### Welcome to

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

May 16, 2021



"The Bystanders"

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg 717-766-4611 www.fumchurch.com





## FOUNDATION SERVICE ~ 8:15 AM

Prelude "Living for Jesus"

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Words of Assurance (Responsive)

Praise Chorus "Holy Ground"

The Gospel *Luke 15: 11-32* 

Sermon "The Bystanders" - Pastor Denny

Hymn *"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"* 

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Closing Praise Chorus "Living For Jesus"

Benediction

Postlude *"Holy Manna"* 

#### LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching·····	Rev. Dennis Keller
Worship Leader	Lynn Rapp
Worship Team	Caleb Flick, Sarah Pugh
Sound & Media	Holly Kurten, Ron Nichols, Ken Rapp

THE GATHERING SERVICE ~ 11:00 AM



Welcome

Praise and Worship "O Come To the Alter" "Faithful To the End"

> The Gospel *Luke 15: 11-32*

Sermon *"The Bystanders" - Pastor Denny* 

Offering and Announcements

Praise and Worship *"I Saw The Light/I'll Fly Away"* 

Benediction

### LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching	Rev. Dennis Keller
Worship Leader ·····	Lynn Rapp
Worship Team	Tracy, Abigail, Luke, and RJ Wertz
Sound & Media	Holly Kurten, Ron Nichols, Ken Rapp

# "The Return: The Bystanders"

Luke 15: 11-32



**by-stand-er** - noun a person present but not involved; chance spectator; onlooker.

- 1. Jesus, the true prodigal, invites bystanders into the light of God's love.
  - Jesus left the house of his heavenly Father and came to a foreign country.

The Word **became flesh and made his home among us**. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

• Jesus gave away everything the Father had entrusted to him.

But **he emptied himself** by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, **he humbled himself** by becoming obedient to the point of death, even **death on a cross.** (Philippians 4:7-8)

• Jesus returned to the Father so that we might return with him to his Father's home.

When **I** go to prepare a place for you, I will return and take you to be with me so that where I am you will be too. (John 14:3)

But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! <sup>23</sup> Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it... (verses 22-23)

"But had I, myself, really ever dared to step into the center, kneel down, and let myself be held by a forgiving God?" (Henri Nouwen)

2. Jesus, the true elder son, invites bystanders into the ministry of reconciliation.

"Now **his older son** was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. **He called one of the servants** and asked what was going on... (verses 25-26)

'Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.' (verse 31)

I've given them the glory that you gave me **so that they can be one just as we are one.** (John 17:22)

"How will the elder son look when he is free from his complaints, free from his anger, resentments and jealousies?" (Henri Nouwen)



### Weekly Bible Readings

Week of May 16



## Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

### "The Bystanders"

Acts 2:1-13 Acts 2:14-21 Psalm 104:24-35 Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 Rest and Reflect



First News First

Weekly Edition

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

### <u>May 16, 2021</u>

The **altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Donald and Viola Adams and Jimmy Shannon, placed by the Shannon family.

The **maché basket** is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jenny Rebecca Scott Kerstetter, placed by Marge and Dick Scott.

#### Lifelong Learner

**New Member Class** begins June 6. Four week class will be held Sunday mornings from 9:40 - 10:40 am in room 123 (just inside the the alley entrance of the church). Please contact Tina Eaton at <u>adultministry@fumchurch.com</u> or call the church office if interested.

Looking for new ways to grow closer to Christ? Check out our weekly Bible reading plan or join one of the ongoing groups/Bible studies listed below. New class members are welcome to join any class at any time!

- Wednesday Men's Group Currently studying *Shaken, a study about discovering your identity in the midst of life's storms*, by Tim Tebo. Meets on Zoom, 8:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Contact Barry Eaton at <u>1785eaton@gmail.com</u> if interested.
- Men's Bible Study Currently studying 1 & 2 Peter and the Book of Jude. Led by Ken Guise/David Mengle, Sunday evenings, 6:15 pm on Zoom. Contact Ken at guiseken100@gmail.com for more details and Zoom link.
- Wednesday Women's Group Beginning a new 7-week study, *Brave*, by local author Tabitha Deller on May 19. Learn to overcome your fears by studying the lives of Joshua, Caleb, Ruth, Paul, David and Esther. Meets on zoom over lunch from 12:00 1:15 pm. Order your study guide at <u>amazon.com</u> and contact Tina Eaton at <u>adultministry@fumchurch.com</u> for zoom link and online video access.
- Sunday School
  - Faith in Everyday Life This small group meets from 10:00 11:00 am at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Park in Mechanicsburg as weather permits (with zoom as a backup) and focuses on fellowship and friendship/mutual support. Class members share in leading reflections and discussions based on Scripture. Contact Jenell Paris at jparis@messiah.edu for more details.
  - o Faithful Families This group, comprised of parents in the child-raising stage of life, meets on zoom at 9:30 am. Currently studying *All Things New* by Kelly Minter. Contact Bob Wertz, Jr. at wertzfive@gmail.com for more details.
  - o **Christian Fellowship** Currently studying *Before Amen The Power of a Simple Prayer* by Max Lucado. All are welcome! Runs through May 2. For all ages/stages of faith. Meets at 9:30 am. Contact Wayde Leister at <u>waydeleister@outlook.com</u> for more details and the Zoom link.
  - Growing in Christ Beginning a new study on May 2 on the *Book of Ephesians* by Pastor J.D. Greear. For all ages/stages of faith. Meets Sunday mornings 9:30 am. Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com for more details and the Zoom link.
  - Helping Hands -Meets on Zoom at 10:00 am. 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.

o **Guyer Class** –A 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 <u>adultministry@fumchurch.com</u> to receive study materials.

Is God calling you to gather a small group to do a study/offer a special activity for a few weeks this spring/ early summer? Contact Tina Eaton at <u>adultministry@fumchurch.com</u> to talk about your idea and to get the ball rolling!

The deadline to submit **scholarship applications** with First United Methodist Church is May 22nd and can be found on the church website, <u>www.fumchurch.com</u>. Look for the "Youth" tab and then click on "Youth Events and Activities" from the dropdown menu. Completed forms can be mailed to Judi Buddenbaum or the church office (135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055).

### Praying Follower

Our **love and sympathy** to the Ryder and Mariano families in the death of Mark Ryder on May 9th

Hospitalized: Tammy Ingraham

**Green Prayer Cards** are available at each sanctuary entrance upon arrival for worship. We invite you to take a card to share your joys and concerns with us. Please place them in the designated basket (along with the pen) as you leave worship. You can also use this <u>google link</u> to share your joys and concerns with us, or share your prayer requests by contacting Janice Bowen at <u>wecare@fumchurch.com</u> or 717-766-4611 x112.

#### Passionate Worshipper

As we **regather for in person worship**, we will be following the same safety protocols as before. Please also remember to register for worship (Monday-Thursday on our <u>church</u> <u>website</u>) if you plan to attend in person.

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

**Isaiah 61 is resuming!** This ministry hands out free meals to those in need in downtown Harrisburg. We are in need of volunteers to help serve on Wednesday, May 19, starting at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Tiffany Holland if you can serve, so that we can ensure there is enough help. Also, if you want to carpool, contact Tiffany Holland at <u>tholland1967@gmail.com</u> to meet in the church parking lot at 6:00 p.m. Safety protocols include, wearing masks, gloves and physical distancing.

Thanks for your support of the **Little Free Pantry** on our property. Please consider helping to stock our pantry during this difficult time for families. If you or your group would like to sign up, see the available months <u>here</u>. Please be sure to place items that are not expired or near expiration. A list of suggestions for the spring/summer months can be found <u>here</u>. Thanks for sharing and caring for our community! Questions about the Little Free Pantry, contact Lori Hoffnagle at <u>outreach@fumchurch.com</u>.







### Relationship Builder

We would love to celebrate with the **2021 graduates**. If you are graduating (from high school, undergrad, or beyond), please fill out this form and let us know about your graduation and future plans: <u>https://forms.gle/sT6XwhinjhKREhrF7</u>. *Please respond by May 30th!* 



**Hospitality** is a sacred duty. Speaking biblically, hospitality is treating strangers and friends alike. It is welcoming one another into our lives! We need to make sure that others are comfortable. We need to extend ourselves to help others when needed. We need to pay attention to little details. We need to communicate with others. We need to be enthusiastic. And why do we need to do all of these things? To be an example - to glorify God - to cultivate community - to reveal Christ's character! As we look forward to this beautiful month of May, where we celebrate Mother's Day and Memorial Day, let us each remember that our extravagant hospitality toward others shows the world that we are Christ's disciples!



**Summer Church Camp is a GO!** The Camp and Retreat Ministry is excited to share details and registration information about summer camps! Visit the camping website <u>http://www.susumcamps.org</u> to see all the offerings for camp this summer in the 2021 Camp Retreat Brochure along with related registration/ medical forms. Please review the COVID-19 safety guidelines as part of your camp registration process. In order to provide the BEST camping experience, please send camping registration confirmations to our Camp Coordinators (Deb Noss or Amy Ortiz) so that we can pair you with a prayer partner and offer financial assistance (First Church will pay for one half of the camping fees!). There are also **Sibling Discounts** as well as an **Invite-a-Friend Gifts**. See the brochure for

details. If you have any questions about Summer Church Camp or are unable to access the website and need a brochure, feel free to contact Deb Noss at <u>sdppp@msn.com</u> or 717-697-5982 or Amy Ortiz at <u>amy.ogden7@gmail.com</u>. You may also contact the church office at <u>office@fumchurch.com</u> or 717-766-4611. Not a camper, no problem! You can support our campers in several ways! You can sign up to be a Prayer Partner (watch for details closer to the start of camp), make a financial contribution to help fund a camper or sign up for a one-day work camp! Contact one of our Camp Coordinators for more details. Camp's Great!

You are invited to please stop by Janice Bowen's porch anytime if you are in search of the following: May church **newsletter**, May/June Upper Room, a **facemask**, or a supply of **greeting cards**. Please contact Janice Bowen at <u>wecare@fumchurch.com</u> or 717-766-4611 x112 if you have any questions.

**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 online training. Questions can be directed to Dawn Fisher at <u>kidscount@fumchurch.com</u>.

#### Generous Giver

We encourage you to continue to respond through your weekly giving. **Offerings** can be mailed in to the church office. Now is also a great time to sign up for electronic giving! Please contact the church office at <u>office@fumchurch.com</u> with any questions or for more inforamtion.



#### **CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BOOMERANG (aka Zoomerang!)**- Sunday, May 23 @ 4:00pm. Join us on Zoom! (We may meet in person at church depending on weather) 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: <u>kidscount@fumchurch.com</u>.

**VBS Registration is OPEN-** June 28th through July 2nd for all 4 year olds through entering 6th grade. During the day VBS will be virtual, like last year. However, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings of that week from 6:00pm until 6:45 pm we will have some fun, in person activities outside in the church parking lot for families to come participate in! In this uncertain summer, we thought it best to once again hold a virtual VBS, BUT this year include some in person fun with activities in the church parking lot where we can be outdoors and able to have fellowship together! For more details and to register visit: https://funcmechanicsburg.mycokesburyvbs.com

#### YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Instagram: fourgyouthministry FB page: 4G - First United Methodist Youth Group Remind text list - Text @4Gyo to 81010

#### **Ministry Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller 717-766-4611, x103 pastordenny@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 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 Director: Sarah Pugh — worship@fumchurch.com **Organists/Accompanists:** Caleb Flick Karen Philp **Director of Little Friends Preschool:** Jemma Church 717-796-0723 lfns@fumchurch.com **Director of Juniper Tree Counseling Center:** Glenn Covert 717-599-2192