
WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



Story Time

Echoes
of
Faith



“The Word Collector”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

JULY 16, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome
Call to Worship

Opening Hymn
"Wonderful Words of Life" - No. 600

Responsive Prayer and Thy Word #601

Ministry of Music
"Romance, Op. 36"

Story Book
"The Word Collector", by Peter H. Reynolds

Scripture
Psalms 119:97-105

Sermon
"The Word Collector"

Hymn
"Open My Eyes, That I May See" #454

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
Announcements and Offering
Doxology

Closing Hymn
"I Love to Tell the Story" #156

Benediction
Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Pastor Lisa Aronson

Accompanist..... Anthony Ciucci, Oliver Paris

Sound and Media..... Jim Murdoch, Michael Garman, Holly Kurten, Sarah Pugh

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

THIS WEEK

Vacation Bible School

Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - Noon

Isaiah 61

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Third Friday Food Trucks

Friday, 4:30 p.m.

NEXT WEEK

Rejoicing Spirits

Sunday, 4:30 p.m.

Women's Book Club

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.

Movie Night

Friday, 6 p.m.

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



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

WEEK OF JULY 16

Sunday

Worship

Monday

Genesis 28:10-19a

Tuesday

Psalms 139:1-12

Wednesday

Psalms 139:13-24

Thursday

Romans 8:12-25

Friday

Matthew 13:24-43

Saturday

Rest and Reflect

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the
glory of God.

TEACHING NOTES

“The Word Collector”

By Peter H. Reynolds

First in the Series: “Story Time: Echoes of Faith”

Jerome collected words.

1. Store up God’s Word in your heart.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105*

*He collected words he heard.
Certain words caught his attention.*

*He collected words he saw.
Certain words jumped out at him.*

*He collected words he read.
Certain words popped off the page*

*There were words he did not know the meaning of at first,
but they were marvelous to say.*

*¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction,
and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient,
equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17*

2. Sharing God’s Word even in simple ways can make a powerful impact.

*The more words he knew the more
clearly he could share with the world
what he was thinking, feeling, and dreaming.*

3. Joy is found in scattering the good seed of God's Word everywhere.

*He smiled as he emptied his collection of words
into the wind.*

*He saw children in the valley below...
...scurrying about collecting words from the breeze.*

Jerome had no words to describe how happy that made him.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Do you have a "life verse" that you return to often? Are there other words from Scripture that are especially meaningful to you?
2. Where do you stop, look, and listen as you collect God's Word?
3. What challenges or obstacles make it difficult to collect God's Word?
4. When have you been surprised or delighted by something you've discovered in God's Word?
5. In your day to day life, how do you share God's Word with others?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Summer Sunday School | Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Sundays in July and August we are offering one combined adult class entitled, "Inspired by God," which will meet in room 123 (the Guyer Classroom). In addition, mark your calendar for these special mission presentations/activities:

- July 23: Youth Mission Presentation – Mayfield, Kentucky Mission Trip (Multipurpose Room)
 - July 30: Mission Presentation – One80 Ministries (Multipurpose Room)
 - August 6: Mission Presentation – Josh & Megan Herring, DiscipleMakers (Multipurpose Room)
 - August 20: Mission Activity – CARE Kits for Mission Central (for all ages, Fellowship Hall)
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PRAYING FOLLOWER

Share Your Prayer Requests

To share joys and concerns, visit our Prayer Station under the balcony or contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112). While you're there, help yourself to a devotional book or journal to enhance your personal prayer time.

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Online Worship

Worship with us and invite others to join 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.

Handbell Mini Camp | July 24-27

Want to try out playing handbells, enhance your technique, or just spend time with other ringers? Whether you're a player or a director, have played handbells for years or have never picked one up, we'd love for you to join us. Mix and match sessions and come to as many or as few as you'd like — just be sure to sign up by July 18! Visit our website or contact Kathie Bittenbender (rbittenben@verizon.net) to learn more and sign up!



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Mission Central CARE Kits | Sunday, Aug. 20, 9:45 a.m.

Mission Central is a Mechanicsburg-based nonprofit dedicated to connecting God's resources with human need, including through disaster relief efforts. Our goal is to provide supplies and assemble at least 75 CARE Kits for Mission Central. We invite you to join us in the joy of serving by donating items and helping us assemble the kits. All items must be new. Do not wash any of the items (they will be considered used). Please remove all packaging except for toothbrushes and soap. All kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into other countries, it is important that kits contain these exact items:

- Combs (any size or shape, including picks and pocket combs)
- Metal nail files or toenail clippers (no emery boards)
- Bath-size soaps (2.5 oz. and larger; no Ivory, Jergens or Lisa brand soaps)
- Toothbrushes (adult size; ensure packaging is completely sealed)
- Adhesive bandages (6 3/4" to 1" width; Band Aid brand preferred)
- Gallon-size reclosable plastic bags (Ziploc-style)

Stop by the display table in the main entrance hallway to learn more!

New Hope Ministries School Supplies Collection | Through Aug. 7

New Hope Ministries will once again hold it's annual collection of school supplies for local kids in need. First Church will collect *index cards, three-ring binders, pencil cases, markers and single folders*. You can place donations at the New Hope display right inside the main entrance.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Pickleball in the Park | Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m.

Join us on the pickleball court at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park (across from the pool) for some fun and games! No experience is necessary, and paddles and balls will be available to borrow. In the event of bad weather, we will play in the multipurpose room. Contact Janice Bowen ([717-766-4611](tel:717-766-4611), ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions.



GENEROUS GIVER

Giving to First Church

We're so grateful for all the ways you support First Church – through your prayers, time, talents and resources. Everything you give to First Church helps us build disciples and love our neighbors. You can place any tithes or offerings in the baskets as you exit the sanctuary, send them into the church office, or give online via our website (fumchurch.com) or on the Church Center app.

KIDS

Stay Connected!

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

Wee Worship for the Summer

We offer child care and special worship during Sunday services through the summer for kids ages six and under.

Movie Night and Picnic | July 28

Join us at 6 p.m. for an outdoor picnic in the green space followed by a family movie in the multi-purpose room.

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 (@fourgyouthministry).
- Like us on Facebook (4G — First United Methodist Youth Group).
- Email Lisa to receive emails about all things First Church Youth.

Coming Up

Impact | July 26-30

Thanks for joining us in worship!

8:30 a.m.	FOUNDATION SERVICE (Traditional)
9:45 a.m.	SUNDAY SCHOOL (View classes at fumchurch.com)
11 a.m.	THE GATHERING SERVICE (Modern)
4 p.m.	REJOICING SPIRITS (Fourth Sunday of each month)

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

135 W. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg | 717-766-4611 | fumchurch.com | [@fumchurch](https://www.instagram.com/fumchurch)