

Welcome to
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors
May 30, 2021



“Becoming the Father”

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

www.fumchurch.com





FOUNDATION SERVICE ~ 8:15 AM

Prelude

"This Is My Father's World"

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

"Faith of Our Fathers"

Memorial Day Prayer

Choir Anthem

"Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones"

Words and music by Orrin Hatch, Lowell Alexander, and Phil Naish

arr. Keith Christopher

The Gospel

Luke 15: 11-32

Sermon

"Becoming the Father" - Pastor Denny

Hymn

"Spirit Song"

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Closing Praise Chorus

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching..... Rev. Dennis Keller

Worship Leader Sarah Pugh

Worship Team Choir, Don Coldren, Caleb Flick, Gail Leinhos, Karen Philp

Sound & Media Fred Espenshade, Holly Kurten, Roger Walton



THE GATHERING SERVICE ~ 11:00 AM

Welcome

Praise and Worship

"Who You Say I Am"

"How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

The Gospel

Luke 15: 11-32

Sermon

"Becoming the Father" - Pastor Denny

Praise and Worship

"Run To the Father"

Benediction

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching Rev. Dennis Keller

Worship Leader Sarah Pugh

Worship Team George Canonizado, Dave Florey, Ellen Hill,
..... Allison Ometz, Elijah Ometz, Sarah Pugh

Sound & Media Fred Espenshade, Holly Kurten, Roger Walton

“The Return: Becoming the Father”

Luke 15: 11-32



"Why talk about being like the sons when the real question is:
Are you interested in being like the father?" (Henri Nouwen)

*For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, and **if children, then heirs**, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. (Romans 8:15-17)*

Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate. (Luke 6:36 CEB)

1. To become like the Father I must **grieve**.

*While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was **moved with compassion**. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. (verse 20b)*

*Then the older son was furious and didn't want to enter in, but **his father came out and begged him**. (verse 28)*

*When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, **he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled**; and he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” **Jesus wept**. (John 11:33-35 RSV)*

2. To become like the Father I must **forgive**.

*And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son. **But the father...** (verses 21-22a)*

*And he said to him, '**Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.**' (verse 31)*

*Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, **how many times should I forgive** my brother or sister who sins against me? Should I forgive as many as seven times?"*

*Jesus said, "Not just seven times, but rather **as many as seventy-seven times.**" (Matthew 18:21-22)*

3. To become like the Father I must be **generous**.

***But the father** said to his servants, 'Bring quickly **the best robe**, and put it on him; and put a **ring** on his hand, and **shoes** on his feet; and bring **the fatted calf** and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to make merry. (verses 22-24)*

*It was fitting to **make merry and be glad**, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'" (verse 32)*

*'**Rejoice with me**, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'*

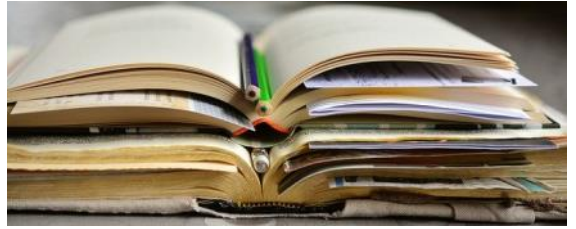
*'**Rejoice with me**, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'*

*'**Rejoice with me**, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!'*

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Weekly Bible Readings

Week of May 30



Sunday

“Becoming the Father”

Monday

1 Samuel 8:4-20

Tuesday

Matthew 28:1-10

Wednesday

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Thursday

John 11:17-27

Friday

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Saturday

Rest and Reflect



First News First

Weekly Edition

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

May 30, 2021

The **altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Strohmenger, placed by Jim and Sue Chilton.

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 adultministry@fumchurch.com 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 1785eaton@gmail.com 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** – Currently studying, *Brave*, by local author Tabitha Deller. 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 amazon.com and contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com 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.
 - **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.
 - **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 waydeleister@outlook.com 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.
 - **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 adultministry@fumchurch.com 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 adultministry@fumchurch.com to talk about your idea and to get the ball rolling!

Praying Follower

Hospitalized: Helen Ritter

Recovering at Home/Rehabilitation: Skip Hutter

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 [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

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 [church website](#)) 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

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 [here](#). 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 [here](#). Thanks for sharing and caring for our community! Questions about the Little Free Pantry, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.



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: <https://forms.gle/sT6XwhinjhKREhrF7>. ***Please respond by TODAY!***

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 <http://www.susumcamps.org> 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 sdppp@msn.com or 717-697-5982 or Amy Ortiz at amy.ogden7@gmail.com. You may also contact the church office at office@fumchurch.com 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: June church **newsletter**, a **facemask**, or a supply of **greeting cards**. Please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com 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 kidscount@fumchurch.com.



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 office@fumchurch.com with any questions or for more information.

CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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://fumcmechanicsburg.mycokesburyvbs.com>

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Instagram: fouryouthministry

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, x119
worship@fumchurch.com

Director of Discipleship:

Tina Eaton
717-766-4611, x104
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Director of Congregational Care Ministry:

Janice Bowen
766-4611, x112
wecare@fumchurch.com

Outreach Director:

Lori Hoffnagle
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Youth Pastor:

Lisa Aronson
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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
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Office Manager/Finance Secretary:

Ellen Hill
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Facilities Coordinator:

Tom Ziegler
717-766-4611, x105
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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