



# First News First

August 2019

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

**From Pastor Denny...**

## **"The Conspiracy of Kindness"**

<sup>33</sup> *He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."*

There's a conspiracy of kindness happening in the Body of Christ these days. It's an underground movement gaining momentum throughout America.

The title of this article is taken from the book written by Steve Sjogren. Years ago, Steve started a congregation outside Cincinnati, Ohio with only a handful of people. They started something called "Servant Evangelism" in which they continually performed acts of kindness to people in their community. They never took any money for these good deeds. Today, over 4,000 people attend the church that started this conspiracy of kindness.

As one of your pastors, I'm blessed to witness your acts of kindness on a daily basis. All summer long, you have been involved in the kindness revolution! Let me give just a few examples:

- You've extended warm hospitality to everyone on Sunday mornings in worship and in Sunday School classes.
- You've blessed 150+ children during a joy-filled week of Vacation Bible School.
- You've served in our conference camping program, helping children and youth experience Christ in a loving Christian community.
- In our church and community, you've blessed veterans with quilts, served in Backyard Missions, gleaned corn with Project SHARE, bagged groceries at Mission Central, served meals in Harrisburg with Isaiah 61, supported New Hope Ministries, joined other downtown churches to provide a community dinner for 100+ neighbors and much, much more.
- Farther away, you've helped neighbors in Clearfield County, PA, Conway, SC, and other communities, serving with your hands and your hearts.
- Even when it was not possible for you to be "hands-on" in a mission project, you've joined in the conspiracy of kindness with your prayer support and your generous giving.

In many ways, you've shown kindness in and through your life together this summer. You've also demonstrated love with your family, friends, and even strangers. Often kindness transforms lives in unseen ways. It's like the pinch of yeast the woman in Jesus' parable hid in a large measure of flour. Every demonstration of love in Jesus' name makes a difference, whether we realize it at the moment or not.

How about you? Why has God put you where you are right now? How can you demonstrate the love that God has so freely given to you in Jesus Christ? There is a conspiracy of kindness happening in the Body of Christ! Will you be part of it?

Pastor Denny

## ***From Pastor John:***

### **Endowment Committee**

I moved from Carlisle to Grace Lemoyne in 2012. Pastor Denny was my DS at the time. There are many things that happen in a new church, when I arrived at Grace I was told that the organ would be used for two weeks and then go under repair for 8 months. It was a beautiful instrument but it needed some work and you should see it and hear it now. I was in a Trustee meeting one time, when someone from a Suzuki violin class came rushing in and told us that there was water coming into the third floor ceiling. We knew that we were in the midst of a renovation/replacement of that part of the church roof. But we thought that we were replacing the roof so it would not leak, not creating a watertight pond that filled up and then splashed over the rim and created a waterfall from the third floor to the basement. Then there was the time when the sound system just did not work like it used to work. On occasion the conversation of truckers on 81 would interrupt prayer time or while serving communion or even during the sermon. These may have been interesting conversations but they really didn't belong in the worship service. Lastly, there was the time when a couple desired to help young people afford to go into nursing school or other higher education field. This couple had not been able to have any children themselves. This couple had watched many children grow up in their beloved church. This couple, upon the cancer caused death of the wife who had been a nurse, wanted her legacy to continue long after her death.

So you may be asking what do all of these different situations have in common. The answer is simple. They all surround an endowment fund. Each of the projects, each of the legacies, each of them were motivations that included funding through an Endowment Fund.

I have had the privilege as pastor to see many church members express their stewardship and faithfulness through support of Endowment Funding. Some have given a little and some have given much. Some have supported through cash giving. Others have given through estates, property, jewels, stocks and bonds. The funding has been very diverse. But it was through this type of giving that great things were accomplished.

I invite you to contact the endowment committee of First Church and discuss ways in which you might express your stewardship to Jesus Christ. Just maybe your gifting will provide music for ages, a dry place for ministry, support of those who have hearing difficulties. Or just maybe you will be laying in a hospital bed and the attending nurse who is giving such compassionate care is there because they were supported in their education through an endowment gift. You will never be able to predict all that God will do through your generosity and commitment.

## ***Lifelong Learner***



### **Summer Sunday School – Combined Youth and Adult**

Our combined summer Sunday School class will continue through September 1 in the multipurpose room from 9:30 – 10:30 am. All are invited to join us for "**Gospel Shaped Living**". Each Sunday we will look at a specific attribute from scripture that answers the question, "what is the church?", then we will discuss some of the ways that First Church is living this out every day! Come to hear from special speakers who are engaged in the mission of the church near and far. Together we will celebrate and discover new ways to effectively engage in our world, opening doors so that ALL people have access to and relationship with Jesus Christ!

### **Summer Bible Reading Plan and Study**

Stay focused on God's Word this summer using our **daily Bible reading plan** – this plan has been specifically designed to go along with the sermons, so it will add depth to your knowledge and relationship with God. You can pick up the Bible reading plan brochure at the Welcome Center display – while you're at it, pick up a **study & prayer journal** at the display and try journaling your thoughts as you read this summer!

**Need a Bible?** You can pick one up with the reading plan and journal at the display. Large-print Bibles are also available.

## Summer Book Club

A story is always better if you have someone to share it with, and who doesn't enjoy reading a good book in the summer? If you are a book lover, pick up a copy of "Life is Good" by Bert and John Jacobs, then come to relax and discuss at the Eaton home on Monday, August 5 at 7:00 pm. Life is not easy. Life is not perfect, but life is good. Find out why these brothers, who founded the "Life is Good" clothing company, have made it their *mission to spread the power of optimism through values like simplicity, humor, compassion and gratitude*.

## From the Library

I can't believe I am writing the August newsletter. Summer is rushing by too fast! After I write this, I am going to the back porch with a good book and savor summer moments—Hey Ron, what's for dinner?

If you know me, you know I love a good mystery. Kathy Herman caught my eye by having her complete **Ozark Mountain Trilogy** published at the same time. No waiting between her suspenseful books. Ms. Herman starts the series with *Not by Sight*. Five years earlier, Abby Cumming's sister and father vanished without a trace while they were out fishing. Now Abby spots a person she truly believes is her sister while she is out shopping. But neither her mother nor her older brother will believe her. She turns to her best friend J. D. and he agrees to help her investigate. But can two sixteen year-olds really crack this cold case? In *Only by Death* Ms. Herman explores the ravages Alzheimer's can have on a family. Liam Beme cannot bear the thought of his mother spending her last years in a nursing home in the grip of Alzheimer's. So he takes her to the river and drowns her. And getting his inheritance early has been a good thing for him. But did he commit the murder out of mercy or for his own gain? Then he discovers there is a witness or maybe two. Must he now commit murder again to cover up what happened to his mother? The final book in the trilogy, *Treacherous Mix* addresses the issue of premarital sex. Hawke Cummings wakes up from a nightmare to realize his lover is gone. Really gone—her house has not one stick of furniture, picture or any sign that anyone ever lived there. Not wanting to admit he even knows Kennedy, he decides not to notify the sheriff she is missing. Soon he realizes that someone else in town knows his secret, and he begins to fear for his life as well as Kennedy's life. This trilogy was rated high for suspense, so keep all the lights on and read while the lightning bugs light up the night sky.

For all of you who love a good romance, new author Carla Laureano's *Five Days in Skye* might be a perfect beach read for you. Set in Scotland on the Isle of Skye, Andrea Sullivan is trying to snag a high profile client for her hospitality consultant job, but she only has five days to accomplish her mission. Andrea is realizing that she is working so hard that there is no joy in her life. Her client, James MacDonald, is also weary with his life in the public eye. He longs to leave the rat race to the rats. And like all good romances when two people want a different life come together, sparks begin to fly. They wonder if this is God's wake up call to take a chance on each other and a deeper life. I won't spoil the story. I just invite you to read and escape in this romantic but soul deep read!

If neither of these books interests you, stop by as there are many genres to choose from and a volunteer to help you find just the right book!!

DON'T forget the library book sale August 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be wonderful bargains on gently used books, puzzles, cds, and dvds. Library discards are priced at a quarter a piece. You can't beat that anywhere! Along with the book sale is the youth yard sale, the UMW bake sale (double yum!), and the yard sale in the parking lot with private sellers! There are many treasures to be found. You won't want to miss it.

See you in the library!

Pam and Donna

## LITTLE FRIENDS PRESCHOOL UPDATE

It's almost back to school time at Little Friends Preschool! We are so excited to begin another school year on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> with all of our little friends from age 18-Months through 5-Years-Old! Little Friends Preschool offers the children in our community a wonderful resource for quality early childhood education in a supportive, Christian environment. And we feel blessed to be a mission of First United Methodist Church!

Classes meet from 9am-11:30am, September through May. We currently have openings in several of our classes:

- 18-Month (1 opening, Tuesday/Thursday Class)
- 2-Year-Old (5 openings, Monday/Wednesday Class)
- 3-Year-Old (6 openings, Monday/Tues/Thurs Classes)
- 3-Year-Old (5 openings, Wednesday/Friday Class)
- 4-Year-Old (1 opening)
- Morning Pre-K (1 opening)
- Afternoon Pre-K – 12:30-3pm (10 openings)



Please tell your friends, families and neighbors about our wonderful little school that's here at FUMC! Our teachers are CPR & First Aid Certified, complete Mandatory Reporter & Active Intruder Training, and we all just love teaching children!

We are also beginning to gather donations for our Annual Silent Auction, which will be held Saturday, November 2, 2019. If you have anything you could donate to the auction, please contact Patti Herring or Janet Almond. Thank you!!!

## *Praying Follower*



### **Prayer Walking**

Summer is a great time to take a break from the busy-ness of life and catch your breath. Summer is also a great time to be outside and get to know your neighbors. This summer everyone is invited to try prayer walking as a way to focus on listening for the voice of God as you walk in order to discern His desires for you and for the neighborhood in which you have been placed.

Try walking in the neighborhood where you live AND try walking in the neighborhood surrounding First Church. You'll be surprised what you see and hear as you intentionally open your hearts, minds, eyes and ears to the needs around you. Once God places something on your heart, the next question will be, "how can I help to meet these needs?"

Pick up a Prayer Walking Guide at the Welcome Center or visit our website, [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) and search "prayer walk" to find the guide online. Have questions or want to provide feedback after your walks? Please contact Tina Eaton at 717-766-4611 or email her at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com).

## 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

	August 4	Loaves and Chalice
	September 1	Pew Service
World Communion	October 6	Loaves and Chalice
	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

### Late Summer/Early Fall Sermon Series - "Trusting God for Everything"

We live in uncertain times. Our worry about loved ones, jobs, the economy, our health and well-being often makes us afraid, but Psalm 23 offers us an understanding of how life with God can bring us joy, give us peace and restore our souls. Join us as we learn together how to live in the kingdom of God every moment here and now.

**August 18 "Does God Really Provide Everything I Need?"** Psalm 23:1, Ezekiel 34:11-12

We can live with confidence when we live in the kingdom with our Shepherd.

**August 25 "Trusting God for Soul Restoration"** Psalm 23:2-3

Our souls are nurtured, protected, and deeply satisfied with God's companionship.

**Sept. 1 "Trusting God to Lead"** Psalm 23:3

As we learn to follow the Shepherd, we experience God's goodness in a way that makes us want to follow closely.

**Sept. 8 "Trusting God in the Deep Valleys"** Psalm 23:4

We don't have to be afraid and we can face our fears when we walk beside our Shepherd.

**Sept. 15 "Trusting That God is with Me"** Psalm 23:4

God's nature is to be with us, and He provides protection and guidance for us along the way.

**Sept. 22 "Trusting God with Those who Oppose Me"** Psalm 23:5

With God, we can sit in perfect peace in difficult circumstances.

**Sept. 29 "A Life of Settled Trust in God"** Psalm 23:6

What does life look like for those who trust God for everything?

## Dedicated Missionary



The Missions Committee invites you to join in mission work! Next Missions Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10 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).

### Monthly Mission Opportunities:

**Grocery Bagging for Bethesda Mission**— On the third Wednesday evening of every month members of First United Methodist Church gather at Mission Central to bag groceries for Bethesda Mission. All are invited to join and be a part of this mission opportunity. Join us at Mission Central on August 21 at 6 pm. Contact Eric King at [eeking@verizon.net](mailto:eeking@verizon.net) for more information.

**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, August 21 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).

### United Methodist Home for Children Update

The United Methodist Home for Children, a Board of Child Care program, is excited to announce the merger of their two organizations! This partnership will enable UMHC to leverage BCC's deep expertise while continuing UMHC's rich 102-year legacy of providing exceptional care to young people and their families in Central PA. The two organizations are excellent partners due to their shared United Methodist history, traditions, core values and methodology for delivering services. For more information on their shared history, visit the BCC website at [boardofchildcare.org/shared/history/](http://boardofchildcare.org/shared/history/).

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

This past month 4,775 "pennies" (\$47.75) 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!!**

### Mission Opportunity for Young Adults

The Global Mission Fellows Program is a 2-year mission opportunity for young adults ages 20-30. Young adults are invited to engage with the local communities, connect the church in mission, and grow in personal and social holiness. This program allows for transformation and leadership development to take place while addressing root causes of social injustices with other young people from around the world.

To learn more about the Global Mission Fellows program, visit their website at: <https://www.umcmmission.org/Get-Involved/Generation-Transformation/GMF>.

## Relationship Builder



### Take Me Out To The Ballgame - Sunday August 25!

The Fellowship Committee invites you to FNB Field to see the Harrisburg Senators! Buffet-style picnic starts at noon. Game starts at 1:00 pm. Discounted tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children ages 4-12. Sign up in the notebook at the Welcome Desk or contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com). **Must register and pay by August 4!**

### **Extravagant hospitality ~ what is that?**

Our opportunities to show extravagant hospitality continue in August! The FUMC Yard Sale/Book Sale/Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, August 17! This is a great time to pay attention to our guests' needs .... even little things, to show that we care about them! This will truly leave a lasting impression. Our goal in doing this is not to draw attention to ourselves, but to Christ!

### **August Food Trucks Announced**

The Third Friday Food Trucks are here again on Friday, August 16 from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. The trucks scheduled for June are: Soul Burrito, Up in Smoke, Marsico's Italian, Artisan Pizza, Potato Coop, Smoothie King, and Sweet Spot. The Food Trucks are a great outreach to the community. Please stop in to take this opportunity to get to know our neighbors and enjoy great food! We can always use help with setting up tables and chairs, clean up and parking lot attendants. If you would like to help in any way, contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

### **Free Movie at Mt. Olivet UM Church, August 23**

Join us at Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church, 5000 Simpson Ferry Road, on Friday, **August 23** for a Free Movie Night! Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at 7:00 p.m. Movie will be announced later this month. Tables and chairs will be provided, but you can bring your own blankets and pillows for additional comfort. Snacks, drinks and popcorn will also be provided.

### **Community Dinner on the Lawn Update**

First Church, along with other Mechanicsburg area churches hosted a free Community Dinner on the Lawn on Sunday, July 14 at 5:00 p.m. at First Church of God on the square in Mechanicsburg. The dinner was a collaborative event to bless the downtown community with a meal, music and games, free of charge. The concept comes from the book 'Welcome to Dinner, Church,' which encourages churches to share a meal with their neighbors. We were blessed to serve close to 100 of our neighbors and friends in the downtown Mechanicsburg area. Many of those in attendance were thankful for the free meal, but also for the opportunity to enjoy each other's company and for us to show the love of Christ. First Church also debuted the *Hope Blooms* ministry by providing fresh cut flowers in beautiful vases to those in attendance. The flowers were very much appreciated. With the enormous success of this first event, we will be planning more in the future. Watch for details and how you can get involved. If you would like to be a part of this event in any way, please contact Lori Hoffnagle, director of outreach at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

### **Community Day in the Park, August 10**

First Church will once again partner with the Mechanicsburg Borough and community churches for the fourth annual Community Day in the Park, Saturday, August 10 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park. The event features children's activities, bounce houses, free admission to the pool, food trucks, Washington Fire Company Chicken BBQ, vendors and much more! First Church is one of the sponsors of Community Day. Come out for a fun day in the park and meet our neighbors! Questions about Community Day or if you want to be a vendor, contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com) or visit the Mechanicsburg Borough website at [mechanicsburgborough.org](http://mechanicsburgborough.org).

### **Broad Street Community Meal**

The next Caring and Cooking for our Broad Street Community will be held on Thursday, September 19. First Church, along with several local churches provide a meal, free of charge, to the families of Broad Street Elementary School. Please keep this event in prayer and if you would want to provide any of the food items or help with the meal, contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com). Thanks for your support!

### Squares and Prayers

Squares and Prayers, FUMC's quilt circle, would like to thank the congregation, along with the Veterans, for the warm reception of our quilts, including your thank you notes and donations. We are currently on summer break with plans to resume meeting weekly on Mondays @ 9 am beginning September 9th. Everyone is welcome to join the circle! We are always in need of people to cut fabric, sew (hand or machine), tie knots, or simply to enjoy the fellowship of the group! In the meantime, Quilt Kits are located near the door to the multi-purpose room for anyone who desires to complete a kit at home.

### Senior Fellowship: Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> 1-3 p.m.

All older adults are invited to come for a casual time of fellowship and light refreshments in the Sanctuary Gathering space. We will hear from some of our own missionaries about their recent Mission Trip experiences! Please contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611 x112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) for more information.

### Zucchini Bake! August 24<sup>th</sup> - 9 a.m.

The Care Team invites you to the church kitchen on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> to bake zucchini bread for sharing! (Zucchini donations are welcome mid-August for this event – please look for the basket near the ‘Tower Entrance’ off the parking lot.) Questions? Ask Janice Bowen - [WeCare@fumchurch.com](mailto:WeCare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112

### Sounds of Worship Choir

Welcome to our new season of “singing”! If you have ever thought you would like to be a part of a group of Christian singers — join the Sounds of Worship Choir (8:15am service)! The choir loft can definitely hold more people! We need all parts, no auditions just happy attitudes and a willingness to serve our Lord faithfully! We meet in the Music Room (off of the Fellowship Hall) every Thursday from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. The first rehearsal is August 29 at 7:00pm and the first time we sing will be September 8 at 8:15am. Contact Flossie Ryder at 717-766-0811 with any questions.

### Generous Giver



### FINANCIAL REPORT Through June 30, 2019 50 % of year

General Fund 2019 budget	\$ 970,000
Actual income	\$ 468,012
Projected income	\$ 485,000
Actual expenses	\$ 440,748

During the vacation season, 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.

### Scholarship Awards

The Board of Trustees has granted 2019-2020 scholarships from the Zimmerman Youth Scholarship Fund to eleven of our students pursuing post-secondary education. This year’s awardees include Graham Bowen (West Chester), Angelica Brill (Penn State), Matthew Canonizado (Gettysburg), Joshua/Kyle/Ryan Eaton (Lebanon Valley), Kylee Fisher (Bloomsburg), Kalie Nuss (Liberty), Ethan Spencer (Penn State), Kendyl Swank (Bloomsburg), and Abigail Wertz (Messiah). While we are limited in the amount of financial support we can provide to these students, there is no limit to the prayer and Christian love we can offer them as they continue to mature in their Christian life and work hard to complete this next step in their life’s journey.

The Board of Trustees has also granted a 2019-2020 scholarship from the Christian Education Fund to our Youth Pastor Lisa Aronson as she continues her studies towards a Master of Divinity degree from Evangelical Seminary.

Congratulations to all of our scholarship awardees and best wishes for an outstanding academic year!

### Tax Advantaged Ways to Gift to First United Methodist Church

1. If you are over 70 1/2 and have to take a Required Minimum Distribution from an IRA AND are gifting money from your checking account, you may be able to save money on federal income taxes using the Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) rule.
2. If you have stocks with big gains and plan to sell them to gift to the church, you may be able to save on federal income taxes by gifting the shares instead.

If you're not sure how to do this and have questions contact Ken Rapp at (717) 364-7840.



### Mission Central 5K Race, Walk; Walk the Warehouse; One Mile Fun Run!

Save the Date for the Mission Central 5K on Saturday, October 26, starting at 9:00 a.m. This annual event raises much needed funds and awareness for Mission Central, located at 55 Pleasant View Drive, Mechanicsburg. New this year, you can walk inside the warehouse and learn more about Mission Central! This event is professionally timed and prizes will be awarded to top runners! For more information and registration, visit the website here: <https://missioncentral.org/events/>.

### Share the Harvest

We once again invite you to *share the harvest* with others this summer! If you have extra flowers, fruits or vegetables to share, bring them to the coffee prep area (right hand turn at the end of the Main Entrance hallway) anytime this summer. If you don't have access to a garden, feel free to help yourself or share with a friend! Plastic bags are available for you to use. If you have questions, contact Janice Bowen at [WeCare@fumchurch.com](mailto:WeCare@fumchurch.com) or 766-4611 x112.



### Hope Blooms



**Hope Blooms!** Take a stroll on the Frederick Street side of First Church to see our flower cutting garden! With God's sunshine and rain, we are growing flowers to share in small bunches with notes of encouragement as an outreach ministry! Questions or to be involved, please contact Janice Bowen at [WeCare@fumchurch.com](mailto:WeCare@fumchurch.com) or 766-4611 x112.

"Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you're in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer." ~ Romans 12:12

# 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

Karin McHale ~ karinmch@comcast.net

### LADIES' OVER 80 TEA

Janice Bowen ~ wecare@fumchurch.com

### September 18

### MOMS IN PRAYER

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

### MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Summer Outings:

August 16 (Splash Park & Food Truck Meet Up)

September 27 (9:15am; First Meeting)

Tina Eaton ~ adultministry@fumchurch.com

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

Patti Herring ~ familyzeke@verizon.net

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

Happening again in the Fall

## Upcoming Events:

**August 17:** Get Ready to Shop! August 17 is the annual UMW Yard, Book, Bake Sale and there will be a wide variety of sellers. The church library will be holding their fantastic books sale, featuring gently used books, puzzles, cds and dvds for all ages. The church youth will be selling household treasures for young and old. The church handbells will be serving up tasty treats for breakfast and hot-off-the grill sandwiches for lunch. Private sellers will have a wide array of treasures. And last but not least the best bakers in the church will fill the UMW sale table with sweets you won't want to miss. The fun starts at 8:00 am and runs until noon. Proceeds benefit women and children and our Youth Mission Trips! We will be collecting donated items to sell, which can be dropped off in Room 105 starting August 12. Any questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com or Donna Nichols at djnichols43@hotmail.com.

### School Kit Collection

The United Methodist Women will once again be handing out **free school supplies** to children who attend the Annual Yard, Book and Bale Sale on Saturday, August 17. We will be collecting the following during the month of August: Crayons, Blunt Scissors, Pencils, Erasers and Glue Sticks. Look for the collection bin outside the multipurpose room. We plan to hand out 100 school kits! Questions or if you have school supplies now, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com. Thank you!

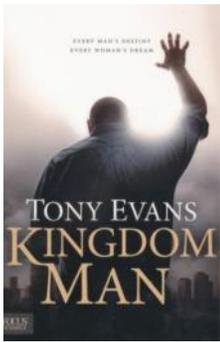
**November 24:** World Thank Offering and Mission Meal

**December 14:** Marketplace of Miracles and Cookie Walk, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Women's Retreat:** February 7 to 9, 2020, Mt. Asbury Retreat Center

### Who is My Neighbor, Christianity & Immigration

This Social Justice Seminar will be held on Saturday October 5 at Aldersgate UMC, 109 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Mifflintown from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. How has God called us to build hospitable communities of radical welcome for all people? And what does that mean for us here and now? Join our guest speaker Jay Godfrey, Executive for Faith & Social Justice Education from United Methodist Women who will lead us in an exploration of who is our neighbor. Cost \$20/person includes lunch. To register, contact the church office at [aumcmifflintown@gmail.com](mailto:aumcmifflintown@gmail.com) or 717.436.6750 or visit the website at: <https://www.aumcmifflintown.org/events/who-is-my-neighbor-a-social-justice-seminar>.



### Men's Small Group Video Series

The men will continue watching and discussing the video series, "Kingdom Man" by Dr. Tony Evans. In this six-session group Bible study, pastor and author Tony Evans challenges men to recognize and claim the standard of greatness that God has set forth in His Word. We will learn what it means to be a kingdom man who accepts responsibility for his domain of influence. Step up and claim your destiny as God's Kingdom Man. The August meetings (8/7 and 8/21) will be held at the Eaton home from 8-9:30pm, and the series will continue on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Contact Barry Eaton ([theaton5@verizon.net](mailto:theaton5@verizon.net)) or John Bowen ([bowenhome720@gmail.com](mailto:bowenhome720@gmail.com)) if you have questions or would like more information.

### 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, August 3 at 7:30 am. Hope to see you there!

### Men's Group Activities

The men of First UM Church have been active this summer! In June, 8 men met in Lemoyne for an Escape Room adventure. Thanks to their high intellect and fabulous teamwork they were able to avoid getting stuck in the 80's forever, escaping from the room with just 15 seconds to spare! That left time for ice cream! It was a fun time of working together and getting to know one another a little better. In July, a total of 25 people attended a Phillies game together. It was hot and sunny, a beautiful day to watch the Phillies lose a lead in the 9th inning only to score 5 runs in the bottom of the 9th and pull out an exciting victory over the Mets!



### 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)

### Men's Retreat - Save the Date!

We have reserved Wesley Forest for the annual men's winter retreat. Dates are March 6-8, 2020.

## Church News and Notes



### Thank you...

*THANK YOU to everyone who's prayed over and welcomed me to the FUMC family over the past few weeks! I have loved getting to know folks, and you all radiate Christ in everything you do. I can hardly wait for where God leads us all in this journey!*

*Your sister in Christ,  
Sarah Pugh*

### Special Birthdays

Martin Coover.....	August 1	Victor Norris.....	August 29
Ivan Otstot.....	August 1	Emma Whitcomb .....	September 8
Grace Koser.....	August 2	Patricia Sheely .....	September 11
Jane Heller.....	August 3	Kenneth Nelson.....	September 13
Helen Kelly.....	August 10	George Reh fuss.....	September 16
Pauline Trace.....	August 12	George Carpenter.....	September 18
Bonnie Jeona.....	August 17	Joan Stokes .....	September 19
Gerald Sheely.....	August 18	Ralph Harkins .....	September 25
Kay Coldren.....	August 25	Peggy Shenberger .....	September 28
Joan Barth.....	August 27		

### Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Thomas and Jeanne Mullikin married 53 years on August 6
- ♥ Fred & Doris Junkins married 53 years on August 9
- ♥ John & Dolores Shell married 65 years on August 15
- ♥ Harry & Joyce Woods married 66 years on August 23
- ♥ Gerald & Patricia Sheely married 61 years on August 24
- ♥ Robert & Judith Wertz married 56 years on September 1
- ♥ Edwin & Virginia Johnson married 55 years on September 3
- ♥ Darrell & Barbara Sill married 52 years on September 16
- ♥ George & Mary Beth Snoke married 53 years on September 24
- ♥ Richard & Marley Ann Schmick married 55 years on September 26
- ♥ J. Paul & Lorraine Strock married 66 years on September 27

**FIRST NEWS FIRST**

**Editor:** Ellen Hill

The **deadline** for submitting articles  
for the **September** issue is  
**August 15**

**Early submissions always  
appreciated!**