

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

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2021
5:00 pm



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

Sunday Services
Worship: 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM
Sunday School Enrichment: 9:45 AM



Welcome, Friends,

to First Church and to this celebration.

*Christmas is a time of joy, a time of remembrance,
a time of hope, a time of sharing, a time of worship.*

*In this hour together we endeavor to focus
our minds and hearts on the Good News of great joy.*

*The God of the universe, the God of the ages,
comes to us in human form, as a baby,
not only to express God's love to us, but to save us.*

*It is an incredible, miraculous,
wondrous event, which we remember and celebrate.*

Thank you for coming.

LEADING in WORSHIP

PREACHING: Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller

LITURGIST: Sarah Pugh

WORSHIP TEAM: Janice Bowen, John Gross, Emily Hammaker, Jason Kichline,
Sarah Pugh, Tracy Wertz, Abigail Wertz

SOUND & MEDIA TEAM: Fred Espenshade, Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten, Ron Nichols

WELCOME

A CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY FOR CHRISTMAS

CAROL SINGING

..... "O Come Let Us Adore Him"
..... "Away in a Manger"

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

READING OF A CHRISTMAS STORY

THE MESSAGE

..... "It Wouldn't Be Christmas Without... Jesus"

CAROL..... "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

CANDLELIGHTING

CAROL..... "Silent Night, Holy Night"

BLESSING

CAROL "Joy to the World"



We look forward to seeing you at upcoming services and events!

December 26
Sermon Series Continues

“It Wouldn’t be Christmas Without . . .The Mess” Matthew 2:1-13

Winter 2022
New Sermon Series: “*You* are the Body”

We will be guided by Paul’s instructions in 1 Corinthians 12-15 to let the light of Christ shine around us and in us, and then through us to a world yearning for the love that “*never ends.*” (1 Corinthians 13:8). ***You*** are the Body of Christ.

February 5, 2022
The River Journey Women’s Retreat

All women are invited to our one-day women’s retreat at Mt. Asbury Retreat Center, Newville. The cost is just \$25 and includes 2 meals and program. Deadline to register is January 22, 2022. Registration and details can be found at the ministry table outside our multipurpose room or by emailing Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net.

Lent 2022

Start this Lenten season with a special time of worship on Ash Wednesday, March 2, then enhance your journey toward Easter by participating in *Draw the Circle*, our 40-day prayer challenge and study. If you are looking to strengthen your relationship with God and experience a deeper, more intentional prayer life, you’ll want to be a part of this!

Adult Sunday Enrichment Groups

We provide a variety of opportunities to connect and grow in your faith through Sunday morning enrichment groups. The start time for all of these Sunday morning groups is 9:45 am.

- o **Faith in Everyday Life** - Meets in room 207, targets 30-50somethings
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** – Hybrid (meets both on zoom and in-person in room 105), targets adults all ages/stages of faith
A friendly, caring community that loves to study the Word of God, laugh together, pray for one another, and encourage each other in faith.
- o **Christian Fellowship** – Meets in room B003, targets adults all ages/stages of faith
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
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 B004, targets primarily 60+
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+
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.

We also offer Bible studies and groups that meet all through the week. If you have questions about any of our classes or upcoming Bible studies, contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com.

Visit our website at fumchurch.com for more details and information about upcoming events, special services and programs.

Ministry Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller
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Sounds of Worship Director:

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Director of Bell & Chime Choirs:

Kathie Bittenbender
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Praise Team Director:

Sarah Pugh — worship@fumchurch.com

Organists/Accompanists:

Caleb Flick
Karen Philp

Director of Little Friends Preschool:

Jemma Church
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