

*Welcome to*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

*December 16, 2018*



**Wisdom**

**Memory Verse:**

*“They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”*

*(Matthew 2:11)*

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

[www.fumchurch.com](http://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 (pagery 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:** Now is the Advent of the long-awaited Messiah, our bringer of hope, our Prince of Peace, our leader of love.

**People:** **We celebrate the coming of Christ with the lighting of the Advent candles.**

**Leader:** We are a people of hope, a people of peace, a people of love.

**People:** **Today we light the candle of love and we remember that God so loved the world that a Child was born to us! Emmanuel! God is with us!**

\*Lighting the Third Candle of Advent

\*Hymn of Praise ..... "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" ..... No. 240

*(Ushers will receive green prayer cards)*

\*Opening Prayer (In Unison)

**Lord of Love, we hear the promise of the coming of Jesus into the manger and into our hearts and homes. Bless our Advent waiting; fill our worship with anticipation of your love as we join the chorus of angels long ago who sang, "Glory to the newborn King!" 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 ..... Ukrainian Bell Carol ..... Handbells

\*The Gospel ..... Matthew 2:1-12 ..... CEB Page 733

Sermon ..... "What Makes the Wise Men Wise?" ..... Pastor Keller

Anthem ..... "A Cradle Waits" ..... Sounds of Worship Choir

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

The Offering

Offertory

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

\*Offering Prayer

### Sending Forth

\*Hymn ..... "We Three Kings" ..... No. 254

\*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 are focusing on *serve* as we help in the children's department

## ☪ 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](mailto: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: Now is the Advent of the long-awaited Messiah, our bringer of hope, our Prince of Peace, our leader of love.

People: **We celebrate the coming of Christ with the lighting of the Advent candles.**

Leader: We are a people of hope, a people of peace, a people of love.

People: **Today we light the candle of love and we remember that God so loved the world that a Child was born to us! Emmanuel! God is with us!**

\*Lighting the Third Candle of Advent

\*Opening Prayer (In Unison)

**Lord of Love, we hear the promise of the coming of Jesus into the manger and into our hearts and homes. Bless our Advent waiting; fill our worship with anticipation of your love as we join the chorus of angels long ago who sang, "Glory to the newborn King!" Amen.**

\*Praise and Worship

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"  
"Love Came Down to Bethlehem"

## Proclamation and Response

Children's Story ..... Lisa Aronson, Youth Pastor

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

Anthem..... "With Open Hearts, We Are Waiting" ..... Sanctuary Choir

\*The Gospel ..... Matthew 2:1-12..... CEB Page 733

Sermon..... "What Makes the Wise Men Wise?" ..... Pastor Keller

Worship Song ..... "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Prayer

The Offering

## Sending Forth

\*Closing Song ..... "Joy to the World"

\*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 16, 2018**

**The Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Chilton, placed by The Chilton family.

**The Christmas cactus** is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara Shover, placed by Evenly Fennell.

## 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](http://training.precept.org) or contact Juanita Guise with questions at [kguise@comcast.net](mailto:kguise@comcast.net).

## Praying Follower

**Love & sympathy** to Jill Strumsky, Rhonda Neidig and Vignon Smeigh upon the death of their sister, Tammy Smith, on December 6th.

**Hospitalized:** Ron Burgard, David Coover, Dave Leinhos

**Special Circumstances:** Tom Mullikin is at Messiah Lifeways

**Recovering at home:**

## Passionate Worshipper

Join us for our next **Rejoicing Spirits** service next Sunday, December 23 at 4:00 pm. Fellowship with other Rejoicers in the multipurpose room following the service.

## Dedicated Missionary

**Christmas Caroling 5:30 pm tonight!** Come, be a missionary as we reach out to many of our neighbors and shut-ins, bringing them the carols of the season! We meet at 5:30 in the 'Hardwood Café', right past the library. We will return to the church for hot chocolate and fellowship.

**Mission Opportunity:** FUMC grocery bagging for Bethesda Mission Outreach at Mission Central on Wednesday, December 19 at 6 pm. Contact Eric King, 697-0933 or at eeking@verizon.net for information.

**Help feed the sheep with Isaiah 61 Ministries** - Wednesday, December 19th at 6 pm. Contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com for more information.

### Relationship Builder

**Senior Adult Fellowship** meets Tuesday, December 18, 1-3 pm. All senior members are invited to enjoy a casual time of fellowship and light refreshments in the 'Hardwood Café' just beyond the church library. Mechanicsburg resident, John Maietta, will present "Joy to the World! The Stories behind our Favorite Christmas Carols."

**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.

### Generous Giver

**A big thank you** to everyone who donated a gift to the Neighborhood Center family. These gifts will make their Christmas special.

**Little Friends Preschool:** Soup delivery is Tuesday, December 18th after 11 am. Thank you!

Think 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.

## **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 23<sup>rd</sup>! Have a beautiful and blessed Christmas with your family!

**2018 Christmas Ornaments-** They are available in the Narthex, make sure to get yours today!

## **YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Stay connected as fall begins!** 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).

**Caroling Tonight** - 4G will join others in the church at 5:30 in the Hardwood Cafe (green chair section) to go and sing to our homebound members. (Pick up is by 8:00).

**Monday Night Football Gathering:** Want to connect with fellow youth for a casual weekly small group? Meets at various locations to watch the game and share in a time of devotion. This week: 8-10 at Mark and Cheryl Mengle's house.

**Zeteo:** Interested in attending this high school winter conference? Check with Lisa to assure there is still hotel availability.

**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.

**Dates to Keep in Mind:** Zeteo (February 1-3), Mission Trip (June 30-July 6)

## Special Session of Charge Conference

Rev. Barry Robison, Harrisburg District Superintendent, has granted permission for a special session of charge conference to be held during the Administrative Board meeting on Monday, December 17 at 7 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on a recommendation from the Endowment Fund Committee to streamline its process for responding to requests for grants from the fund. Members of the Administrative Board, together with retired ordained clergy who hold their membership at First Church, Mechanicsburg, are eligible to vote at this meeting."

## Advent & Christmas Services and Event Schedule

### **December 16 - 3rd Sunday in Advent**

Worship 8:15 am & 10:45 am

Christmas Caroling 5:30 pm

### **December 20 (Thursday)**

Little Friend's Nursery School Christmas Program 9:15 am

### **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 51: Theme ~ *New Song***

## Daily Bible Readings

**December 17** *Starting Over*  
Psalm 33

**December 18** *Second Chances*  
Isaiah 55:6-9; Luke 15:11-32

**December 19** *Help in Burnout*  
Isaiah 40:25-31; 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

**December 20** *All Things New*  
2 Peter 3:1-14; Revelation 21:1-7

**December 21** *Life Song*  
Psalm 96:1-13

**December 22** *Relax & Reflect*

**December 23** *Worship*

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## **LEADING IN TODAY'S MORNING WORSHIP**

Preaching ..... Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller  
Worship Leader ..... Lisa Aronson  
Acolytes ..... Carlee Guyer (8:15); Katie McKenney (10:45)  
Organist ..... Frank Heberlig  
Sound & Media ..... Ken Rapp & Roger Walton

## **SERVING OUR CHILDREN DURING MORNING WORSHIP**

Sunday School Greeter ..... Sarah Jones  
Worship Greeter ..... Marilyn Knott (8:15); TBD (10:45)  
Crib/Toddlers: ..... Sarah Jones, TBD, Kevin Knott (8:15); Patti Herring, TBD (10:45)  
Wee Worship (10:45) ..... Kelley Levan, Jill Matolyak  
Kids Worship (10:45) ..... Dan Wertz, Jenell Paris

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## *This Week at First Church*

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 THIRD 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)

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 17**

- 9:00 am Little Friends Preschool (120/122/123/219/MP)
- 9:00 am Squares & Prayers Quilting Circle (FH)
- 9:15 am LFP Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 12:30 pm Little Friends Preschool (219/MP)
- 6:30 pm Al-Anon (223)
- 6:30 pm Monday Night Basketball (MP)
- 6:45 pm Administrative Board Meeting (FH)
- 7:00 pm Al-Anon (216)
- 7:00 pm Moms in Prayer (Prayer Room)
- 7:15 pm West Shore Symphony Orchestra (Sanctuary Auditorium)

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18**

- 9:00 am Little Friends Preschool (120/122/123/219/MP)
- 9:15 am LFP Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:20 am Staff Meeting (207)
- 12:30 pm Little Friends Preschool (219)
- 1:00 pm Zumba Gold (MP)
- 2:15 pm Little Friends Preschool (MP)

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19**

- 9:00 am Little Friends Preschool (120/122/123/219/MP)
- 9:15 am LFP Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Covered In Love (FH Café)
- 12:30 pm Little Friends Preschool (219/MP)
- 6:00 pm Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Adult SS Room)
- 7:00 pm Handbells (Music Room)
- 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (FH)
- 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Loft)

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20**

- 9:00 am Little Friends Preschool (120/122/123/219/MP)
- 9:15 am LFP Christmas Program (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 am LFP Teacher Luncheon
- 12:30 pm Little Friends Preschool (219)
- 1:00 pm Zumba Gold (MP)
- 2:15 pm Little Friends Preschool (MP)
- 3:00 pm Studio 1 Percussion (Sanctuary Auditorium)
- 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (FH)
- 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm Guitar Lessons (123)
- 6:30 pm Knit @ Nite (Tower Meeting Room)
- 7:00 pm Sounds of Worship Rehearsal (Choir Loft)

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21**

- 9:00 am Little Friends Preschool (120/122/123/219/MP)
- 12:00 pm Al-Anon (216)
- 12:00 pm Church Office closes
- 12:30 pm Little Friends Preschool (219/MP)

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22**

No events scheduled at this time.

### **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)

## **Ministry Staff**

### **Pastor:**

Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller  
717-766-4611, x103  
pastordenny@fumchurch.com

### **Assistant to the Pastor:**

Rev. John Shellenberger  
717-766-4611, x117  
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### **Director of Discipleship:**

Tina Eaton  
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### **Director of Congregational Care Ministry:**

Janice Bowen  
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### **Outreach Director:**

Lori Hoffnagle  
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### **Youth Pastor:**

Lisa Aronson  
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uthrock@fumchurch.com

### **Co-Director of Children's Ministry:**

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### **Co-Director of Children's Ministry:**

Anna Harris  
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### **Office Manager/Finance Secretary:**

Kristin Brown  
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office@fumchurch.com

### **Facilities Coordinator/Custodian:**

Tom Ziegler  
717-766-4611, x105  
facilities@fumchurch.com

### **Custodians\*:**

George Canonizado, Matt Miller  
717-766-4611, x109  
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### **Director of Finance:**

Nancy Robinson  
717-766-4611, x115  
nrobinson@fumchurch.com

### **Sanctuary Choir Director:**

Allison Ometz  
ometz@msn.com

### **Sounds of Worship Director:**

Flossie Ryder  
florenceryder@yahoo.com

### **Director of Bell & Chime Choirs:**

Kathie Bittenbender  
rbittenben@verizon.net

### **Praise Team Co-Directors:**

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

### **Organists/Accompanists:**

Frank Heberlig  
Karen Philp

### **Director of Little Friends Preschool:**

Maria Petrilak  
717-766-4611 x111  
lfns@fumchurch.com

### **Director of Juniper Tree Counseling Center:**

Glenn Covert  
717-599-2192