

*Welcome to*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

*December 15, 2019*



***“Make the Blessing Known: Unabashed Joy”***

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 (paggers 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."*

~ I Corinthians 3:11

### Prelude

Mary Did You Know?

Caleb Flick

Arr. Mark Lowry

### Gathering and Praise

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Good news! The Holy One, God Almighty, claims us as God's very own.

**People: Rejoice in the Lord!**

Leader: Good news! The times of trouble are nearly over.

**People: Rejoice in the Lord, always!**

Leader: Good news! God is in our midst, ready to renew us with holy love.

**People: Rejoice in the Lord, always! Again we say rejoice!**



## 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

### ☪ Adult Sunday School ☪

**Walk-in visitors and new class members are always welcome!**

- **GROWING IN CHRIST** (Room B004) - A class for people of all ages/stages of faith that engages in short-term studies intended to create fruitful conversation of Christian principles. Currently studying "Anxious for Nothing" by Max Lucado. This study focuses on Philippians 4:4-8, which contains an antidote for anxiety that will help you take control of your thoughts and rest in the peace of God. Contact Tina Eaton for more details.
- **FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE** (B006) - A class that focuses on fellowship and friendship. Class members share in leading reflections on Scripture and discussion of contemporary topics. Currently studying "Fresh Expressions: A New Kind of Methodist Church for People Not in Church". All are invited to join in this Bible study and conversation! Contact Jenell Paris for more details.
- **FAITHFUL FAMILIES** (Room B005) - 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. Contact Bob Wertz, Jr. for more details.
- **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP** (Room 223) - A multi-generational adult class that selects short-term studies which generate challenging discussion of Christian principles. Come join us as we study about Paul's mission trips to Athens and Corinth through the latest 5 part DVD series led by Ray Vander Laan, titled "Cultures in Conflict". Contact Mark or Nancy Rouch for more details.
- **HELPING HANDS CLASS** (Room 105) - A group of active seniors who focus on studies designed to provide 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. Contact Sue Chilton for more details.
- **GUYER CLASS** (Room 123) - A well-established group of elders in the church who study together using the United Methodist Quarterly Adult Bible Study lessons. Each lesson is focused on scripture, and encourages participants to live a faith-filled life. Contact John Nesbit for more details

*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) or call the church office at 717-766-4611.*



## CONVERGENT SERVICE ~ 10:45 AM

*Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways."*

### Gathering and Praise

Welcome

Call to Worship

\*Praise and Worship

"What a Beautiful Name"

"In Your Light"

Lighting of the Third Candle of Advent

Ometz Family

\*Praise and Worship

"Love Came Down"

\*Passing the Peace

*(Children are dismissed to Wee Worship and Kids Worship)*

### Proclamation and Response

\*Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35: 1-10 (CEB)

Luke 1: 46b - 55 (CEB)

Sermon

"Make the Blessing Known: Unabashed Joy"

Pastor Denny

Music Ministry

"Breath of Heaven"

Sarah Pugh

Prayers of the People

The Offering

### Sending Forth

\*Worship Song

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

\*Benediction

*\*As you feel led, please stand or be seated.*



# First News First

Weekly Edition

*Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors*

**December 15, 2019**

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Chilton and John Chilton placed by Sue & Jim Chilton.

## Lifelong Learner

**Bible Reading Plans** for Advent are available at the Welcome Center display. Pick yours up today! Need a bible? You can also pick one up at the display. Large-print versions are available.

**Advent studies** being offered - all are welcome to attend!

- **The Redemption of Scrooge** - based on the Charles Dickens story, "A Christmas Carol" this study explores the world of Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the Cratchits from a Christian faith perspective. Meets in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour.
- **Light of the World** - Biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, the Magi and more! Meets in room B006 during the Sunday School hour.
- **Let Heaven and Nature Sing** - Tuesday "Lunch & Learn" with Pastor John. Based on our Advent sermon series, come to study under the balcony in the sanctuary at 11 am, then enjoy a "dutch treat" lunch at noon. This is our last week to meet.

## Praying Follower

Is there someone you are praying for or haven't seen at church for a while? Is there someone in our church family celebrating a special anniversary or birthday? Someone you want to thank or someone who is sick? Visit the **new card carousel** at the Welcome Center display, pick out a card and send it off with your caring thoughts today!

## Passionate Worshipper

**Sermon Series for Advent - "Heaven and Nature Sing"** - a sermon series based on the beloved Christmas classic, "Joy to the World", which is turning 300 years old this year! Receiving Divine inspiration for these lyrics from Psalm 98, composer Isaac Watts calls us to sing a "new song" in celebration of the coming of the Lord into the world. Come to discover the depths of JOY we proclaim whenever we sing these ancient words!

TODAY	3rd Sunday of Advent	"Make the Blessing Known: Unabashed Joy"
December 22	4th Sunday of Advent	"Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy"
December 24	Christmas Eve	"The Lord is Come: Incarnate Joy"
December 29	1st Sunday after Christmas	"Wonders of His Love: Compassionate Joy"

**Christmas Caroling is TONIGHT at 5:30 pm.** Calling Christmas Carolers of all ages! Meet at the Hardwood Café and join us as we go out to share carols with members of our homebound community. No singing experience or talent necessary, just a desire to have fun and spread Christmas cheer! Treat yourself to cookies and hot cocoa around the Christmas tree upon your return to the church.

**FUMC Praise Ringers will be in concert** at the Fredricksen Library in Camp Hill TOMORROW, Monday, December 16, at 7 pm. This is our 14th annual concert which we share with a harpist. It's always a nice evening! Come early for a seat!

**LFPS** invites all church members to its annual **Christmas Concert** featuring the angelic voices of all the little children of our school, from age 18 months through age 5 years! Thursday, December 19th, 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Come support our Little Friends as they lift up their voices to praise God's name!

Join us for our **Rejoicing Spirits** service every 4th Sunday of the month at 4:00 pm. Fellowship with other Rejoicers in the multipurpose room following the service.

## Dedicated Missionary

### **Monthly Mission Opportunities:**

**FUMC grocery bagging** for Bethesda Mission Outreach at Mission Central on the third Wednesday each month at 6 pm. Contact Eric King with questions.

**Help feed the sheep with Isaiah 61 Ministries** also is the third Wednesday of the month at 6 pm. Contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com for more information.

## Relationship Builder

**Senior Members** are invited to enjoy a casual time of fellowship and light refreshments in the Hardwood Café, Tuesday, December 17th, 1-3 pm. Students from Northern Middle School's "Giving Choir" will join us for a festive celebration of music and Christmas carols! Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611 x112) or wecare@fumchurch.com for more information.

**Men's Group** will meet at the Wertz residence, 2201 Canterbury Drive, 8-9:30 pm, Wednesday, December 18th. All men are welcome. We will be continuing the Tony Evans video series on the "Breastplate of Righteousness". Questions, call or text Bob at 717-602-5655.

**Interested in connecting** with one of our college freshmen? Consider adopting a student for their college time. Contact Lynn Rapp at minion.youth17@gmail.com for more info.

**2020 Women's Retreat - February 7-9!!** "Becoming a Woman of Excellence" Join us for a weekend filled with fellowship, fun, food and faith! Registration form is available on the church website, in the church newsletter and at the narthex display. Early bird deadline is December 31. Regular deadline - January 19. Questions - Contact Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net.

## Generous Giver

**Giving Gift cards this Christmas?** Why not use our *Scrip* program? Order forms are in the coffee narthex. Last order date for Christmas is TODAY, December 15, with delivery the week after (December 22) in time for Christmas. When you purchase your gift cards through us, the church gets the profits - right now the Women's Retreat is benefiting from many of the purchases. Why stand in line at the store when we can get them for you?!

## **CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Family Christmas Eve Service-** Christmas Eve at 5:00pm. Join us for this very special service to hear the Christmas Story by the fire and under the stars.

**Night in Bethlehem** – THANK YOU to all Partner's In Ministry who helped make NIB 2019 a huge success! It would not be possible without each one of you!!

## **YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Stay connected!** We use Remind to send updates and reminders. Text @4gyo to 81010 to be added to the distribution text for "4G Information".

**Join us Sunday evenings for 4G!** 6th-12th graders are invited to meet in the youth lounge on Sunday evenings from 6:15-8:15 as we GATHER together to GAIN from the Bible as we GROW into more committed followers of Jesus and GIVE ourselves to His kingdom purposes.

**Tonight 4G will be Christmas Caroling.** Families are encouraged to join too and meet in the Hardwood Café (green chair section of the sanctuary) at 5:30.

**Monday Night Football:** meets from 8-10 at Mark and Cheryl Mengle's house on Monday nights.

**Confirmation Retreat #2** will be January 10th and 11th. Please fill out a permission form and turn it in by January 5th.

**Youth Led Worship:** Interested in participating in Youth Sunday happening January 26th? Go to [www.timetosignup.com/kidscount](http://www.timetosignup.com/kidscount) to share your interest in participating. Availability to rehearse is necessary.

**Zeteo:** Still interested in attending this winter high school conference Jan 30-Feb 2? The next deadline to register is December 22nd.

**Battleball T-shirt** design ideas due January 5th. Turn any ideas in to Lynn Rapp.

**Dates to Keep in Mind:** Spring Retreat (April 17-19) Impact (July 29-Aug 2)







## Advent & Christmas Services and Event Schedule

### **December 15 – 3rd Sunday in Advent**

Worship 8:15 am & 10:45 am

Christmas Caroling 5:30 pm

### **December 16**

Handbell and Harp Concert, 7 pm, Fredericksen Library in Camp Hill

### **December 19**

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

### **December 22 – 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 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.



## Weekly Bible Readings:

Week of December 16



Monday	Isaiah 7: 10-16
Tuesday	Psalm 80: 1-7
Wednesday	Psalm 80: 17-19
Thursday	Romans 1: 1-7
Friday	Matthew 1: 18-25
Saturday	Rest and Reflect
<b>Sunday</b>	<b><i>“Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy”</i></b>

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### LEADING IN TODAY’S MORNING WORSHIP

Preaching..... Rev. Dennis Keller  
Worship Leader..... Rev. John Shellenberger (8:15) Lisa Aronson (10:45)  
Acolytes..... TBD (8:15) Juliette Harris (10:45)  
Organist..... Caleb Flick  
Sound & Media ..... Bob Bittenbender and Fred Espenshade (8:15); Fred Espenshade and Elijah Ometz (10:45)

### SERVING OUR CHILDREN DURING MORNING WORSHIP

Greeter ..... Marilyn Knott (8:15); Brandy Zimmerman (10:45)  
Crib/Toddlers:..... Pam VanKirk, Kevin Knott (8:15); Patti Herring, TBD (10:45)  
Wee Worship (10:45)..... Kelly LeVan, Jill Matolyak  
Kids Worship (10:45) ..... Dan Wertz, Jenell Paris

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## *This Week at First Church*

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

- 8:15 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Various Sunday School Classes
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm WW Club Create/Art Show (Café)
- 5:30 pm Christmas Caroling (Hardwood Cafe)

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 16**

- 8:00 am LFPS
- 8:30 am LFPS Christmas Concert Rehearsal (Sanctuary/126)
- 9:00 am Squares and Prayers Quilting (FH)
- 11:30 am LFPS - Lunch Bunch (MP/120)
- 6:30 pm Monday Night Basketball (MP)
- 7:00 pm Handbell and Harp Concert (off-site)
- 6:45 pm Administrative Board Meeting (FH)
- 7:00 pm Moms in Prayer (Prayer Room)
- 7:00 pm Al-Anon (216)
- 7:00 pm West Shore Symphony Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 8:00 pm Youth Monday Night Football (Offsite)

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17**

- 8:00 am LFPS
- 8:30 am LFPS Christmas Concert Rehearsal (Sanctuary/126)
- 11:00 am Lunch & Learn Advent Study (café)
- 11:30 am LFPS - Lunch Bunch (MP/120/218)
- 1:00 pm Senior Fellowship (Hardwood Café)

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18**

- 8:00 am LFPS
- 8:30 am LFPS Christmas Concert Rehearsal (Sanctuary/126)
- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (207)
- 9:30 am Covered In Love (FH Café)
- 11:30 am LFPS Lunch Bunch (MP/120)
- 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (FH)
- 8:00 pm Men's Group (off-site)

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19**

- 8:00 am LFPS - Christmas Concert (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 am LFPS Lunch Bunch (MP/120)
- 1:00 pm Zumba Fitness (MP/B003)
- 2:30 pm Studio 1 Percussion (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm Guitar Lessons (123)
- 6:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 pm Sounds of Worship and Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary/B024)

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20**

- 8:00 am LFPS
- 12:00 pm Al-Anon (216)

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21**

There is nothing scheduled at this time.

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

- 8:15 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Various Sunday School Classes
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm Rejoicing Spirits (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 pm Youth Worship Practice (B024/ Sanctuary/Youth Lounge)
- 6:15 pm 4G Youth Group (Youth Lounge)



## **Ministry Staff**

### **Pastor:**

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

### **Associate Pastor:**

Rev. John Shellenberger  
717-766-4611, x117  
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### **Director of Worship Arts**

Sarah Pugh  
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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:**

Dawn Fisher  
717-766-4611, x118  
kidscount@fumchurch.com

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

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

Ellen Hill  
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### **Facilities Coordinator/Custodian:**

Tom Ziegler  
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### **Custodians:**

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

Nancy Robinson  
717-766-4611, x120  
nrobinson@fumchurch.com

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

Flossie Ryder  
florencewryder@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:**

Caleb Flick  
Karen Philp

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

Maria Petrilak  
717-796-0723  
lfns@fumchurch.com

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

Glenn Covert  
717-599-2192