
WELCOME TO

**First United
Methodist Church**

MECHANICSBURG, PA



CLIMB HIGHER



“Lived in Faith”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

NOV. 12, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome
Call to Worship

Opening Hymn
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" - No. 117

Affirmation of Faith

Choir Anthem
"Seek Ye First"

Scripture
I Corinthians 15:51-16:2

Sermon
"Lived in Faith"

Hymn
"Take My Life, and Let It Be" No. - 399

Consecration of Our Gifts
Doxology and Offering Prayer
Announcements

Closing Hymn
"To God Be the Glory" - No. 98

Benediction
Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller
Liturgist..... Pastor Lisa Aronson
Accompanist..... Brandon Rhody
Special Music.....Sounds of Worship
Sound and Media..... Fred Espenshade, Ken Rapp, Jim Robinson, Jason Kichline

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MECHANICSBURG, PA

A photograph of two people standing on a mountain peak with their arms raised in triumph. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a silhouette effect. The text "CLIMB HIGHER" is arched over the scene in large, white, bold letters.

CLIMB HIGHER

“Lived in Faith”

THE GATHERING SERVICE

NOV. 12, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship

"Holy Forever"

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

"New Wine"

Scripture

I Corinthians 15:51-16:2

Sermon

"Live in Faith"

Consecration of Our Gifts

Offertory Prayer and Announcements

"Build My Life"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Pastor Lisa Aronson

Worship Team.....Emily Hammaker, John McHenry, Geri Nuss, Sarah Pugh,
Tracy Wertz

Sound and Media.....Fred Espenshade, Ken Rapp, Jim Robinson, Jason Kichline

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

WEEK OF NOV. 12

Moms In Prayer

Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Deborah Circle

Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Isaiah 61

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

WEEK OF NOV. 19

UWF Baked Goods Giveaway

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Mom Connection

Monday, 6 p.m.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, All Day

*Scan here or
visit our website at
fumchurch.com for
more details on all
of our upcoming
events!*



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

WEEK OF NOV. 12

Sunday

Worship

Monday

Judges 4:1-7

Tuesday

Psalms 123

Wednesday | 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Thursday

Matthew 25:1-13

Friday

Matthew 25:14-30

Saturday

Rest and Reflect

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lance and our loved ones by Larry and Judi Buddenbaum and family.

MACHE BASKET

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Paul S. Brandt by Grace and family.

TEACHING NOTES

“Climb Higher: Lived in Faith”

1 Corinthians 15:51-16:2

Stewardship is:
Grounded in Gratitude
Revealed in Prayer
Lived in Faith

“Now what?”

“Now concerning the collection...”

1 Corinthians 16:1

1. Giving is an **act of devotion**.

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ... “Now concerning the collection...”

1 Corinthians 15:51-16:1

2. Giving is **an investment in things that are of eternal value**.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**”

Matthew 6:19-21

3. Giving is **an act of discipline**.

¹ Now concerning the collection for the saints: you should follow the directions I gave to the churches of Galatia.

² On the first day of **every week, each of you** is to **put aside** and save whatever extra you earn, so that collections need not be taken when I come.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Paul’s directions for giving:

- Premeditated (“every week”)
- Proportionate (“each of you”)
- Planned (“put aside”)

“Now what?”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Deborah Circle | THIS TUESDAY, Nov. 14, 7 p.m.

All women are welcome to attend Deborah Circle's monthly meeting in room 105. This month, the circle will collect for a family Thanksgiving basket and Deb Karns will present a devotion. Please contact Sandy Walton ([717-433-3687](tel:717-433-3687)) with questions.

The Passion Play Experience | March 28

Signups are open for our 2024 Passion Play Experience! We need help onstage and behind the scenes to bring this interactive telling of Jesus's final days to life. Sign up on Church Center, at fumchurch.com, or by contacting Katie Knorr (kidscount@fumchurch.com).

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Moms in Prayer | Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Unite with women around the world in praying for our children and grandchildren through Moms in Prayer International. Our prayer group, led by Deb Noss, meets on Monday evenings in room 105, and all mothers and grandmothers are invited! No prayer experience is required, and your child can be any age or stage of life. All prayers remain confidential within the group. Please contact Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com) if you have questions or would like to join this group.

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 or [717-766-4611](tel: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) for other ways to connect to First Church.

Service of Remembrance and Hope | Sunday, Dec. 3, 4 p.m.

If you're feeling the burden of grief this holiday season and missing your loved ones, we invite you to join us for a time of worship and reflection at our Service of Remembrance and Hope. We will gather in the sanctuary, and the service will also be recorded and available afterward for viewing from home. Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions.



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Operation Christmas Child | Boxes Due by Sunday, Nov. 19

Support Operation Christmas Child by filling a shoebox with gifts for the upcoming holiday season! Pick up the instructions and a shoebox (or use your own box), then fill your box with items suggested on the list and return it to the display in the lobby. After today, there are only two Sundays left to bring your shoeboxes in! So far, 53 boxes have been returned. Help us reach our goal of shipping at least 300 boxes to kids in need! Pick up a box and learn more at the display!

November Mission Focus: New Hope Ministries

This month, we're partnering with New Hope to make Thanksgiving and Christmas extra special for local families in need. First Church has a long tradition of collecting canned sweet potatoes that help New Hope provide Thanksgiving meals. You can also support New Hope's annual Christmas Blessings Express, which allows guests to shop for Christmas gifts for their families. You can support this program by donating an unwrapped gift or gift card to Walmart or Target. Learn more and drop off your items at the display in the main entrance hallway.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Indoor Pickleball | Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m.

Join us in the church multipurpose room for some fun and games! No experience is necessary, and paddles and balls will be available to borrow if needed. Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112) with questions or to be added to the pickleball email list for updates and alerts.



GENEROUS GIVER

Handbell Choir Pie Fundraiser | Orders due TODAY, Nov. 12

Support the Handbell Choir by purchasing a homemade pie! See a bell choir member or fill out an order form outside the sanctuary after worship to place your order. Pick up your pies in Fellowship Hall between noon and 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 18.

World Thank Offering Baked Good Giveaway | NEXT SUNDAY, Nov. 19

Support the United Women in Faith World Thank Offering with your sweet tooth! Stop by the table near the couches (close to the Children's hallway) to pick up a tasty treat and make a donation to the World Thank Offering. Visit us between worship services for a sweet treat and a chance to help women, children and youth. If you can donate a baked good, please bring to the display that morning. If you have questions about United Women in Faith or the World Thank Offering, please contact Lori Hoffnagle (L_hoffnagle@yahoo.com).

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 and Kids Worship

Every Sunday these special worship programs are held (for kids through fifth grade) at the 11 a.m. service.

Christmas Movie Night | Dec. 16

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

Sleep Out for the Homeless |
Nov. 17 - 18

Thanks for joining us in worship!

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

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

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



God Uses a Gift and a Letter to Change Lives



As a 7-year-old in Mongolia, Jargalmaa (pictured left) described one particular day as “unexpected.” After school, her teacher invited her to a church where she received her very first gift! This Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift included, among other fun toys, stationery, and a set of hairclips. Inside, she also found a letter that said, “You are valuable and so loved by God.” Jargalmaa cherished this message because her parents and grandparents had never told her that they loved her.

Jargalmaa went on to participate in The Greatest Journey discipleship program where she especially appreciated the lessons about God as Creator. Later in 10th grade, she accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. Through her testimony, five of her family members and two close friends also made this life-changing decision.

Now 15 years after receiving her shoebox gift, Jargalmaa, her husband, and two young children (pictured above) have recently moved to a new community where they are ministering to youth in hopes of starting a church. “I would like to challenge people who are preparing shoebox gifts to also write a letter showing God’s love,” Jargalmaa said. “What’s written there may be very simple, but those simple words could completely change somebody’s life.”

SHOEBOX GIFT IDEAS



“WOW” ITEM

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal
- Shoes



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Coloring and picture books
- Solar calculators

TOYS

- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes
- Small water bottles



ACCESSORIES

- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Jewelry and watches
- Flashlights (with extra batteries)



DO NOT INCLUDE

candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items; seeds; food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items or glass containers; aerosol cans

Shoebox gifts are like snowflakes—no two are alike!

—Franklin Graham,
President, Samaritan's Purse

