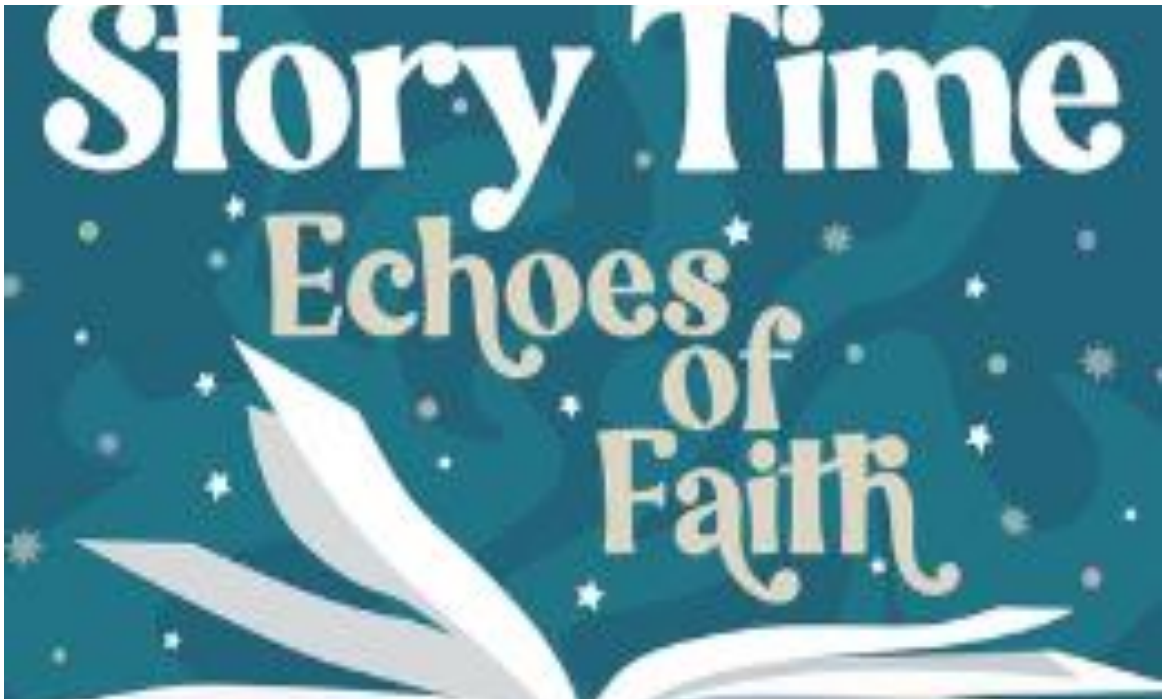


Welcome to
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors
August 21, 2022



"How To Lose A Lemur"

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





FOUNDATION SERVICE ~ 8:30 AM

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"- No. 400

Prayer of Confession

Ministry of Music

"I Love You Lord"

Story Reading

"How To Lose A Lemur"- Frann Preston-Gannon

Scripture Reading

Psalm 139:7-12; Luke 15:1-7

Sermon

How To Lose A Lemur

Hymn of Response

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"- No. 348

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Closing Hymn

"To God Be the Glory"- No. 98

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist Sarah Pugh

Worship Team Gail Leinhos, Kathie Bittenbender, George Canonizado,
Mike Ogden, Don Coldren, Men's Group

Sound & Media Jim Murdoch, Ken Rapp, Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten



THE GATHERING SERVICE ~ 11:00 AM

Welcome

Praise and Worship
"This Is Amazing Grace"
"Here Again"
"Worthy"

Story Reading
"How To Lose A Lemur"- Frann Preston-Gannon

Wee Worship Dismissal

Scripture Reading
Psalms 139:7-12; Luke 15:1-7

Sermon
How To Lose A Lemur

Pastoral Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Praise and Worship
"Goodness of God"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Sarah Pugh

Worship TeamDave Florey, Jeremiah Grube, Jason Kichline,
Geri Nuss, Tracy Wertz, Abigail Wertz

Sound & Media..... Jim Murdoch, Ken Rapp, Jason Kichline,
Holly Kurten

“How to Lose a Lemur”
Psalm 139:7-12; Luke 15:1-7

1. God is always with us.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

Psalm 139:7

Everyone knows that once a lemur takes a liking to you,
there is not much that can be done about it.

2. Too often our response is, “Leave me alone!”

So when the lemur began to follow me
one bright sunny morning in the park...

...I tried my hardest to ignore him.

⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and **I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.**”
Genesis 3:9-10

I tried hiding up a very tall tree,

but it was no good.

Before long, other lemurs began to appear.

³He was trying to see who Jesus was, **but on account of the crowd he could not**, because he was short in stature.⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. Luke 19:3-4

So I jumped on my bike and **rode**
as fast as I could to try to get away...

But I wasn't fast enough.

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, "Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." **But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.**
Jonah 1:1-2

I tried **telling them to leave.**

But they just smiled back at me and wanted to play.

¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"
Exodus 3:11

And just when I thought they were finally gone,

I realized I had traveled very far from home

And didn't know how to get back!

I was lost and all alone.

3. God never gives up on any one of us.

⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, ¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

Psalms 139:8-10

wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?

Luke 15:4

And I began to realize that maybe, just maybe,

They were not so bad after all.

Maybe we could be friends.

Because as everyone knows...

...once a lemur takes a liking to you

there is not much that can be done about it.

Weekly Bible Readings



Week of August 21st

<i>Sunday</i>	Worship
Monday	Jeremiah 2:4-13
Tuesday	Psalms 81:1, 10-16
Wednesday	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Thursday	Luke 14:1-6
Friday	Luke 14:7-14
Saturday	Rest and Reflect



First News First *Weekly Edition*

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

August 21, 2022

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of William H. Neumyer Jr. by his loving and appreciative family.



Lifelong Learner

Summer Sunday School — This combined adult class continues with the theme “Transform”, a series focused on the work of the Holy Spirit, the church and God’s mission. All lessons will be held in room 123 and all special events will be held in the multipurpose room. Start time is 9:45 a.m. Here is the schedule:

- Aug. 21 - **Presentation - U.S./Mexico Border Mission**
- Aug. 28 - Lesson - Loving Beyond Barriers
- Sept. 4 - Lesson - Follow

New Sermon Series – “One Another One Another”— The phrase “one another” appears frequently in the New Testament, and for good reason! Isn’t it beautiful when sisters and brothers in Christ “*one another one another!*” Join us in worship this fall, as we consider some of the “*one-another’s*” found in scripture. These instructions seem especially timely today as we build relationships with “one another” in the church that reflect the love of Christ to the world around us. Each week we will deepen our relationships with Christ, one another, and our neighbors, learning to love one another just as Christ has loved us.

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|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • September 4 | “Love One Another” | John 13:34-35; John 15:9-17 |
| • September 11 | “Encourage One Another” | I Thessalonians 5:1-11 |
| • September 18 | “Forgive One Another” | Colossians 3:12-17 |
| • September 25 | “Pray for One Another” | James 5:13-20 |
| • October 2 | “Be Kind to One Another” | Ephesians 4:1-6, 32 |
| • October 9 | “Bear One Another’s Burdens” | Galatians 6:1-5 |
| • October 16 | “Serve One Another” | I Peter 4:7-11 |

First Step Gathering — New to First Church? Get to know other newcomers, meet Pastor Denny and the staff, and learn more about our church on **Sunday, Sept. 18, at 9:45 a.m.** in room 207. Childcare will be available. Please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com to register.

“A Disciple’s Path” — Ready for the next step? Explore faith fundamentals or become a church member by participating in this six-week study. Together with Pastor Denny, you’ll explore living a faith-filled life through your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. This study begins **Sunday, Sept. 25, at 9:45 a.m.** in room 207. Childcare will be available. Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com to register.



Praying Follower

Prayer for our Mechanicsburg District Schools — Cover our schools in prayer! Local churches are ensuring a presence at each school in the district; First Church will pray at Northside Elementary School on **Sunday, Aug. 21, from 2:00-3:00 p.m.** All are invited to attend to pray for the building, students, teachers and staff as they start a new school year!

Joy in the Morning — 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. Terry Ketrow and Janice Bowen co-facilitate, drawing upon readings and devotionals, including from the book, *With the Dawn Rejoicing*. For more information and update on location, contact Janice Bowen at 717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com. The next meeting will take place **Sept. 19, 1:00-2:00 p.m.**



Passionate Worshipper

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. 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, ext. 112 for other ways to connect with our worship.



Dedicated Missionary

Are you looking for the **collection containers for eye glasses, Squares & Prayers quilting kits/donations and more?** Check out our central collection station outside of our library (conveniently located by the alley entrance so you can easily drop off donations on Sunday mornings when you come for worship). Thank you!

Change for Water — Support the Well Drilling Fund by dropping your loose change or bills into the blue “Change for Water” bucket in the Main Entrance hallway. 100% of donations go to training and digging wells for schools and communities in Sierra Leone.

Kentucky Disaster Relief — UMCOR and Mission Central need your support to help those affected by the flooding in Kentucky. Here are some ways you can help:

- Pray for those impacted by this devastation and the volunteers on the ground helping.
- Make a monetary donation to Mission Central’s disaster relief.
- Donate supplies for cleaning buckets:
 - o 16 oz. to 40 oz. liquid concentrate household cleaners (no spray cleaners)
 - o Reusable cleaning wipes (no terry cloth or microfiber)
 - o Scouring pads (no stainless steel or pads with soap in them)
- Volunteer in Mission Central’s warehouse or at the donation door (contact Laurie Whitmyer at lwhitmyer@missioncentral.org for details).

Another way to help those affected by the flooding is through providing campers to use as temporary shelters while local residents reclaim their existing structures. Campers should be towable with all working appliances. If you’re interested in making a donation, contact CP Foster at cpfoster8@yahoo.com or Calvary UMC of Lawrenceville at 570-827-2627.



Relationship Builder

Third Friday Food Trucks — Enjoy great food and fellowship in our parking lot on **Aug. 19, starting at 4:30 p.m.** This month’s trucks include Lucky Penny, 717 Tacos, Shredderz, Audrey’s Cup of Sunshine and Scoop O Dough. Tables and chairs provided, but feel free to bring your own lawn chair!

Annual Fall Picnic — Kick off the new season with our First Church family on **Sunday, Sept. 11**, at Pleasant View Park (90 Pleasant View Drive, Mechanicsburg). A time of worship will begin at the pavilion at 4:00 p.m., followed by a pot-luck supper and fellowship. Hot dogs, hamburgers, iced tea and water will be provided. Please bring a side dish and/or dessert to share, along with your own place settings and lawn chairs. Relax and enjoy each other’s company until the sun sets!

Pickleball in the Park — Whether you're a single player or double, whether you play pickleball every week or have never played, you're invited to join us **Tuesday evenings at 5:30** on the pickleball court at Mechanicsburg's Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park! Bring a friend and assume we will be there unless it's wet and rainy! Contact Janice Bowen at 717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com for more details.

Knit at Nite Group — This group meets on Zoom **every other Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.** Contact Mary Helm at 717-975-0925 or mthelm4@yahoo.com with questions.

Covered in Love Knitting Group — meets at **9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays** in the Fellowship Hall. If you love to knit, crochet or do some another kind of crafty work, we'd love to have you. Questions? Contact Judi Buddenbaum at 717-697-2524 or ljcbuddenbaum@verizon.net.

Share the Harvest — If you have extra flowers, fruits or vegetables, you are invited to bring them to the Share the Harvest display on the counter in the gathering area by the Children's Department. If you don't have a garden, help yourself to the items there, or take something for a friend. Questions? Contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112 *The Little Free Pantry sharing shelf has also returned for the summer if you'd like to share from your garden with the community!

Men's Breakfast — All men are invited to gather for good food and fellowship on the first Saturday of every month at Brothers Diner (705 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg). The next gathering is **at 7:30 a.m. on Sept. 3** Please contact Barry Eaton at theeaton5@verizon.net to RSVP.

Men's Hike — Enjoy the great outdoors this fall on a men's hike! Stay tuned for more details later in September and contact Joh Bowen at bowenhome720@gmail.com if you're interested in helping plan or just want to participate.



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.

Collection for Little Free Pantry — We're so grateful for the ways you bless our neighbors through this ministry! To donate items to our Little Free Pantry, place them in the collection basket inside the alley door entrance of the church on Sundays or drop them off at the church office during office hours. Most needed items include canned tuna and chicken, boxed mac and cheese, small boxes of cereal, granola bars, individual snack items and small, ready-to-eat meals. Please make sure they are non-perishable and not too far past the expiration dates. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com.

CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Want to know more and **stay connected** to the happenings in the children's department? Check out our landing page full of great information! Any questions, please contact Katie at kidscount@fumchurch.com

Back to school is just around the corner! We have some exciting upcoming events that you'll want to mark on your family's calendar:

- Aug. 20 — Annual Yard, Book and Bake Sale (with free school supply giveaways)
- Aug. 28 — Backpack Blessings and Bless Our Schools Sunday (for students, teachers and school staff)
- Sept. 11 — Fall Kickoff Sunday (KidWorship returns for 11:00 a.m. service)
- Sept. 25 — Bible Sunday

Stay tuned for more events later this fall!

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support our wonderful youth by donating your treasures to the yard sale! The youth will sell the items to raise funds for future mission trips. Questions? Contact Lisa Aronson at uthrock@fumchurch.com.

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

- Remind text list — Text @4Gyo to 81010
- Instagram — @fourgyouthministry
- Facebook — 4G - First United Methodist Youth Group
- Email — send a message to uthrock@fumchurch.com to receive emails

Lost and Found — A Bible was found in the Fellowship Hall with personal items inside. If you're missing your Bible (blue and white Common English Version), please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112.

Thank You, First Church!

Thank you to everyone involved in our "40 Years in Ministry" celebration August 14! We were blessed beyond words by the two special worship services, including the sermon by our "surprise preachers," our daughters, Jen and Rachel. The music was inspiring! The fellowship time in between services with amazing sticky buns, a slide show, with photos from our ministry across the years, and many delightful conversations blessed us, too! We will always treasure your outpouring of love through your cards, gifts, and kind words. We rejoice in the opportunity to serve with you! Thank you!

Pastor Denny and Betsy

Ministry Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller
717-766-4611, ext. 103
pastordenny@fumchurch.com

Director of Worship Arts

Sarah Pugh
717-766-4611, ext. 119
worship@fumchurch.com

Director of Discipleship:

Tina Eaton
717-766-4611, ext. 104
adultministry@fumchurch.com

Director of Congregational Care:

Janice Bowen
766-4611, ext. 112
wecare@fumchurch.com

Director of Office Management and Communications:

Jennifer Myers
717-766-4611, ext. 105
communications@fumchurch.com

Youth Pastor:

Lisa Aronson
717-766-4611, ext. 113
uthrock@fumchurch.com

Director of Children & Family Ministry:

Katie Knorr
717-766-4611, ext. 102
kidscount@fumchurch.com

Administrative Assistant:

Dawn Fisher
717-766-4611, ext. 101
office@fumchurch.com

Facilities Coordinator:

Tom Ziegler
717-766-4611, ext. 109
facilities@fumchurch.com

Head Custodian:

George Canonizado
717-766-4611, ext. 109
maintenance@fumchurch.com

Director of Finance:

Nancy Robinson
717-766-4611, ext. 120
nrobinson@fumchurch.com

Sounds of Worship Director:

Flossie Ryder
missflossie42@gmail.com

Director of Bell Choirs:

Kathie Bittenbender
rbittenben@verizon.net

Praise Team Director:

Sarah Pugh
717-766-4611, ext. 119
worship@fumchurch.com

Organists/Accompanists:

Karen Philp

Director of Little Friends Preschool:

Jemma Church
717-796-0723, ext. 111
lfns@fumchurch.com

Timeless Connections

Patti Vogl
717-319-7318
pvogl@timelessconnections.org