



First News First

July 2017

Monthly News of First United Methodist Church
of Mechanicsburg

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

"Leave A Legacy"

"Each person must live their life as a model for others." (Rosa Parks)

"A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good." (I Corinthians 12:7)

Preparing for our summer sermon series, I've been thinking about people whose lives have made a difference in my life. Parents and grandparents, children and grandchildren, pastors and parishioners, friends and teachers and pastors: it's a long list. I am so grateful for each of them! Not long ago I was driving past the Little League field where I played as a child and I remembered someone I hadn't thought about in years. Sheryl helped to coach the Carlisle National Eagles, the team I was on.

Even though she was never able to hold a bat in her hands or throw a baseball, she loved the game! Stricken with a childhood disease, she depended on a motorized wheelchair to get around. Her disabilities never kept her from being at every game. Even at ten years old I understood the obstacles she had to overcome just to be with us. The other coaches taught us how to play the game, but Sheryl taught us the value of being a team.

Someone said, "The best teams are made up of a bunch of nobodies who love anybody and serve everybody and don't care about becoming a somebody." Sheryl certainly modeled love and serving and humility and taught those on her team to do the same. She was first one at the field for practice and games, and the last one to leave. She enjoyed conversation with every one of us. There wasn't a player she didn't care about. She kept meticulous records and made sure we all got playing time, the good players along with the mediocre ones like me.

From the dugout Sheryl was non-stop chatter. She cheered. She scolded. She barked out constant instructions and endless encouragement. When one of her players made an error, she would tell us gently to brush it off and give us some sound guidance to do better next time. But woe to the referee who made a bad call, or to the coach of another team she had a disagreement with. She looked out for her team and we all had loved and respected her. We didn't always win, but we grew close as a team.

One summer evening, a decade after my Little League days were over, I was walking by the old field and saw that the Eagles, my former team, was playing. I sat down to watch and soon heard a familiar voice from out of the dugout. After the game, I looked in and saw Sheryl, her scoring pad in front of her like always. She looked up at me and smiled and said, "Hey Denny, I'm still at it!" Indeed, she was. Generations of Little Leaguers learned to play as a team from a woman in a wheelchair who loved and cared for them all. What a legacy!

This summer in our worship services, as we celebrate the gifts passed down to us from our earliest ancestors in the faith, I invite you to remember those whose legacy lives on in your life. If they are still alive, send them a note and tell them how much they mean to you. If they are no longer with us, say a prayer of thanksgiving for their lives. May all of us live our lives as a model for others.

Called, with you, to leave a legacy,

Pastor Denny

Worship

Sunday Morning
 Worship Services
 8:15 am & 10:45 am

Sunday School
 9:30 am



The 4th Sunday at 4:00...

an interactive and inclusive ministry for those with developmental disAbilities, their families, friends and care givers.

Holy Communion

	July 2	Pew Service
	August 6	Loaves and Chalice
	September 3	Pew Service
World Communion	October 1	Loaves and Chalice
First Sunday in Advent	November 26	Pew Service
Christmas Eve, 8:00 and 11:00	December 24	Loaves and Chalice

Note: Gluten-free bread available in the center of the bread plates.

Summer Sermon Series

“Legacy: Claiming Our Inheritance

Every person, in one way or another, leaves a legacy. For what do you want to be remembered? Some give generously to support churches or cancer research or a new building on a college campus. Others found organizations or build businesses that enrich their communities. Financial and institutional legacies make valuable contributions in society, but there is a third, more lasting form of legacy. It's the gifts we pass on to others because of who we are and how we live.

This summer, our sermons will focus on our inheritance from our ancestors whose stories are recorded in the Book of Genesis. They lived thousands of years ago, yet their legacies continue to form our lives and our faith communities today. Claim your inheritance this summer and be inspired to pass it on to others.

June 18	"Sarah's Exuberant Hospitality"	Genesis 18:1-15
June 25	Appreciation Sunday for Pastor Dave Reed	
July 2	"Abraham's Exemplary Faith"	Genesis 22:1-14 (Communion)
July 9	"Isaac and Rebekah's Excessive Choices"	Genesis 25:19-34
July 16	Ministerial Son, Rev. David Schmuck	
July 23	Praise and Testimony Services	
July 30	"Jacob's Extraordinary Dream"	Genesis 28:10-19a
August 6	"Laban's Exasperating Commitment"	Genesis 29:15-28 (Communion)
August 13	"Esau's Extreme Forgiveness"	Genesis 32
August 20	"Joseph's Extravagant Love"	Genesis 45:1-15

Did you miss a Sunday? To listen to a sermon recording, go to fumchurch.com, click “Sermons” on the dropdown menu under “Resources”.

Summer Sunday School

During the summer months from July 2 through September 3, all adults are invited to participate in either of these two Sunday School class options (from 9:30 – 10:30 am):

A **combined class** is being offered for adults and youth in the Multipurpose room. We will be studying *Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus* by Mike Slaughter. Each week we will dig into Scripture, explore Jesus' life and teachings, and discuss what our response should be to similar problems in our world today. We will look at our calling to:

Follow Jesus
Welcome the stranger
Feed the hungry
Heal the sick
Rescue those in distress
Go boldly out into the world

We will also hear from some of the missionaries that we support, learn about ways that we can become involved and be given the opportunity to engage in missional service. Every Christian is a missionary - Join us as we take action together!

The **Guyer Class** will continue meeting in room 125B in the sanctuary. This is a well-established group of elders in the church who study the United Methodist Quarterly Adult Bible Studies, which are designed to encourage and instruct participants on living a life of faith.

Please contact Tina Eaton if you have questions or would like more detailed information.

Finance

Financial Report—through May 31, 2017
42% of year

General Fund

2017 budget	\$ 935,000	
Expected income	\$ 392,700	
Actual income	\$ 400,010	(43% of budget)
Surplus	\$ 7,310	
Actual expenses	\$ 368,890	

It is important that normal levels of giving are maintained during the summer travel months. An easy way to do that is to sign up for electronic giving. Forms are available at the Welcome Desk or the church office. You can also contribute through our web site using a credit card.



Music

July Ministry of Music Sunday Morning Schedule

July 2	Andy Irons
July 9	Kathie Bittenbender Praise Team (10:45)
July 16	Doug Parfet
July 23	Abby Wertz (8:15) Praise Team (10:45)
July 30	Flossie Ryder



Missions

Grocery Bagging for Bethesda Mission

On the third Wednesday evening of every month members of First United Methodist Church gather at Mission Central to bag groceries for Bethesda Mission. All are invited to join and be a part of this mission opportunity. Join us at Mission Central on July 19 at 6 pm. Contact Eric King at eking@verizon.net for more information.



Penny Report ~ Now Located at the Sierra Leone Display in the Tower Hallway



Help support the Sierra Leone Well Drilling Project by dropping your pennies, or any loose change, into the *Change for Water* Bucket. One hundred percent (100%) of your donations are used to provide training and dig wells that supply safe drinking water for schools and communities in Sierra Leone. There were 2,367 pennies contributed this past month for a total to date of \$12,824.36.

Thank you for another great a month of donations and for your continued prayers and financial support! Let's keep the water flowing.

Sierra Leone Update

As you may know, we are supporting the rehabilitation of the parsonage at our sister church, Calvary United Methodist Church in Taiama, Sierra Leone. The parsonage will be used as the official residence for the District Superintendent who also serves as the lead pastor of the church. This building will be used for conferences and hosting of out of town guests visiting the area. Recent correspondence on June 7 from Bishop Yambasu states: "The current work on the Taiama parsonage is fantastic. I will be in Taiama tomorrow on my way to Bo for our Cabinet retreat. I will have photos taken and sent to you early next week. Many thanks for all your support."

A small team from First Church will be visiting Calvary Church in the fall to spend a few ministry days visiting the village, sharing meals, teaching Sunday School, documenting and reporting the progress on the parsonage and worshipping with the community. This visit will further connect our congregation to our brothers and sisters in Christ in Taiama. As part of that connection, we are asking for your help in several ways:

- **Funding:** we will hold a few fundraising events to support the team. These include a letter writing project to the congregation in Taiama where you will be asked to write a note about yourself and include a picture and a donation to the team to transport the letters. More details will be included in future newsletters. The goal is to make a personal connection to our brothers and sisters at Calvary Church.
- **Dresses for girls:** We are sending 50 tee shirt dresses for the church to distribute as needed. We are collecting tee shirts (small and medium) in pastel colors and colorful pillowcases for our First Church seamstresses to magically transform the shirts and pillowcases into a suitable dress for little girls. Watch for a collection bin for the tee shirts and pillowcases.
- **Hats for boys:** We are sending knit hats for the children handmade by our Covered in Love and Knit@Nite groups. If you are a knitter, feel free to join them in making the hats or donate yarn for the project.
- **Prayers:** We covet your prayers for the team in the planning of their upcoming visit. As the letter from our coordinator, Smart, in Sierra Leone states: "Thanks for your mail and your intention to come back home in October. We are more than happy to receive you. Pray that God's divine power will see you through the preparations."
- **Check out the Sierra Leone Table** in the Main Entrance hallway for updates and how you can get to know our sister church at Calvary. There will be an interactive display up by July 2, so that you can learn more about the people in Taiama.



First United Methodist Church,

As I sat in our barren living room, I reflected on the life change that had happened there throughout the past year. Here, there were many discipleship sessions, sexual purity meetings, weekly men’s breakfasts, and times of prayer. This is also where LeeAnn and I shared many laughs, shed many tears, watched many movies, and ate too much ice cream. My feet hit the splintered 1930’s hardwood floor, and I realized that this was the last time we would call this place our home. It was time to move out of 141 Sharpless Street.

God used the past year of full-time ministry with Cru as a confirmation for us. He confirmed that the decision to leave my job and work for Cru was the right one. For LeeAnn, He confirmed the call into ministry that she felt back in 2014 at Delanco Camp. These confirmations are all attributed to God’s provision through your prayerful and financial support, and because of them, we have decided to serve long-term with Cru.

After moving most of our belongings into a local storage unit, we have begun house-hopping until we leave for a 6-week New Staff Training in Fort Collins, Colorado. Here, we will prepare for long-term ministry by being enrolled in the Institute of Biblical Studies. During IBS we will take two seminary courses, Intro to Christian Theology and Bible Study Methods. We will also be oriented to Cru’s mission, learn how to sustain our ministry, and find out our ministry placement on or before June 30th. Finally, there will be a nationwide conference where 5,000+ Cru employees gather to hear about the vision for the ministry in the years to come.

As we make this transition, we want to humbly ask you to make it with us. Will you join us as we prepare to serve long term with Cru by continuing your prayer and monthly support? Words cannot express our gratitude for your intentional prayer and generous giving this past year, and we would love to continue our partnership with you.

New Staff Training runs from June 12th to July 24th, and will be held on campus at Colorado State University. The 6-week intensive training will be instrumental in preparing us for long-term staff with Cru. We’ve been asked to trust God to raise the necessary special gifts to cover the cost of our housing, seminary courses, travel, and other training expenses. In addition to your monthly giving, would you help us attend this training by giving a special gift of \$100, \$300, \$500 or some other amount?

To give, simply go online to give.cru.org/0883931 and click the “Give a Gift” button. If you prefer, you can write a check payable to “Cru”. We recently sent a physical copy of this letter to you in the mail, which you should receive shortly if you haven’t already. Along with the letter, there is a response card and pre-stamped return envelope. Please mail the check and response card to us in the pre-stamped return envelope.

From the depths of our hearts, thank you for considering helping us get to New Staff Training. After we are back, we would love to get together with you in person and share all the Lord has done this past year and what we are trusting Him to do in the future. We are overwhelmed by your generosity and how God has used you to confirm the call on our lives. It is a testament to His faithfulness, and we are forever grateful for it.

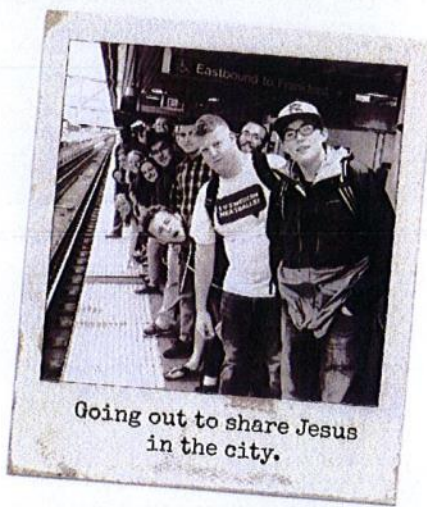
With thankful hearts,
Matt & LeeAnn





Bethany Robinson
Missionary in the Susquehanna Valley

Mailing address:
1035 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701



“When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them “Mankind” when they were created.” Genesis 5:1-2

I am in the good old City of Brotherly love again! This time it’s for a little longer with a different group of beautiful students.

We are here serving on campuses in the city, but also serving the city. In all of this we are aiming to reflect Him in all we do!

When I look at Genesis 5:1-2, I am reminded who I am created in the image of. When I am reminded of this, I am also humbled before Him in order to also recognize my brokenness.

We may interact with individuals that are showing their brokenness outwardly (addiction, poorness, etc.), but we are just as broken and poor as they are. The thing is that we can just hide it a little better than they can. (P.S., that isn’t a good thing).

I was listening to a speaker this morning that was talking about poverty within the city. He gave 5 amazing points about how to handle others brokenness and our own.

They are.....(1) Acknowledge your own brokenness, (2) Speak from a place of truth, (3) Realize when you expand your circle of influence or care, you are going to give a lot up when doing this (dying to self), (4) The goal is to see people restored into what God created them to be, (5) Think of yourselves as co-heirs to these people. What can I learn from these people?

I think we were all very convicted with these points. It helps us as we are launched into the city to be led by the Holy Spirit and not ourselves.

These people that we are interacting with are not projects, they are just like you and me. We are serving them not to glorify and fill ourselves up, but to flow out of the cup of Christ and give Him the glory.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support! Please reach out to me if you have anything you need prayer for. You are all loved deeply by our Heavenly Father.

Prayers for eternal perspective and big picture within experiences here at Mission Liberty.

Prayers for boldness and willingness to die to self in reaching out to others.

Prayers for yielding to the Holy Spirit instead of resisting Him.

Blessings,
Bethany Robinson
Bethany Robinson



A caring community passionate about
connecting people to Jesus Christ

Bethany Robinson
Missionary in the Susquehanna Valley

Mailing address:
1035 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701



Grace, boldness, opportunity, humility, teachability and many other realizations were made this year. Would have I traded it for the world? Not in a million years.

I have been able to interact with students in a way that I wouldn't have had if I didn't work for Cru this year.

Cru has provided a great foundation for my spiritual growth along with so many other individuals. If it wasn't for me going to college and getting involved in Cru, I wouldn't have worked for Cru this year or been molded into the person that I am today.

Some highlights from this past year would be one-on-one discipleship, evangelism, the family atmosphere staff provided, Spring Break, Fellowship Dinner and Summer Mission.

Each and every one of these opportunities didn't just impact me, but I was able to impact others. I have learned that coming into a place being teachable and humble is great, but I can't say I don't have anything to offer. No matter where I am, I have one of the greatest things to offer in the world; the Gospel!

No matter where I end up next, I can bring the Good News with me. Wherever I am, whatever I do and whoever surrounds me, I am defined by the Lord and Him only. I have to be in the world, but not of the world. If I let the world consume me and I become like it, I will lose focus of where my identity falls. Although this is a continual process to remind myself of, it truly puts me at ease with this next step of life.

With all of this being said, on **June 16th, 2017** I will be venturing into another path in life. This is very hard for me to leave an organization that has left a huge imprint on my heart, but I know this is what the Lord is leading me to do. I feel called to staying in Williamsport, PA and want to volunteer my time with Cru in anyway that I can.

I kindly ask at this time that you discontinue my financial support at the end of June. If you are sending in checks, it is very simple; just stop sending checks. On the other hand, if you have money coming out of your account (EFT), this is how you stop the giving process.... You can do this online at www.give.cru.org, or you can call (888)278-7233. You can also e-mail your request to stop giving to me by directly emailing eGift@cru.org. I can in no way stop your giving for you unfortunately, so please make sure you use one of the options mentioned above to stop the process.

I don't even think there are words to describe how thankful I am for each and everyone of you. This year in my life has been monumental! And that was all possible through your prayerful and financial support. Thank you for joining me on this year journey!

Blessings,
Bethany Robinson
Bethany Robinson

From the Director of Outreach

Did you know that our Facebook Page can be a great outreach tool? Every time you 'like' something or share content from our Facebook page, you are helping to spread the Good News! If you haven't already, please be sure to Like our Facebook page, First United Methodist Church of Mechanicsburg, PA. We currently have 402 Likes which is great, but let's try for over 500 by the end of this month! Thanks for your help in sharing God's love through Facebook!

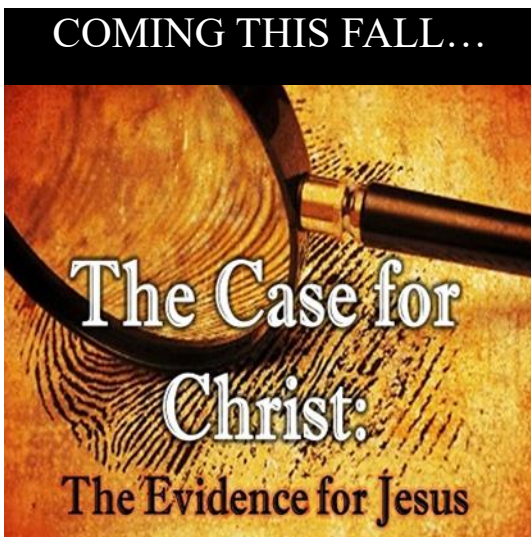


Share the Harvest



How's your summer garden growing? If you have any extra you would like to share, please bring your flowers, fruits or vegetables to the counter area (near the coffee prep area, right hand turn at end of Main Entrance hallway) anytime this summer. If you do not have access to a garden, but would enjoy some fresh produce, please feel free to help yourself! "Share your food with the hungry and give shelter to the homeless." Isaiah 58:7. If you have questions, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 766-4611, ext. 112.

Discipleship



Is there evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the son of God? **Invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to join us** as we journey together, along with New York Times journalist Lee Strobel, on a quest for the truth about Jesus. Our prayer is that all of us will come to see Jesus in a new way and many lives will be transformed!

SIGN UP NOW at the display in the main lobby if you would like a **book to read in August** – this is a great summer read! Books are just \$5.00.

Contact Tina Eaton NOW if you are willing this fall to host/facilitate a group in your home, do the study as a part of your Sunday School class or facilitate a group somewhere else – it's easy! All materials will be provided.

Sign-up sheets for small groups will be out at the display in the main lobby beginning in late July. At that time everyone is encouraged to sign up for a small group! Our Sermon Series and small group study will begin on September 10th and will run for 6 weeks.

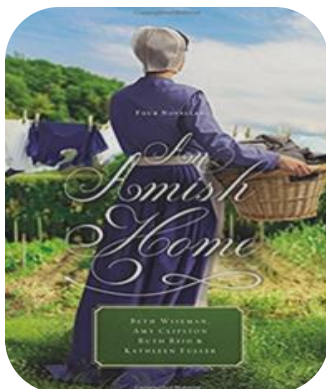
Questions? Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com or call 766-4611, extension 104.

Join us as we INVESTIGATE THE EVIDENCE!

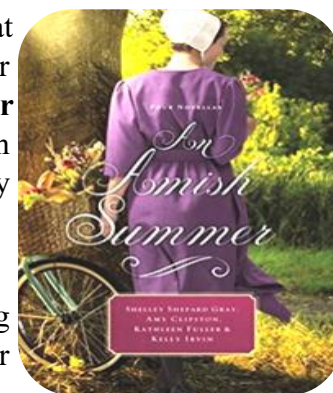
Library

Happy July 4th. Fireworks, picnics, and, oh yes, our nation's birthday. It has been a turbulent year with the election, terrorist bombings, and, of course, the war in the Middle East. But we have a lot to celebrate — mostly that our strength is our people and, in my opinion, a people that find their strength in God and family. Let's explore some strong families this month.

Karen Kingsbury has written many series that focus on the Baxters and their extended family. In **Love Story**, Cody Coleman asks his grandfather, John Baxter, to tell him the story of how he and his grandmother Elizabeth met and fell in love. John tells Cody that he knew the day he first met Elizabeth that they would marry. After thirty years of marriage Elizabeth died of cancer and John's pain has been so deep he has had a hard time talking about the early years. But John wants to help his grandson with his freshman class family history paper so he allows himself to remember and feel Elizabeth's loss all over again. Whether this is your first meeting with the Baxters, or you are an avid follower of their story, this book will remind you of the generational impact of love and the eternal bond of family. Even as fireworks light up the sky, this book will light up your spirit.



It's not news to you that the Amish are all about God and family. **An Amish Home** is a novella collection of four stories by Amish authors including Beth Wiseman and Amy Clipston. Four young couples are just starting to build their families and homes. It's not easy to start out and each couple has difficulties that they have to overcome. And if novellas are just perfect for your summer reading, you can pick up **An Amish Summer** another anthology of four novellas, but this time based on sweet summer romances. Easy and light reads to enjoy between picnics and swim lessons.



Stop in and let us direct you to your perfect summer read!!! We are also adding new children's books each month, so pick up something for your children or grandchildren when you are choosing your books.

The library is now accepting gently used books, puzzles, and media for our annual sale August 19th. Drop donations off any time in the green bin by the library door or talk to one of us about a time to meet for larger donations. Then plan to shop our sale.

See you in the library!

Pam and Donna

Health and Wellness

Breast Care Tote Bags Available to Comfort Patients

One out of eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime, according to health experts. Several women who attend First Church can attest to this firsthand.

In an effort to comfort and support those diagnosed with breast cancer, the First Church Health and Wellness Team has created Breast Cancer Tote Bags. The bags are packed with careful prayer and consideration, to include items that may be of help, comfort, and support for the women who receive them. Items include a journal, organizational binder, ice pack, stress ball, pill box, boho bandeau head scarf, and a hand-knitted item from the church's Covered in Love group. Each tote bag also contains a copy of the book, *Jelly Donut Days* by First Church member Michele Brymesser, a breast cancer survivor.

The Health and Wellness Team received a Health Ministries Grant from the Susquehanna Conference of the UMC to create a dozen of the bags.

If you or someone you know would like to receive a tote bag, please contact Janice Bowen, Director of Congregational Care, at wecare@fumchurch.com or 766-4611 ext. 112.



July Blood Drives

July 5	12pm to 4pm	West Shore Hospital, Mechanicsburg
July 6	3pm to 7pm	Denny's on the Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg
July 8	9am to 1pm	Bowmansdale Church of God, 101 E. Lisburn Rd, 17055
July 9	9am to 2pm	Blue Moon Cruisers Car Show, New Kingston Fire Co, 277 N. Locust Point Rd. 17050
July 13	3pm to 7pm	Immanuel Church, 800 S. Market St., 17055
July 14	8am to 7pm	Fox Center, 120 S. Filbert St., 17055
July 14	8am to 12pm	REMCO, Inc., 195 Hempt Rd., 17050
July 16	7:30am to 12:30pm	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 310 Hertzler Rd., 17055
July 20	3pm to 7pm	Buffalo Wild Wings on the Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg
July 23	10am to 1pm	Capital Area Christian Churches in Etters & Mechanicsburg
July 24	4pm to 7pm	Arooga's on the Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg
July 28	10am to 4pm	Bethany Village, 5225 Wilson Lane (West Multi-Purpose Room), 17055

ACCESS Ministries News

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all and will remind you of everything I have said to you." John 14: 25-26

We, therefore, need to trust that if we share the gospel with our friends with disAbilities as best we know how, the Holy Spirit will fill in the gaps.

University of Aberdeen theologian John Swinton said, "To belong is to be missed when you are absent." So what does it mean to for our friends who have disAbilities to fully belong?

They fully belong when:

- They have access to every opportunity that other members of the church enjoy.
- They can hear about Jesus in a way that reflects their learning style, intellectual capability, and mobility needs.
- They build quality relationships, feel at home in the church family and are practicing their gifts for the good of church family and the world.

We all desire to fully belong. As we begin to accommodate the unique strengths and weaknesses of individuals having special needs, we will also create learning, worship and community environments that will be more welcoming to others who may struggle to belong for other reasons.

("Pathways to Belonging - Creating Inclusive Ministry Environments" - Joni and Friends - Pages 13-15)

Do You Know of or Have You Been Affected by Persons with this disAbility?

Polio is an viral infectious disease spread from person to person. In fewer than 1% of cases the virus enters the central nervous system, destroying motor neurons, leading to muscle weakness and acute paralysis. The focus of modern treatment has been on providing relief of symptoms, speeding recovery and preventing complications. The polio vaccines developed by Jonas Salk in 1952 and Albert Sabin in 1962 are credited with reducing the annual number of polio cases from many hundreds of thousands to around a thousand.

Persons you may have heard of who were affected by this disAbility:

Arthur C. Clarke - Author	Eleanor R. Abbott - Game Designer*
Jack Nicklaus - Professional Golfer	Dinah Shore - Singer
Wilma Rudolph - Track Gold Medalist	F.D. Roosevelt - US President
Neil Young - Singer	Alan Alda - Actor



***Who hasn't played the game CANDY LAND?** The game was designed in 1948 by Eleanor Abbott, while she was recovering from polio in San Diego, California. This game, played by countless millions - friends, brothers and sisters, parents and grandparents represents community and relationship. Thankfully Abbott took the time to create a unique opportunity where all people could come together. Let us be in prayer for how we - the church body - can create a place where all can feel at home and worship at the feet of our Lord and Savior.



FUM Circles

New Members are always welcome!

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Sandy Walton ~ 790-9131 or swalton54@comcast.net
meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

MARTHA CIRCLE

Marley Ann Schmick ~ 697-2233
meets the 1st Tuesday of the month

MARY CIRCLE

Janice Bowen ~ 796-0809 or jjgbowen@yahoo.com
meets the 4th Monday of the month

RUTH CIRCLE

Joan Mains ~ 697- 8235
meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at Hoss's in
Mechanicsburg

COVERED IN LOVE

Sandy Bennetch ~ dsebennetch@comcast.net
meets Wednesday mornings, 9:30 to 11:30 in
Fellowship Hall

SQUARES AND PRAYERS

Tammy Snyder ~ 439-0355 or tamsnyde@gmail.com
meets Mondays, 9-11 am in Fellowship Hall

KNIT@NITE ~ ALL LEVELS OF KNITTERS WELCOME

Mary Helm ~ mthelm4@yahoo.com
meets the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm in Room B002

2017 Events:

- July 6-8** Mission U - Three day mission education conference at Bucknell University
- July 29** Mission U Sampler Day at Chambers Hill UMC, Harrisburg– **Still time to sign up!**
- August 19** UMW Yard, Book and Bake Sale to benefit local missions
- October 7** First Church hosts the Harrisburg District UMW Annual Day
- October 14** Susquehanna Conference Annual Day, Camp Hill UMC
- November 19** World Thank Offering and Mission Meal

Contact Lori Hoffnagle at 732-6430 with questions about any of these above UMW events

Mission U – three day mission education conference at Bucknell University (scholarships available). See link for registration information: http://susumc.org/files/ministries/special_connection/mission_u/Mission_u_2017_Reg-Mailer.pdf. (scholarships available)

Covered in Love and Knit@Nite Special Project



The dedicated knitters and crocheters of First Church have been working on preemie caps for babies at Pinnacle Hospital. These tiny hats are knitted with love using a simple pattern and then given to Christina Morgan, who works at the hospital. The hospital staff appreciate the love and caring that is knitted into the tiny caps. The Covered in Love and Knit@Nite Knitting and Crocheting Circles welcome all levels of knitters. If you are interested in joining one of the knitting Circles to make the hats, feel free to contact Sandy Bennetch (Covered in Love) at dsebennetch@comcast.net or Mary Helm (Knit@Nite) at mthelm4@yahoo.com. You may also knit the hats on your own, using the simple pattern that can be provided to you.

Annual Yard/Bake/Book Sale

We need your items to sell at the yard sale to support UMW mission work! Drop off your **treasures** to Room 105 the week of the sale (August 14 to 18). If you have questions about what to donate or need it picked up, please contact Donna Nichols at djnichols43@hotmail.com. All proceeds from the sale benefit local and national missions! Don't forget to contact Donna on **July 1** to reserve your space for the yard sale!



The sale also reaches out to the community by providing needed school supplies for free. Please help the children in the community by donating the following items: **pencils, glue sticks, crayons, blunt scissors and erasers.** The donation bin is outside the multipurpose room. Thank you!

Baked Goods are also needed for the sale! We have people coming back every year to the popular baked goods table. Most years we run out! Asking for any types of pies this year, small and large and Rice Krispy treats. If you can donate baked goods for the sale, please contact Pat Sheely.



Summer Book Club

Join us as we read and discuss Jen Hatmaker's 'For the Love: Fighting for Grace in a World of Impossible Standards.' "The majority of our joys, struggles, thrills, and heartbreaks relate to people, beginning first with ourselves and then the people we came from, married, birthed, live by, live for, go to church with, don't like, don't understand, fear, struggle with, compare ourselves to, and judge. People are the best and worst thing about the human life. Jen Hatmaker knows this all too well, and so she reveals how to practice kindness, grace, truthfulness, vision, and love to ourselves and those around us. By doing this, For the Love leads our generation to reimagine Jesus' grace as a way of life, and it does it in a funny yet profound manner that Christian readers will love. Along the way, Hatmaker shows readers how to reclaim their prophetic voices and become Good News again to a hurting, polarized world." www.jenhatmaker.com.

We will meet at Janice Bowen's home, 720 Eppley Road, Mechanicsburg on July 18 for the first half of the book and then again on August 3 at 7:00 p.m. for the second half.

Contact Janice at 766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com for details. All are welcome!

Little Friends Nursery School Playground Resurfacing Project



Chris Sims, LFNS Director
Renee Thomas

717-766-4611
rthomas816@gmail.com

Meet Roland. This is my smiling, blond hair and blue-eyed youngest son. He is the loudest, happiest three-year-old kid in his class; he also happens to have Cerebral Palsy and is a wheelchair user. Roland is the most determined little dude! In our family we say, "Roland will do everything his brother Niles does, it just may look a little different." As a family, we've golfed, skied, hiked, and vacationed.

As the weather warmed up last summer, I realized Roland would not be able to play on his preschool playground with his wheelchair because the surface is currently covered in wood chips, the least accessible ADA compliant material.

My family and I, in partnership with the Little Friends Nursery School and the Mechanicsburg First United Methodist Church ask for your support in our fund-raising efforts to replace the current surface with poured in place rubber. Our goal is to make the playground accessible for Roland by September 2017 and all kiddos with a disability who will attend Little Friends in the future. We are seeking to raise \$20,000 through corporate and community sponsorships and online and in person community fundraising.

Roland is known all over school and town for his green light up wheels. Let's get those wheels lighting up the playground!

Let 'em Roll!
Roland's mom – Renee Thomas

To donate online:
<https://www.youcaring.com/littlefriendsplayground>

Make Checks Payable to:
Little Friends Nursery School
% Playground Project
135 West Simpson St
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



SO WE'RE HOPING YOU'LL HELP US LET 'EM ROLL

Church News and Notes

Love & sympathy...

to the family upon the death of Tina Eaton’s grandmother, Helen, on June 7.

Thank yous...

Many thanks to Pastor Denny and Pastor Dave for their visits during my recent hospitalization and rehab. Also many thanks to Janice Bowen and those who brought meals after my return home. They were greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Doris Zimmerman



To My Dear First Church Family,

It has taken me awhile to be able to put my feelings of gratitude into words; however, I want to thank you for your cards, prayers, meals and many, many wishes of love & strength during Charlie’s illnesses. Thank you most humbly as well to our loving Pastors for their visits to him in the hospital, it really meant a lot to both of us.

You are all still “taking care of me”, with your smiles, hugs, handshakes and well wishes! A true FUM Family—remember, God Loves You & So Do I!

Blessings,
Flossie Ryder

Special Birthdays

- Bill Kelly..... July 3
- Gladys Peck July 4
- Millie Neagley July 6
- Veloice Washburn..... July 6
- Glenn Heller..... July 7
- George Snoke..... July 16
- Jack Koser July 22
- Harry Woods July 27
- Jean Adams July 28
- Lincoln Washburn..... July 29
- Dave Leinhos July 30
- Grace Koser August 2
- Jane Heller August 3
- Helen Kelly August 10
- Doris Sweger..... August 11
- Pauline Trace August 12
- Jo Barth August 27
- Victor Norris August 29

Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Larry & Judi Buddenbaum married 50 years on July 1
- ♥ Marlin & Kay Simmons married 51 years on July 2
- ♥ Ron & Jane Handwerk married 56 years on July 8
- ♥ Ben & Carol Miller married 59 years on July 20
- ♥ Gary & Bonnie Klinger married 52 years on July 24
- ♥ Don & Barb Shover married 59 years on August 2
- ♥ Tom & Jeanne Mullikin married 51 years on August 6
- ♥ Fred & Doris Junkins married 51 years on August 9
- ♥ John & Dolores Shell married 63 years on August 15
- ♥ Harry & Joyce Woods married 64 years on August 23
- ♥ Jerry & Patricia Sheely married 59 years on August 24



Church Staff

SENIOR PASTOR

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

ASSISTANT TO SENIOR PASTOR**

Rev. John Shellenberger
766-4611 ext. 117
pastorjohn@fumchurch.com

YOUTH PASTOR

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

DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP*

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

DIRECTORS OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY*

Dawn Fisher
George Canonizado
766-4611 ext. 102
kidscount@fumchurch.com

DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE*

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

DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH*

Lori Hoffnagle
766-4611 ext. 115
outreach@fumchurch.com

OFFICE MANAGER/FINANCE SECRETARY

766-4611 ext. 101
Kristin Brown
office@fumchurch.com

FACILITIES COORDINATOR*

766-4611 ext. 105
Tom Ziegler
facilities@fumchurch.com

CUSTODIANS*

George Canonizado
Matthew Miller
766-4611 ext. 109
maintenance@fumchurch.com

FINANCE DIRECTOR*

Nancy Robinson
nrobinson@fumchurch.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/SANCTUARYCHOIR*

Jody Brinley
Brynleawesties@comcast.net

ORGANISTS*

Gail Leinhos
Tom Mullikin
Seth Wickenheiser

YOUTH CHOIR/SOUNDS OF WORSHIP CHOIR*

Gail Leinhos
leinhosdav@verizon.net

BELL CHOIRS*

Kathie Bittenbender
rbittenben@verizon.net

PRAISE TEAM*

Allison Ometz **Trace Morgan**
ometz@msn.com traceintune80@gmail.com

INTERIM JUNIOR CHOIR*

GERI NUSS

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS*

Lorette Cale
lorettecale@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF LITTLE FRIENDS NURSERY SCHOOL*

Chris Sims
lfns@fumchurch.com

*PART-TIME

** JOINING US LATER THIS YEAR

FIRST NEWS FIRST
Editor: Kristin Brown

The **deadline** for submitting
articles for the **August** issue is

July 15

Early submissions always
appreciated!