

Welcome to

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors

August 23, 2020

SHIFTING PERSPECTIVES

DISCOVERING GOD'S LOVE IN ROMANS 8

“God Is For Us”

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

www.fumchurch.com



Shifting Perspectives

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Praise and Worship

"Our God"

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Praise Chorus

"Something Beautiful"

Scripture Reading

Romans 8: 31-34

Sermon

"God Is For Us" - Pastor Denny

Praise and Worship

"Goodness of God"

Announcements

Closing Hymn

"I Know Whom I Have Believed"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader Pastor John Shellenberger

Accompanist/Music Leaders ... Caleb Flick, Sarah Pugh, Trace Morgan

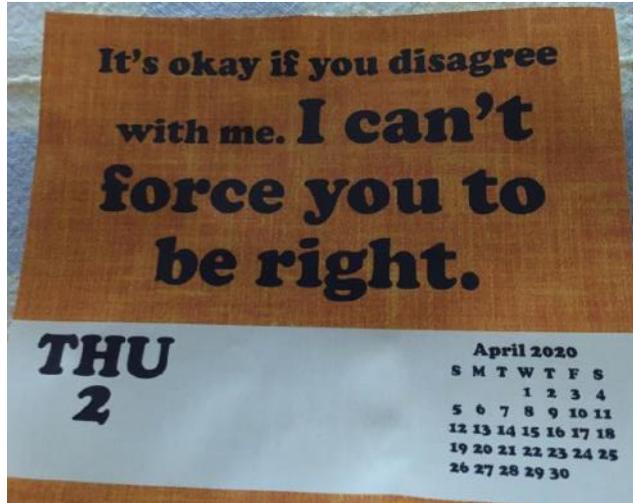
Sound & Media Kyle Eaton, Ryan Eaton, Jason Kichline, Jim Murdoch,
Roger Walton

“God Is For Us”

Romans 8: 31-34

1. God's love for you is _____

What then are we to say about these things? If **God is for us**, who is against us?
(verse 31)



- There is therefore now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus. (8:1)
- To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is **life and peace**. (8:6)
- For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but **you have received a spirit of adoption**. (8:15)
- I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the **glory about to be revealed to us**. (8:18)
- Likewise **the Spirit helps us in our weakness**; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. (8:26)
- We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. (8:28)

2. God's love for you is _____

*He who did not withhold his own Son, but **gave him up for all of us**, will he not with him also give us everything else? (verse 32)*

3. God's love for you is _____

*Who will bring any charge against God's elect? **It is God who justifies**. Who is to condemn? **It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.** (verses 33-34)*

Condemnation _____

Conviction _____

*"Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."
(John 8:11)*

4. God's love for you is _____

***What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?**
(verse 31)*

Weekly Bible Readings:

Week of August 23



Sunday

"God Is For Us"

Monday

Exodus 3: 1-15

Tuesday

Psalms 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c

Wednesday

Matthew 16: 21-28

Thursday

Romans 12: 9-21

Friday

Romans 8: 35-39

Saturday

Rest and Reflect



First News First

Weekly Edition

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

August 23, 2020

The **altar flowers** for today's service are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William H. Neumyer, Jr., placed by his family.

Lifelong Learner

Several **Small Groups and Sunday School classes** are currently meeting online using Zoom or meeting in backyards, and new members are welcome anytime!

- Faith in Everyday Life Class – Contact Ron Guyer
- Faithful Families Class – Contact Bob Wertz, Jr.
- Growing in Christ Class – Contact Tina Eaton
- Guyer Class – Although not meeting online, members are actively reading the adult Quarterly Bible Study Lessons on their own and engaging over the phone with one another. If you would like a copy of the quarterly lessons so that you can read along, contact Tina Eaton.
- Men's Group - Meets at 8:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Contact Barry Eaton.



Interested in starting a new small group? Whether you want to do a study online, or you are ready to start meeting with a small, social-distanced group in your backyard, we are here to help get you started! Please contact Tina Eaton for ideas on studies and resources available. She can also provide you with access and training on Zoom or tips on safely leading small groups outside.

Praying Follower



Recovering at Home: Kathy Dreese, Bob Hamsher, Sue Higgins

Special Circumstances: Janet Fertenbaugh, Bonnie Jeona, Carvel Markley, Joe Moomaw, Paul Nesmith

The July/August edition of the Upper Room is available! Contact Janice Bowen for a copy. (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112).

As your church family, we so value receiving your **prayer requests** in our desire to remain spiritually connected with you while continuing to worship from home. Please use this [google link](#) to share your joys and concerns with us! You also may share your prayer requests by contacting Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112.

You are invited to use any of our **prayer guides** or other materials available on our church website, www.fumchurch.com. Simply go to the "Resources" tab and click on "Fun and Faith". Take this opportunity to spend more personal time with God!

If you have not already done so, sign up for our **weekly prayer email** so that you can receive a list of praises and requests from our church family. Contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com to sign up for this once-a-week list.

Passionate Worshipper



While our church doors are open again, we invite you to continue to sing and worship online with **Sacred Space**, a new time of worship time premiering on select Sunday evenings. Experience the Holy Spirit through song, prayer, and scripture, led by some of our music & worship staff/volunteers. Tune in to Facebook, YouTube, and the church website on August 30th at 7:00pm.

As we begin to regather for in-person worship, we are **VERY MUCH IN NEED** of **ushers and greeters!** If you feel comfortable attending in-person worship, are available from 8:15 - 9:45 am on Sunday mornings, and would be interested in serving in this way, please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com at your earliest convenience.

If you or someone you know are unable to access the online church worship services, we have two other options. Please help us identify those who may be interested in receiving **DVDs of worship or listening to the worship service on their phone.** Contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 for more information.

Join us and invite others to worship from home with us any day of the week! All worship services are posted on our church website, www.fumchurch.com, Sing, pray, hear the message proclaimed and respond through your weekly giving.



Dedicated Missionary



We are asking all who can to help us fill our **Little Free Pantry** – the food is going fast and your donations are needed. Go to our church website for information on what you can donate and contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com if you have questions.

If you have not already done so, sign up to receive our periodic **“Service Opportunities”** email. Contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com to share opportunities and to sign up.

Relationship Builder

First Walkers are on the Move! A new outdoor walking group, First Walkers, is forming for those who want some exercise and fellowship with other First Church members. An informational gathering will take place on Thursday, August 27 at 8:30 a.m. in the church parking lot. All walking abilities and ages welcome, but the plan is to walk for 45 minutes to one hour. No need to sign up! Reminder, the church building is closed, please use your home restroom before our walk. Karen Simmons will be leading the group. Questions? Contact Karen or Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.

If you are in need of a **facemask or supply of greeting cards**, please contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611 x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com)

Ministry Safe Training- All volunteers who help in the children or youth areas should be watching their email for the new on-line Safe Sanctuary training. You will receive an email with a link to the training. The email will appear as it is coming from Pastor Denny. Anyone working with children or youth in any capacity is required to complete this valuable on-line training. Questions can be directed to Dawn Fisher at kidscount@fumchurch.com.



Church is not the building - Church is the people! And while we worship at home, we can continue to offer **hospitality** and care in several ways:

- Through our phone calls, emails, texts, prayers, cards and notes. When someone from church comes to mind, reach out! If you learn of a prayer concern or practical need, or if you would like suggestions of who to reach out to, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 .
- Through our newly formed "Hospitality Housecalls" team. Please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com if you are interested in participating. Together we will ensure that every church member/regular attender receives a call and continues to feel connected to our church family

If you use **Instagram**, be sure to follow First Church at *fumchurch* and stay up to date on all our special services, events, and activities.

Generous Giver

Share the Harvest! If you have garden goodies to share, we'd love to have them! New for this year, please feel free to place them on the table near our Little Free Pantry (located near the corner of Simpson and High Streets) any time! We can share with our church family and our neighbors. Bring your veggies, fruits and flowers to bless others!



We encourage you to continue to respond through your weekly giving. **Offerings** can be mailed in to the church office. Alternatively, you can securely give online through our church website, our VANCO Financial "GivePlus" app, or by signing up for electronic giving. Please contact the church office at office@fumchurch.com with any questions concerning financial giving.

CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZOOM With Us- TODAY we Zoom with the kids and have a Bible Lesson! We Zoom with all ages at 4:30pm on Sundays through the summer. Check your email or Remind for the link to Zoom with us! Need the link? Email Dawn & Anna at kidscount@fumchurch.com.

Back-Pack Blessing and Back-to-School Water Battle Bonanza –On August 30th at 1:00 pm in the church parking lot, all First Church Families are invited to have their backpacks and school electronics blessed for the 2020-21 school year. After the blessing, we will have a time of water games and a grand water battle until 2:00 pm. Please pre-register your family for this wonderful event at www.timetosignup.com/kidscount so we can plan for a safe and super fun time!

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Small group connections on Zoom are now happening!

Help us **connect** with you!

Follow us on instagram: fourgyouthministry

Request to join our FB page: 4G - First United Methodist Youth Group

Join our **Remind text list** - Text @4Gyo to 81010

Watch these platforms and your emails for **opportunities to connect and learn** with others!



To Our Beloved FUMC Camp & Retreat Families and Supporters,

The Susquehanna Conference's Camp & Retreat Ministry Board made the decision to suspend all summer camp and retreat programming through September 1, 2020.

The Camp Staff is actively planning for the Fall Retreat season starting September 1, 2020.

We trust deeply in the growth and possibilities that have and will emerge as we move forward. The full-time Camping staff continues to maintain the camp facilities, as well as, to stay connected with camp volunteer teams, campers and families to keep camp alive.

While all of us acknowledge our shared disappointment at not experiencing camp as normal this summer, we know God will make a way forward through this time.

Please be in prayer and ask how you can participate in His Kingdom work.

Let's covenant together to go on a hike or a walk and take time off from everything and go somewhere near where you live and immerse ourselves in beauty. Let's take the time to walk slow miles or some steps with God and diminish every other distraction. Take time to truly walk with God and listen to His words about our hearts, lives and futures and the future of camp. This "holy time" will cement the community together and launch us into the remainder of the camp year in very unexpected and profound ways. It's amazing what setting aside one simple day to walk with God can do.

We hope that you will share your experiences with us!

Funding is still required to sustain leadership, facilities, and programs critical to fulfilling the on-going mission of the Camp & Retreat ministries – not just for this year, but for years to come.

There will be opportunities for generosity in financial giving as part of the "Camp Comeback Campaign". Your generosity can be the way God provides "*streams in the wilderness.*"

Donate through the conference website - <http://www.susumcamps.org/>.

With Hope and in Christ's Service,

The FUMC Camping & Retreat Ministry Team

Questions: Deb Noss (sdppp@msn.com) or Amy Ortiz (amy.ogden7@gmail.com)

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