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WELCOME TO

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA

A scenic view of a mountain range with a river valley, overlaid with the word EXODUS. The image has a teal and brown color palette.

# EXODUS

Seeing God in the Journey

**“More Than We Are Because  
of Who God Is”**

**FOUNDATION SERVICE**

**SEPT. 3, 2023**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" - No. 140*

Opening Prayer

Ministry of Music

*"Hymn Medley"*

Scripture

*Exodus 2:23-3:12*

Sermon

*More Than We Are Because of Who God Is*

Hymn

*"Take Our Bread" - No. 640*

Invitation and Confession

Words of Assurance and Sharing Signs of Peace

The Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread and Cup

Announcements and Offering

Closing Hymn

*"Here I Am, Lord" - No. 593*

Benediction

Postlude

## ***LEADING IN WORSHIP***

Preaching.....Joshua Herring

Liturgist..... Pastor Dennis Keller

Accompanist..... Anthony Ciucci

Special Music.....Stu Diehl, Kathie Bittenbender

Sound and Media..... Jim Murdoch, Jim Robinson, Ron Nichols

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# EXODUS

Seeing God in the Journey

**“More Than We Are Because  
of Who God Is”**

**THE GATHERING SERVICE**

**SEPT. 3, 2023**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship

*"Great Things"*

*"Whole Heart (Hold Me Now)"*

Summer Childcare Dismissal

*"Same God"*

Scripture

*Exodus 2:23-3:12*

Sermon

*More Than We Are Because of Who God Is*

Communion Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Announcements and Offering

*"Goodness of God"*

Benediction

Postlude

## ***LEADING IN WORSHIP***

Pastor..... Joshua Herring

Worship Leader..... Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Team..... George Canonizado, Allison Ometz, Sarah Pugh, Cynthia Smith

Sound and Media..... Jim Murdoch, Jim Robinson, Ron Nichols

# COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

## ***WEEK OF SEPT. 3***

### **Pickleball**

Tuesday, 5 p.m.

### **Men's Group (Off Site)**

Wednesday, 8 p.m.

### **Squares and Prayers**

Thursday, 9 a.m.

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## ***WEEK OF SEPT. 10***

### **Martha Circle**

Tuesday, 1 p.m.

### **Deborah Circle**

Tuesday, 7 p.m.

### **Third Friday Food Trucks**

Friday, 4:30 p.m.

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



# WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

## ***WEEK OF SEPT. 3***

**Sunday**

Worship

**Monday**

Exodus 3: 1-15

**Tuesday**

Psalm 149

**Wednesday**

Romans 13: 8-14

**Thursday**

Matthew 18:15-20

**Friday**

Exodus 12: 1-14

**Saturday**

Rest and Reflect

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of George and Kathryn Fishel by the Taylor and Van Kirk families.

# NOTES





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LIFELONG LEARNER

### **First Step Gathering | Sunday, Sept. 24, 9:45-10:45 a.m.**

If you're new to First Church or haven't been around for a while, stop by our First Step Gathering in room 207! This newcomer event provides the opportunity to get to know Pastor Denny, the First Church staff and other newcomers as you learn about what we believe and determine your next faithful step. Sign up on Church Center or at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) or contact Tina ([adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611) if you plan to attend.

### **Wednesday Men's Group | Sept. 6 and 20, 8 p.m.**

This group enjoys great fellowship while focusing on discussion-based Bible studies. In their current study, "This is the Day," Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to inspire men to seize each day for God's glory. This group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the home of Barry Eaton. Contact Barry ([1785eaton@gmail.com](mailto:1785eaton@gmail.com)) if interested.

### **Tuesday Women's Bible Study | Begins Sept. 19, 1:45 p.m.**

All women are invited to join Tina Eaton in Fellowship Hall for "Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting More" by Melissa Spoelstra. In this seven-week study, you'll learn to trust in God's character, rely on His provision, and find comfort in His correction. The workbook (which includes online access to watch the videos anytime) is \$15 for those who would like to go deeper by completing the at-home personal study. Sign up on Church Center, at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) or by contacting Tina Eaton ([adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611).

### **Wednesday Bible Study | Begins Sept. 13, 6:45 p.m., Room B003**

Join Pastor Denny for a five-week study, "Feeding on the Word: The Mind of Christ," which is the second part of the full "Companions in Christ" study series. Together, you will engage in a journey of spiritual growth and discovery like no other! The study guide is \$8, or you may purchase the complete set for \$20 if you would like to continue with three additional studies in the series that Pastor Denny will lead this year. Sign up on Church Center, at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) or by contacting Tina Eaton ([adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611).

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## PRAYING FOLLOWER

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

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



## **PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER**

### **Online Worship**

Worship with us and invite others to join any time of the week! Check out our livestream at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays or watch recorded messages on our YouTube and Facebook pages 24/7. If you're unable to access online worship services, contact Janice Bowen ([wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) for other ways to connect to First Church.

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## **DEDICATED MISSIONARY**

### **September Mission Focus: The Computer Ministry**

The Computer Ministry of Mechanicsburg collects computer equipment items, refurbishes them, and then distributes them to nonprofit ministries and organizations in need. Stop by the display table in the main entrance hallway to learn more about this ministry and how you can get involved.

### **Mission Central's Mission Fare | Thursday, Sept. 28, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Support Mission Central's work in Mechanicsburg and beyond at this celebration lunch and silent auction at Buhrig's Gathering Place (25 E. Main St., Mechanicsburg)! Learn more and register at [missioncentral.org/events](http://missioncentral.org/events).

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## **RELATIONSHIP BUILDER**

### **Pickleball in the Park | Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m.**

Join us on the pickleball court at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park (across from the pool) for some fun and games! No experience is necessary, and paddles and balls will be available to borrow. In the event of bad weather, we will play in the multipurpose room. Contact Janice Bowen ([717-766-4611](tel:717-766-4611), ext. 112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) with questions.

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## **GENEROUS GIVER**

### **Giving to First Church**

We're so grateful for all the ways you support First Church – through your prayers, time, talents and resources. Everything you give to First Church helps us build disciples and love our neighbors. You can place any tithes or offerings in the baskets as you exit the sanctuary, send them into the church office, or give online on our website ([fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)) or in the Church Center app.

### **Handbell Choir Chicken BBQ | Saturday, Sept. 23, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Support the First Church handbell choir at the 22nd annual Chicken BBQ! Meals are \$12 each and include a half chicken, a baked potato, a roll, applesauce and butter. Baked goods and drinks will also be available to purchase. To reserve your tickets, sign up on the clipboards at the sanctuary entrances, see a handbell choir member or contact Kathie Bittenbender ([rbittenben@verizon.net](mailto:rbittenben@verizon.net) or [717-697-6257](tel:717-697-6257)).

## KIDS

### Stay Connected!

Want to know more about First Church Kids? Check out our landing page or contact Director of Children and Family Ministries Katie Knorr (kidscount@fumchurch.com).

### Wee Worship for the Summer

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

### Wee Worship and Kids Worship Resume

Next Sunday, Sept. 10, these special worship programs (for kids through fifth grade) resume at the 11 a.m. service.

## YOUTH

### Keep in Touch!

Help us connect with you so that you don't miss any of the fun!

- Join our Remind text list (text @4Gyo to 81010).
- Follow our Instagram (@fourgyouthministry).
- Like us on Facebook (4G — First United Methodist Youth Group).
- Email Lisa to receive emails about all things First Church Youth.

### Coming Up

4G Resumes at the Church Picnic | Sept. 10

*Thanks for joining us in worship!*

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

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

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

# FALL PICTNICK



SUNDAY, SEPT. 10, 4-7 P.M.

The Pavilion at  
Pleasant View Park  
Mechanicsburg

Bring a side dish or  
dessert to share  
and a lawn chair!

# SUNDAYS SCHOOL

Are you interested in learning and growing while at church on Sundays for worship? First Church offers a variety of adult classes from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. New studies kick off Sept. 10 Fall classes kick off on Sunday, Sept. 10! New participants are encouraged to join any class, anytime.

## **FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE**

**Location· Room 105**

**Contact· Jenell Paris**

This group is for adults of all ages and focuses on fellowship, friendship and mutual support in and outside the classroom. Currently watching season 2 of "The Chosen," along with a guided discussion.

## **GROWING IN CHRIST**

**Location· Fellowship Hall**

**Contact· Tina Eaton**

This group provides a welcoming space for newcomers who are looking to pray and study God's Word together. Currently enjoying an in-depth study of the book of Romans.

## **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

**Location· Room B003**

**Contact· Wayde Leister**

This friendly, caring group is eager to apply God's Word to life's challenges. Beginning a new study by Bob Goff, "Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People" on Sept. 10.

## **FAITHFUL FAMILIES**

**Location· Room B005**

**Contact· Bob and Tracy Wertz**

Join an active group of parents with older school-aged and young adult children who study Scripture, encourage one another, and celebrate life together in and out of the classroom.

## **HELPING HANDS**

**Location· Room B004**

**Contact· Bob Wertz, Sr.**

This group of active seniors focuses on encouraging instructions for faithful living and enjoys fellowship activities together outside of class. New study begins Sept. 3 focused on the theme "God Provides."

## **GUYER CLASS**

**Location· Room 123**

**Contact· Steve Noss**

This class, comprised of a wonderful group of elders in the church, is taught by a variety of church leaders. New study begins Sept. 3 focused on the theme "God Provides."

**Learn more at [funchurch.com](http://funchurch.com)**