

*Welcome to*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

*October 25, 2020*

*un*common

**“Uncommon Love”**

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

[www.fumchurch.com](http://www.fumchurch.com)



# an common

Prelude

*"Jesus Shall Reign" - Handbell Choir*

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Song

*"No Sweeter Name"*

Prayer of Confession

Praise Chorus

*"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"*

Sharing Signs of Peace

The Gospel Reading

*Matthew 22: 34-40*

Sermon

*"Uncommon Love" - Pastor Lisa*

Ministry of Music

*"Offertory" - Handbell Choir*

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Offering & Announcements

Closing Hymn

*"More Love to Thee, O Christ"*

Blessing

Postlude

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP

*Preaching*..... Pastor Lisa Aronson

*Worship Leader*..... Rev. John Shellenberger

*Worship Team* ..... Caleb Flick, Allison Ometz, Sarah Pugh

*Sound & Media* .... Jason Kichline, Jim Murdoch, Ken Rapp

# “Uncommon Love”

Matthew 22: 34-40

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Notes:

## Weekly Bible Readings:

Week of October 25

### *Sunday*

*“Uncommon Love”*

Monday

Revelation 7: 9-17

Tuesday

Psalm 34: 1-10, 22

Wednesday

1 John 3: 1-3

Thursday

Matthew 5: 1-6

Friday

Matthew 5: 7-12

Saturday

Rest and Reflect





# First News First

# Weekly Edition

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

## October 25, 2020

The **altar flowers** for today's service are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Florence and Glenn Hoy, placed by their family.

### Lifelong Learner



Please join us, Tuesday November 10th at 7 pm on Zoom for a virtual, **health and wellness presentation focused on the topic of a gluten-free diet**. We will hear from Giant Foods nutritionist, Kilene Knitter, MS RD LDN, as well as from a Panel of FUMC members who eat gluten-free. To register and receive the Zoom link for the presentation, please contact Janice Bowen at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112.

Because our building remains closed right now (with the exception of Sunday worship and a few vitally important ministries), we are continuing to offer studies and groups outside or online. Even if you were not previously a member of these groups, you are welcome to join any group at any time:

- **Wednesday evening men's group** - Meets at 8:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Contact Barry Eaton at [1785eaton@gmail.com](mailto:1785eaton@gmail.com) if interested.
- Several **Sunday School classes** will continue or resume meeting on Sunday Mornings. You are invited to contact the following leaders for more information on what they are studying and how to become involved:
  - Faith in Everyday Life - Meets in-person at Memorial Park in Mechanicsburg. Focuses on fellowship and friendship. Class members share in leading reflections and discussions based on Scripture. Contact Jenell Paris at [jparis@messiah.edu](mailto:jparis@messiah.edu) for more details.
  - Faithful Families - Meets online. For parents in the child-raising stage of life. Focuses on discussion-based Bible studies. Contact Bob Wertz, Jr. at [wertzfive@gmail.com](mailto:wertzfive@gmail.com) for more details.
  - Christian Fellowship - Meets online. For all ages/stages of faith, focuses on short-term Bible studies. Contact Wayde Leister at [waydeleister@outlook.com](mailto:waydeleister@outlook.com) for more details.
  - Growing in Christ - Meets online. For all ages/stages of faith, focuses on discussion-based Bible studies. Contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) for more details.
  - Helping Hands - Meets online. A group of active seniors who focus on studies which provide encouragement and instruction on faithful living. Contact Bob Wertz, Sr. at [robert\\_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com](mailto:robert_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com) for more details.
  - Guyer Class - Independent study. A group of elders in the church who study the United Methodist quarterly adult Bible lessons. Contact John Nesbit by phone or Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) for more details.

Do you feel called to offer something new for a few weeks this fall? Contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) to get the ball rolling!

**Little Friends Preschool** has an opening for a *preschool teacher*. If you are interested in one of these positions or have additional questions, please contact Devon Betz by email at [devonbetz@gmail.com](mailto:devonbetz@gmail.com).



## Praying Follower

**Our love and sympathy** to the family and friends of Bonnie Jeona, who passed away on October 21st.

**Recovering at Home or Rehabilitation:** Gwen Harkins, Tom Mullikin

The November/December edition of the Upper Room is available! Contact Janice Bowen for a copy. ([wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112).

As your church family, we so value receiving your prayer requests! Please use this [google link](#) to share your joys and concerns with us, or share your prayer requests by contacting Janice Bowen at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112.

## Passionate Worshipper



An outdoor worship experience that takes place on Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 6:45 pm in the church parking lot! **Beginning in November**, we will shift to an afternoon time of 4:00 – 4:45 pm. This time of praise and worship is designed to be a casual, “come as you are” experience for all ages. All appropriate safety measures, like physical distancing and mask-wearing as necessary, are observed. So dress for the weather (we will move inside in the event of a storm), bring your mask, bring your lawn chair and plan to arrive a little early (to allow for physical distancing while finding your spot). We are excited to share in this relaxing, Spirit-filled time of togetherness! Questions? Contact Lisa Aronson at [uthrock@fumchurch.com](mailto:uthrock@fumchurch.com).

**Current Worship Series — Uncommon:** The apostle Paul writes that followers of Jesus are uncommon people. We live in the world, but we are not of the world. *“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect”* (Romans 12:2). If ever there was a time the world needs the witness of an uncommon people who serve an uncommon Savior it's now! In this series, we're discovering some of the uncommon qualities of Jesus and how we can develop those same qualities as we walk with him.



<b>TODAY</b>	<b>“Uncommon Love”</b>	Matthew 22:34-40	
November 1	<b>“Uncommon Joy”</b>	Matthew 5:1-12	(All Saints Sunday)
November 8	<b>“Uncommon Wisdom”</b>	Matthew 25:1-13	
November 15	<b>“Uncommon Generosity”</b>	Matthew 25:14-30	(Consecration Sunday)
November 22	<b>“Uncommon Gratitude”</b>	Luke 17:11-19	

**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, [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com). Sing, pray, hear the message proclaimed and respond through your weekly giving. If you, or someone you know, are unable to access the online worship service, please contact Janice Bowen at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112 for other ways to connect with our worship.



## *Dedicated Missionary*

All are invited to attend First UMC's **2020 Church Conference**, which will be held via Zoom, on Tuesday, October 27th at 6:30pm. Please RSVP to Ellen Hill at [office@fumchurch.com](mailto:office@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 by **Tuesday, October 20th** to receive the Zoom link and the Church Conference packet prior to the meeting.

The annual **Mechanicsburg Crop Walk** will be held on Sunday, November 1! New this year, walkers can walk anytime to raise funds for this important organization! If you want to walk with the team on November 1, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com). To support the team, visit the donation page at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/mechanicsburgpa/FirstWalkers?tab=MyPage>. Reminder, the funds raised at this walk support Church World Service and also local organizations which include Mechanicsburg Meals on Wheels and New Hope Ministries!

**Grab-n-Go Lunch!** First Church will be partnering with the downtown churches to hand out free bag lunches near the square in Mechanicsburg, every Wednesday through October 28. The lunches will be served near First Church of God, close to the square in Mechanicsburg. We will be serving from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. to anyone who stops by.

## *Relationship Builder*

If you're a young adult (age 22+) in search of connection and Christ-centered community, please check out a new ministry in our area: **Zoe Mazi**. Check out the Facebook page OR email Shannon Zimmerman at [zoemazi.lifetogether@gmail.com](mailto:zoemazi.lifetogether@gmail.com) for more information. (Zoe Mazi means "life together").

**Pickleball Players and Prayers** will now meet on Wednesdays from 5:00pm - 7:00pm (still at Adam Ricci Park, East Pennsboro Township), until it is too dark or participants are too tired to play. Persons of all levels of skill are invited to play. First timers to experienced players will find enjoyment. If you have questions you can contact Pastor John at [pastorjohn@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastorjohn@fumchurch.com).

For all bird lovers and watchers, the group **Faith, Feathers and Friends** meets each Tuesday at 1pm on Zoom for a time of studying God's Word, fellowship and learning about His marvelous creation. Contact [pastorjohn@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastorjohn@fumchurch.com) if interested.

**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](mailto:kidscount@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](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com))







## Generous Giver

The **Handbell choir** will again be making pies on Saturday, November 21st. Order your pies from a bell choir member, or by calling (717-697-6257) or emailing ([rbittenben@verizon.net](mailto:rbittenben@verizon.net)) Kathie. Pumpkin, Mincemeat, and Apple (Crumb Topping or Double Crust) are your choices, and remember to order them baked, or frozen. **Pick up time is noon to 2 pm that day.** That's very important this year as we can't hold them till Sunday at this time. Cost is \$10 a pie.

We are excited to partner with **Operation Christmas Child** again to fill shoeboxes for children around the globe! New for this year, you can pick up your box safely in our parking lot on the following Sundays before and after the 8:15am service and the evening Gathering service: **TODAY; November 1; November 8.** Additional dates for box pick ups: **October 28 and October 30 from 11am to 1pm in the church parking lot.** Watch for more details about other ways to fill a box and dates to drop off your filled shoebox. Questions? Contact David Mengle at ([717](tel:7173198582)) 319-8582.

We are once again **collecting sweet potatoes/yams** for New Hope Ministries on Sunday's in October. Bring your cans of sweet potatoes to the collection boxes at each entrance. Let's continue this tradition of supporting our neighbors at New Hope! Questions? Contact Debbie Karns at [deborahkarns1@gmail.com](mailto:deborahkarns1@gmail.com).

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](mailto:office@fumchurch.com) with any questions concerning financial giving.

## **CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Gathering- TONIGHT** at 6:00pm until 6:45pm. Please bring the whole family and join this new outdoor worship time on Sunday evenings in the parking lot. There will be music and a message for all ages. Bring your lawn chair, a mask (for times we cannot be distanced) and even your dinner if you like! You can contact Dawn or Anna with any questions- [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com).

**Bible Time Anytime-** Make your child's time learning about God a priority among all the craziness of their new schedules. **Bible Time Anytime** is a weekly Bible lesson your child can watch any time during the week. Lessons are appropriate for ages 3 years through 5th grade. We provide materials by the month to be used with the lessons. Please email Dawn and Anna at [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com) to request the materials and for more information on how to view the lessons.

**Wonderful Wednesday-** Wonderful Wednesday Returns! October 28th at 4:45pm until 6:00pm. Do you like riddles? Then you will love being a Riddle Ranger with us! For more information and to register go to <https://www.timetosignup.com/kidscount/folder/2553>. **Please register by TODAY, October 25th.**

## **YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Fall** is upon us and yes, youth will look a bit different this year, but we are going to navigate things together and still find ways to gather, gain, grow, and give. **Join us on Sunday evenings before The Gathering for 4G.** Watch your Remind text for weekly details.

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](tel:81010) 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,

**Good news!** The Susquehanna Conference's Camp & Retreat has now moved into the **Fall Retreat** season. Check the Camp website for the latest news!

**COMING SOON!!!**

**Christmas Light Drive-Thru**

**Beginning November 27, 2020**

**Mount Asbury Retreat Center – Newville**

**Please pray and ask how you can participate in camp or a camp-like experience.**

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/>.**

Please let us know if you have any registrations questions or need financial assistance. Let us know if you plan on attending a retreat so as to provide a prayer partner.

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)

## **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, x119  
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  
717-766-4611, x115  
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:**

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

### **Custodians:**

George Canonizado, Matt Miller  
717-766-4611, x109  
maintenance@fumchurch.com

### **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:**

Sarah Pugh — worship@fumchurch.com  
Trace Morgan — 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