



First News First

October 2017

Monthly News of First United Methodist Church
of Mechanicsburg

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

"See *All* the People"

10:45 Convergent Worship Service Starts October 1

When you worship, what kind of music do you like to sing?

If I were to ask that question to a cross-section of people here at First Church, it's likely I would get a number of different answers.

There are many factors that determine the kind of music you like to sing in worship, like your denomination or ethnic background. But the most important single factor in determining the hymns you like is the year you were born. We tend to "bond" to music, both sacred and secular, between age sixteen and twenty-four.

If you were born before 1960, like I was, it's likely you "bonded" with the great classic hymns and old gospel songs accompanied by a pipe organ or a piano and music offered by robed choirs.

If you were born after 1960, you may prefer one of the three or four generations of newer Christian music often referred to as "praise and worship" or "contemporary."

Numerous studies have shown that congregations that are intentional about providing worship experiences for every age group are far more likely to reach young adults and to be healthy and strong.

In June, a Worship Enrichment Team (WE Team) was formed. (The names of team members are listed below). Their purpose was to evaluate our 10:45 service and to discern God's direction for its future. The team identified the strengths and weaknesses of 10:45, prayed and studied, conferred with our program and music staff, and visited other churches. As a result, they envisioned a new service that will begin October 1 at 10:45 and will be consistent from week to week.

8:15 and 10:45 will have the same scripture and sermon, incorporate prayer, offering and Sacraments, and communicate things appropriate to the whole church, the style of each service will be unique.

Our 8:15 service will offer the same traditional style that has been the foundation of our worship life for many years. To distinguish it from the later service, it will be called "Foundation".

Our new, 10:45 service will bring together classic hymns, gospel songs, and older and newer praise and worship songs led by our praise team and choirs. There will be musical offerings from the sanctuary choir, the bell choirs, children and youth and other worship arts. This service will be called "Convergent," which means "coming closer together." It's based on I Corinthians 12:4-7, where we are called to offer 'different gifts, different activities, but the same Spirit.'

I am grateful for the faithful work of our WE Team and for our music and program staff. The WE Team will continue to evaluate the service and to make changes as needed. It's members are: Bob Bittenbender, John Bowen, Jenny Dose, Barry Eaton, Jason Fisher, Dave Florey, Juanita Guise, Anna Harris, Rick Herring, Dennis Keller, Lynn Rapp, Mark Rutch (chair.), and Michelle Spencer.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

We are so blessed with a beautiful worship space, gifted musicians and worship leaders, and people of all ages who come together to praise and glorify God. My prayer is that as we lift up the Lord Jesus in both of our worship services, all of us will be drawn closer to him!

Yours in Christ,
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.

Acolytes Wanted

Calling all kids in grades 3-6: Do you want a chance to light the altar candles and help the pastors lead Sunday worship? You can if you sign-up to be an acolyte! If you're interested, please contact Colin Knott, 691-1183 or wereknotthome@verizon.net. Just one training session and you'll be ready to let your light shine!

Holy Communion

World Communion	September 3	Pew Service
First Sunday in Advent	October 1	Loaves and Chalice
Christmas Eve, 8:00 and 11:00	November 26	Pew Service
Covenant Communion	December 24	Loaves and Chalice
Ash Wednesday*	January 7	Loaves and Chalice
First Sunday in Lent	February 14	Loaves and Chalice
Palm Sunday	February 18	Pew Service
Maundy Thursday	March 25	Loaves and Chalice
Easter Sunrise	March 29	At Tables
	April 1	Mechanicsburg Cemetery
	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

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

Music

Children's Choir accompanist needed!

The Children's Choir is in need of an accompanist for rehearsals and when they sing at Worship. Children's Choir is directed by Lorette Cale and sings about 5-6 times a year at 10:45 Worship, and on Christmas Eve at the 5:00 Family Service. They rehearse during Wonderful Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:00. If you are able to assist with this ministry please contact Jody Brinley at 717-774-2094. A small salary is included with this ministry. It is exciting and fulfilling to work with these little ones! Please consider helping!

Attention Senior High School Students

If you are interested in singing in a traditional choir for Worship, you are invited to join Sanctuary Choir. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 8-9 and sing twice a month at 10:45 and once at 8:15 Worship. Please consider joining us to help with our ministry of music. If you are interested you can contact Jody Brinley at 717-774-2094, or just show up for rehearsal on Wednesday night!

From Sounds of Worship

Wouldn't you like to make a joyful sound to our Lord by "packing" the choir loft??? To do this We Need You!, no auditions, so don't be shy, there are seats waiting in the loft just for you. Meet us on Thursday evenings at 7 PM in the choir room for a one hour rehearsal. We sing only at the 8:15 service on Sunday and have the last Sunday of the month off..

Blessings, Flossie Ryder, Director

Ringin in the News

With Fall now here, the bell ringers, like all other groups in the church are getting back to their regular activities. We would love to have some new members! Come some Wednesday evening and just watch – or jump in and give bell ringing a try!

Our 16th annual chicken BBQ is on October 21. As long as we have chicken we'll be serving it, but it's much safer if you order your chicken ahead of time! If you come to the Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade, our soup, hotdogs, and mac 'n cheese stand is in the corner of our parking lot. And don't forget our annual thanksgiving pies! Orders will be taken beginning in October.

Handchimes will begin October 22nd for interested children in grades one through six. Ringers and their parents will have an organizational meeting after the second service that Sunday and hopefully we'll get in a little playing! We invite our young ringers to be part of this exciting ministry as we praise God through ringing. Sign up – see the form below!



SIGN UP TO PLAY HANDCHIMES!!

Grades 1 – 6

No Experience Needed!
Practices begin October 22



Name _____ Grade _____

Parent's Name _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Questions?? Call Kathie Bittenbender ~ Please return form to "Bittenbender" mailbox!

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 **October 18 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 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 **650** pennies contributed this past month for a total to date of **\$12,853.46**.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the disaster relief for Sierra Leone. While our attention has turned to relief for disasters closer to home, Sierra Leone continues to struggle. The scope of the effect of the mudslide goes beyond loss of lives, homes and belongings, as if that is not enough. Wells that once provided safe drinking water have been contaminated and new wells will need to be dug.

The Change for Water (previously Penny Fund) collection at the Sierra Leone display table is a way you can continue to support the relief efforts. Just drop your loose change or even bills into the bucket. The money is sent to the Sierra Leone Initiative of the Susquehanna Conference and from there it is sent to Sierra Leone, designated specifically for well drilling.

Please don't let the well run dry.

Sierra Leone Mission Trip Update

As you know, we started our letter writing campaign – “Connecting to Calvary”, to get our First Church congregation to connect with the Calvary Church congregation in Taiama. We want to thank all the children, youth and adult members that have already filled the SL mailbox with letters, prayers and photos. The deadline to mail your envelope is Sunday, October 8th. If you haven't already composed a letter but want to, please take an envelope off the Sierra Leone Table in the Main Entrance hallway. Instructions, fun facts and a photo are included.

We will be taking the mail with us to Calvary in Taiama, Sierra Leone on our November 2nd –11th mission trip. We are sure the love and prayers shared in those letters will give our brothers and sisters in Christ hope. And assure them that we care about and pray for them, even with the many miles between us J.

A big thank you to the Covered in Love ministry for doing such a great job in knitting cute hats for the boys and girls at Calvary. And thank you to the Martha Circle and other church members who are making t-shirt dresses for the girls! We are excited and looking forward to praying and connecting again with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Taiama.

The mission team would also like to thank everyone for their purchases, donations at our UMW yard sale spot in August. All proceeds are going to fund our mission trip to Calvary UMC, Taiama, Sierra Leone on November 2nd thru November 11th.

Once we return, we will be having a presentation about our mission trip during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, December 10th. Hope to see you there!

Last but certainly not least, thank you for your continued prayers for traveling mercies, our safe travel there and back, and for all the lives we will touch, and will touch us, along the way.

Peace and Prayers,
Tiffany and Sarah

AUGUST 2017

jenna.mengle@cru.org

August: preparing for Roma, Italia

Every student. Every campus. Every nation.

Over the next year, I will take part in cru's global mission of seeing every student on every campus presented with the chance to follow Jesus, in every nation.

As I am now **fully supported** and I praise the Lord for his provision, I welcome all the new additions to my mailing list! I'm stoked you're here on this journey with me to Rome, *welcome!*

August was a month of finishing my financial support team (praise God!!!) and preparation because on September 1st I make the move to Rome. WHAT?! First, I am so thankful that I've gotten to see so many of you in the Mechanicsburg area. The dessert my parents hosted was a blast, and blew me away in celebrating my first year of ministry. [Thanks again mom & dad!] As I look to this year, I can't help but anticipate how God will move!

For the middle 10 days of the month, I got to attend a fellow Miami alum and sweet friends' wedding, had a 6 day training for moving overseas, and then had 3 days to visit many friends that I'll miss dearly over the year. What a gift it was to have this time.


This month, when I stopped by Miami I was motivated and surprised once again to hear the need in western Europe from an outside perspective:


"When I first heard that cru went to Italy, a catholic country and home of the vatican, I was sort of offended. Then, I studied abroad in Italy this summer and was shocked and sad to learn that their faith is dead, hardly anyone believes and it is an identity based on culture and traditions, not faith- they need to hear truth and have Christian friends."


STINT (Short Term INTERNATIONAL) training:


At training, we covered things like: safety, team unity, cru's mission, ministry specifics in western Europe and I got to meet my 2 new roommates that are going to Rome. Meet Savannah and Kassey: They are from South Carolina and Alabama, and are 2017 Ole Miss graduates. We will take our transatlantic flight together on the 1st, and do most of our lives together this year.


How to reach me starting September 1:

 Facebook messenger will work the same & is free.

 iPhone: I will have a new Italian number upon arriving, but will be able to communicate via iMessage, FaceTime and FaceTime audio if you are an iPhone user. The first time you message me will have to be via email, or Facebook, and then I can share my Italian number. (This is free on WiFi) I will most likely not receive your messages to my American number after September 2nd.

 WhatsApp is a free texting, calling and video call app that will be my primary mode of connecting with both Italians, and friends at home. You can download this in the app store, and will use my Italian number to contact me once I am there (Free with wifi- use FB messenger or email to get this number)

 Email will work the same.

 Mail: although mail is not as efficient in Rome as in the US, I welcome (and would love) the attempt of mail and packages! :) To send letters or postcards, it takes 1 international stamp. Just ask for my address!

I am so incredibly thankful for you!

*blessings,
Jenna*



meet my STINT team: myself, Savannah and Kassey

Prayer requests

- Team unity and transition: Savannah, Kassey and I will need prayers that we transition to culture with ease and love each other well. I know the Lord's perfect provision is where he puts me, so I am so excited to see him bond us. However, the three of us want to surround the transition and culture adjustment in prayer.
- Traveling: Prayers for safe flights, ease and uneventful travel
- Friends: Prayer that I would meet friends in Rome quickly. I am praying for both believing and non believing friends to help with the transition to Italian culture
- Cultural specific prayers: Praying to feel like an insider, and find a sense of belonging quickly in a new place. Praying for language learning, and that I will be a humble learner of culture, team, and friends.

Praises

- Visa: I got my visa, and am set to depart!
- Flight: my flight was an incredible deal, and comes with 3 free bags :) What a bonus!
- Safe travel to and from briefing (I drove 1700 miles this month!)
- 100% financially supported!!!!
- Family and Friends: I feel like I've gotten quality time with family and friends which makes leaving a little easier!

Thank you for praying & being in partnership with me!

August Recap



Dear First United Methodist Church of Mechanicsburg,

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.

Philippians 1:3-5 (NLT)

As I (Matt) was about to graduate from West Chester in the spring of 2015, I was wrestling with two things: *do I go into the workforce, or do I go into ministry with Cru?* What I wanted to do? Ministry. But my fears of raising financial support were so great that I decided not to. I got a good job with a marketing firm, and LeeAnn and I planned to move to Los Angeles after we got married where I would work for the firm while she was on staff with Cru at a local campus.

However, throughout our engagement LeeAnn encouraged me to leave my job and join staff with Cru alongside her. I thought it was too much of a risk to take. But deep down, that's what I wanted. With my fears of raising support right in front of me, God gave me the grace to quit my job and begin raising support with my new bride.

Fast forward to today. The average amount of time it takes a long-term Cru staff member to raise their initial support in order to report to campus is 12-18 months. Between the 3 months last summer that we raised support for our intern year, and the 1 ½ months that we've raised support since we've been home from our training in Colorado, ***we are humbled and grateful to say that we will be reporting to campus starting next week!***

As we reflect on Paul's letter to the Philippians, we see that he expresses great appreciation and love toward those in Philippi for their generous support of his ministry. In the same way, we want to express our gratitude towards you. God has used you in miraculous ways to allow us to minister to and serve thousands of college students at West Chester. Thank you, from the deepest part of our hearts, for your generosity.

Our staff team and students have been working hard in our absence. A little over two weeks ago, 17,000 students returned to WCU. Thousands of spiritual surveys were filled out, gauging students interest in Cru. One of our biggest events of the year, outdoor Cru, just happened last week. Each year, we set up our large group meeting outside in the residential quad, a hotspot for freshman and foot traffic. 225 students showed up and heard the gospel, with many more walking by or listening from their dorm rooms.

We can't wait to be back serving on campus, and can't thank you enough for your partnership in getting us there.

In humble gratitude,

Matt & LeeAnn

(MATT) 717.713.0619 • (LEEANN) 856.832.5306

MATTHEW.HERRING@CRU.ORG • LEEANN.HERRING@CRU.ORG

Finance

Financial Report—through August 30, 2017 67% of year

General Fund

2017 budget	\$ 935,000	
Expected income	\$ 626,450	
Actual income	\$ 600,387	(64% of budget)
Shortfall	\$ 26,063	
Actual expenses	\$ 573,797	

Income during the third quarter is falling further behind expectations. Hopefully the shortfall can be reduced or eliminated by the end of the year. Expenditures are below expectations.

Discipleship



Pot-Luck Supper & Worship Night Celebration – *The Case for Christ*

This past month we have listened and reflected on what the pastors shared in sermons, we have read and studied together, and we have grown in our discipleship as we searched for the truth about Jesus together. Now it's time to celebrate!

Everyone is invited to a pot-luck supper on October 15 at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a great time of fellowship, immediately followed by a time of worship in the sanctuary. Our youth praise band will provide music and we will hear personal stories of how *The Case for Christ* has impacted our faith!

A special gift will be given to honor those who accepted the sermon series attendance challenge (attended worship all four weeks of the series) or those who invited a friend to participate in some way!

So, bring a main dish, side dish or dessert to share, and bring your joys and praises! If you have questions, please contact Tina Eaton at 766-4611, extension 104 or email her at adultministry@fumchurch.com.

New Member Class

Are you interested in becoming a First Church member? If so, you are invited to a new member orientation on Sunday, October 8 from 9:30 – 10:30 am in Pastor Denny's office (room 201). On that day you will get to know the pastors and each other better, plus receive materials for the 6-week new member study, *A Disciple's Path*. This class will run through November 19.

Sign up at the display in the church lobby or contact Tina Eaton at 766-4611, extension 104 or email her at adultministry@fumchurch.com.

Bible Study with Pastor Denny

A new Bible study with Pastor Denny will begin on October 11. The class meets on Wednesdays from 6:45 – 8:00 pm in room B004. Keep your eye out for more details in the bulletin and sign up at the display in the church lobby. Questions? Please contact Tina Eaton at 766-4611, extension 104 or email her at adultministry@fumchurch.com.

Save the date!

Sunday, November 12 is Consecration Sunday

Soon you will see posters going up around the church, hear personal testimonies from members of our congregation during worship services, and receive information in the mail about this great spiritual renewal event.

At both our 8:15 Foundation Service and our 10:45 Convergent Service, you will be invited to make a financial commitment to support Christ's mission in and through First Church. There will be a Ministry Fair during our 9:30 a.m. Sunday school hour as we celebrate how we are "Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors."

You are blessed to be a blessing!

From the Director of Outreach

Final Third Friday Food Truck Feast, October 20.

The trucks will be rolling into our parking lot one last time this year on October 20 from 5 to 9 p.m. Make sure to stop in for great food, music and a chance to meet our neighbors. October trucks include: Mad Sandwiches, The Chicken Truck, One Love Café, Potato Coop, Scoops, Mad Dash and Sugar Whipped, yum!

Broad Street Community Meal

First Church is partnering with Broad Street Elementary and other community churches to provide a meal for students and their families on Thursday, October 5 at 5:00 p.m. The free community meal is a way for churches to show love and support to the school and their families. First Church has been asked to provide fruit salad, fresh fruit and 5 dozen cookies, along with 5 servers or 5 clean up helpers. If you would like to help with the meal or provide fruit and cookies, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.

Streets of Treats and Chicken Barbeque

First Church is participating in the annual Streets of Treats on Saturday, October 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in partnership with the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce. This free family-friendly event features safe daytime trick-or-treating, crafts, games and other children's activities. Children will pick up a treat bag and map of participating businesses at the Square in Mechanicsburg. First Church will have the ever-popular Lollipop Tree filled with wonderful treats for children! The annual chicken barbeque to support Handbell Choir members' attendance to festivals and workshops, will be held the same day. See the Chamber website at www.mechanicsburgchamber.org for details and make sure to visit our parking lot on October 21st!

Socktoberfest

During the month of October, First Church is participating in Socktoberfest in partnership with the Susquehanna Conference. The goal of Socktoberfest is to collect 1,000 pairs of socks for men, women, children and infants. The socks will be distributed to organizations that serve those in need, such as Carlisle Cares and Bountiful Blessings. Watch for a bin to be placed outside the multipurpose room by October 1. Thanks for your help in making a difference in our community!

Library

I cannot believe it is October. Golly, I am beginning to sound like a broken record saying that every single month. (On Sunday Lisa said from the pulpit that idioms can date you, and I am sure the younger generation cannot relate to a broken or stuttering record.) But sadly, it is true every month. With time flying, I guess I better get right to the heart of this newsletter article.

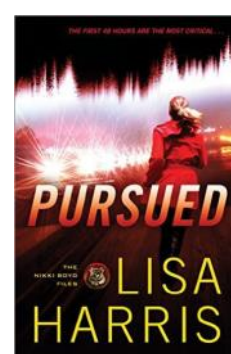
October has always been mystery month in the library, but I have news that can't wait till November. Jan Karon is taking us back to Mitford in her latest book **To Be Where You Are**. After 12 years of wrestling with the conflicts of being retired, Father Tim decides he really is ready for retirement, and he doesn't need a steady job—but God has a surprise for him. When **Come Rain or Come Shine** ended, Lace and Dooley were just married and had become new parents to an orphan named Jack. Dooley had begun his vet practice and everyone was bursting with happiness. Now there is a crisis on the farm impacting not only their home life but the practice. If that isn't enough plot, there are many other subplots involving all the townspeople that we have come to know over that last 12 books. If you have missed Mitford as much as I have, stop in the library for your latest dose of hometown charm.

Now back to mystery and as you all know my favorite genre. A new author to our library is Lisa Harris and her series is called the *Nikki Boyd Files*. Nikki Boyd works for the Tennessee Missing Persons Task Force, which is no surprise considering her sister has been missing for 10 years. In the first book, **Vendetta**, another case has come up very similar to Nikki's sister's case. As she is drawn deeper into the case, she begins to feel that the abductor is making this case personnel. Can Nikki solve this case and maybe even find out about her sister after all this time? Book two, **Missing**, opens with a homicide of two homeowners and two other people missing from the same street. Though Nikki usually is not a part of the homicide squad, the obvious link between the two cases brings her into this mystery. And soon she finds out that the case involves a lot more than missing people. In book three, **Pursued**, Nikki is returning to Nashville when her flight crash lands at the airport. The woman who was sitting next to her and accompanied by an air marshal has gone missing in the chaos. Before Nikki can even say "Honey, I'm home," she is off and chasing the frightened woman, trying to find her before the not-so-good guys do. By the time you finish these three books, there will be the fourth in the series on the shelf—**Vanished**. This author was brought to me by Evelyn Fennel, and if you have a book or author you would like to suggest for the library, please let any of the staff know, and we will try to get it.

The library will be open during Wonderful Wednesday from 6:15 to 7:30. Not only is the library a great place to find a good book, but also a peaceful and comfortable place to wait for your child. A volunteer will be on duty to help if you would like to check out a book or search for a topic.

See you in the library!!

Pam & Donna



Access Ministry

Day of Pampering

Believe it or not, planning for Day of Pampering is already beginning. Day of Pampering (DOP) is scheduled for Saturday, February 24, 2018. If you are new to First Church, DOP is a special day for women caregivers to renew their spirit and body by attending a time of worship, a luncheon without interruption, and afternoon spa time; as well as, free time to network with other caregivers. As in the past this will be an all-day event encompassing lots of prayer, a lot of preparation, preparing the building days before the event, and restoring all spaces to order before Sunday morning services. Honestly, that is the short list.

This year will be a time of transition and transition is about change. Lisa Wickenheiser is transitioning to new opportunities. We thank Lisa for guiding First Church to be more aware of and more involved in the special needs community. We thank Lisa for bringing her vision of DOP to First Church. And we thank her for her tireless dedication to this program each year and all the man hours she put in inviting and registering guests, lining up volunteer service providers to provide an afternoon spa atmosphere and all the other countless jobs she did. THANK YOU LISA!!! We wish you much success in your new endeavors.

So, as we transition into new leadership roles, we need your help. First, **please pray!** The needs are many and include prayer for the participants, volunteers and service providers who provide haircuts, makeup, massage, nail painting, etc. Prayer is needed for leadership to step up and fill in the voids. Most important, prayer is needed that this event will continue to be the hands of Christ reaching out to love his daughters throughout the community.

Consider how you can help. Many of you have been involved in Day of Pampering in the past. I hope we can count on you to help again in February. If you haven't been directly involved in the past, please prayerfully consider if this is the time for you to take a more active role. More specific requests will be shared through the monthly newsletter, the weekly email and the weekly bulletin. In the meantime, we are especially looking for team leaders and helpers to organize the Guest Invitation and Registration process, line up the Service Providers, coordinator the Tea Room or aid in one of the many other responsibilities.

If you are as excited about Day of Pampering as we are, please contact Karin McHale at karinmch@comcast.net. I guarantee there is a spot for you to be a part of this amazing event.

Scholarship Awards

The Board of Trustees granted 2017-2018 scholarships from the Zimmerman Youth Scholarship Fund to ten of our students pursuing post-secondary education. This year's awardees include Brian Almond (Kutztown), Graham Bowen (West Chester), Matthew Canonizado (Gettysburg), Joshua/Kyle/Ryan Eaton (Lebanon Valley), Nick LaPointe (North Carolina State), Ethan Mengle (UAB School of Optometry), Shawn Rapp (Shippensburg), and Ethan Spencer (Penn State). While the scholarship awards may not be monetarily significant in this era of spiraling college costs, they help to reinforce our Christian love for these students as they pursue their higher education goals and aren't here with us on a weekly basis.

In addition, the Board of Trustees granted a 2017-2018 scholarship from the Comfort Education Fund to our Youth Pastor Lisa Aronson as she continues her studies towards a Masters of Divinity degree from Evangelical Seminary.

Congratulations to all of the scholarship awardees and best wishes for an outstanding academic year!

Health and Wellness

Dance, Dance, Dance!

Did you know that First Church offers Zumba Gold fitness classes? Zumba Gold is designed for active older adults who are not used to exercising or may be physically limited. Using Latin styles of music and dance at a lower intensity, Zumba Gold classes strive to improve balance, strength, flexibility, and most importantly, cardiovascular health. No need to register, you may pay as you go.

The classes are held on Tuesday (SilverSneaker Partner) and Thursday at 1:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room. For more information about the Tuesday class, contact Margaret Paredes at 4paredesfam@gmail.com or for the Thursday class, contact Lisa Lynch at lisaklynch01@gmail.com. All are welcome to have fun while getting fit!

October Blood Drives

October 1	8:30 am to 12 pm	St. John's Lutheran Church, 44 West Main St., Shiremanstown
October 1	12 pm to 4 pm	Sky Zone on the Carlisle Pike
October 2	3 pm to 7 pm	Eureka West Shore Masonic Lodge, 910 South Market St. 17055
October 3	3 pm to 7pm	Denny's on the Carlisle Pike
October 5	3:30 pm to 8 pm	Applebee's on the Carlisle Pike
October 6	8 am to 7 pm	Fox Center, 120 S. Filbert St. 17055
October 7	9 am to 12 pm	Grace UMC, 216 S. Market St. 17055
October 13	8 am to 12 pm	Remco, Inc., 195 Hempt Rd. 17050
October 14	10 am to 2 pm	Benny's Pet Depot, 5202 Simpson Ferry Rd. 17055
October 17	4 pm to 8 pm	Donostrong Replenishment Blood Drive at Tonino's Pizza 4500 Marketplace Way, 17025
October 19	3 pm to 7 pm	Buffalo Wild Wings on the Carlisle Pike
October 20	8 am to 12 pm	Warren and Reese Family Dentistry, 324 E. Main St. 17055
October 22	8:30 am to 11:30 am	Aldersgate UMC, 1480 Jerusalem Rd. 17050

Women's Retreat Fundraiser

Have you tried the SCRIP program yet? Would you also like to support the Women's Ministries of First Church and the Women's Retreat? From October through January some of the proceeds from the SCRIP program will go to support the 2018 Women's Retreat. If you purchase gift cards from Applebee's, Carabba's/Outback Steakhouse, Cracker Barrel, Dunkin Donuts, Olive Garden/Red Lobster/Longhorn Steakhouse, Panera Bread, Red Robin, Subway, Texas Roadhouse, or TGI Friday's, the proceeds will directly benefit the Women's Retreat. Please check out all of the great restaurants, retail stores, hotels, etc that SCRIP offers. The SCRIP box and order forms are located at the end of the main entrance hallway, to the right. Any questions, please contact Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net.

Senior Fellowship ~ Tuesday, October 17th -- 1-3 p.m.

All senior members are invited to come for a casual time of fellowship and light refreshments under the balcony space just beyond the church library.

Carvel Markley will join us with for "Part 2: Church History." Please bring old church photographs if you have any to share!

Contact Janice Bowen (766-4611 x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) formore information.



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 the Tower
Meeting Room

2017 Events:

- 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
- December 16** Marketplace of Miracles and Cookie Walk

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

Harrisburg District Annual Day – Still Time to Sign Up!

It's not too late to sign up to attend Annual Day on October 7. If you want to sign up, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at 717-732-6430. The event lasts from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (stay until the end to receive a special goodie bag!). All women are encouraged to attend.

Mission Meal to Support Hurricane Relief Efforts, November 19.

The annual UMW World Thank Offering, taken at both worship services, will be held on Sunday, November 19. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission carried on through United Methodist Women's national office in the United States and around the world.

The Mission Meal will be held in Fellowship Hall, following the late service. This year's entire collection from the Mission Meal will go directly to hurricane relief efforts. In the past, the proceeds benefitted women, children and youth locally, but due to the recent disasters, we want to help our neighbors in Texas and Florida. Join us for the delicious meal of barbeque, chips, veggies and dip and dessert! Take out will be available after the Sunday School hour. If you can't stay for the meal, feel free to stop in to make a donation or contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com or 717-732-6430. Thanks for helping us to help others!

Marketplace of Miracles and Cookie Walk, December 16, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

No time to shop or bake, no problem! Come to the annual Marketplace of Miracles to purchase items that support great causes and pick up homemade cookies at the Cookie Walk to support the Youth Mission Trips! The Marketplace vendors include WAR (Women at Risk), Change Purse and Ten Thousand Villages. Watch for more information and details.

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesday starts October 18! Children ages 3 to sixth grade and their families are invited to attend. Registration forms can be dropped off at the Children’s Display window in the marked tote bag near the coffee prep area. There is a \$15 fee per child per semester, scholarships available upon request. If you have questions, feel free to contact Dawn Fisher or George Canonizado at kidscount@fumchurch.com.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MECHANICSBURG 135 W SIMPSON ST/ FUMCHURCH.COM

2017-18 Registration Form

Note: You do not need to be a member at First Church or attend worship here to participate.

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Club Choices: Sports, Legos, Board Games, Crafts or Homework.

Child _____ Grade & Age _____ Club Preference _____

Child _____ Grade & Age _____ Club Preference _____

Child _____ Grade & Age _____ Club Preference _____

Phone numbers (home and cell) _____

E-mail address _____

Emergency contact name and phone _____

I give permission for any video or photos of my children taken while participating in Wonderful Wednesday/ Passion Play be shared on the church website/Facebook page or on play DVDs. Names will not be used in postings or DVDs. YES NO

Please rank your top three preferences of involvement:

shepherd for rotations table parent kitchen help set up clean up childcare, if needed
 bake desserts where needed (feel free to contact us with any questions about the responsibilities of these roles)

Member of First Church? Yes No (circle one) Attend First Church on Sundays? Yes No (circle one)

Cost and other details:

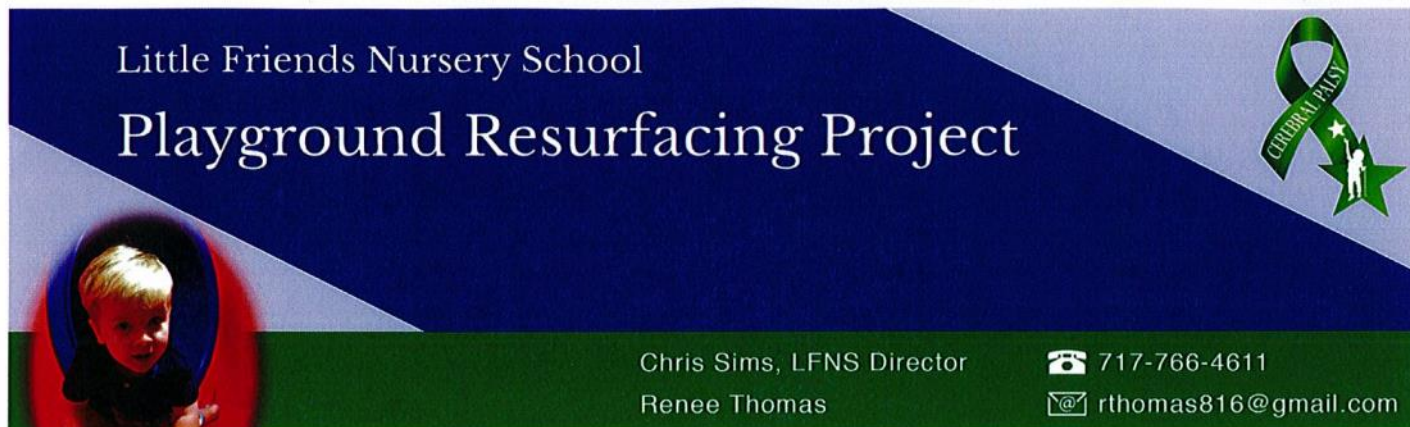
- \$15.00 per child, per semester. Please make checks payable to First United Methodist Church.
- \$3.00 for adult dinner each night
- Children will be exploring The Gospel According to Dr Suess!
- The first Semester begins October 18th and ending December 6th (no session on November 22nd)
- Starts at 4:30pm with WW clubs (like sports club, legos club, etc), followed by an opening and Bible lesson. Dinner starts at 5:50, and ends at 6:20 when kids go to choir practice until 7pm.
- Second Semester will continue on January 24th and end on March 28th with the Passion Play.
- At least one adult from each family is requested to participate in the program in some capacity.

Registration (please check one):

First Semester Only _____ Second Semester Only _____ Both Semesters _____

Please place this form in the silver backpack at the Children’s Display area or in the Dawn Fisher or George Canonizado mailbox or return to the church office. Questions? Call Dawn Fisher or George Canonizado at 766-4611 x102 or e-mail kidscount@fumchurch.com. Please register by **October 13th**.





Little Friends Nursery School
Playground Resurfacing Project

Chris Sims, LFNS Director 717-766-4611
Renee Thomas rthomas816@gmail.com

Dear First Church Families,

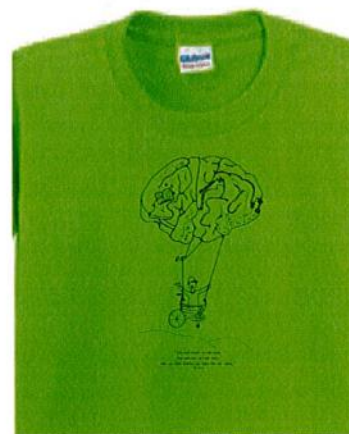
Welcome to a new year!! This is our 4th year as Little Friends parents and we are so thankful for the community of teachers, students, and parents that we have met along the way.

Many of you already know about our playground fundraiser to benefit my son Roland and all the kiddos in the future who will call Little Friends home. For all the details see our intro letter at <https://www.youcaring.com/rolandthomas-821536>

I'd like to update you on how the project is going and how you can help. We have raised \$3,800 in cash/online donations. And a preschool alumni parent, Craig DeTraglia with DeTraglia Excavating has generously given \$5,000 in services to excavate and prep the surface before the rubber is poured. The goal is to raise all \$20,000 by the end of 2017 and have the playground complete in early 2018.

How can you help??

- **Sponsorship** – we need at least one more \$5,000 sponsorship. Forms can be found online.
- **Family and Friends** – Consider making a check or online donation.
Make Checks Payable to:
Little Friends Nursery School
% Playground Project
135 West Simpson St
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
To donate online:
www.youcaring.com/littlefriendsplayground
- Events-
Parents Night Out – Oct 13 and Dec 1, 4pm-7pm,
\$10.00 per kid, \$25.00 family maximum.
Drop off your kids for dinner or shopping
T-shirts– We will be selling kids/adults shirts for \$20. Email
Renee for more details. Rthomas816@gmail.com



Church News and Notes

Love & sympathy...

to the family upon the death of Mary (MJ) Lippert-Coleman on September 9.

Thank yous...

We would like to thank our family @ First Church for visits, prayers, get-well-cards, flowers and sunshine they gave us on "cloudy" days this past month. Your caring makes us keep the faith! How we appreciate each and everyone!!
~ Lincoln & Veloice Washburn

Special Birthdays

Peg Hassinger	October 8	Sadie Heim	November 1
Skip Hutter.....	October 13	Liz Nesmith	November 4
Carol Moomaw	October 21	Doris Zimmerman...	November 7
Winslow Brown.....	October 23	Nancy Bomboy	November 12
Don Shover	October 23	Don Adams	November 15
Paul Strock.....	October 31	Patricia Marr	November 23
		Marlin Lehmer	November 24

Special Anniversaries

- ♥ Leroy and Pam Weaver married 55 years on October 7
- ♥ Skip & Pat Hutter married 62 years on October 8
- ♥ Ralph & Gwen Harkins married 55 years on October 20
- ♥ Paul & Vesta Rynard married 53 years on October 24
- ♥ Richard & Joanne Reed married 64 years on November 4
- ♥ Lincoln & Veloice Washburn married 66 years on November 9
- ♥ Dave & Dolly Scholl married 66 years on November 22
- ♥ Don & Kay Coldren married 55 years on November 24
- ♥ Robert & Sara Meck married 65 years on November 25

Birth



Eliza Betsy
born to
Matt & Krissy Marshall
on
September 14, 2017.

Church Staff

SENIOR PASTOR

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

ASSOCIATE PASTOR*

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

YOUTH PASTOR

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uthrock@fumchurch.com

DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP*

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DIRECTORS OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY*

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kidscount@fumchurch.com

DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE*

Janice Bowen
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DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH*

Lori Hoffnagle
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outreach@fumchurch.com

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CUSTODIANS*

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Matthew Miller
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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/SANCTUARY CHOIR DIRECTOR*

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rbittenben@verizon.net

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

JUNIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR*

GERI NUSS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR*

Lorette Cale
lorettecale@gmail.com

ORGANISTS/ACCOMPANISTS*

Michal Foursevitch
Frank Heberlig
Tom Mullikin
Karen Philp
Nick Werner
Seth Wickenheiser

DIRECTOR OF LITTLE FRIENDS NURSERY SCHOOL*

Chris Sims
lfns@fumchurch.com

*PART-TIME

FIRST NEWS FIRST
Editor: Kristin Brown

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

Early submissions always
appreciated!

October 15