



First News First

May 2018

Monthly News of First United Methodist Church
of Mechanicsburg

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

"Welcome to the Family"

Three years ago, when I was your new pastor, we celebrated our first Baptism together. As I walked around the sanctuary to introduce the child to his new church family, you lovingly sang these beautiful words:

*Welcome to the family
We're glad that you have come
To share your life with us
As we grow in love and may we always be to you
What God would have us be a family always there
To be strong and to lean on.*

*May we learn to love each other
More with each new day
May words of love be on our lips in ev'rything we say
May the Spirit melt our hearts
And teach us how to pray
That we might be a true family.*

Later I learned that this song was composed by Debby Kerner Rettino in 1983. Debby and her husband Ernie Rettino, are best known as the creators of Psalty the Singing Psalm Book in "Kids' Praise!", a series of Christian children's musical albums. She wrote "Welcome to the Family" when her daughter was born, to welcome her into their family. Later, it was recorded for their album, "Kids' Praise! 3." Over the past 30 years, it has since been sung in churches across the country.

I don't know when this song was first sung at First Church, but I love the fact that we sing it! It is not only a beautiful way to welcome those who are new to our church family; it also casts a vision of the kind of family God would have us be. In a church family that honors God:

We share our lives together.

We grow to love each other more with each new day.

We are always there to be strong and to lean on one another.

We express words of love in everything we say.

We learn to pray, so that the Spirit can shape us into a true family.

As I reflect on the vision conveyed in this song, I give thanks for you! In many ways, you are being the kind of family God would have us be. May "Welcome to the Family" always be for us more than just a song we sing to celebrate a Baptism, but a way of life that makes the love of Christ visible always.

I cannot thank God enough for the privilege of sharing in this family!

Pastor Denny



BE ONE. DISCIPLE MAKE ONE.



Week 18: Theme ~ *Communion*

- April 30** *Passover*
Exodus 12:1-30
- May 1** *Holy Communion*
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Luke 22:7-23
- May 2** *The Bread of Life*
John 6:26-59; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17
- May 3** *The Cup of Salvation*
Hebrews 9:1-28, 10:19-22
- May 4** *The Right Attitude*
1 Corinthians 11:17-34, 5:6-8
- May 5** Relax & Reflect
- May 6** Worship

Week 19: Theme ~ *Family*

- May 7** *Teaching Children*
Luke 2:41-52; Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- May 8** *Honoring Elders*
Exodus 20:13; Ephesians 6:1-4;
Titus 2:1-15
- May 9** *Different Kinds of Family*
Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 68:5-6
- May 10** *Family of God*
Matthew 12:46-50, 10:32-39;
1 John 3:7-10; Ephesians 2:19-22
- May 11** *We Will Serve the Lord*
Joshua 24:15; Matthew 18:1-10;
Galatians 6:7-10
- May 12** Relax & Reflect
- May 13** Worship

Week 20: Theme ~ *Grace*

- May 14** *Undeserved Love*
John 1:1-18, 3:16-21
- May 15** *From Sin to Life*
Ephesians 2:1-10; Acts 15:1-19
- May 16** *The Law of Grace*
Romans 6:1-23; Galatians 2:15-21;
Psalm 51

- May 17** *Justified by Grace*
Romans 5:1-11; 1 Timothy 1:12-17

- May 18** *Offering Grace*
Colossians 1:3-14; Matthew 18:21-35;
Luke 6:27-36

- May 19** Relax & Reflect

- May 20** Worship

Week 21: Theme ~ *Baptism*

- May 21** *The Way Prepared*
John 1:19-34; Matthew 3:1-17

- May 22** *Changing Heart and Life*
Acts 2

- May 23** *Baptize Them*
Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-20

- May 24** *Water and Covenant*
Genesis 1:1-23, 7:1-8:22;
Exodus 14:15-31, Joshua 3-4;
Matthew 2:13-17

- May 25** *Baptism Stories*
Acts 8:4-40

- May 26** Relax & Reflect

- May 27** Worship

Week 22: Theme ~ *Truth*

- May 28** *The Way, the Truth, and the Life*
John 14:1-14; Romans 1:18-25

- May 29** *The Truth Will Set You Free*
John 8:31-47; Psalm 119:30-32

- May 30** *Speaking the Truth*
Exodus 20:16; Proverbs 12;
Ephesians 4:1-25

- May 31** *Truth-Telling Prophets*
Jonah 1-4; Daniel 4:1-27

- June 1** *The Spirit of Truth*
John 15-17

- June 2** Relax & Reflect

- June 3** Worship

Spring Bible Studies

Most of our winter Bible studies are winding down, so please keep your eye out next month for summer studies, which will begin in June.

Until then, all are invited to drop in to Pastor Denny's Bible study class, which is based on our 2018 daily Bible reading plan, any Wednesday through May 9th from 6:45 - 8:00 pm in room B004. If you haven't already, simply visit the "Be One, Make One" display in the church lobby, pick up a Common English Bible with the companion daily reading plan and begin reading! Then come to class to discuss the readings in greater depth.

Library

I had a plan to write this newsletter on the deck while sipping on some iced tea, but Mother Nature had the last laugh (and I hope it really is the last laugh of this season) as it is snowing a bit on this after Easter April day. No matter what the calendar says, my first day of spring is Easter, and I expect warm weather. Guess my kitchen table and hot latte will have to inspire me so I can lure you into the library with the promise of great reads!!

The first holiday in May offers some special reading material. My Mother's Day choice for you is Charlotte Hubbard's **A Mother's Gift**. It is an Amish book with the main character, Leah Otto. Leah has always been a tomboy who enjoys the outdoors and working with the animals on the family farm. When she marries widower, Jude, who has two teenage daughters and a five year-old son, she knows her work is cut out for her. Not only does she get behind on the housework, but the teenagers are a challenge and Stevie still misses his mother. Then someone leaves an infant on their doorstep, and the whole family comes together with new purpose. Will they get to keep the infant, and more importantly, can this first step into becoming a real family last? Let your family spoil you on Mother's Day by preparing lunch while you enjoy this new author!

Anyone who has ever read this newsletter knows my idea of being spoiled is a good read loaded with adrenaline and mixed with hot caffeine. **Storm Front**, the fifth book in Susan May Warren's series *Montana Rescue*, is a book that fits that description. (Several library patrons who are reading this series will tell you these books are hard to put down.) Ms. Warren, who usually sets her books in Montana, has moved this book into the northern part of Tornado Alley, better known as Minnesota. After a small community is destroyed in a deadly tornado, Peak Rescuers head, Chet King, is among the missing. Ty Remington feels he has to join the search for his mentor and friend. Little does he know he is bound for a head-on-collision with the woman he loved and lost — Brette Arnold. Brette had good reasons to run from Ty, but now that they are back together during this rescue, Ty feels it is time to try again. Little does he know how dangerous this path might be. Look forward to enjoying this heart pounding read any day! And if you are not familiar with this series, the library has the first four books on the shelf. Mother's Day could last all month!

If neither of these books is right for you, stop in and let us help you find just the right book for you!!

See you in the library, Pam & Donna

"Readers" wanted!

Do you or your small group want to know more about the disAbility community? If so, the group *Joni & Friends* has created *The IRRESISTIBLE CHURCH Series* just for you!



A Sample of just a few of the Booklet/Pamphlet Titles:

Start with *HELLO* - Introducing Your Church to *SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY*

We've *GOT THIS!* Providing Respite for Families *AFFECTED BY disABILITIES*

Pathways to *BELONGING* - Creating *INCLUSIVE MINISTRY ENVIRONMENTS*

Shout for *JOY!* Engaging the *WHOLE CHURCH* In *ACCESSIBLE WORSHIP*

Call Me *FRIEND* - Building Compelling Relationships Through *ONE-ON-ONE MINISTRY*



Interested in reading any of these titles?

Contact Steve Noss at sdppp@msn.com

Praying Follower



Love & sympathy...

to the family upon the death of Doris Sweger on March 11.
to the family upon the death of Dick & Joanne Reed's son, Brian, on March 24.
to the family upon the death of Carol Miller on April 8.
to the family upon the death of Janet Fertenbaugh's daughter, Bette, on April 21.

National Day of Prayer

Each year on the first Thursday in May, our nation pauses to observe a National Day of Prayer. On that day we focus on praying for our people, our community, our military, our leaders, our government and our nation's impact on the world for God's glory.

Locally, First Church is hosting a National Day of Prayer gathering and light breakfast on Thursday, May 3 at 8:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Come out early to pray for our community and our nation! Representative Sheryl Delozier (R-Cumberland) will once again be joining us in prayer. The breakfast is free and will follow the prayer time.

The theme and focus this year is **Unity**. Together let's exercise one of our most precious freedoms . . the right to gather, turn to God and pray.

If you cannot attend, we encourage you to pray from your home or place of work. Prayer guides are available at the display in the church lobby (across from the Welcome Desk). If you have questions, please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611.

Good Friday Prayer Walk

Thanks to those who came out on a rainy Friday at noon to participate in the Good Friday Community Prayer Walk on March 30. Close to 300 people walked and prayed for the Mechanicsburg community and then came together to worship at First Church of God near the square. Prayers met at six different host churches and then walked and prayed on a determined route, so that all of the Mechanicsburg Borough was covered. We look forward to participating in more events with other local churches as we continue to bless our community together!

Passionate Worshipper

Worship

Sunday Morning Worship Services

8:15 am Foundation Service

10:45 am Convergent Service

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

	May 6	Pew Service
	June 3	Loaves and Chalice
	July 1	Pew Service
	August 5	Loaves and Chalice
	September 2	Pew Service
World Communion	October 7	Loaves and Chalice
	November 4	Pew Service
First Sunday of Advent	December 2	Loaves and Chalice
Christmas Eve, 8:00 and 11:00	December 24	Loaves and Chalice

Rejoicing Spirits 2018—Summer Schedule

Summer schedules can be hectic at times. However, remember that Rejoicing Spirits meets all year long. You, your family and friends are always welcome the fourth Sunday afternoon at 4:00 PM. Come and enjoy a casual and joyful time with the Lord!

Worship/Fellowship for persons of **ALL ABILITIES**.



Inclusive - Interactive - Fun

Save the Dates!

Sunday, May 27, 2018 4:00 PM

Sunday, June 24, 2018 4:00 PM

Sunday, July 22, 2018 4:00 PM

Sunday, August 26, 2018 4:00 PM

Are You Participating in the “Be One, Make One” Challenge?

This year we began our “Be One, Make One” challenge by focusing on being Lifelong Learners who continually grow by study God’s word. During that time we started our daily Bible reading plan together, and each week we enjoy sermons that are focused on that reading plan.

During the season of Lent we focused on being Praying Followers who faithfully listen in order to discern God’s will and respond to God in prayer every day. During this season we added journaling our Bible study reflections and prayers to our daily routine as disciples.

During this Easter season, we are now focused on being Passionate Worshipers who glorify God in our personal lives every day. In addition to participating in corporate worship each Sunday, May is a great time to reflect on how we bring glory to God as Pentecost approaches on Sunday, May 20th.

As we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the disciples and into our own lives, Pentecost gives us the opportunity to ask, what are we “on fire” about? What fans the flames of our ministry? In this season, challenge yourself - invite the Holy Spirit to work in and through you in new ways that glorify God and draw others to the light of Christ.

Re-Creation Concert in June!



First Church is excited to host ‘Re-Creation’ on **June 23 and June 24**. This team of talented performers travels across the United States to inspire and enhance the lives of hospitalized veterans with their uplifting performances. The group is known as ‘America’s ambassadors to hospitalized veterans,’ as they have served across our nation in VA Medical Centers and State Veterans homes for 40 years. We have a special connection to this particular group, as Sharon and Rick Kauffman’s granddaughter, Gabrielle, is one of the performers!

Re-Creation will perform a high energy concert on Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. and will lead worship at both 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. worship services. The free Saturday night concert will be advertised to the public with a special invitation to veterans. As we look forward to this wonderful opportunity, we will be asking for church members to **serve as hosts** to the cast members and we will be planning a church **pot luck dinner** before the Saturday evening concert. If you would be willing to host a cast member or help in the planning of the concert, please contact Rick Kauffman at smkrak423@yahoo.com or Lori Hoffnagle at oureach@fumchurch.com. We look forward to sharing this amazing concert with our community and veterans!

Dedicated Missionary



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 **May 16 at 6 pm**. Contact Eric King at eking@verizon.net for more information.

Change for Water ~ Located at the Sierra Leone Display in the Tower Hallway

Help support the Sierra Leone Well Drilling Project! Drop your 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. *You can even throw in "paper" change!*

There were **2,364** (\$23.64) pennies contributed this past month for a total to date of **\$13,042.13**. Thanks to all who are contributing for another great month! **Please keep the donations flowing and don't let the well run dry.**

Sierra Leone Mission Trip

Our trip for January 2019 is being planned. If you are interested in seeing first hand how our work with the Sierra Leone Initiative and the UMC impacts the lives of Sierra Leoneans consider joining the team. For more information contact Tiffany Holland, Sarah Jones or Kristin Brown.

Serving the Homeless with Isaiah 61

On the third Wednesday of the month, members of First Church serve meals to approximately 100 people in Harrisburg. Everything is prepared, we just serve the food to those in need through Isaiah 61 Ministries in Halifax. Please consider joining us as we fulfill one of our Core Values to be a *Dedicated Missionary*. The next date to serve is May 16 at 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com.

Allport – Bigler – Woodland Workcamp ~ Sunday, June 17th – Friday, June 22nd

This June marks the seventh consecutive year for a Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Workcamp in the Clearfield County, PA towns of Allport, Bigler and Woodland, led by Rev. Jeff Fisher of Calvary UMC in Harrisburg. Pastor Jeff cited 1 Peter 4:10 in his invitation for this year's Workcamp, which states "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms". The Workcamp brings hope in the name of Jesus Christ to the elderly, homebound, and economically struggling members of these communities. I have been blessed by serving in this Workcamp for five of the prior six years, and am looking forward to using my gifts to serve as a faithful witness to Christ once again this June. Persons of all ages (completed 6th grade at a minimum) with a willing spirit and time and talent to share are welcome to join in this effort. I believe we have truly made a difference in the lives of the persons we have served during our previous Workcamps, and know that we will make a difference in more lives this year. Please contact me by email at rogerw53@comcast.net if you have any questions or want to get involved with this year's Workcamp. As our late Pastor Don Ciampa used to say, "be doers of the Word, and not hearers only".

Youth Summer Mission Trip to Brooklyn NY

Did you know?

Brooklyn is the most populated of New York's five boroughs—in fact, if it were its own city, it would be the fourth most populous in the country.

This July a team of 27 youth and adults will be partnering with Youth Works Mission Trip to provide support and assistance to the local service agencies in the Brooklyn community. This big city mission experience will be an eye opening opportunity to see the great need in a city we might only be familiar with because of its tourist attractions. Sometimes it takes seeing places from a new angle and a closer lens to have a new awareness of the places God may be calling each of us. Our team is excited to be the hands and

feet of God and to support the agencies that faithfully serve this community. Service project may include anything from city gardening, senior centers, kids clubs, soup kitchens, to clothing banks. We will be ready to do whatever it is that the community needs. Youth Works has been serving in this community since 2003 and we are exciting in helping them continue this partnership.

As a church, we ask that you would be praying with us as we prepare for this trip:

- ✓ For all the trip planning, including financial preparations.
- ✓ For our team coming and growing together into a unified and dynamic group who are able to carry the love and joy of Christ into all we do.
- ✓ For each of us to find a way to use our unique giftings to help support this community and ministry.
- ✓ For the Youth Works staff and their preparation for all the teams serving in Brooklyn this summer.
- ✓ For the people of Brooklyn to be receptive and open to our presence and the chance to build relationships with those we meet.

Thank you to those who were able to support our Capital Joe fundraisers. Please be on the lookout for additional ways to provide financial support. Our next fundraiser will be the Paint Night and Artist Social on May 12th.

Relationship Builder

First Connections Gathering

We will have another First Connections time for fellowship on Thursday, May 17th in the Tower Meeting Room (2nd floor children's Sunday School wing). Please join us between 1-3 pm for a chance to relax and visit with some First Church friends!

Questions? Ask - Janice Bowen at WeCare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112



The Food Trucks are Here all Summer!

The **Food Trucks** are here again on Friday, May 18 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. The following trucks are confirmed for May: Mad Sandwiches, Roost Uncommon Kitchen, It's All Greek, Shredderz, Potato Coop, Sugar Whipped and Ice Cream Express. Come for great food, music and fantastic fellowship! We are always looking for help with set up, clean up and parking attendants. If you can help in any way, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.

Take Me out to the Ball Game!

Celebrate summer with your First Church family at a Harrisburg Senators baseball game and picnic on Saturday, June 3rd! The game starts at 3:30 pm, but head over early to enjoy an "all you can eat" picnic buffet with your friends! The buffet, which is open from 2:30 – 4:30 pm, includes hotdogs, hamburgers, BBQ chicken, baked beans, potato salad, mac & cheese, chips, popcorn, cookies, soda and water (vegetarian options are also available if you let us know by the registration deadline).

June 3rd is also the Senators "Faith Day" and "Mission Central Day"! \$2 dollars from each ticket will be donated to Mission Central!

The church is partially covering the expense of the ticket and picnic, so take advantage of the low cost... only \$20.00 for adults (ages 13 and up) and only \$10.00 for children ages 4 – 12 (kids ages 3 and under are free).

Please sign-up and pay **no later than May 20th** if you would like to attend – there is a sign-up sheet in the binder at the Welcome Desk. No registrations can be accepted after that date. Questions? Please contact Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net or Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com or call 766-4611.

Don't miss this great event for all ages!

Summer Camps, Retreats and Events - COMING SOON!

Get your registrations in now to hold your place for some of the very best life-changing and relationship building experiences available.

Registrations can be done on-line through the conference website: [<http://www.susumcamps.org>] or by picking up a brochure available in the main lobby area. Additional forms are also available in the lobby for you to share how you would like to support the camping ministries this year.

First Church will pay for half camp fees (sibling and/or friends discounts may also apply).

NOTE: Please provide registration confirmations to the camp coordinators so that everyone that goes to camp (regardless of age) receives a prayer partner and that financial payments (if needed) are addressed in a timely manner.

Pastor Denny has stated that "First Church sent the second most individuals to camp last year, but that this year we will be first"!

So, how can you help this to be the "best camping year" ever?

- Attend a camp, retreat or event this year.
- Be a prayer partner for a camper.
- Provide financial assistance to support a camper or camp program.
- Help with a work camp at one of the camp sites.

Questions, contact: Deb Noss at sdppp@msn.com or Amy Ogden at amy.ogden7@gmail.com

This year, as members of First Church, we are being called to "Be One, Make One." Participating and supporting camping and retreats helps us individually and collectively to grow our roots deeper into the word so as to better branch out and connect with others within our fellowship and our community.

Please be in prayer and ask how you can participate in the Camping and Retreat ministries this year - whether by your attendance, your financial gifts, your prayer support or other unique gifts.
"Be One, Make One."

ACCESS Ministries News:

The ACCESS and Wellness Teams would like to thank Ben Holt, co-founder of the Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association (CATRA), for his presentation April 22 as part of disAbility Awareness Sunday.

CATRA, located in Grantville, PA began offering therapeutic riding in the Fall of 1985. Today, Ben and his team works with a wide variety of riders ranging from 12 months through senior citizens. CATRA has helped all generations with types of special and typical needs to establish an atmosphere of support, respect, and health. This unique equestrian farm environment offers a therapeutic riding experience to those able to benefit from it.

Animals Helping People

For more information about Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association (CATRA), go to <http://www.catra.net>.

Welcome to our newest members!



Jeff and Deb Backer



Lew Compton



Caitlin Eng
with her husband, Michael
and their children,
Oliver & Mae



Tyson & Kristi Fraker
and their daughter,
Kailee



John Gross,
with his wife, Jenn
and their daughter,
Abigail



Richard Hayworth



Jim Murdoch,
with his wife, Pam



Ray Powers

Generous Giver

Financial Report—through March 31, 2018

25% of year

General Fund

2018 budget	\$ 945,000	
Expected income	\$ 236,250	
Actual income	\$ 219,035	(23% of budget)
Shortfall	\$ 17,215	
Actual expenses	\$ 217,931	



Before we enter the summer vacation and travel season, a great way to make sure you are current with your pledge is to sign up for electronic payments. It's easy and secure and you can change at any time if necessary. Forms are available in the Welcome area or at the church office.

Cakes Needed for Neighborhood Center Bake Sale

First Church is once again providing small square cakes for the Neighborhood Center of the United Methodist Church Election Day Bake Sale. This sale is always a tremendous success and raises funds for the Towanda Acey Scholarship fund which helps students in Harrisburg attend college. Please bake your cake in an 8x8 foil (disposable) pan and indicate the flavor. Cakes can be brought to the church kitchen on or before Sunday, May 13. We have offered to bring 10 cakes, so please help us meet our goal! Questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.

Paint Night and Artist Reception

Looking for a great Mother's Day gift? Know a creative person in need of a night out? Tickets are now available for the Paint Night fundraiser from 6 – 9 pm. No artistic talent is needed. Instructor Emily from Connecting in Color will guide painters in creating a sunset scene of the Brooklyn Bridge skyline. Come and make this painting your own!

Deadline to register is May 6th. Tickets, \$35 per person, include all art supplies, dessert and drinks. Participation is limited to the first 30 registrants. To register or for more information, call or email Lisa Aronson at (717)766-4611 ext 113 or uthrock@fumchurch.com.

Love art, but not interested in painting? Please join us from 5-6:30 pm for the Artist Reception where you can enjoy delicious desserts while viewing the work of many talented artists from our First Church community! You also will have opportunity to meet our featured First Church artist, Bonnie Jeona, who will have artwork available for purchase.

Two great events, the evening of Saturday, May 12th ~ come to one or the other, or both ~ you don't want to miss!

New Playground Surface

Join us for a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Little Friends new playground surface! The ceremony will take place on Thursday, May 10th from 10:00 am to 12 noon. All are welcome!

May Blood Drives

April 4	3pm to 7:30pm	Carlisle Church of Christ – 971 Walnut Bottom Rd., Carlisle
May 3	8am to 7pm	Fox Center, 120 S. Filbert St., Mechanicsburg
May 4	8am to 3pm	Cumberland Valley High School
May 6	8:30am to 12pm	St. John's Lutheran Church, 44 W. Main St., Shiremanstown
May 12	10am to 2pm	Benny's Pet Depot, 5202 Simpson Ferry Rd., Mechanicsburg
May 16	12pm to 4pm	PinnacleHealth Fredricksen (West Shore Hospital), 2015 Technology Center, Mechanicsburg
May 17	3pm to 7pm	Buffalo Wild Wings, Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg
May 18	3pm to 8pm	GreekFest, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 1000 Yverdon Dr., Camp Hill
May 20	7:30am to 12:30pm	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 310 Hertzler Rd. Mechanicsburg

Women's Ministry

If you have any questions about Women's Ministry,
please contact Lori Hoffnagle at 717-766-4611, Ext. 115 or outreach@fumchurch.com

United Methodist Women

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Sandy Walton ~ swalton54@comcast.net
meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

MARTHA CIRCLE

Marley Ann Schmick ~ marleyannrichard@gmail.com
meets the 1st Tuesday of the month

MARY CIRCLE

Janice Bowen ~ wecare@fumchurch.com

RUTH CIRCLE

Joan Mains ~ mains.joan@yahoo.com
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

Nancy Eddy ~ naeddy3@aol.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 the Tower
Meeting Room

Other Opportunities to Connect

BOOK CLUB

Janice Bowen ~ wecare@fumchurch.com

DAY OF PAMPERING

Karin McHale ~ karinmch@comcast.net
February 23, 2019

LADIES' OVER 80 TEA

Janice Bowen ~ wecare@fumchurch.com
Held in September

MOMS IN PRAYER

Deb Noss ~ sdppp@msn.com
Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Prayer Room

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Tina Eaton ~ adultministry@fumchurch.com
Next meeting May 18 at 9:15 am

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Patti Herring ~ familyzeke@verizon.net
February 8 - 10, 2019, Mt. Asbury Retreat Center

ZUMBA Gold (low impact dance/aerobic exercise)

Margaret Paredes ~ 4paredesfam@gmail.com
Tuesdays at 1:00 pm in the multipurpose room
Lisa Lynch ~ lisaloveszumba2@gmail.com
Thursdays at 1:00 pm in the multipurpose room

Spotlight: Check out the new Women's Ministry
display window next to the Library display window!

Upcoming Events:

Mother's Day Paint Night - May 12
(benefits our Youth)

MOPS - May 18



If you have any questions about Men's Ministry, please contact John Bowen at bowenhome720@gmail.com.

Men of First Church

Meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (next meeting May 16) from 8-9:30 pm. The May meeting will be held at the Eaton home in Mechanicsburg. Contact John Bowen (bowenhome720@gmail.com) or Barry Eaton (theeaton5@verizon.net) if you have questions or would like more information about this group.

Men's Breakfast

An open invitation is extended to any and all men who want to gather for good food and light-hearted fellowship on the first Saturday morning of each month. Please come join us at Brother's Restaurant, located at 705 Gettysburg Pike in Mechanicsburg. Our next gathering will be on Saturday, May 5 at 7:30 am. Hope to see you there!

Men's Bible Study

Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall, led by Ken Guise and David Mengle
Contact: David Mengle at mengledm@verizon.net or Ken Guise at kguise@knouse.com

Tool Pool

A directory for any hand or power tools that you may need to borrow for one-time use.
Contact: Don Karns at dekarns@comcast.net

Men's Fellowship Activity

FUM Men's Group Activity

Are you ready for some baseball?

**Come join other men from First UMC
as we head to Baltimore for a weekday baseball game between the
Baltimore Orioles and the Philadelphia Phillies!**

Game Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Game Time: 12:35pm

Location: Camden Yards - Baltimore, MD

Tickets: \$35 each - section 19, rows 7-8

Transportation: Car-pooling preferred

All men are welcome to attend (limited tickets available).

We hope you will be able to join us for a great afternoon!

**Please contact Barry Eaton (1785eaton@gmail.com) for information on tickets
and for car-pooling assistance.**



Graduating?

We want to celebrate you!

Please help us out by filling out this form and letting us know if you are graduating this year (or this past December). Completed forms should be returned to the youth department by May 20th in order to have your information included in the bulletin on Graduation Sunday June 3rd.

Name: _____

Graduating from: ☐ High school ☐ Undergrad ☐ Masters ☐ Other _____

Name of school: _____

Degree Earned: _____

Planning to attend/Branch of Service/Employment: _____

Degree being pursued/Future plans: _____

Length of degree or anticipated graduation (Month/Year) _____

Fall Contact Information:

Address: _____

Email: _____

We plan to celebrate our graduates on June 3rd, 2018 during our services. (8:15 and 10:45)

Will you be present for this celebration? ☐ Yes ☐ No

High School Graduates:

Are you interested in being a part of our Adopt-a-Grad program? (A church member will adopt you and commit to be praying for you and keeping your mailbox full during your time at school/enrollment?) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Graduating High School seniors are also encouraged to leave a senior photo on the fridge in the youth lounge. Please provide a picture to Lisa Aronson at your convenience.

Thank you for your response!

Grateful Grads

A word from our graduating seniors

Join us on **May 20th** at 6:00pm
on the balcony side of the Sanctuary.
Hear from our graduating seniors about their time of
growing up at First Church and be encouraged by their
faith stories and future plans.

Stick around after the service as we continue to
celebrate our seniors in our

Senior Showdown!

We will be in the multipurpose for a game show style
showdown between our graduating seniors following the
grateful grad portion of our night until 8:30pm.



Church News and Notes

Special Birthdays

Jean McAfee May 5
 Milton Dougherty May 8
 Annabelle Elder May 10
 Jane Gunder May 11
 Grace Gensler May 12
 Vesta Rynard May 18
 Helen Kane May 23

Bill Morland June 6
 Thomas Hartsock June 14
 Joe Moomaw June 14
 Dolly Sholl June 16
 Caroline Brown June 21
 Joanne Reed June 23
 Beryl Morgan June 30

Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Bob & Cheryl Erikson married 51 years on June 2
- ♥ Gerry & Darlis Aumiller married 60 years on June 7
- ♥ David & Sandra Coover married 60 years on June 14
- ♥ Paul & Liz Nesmith married 63 years on June 19
- ♥ Jack & Grace Koser married 65 years on June 20

Thank you...

As Janice would say "I have kicked my boots" This happened sooner than expected. I praise the Lord and I want to thank my 1st Church Family for all their prayers, cards, visits and lots of good food for getting me through the last few months. It sometimes takes an unexpected event to see the good around you. You are good people. The Lord loves you and I do too.

Marilyn Seig

Dear First Church.

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers for Rory. They have brightened our home and are a reminder of the wonderful church family we have. We cannot wait for you to meet Rory James. Love,

The Baston Family

Thank you to all for the prayers, visits, flowers and other support during my recent surgery and continued recovery. It is a blessing to be a part of such a faithful, loving church family.

Carvel Markley



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DIRECTOR OF JUNIPER TREE COUNSELING CENTER

Glenn Covert

FIRST NEWS FIRST

Editor: Kristin Brown

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

May 15

Early submissions always
appreciated!