10	Luke 21:5-19
Friday, November 11	Ephesians 3:14-21
Saturday, November 12	Rest and Reflect
Sunday, November 13	Worship “God Is Able”
Monday, November 14	Jeremiah 23:1-6
Tuesday, November 15	Colossians 1:11-20
Wednesday, November 16	Luke 1:68-79
Thursday, November 17	Luke 23:33-43
Friday, November 18	Psalm 100
Saturday, November 19	Rest and Reflect
Sunday, November 20	Worship “The Heart of Worship”
Monday, November 21	Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Tuesday, November 22	Philippians 4:4-9
Wednesday, November 23	John 6:25-35
Thursday, November 24	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 25	Romans 13:11-14
Saturday, November 26	Rest and Reflect
Sunday, November 27	First Sunday of Advent
Monday, November 28	Isaiah 11:1-10
Tuesday, November 29	Romans 15:4-13
Wednesday, November 30	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Church Staff

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Lori and I would like to sincerely thank our First Church family who supported us through the recent passing of my mother. Whether it was by personal contact, cards, thoughts or prayers, we feel truly blessed to be a part of such wonderful, caring body of believers. Your expressions of sympathy and love helped us get through a very difficult time. ~Jeff Hoffnagle

We are so grateful for the outpouring of love and encouragement from our First Church family during these 2+ months of recuperation and healing from surgery on my hand and then surgery for my fractured ankle. Thank you for the flowers, cards, phone calls, words shared of encouragement and hope, and the delicious meals which have sustained us while I have been limited first by my hand cast and now foot cast/boot. I look forward to being back on my feet and joining you in church later in November. I thank God for your heartfelt love and extravagant hospitality to Denny and me. ~Betsy Keller

Thank you, First Church family for your prayers, cards and condolences after the death of our son Michael. ~Gail & Jim Siemons



Special Birthdays



- Sadie Heim.....November 1
- Liz Nesmith.....November 4
- Elvin Hess.....November 6
- Paul Cain.....November 11
- Mary Cain.....November 11
- Pat Bricker.....November 23
- Patricia Marr.....November 23
- Marlin Lehmer.....November 24



Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Paul Cain married 65 years on November 1, 1957
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Leon Bricker married 62 years on November 19, 1960.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Dave Scholl married 71 years on November 22, 1951.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Don Coldren married 60 years on November 24, 1962.
- ♥ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Meck married 70 years on November 25, 1952.



<p><i>FIRST NEWS FIRST</i> Editors: Dawn Fisher Jennifer Myers</p>	<p>The deadline for submitting articles for the December 2022 issue is November 15</p>	<p>Early submissions <u>always</u> appreciated!</p>
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