

*Welcome to*

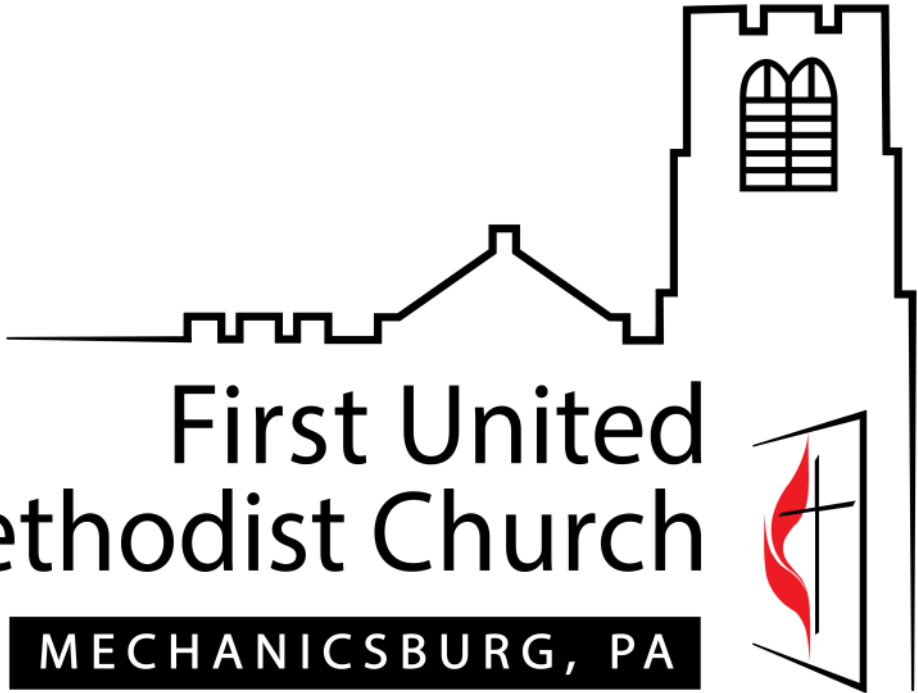
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

*February 14, 2021*

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



*“A Mess Like None Other”*

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

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



Introit  
*"Victory in Jesus"*

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn  
*"To God Be the Glory"*

Morning Prayer

Hymn  
*"Something Beautiful"*

Gospel Readings  
*Mark 10: 17-27*  
*Mark 2:1-12*

Sermon  
*"A Mess Like None Other" - Pastor Lisa*

Ministry of Music  
*"Nothing I Hold On To"*

Prayer of Confession

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Closing Hymn  
*"Nothing But the Blood"*

Benediction

Postlude

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## ***LEADING IN WORSHIP***

*Preaching* ..... Pastor Lisa Aronson

*Worship Leader* ..... Pastor Denny Keller

*Worship Team* ..... Caleb Flick, Mike & Nadine Ogden, Karen Philp, Sarah Pugh,  
..... Mark & Nancy Routch,

*Sound & Media* ..... Fred Espenshade, Michael Garman, Jason Kichline,  
..... Elijah Ometz

# Weekly Bible Readings

## Week of February 14



*This daily Bible reading plan will guide you during the 40 days of Lent as you prepare for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter! Each reading, beginning Wednesday, February 17, corresponds with a personal reflection in our Lenten devotional booklet. It is our prayer that this meaningful spiritual discipline will draw you closer to the heart of God and closer to one another during this very special season.*

### ***Sunday***                      ***"A Mess Like None Other"***

Monday                      2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Tuesday                      Mark 9: 2-9

Wednesday                      Deuteronomy 6: 1-9                      A Word-Shaped Life                      Pastor Denny

Thursday                      Ephesians 3: 14-21                      The Lord Will Provide                      Nancy Eddy

Friday                      Matthew 6: 25-34                      He Provides in Abundance                      Donna Nichols

Saturday                      Psalm 56                      Trusting God                      Janet Almond



*First News First*

*Weekly Edition*

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

**February 14, 2021**

The **alter flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Stephanie Rehfuss, placed by George Rehfuss.

### *Lifelong Learner*



Several **Bible studies and small groups** are being offered online this winter, and all are invited to come for fellowship and learning!

- **Alpha** – Come to look at the big questions of life and faith and talk about the real answers. Started in January, but you are welcome to join any time! No cost, led by Pastor John and Merri Shellenberger Tuesday evenings, 7:00 pm on zoom. Questions, or need the zoom link? Contact Pastor John at [pastorjohn@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastorjohn@fumchurch.com).
- **Elijah** - Through Elijah's story, come to understand the value of seasons of growth and testing in your spiritual maturity. 7-session study begins February 16. Registration fee \$24.99 (for online videos and a workbook, PLUS bonus materials). Register at <https://onlinestudy.lifeway.com/v/ElijahOBS>. Need a scholarship or want to participate in a First Church online discussion group (Wednesdays over luncheon at noon)? Contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com)
- **Seven Words** - Join Pastor Denny to study the seven last words of Christ on the cross, exploring each from a biblical and historical perspective. 6-week study begins Wednesday, February 24 at 6:45 pm. Contact Pastor Denny at [pastordenny@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastordenny@fumchurch.com) to sign up and receive the zoom link. (If you are interested, purchase book from any online retailer to read on your own).
- **Wednesday Men's Group – Race and the Gospel** addresses racism and injustice using Paul's words in Ephesians. Meets on zoom, 8:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month. Contact Barry Eaton at [1785eaton@gmail.com](mailto:1785eaton@gmail.com) if interested.
- **Men's Bible Study** - Began in the fall with Paul's letters to Timothy, and resumes this winter with completion of Timothy and study of Paul's letter to Titus. New participants welcome any time! Led by Ken Guise/David Mengle, Sunday evenings, 6:15 pm on zoom. Contact Ken at [guiseken100@gmail.com](mailto:guiseken100@gmail.com) for more details and zoom link.
- **Sunday School**
  - **Faith in Everyday Life** –Small group meets on zoom and focuses on fellowship/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** –Comprised of parents in the child-raising stage of life, meets on zoom, focuses on discussion-based Bible studies. Contact Bob Wertz, Jr. at [wertzfive@gmail.com](mailto:wertzfive@gmail.com) for more details.
  - **Christian Fellowship** –Currently engaged in studying "How Happiness Happens" by Max Lucado. New class members welcome anytime! For all ages/stages of faith. Meets at 10:00 am. Contact Wayde Leister at [waydeleister@outlook.com](mailto:waydeleister@outlook.com) for more details and the zoom link.
  - **Growing in Christ** –Currently studying "Oneness Embraced", a study by Dr. Tony Evans on reconciliation and God's Kingdom perspective. For all ages/stages of faith. Meets Sunday

mornings 10:00 am. Contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) for more details and zoom link.

- o **Helping Hands** -Meets on zoom at 10:00 am. 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.
- o **Guyer Class** –Group of elders in the church who use the United Methodist quarterly adult Bible lessons for daily independent study at home. Contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) to receive study materials.

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



## Praying Follower

**Hospitalized:** Caroline Brown, Dave Broy

Interested in participating in **Moms in Prayer**? We have a group meeting Monday evenings, prays for children at any age/stage of life, all mothers/grandmothers welcome to join in at any time! Meets on zoom, 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Contact Deb Noss at [sdppp@msn.com](mailto:sdppp@msn.com) with questions or to receive zoom link.

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

**Ash Wednesday** is the day when we gather to begin our 40 days of preparation called Lent. Every year, we gather at church on this day to remind ourselves that we are not eternal. Yet, this year we are responding to the impact of an ongoing pandemic. Because of this, many of us will find ourselves in our homes unsure how we might mark the beginning of Lent. On Wednesday February 17th, we invite you to join in our **online Ash Wednesday worship service**. *You will be able to view this pre-recorded service any time after 12pm on the 17th.* Since we are unable to gather and receive ashes this year, please refer to our church website, [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com), and click on the instructional video on how to prepare your own ashes this year.

**We invite you to join us for worship each Sunday, beginning February 21, as we draw close to Jesus and hear his last words in our upcoming sermon series, Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross.** Together, we will look at the seven last words of Christ on the cross through a lens that finds life and hope in his final sayings, while exploring each from a biblical and historical perspective. We pray that, through this hopeful and contemplative focus on the cross during the weeks of Lent, you will experience anew the depth of his love for us and discover the meaning of his words for us today.



**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](#)

Let's support **Mission Central** at the upcoming **Online Auction!** See details at [www.biddingowl.com/missioncentral](http://www.biddingowl.com/missioncentral) and learn how to bid on wonderful items all while supporting this great ministry! The auction runs from March 4 to 7, 2021. Let the bidding begin! Questions about the auction, contact Patti Herring at [familyzeke@verizon.net](mailto:familyzeke@verizon.net).

We are having a collection for **Little Free Pantry** items on Wednesday's from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in our church parking lot through the end of February. See more information, like what items are being collected, on page 10. Thanks for sharing and caring for our community! Questions about the Little Free Pantry or the upcoming collections, contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

**New Hope** is in need of the following items: Pasta (not spaghetti or elbows), canned fruit, canned tuna/chicken, bathroom tissue, bath soap, toothpaste, and diapers (size 4, 5, 6). Questions? Contact Debbie Karns at [deborahkarns1@gmail.com](mailto:deborahkarns1@gmail.com).

## [Relationship Builder](#)

Hospitality as described in the Bible includes love, generosity and a genuine heart to serve! Outreach Magazine describes 3 very helpful insights into hospitality within a church family. **Hospitality is not a duty .... it's a passion.** It is less about doing the right thing and more about having the right heart that loves to serve! **Hospitality is not a strategy....it's a way of living.** We need to genuinely care about who we are serving! **Hospitality is not corporate....it's personal.** It is about people and being engaged with one another and truly feeling that care that we are giving to another person! Hospitality doesn't have to be fancy ~ it just needs to be real! May God continue to bless our church family through the hospitality that our congregation offers!



Church member, Rick Herring, will once again be assisting with AARP to prepare **tax returns** free of charge. This AARP service is for simple returns and you must register, starting February 1 to April. See website [here](#) for registration and locations. AARP is taking all the precautions to keep clients safe with two short appointments and pre-mailing documents. In addition, if you are unable to schedule through AARP, Rick will be offering his personal services from February 1 to February 28 and April 1 to April 10. Please contact Rick at [oriolerrick1@verizon.net](mailto:oriolerrick1@verizon.net) to schedule an appointment.

You are invited to please stop by Janice Bowen's porch anytime if you are in search of the following: February church **newsletter** or the January/February **Upper Room**, a **facemask**, or a supply of **greeting cards**. Please contact Janice Bowen at [vecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:vecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112 if you have any questions.

## [Lenten Devotional](#)

First Church has prepared a *very special* **devotional booklet for Lent, 2021** to keep us connected to one another and connected to Christ as we read one another's stories!

Ash Wednesday is on February 17, so don't forget to pick up a booklet! They will be available to pick up in the church parking lot on Wednesday, February 17 between 1:00 – 3:00 pm (conveniently scheduled at the same time as the drive through food drop off for the Little Free Pantry).

Alternatively, these daily devotions will be provided via weekly church email updates. If neither of these options work for you, please contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com).

**Ministry Safe Training-** All volunteers who help in the children or youth areas should be watching their email for the new online 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).

## **Generous Giver**



**Support our Youth by ordering out!** Are you looking for some new meal ideas? The Youth Group of First Church will hold two fundraisers in conjunction with Strock's Catering Barn, 729 Williams Grove Road, Mechanicsburg this month. Freshly-prepared, ready-to-eat meals for adults and kids can be pre-ordered and picked up on the following dates: February 18 and February 25. All the details can be found at <https://www.strockenterprises.net/shop>. Thanks for your support! Questions? Contact Lisa Aronson at [uthrock@fumchurch.com](mailto:uthrock@fumchurch.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**

**Bible Time Anytime!**- Kids will love this weekly on-line Sunday School lesson for children led by Miss Anna and Miss Dawn for kids aged 3 years through 5th grade that is specifically designed to fit into your children's busy schedules at any time that works for them. They can be viewed any day and any time through the week! New lessons will be available every Sunday on the First Church Children's Ministry Facebook page or they can be emailed directly to you. You can find us on Facebook and request to be a part of this private group OR send us your email address at [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com) to receive a weekly email. **Make time hearing God's word, lessons and teachings a part of your child's week, every week!** *Email Dawn and Anna with any questions.*

**BOOMERANG (aka Zoomerang!)**- Sunday, February 28th @ 4:00pm. Join us on Zoom! All 3rd, 4th & 5th graders welcome to this time of fun, fellowship and strengthening our relationship with God. In this small group time we learn how to take God's teachings and apply them to our lives and how we treat and can serve others. Because in Boomerang, it's all about bringing it back to God! We will email out the Zoom link soon. If you don't receive the link and would like to, email Dawn & Anna at: [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com).

## **YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Youth will look a bit different, but we are going to navigate things together and still find ways to gather, gain, grow, and give. Watch your Remind text for weekly details.

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

**Follow us on instagram:** [fourgyouthministry](https://www.instagram.com/fourgyouthministry)

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

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

# Little Free Pantry Collection



fumchurch.com

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



**Help us support those who are visiting our pantry.  
We will be collecting the following items:**

**Peanut Butter**

**Macaroni and cheese**

**Cereal (small boxes please)**

**Canned Soup/Canned goods**

**Tuna**

**Pasta and Sauce**

**Snack Bars/Snack Crackers**

**Other nonperishable items**



## Collecting this Wednesday

### 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**First UM parking lot, 135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg**

**We will be collecting every Wednesday through February.**







To Our Beloved FUMC Camp & Retreat Families and Supporters,

As we look back over **2020**, many thoughts and feelings may be aroused. Difficult decisions were made resulting in placing on hold anticipated experiences.

**Yet many found new ways to come close to God!**

Some spent special time with family. Others found time to take a hike or a walk getting away from the distractions of life while finding time to truly listen to His words for our lives.

These types of "holy times" have helped cement the community together to launch us forward into **2021**.

Funding was required to sustain leadership, facilities, and programs critical to fulfilling the on-going mission of the Camp & Retreat ministries for 2020.

The "**Camp Comeback Campaign**" goal was set at **\$100,000.00**.

Churches, groups, and individuals from across the conference stepped up in support. We are excited and tremendously grateful to announce that gifts and pledges received to date exceed \$100,000.00

**Together we have met this challenge! To GOD be the GLORY!**

We will let you know more about **2021** camp plans as we receive information from the conference camping and retreat staff. Please keep them in your prayers for wisdom and discernment.

Let us know if you have any questions.

With Hope and in Christ's Service,

*The FUMC Camping & Retreat Ministry Team*

Questions? Contact: Deb Noss ([sdppp@msn.com](mailto:sdppp@msn.com)) or

Amy Ortiz ([amy.ogden7@gmail.com](mailto: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  
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wecare@fumchurch.com

### **Outreach Director:**

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### **Youth Pastor:**

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uthrock@fumchurch.com

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

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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:**

Tom Ziegler  
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### **Custodians:**

George Canonizado, Matt Miller  
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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 Director:**

Sarah Pugh — worship@fumchurch.com

### **Organists/Accompanists:**

Caleb Flick  
Karen Philp

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

Jemma Church  
717-796-0723  
lfns@fumchurch.com

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

Glenn Covert  
717-599-2192