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**WELCOME TO**

**First United  
Methodist Church**

**MECHANICSBURG, PA**



# **“Tree of Life”**

**FOUNDATION SERVICE**

**AUG. 18, 2024**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

*"Shall We Gather at the River" - No. 723*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Ministry of Music

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

Scripture

*Revelation 22:1-7*

Sermon

*Tree of Life*

Hymn

*"On Eagle's Wings" - No. 143*

Announcements and Offering

Doxology and Offering Prayer

Closing Hymn

*"Because He Lives" - No. 364*

Benediction

*"Trees of the Field"*

Postlude

## **LEADING IN WORSHIP**

Preaching.....Rev. Mira Hewlett

Liturgist..... Andrew Smithmyer

Accompanist.....Brandon Rhody

Special Music.....Emily Hammaker, Sarah Pugh

Sound and Media.....Holly Kurten, Jim Murdoch, Taylor Shepley

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**WELCOME TO**

**First United  
Methodist Church**

**MECHANICSBURG, PA**



**IN THE GARDEN**

**“Tree of Life”**

**THE GATHERING SERVICE**

**AUG. 18, 2024**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship  
*"Holy Forever"*  
*"Graves Into Gardens"*

Kids Moment

Summer Child Care Dismissal

*"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"*

Scripture  
*Revelation 22:1-7*

Sermon  
*Tree of Life*

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements and Offering

*"Praise Your Name"*

Benediction

Postlude

## **LEADING IN WORSHIP**

Pastor.....Rev. Mira Hewlett

Worship Leader.....Sarah Pugh

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

Sound and Media.....Jim Murdoch, Jim Robinson, Taylor Shepley

# COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

## WEEK OF AUG. 18

**Pickleball in the Park**  
Tuesday, 5-7 p.m.

**Isaiah 61**  
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

**Men's Group (Off Site)**  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.

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## WEEK OF AUG. 25

**Backpack Blessings**  
Sunday, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

**Rejoicing Spirits**  
Sunday, 4 p.m.

**Covered In Love**  
Wednesday, 9:30 a.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!*



# SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Revelation 22:1-7 (NSRVue)

*<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup> they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. <sup>6</sup> And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true, for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place." <sup>7</sup> "See, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."*

## ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to  
the glory of God.

# NOTES

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## From Our Staff-Parish Relations Committee

SPRC recently accepted Jenn Myers' resignation from her position as First Church's Director of Office Management and Communications, effective Aug. 31. We treasure Jenn as a member of First Church and have been honored to have her as part of our staff.

We are currently hiring for two staff positions:

### **1. Director of Youth Ministries**

20-25 hours per week with flexible work hours, working with middle and high school students and their families. Our current Youth Pastor, Lisa Aronson, will be available to train and mentor as she transitions into her role as Pastor of Discipleship.

### **2. Director of Office Management and Communications**

Full-time role with some flexibility involves creating and implementing a variety of communications for the congregation and community, along with overseeing day-to-day office operations.

Positions will be open until filled. If you or someone you know is interested in either position, please contact SPRC Chair, Cheryl Mengle ([cmengle57@gmail.com](mailto:cmengle57@gmail.com)), or Pastor Mira Hewlett ([pastormira@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastormira@fumchurch.com)).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **LIFELONG LEARNER**

### **Fall Kick-Off Sunday | Sept. 8**

Jump into a Sunday school class, Bible study or other discipleship opportunity this fall! Keep an eye out for details on upcoming programs and activities at [fumchurch.com](https://www.fumchurch.com) or on the Church Center app.

### **Upcoming Retreats**

Want to get away with God? Our annual Men's Retreat will take place at Mount Asbury from Nov. 8 to 9. The 2025 Women's Retreat will be Jan. 24-26 at Rhodes Grove.

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## **PRAYING FOLLOWER**

### **Pray for Our Schools | Sunday, Aug. 25, 3-4 p.m.**

Join our community in praying for our Mechanicsburg schools. First Church will lead an hour of prayer at Elmwood Elementary, and other local churches will lead at Kindergarten Academy, Broad Street Elementary and Mechanicsburg High School at the same time.

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## **PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER**

### **Rejoicing Spirits | Sunday, Aug. 25, 4 p.m.**

First Church invites everyone to attend this "shush-free" worship experience that celebrates all expressions of worship and individuals of all abilities. This monthly service includes music, scripture, prayer and a brief message, along with refreshments and fellowship afterward.

### **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 ([we-care@fumchurch.com](mailto:we-care@fumchurch.com)) for other ways to connect to First Church.



## **DEDICATED MISSIONARY**

### **Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry | Wednesday, Aug. 21**

Isaiah 61 Ministries serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County through a variety of services including a soup kitchen, clothing bank and life groups. First Church members help serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30. Prior to serving, we also prepare the meal in the church kitchen. Contact Tiffany Holland ([tholland1967@gmail.com](mailto:tholland1967@gmail.com)) or Lori Hoffnagle ([l\\_hoffnagle@yahoo.com](mailto:l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com)) to learn more and get involved.

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## **RELATIONSHIP BUILDER**

### **Church Picnic | Sunday, Sept. 8, 4-7 p.m.**

Each fall, we look forward to reconnecting after the summer months at our annual Church Picnic. Join us in our Green Space and parking lot for a potluck dinner, followed by fellowship and worship. Please bring a lawn chair and a favorite side dish or dessert to share (hot dogs, hamburgers, iced tea and water will be provided).

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## **GENEROUS GIVER**

### **Scrip Program | Next Orders Due Sunday, Aug. 25**

Scrip is a fundraising program that invites you to purchase gift cards from First Church for local and national retailers. When you do, a portion of the proceeds help fund ministries at First Church. Typically, you receive your gift cards one week after placing your order. Pick up an order sheet in the lobby gathering space next to the water fountains, and place your order today!

### **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 tithes or offerings in the baskets as you exit the sanctuary, send them into the church office, or give online at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) or in the Church Center app.

## KIDS

Newborn-Grade 5

### 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).

### Summer Worship Child Care

Every Sunday through the summer there is childcare (for ages 6 and under) at the 11 a.m. service. Activity bags available for older kids at the entrance to the sanctuary. Kid Worship resumes Sept. 8.

**Backpack Blessing | Aug. 25  
8:30 and 11 a.m.**

## YOUTH

Grades 6-12

### 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

**Bible Sunday | Sept. 15, 8:30 and 11 a.m.**

*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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**Rev. Mira Hewlett, Senior Pastor**

Email: [pastormira@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastormira@fumchurch.com)

Phone: 717-766-7587, ext. 103

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

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# BACKPACK BLESSINGS

Bring your backpacks to Sunday services, where we'll have a special prayer time for our students, teachers and school staff.



SUNDAY, AUG. 25  
8:30 AND 11 A.M.

# CHURCH PICNIC



SUNDAY, SEPT. 8, 4-7 P.M.



Bring a side dish or  
dessert to share!

First Church  
Green Space