

First News First

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors



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"Thank You Dawanna!"

When our church sanctuary was built 110 years ago, a marvelous scene was chosen for one of the two large stained glass windows. The scene is reported in Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. (Matthew 19:13-15, Mark 10:13-16, Luke 18:15-17)

Every child is precious to Jesus.

1. Jesus' love for children was so widely known that generations later Matthew, Mark, and Luke all gave it a prominent place in the gospel story!
2. People in Jesus' day had a passion for bringing their kids to Jesus. They went to such great lengths to have him bless them, even when the stern disciples told them, "You're not welcome here!"
3. Jesus had harsh words for those who tried to shoo kids away!
4. Jesus lifted up kids as models of discipleship. He said, "Unless you accept God's kingdom in the simplicity of a little child you won't get in."
5. Jesus found great joy in being with children, taking them in his arms, laying hands on them, and blessing them!

As I think of how precious every child is to Jesus, I rejoice knowing that generations of children have come to know Jesus through First Church. Many of you have devoted yourselves to our children's ministry. **In this issue of First News First I especially want to thank Dawn Fisher and Anna Harris.** As many of you know, Dawn and Anna are "retiring" as our Co-Directors of Children's Ministry as of July 15, 2021.

With the support of parents and other "Partners in Ministry," Dawn and Anna have joyfully, lovingly, and enthusiastically blessed children and families in our church and our community. They have provided exceptional leadership for special events like Vacation Bible School, the Passion Play, Night in Bethlehem, and the Family Christmas Eve Service. They have also coordinated ongoing ministries like the church nursery, Sunday School, Kid Worship, Wonderful Wednesday and so much more. And, we have all been wonderfully blessed by the video productions of "Dawanna!" that enriched our online and in person worship services.

Dawn and Anna, thank you for showing us in so many ways that every child is precious to Jesus!

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is conducting a search for a new Director (or Co-Directors) of Children and Family Ministries. More details are included in this issue. Please join me in prayer for our next step in responding to the call of Jesus to bless children!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Denny



Adult Groups, Studies and More

Are you looking for new ways to grow closer to Christ that fit your summer schedule? Check out our weekly Bible reading plan (on page 10), which coordinates with our worship sermon series, or consider joining one of the groups/studies listed below. Also, if you are in need of a Bible, please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com. Large-print versions are available.

- **Combined Adult Summer Sunday School** – Adults of all ages who are ready to meet in person are invited to enjoy a series of lessons centered around the theme “Respond”. This series will run from July 4 through September 5 and will meet from 9:40 - 10:40 a.m. in room #123. Taught by various First Church leaders, these lessons will touch on scripture from Proverbs, the Book of Ruth, Mark’s Gospel, the Book of Job and more. Questions? Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com.
- **Wednesday Men’s Group** – This group enjoys great fellowship and great short-term Bible studies on various men’s topics. They are preparing to begin a new study in July, so now is the perfect time to join! Currently meeting in person outside at the home of Barry Eaton at 8:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Contact Barry at 1785eaton@gmail.com if interested.
- **Women’s Summer Book Club** – Love to read and interested in reading something together with First Church friends? Pick up a copy of *No One Ever Asked* by award-winning author Katie Ganshert. Inspired by real-world events, this story explores the way we see one another, the lies we tell ourselves and the results of our blindness to the truth. Contact Tina Eaton to let her know you are reading, and we will pick some dates in August to gather for fellowship and book discussion.
- **Interested in starting a new group?** It can be a group gathered around a common activity, interest or life stage. Contact Tina Eaton to talk about your idea, receive resources and tips, and get started today!

Connect Using The Bible App

Check out the YouVersion Bible app, available for both android and iOS smartphones/tablets, or on your laptop at bible.com. There are many wonderful devotional studies, plus you can create groups to study, chat with friends and share prayer requests!

From the Library

Happy 4th of July! I hope the holiday is filled with sparklers, picnics and best of all, family! As the church is slowly opening, I am looking forward to showing off the library and all the wonderful Christian fiction we have available for your summer reading. Hope it is soon! But until then, we will have to settle for my telling you all about it. If you would like an appointment to pick up some new reading material call Pam or me, Donna, for an appointment.

Beth Wiseman is a library favorite for Amish books. **Picture of Love** and **An Unlikely Match** are the first two in the series with the third book, **Season of Change**, arriving in late October. Called the *Amish Inn Series*, each book is a romance set at the Peony Inn with the inn keepers, Esther and Lizzie, matchmaking for all their unmarried employees. Esther and Lizzie are widows, and while they continue to match-make, they realize the future must be left in God’s hands. In **Picture of Love** Naomi and Amos meet at the inn, but both are recovering from heartache and believe they will never find love again. Can true love blossom from the deepest wounds?—you’ll have to find that out for yourself. In **An Unlikely Match**, Evelyn Schrock has no interest in any young man in her small Amish community. But when Jayce Clarkson comes to town to work on a movie set in town, Evelyn is very interested. But can she really be interested in leaving the life and Amish ways for Los Angeles? This may be a very twisty path to true love—letting you be the judge.

Rachel Dylan is wrapping up her trilogy, *Capital Intrigue* with book three, **Power Play. End Game and Backlash** are already on the shelf for those who don’t want to start a series until they all are available. The three books feature one of three best friends who must face down danger and adversaries to do her job and do it with courage. In **Power Play**, Vivian Steele is an attorney at the state department, who witnesses

two ambassadors collapse from poison at a diplomatic dinner. When she joins a joint FBI task force, she finds her by-the-book style clashing with Jacob Cruz, a former Navy Seal, who is unhampered by rules and regulations. But as the investigation becomes more dangerous, Viv finds Jacob to be a man she can trust, and someone who just might keep her alive. Plan on a late night for finishing this suspenseful page turner. I hope you have August 21 circled in red on your calendar so you won't miss the library sale and UMW sale. The library is currently accepting donations of gently used adult and children's books, CDs, DVDs, and jigsaw puzzles (**please** no videos, cassettes, or encyclopedias). Then when you have made room on your bookshelf, attend the sale in August to restock. Donations can be left outside the library at any time, but for large donations, call Pam or Donna to arrange a time to bring them in.

Hope to see you in person soon!

~ Pam and Donna

ACCESS Team Scholarship

A scholarship for a graduating high school senior or someone who is currently an undergraduate/graduate student who desires to work in specific career/occupational programs with the intention of helping those with intellectual and developmental disabilities explore and achieve their highest potential is being provided by the ACCESS Team at First Church.

Eligible fields include childcare; human, public or social services; teaching; physical, occupational, speech or music therapy; sign language and psychology.

The applicant **does not** need to be a member of First Church to apply. We are sharing this information with you as you may be aware of someone studying for a career which would help and serve individuals and families with developmental disabilities.

Those who are interested should complete an application, found on page 12. Applications are also available in the church office by calling [717-766-4611](tel:717-766-4611) or from members of the ACCESS Team. **Applications must be submitted by July 18** to be available for the upcoming school year. More information can be found on the application form. Questions, contact Karin McHale at [717-379-8329](tel:717-379-8329) or karinmch@comcast.net.

Praying Follower



Weekly Prayer Letter

If you have not already done so, sign up for our weekly prayer email so that you can receive a list of praises and requests from our church family. Contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com to share requests and to sign up for this once-a-week list.

July Prayer Challenge

Prayer is vitally important! Prayer is what we do to actively participate in growing in our love for and relationship with God. Being a praying follower is one of the things we highly value at First Church, and that's why we have been creating special prayer challenges that help us all stretch our prayer muscles!

Our prayer challenge for July is called "**10 Minutes with God**". Simply choose a time and place that you can make your 10-minute appointment with God every day, and stick with it for the 31 days of July! This is not so much of a challenge in learning *how* to pray, but is more about the *discipline* of sticking with it and making a *habit of prayer* for a life with God.

Some of you may have already developed this prayer habit – If so, that's great! No matter if you have already developed this habit or not, feel free to use the prompts below during your 10-minute appointment with God. If your appointment gets cut short or something in your day causes it to be delayed, that's ok, but make sure to fit it in your day somewhere. The intention is to build a habit that will deepen your relationship with God. Happy praying!

GRATITUDE: Begin by thinking about what you are most grateful for today. Is there a word or attribute of God that comes to mind? Take a moment to focus on that and thank God for who he is and what he's done that makes you feel this way.

AWARENESS: Now that you've entered this quiet, reflective state, revisit the times in the past 24 hours when you were or were not your best self. Talk to God and listen to what He is teaching you about these things.

SIGNIFICANT MOMENT: Did you have any special moments in the past 24 hours? It could have been an event or interaction with a person. Take time to sit in the silence and listen for what God might be trying to say to you through these significant moments.

PEACE: Ask God to forgive you for any wrong-doings (it could be against God, another person or even yourself). Ask him to show you if there is any relationship repairing needed, then ask him to fill you with his peace about these things.

OTHERS: Lift up to God anyone that you feel called to pray for today, asking Him to bless and guide them.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Close your 10-minute appointment with God using the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray.



Passionate Worshipper



New Sermon Series — “All Day Every Day”

There are 168 hours in a week. The typical follower of Jesus spends one hour a week in church. What about the other 167 hours? The New Testament Book of James has been called the handbook of practical Christianity. In this 12-week journey through James, we will discover how to follow Christ humbly, obediently, and with an open heart all day every day! We hope that you will join us for the following messages in July:

- July 4 *"Considering It All Joy"* James 1:1-11
- July 11 *"Growing Strong In Broken Places"* James 1:12-16
- July 18 *"Inviting God to Change My Heart"* James 1:17-21
- July 25 Guest Preacher: Rev. Marian Hartman

Livestream Team — New Ministry

Livestream worship is underway! This new group forming has exciting potential to reach beyond the walls of our church. *Because of the higher demand for more volunteers to livestream, we are looking for more individuals to help grow our livestream team.* No prior experience is needed, and training is provided. If you would like to meet the challenge of modern church and advance the kingdom into a digital era, please contact Sarah Pugh at worship@fumchurch.com.

Spotify Playlist

On the first Wednesday of each month, we will release a new monthly playlist on Spotify. Each song-- hand-picked by staff, musicians, and volunteers-- has been on our hearts, and prayed over for a holy and meaningful connection with our congregation. For Spotify users, search for the user First UMC of Mechanicsburg, and click on the playlist titled “*Where Words Fail, Music Speaks*”. For non-Spotify users, click this link to listen to the playlist: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5rbHEYEfHei97cUI8rjwNJ?si=qzOB7cTVRg6iAU1L4BY2hA>

First Church Accepting Applications for Director of Children and Family Ministry

First United Methodist Church, Mechanicsburg is seeking a full-time Director of Children and Family Ministry. This person will be responsible for the overall vision and implementation of the faith



Going Beyond

SIMULCAST

PRISCILLA

SHIRER

WORSHIP WITH ANTHONY EVANS

**The Women's Ministry at First Church
Presents "Going Beyond" Simulcast
with Priscilla Shirer on September 25**

Join us for this exciting event offered at **First United Methodist Church, 135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg** **in-person and online!** The simulcast features:

- Whole-hearted teaching to inspire and challenge you to step into God's plan for your life.
- Powerful worship that centers your heart on Christ.
- Fellowship with other believers from around the world through the simulcast platform.

Tickets cost just \$15 and include:

All access to the sessions (10:00 am to 5:00 pm)

Lunch (in-person)

Hospitality Bag (online participants)

Access to the recorded event until 11/25/21



Please return registration with payment (payable to FUMC)

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

In-person Attendee _____ Online Attendee _____ (choose one)

(Please indicate if you need any special options for lunch - GF or Vegetarian.)

Send payment to Patti Herring, 613 Lavina Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 **OR**, you can pay via the church website at fumchurch.com and may email the form to familyzeke@verizon.net.

Check enclosed for \$15 Payment made via website

Register soon, space is limited! Deadline is 9/11/21.
Questions, contact Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net

development of children (birth through 5th grade), in partnership with their families. Education related to children and/or family ministry, or applicable experience is required. To view the full job description, visit the church website at fumchurch.com or <https://fumchurch.com/director-of-children-and-family-ministry/>. Please submit resumes to office@fumchurch.com or to Ellen Hill, Office Manager, at 135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Dedicated Missionary



Change for Water

Water is the foundation of our very lives; yet, according to CDC estimates, only 2% of the population in Sierra Leone has access to clean, readily available drinking water! Help us to support the **Well Drilling Fund for Sierra Leone** by dropping your loose change, or even bills, into the blue "Change for Water" bucket located at our Sierra Leone display in the Tower hallway. 100% of your donations will be used to provide training and dig wells for schools and communities in need.

VIM Trips

The Susquehanna Conference Volunteers invites you to join virtual mission trips! If you are interested, visit the National VIM website at <https://www.umvim.org/virtual-missions>. These are great ways to learn about all the mission trip opportunities and may inspire you to sign up for a trip in the future!

Isaiah 61 Returns in Harrisburg!

First Church is pleased to support Isaiah 61 Ministries, a local organization that serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County. They provide a variety of services including a soup kitchen, clothing bank and Life groups. Specifically, First Church members help serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. The next volunteer opportunity is Wednesday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m. New safety protocols have been established, such as wearing a mask, gloves and physical distancing. If you would like to carpool or have any questions, please contact Tiffany Holland tholland1967@gmail.com.

UMW MissionU, July 15, 16 and 17

New for 2021, the annual UMW learning event will be virtual! The dates are July 15, July 16 and 17, 2021.

- July 15 Opening and Zoom orientation.
- July 16 Study: Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom – Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship. **Study Leader:** Deaconess Barbara Drake from the Eastern PA Conference.
- July 17 Study: Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools. **Study Leader:** Deaconess Jane Grays from the Baltimore/Washington Conference.

You can find the registration form at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjdd-L1o7c_mhjl1pOR86EbmiVFb5fxfdCdiJOTX6yWt6HVA/viewform.

All are welcome to attend these important studies. Watch for more information about registration. If you have questions about United Methodist Women or attending the virtual MissionU, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com or 717-732-6430.

UMW Conference Annual Day, November 6, 2021 – Save the Date!

The Susquehanna Conference United Methodist Women will be holding their Annual Day at Fishing Creek Salem, Goldsboro on Saturday, November 6 from 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. At this time, they are planning for an in-person event, however, they plan to also offer Annual Day via livestream for those who cannot attend in person. The topic will be: *Championing Mental Wellness*, with keynote speaker, Sharon Engdahl, Executive Director of the Mental Wellness Awareness Association for Pennsylvania. All women are welcome to attend! Watch for more information on how to register. Contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com with any questions.

Get Connected With Service Opportunities

If you have not already done so, sign up to receive our periodic “Service Opportunities” email. Contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com to share opportunities and to sign up.

Relationship Builder



Extravagant Hospitality

Are you involved in our church’s Hospitality Ministry? Yes, you are! While you may not “officially” be on the Welcoming Ministry Committee, you are most definitely a part of our hospitality ministry! This ministry is the church’s first effort of friendliness and kindness. It has a simple, yet important, goal ~ to serve the Lord by making everyone who attends a service feel welcome and important from the moment they drive or walk on to the church property! There are many ways to do this....through courteous manners, warm smiles, kind words. This ministry requires a sincerity and genuineness. A genuine love for God. An honest desire to please the Lord. A sincere love for the church. A heart for people to grow in Christ. Yes, we are ALL called to offer Christ’s hospitality to others....we are ALL called to be a part of our hospitality ministry!

Squares and Prayers Update

The Squares and Prayers Quilting and Sewing Circle will continue to work from home until the first Monday after Labor Day. We welcome anyone who can knot, sew, or for fellowship. Thank you for your continual support!

Widows/Widowers Fellowship

The widows/widowers fellowship will dine together on Tuesday, July 13 at Snapper’s restaurant at 5:00 p.m. If you plan on attending, please contact Bonnie Guyer at [717-766-0145](tel:717-766-0145).

Joy in the Morning - a small group invitation!

If you live with chronic pain or ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join in sharing discussion and supportive friendship with this spiritually-focused small group. We meet every 3-4 weeks on Mondays from from 3:30-4:30. Terry Ketrow and Janice Bowen co-facilitate, drawing upon readings from the book, [With the Dawn Rejoicing](#). For more information, contact Janice Bowen at [717-766-4611](tel:717-766-4611) x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com.

Trinity’s Closet on Main

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is holding a Clothing Closet on the 2nd Saturday of each month. They have a variety of gently used clothes (in all sizes) for men and women to choose from. Breakfast to go is provided for each person - including a cup of coffee! The Closet is open from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. every 2nd Saturday. Trinity is located at 132 E. Main Street, Mechanicsburg. The next Clothing Closet will be held on Saturday, July 10. Questions, contact Vanessa Storlie at trinityburgoutreach@gmail.com.

Third Friday Food Trucks, Friday, July 16

We are excited to announce that we are now offering seating at the Food Trucks on July 16 in our parking lot! The time is 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. We will be welcoming the following trucks in July: Wichway Sandwiches, Potato Coop, Get Smok'd, Philly Hoagie, Lucky Penny, Farm Show Milkshakes, and Savory’s Funnel Cakes. The upcoming dates are, August 20, September 17 and October 15. Check our Facebook page and church website closer to the next date, as the trucks may change. New for this year, we will be hosting the Harrisburg Singers at the August 20 date, watch for more details!

FUMC Garden Tour 2021

In celebration of all things lovely, green and growing, we are offering periodic Sunday evening (5-7 pm) ‘Garden Tours’ throughout the summer. Mark your calendar for Sunday evening, July 11 for a stroll

through Steve Zimmerman's garden. For more information, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x 112.

Save the Date, Community Day, August 7, 2021

The Mechanicsburg Borough and Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership are excited to announce the date for Community Day in the Park, Saturday, August 7, 2021! The event features live music, old-fashioned baseball exhibition, inflatables and games, food trucks, chicken BBQ, and much more! The event will be held at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend this free family-friendly outdoor event! If you would like more information, feel free to contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.

UMW Yard, Book and Bake Sale, August 21, 2021

We are looking forward to the annual UMW Yard, Book and Bake Sale in our church parking lot on Saturday, August 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 12noon. See all the details below:

- Yard sale spots in the parking lot (2 parking spaces) are still \$10, proceeds benefit the UMW. To reserve your spot, contact Donna Nichols at djnichols43@hotmail.com. Sign-ups begin on July 1 on a first-come, first serve basis. You may cancel up to August 1, with a refund, but no refund after that date (we will consider it a donation to the UMW).
- Support our wonderful Youth by donating your treasures! The Youth will sell the items to raise funds for future mission trips. The collection will start August 9 in the Multi-Purpose room, watch for more details on where and when to bring your donations. Questions, contact Lisa Aronson at uthrock@fumchurch.com.
- The Children's Department will once again hand out free school supplies in handmade pouches to children who visit the sale.
- The church Library will have a variety of books, puzzles, CD's and DVD's available for purchase. The library is asking for gently used children and adult books, puzzles, CDs and DVDs (but **please** no videos, cassettes or encyclopedias) for our annual sale. Proceeds from the sale keep the most current Christian fiction on our shelves for your reading pleasure. Donations can be left outside the church library (near Alley entrance) on Sunday mornings. If you have a large donation call Pam Van Kirk at 717-903-9196 or Donna Nichols 717-574-9894 to make arrangements for a drop off. Thanks in advance.
- The church Handbell Choirs will have food available for purchase to support their ministry of music.
- Enjoy tasty treats from the UMW Bake Sale! (We will be asking for donations of baked goods, so start thinking of something yummy to make!) To donate baked goods, contact Denise Swank at dmswank@comcast.net or 717-795-8747. See Time to Sign Up here: <https://www.timetosignup.com/kidscount/sheet/1301964>.

There is something for everyone at the sale! If you have any questions, please contact Donna Nichols at djnichols43@hotmail.com. Thanks for your support!

Save the Date for Sewing

We hope to be able to offer a sewing day on October 16 to make Feminine Hygiene Kits for Mission Central. Last year due to Covid we were unable to work on this valuable project and we are praying this year will be a go. Please watch for more details as the date gets closer.

Growing the Glean Team!

This growing season, we are excited to offer the Biblical practice of gleaning in Mechanicsburg! As depicted in scripture, gleaning occurred when some of the fallen grain during harvest was intentionally left behind, including whole corners of the fields as required by Israelite law. The intention was to offer an unharvested portion of grain for others to collect in helping to feed the poor, the orphans, widows and foreigners, as a safety net and resource to provide for their needs.

We plan to glean some local crops to share with our own community! If you would like to be notified when

a gleaning opportunity pops-up, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 to have your name/contact information added to the FUMC 2021 ‘Glean Team’! All are welcome and encouraged to participate, this is a great family project!

To read more about gleaning in Biblical times, turn to the book of Ruth where Ruth was able to glean the fields of Boaz to sustain herself and her mother-in-law, Naomi: “*And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, ‘Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.’ Naomi said to her, ‘Go ahead, my daughter,’*” (Ruth 2:2).

Zumba Gold Offered via Zoom!

New year, new you! Since March 2020, the Zumba instructor, Lisa Lynch, has been offering the Zumba Gold classes via Zoom on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to join in one of her classes or have questions, you can email her at lisaloveszumba2@gmail.com.

Generous Giver

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through May 31, 2021 — 42% of year

General Fund

2021 budget	\$ 905,000	
Expected income	\$ 377,083	(42% of budget)
Actual giving	\$ 381,777	(42% of budget)
Actual expenses	\$ 369,351	(41% of budget)

Despite our shortfall in giving this month, our year-to-date financial position continues to be blessed by the faithfulness of our Lord through the gifts of our congregation and friends. Thank you again for keeping First Church in your prayers and thoughts as we go through this extraordinary time. Our expenses remain in good shape as we continue to offer online services, in addition to opening up again. Thank you for your continued support of the First Church ministry with your prayers and gifts.

Share the Harvest

We once again invite you to *share the harvest* with others this summer! If you have extra flowers, fruits or vegetables to share, bring them to the Little Free Pantry side shelf anytime this summer. We also hope to return a ‘Share the Harvest’ table outside the gym for Sunday mornings, so be on the look out! If you don’t have access to a garden, feel free to help yourself or share with a friend! If you have questions, contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 766-4611 x112.

Little Free Pantry Update

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. Please be sure to place items that are not expired or near expiration. If you or your group would like to place items that are not expired or near expiration. If you or your group would like to sign up, see the available months here: <https://ttsu.me/ryyunr>. A list of suggestions for the spring/summer months can be found [here](#). **Feel free to sign up for just one week, if that works better for you!** If you would like to choose a week over the summer or if you have donations for the pantry, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.





July Bible Reading Plan

Thursday, July 1 James 1:1-8
Friday, July 2 James 1:9-11
Saturday, July 3 Rest and Reflect

Sunday, July 4 "All Day Every Day: Considering It All Joy"
Monday, July 5 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Tuesday, July 6 Ephesians 1:3-14
Wednesday, July 7 Mark 6:14-29
Thursday, July 8 Psalm 24
Friday, July 9 James 1:12-16
Saturday, July 10 Rest and Reflect

Sunday, June 11 "All Day Every Day: Growing Strong In Broken Places"
Monday, July 12 2 Samuel 7:1-14
Tuesday, July 13 Psalm 89:20-37
Wednesday, July 14 Ephesians 2:11-22
Thursday, July 15 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
Friday, July 16 James 1:17-21
Saturday, July 17 Rest and Reflect

Sunday, July 18 "All Day Every Day: Inviting God to Change My Heart"
Monday, July 19 2 Samuel 11:1-15
Tuesday, July 20 Psalm 14
Wednesday, July 21 Ephesians 3:1-13
Thursday, July 22 Ephesians 3:14-21
Friday, July 23 John 6:1-21
Saturday, July 24 Rest and Reflect

Sunday, July 25 Guest Preacher: Rev. Marian Hartman
Monday, July 26 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13
Tuesday, July 27 Psalm 51:1-12
Wednesday, July 28 Ephesians 4:1-16
Thursday, July 29 Ephesians 4:17-24
Friday, July 30 John 6:24-35
Saturday, July 31 Rest and Reflect

Sunday, August 1 Guest Preachers: Rev. Pat Woolever & Rev. Marian Hartman



It is Not Too Late to Register for Summer Church Camp!

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. Periodically review the COVID-19 safety guidelines and updates as part of your camp registration and preparation process. Then access the on-line link to complete your registration.

Praying for your camping experience is very important to us! If you register online, please send the confirmation email from the camping office to our Camp Coordinators (Deb Noss or Amy Ortiz), so that we can pair you with a prayer partner. If you mail in the registration, please contact our Camp Coordinators via phone or email. The Camp Coordinators can help you with financial assistance (First Church will pay for one half of the camping fees!).

Get your registrations in early! **NOTE:** There are **Sibling Discounts** as well as a special **Invite-a-Friend Gift** (a custom logo hammock) if you invite a friend who has never been to a Conference camp. The brochure will explain how you can claim a custom logo hammock.

Pray and ask God how He would like you to use your gifts for Him this year! Will you:

- **Attend** a camp, retreat or event this year, or
- **Volunteer** as a Dean, Nurse, Counselor or Jr. Counselor, or
- **Pray** for a camper, or
- **Provide** financial assistance to support a camper or camp program, or
- **Help** with a one-day work camp at one of the camp sites?

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.

P.S. Who doesn't like to receive mail? See what our friend **Courtney** sent to us!

Be on the look-out for more 'mail' from camp supporters!



First United Methodist Church
Mechanicsburg, PA

ACCESS Scholarship Application Form

The \$200.00 ACCESS Scholarship is open to an applicant who is a graduating high school senior or is currently an under-graduate/graduate student who: desires to work in specific career/occupational programs with the intention of helping those with intellectual and developmental disabilities explore and achieve their highest potential.

Eligible fields include childcare; human, public or social services; teaching; physical, occupational, speech or music therapy; sign language and psychology.

Section I (must be completed by all applicants)

Date: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Applicant's Telephone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Applicant's Email Address: _____

Section II (must be completed by all applicants)

Member of First United Methodist Church (FUMC)? [] Yes or [] No

How did you come to know of FUMC? _____

Name of College/University attending or planning to attend: _____

Major/Field of Study: _____

Total Estimated Cost of tuition, books, fees, travel expenses, room/board and other costs for the upcoming school year (September - May) \$ _____

Value of Grants/Scholarships already received \$ _____

Full College/University address where scholarship would be sent, if selected:

Student Identification Number: _____

Congratulations to the 2020 & 2021 Confirmands

Kendal Fisher — Being confirmed is important to Kendal because it is an important milestone in her spiritual growth, helping to grow and continue her journey in her relationship with God.

Abigail Gross — Hello my name is Abigail Gross. I am being confirmed because I want to continue to learn the ways of God and make myself a better reflection of what God wants me to be.

Carlee Guyer — Hi my name is Carlee Guyer. I am being confirmed because it is important to me that I commit to my baptismal vows.

Emily Hammaker — Hi! My name is Emily. Getting confirmed means a lot to me, to be able to make the vows for myself that my parents did at my baptism. While I certainly don't have everything about faith figured out just yet, I know that being a part of the church and a follower of Christ is the life I want to follow.

Cassidy Nuss — My name is Cassidy Nuss. Ever since I can remember, I have been going to church. I was baptized as a baby and spent every Sunday morning in small room learning about Jesus. My faith took a large step as I progressed into the youth group and experienced retreats, summer camps, and Salt'n'Light youth ministry events. While the past year has been a rough time for me mentally and emotionally, the return to confirmation classes and youth group has reminded me of the presence of our amazing God and I am excited to commit my life to Him and His great purpose.

Oliver Paris — I'm Oliver Paris. I am being confirmed because I want to meet new people in this community of Christ, and I want to get to know myself better through my faith, and confirmation is a way for me to say that I personally follow God.

Wesley Paris — My name is Wesley Paris. I live with my parents, a younger brother and my twin, and two cats. I like to read, listen to old music, play board games and sports.

Max Paris—My name is Max Paris and I am being confirmed because I feel God, and I want to be with him.

Kyle Sill — I am being confirmed because I want to be a part of a faith community where I feel I am able to grow my faith in God and in Jesus Christ, our savior. I will continue to grow in this capacity as a member of First United Methodist Church along with my family.

Madysen Small — Madysen Small has attended First United Methodist Church for 9 years. Being confirmed is important to Madysen because she understands this is the next step to growing closer with God and the church community.

Gavin Smith — My name is Gavin Smith. I am being confirmed so I can reaffirm my commitment as a follower of God and follow his plan for my life.

Ethan Travis — I am Ethan Travis. I am being confirmed because I want to continue my journey in getting closer to God.

Robert Wertz — My name is RJ. A summary of my faith is that it is well built, as I have grown up in the First United Methodist Church. I am being confirmed because I have a strong relationship with God, hoping to further strengthen it. I believe that God died on the cross to save us from our sins, and only hope to learn even more.

Congratulations Class of 2021 Graduates!

~ High School Diploma ~



Miranda Albright - Mechanicsburg Area Senior High
Future Plans: Bloomsburg University for Exercise Science

Cedar Brill - Mechanicsburg Area Senior High
Future Plans: Pennsylvania College of Technology for Forestry/Forest Ranger



Gabe Clukey - Mechanicsburg Area Senior High
Future Plans: United States Marine Corps; anticipated MOS - Drone Operations



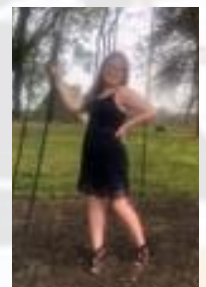
Aiden Delong - Mechanicsburg Area Senior High
Future Plans: Lafayette College for Government and Law



Courtney Nuss - Cumberland Valley High School
Future Plans: James Madison University for Hospitality Management



Lauren Sill - Cumberland Valley High School
Future Plans: Penn State for Early Childhood Education



~ Undergraduate Degree ~



Ellie Farber ~ Penn State
BA in History, BS in Economics, and BS in French and
Francophone Studies
Future Plans: Teaching English in France with TAPIF
(Teaching Assistant Program in France)

Ethan Spencer ~ Penn State
Bachelor of Music Education
Future Plans: West Virginia University for Music Performance



~ Master Degree ~



Sarah Allison ~ Messiah University
Master of Business Administration

Jason Fisher ~ Utica College
Master of Science in Cybersecurity with Malware Specialization



Church News and Notes

Our love & sympathy...

to the Ryder and Mariano families in the death of Mark Ryder on May 9
to Krissy Marshall and family in the death of Krissy's grandfather
to Leta Rohlmeier and family in the death of Rose Rohlmeier on June 14

Notes of Thanks

Our sincerest thank you to our FUMC family for their prayers, cards and condolences we received upon Roxanne's passing. *~Steve, Trace, Troy, Christina and Levi Morgan*

Thank you to everyone at FUMC for your continued prayers and support during my stepson Mark's long illness in May. What a blessing you have been through another stressful season of our lives.

~Flossie Ryder and Family

We would like to thank the church for the prayers, cards, and the support during Rose's hospitalization and her passing. Pastor Denny and others were so helpful and appreciated during this time. Our church is like family, and is so caring and supportive. Rose loved the church and the people.

~Leta Rohlmeier and Family



Special Birthdays

Veloice Washburn	July 6	Barry Adams	August 5
George Snoke	July 16	Pauline Trace	August 12
Mary Jo Skoglund.....	July 19	Becky Yost.....	August 16
Jack Koser	July 22	Jerry Sheely	August 18
Harry Woods	July 27	Morris Barr	August 22
Jean Adams.....	July 28	Kay Coldren.....	August 25
Lincoln Washburn	July 29	Joan Barth	August 27
Marty Coover.....	August 1	Victor Norris.....	August 29
Grace Koser	August 2	Dean Otto.....	August 31
Jane Heller	August 3		

Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Larry & Judi Buddenbaum married 54 years on July 1
- ♥ Marlin & Kay Simmons married 55 years on July 2
- ♥ Pat & Tracy Rainelli married 53 years on July 6
- ♥ Gary & Bonnie Klinger married 56 years on July 24



FIRST NEWS FIRST
Editor: Ellen Hill

The **deadline** for submitting articles
for the **August 2021** issue is
July 15

Early submissions always
appreciated!