

☞ Welcome Visitors ☞

Welcome to First Church! We are privileged to have you attend our church and grateful that you chose to worship with us. May you be moved and enriched by the Spirit and know you are among friends. Here is a list of some resources available to you this morning:

- ✦ Children's activity packs are located at the entrances and rear of the sanctuary
- ✦ Nursery childcare (under three years of age) is available during services (pagers available at the check-in childcare greeter desk)
- ✦ Infants in service are welcome! A Comfort Corner location is available, if desired (ask an usher for directions).
- ✦ Wee Worship (ages three and five) & Kids Worship (ages six through 5th grade) follow the Children's Message at the 10:45 Service. This program is designed to help children become accustomed to the structure and purpose of worship. Wee Worship in Room 118. Kids Worship in Room 216.
- ✦ For hearing assistance, wireless receivers are available. Ask an usher for assistance.
- ✦ Large print hymnals available. Ask an usher for assistance.
- ✦ Seat cushions for the pews are available at the Sound Desk located at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Daily Bible Study

September 25	The Lord's Words Become Action	Psalm 33:1-9
September 26	Abram Called and Blessed	Genesis 13:1-3
September 27	God Promises Abram Land and Descendants	Genesis 13:14-17
September 28	Angel Will Lead Conquest of Canaan	Exodus 23:23-27
September 29	Promises of Land and Posterity Fulfilled	1 Kings 4:20-25
September 30	Abraham, an Example of Righteous Faith	Romans 4:1-4
October 1	Abram Enters Into Covenant With God	Genesis 15:1-6, 17-21

LEADING IN TODAY'S MORNING WORSHIP

Preaching..... Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller
 Liturgist Rev. John Shellenberger
 Acolyte TBD (8:15); Kendal Fisher (10:45)
 Organist Nick Werner
 Accompanists..... Michal Foursevitch ~ Sanctuary Choir
 Sound & Media Jim Murdoch & Ken Rapp (8:15); Holly Kurten & Jim Murdoch (10:45)
 Ushers..... TBD (8:15); Rick Kauffman, Larry Buddenbaum, Chuck Kershner, Brian Vogl (10:45)

SERVING OUR CHILDREN DURING MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday School Greeter. Barb Klingensmith
 Worship Greeter..... TBD (8:15); TBD (10:45)
 Crib/Toddlers: Kelly King, Sarah Jones (8:15); Shelli Spencer, TBD (10:45)
 Wee Worship (10:45) Brandy Zimmerman, Vicky Shambaugh
 Kids Worship (10:45) Tracy & Bob Wertz

☞ 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. Currently studying "The Case For Christ".
- **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. Currently studying "The Case For Christ".
- **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP** (Room 223) - A multi-generational adult class that selects short-term studies which generate challenging discussion of Christian principles. Currently studying *Surprised by Hope* by N.T. Wright This 6-week study will take you inside the scriptures to grasp the hope Jesus offers the world and its implications for how we live our lives.
- **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. Currently studying "The Case For Christ".
- **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 or call 766-4611.

☞ Youth Sunday School: 4G ~ Morning Edition ☞

Middle School: B003
 High School: Youth Lounge

☞ Children's Sunday School ☞

- Sunday School is such an important time for our children to learn about God. It gives the children a chance to really get to know their teachers and classmates, and forms bonds that will last a lifetime. Our goal is to plant that seed of faith the children can lean on when going through difficult times by engaging kids with God's Word.
- 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 help guide you to your child's room.

Welcome to

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors



September 24, 2017

Sunday Services

Worship
Sunday School for all ages

8:15 AM, 10:45 AM
 9:30 AM

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

8:15 AM

PRELUDE..... "Rondo Gioioso"J. Hassler

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)Pastor Shellenberger

Leader: Sing praises to God, O you saints, and give thanks to God's holy name!

People: **We exalt you, O God, for you have restored us to life!**

Leader: We may cry through the night, but your joy comes in the morning.

People: **You hear us, O God, and you are gracious in our distress.**

Leader: You turn our mourning into dancing!

People: **O God, our Savior, we give thanks to you forever!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE..... "There's Within My Heart a Melody"No. 380
(Ushers will receive green prayer cards)

*OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts on us that we are to seek them, and are willing to give more than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*PRAISE CHORUS..... "Seek Ye First" No. 405 (verse 1)

*GREET ONE ANOTHER

BIBLE SUNDAY CELEBRATION George, Dawn & Lisa

*PRAISE CHORUS..... "Seek Ye First" No. 405 (verse 2)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SINS)

*PRAYER HYMN..... "Sweet Hour of Prayer"No. 496

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "According to Thy Gracious Word"arr. G. Martin

*OFFERING RESPONSE
..... "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94

*OFFERING PRAYER

ANTHEM..... "Be Still, and Know That I Am God" Sanctuary Choir
Words by Gene Grier, Music by David Lantz III

*THE GOSPEL.....John 14:1-7 NT Page 108

SERMON..... "Embracing the Truth of Christ"Pastor Keller
Third in the Series: The Case for Christ

*HYMN..... "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" No. 348

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Improvisation

10:45 AM

GATHERING AND PRAYER

PRAISE AND WORSHIP
"Made to Worship"
"Furious"
"How He Loves"

BIBLE SUNDAY CELEBRATION George, Dawn & Lisa

PRAYER

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING..... John 14:1-7 NT Page 108

SERMON..... "Embracing the Truth of Christ"Pastor Keller
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CLOSING SONG
"We Believe"

BLESSING

**Please stand as able.*

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*If you would like to pray following the service you are invited to our Prayer*

## The Case for Christ September 10 - October 1, 2017

**September 10**

Text: Acts 8:26-40

Title: "Investigating the Case for Christ"  
Theme: Christ meets you where you are.

**September 17**

Text: I Corinthians 15:1-11

Title: "Exploring the Evidence for Christ"  
Theme: To understand why, submit and apply

**September 24**

Text: John 14:1-7

Title: "Embracing the Truth of Christ"  
Theme: Welcome home

**October 1**

Text: Matthew 5:13-16

Title: "Explaining the Good News of Christ"  
Theme: Acceptance fuels influence

Did you miss a Sunday? To listen to a sermon recording, go to [funchurch.com](http://funchurch.com), click "Sermons" on the dropdown menu under "Resources".

### Coming October 1 at 10:45!

A consistent service every week with a range of musical styles, a less formal atmosphere, and a flow to help us focus on receiving God's word and responding to Him.

We're calling it "Convergent," meaning "coming closer together" and based on 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 where we are called to worship with "different gifts, different activities, but the same Spirit."

In worship we will bring together a range of musical styles, including classic hymns, gospel songs, and different generations of contemporary music led by our praise team and choirs. There will be musical offerings from the sanctuary choir, the bell choirs, children, and youth. We will incorporate media and other worship arts in addition to the spoken word. We hope to be welcoming to worshipers of all ages as we seek, above all, to glorify God!

