

Welcome to

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors

November 8, 2020

*un*common

“Uncommon Wisdom”

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

www.fumchurch.com



an common

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Praise and Worship

"10,000 Reasons"

Honoring Our Veterans

Prayer

Hymn of Praise

"Surely the Presence of the Lord"

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 25: 1-13

Sermon

"Uncommon Wisdom" - Pastor Denny

Hymn of Response

"Seek Ye First"

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Offering & Consecration Testimony

Praise and Worship

"We Are"

Blessing

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching..... Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader..... Sarah Pugh

Worship Team George Canonizado, Caleb Flick, Ellen Hill, Sarah Pugh

Sound & Media Fred Espenshade, Jason Kichline, Roger Walton

“Uncommon Wisdom”

Matthew 25: 1-13

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. (Matthew 24:42)

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. (verse 1)

1. Jesus calls us to _____.

*But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but **is patient with you**, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.*

(2 Peter 3:8-9)

2. Jesus calls us to _____ and _____.

*I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than **those who watch** for the morning, more than **those who watch** for the morning. (Psalm 130:5-6)*

"Come Lord Jesus"

3. Jesus calls us to be _____.

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. (John 8:12)

For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

4. Jesus calls us to be _____.



“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” (Luke 4:18-19)

When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. (Matthew 25:3)

5. Jesus calls us to be _____.

And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us. But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ (verses 10-12)

"I can't wait!"

Weekly Bible Readings:

Week of November 8

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>“Uncommon Wisdom”</i>
Monday	Judges 4: 1-7
Tuesday	Psalm 100
Wednesday	Psalm 123
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Friday	Matthew 25: 14-30
Saturday	Rest and Reflect





First News First

Weekly Edition

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

November 8, 2020

The **altar flowers** for today's service are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones, placed by David and Margie Mengle.

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 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 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 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 for more details.
 - Christian Fellowship - Currently engaged in a study by Bob Goff, entitled "Dream Big", which helps participants to recapture the version of their lives they dreamed about before fear started calling the shots. For all ages/stages of faith. Contact Wayne Leister at waydeleister@outlook.com for more details and the zoom link for this online study.
 - Growing in Christ - Studying "The Good Life", a study of the Beatitudes by Pastor Derwin Gray. For all ages/stages of faith. Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com for more details and the zoom link for this online study.
 - 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 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 for more details.

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



Praying Follower

Hospitalized: Ed Johnson

Recovering at Home or Rehabilitation: Paul Cain, Alberta Knause,
Tom Mullikin, Donnie Wright

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 or 717-766-4611 x112.

Passionate Worshipper



An outdoor worship experience that takes place on Sundays from 4:00 – 4:45 pm in the church parking lot! 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.

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.



TODAY

November 15

November 22

“Uncommon Wisdom”

“Uncommon Generosity”

“Uncommon Gratitude”

Matthew 25:1-13

Matthew 25:14-30

Luke 17:11-19

(Consecration Sunday)

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. 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 or 717-766-4611 x112 for other ways to connect with our worship.



Dedicated Missionary

Please see page 10 of the bulletin for more information regarding ways that you can give back this year and donate to organizations like **Operation Christmas Child and New Hope!**

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 for more information. (Zoe Mazi means "life together").

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 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.

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)

Generous Giver



Would you like to purchase a **poinsettia** or give a **gift donation** in memory or honor of a loved one this Christmas? See page 10 for more information and for an order form.

The Youth Department unfortunately announces the **cancellation of the 2020 Cookie Walk**. Due to the pandemic it has been decided to forgo the walk this year in order to comply with current health and safety guidelines. We look forward to being back in business next year!

Please see page 11 of the bulletin for more information regarding ways that you can give back this year and donate to organizations like **Operation Christmas Child and New Hope!**

The **Handbell choir will again be making pies** on Saturday, November 21. Order your pies by November 16 from a bell choir member, or by calling (717-697-6257) or emailing (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 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

The Gathering- TODAY **NEW TIME** at 4:00pm until 4:45pm. Please bring the whole family and join this outdoor worship time on Sunday evenings in the parking lot. There will be music and a message for all ages. Bring your lawn chair and a mask (for times we cannot be distanced). You can contact Dawn or Anna with any questions- kidscount@fumchurch.com.

CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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 to request the materials and for more information on how to view the lessons.

Wonderful Wednesday- This Wednesday, November 11th at 4:45pm until 6:00pm. Do you like riddles? Then you will love being a Riddle Ranger with us! Contact Dawn and Anna with any questions- kidscount@fumchurch.com.

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 to 81010

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



Honor your loved ones this Christmas

Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on **December 13 and 20**. You have the option of purchasing a poinsettia for **\$9.50** or giving a monetary gift in memory/honor of your loved one. Gift donations will be forwarded to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

Please complete the form below, indicating the number of “plants” or “gifts” and place it in the offering baskets or send it to Ellen Hill in the church office by

November 25.

If you plan to worship in-person on Sunday, December 27, plants may be picked up after the service.

If you are unable to attend worship in-person, other arrangements to pick up your plant can be made by contacting the church office. Plants not claimed by December 31 will be disposed of.

If you are not planning on taking your poinsettia please consider a monetary gift instead.

POINSETTIA OR GIFT ORDER FORM

Please indicate below, in the correct section, the number of plants and/or gifts that you are giving and who they are being given in memory/honor of.

1. Number of plants _____

Please circle whichever is appropriate: In Memory of / In Honor of

Name(s): _____

2. Number of Gifts _____

Please circle whichever is appropriate: In Memory of / In Honor of


Name(s): _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Placed by: _____

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Giving back is easy this year!



Operation Christmas Child

- Pick up your shoebox at church on November 8 (before and after each service)
- Fill your Box
- Return to church on November 15 and 22 (before and after each service)
- New this year, have the warehouse fill a box and send it for you! Send a check for **\$15.50** (includes shipping) to the church (made out to FUMC) by **November 18**. Please mark your check 'Fill Shoebox.'

Questions, contact David or Margie Mengle at 717-319-8582 or mengledm@verizon.net.



New Hope Christmas Blessings Express

- New for this year, you can support New Hope through the church's Scrip Fundraising Program!
- Check off the **\$25** amount for Wal-Mart or Target on the form (included in this month's newsletter)
- Return to the church office or Kathie Bittenbender (292 Founders Way, Mechanicsburg, 17050)
- We will deliver the gift cards to New Hope Ministries for local families.

Questions, contact Kathie Bittenbender at 717-697-6257 or Debbie Karns at 717-697-1253.



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:

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Director of Finance:

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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