

*Welcome to*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

*October 17, 2021*



***“A Servant Girl: Declaring God's Goodness ”***

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

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





# FOUNDATION SERVICE ~ 8:30 AM

Prelude

*"I know Whom I Have Believed" - arr. Bonham*

Welcome

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Opening Hymn

*"Spirit Song" - No. 347*

Opening Prayer

Praise Chorus

*"God Is So Good"*

Scripture

*2 Kings 5: 1-3, 9-15 (NRSV)*

Choir Anthem

*"I Love You Lord" - arr. Arnold B. Sherman*

Sermon

*"A Servant Girl: Declaring God's Goodness" – Pastor Denny*

Hymn of Response

*"How Great Thou Art" - No. 77*

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Closing Hymn

*"I Know Whom I Have Believed" - No. 714*

Benediction

Postlude

*"I Will Sing the Mercies of the Lord Forever" - arr. Rollin Mains*

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP

*Preaching*..... Pastor Dennis Keller

*Worship Leader* ..... Sarah Pugh

*Worship Team* ..... Caleb Flick, Sounds of Worship Choir

*Sound & Media* ..... Michael Garman, Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten, Ken Rapp



# THE GATHERING SERVICE ~ 11:00 AM

Welcome

Praise and Worship

*"See a Victory"*

*"Lord I Need You"*

Scripture

*2 Kings 5:1-3, 9-15*

Sermon

*"A Servant Girl: Declaring God's Goodness " - Pastor Denny*

Offering & Announcements

Praise and Worship

*"Way Maker"*

Benediction

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## ***LEADING IN WORSHIP***

*Preaching* ..... Pastor Dennis Keller

*Worship Leader* ..... Sarah Pugh

*Worship Team* ..... Emily Hammaker, Jason Kichline, John McHenry, Geri Nuss,  
..... Sarah Pugh, Tracy Wertz

*Sound & Media* ..... Michael Garman, Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten, Ken Rapp

# Grit: "A Servant Girl: Declaring God's Goodness"

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"God never wastes a hurt."

*In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. (1 Peter 1:6-7)*

"Pain can make us bitter or better."

*Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." (2 Kings 5:1-3)*

"Trying to do the Lord's work in your own strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, then the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you." -Corrie ten Boom

*So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean."  
But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy!  
Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. (2 Kings 5:9-12)*

*But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of*

*God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant." (2 Kings 5:13-15)*

Even when life isn't good  
I can choose to declare God's goodness!

1. Remember God's goodness **then**.

God is good (all the time!)  
All the time (God is good!)

2. Acknowledge God's goodness **now**.

God is good (all the time!)  
All the time (God is good!)

3. Anticipate God's goodness **to come**.

God is good (all the time!)  
All the time (God is good!)

*I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33)*

## Weekly Bible Readings

Week of October 17



***Sunday***

***“A Servant Girl: Declaring God’s Goodness”***

Monday

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Tuesday

Psalms 34:1-8, 19-22

Wednesday

Hebrews 7:23-28

Thursday

Mark 10:46-52

Friday

Acts 9:36-42

Saturday

Rest and Reflect



# First News First

# Weekly Edition

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

## October 17, 2021

The **altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Rev. Louis Barth, placed by his family.

The **maché basket** is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Donald Rohlmeier and Rose Rohlmeier, placed by Leta Rohlmeier and family.



### Lifelong Learner

We invite you to join us for an informative **presentation on home medical supplies and equipment** during the Sunday School hour on November 7 in the Multipurpose Room beginning at 9:45am. Robin Mueller and Zach Mace from locally owned small business, IMA Medical Supply in Carlisle, will be our speakers. Questions? Contact Janice Bowen at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112.

Stay in God's Word with our **daily Bible reading plan**, which is customized to go along with our weekly sermons! Find it on page 6 of this bulletin or on our church website, [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com).

### **Steps Beyond -**

- **Sunday School Enrichment** - All groups begin meeting this fall at a **new time from 9:45 – 10:45 am**.
  - o **Faith in Everyday Life** - Meets in room 207, targets 30-50something  
Contact: Jenell Paris at [iparis@messiah.edu](mailto:iparis@messiah.edu)  
A group focused on fellowship and friendship/mutual support in and outside the classroom. Class members share in leading reflections and discussions based on Scripture.
  - o **Growing in Christ** - Meets in Fellowship Hall, targets adults all ages/stages of faith  
Contact: Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com)  
All are invited to come and trace the steps of Jesus through Israel and explore the major themes of the Gospel of Mark. Study runs from October 10 - December 19. New participants welcome anytime!
  - o **Christian Fellowship** - Meets in room B003A/B, targets adults all ages/stages of faith  
Contact: Wayde Leister at [waydeleister@outlook.com](mailto:waydeleister@outlook.com)  
A caring group, eager to apply God's Word to life's challenges. Enjoys short-term Bible studies that challenge and inspire.
  - o **Faithful Families** - Meets in room B005, targets parents  
Contact: Bob and Tracy Wertz at [wertzfive@gmail.com](mailto:wertzfive@gmail.com)  
An active group of parents with older school-aged and young adult children who study Scripture, encourage one another, and celebrate life together in and out of the classroom.
  - o **Helping Hands** - Meets in room B004A/B, targets primarily 60+  
Contact: Bob Wertz, Sr. at [robert\\_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com](mailto:robert_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com)  
A group of active seniors who focus on studies which provide encouragement and instruction on faithful living, and who enjoy fellowship activities together outside of class.
  - o **Guyer Class** - Meets in room 123, targets primarily 70+  
Contact: Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com)  
A lecture-based class, taught by a variety of church leaders, is comprised of a group of elders in the church who use the United Methodist quarterly adult Bible lessons.

• **Additional Learning/Growth Opportunities**

- o **Wednesday Men's Group** – Currently studying "The Book of James For Men" by Vince Miller, the founder of Resolute, a mentoring ministry for men of all ages/stages of life (visit [beresolute.org](http://beresolute.org) for more information). Meets in person (outside) at the home of Barry Eaton at 8:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, but will move inside or on zoom as the weather turns colder. Contact Barry at [1785eaton@gmail.com](mailto:1785eaton@gmail.com) if interested.
- o **MOPS** – Mothers of Preschoolers meets to embrace the journey together once a month from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Wednesday evenings. Next meeting is October 20. Cost is \$32.00 (covers special guest speakers and dinner together). Fun family outings scheduled throughout the year! Contact Tina Eaton at [adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) for more details and to register.
- o **Thursday Bible Study** – Led by Juanita Guise, meets on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm on zoom. Come to study the topic of holy living in, "Live Like You Belong to God". Contact Juanita at [kguise@comcast.net](mailto:kguise@comcast.net) for more details and to order your study book (or order for \$7.99 at [shop.precept.org](http://shop.precept.org)).
- o **Monday Men's Bible Study** – Led by Ken Guise, meets on Monday evenings at 6:45 pm on zoom. Currently working on "The Key to Living by Faith", a study of the book of Hebrews. Contact Ken Guise at [guiseken100@gmail.com](mailto:guiseken100@gmail.com) for more details and the zoom link.



**Praying Follower**

**Hospice:** Victor Norris

**Recovering at Home/Rehabilitation:** Peggy Shenberger

**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](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112.

**October Prayer Challenge – Penny Prayers:** As Marion Amberg, author of the book, *Penny Prayers: True Stories of Change* says, "Engraved on every penny is a prayer – In God We Trust. This prayer can lift burdens and instill a deep peace, even in the worst of times. By saying the penny prayer, 'God, I trust in you,' we can find hope one penny at a time."

So, this month your challenge is an easy, yet profound one. Simply carry a penny in your pocket everywhere you go. When you feel stressed, worried or just need to feel God's presence, touch the penny in your pocket, feel the texture of the words on your fingertips and say the penny prayer. Then breathe deeply and remember that God is always with you.



**Passionate Worshipper**

We periodically offer **home communion** to those in our church family who, for various reasons, are unable to partake in Holy Communion during Sunday worship. Please contact Janice Bowen if you are aware of a family member or friend who may like to receive communion at home. Serving communion to a fellow-believer is a meaningful way of faith-sharing. If you would consider being a part of the team that assists with home communion, please contact Janice at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112.

**Current Sermon Series - "Grit: Endure. Persevere. Thrive":** It takes grit to follow Jesus and "run with



perseverance the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). Grit is passion and perseverance. Enemies of grit are fear, drift, trials, indifference, and Grit is something we all need these days. In this series we're going to look at the stories of some women of faith who had a "never say quit" kind of grit in the face of difficult circumstances. Their stories encourage us as we endure, persevere and thrive as followers of Jesus 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*

**Save the Date for our 2021 Church Conference!** All church members are invited to attend First UMC's Church Conference on Monday, November 1 at 6:30 pm in the green chairs section of the sanctuary as we celebrate our mission and ministry in 2021.

**Change for Water** - Help support the Well Drilling Fund by dropping your loose change, even bills, into the blue "Change for Water" bucket in the Tower entrance hallway. 100% of donations go to training and digging wells for schools/communities in Sierra Leone.

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](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

## FUMC Ministry and Employment Opportunity

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 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](http://fumchurch.com) or <https://fumchurch.com/director-of-children-and-family-ministry/>. Please submit resumes to [office@fumchurch.com](mailto:office@fumchurch.com) or to Ellen Hill, Office Manager, at 135 W. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.



### *Relationship Builder*

**Be Safe, Get Your Flu Shot!** Flu shots will be administered in the multipurpose room on Sunday, October 24th from 9:00 to 11:00 am for anyone over 18 years of age. You must pre-register on the Time to Sign up at <https://tsu.me/n7egdh> or contact Janice Bowen at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611 x112. If your insurance does not cover, the fee is \$40 (cash or check made out to VNA of Central PA). Don't wait, the slots are filling up fast!

Here is the thing about **HOSPITALITY** ~ we can practice it wherever we go! Think about that! We can practice it every time we step outside of our door or drive out of our driveway! We can practice it with our

extended family, our church family, our friends, our neighbors, our colleagues ~ the possibilities are endless! It can be as simple as a smile or a wave or as involved as delivering a meal to someone! Give it a try today!

**Ministry Safe Training-** Anyone working with children or youth in any capacity is required to complete the new online Safe Sanctuary training. You will receive an email with a link to the training and it will appear as it is coming from Pastor Denny. Questions can be directed to Dawn Fisher at [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com).



## *Generous Giver*

Christmas is just around the corner! First Church will once again be collecting shoe boxes for **Operation Christmas Child and Christmas Gifts for New Hope Ministries Christmas Blessings Express**. Visit the table outside the multipurpose room to pick up your shoe boxes and to locate the Scrip order form for gift cards for New Hope. See details [here](#). Questions? Contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

**Chicken BBQ tickets** available now! The handbell choirs are sponsoring their 20th annual Chicken BBQ on Saturday, October 30. The hours are 10am-4pm, cost is \$10. Reserve your tickets now by seeing a member of the handbell choirs, or calling or emailing Kathie Bittenbender, [rbittenben@verizon.net](mailto:rbittenben@verizon.net).

First Church is once again participating in the annual **CROP Hunger Walk TODAY, Sunday, October 17 at 1:00 pm at St. Mark Lutheran Church**. Please join us to end hunger in our community and around the world! We would love your support by donating to our page or walking with us! This year, our walk will be led by Red Robin, yay! For more information, visit our page at: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/first-walkers> or contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

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](mailto:office@fumchurch.com) with any questions or for more information.

## **CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Sunday Childcare Help Needed!!**- Your help is needed for many openings in the Children's Department for the fall. All services! Please prayerfully consider offering your help just one Sunday a month to spend some time and get to know the children of First Church. Please email [kidscount@fumchchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchchurch.com) to sign up.

## **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, x119  
worship@fumchurch.com

## **Director of Discipleship:**

Tina Eaton  
717-766-4611, x104  
adultministry@fumchurch.com

## **Director of Congregational Care:**

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

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

TBD  
717-766-4611, x118  
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  
missflossie42@gmail.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