
WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



“Finding the True Meaning of Christmas”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

NOV. 27, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hymn

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"- No. 196

Lighting of the First Candle of Advent

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light No. 206

Scripture

Luke 2:8-20

Sounds of Worship Anthem

"Song of Bethlehem"

Sermon

Finding the True Meaning of Christmas

Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"- No. 240

Invitation, Confession & Pardon

The Great Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

The Bread & the Cup

Announcements

Closing Hymn

"O Come All Ye Faithful"- No. 234 v. 1-4

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Pastor Lisa Aronson

Accompanist..... Sarah Pugh, Sounds of Worship

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

WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



"Finding the True Meaning of Christmas"

THE GATHERING SERVICE

NOV. 27, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise & Worship
"Hope Has a Name"
"What a Beautiful Name"

Lighting of the First Candle of Advent
Wee and Kids Worship Dismissal
"Living Hope"

Scripture
Luke 2:8-20

Sermon
"Finding the True Meaning of Christmas"

Communion Prayer & Communion
Offering & Announcements

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Pastor Lisa Aronson

Worship Team.....Allison Ometz, Sara Pugh, Lauren Sanker, Tracy Wertz,
RJ Wertz, Jason Kichline

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

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

THIS WEEK

Al-Anon Meeting
Monday, 7 p.m.

Covered In Love
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

Youth Winter Retreat (Off-Site)
Friday, 5:30 p.m.

NEXT WEEK

Holiday Harmony
Sunday, 7 p.m.

Covered In Love
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

Cookie Walk
Saturday, 9 a.m.

*Scan here or
visit our website at
fumchurch.com for
more details on all
of our upcoming
events!*



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

WEEK OF NOV. 27

Sunday First Sunday of Advent

Monday Isaiah 11:1-10

Tuesday Romans 15:4-13

Wednesday Romans 15:4-13

Thursday Matthew 3:1-12

Friday Isaiah 9:2-7

Saturday Rest and Reflect

ALTAR FLOWERS

*This week's flowers are given to
the glory of God and in memory of
Harold and Doris Zimmerman by
Steve and Carl Zimmerman.*



CELEBRATE THE SEASON AT FIRST CHURCH!



JOIN US IN PERSON OR ON LIVESTREAM!

CHRISTMAS EVE

5 p.m. Family Service
10 p.m. Traditional Service

CHRISTMAS DAY

10 a.m. Worship

NEW YEARS DAY

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
11 a.m. Contemporary Worship

← REVERSE →

ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX AND
HELP SUPPORT THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY
THIS CHRISTMAS.

NO GLASS OR PLR STABLE ITEMS PLEASE

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 1 - box of cereal | <input type="checkbox"/> December 14 - packaged pasta |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 2 - peanut butter | <input type="checkbox"/> December 15 - dessert mix |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 3 - canned fruit | <input type="checkbox"/> December 16 - jelly/jam |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 4 - cup of noodles | <input type="checkbox"/> December 17 - coffee/tea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 5 - canned beans | <input type="checkbox"/> December 18 - macaroni & cheese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 6 - canned chicken soup | <input type="checkbox"/> December 19 - canned tomatos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 7 - packaged oatmeal | <input type="checkbox"/> December 20 - canned vegetable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 8 - crackers | <input type="checkbox"/> December 21 - tomato soup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 9 - canned corn/peas | <input type="checkbox"/> December 22 - granola bar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 10 - packaged tuna | <input type="checkbox"/> December 23 - apple sauce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 11 - spagehetti sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> December 24 - pudding cups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 12 - stuffing mix | <input type="checkbox"/> December 25- your choice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 13 - packaged rice | |

Thanks for helping to provide for the Little Free Pantry! Fill your bag with items each day in December.
When finished, return your filled bag to the display in the back of the green chair section of the
sanctuary at First United Methodist Church.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Sunday School | Sundays, 9:45 a.m.

A new study, "Power & Love," begins Dec. 4. These lessons (from our United Methodist quarterly curriculum) run through February 26, and new participants are welcome to join anytime! Choose from two different classes:

- **Helping Hands** – Targets adults ages 60+ and meets in Room B004. Contact Bob WertzSr. (robert_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com) with questions.
- **Guyer Class** – Targets senior adults ages 70+ and meets in Room 123. Contact Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com) with questions.

Health and Wellness Presentation | Dec. 4, 9:45 a.m.

Decluttering and Organizational Strategies. In this presentation you can learn tips from an expert on the process of organizing: how to sort, arrange, allocate and purge excess possessions. Our speaker, Carolyn Doerr, is a Certified Relocation and Transition Specialist.

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Share Your Prayer Requests

To share joys and concerns, visit our Prayer Station under the balcony to share joys or contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com) or ([717-766-4611](tel:717-766-4611), ext. 112).

Joy in the Morning | Dec. 12, 1-2 p.m.

If you deal with chronic pain or ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join this spiritually-focused small group. For more information on monthly meetings, contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com).

Advent Reads for You and Your Friends!

Looking for a great book to enjoy during this Advent season? Whether you're looking for a devotional, guided journal, or novel, visit our Staff Picks display in the gathering area to discover what some of our staff recommend. In addition, grab a copy of The Star: A Journey to Christmas. This is a perfect gift to pass along to a friend, family member or neighbor! A list of upcoming Advent activities, our Christmas Eve service information and a link to our church website is inside each book so that those receiving your gift will feel invited to join us this Christmas!

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Online Worship

Worship with us and invite others to join us any time of the week! Check out our livestream at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays or watch recorded messages on our YouTube and Facebook pages 24/7. If you're unable to access online worship services, contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com) for other ways to connect to First Church.

Holiday Concerts | Sunday, Dec. 4, and Monday, Dec. 12

First Church's Holiday Harmony Concert, which features all of our musical groups, will take place Sunday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. Also, our Handbell Choir will once again ring at the Frederickson Library in Camp Hill on Monday evening, Dec. 12. Celebrate Christmas through music with us!



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Cookie Walk Bakers Needed

Calling all bakers! We need your help with the annual Youth Cookie Walk on Dec. 17. This important fundraiser supports our summer mission trips and is a great opportunity to connect with our community. Sign up to bake by filling out a form in the main lobby or online at fum-church.com/cookiewalk.

Holiday Decorating | Nov. 28-29

Want to help decorate the church? Contact Judi Buddenbaum (ljcbuddenbaum@verizon.net or 717-805-2296) to see how you can help.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

First Saturday Men's Breakfast | Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 a.m.

Gather for good food and light-hearted fellowship on the first Saturday of each month at Brothers Restaurant (705 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg). Contact Barry Eaton (theeaton5@verizon.net) if interested in attending.

Wednesday Men's Group - First and Third Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m.

All men are invited to join this group (currently studying "Know What You're FOR" by Jeff Henderson). Meets at the home of Barry Eaton. Contact Barry (theeaton5@verizon.net) if interested. Next meeting Dec. 7.

New Church Directory!

Our new directory is almost complete, and we don't want to miss including YOU! Please ensure that your information is up-to-date by filling out a Directory Profile Update form or by downloading our Church Center app so you can create your account and update your personal information yourself. And, don't forget to add your photo! If you need assistance or would like someone to take your picture, stop by our Church Center Helpdesk in the lobby before or after Sunday worship or contact the church office.

Women's Retreat – Registration Now Open! | February 3-5, 2023

Join us at Mt. Asbury Retreat Center for our 2023 retreat, "Anxious for Nothing." Choose a one-day option or a full-weekend experience! Find more details and register on the Church Center app, or visit the retreat display in the gathering area for paper registration forms. The Early Bird registration deadline is Dec. 31. Contact Patti Herring (familyzeke@verizon.net) with questions.



GENEROUS GIVER

New Hope Ministries | Christmas Blessings Express!

Please consider purchasing a new, unopened gift for a child in need, and deliver all unwrapped gifts to one of New Hope's locations before these dates: Mechanicsburg - 11/30, Dillsburg: 12/7, Enola: 12/9. Don't have time to drop off your gift? Contact Debbie Karns at deborahkarns1@gmail.com and she will deliver for you! You can find New Hope's "Wish List" at: <https://nhm-pa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Christmas-Wish-List-2022.pdf>

KIDS

Stay Connected!

Want to know more about First Church Kids? Check out our landing page or contact Katie Knorr, Director of Children and Family Ministries (kidscount@fumchurch.com).

Free Family Movie Night | Dec. 10, 4 pm. Sign up today on Church center or email kidscount@fumchurch.com for more details.

YOUTH

Keep in Touch!

Help us connect with you so that you don't miss any of the fun!

- Join our Remind text list (text @4Gyo to 81010).
- Follow our Instagram (@four-youthministry).
- Like us on Facebook (4G- First United Methodist Youth Group).
- Email Lisa to receive emails about all things First Church Youth.

Contact Youth

Pastor Lisa Aronson (uthrock@fumchurch.com) with any questions.

Coming Up:

Cookie Walk Dec. 17

Questions for Reflection

1. What is your favorite Christmas movie? Why?
2. Where do people search for happiness at Christmastime?
3. What traditions help you to remember the true meaning of Christmas?
4. If Charlie Brown came to you unhappy at Christmas, how would you help him?
5. What are you praying for as you prepare for Christmas?

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors!
135 W. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg | 717-766-4611 | fumchurch.com