

---

WELCOME TO

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



# Story Time

## Echoes of Faith



*“Strictly No Elephants”*

FOUNDATION SERVICE

AUG. 13, 2023

---

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude  
Welcome  
Call to Worship

Hymn  
*"Jesus Calls Us" (No. 398)*

Opening Prayer

Ministry of Music  
*"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"*

Story Book  
*"Strictly No Elephants"*

Scripture  
*Matthew 4:18-25*

Sermon  
*"Strictly No Elephants"*

Hymn  
*"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" (No. 344)*

Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer (using "sins" and "sinners")

Announcements and Offering  
Doxology (No. 94)  
Offering Prayer

Closing Hymn  
*"The Summons"*

Benediction  
Postlude

## **LEADING IN WORSHIP**

Pastor.....Pastor Denny Keller

Liturgist.....Sarah Pugh

Accompanist.....Anthony Ciucci

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

---

WELCOME TO

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



# Story Time

## Echoes of Faith



***“Strictly No Elephants”***

THE GATHERING SERVICE  
AUG. 13, 2023

---

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise & Worship  
*"Death Was Arrested"*  
*"King of My Heart"*  
*"To The End"*

Story Book  
*"Strictly No Elephants"* by Lisa Mantchev and Taeun Yoo

Summer Child Care Dismissal

Scripture:  
*Matthew 4:19*

Sermon  
*Strictly No Elephants*

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements and Offering

Praise and Worship  
*"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"*

Benediction

Postlude

## **LEADING IN WORSHIP**

Pastor.....Pastor Denny Keller

Worship Leader.....Sarah Pugh

Worship Team.....George Canonizado, John Gross, Allison Ometz, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker

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

# COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

## ***THIS WEEK***

### **Isaiah 61**

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

### **Third Friday Food Trucks**

Friday, 4:30-8 p.m.

### **Yard, Book and Bake Sale**

Saturday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

---

## ***NEXT WEEK***

### **Mission Activity: CARE Kits**

Sunday, 9:45 a.m.

### **Pickleball in the Park**

Tuesday, 5-7 p.m.

### **Free Summer Movie Night**

Friday, 6 p.m.

---

***Scan here or  
visit our website at  
[fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) for  
more details on all  
of our upcoming  
events!***



# WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

## ***WEEK OF AUG. 13***

**Sunday**

Worship

**Monday**

Genesis 45:1-15

**Tuesday**

Psalm 133

**Wednesday**

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

**Thursday**

Matthew 15:10-20

**Friday**

Matthew 15:21-28

**Saturday**

Rest and Reflect

## ALTAR FLOWERS

*This week's flowers are given to  
the glory of God and in loving  
memory of Elizabeth C. Brandt by  
C. Richard Brandt, II.*

# TEACHING NOTES

## “Strictly No Elephants” Matthew 4:18-25

### 1. Jesus forms a community where every person is valued.

***18As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. 19And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” 20Immediately they left their nets and followed him.***

***21As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. 22Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.***

Matthew 4:18-22

***As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.***

Matthew 9:9

***So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed by demons or having epilepsy or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them.***

Matthew 4:24

### 2. Jesus calls us to paint our own sign!

In the midst of our family relationships...

***As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers.***

Matthew 4:18

*As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, **James son of Zebedee and his brother John**, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.*

Matthew 4:21

In the midst of everyday life...

*As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, **casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers.***

Matthew 4:18

*As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, **in the boat** with their father Zebedee, **mending their nets**, and he called them.*

Matthew 4:21

Immediately!

***Immediately** they left their nets and followed him.*

Matthew 4:20

***Immediately** they left the boat and their father and followed him.*

Matthew 4:22

### **Questions for Reflection:**

1. When have you felt left out? What was that like for you?
2. Who sees the "Strictly No Elephants" sign in this community?
3. Who has welcomed and modeled hospitality for you?
4. How will you practice hospitality in your family, in your daily life and in our church family?
5. Why is there a sense of urgency for responding to the call of Jesus to paint your own welcome sign?

# 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 our special mission activity on Aug. 20: assembling CARE Kits for Mission Central (all ages, Fellowship Hall).

---

## **PRAYING FOLLOWER**

### **Backpack Blessings | NEXT SUNDAY, Aug. 20, 8:30 and 11 a.m.**

Bring your backpacks to Sunday services, where we'll have a special prayer time for our teachers, students and school staff as they kick off a new school year.

### **Pray For Our Schools | Sunday, Aug. 27, 4-5 p.m.**

Join other Mechanicsburg churches in praying for our local schools as they begin a new year. First Church will lead prayers at either Broad Street Elementary or Northside Elementary, but all are welcome to go to the front entrance of any Mechanicsburg district school building to pray for our students, teachers, school staff and their families.

### **Share Your Joys and Prayer Concerns With Us!**

Green prayer cards are located in the pews and at the prayer station under the balcony. Simply fill one out during worship and place in the offering basket or Janice Bowen's mailbox. You can also contact Janice directly ([wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611, ext. 112).

---

## **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](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) for other ways to connect to First Church.

---

## **DEDICATED MISSIONARY**

### **Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry | Wednesday, Aug. 16, 6:30 p.m.**

Isaiah 61 Ministries serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County through a variety of services. First Church members help serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. If you have any questions or would like to carpool, please contact Tiffany Holland ([tholland1967@gmail.com](mailto:tholland1967@gmail.com)).



## **RELATIONSHIP BUILDER**

### **Third Friday Food Trucks | Friday, Aug. 18, 4:30-8 p.m.**

Each month, we welcome several gourmet food trucks that serve a variety of delicious food to join us in our parking lot. This is a great opportunity to meet our neighbors in a fun and casual atmosphere. Join us for dinner and enjoy special music on the patio from 5 to 7 p.m. This month, we welcome 717 Burritos, Grapplin Crab, Potato Coop, Momo BBQ, Quinn's Coffee Bar and Whistle Stop on Wheels. Check our website and Facebook page for updates.

### **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, ext. 112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) with questions.

---

## **GENEROUS GIVER**

### **Camp Fancy Gala Honoring Mike and Nadine Ogden | Saturday, Sept. 9, 4-8 p.m.**

You're invited to Camp Fancy – an evening of inspiration, fun and generosity at the Conference Center at Central Penn College (600 College Hill Road). Camp Fancy means you can choose your attire from prom night outfits to outdoor gear – just be sure to have one part of your outfit that is “fancy” as part of the celebration. The event features a catered meal, special music, auction items and the chance to honor long-time volunteers Mike and Nadine as we raise needed funds for Camp and Retreat Ministry. Learn more about Camp Fancy and the Camp and Retreat Ministry at the display outside the multipurpose room and get your tickets at [suscrm.org/gala](http://suscrm.org/gala). Contact Camp and Retreat Ministry Board Member, Steve Noss ([sdppp@msn.com](mailto:sdppp@msn.com)) or Lori Hoffnagle ([l\\_hoffnagle@yahoo.com](mailto:l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com)) with questions.

### **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 on our website ([fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)) or in the Church Center app.

### **Change for Water**

Water is the foundation of our very lives. Yet, according to CDC estimates, only 2% of the population in Sierra Leone has access to clean, readily available drinking water! Help us to support well digging in Sierra Leone by dropping your loose change (or even paper bills) into the blue Change for Water bucket located in the lobby in front of the multipurpose room.

## 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).

### Wee Worship for the Summer

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

### Backpack Blessings | Aug. 20

Bring your backpacks to Sunday services, where we'll have a special prayer time for our teachers, students and school staff.

## 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.

### Coming Up

Yard Sale | Aug. 19

*Thanks for joining us in worship!*

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>8:30 a.m.</b> | <b>FOUNDATION SERVICE (Traditional)</b>   |
| <b>9:45 a.m.</b> | <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL (View classes at <a href="http://fumchurch.com">fumchurch.com</a>)</b> |
| <b>11 a.m.</b>   | <b>THE GATHERING SERVICE (Modern)</b>   |
| <b>4 p.m.</b>    | <b>REJOICING SPIRITS (Fourth Sunday of each month)</b>                                  |

---

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

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