



November 2018

First News First

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

"A Cheerful Giver"

On Sunday, November 11, we will celebrate Consecration Sunday at First Church. In our worship services that day you will be invited to make a financial commitment to "Open Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors" in 2019. As you consider what your gift will be, I invite you to focus on God's giving as expressed so beautifully in a beloved verse from John's Gospel.

***God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life.***
(John 3:16 CEB)

This verse tells us three things about God's giving through Jesus:

God's motivation was love. (God so loved the world)

God gave sacrificially. (that he gave his only Son)

God gave in response to our need. (so that everyone who believes in him won't perish...)

This verse shows us what true, effective, Christ-centered giving looks like.

First, **we give in order to express gratitude.** Giving is one of our most important ways to say "thanks" for God's love toward us. A friend of mine once called the annual stewardship Sunday in his congregation, "Glad Response Sunday." I like that because that's what our giving is. It's a joyful response to God's love for us! Christ-centered giving is motivated by love.

Second, **we give in order to grow.** By now you may be familiar with the step-up chart we provide as a tool for your growth through giving. Each year you are invited to ask, "What is my next faithful step?" That step may involve sacrifice, as we allow God to reorder our priorities to kingdom priorities. The record is clear. Generous givers are typically happier and more spiritually vigorous than those who are not generous. Christ-centered giving is sacrificial.

Third, **we give in order to be involved.** An important part of our Consecration Sunday is the Ministry and Mission Fair during the Sunday school hour at 9:30. The fair brings together, all in one room, the countless ways we as a church are involved in God's good work.

We give because something in the church has caught our eye or warmed our heart or stirred our mind. We give because of the radiant smile on the face of a Sunday school child racing down the hall to meet her mother after services. We give because of a small group or class which has nurtured our spiritual life. We give because the worship or the sermon has touched our lives. We give because we see lives being transformed through our support of missions. We give to bring light into darkness. Christ-centered giving is in response to people's needs.

As you consider your financial commitment to God's ministry at First Church for 2019, remember God's gift to you in Jesus Christ. God gave lovingly, sacrificially, and in response to our need. God calls us to give in the same way. God is able, through our giving, to do abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine!

Taking the next faithful step with you,
Pastor Denny



BE ONE. DISCIPLE MAKE ONE.

Week 45: Theme ~ *Resources*

- November 5** *Surrendered then Multiplied*
1 Kings 17:1-16
- November 6** *Giving God All You Have*
Ezra 1:1-11
- November 7** *Giving God the Best We Have*
Genesis 4:1-17; Hebrews 11:4
- November 8** *God Provides Resources for Ministry*
Exodus 3:14-4:17
- November 9** *Be the Best in Sharing Resources*
2 Corinthians 8:1-15
- November 10** Relax & Reflect
- November 11** Worship

Week 46: Theme ~ *Choices*

- November 12** *Choosing to Spend Wisely*
Luke 12:13-34
- November 13** *Choose Life*
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
- November 14** *Choosing New Life*
Mark 2:13-22
- November 15** *Choosing Actions*
Matthew 21:28-32; James 2:14-26
- November 16** *Small Choices*
Luke 17:5-10; Matthew 13:31-34
- November 17** Relax & Reflect
- November 18** Worship



Week 47: Theme ~ *Thankfulness*

- November 19** *Attitude of Thankfulness*
Psalm 147:1-11; Revelation 7:9-8:1
- November 20** *Thankful for God's Faithfulness*
Psalm 136
- November 21** *Thankful for Salvation*
1 Corinthians 15:50-58; Ephesians 2:1-10
- November 22** *Thankful in Tough Times*
Psalm 42; Philippians 4:4-9
- November 23** *List of Thanks*
Psalm 100:1-5, 118:1-29
- November 24** Relax & Reflect
- November 25** Worship

Week 48: Theme ~ *Self Denial*

- November 26** *Self-Denial t Answer God's Call*
Luke 1:26-56
- November 27** *Self-Denial Creates Possibility*
Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-23
- November 28** *Saying No to Self*
Matthew 16:24-28; Mark 8:27-38;
Luke 14:25-35
- November 29** *Self-Denial and Giving Up*
Luke 18:18-30
- November 30** *Learning from the Master*
Matthew 26:36-46
- December 1** Relax & Reflect
- December 2** Worship

Take the Challenge!

It's never too late to accept the Be One, Make One Discipleship Challenge! If you haven't already, please join us on this adventure! Simply visit the Welcome Center display, pick up a Common English Bible with a reading plan and begin reading! Then come on Sundays to worship God and learn from the sermons, which dig deeper into the weekly readings.

Fall Bible Studies

Looking for a new way to grow, learn and get into God's Word this fall? Then consider participating in any of the following classes/groups:

- **Regular Sunday School** classes meet Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30 am. Look in the bulletin for more details regarding the class choices.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** with Pastor Denny is open for anyone to drop in! Class meets from 6:45 - 8:00 pm in room B004 and runs through November 14. This study is based on our 2018 daily Bible reading plan, so visit the Welcome Center display to sign up, 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.
- **Wednesday Lunch & Learn** with Pastor John is open for anyone to drop in! Bible study starts at 11 am under the balcony in the sanctuary and runs through November 14. Come to dive deeper into our 2018 daily Bible reading plan, followed by lunch out together at noon (dutch treat). Pick up a Common English Bible with the companion daily reading plan and begin reading today!

Library

As I walked around my always cluttered sewing room the other day, I started planning the odds and ends sewing I would do for Christmas. I was thinking I had plenty of time when my eye locked onto my calendar, and I was shocked to see it was October—where did September go?? Well, if you are having the same reaction as me to realizing that November is just around the corner, I have some short, quick books that will slide right into those little slots of time you have as we approach the holiday season.

This summer, Becky Wade started a new series called *The Bradford Sisters* but with no sequel in sight, it was a relief to find a Bradford Sisters novella. Maybe it's just a small book to hold us over till the sequel comes out. **Then Came You** is a unique book written in the form of journal entries, phone conversations and letters. Garner Bradford, heir to the troubled Bradford Shipping empire, finds himself the single parent of two children, one being a newborn. It seems as if trouble follows Garner wherever he goes. Raising his daughter Willow on his own after his girlfriend left them was a challenge, but nothing like the challenge of raising a newborn after his wife is murdered. He doesn't know where to start with her care. Meanwhile, after the death of his father, Garner takes over at the company. Fortunately, he has Kathleen Burke to help him at the plant. For Kathleen, working at the plant is just a stepping stone to a bigger, better career. But how she is drawn to her new boss. Don't miss this sweet romance!

If you haven't been reading the 23 Psalm mysteries, you might want to start now. Book 15, **In the Presence of My Enemies**, just arrived to continue the series. If you have not read the first books, the plots resolve around Cindy, the Presbyterian Church secretary, and Jeremiah, the neighboring temple's rabbi, who solve mysteries together and eventually fall in love. The latest mystery revolves around Jeremiah himself who grew up in Israel and has a secret past. Now that secret is coming back to haunt him. His enemies are trying to hurt him by hurting those dear to him. You'll want to find out if he can keep everyone safe, and if his secret is revealed. Once you read this book, you'll be back in to get the rest of the series.

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

See you in the library!

Pam & Donna

Praying Follower



Love & sympathy...

to the family upon the death of Steve & Lee Cadwallader's son, Jeremy, on October 11.

Praying Together

As disciples of Jesus, we value faithfully listening in order to discern God's will and respond to God in prayer every day. In addition to praying alone, why not consider these ways to engage in prayer with others in your First Church family:

- **Moms in Prayer** – This small group of mothers and grandmothers meets at First Church every Monday (that Mechanicsburg schools are in session) in the evening from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the Prayer Room (2nd floor elevator landing). No prayer experience is required. Your child can be any age/any stage of life. And what is prayed in the group stays in the group, so don't worry – your prayer requests will remain private within the group. Please contact Deb Noss at sdppp@msn.com if you have questions or would like to join this group.
- **Committee/Group Meetings** – Already gathering with a group for a committee meeting, activity or rehearsal? Bring along a copy of our weekly church prayer list, pick a section of the list and pray through it as a group. Special bonds of unity are formed within a group and a church that prays together in this way!

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.

Save the Dates! (4th Sunday at 4:00 PM)

November 25 and December 23

Holy Communion

	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

First Church is Hiring!

First Church is seeking a full-time Director of Worship Arts. We are looking for a versatile musician with a growing relationship and heart for Jesus Christ, gifts to engage people of all ages in Christian worship, both traditional and modern, proven organizational and leadership abilities, and excellent communication and relational skills. For details, see the job description posted on our website at www.fumchurch.com. Send resumes to office@fumchurch.com.

Ringin' in the News

What a pleasure it was for us to play for Owen Robinson's baptism service in October. We've had a busy fall. We appreciate those of you who supported our Chicken BBQ and had dinner with us the night of the Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade. We've added a new member to our group – have you met Grace Brown? Now the holidays begin.....

Yep, it's almost Thanksgiving. The bell choirs are again making pies for you! On Saturday, November 17th, there will be a pie aroma in the air! Make sure you've ordered your pies from a bell choir member, or in the book at the information desk. Pumpkin, Mincemeat, Apple Crumb topping, and Apple Double Crust are being made. And remember, you can order them baked, or frozen for you to bake at your leisure.

Our 14th annual Holiday Bell Concert at the Frederickson Library in Camp Hill is Monday, December 10 at 7:00 pm. We share the spotlight with a delightful harpist. This is always a fun time for all of us, come early for a seat!

And – you will find us in concert in Heidlersburg, PA on Sunday evening, December 16 at 6:30 pm.



Dedicated Missionary

Grocery Bagging for Bethesda Mission

November FUMC grocery bagging for Bethesda Mission Outreach on November 21 is canceled. The next date will be Wednesday, December 19 at Mission Central at 6:00PM

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 ~ they're the best!!*

There were **1,619** (\$16.19) pennies contributed this past month for a total to date of **\$13,158.53**. Thanks to all who are contributing for another great month! **Please keep the donations flowing and don't let the well run dry.**

Missions in Sierra Leone

Less than 3 months until our team leaves for Sierra Leone. Please continue to keep Kristin Brown, Tiffany Holland and Andy Irons in your prayers as they prepare for this exciting trip.

We recently received an update on the Parsonage Rebuild project. Following is what has been completed:

- ✓ Fixing of steel external doors and windows is 100% complete
- ✓ Block wall to new partition wall is 100% complete
- ✓ Plastering and reveling is 100% complete
- ✓ Fabrication of timber panel doors and fixing of door frames is 100% complete
- ✓ Fixing of MK boxes and electrical conduit is 100% complete
- ✓ All electrical fitting and cabling have been procured and transported to site
- ✓ Fixing of plumbing conduit is ongoing
- ✓ Fixing of internal door frames is 100% complete
- ✓ Floor and wall tile have been procured and will be transported to site for tiling work to start

and what remains to be done:

- Plumbing fittings installation
- Construction of storm drainage
- Painting and Decorating

- Glazing of casement windows

Stop by the Missions in Sierra Leone display in the tower hallway to see pictures!

A Note from the Contractor: The estimate for the parsonage rebuild was prepared about two years ago, during which inflation of commodity prices stood at almost 30%. Coupled with the hike in fuel prices from 3,750 leones to 8,000 leones and the introduction of toll booth in the only inland road leading to the provinces, the initial estimate will no longer be adequate for the rehabilitation work.

Based on the new estimate, \$10,631.36 is needed to complete the parsonage rehabilitation.

Serving the Homeless with Isaiah 61 and Exciting New Update!

Over the past several years, First Church has provided volunteers to serve the homeless in Harrisburg alongside Isaiah 61 Ministries on the third Wednesday of each month. For the month of November, we have been asked to provide the meal and serve on Wednesday, November 21st due to Isaiah 61 serving in several locations that week. We will be preparing food and serving for 100 that evening. Please consider helping with the following:

- ♥ Cooking the turkeys and 2 side dishes on Tuesday, November 20th at First Church.
- ♥ Placing rolls and butter in plastic bags.
- ♥ Making mini muffins and placing 2 in each bag, we will need 18 dozen total muffins.

In addition, we will be collecting 100 pairs of socks, 100 sets of gloves, 100 small deodorants and 100 small juice boxes. Watch for a collection box outside the multipurpose room soon.

Everyone is invited to serve that evening! We can always use help to set up the tables, serve and also to chat with those in attendance. Please consider helping with this important ministry to serve the less fortunate in Harrisburg. If you have questions or want to sign up to help, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 115 or Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com.

Susquehanna Conference Seminar Trip to Washington, DC

The General Board of Church and Society invites you to an educational trip to Washington, DC, February 10 to 13, 2019. The topic is White Privilege and Racism. The fee is \$375 and includes bus transportation, lodging at the Hotel Harrington, meals and materials. Find the registration form and more information at http://www.susumc.org/files/ministries/sus_ministries/church_society/GBCS_Seminar_Trip_2019.pdf. If you require financial assistance, you may submit a request to the Missions Committee. For more information about the trip, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.

Start Shopping for Your Shoebox Items Now!

You have an opportunity to purchase items for Operation Christmas Child at a local warehouse at discount rates! The warehouse purchases large quantities of items at discounted prices and sells them at cost to those who wish to fill shoeboxes. The location is 305 W. Commerce Street, Chambersburg (look for an orange sign). There are specific dates and times through November. You must bring cash or check. Upcoming dates include:

- November 3 (9 am to noon)
- November 6 (9 am to noon)
- November 10 (9 am to noon)
- November 13 (9 am to noon)

If you have any questions about Operation Christmas Child or the warehouse, please contact David Mengle at mengledm@verizon.net. If you would like to purchase items to fill shoeboxes, but don't want to travel to Chambersburg, please contact David or Margie Mengle and they will pick up the items for you!

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes - Friday, November 30 - All Day

We have scheduled an opportunity to take 10 people along with us on Friday, November 30, to the OCC processing center in Baltimore, Maryland. At the processing center, we will be trained and then assigned to a work station to "process" the boxes before they get shipped out. (Must be at least 13 years of age.) Transportation will be provided. Departing from the church parking lot at approximately 7:30 a.m.; returning 7:30 p.m. Questions? Contact David or Margie at email: mengledm@verizon.net

Relationship Builder



First Connections Gathering

The next First Connections time for fellowship will be held on Thursday, November 8th in the Tower Meeting Room (2nd floor children's Sunday School wing). Please join us between 1-3 pm to simply relax and visit with some First Church friends! Questions or need a ride? Contact Janice Bowen at WeCare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112

DAY OF PAMPERING February 23, 2019 ARE YOU HELPING???

Day of Pampering is scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2019. Mark your calendars now!

If you aren't familiar with Day of Pampering, let me explain. Day of Pampering is a respite day provided to 80 – 90 women caregivers. These women may be caring for a child, spouse, or family member. Day of Pampering (DOP) is an outreach program to the Mechanicsburg area and beyond providing a day for the women to renew their spirit, share their experiences with others and receive some tender loving care. DOP is a one-day event but takes months to plan and days before the event to prepare.

What Can You Do???

- ♥ Pray this event will be a blessing to those who receive and to those who share their talents and time.
- ♥ We are now looking for community service providers who would be willing to share their talent to provide haircuts, massages, makeup and more to these ladies during the afternoon "spa" services. If you know someone, please share their name and contact information and we will reach out to them.
- ♥ Prayerfully consider if you can help with registration, decorating, soliciting donations, painting nails, washing dishes, moving furniture, meeting providers as they arrive and helping them to their space
- ♥ Prayer team, etc., etc., etc.

We have a place where you can help. Please contact Karin McHale karinmch@comcast.net.

*GOD HAS GIVEN EACH OF YOU A GIFT FROM HIS GREAT VARIETY OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS.
USE THEM WELL TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER.*

1 PETER 4:10

Little Free Pantry Update!

You may have noticed that we now have a Little Free Pantry on our church property near the Community Aid Bin. "The Little Free Pantry is a grassroots, crowdsourced solution to immediate and local need. Whether a need for food or a need to give, the Little Free Pantry facilitates neighbors helping neighbors, building community." (from the Little Free Pantry website).

Thank you to those who have signed up to place items in the pantry, just to ensure there are consistent food options for our neighbors. We have noticed that as fast as items are placed, they seem to disappear, so we know it's being used. Praise God! You can still sign up for a specific month at the Time to Sign Up Sheet at: <https://www.timetosignup.com/kidscount/sheet/1269538> to choose your month. A list of suggested items can be found with the Time to Sign up Sheet. Visit the Little Free Pantry website at littlefreepantry.org for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hoffnagle, Director of Outreach at outreach@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 115. Thank you for helping us to serve our neighbors!

Widows/Widowers

The widows/widowers group will dine at the Country Cupboard restaurant in Lewisburg, PA on Tuesday, November 13th at Noon, weather permitting. Carpooling will begin at the church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. In order to provide the transportation needed for this event, it is important to inform Bonnie Guyer if you plan on attending.

Generous Giver



Financial Report—through September 30, 2018

75% of year

General Fund

2018 budget	\$ 945,000	
Expected income	\$ 708,750	
Actual income	\$ 705,959	(75% of budget)
Shortfall	\$ 2,791	
Actual expenses	\$ 674,908	

The Finance Committee has started work on the 2019 budget. In early December the committee will finalize the recommended budget for presentation to the Administrative Board on December 17, 2018.

Ministry & Missions Fair

Each year during this season of thankfulness we hold our Ministry and Mission Fair. It is a time when we contemplate how we are doing – do we cheerfully and consistently give, not only of our money, but also of our time and God-given talents in response to God’s extravagant love? As we consider this question, the fair provides ways for us to connect our gifts with the world’s needs.

Are you looking for new ways to give and serve? Please come. Are you already involved in a ministry or mission and want to encourage others to do the same? Please come! **ALL** are invited to come to the Ministry & Missions Fair! This year it is scheduled on Consecration Sunday, November 11, from 9:15 – 10:45 am in the Multipurpose Room. In addition to our own ministry and mission tables, we are hosting several of the mission organizations that we support, like Mission Central, New Hope Ministries, Salt’nLight Youth Ministry and more! With your participation, this fair will be a joyful celebration of all the ways that we are bearing fruit and bringing glory to God!

If you have questions or would like to reserve a table for your specific ministry/mission, please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com or call 717-766-4611, extension 104.

Neighborhood Christmas Tree.

It’s almost time to shop for families from Neighborhood Center. Like last year, there will be a Christmas tree with ornaments with specific requests from the children chosen for our church. I don’t know what items will be requested yet, but if it is like last year, there will be some larger items. Those items might be chosen by a Sunday School class or 2-3 individuals can go together and split the cost. Look for the tree mid-November and Happy Shopping. Contact Lori Hoffnagle or Donna Nichols for more information.

Shopping Made Easy for the United Methodist Home for Children

The United Methodist Home for Children has shared their Christmas Wish List and gift cards are a very popular item. We have the perfect solution! Buy a gift card from our church Scrip Program and help the UM Home for Children! Please purchase the following requested cards in any amount: Dick’s Sporting Goods, Payless Shoes, Rite Aid, Staples, Walmart, and Applebees and indicate on the form they are for UM Home for Children. Lori Hoffnagle will deliver the gift cards to the Methodist Home just in time for Christmas! The Scrip Gift Card Program is located near the coffee prep area (behind the double door). Questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com or Kathie Bittenbender at rbittenben@verizon.net.

Sweet Potatoes for New Hope

First Church is once again collecting donations of canned sweet potatoes for New Hope Ministries. The canned goods will be included in holiday food boxes that are being prepared by New Hope Ministries in Mechanicsburg for distribution to local families in need. Donations can be dropped off inside the Main Entrance of the church. Questions, contact Don or Debbie Karns at dekarns@comcast.net. Help us reach our goal of 300 cans!

World Thank Offering

On November 18, during the 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. worship services, you will have an opportunity to join United Methodist Woman around the world to participate in the **World Thank Offering**. The collection

will take place alongside the regular offering during worship. “The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women’s five channels of undesignated Mission Giving. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world.” Thanks for giving!

Hurricane Relief GG

You can help the victims of recent hurricanes by donating to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) or Mission Central. 100% of your donations to UMCOR goes to disaster relief.

- Write a check to FUMC with UMCOR in the notes section. OR
- Write a check to FUMC with Mission Central in the notes section.

All donations will be sent to the organizations you indicate. Place the checks in the offering plates or bring to the church office. Visit UMCOR's website at <https://www.umcor.org/> or Mission Central's website at <https://missioncentral.org/>. If you have any questions about making a donation, feel free to contact Bob Bittenbender at rbittenben@verizon.net.

November Blood Drives

November 2	Fox Center, 8am to 7pm – 120 S. Filbert St. 17055
November 4	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, 7:30am to 12:30pm – 310 Hertzler Rd. 17055
November 4	Silver Spring Presbyterian, 8am to 12:30pm – 44 Silver Spring Rd. 17055
November 7	Georgetown Crossing, 2pm to 6pm – 100 Georgetown Rd. 17050
November 11	St. John’s Lutheran Church, 12:30pm to 3:30pm – 44 W. Main St., Shiremanstown,
November 11	Ahmadiyya Muslim Veterans Ceremony & Blood Drive, 11pm to 3pm – Silver Spring Township Building, 8 Flowers Dr. 17050
November 12	Messiah College, 9am to 4pm – One College Ave (Boyer Hall), 17055
November 15	Buffalo Wild Wings on the Carlisle Pike, 3pm to 7pm
November 18	Vibrant A Christian Church, 10am to 1pm – 1775 Lambs Gap Rd. 17050
November 18	West Shore Evangelical Free Church, 8:30am to 1pm, 1345 Williams Grove Rd. 17055
November 19	New Cumberland Middle School, 3pm to 7pm – 331 8th St. 17070
November 28	UPMC West Shore Hospital, 12pm to 4pm – 2015 Technology Center 17050
November 30	Cumberland Valley High School (Eagle Lobby), 8am to 3pm – 6746 Carlisle Pike

Of course donors can always visit our website for a complete list of blood drives in full region we cover. www.717giveblood.org

Medical Equipment Available!

If you are in need of durable medical equipment to assist you or your loved one during a time of recovery or rehabilitation, we may likely be able to loan you what you need! (Such as wheelchair, walker, canes, grabbers, rolling scooter, bedside commode, shower chair.....) Please contact Janice Bowen (WeCare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112)

Annual Church Conference -- November 18, 2018, 1:00 p.m.--Following the Mission Meal

Please plan to join us for our annual church conference in Fellowship Hall on November 18 immediately following the UMW mission meal. There we will review and evaluate the mission and ministry of our church, receive reports, and adopt goals for the coming year. This year, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Salsgiver, assistant to our Bishop Jeremiah Park, will preside at our church conference. In addition to conducting the required business, Dr. Salsgiver will share information with us related to the special session of General Conference, which is coming up on February 23-25 in St. Louis, MO.

Dr. Salsgiver is a member of the “Commission on the Way Forward”, which was formed by the Council of Bishops in 2016 to review paragraphs in our United Methodist Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and to make recommendations at this General Conference. He will share this important information with us, lead us in a time of prayer and listen to our questions. Every member of First Church is encouraged to attend. Childcare will be provided.

Women's Ministry

Any and all women are invited to participate in upcoming events and activities. This page gives you an overview of all the ways to connect. More information can be conveniently found in other parts of the newsletter or feel free to contact the person involved with the event. The Women's Ministry Facebook page has been created! Look for it on our FB page titled "First Church Women's Ministry" and feel free to join!

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

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

DAY OF PAMPERING

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

LADIES' OVER 80 TEA

Janice Bowen ~ wecare@fumchurch.com
September 18

MOMS IN PRAYER

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

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Next meeting November 16 at 9:15am
Tina Eaton ~ adultministry@fumchurch.com

WOMEN'S PRAYER STUDY

Starts September 10, 6:45-8:00 pm
Tina Eaton ~ adultministry@fumchurch.com

WOMEN'S RETREAT

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

ZUMBA Gold (low impact dance/aerobic exercise)

Resumes the week of September 3

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

World Thank Offering and Mission Meal

On November 18, during the 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. worship services, you will have an opportunity to join United Methodist Women around the world to participate in the World Thank Offering. The collection will take place alongside the regular offering during worship. "The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of undesignated Mission Giving. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world." Thanks for giving!

The **Mission Meal** will take place in Fellowship Hall following the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Join us for a meal of barbeque, carrots, chips and dessert! Donations will be accepted for the meal and will support local organizations, such as New Hope Ministries, Neighborhood Center and Mission Central.

The **Annual Marketplace of Miracles and Cookie Walk** is Saturday, December 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Women at Risk, Change Purse, Ten Thousand Villages, She's Somebody's Daughter and Trades of Hope will be joining us this year. These organizations raise awareness and support victims of human trafficking and promote Fair Trade. Come shop for a cause! The Cookie Walk promises a variety of homemade cookies, just in time for Christmas! Boxes will be provided. All proceeds benefit youth mission trips. Come early for the best selection!

More information can be found on our website at fumchurch.com.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men of First Church

Small group meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 8-9:30 pm. The next meeting is November 21. All men are welcome and encouraged to join us. Currently the group is watching a video lesson with follow-up discussion. The October 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, November 3 at 7:30 am. Hope to see you there!

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 Golf Outing

On Friday, October 12 a group of men from FUMC enjoyed a great afternoon together playing golf at Armitage Golf Club, followed by dinner at Caddy Shack Restaurant. It was a beautiful day and the men had a great time spending some time together and getting to know each other a little better. Watch for more men's activities in the coming months.



Men's Winter Retreat ~ January 25-27, 2019

Each year a group of good men go away to find that they can laugh easily and learn wisely how to make themselves even better. This year will be especially helpful as we focus on relaxing and reviving both our physical and spiritual selves. Space is limited to 24 overnight guests at Mount Asbury's very comfortable lodge, but we will be inviting single-day attendance for those who may only be able to join us on Saturday. Grab a registration form at the Welcome Desk and contact John Bowen or Barry Eaton with any questions. bowenhome720@gmail.com or theeaton5@verizon.net

Church News and Notes

Special Birthdays

Sadie Heim November 1
Liz Nesmith November 4
Doris Zimmerman November 7
Nancy Bomboy November 12
Patricia Marr November 23
Marlin Lehmer November 24
Joyce Woods December 1
Jo Nye December 13
Helen Ritter December 13
Dolores Shell December 13
Darlis Aumiller December 21
Elaine O'Hara December 26
Doris Dougherty December 27
Sandra Coover December 28

Special Anniversaries

♥ Richard & Joanne Reed married 65 years on November 4
♥ Lincoln & Veloice Washburn married 67 years on November 9
♥ Leon & Pat Bricker married 58 years on November 19
♥ Dave & Dolly Scholl married 67 years on November 22
♥ Don & Kay Coldren married 56 years on November 24
♥ Robert & Sara Meck married 66 years on November 25
♥ Roy & Ginnie Miller married 51 years on December 9
♥ Harriet & Douglas Steuart married 51 years on December 16
♥ Joe & Carol Moomaw married 53 years on December 24

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Glenn Covert

A note from the Editor

Looking ahead... due to my being in Sierra Leone January 19 through February 2, 2019, we have decided to combine the January/February editions of First News First. The combined edition will be published in December 2018. Please keep this in mind as you plan events for January and February that would need to be communicated through the newsletter.

FIRST NEWS FIRST

Editor: Kristin Brown

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

Early submissions always
appreciated!

November 15