

*Welcome to*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

*December 22, 2019*



***“Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful 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."*

~ 1 Corinthians 3:11

### Prelude

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

Caleb Flick

Arr. Helmut Valcha

### Gathering and Praise

Welcome

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:13 -15

\*Opening Hymn

Angels From the Realms of Glory

No. 220

*(Ushers will receive green prayer cards)*

Lighting of the Fourth Candle of Advent

\*Hymn of Response      “Emmanuel, Emmanuel”      No. 204  
\*Passing the Peace

### **Proclamation and Response**

Sounds of Worship Anthem      “Where Will We See Him?”      Price/Besig

\*Gospel Reading      Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)

Sermon      “Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy”      Pastor Denny

\*Hymn Response      “O Little Town of Bethlehem”      No. 230

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (sins)

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Hark the Harold Angels Sing      Caleb Flick  
Arr. Rolin B. Mains

\*Offering Response      refrain of “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Gloria)

\*Offering Prayer

### **Sending Forth**

\*Closing Hymn      “Joy to the World”      No. 246

\*Blessing

### **Postlude**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory      Caleb Flick  
Arr. Edwin C. Johnson

*\*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

### ☪ 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

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:13 -15

\*Praise and Worship

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

"Behold the Savior"

"Go Tell it On the Mountain"

Lighting of the Fourth Candle of Advent

\*Passing the Peace

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

### Proclamation

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)

Anthem

"Lo, How a Rose/The Rose"  
by Craig Hella Johnson

Sanctuary Choir  
and Youth Singers

Sermon

"Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy"

Pastor Denny

### Response

Prayers of the People

The Offering

### Sending Forth

\*Worship Song

"How He Loves/Silent Night"

\*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 22, 2019**

**The Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jack O'Hara and John, Paul, & Michael O'Hara placed by Elaine O'Hara.

**The maché basket** is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gayle Elder Anderson, placed by her mother, Annabelle Elder.

## 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.

## Praying Follower

**Hospitalized:** Charlotte Hess

**Recovering at Home:** Cheryl Erikson

**Special Circumstances:** Bonnie Jeonna

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	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”

Join us for our **Rejoicing Spirits** service TODAY 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 

Living with ongoing health challenges? Please join us for the new, spiritually-grounded support group **Joy in the Morning**. Meetings will be held at FUMC (room 105) on the second Monday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 pm beginning January 13th. All participants will receive the book, *With the Dawn Rejoicing*. Terry Ketrow and Janice Bowen will co-facilitate. For more information, contact Janice at 717-766-4611 x112 or WeCare@fumchurch.com.

**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!**

**2020 Men’s Retreat - March 6-8!**

Generous Giver 

**Thank you** to all our bakers who made the cookie walk so successful!

**From the desk of the Finance Director:** All offering to be included in the 2019 year must be received by noon on December 31, 2019. All vouchers for bill payments must be in the office by January 8, 2020.

**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.

**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 we are Having a Christmas Dinner Party**

**Mission Trip:** Are you interested in being a part of the summer 2020 youth mission team serving in Harrisburg from June 28-July 3? **Spaces are limited, please turn in form and notify Lisa before the end of the year that you intend to participate!**

**Last Monday Night Football of the Season:** meets from 8-10 at Mark and Cheryl Mengle's house on Monday night.

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

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

**Zeteo:** Still interested in attending this winter high school conference Jan 30-Feb 2? Today is your last day to turn in a form and be guaranteed a spot/hotel room.

**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

### **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.





Welcome to 2020! We're beginning the new year with a series of messages on the **vision** of Jesus for living a life of joy and fulfillment entitled, "The Beatitudes: Keys to a Blessed Life." We will explore each of the eight keys Jesus gives us in Matthew 5:3-12, as we dig into what many have called the greatest sermon ever preached.

## **The Beatitudes: Keys to a Blessed Life**

**Jan 5:** It Depends on Who you Depend On

**Jan 12:** How God Blesses Broken Hearts

**Jan 19:** The Strength of Gentleness

**Jan 26:** Youth Sunday

**Feb 2:** Why You Need to Stay Hungry

**Feb 9:** Your Ministry of Mercy

**Feb 16:** God Blesses a Heart of Integrity

**Feb 23:** How to Reconcile a Relationship

**First United Methodist Church**

**135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg**

**Details at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)**



## Weekly Bible Readings:

Week of December 23



Monday	Isaiah 9: 2-7
Tuesday	Luke 2: 1-20 <i>Christmas Eve</i> <i>“The Lord is Come: Incarnate Joy”</i>
Wednesday	John 1: 1-14 <i>Christmas Day!</i>
Thursday	Psalms 148
Friday	Matthew 2: 13-23
Saturday	Rest and Reflect
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>“Wonders of His Love: Compassionate Joy”</i>

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### LEADING IN TODAY’S MORNING WORSHIP

Preaching..... Rev. Dennis Keller

Worship Leader..... Rev. John Shellenberger

Acolytes..... TBD

Organist..... Caleb Flick

Sound & Media ..... Jim Murdoch and Ron Nichols (8:15); Holly Kurten and Jim Murdoch (10:45)

### SERVING OUR CHILDREN DURING MORNING WORSHIP

Greeter ..... TBD

Crib/Toddlers:..... Kelly King, Marcia Espenshade (8:15); Shelli Spencer, TBD (10:45)

Wee Worship (10:45) ..... Brandy Zimmerman, Vicky Shambaugh

Kids Worship (10:45) ..... Tracy & Bob Wertz, Amy Erno

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## *This Week at First Church*

### **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)

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 23**

- 7:00 pm Al-Anon (216)
- 8:00 pm Youth Monday Night Football (Offsite)

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE**

- 5:00 pm Family Service (Sanctuary)
- 8:00 pm Service of Simplicity (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 pm Festival Service of Light and Wonder  
(Sanctuary)

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25**

*Merry Christmas!*

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26**

Church office is closed today.

- 6:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27**

Church office is closed today.

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28**

There is nothing scheduled at this time.

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**

- 8:15 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Various Sunday School Classes
- 10:45 am Worship (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  
pastorjohn@fumchurch.com

### **Director of Worship Arts**

Sarah Pugh  
717-766-4611, x 119  
worship@fumchurch.com

### **Director of Discipleship:**

Tina Eaton  
717-766-4611, x104  
adultministry@fumchurch.com

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

Janice Bowen  
766-4611, x112  
wecare@fumchurch.com

### **Outreach Director:**

Lori Hoffnagle  
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outreach@fumchurch.com

### **Youth Pastor:**

Lisa Aronson  
717-766-4611, x113  
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  
717-766-4611, x102  
kidscount@fumchurch.com

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

Ellen Hill  
717-766-4611, x101  
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, 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