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WELCOME TO

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA

A rustic still life photograph on a dark wooden surface. It includes a large round loaf of bread on the left, several wheat stalks, a small bowl of nuts on the right, and some twine. The scene is lit from the side, creating soft shadows.

AN UNCOMFORTABLE

# supper

Mar. 9, 2025

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## **FOUNDATION SERVICE** **(8:30 A.M.)**

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

*"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" #269*

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading  
*Luke 7:36-50*

Sermon  
*An Uncomfortable Supper*

Choir Anthem  
*"Melody of Grace"*

Pastoral Prayer & The Lords Prayer

Announcements

Offering

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #297*

Benediction

Postlude

## **THE GATHERING SERVICE** **(11 A.M.)**

Countdown Video

Welcome

*"A Thousand Hallelujahs"*

*"Graves into Gardens"*

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Scripture Reading  
*Luke 7:36-50*

*"We Fall Down/Here I Am to Worship"*

Sermon  
*An Uncomfortable Supper*

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements

Offering

*"Just As I Am"*

Benediction

Postlude

# LEADING IN WORSHIP

## Preaching

Pastor Mira Hewlett

## Liturgist

Jeff Hoffnagle (830a), Sarah Pugh (11a)

## Accompanist (8:30 a.m.)

Brandon Rhody

## Special Music (8:30 a.m.)

Sounds of Worship

## Worship Leader (11 a.m.)

Sarah Pugh

## Worship Band (11 a.m.)

George Canonizado, Nate Erno, John Gross, Geri Nuss, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker

## Sound and Media

Jim Murdoch, Fred Espenshade, Ken Rapp, Jim Robinson

## ALTAR FLOWERS

This weeks flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Wade, and sister-in-law Mrs. JoAnn Wade by Linda and Larry Hall.

# KIDS

## NEWBORN-GRADE 5

### Kid Worship

8:30 am - WeeWorship for infant-Pre K, 1st floor kids wing; drop off before worship or anytime during

11am - WeeWorship for infant-Pre K & Kid Worship K-5th; leave after Kids Message or drop off before worship, 1st floor kids wing  
\*\*Kids Activity bags at entrances anytime, see an Usher

### Coming up

Easter Jam: April 5; VBS July 14-18, more information and details on church center!

### Stay Connected!

Learn more about our programs and upcoming events on our website (fumchurch.com) and on the Church Center app. Contact Director of Children and Family Ministry Katie Knorr ([kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com)) with questions.

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# YOUTH

## GRADES 6-12

### -Small Groups I TODAY, 6:00-7:30

Students in 4th-7th grade meet in the gym for game time before beginning small group conversations. Students 8th-12th grade watch your REMIND text for location of meeting.

### Coming Up:

Next week: 4G Youth Group + meal, 6:00-8:00

-SnL Battleball Tournament | April 27

-Mission Trip | sign ups still open

### Keep in Touch!

Join our Remind text list (text @4Gyo to 81010)

Follow our instagram (@fourgyouthministry)

Visit our webpage (link on Church Center)

Contact Pastor of Discipleship Lisa Aronson ([uthrock@fumchurch.com](mailto:uthrock@fumchurch.com)) to receive email updates.

# Lenten Daily Bible Reading : March 9-15 : Lent Week 1

## Prayer of the Week

Before you, Jesus Christ, we admit how and where we have underestimated our influence, letting our words or silences hurt, abusing trust, betraying confidences.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.

We admit how and where we have made a show of our religion, attracting more attention to us, and less to you.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.

**Monday:** Luke 7:36-50 : The most uncomfortable supper

**Tuesday:** Luke 1:1-38 : Two world changing announcements

**Wednesday:** Luke 1:39-66 : God lifted up the lowly

**Thursday:** Luke 1:67-2:20 : Born in a stable

**Friday:** Luke 2:21-52 : Parenting the Messiah

**Saturday:** Luke 3:1-22 : The baptizing prophet and baptized Messiah

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## Lenten Lunches

### Sponsored by the Mechanicsburg Area of Council of Churches

You are welcome to join us at noon on Wednesdays to share a light meal and devotions led by the pastor of each church. RSVP by the prior Friday appreciated but not necessary.

**Mar. 12**      **Shepherdstown United Methodist Church**

RSVP : [717-766-3076](tel:717-766-3076) | [Office@shepherdstownumc.org](mailto:Office@shepherdstownumc.org)

**Mar. 19**      **Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren**

RSVP: [717-766-8880](tel:717-766-8880) | [Mcob-secretary@verizon.net](mailto:Mcob-secretary@verizon.net)

**Mar. 26**      **Shiremanstown United Methodist Church**

RSVP: [717-737-6621](tel:717-737-6621) | [ShiremanstownUMC.org](http://ShiremanstownUMC.org)

**April 2**      **Trindle Spring Lutheran Church**

RSVP: [717-766-7091](tel:717-766-7091) | [Pastoraaron@trindlespringlutheran.org](mailto:Pastoraaron@trindlespringlutheran.org)

**April 9**      **St. Luke's Episcopal Church**

RSVP: [717-766-5182](tel:717-766-5182) | [Admin.st.lukes@verizon.net](mailto:Admin.st.lukes@verizon.net)

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**Hiring a Director of Youth Ministry & Communications** - This full-time position ministers to the needs of youth and families AND helps communicate the mission, vision and values of First Church to all generations in and outside our church. Salary includes a health care stipend and paid time off. Resumes due by March 15th. For full job description/questions, contact Pastor Mira at [pastormira@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastormira@fumchurch.com)

## UPCOMING LENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter and is set aside as a time to prepare our hearts for Easter. It is the season in the church calendar where we are diligent in our coming to God, both in repentance and longing, as we recognize and long for the renewal and transformation that comes with Easter. Lent is a time to grow deeper and feel more fully the need and beauty of Jesus' sacrifice.

**Lent Study Options:** Consider participating in a group, with a friend, or individually with any of the following options. Sign up at Church Center or at the Registration Table in the Main Lobby and let us know what study you choose (study material information is on Church Center and at the Registration Table).

**Taste & See** By Margaret Feinberg

**Type:** Video-based study with optional personal daily study

**Description:** This study explores Biblical accounts of Jesus gathering at tables with others and considers the common items from those meals (fruit, oil, bread, salt, etc) to understand more about the goodness of God.

**Groups offering this study:**

-Growing in Christ Sun School (Sundays 9:45-10:45)

-Christian Fellowship Sunday school class (Sunday 9:45-10:45 AM, B003, March 9- April 13).

**Meeting Jesus at the Table** By Cynthia Campbell, Fohr, and Burns

**Type:** Weekly devotional book with reflection questions

**Description:** This study explores the Biblical accounts of Jesus gathering at tables with others and challenges us to see whom we choose to include or exclude from our tables. The study includes artwork to reflect and meditate on.

**Groups offering this study:**

-Wednesday Morning Discussion Group (Wed 9:30-10:30)

**Lent in Plain Sight** By Jill Duffield

**Type:** Daily devotion with prayer and reflection questions

**Description:** In this devotional book, the author draws readers' attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns, and stones. In each object, readers will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus' final days.

**Groups offering this study:**

-Faith in Everyday Life Small Group (most Sundays 9:45-10:45)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## LIFELONG LEARNER

### **Wednesday Men's Group | 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m.**

This group enjoys great fellowship while focusing on discussion-based Bible studies. Contact the church office, John Bowen or Bob Wertz, Jr. if interested in more information.

### **Women's Morning Meet-Up – Mar. 22, 7:30 a.m., Down To Earth Café**

Start your morning with a warm cup of coffee and great company. Order food or a drink, or just grab a seat and connect with other women of faith, share stories, and find support in a welcoming atmosphere. Down to Earth Café is located at 100 Legacy Park Dr. Suite 108, Mechanicsburg.



## PRAYING FOLLOWER

### **Joy in the Morning | Mar. 17, 1p.m.**

If you live with chronic pain or ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join in sharing discussion and supportive friendship with this small group. We meet monthly on Monday afternoons at Bethany Village's West Apartments Commons Room. Janice Bowen facilitates, drawing upon readings and devotionals. For more information, contact Janice [717-766-4611 x112](tel:717-766-4611) /or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)

### **Visiting with Friends!**

If you miss seeing your friends at church due to issues such as aging or driving limitations, Janice Bowen would like to hear from you! Janice is interested in taking people with her for visits so that friends can remain connected by visiting in-person with one another! Janice would love to hear from you! [717-766-4611 x112](tel:717-766-4611) or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)



## PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

### **Registration is now open to be part of the 2025 Passion Play!**

The Passion Play will be on Thursday, April 17th with rehearsals happening weekly through Lent. All children and youth are invited to sign up, and adults too! There are many roles, both on the stage and behind the scenes, that bring the story of Easter alive! Register on Church Center or by contacting Amy Erno at [717-512-6111](tel:717-512-6111) or [financedirector@fumchurch.com](mailto:financedirector@fumchurch.com).

### **Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry | Mar. 19, 6:30 p.m.**

First Church is pleased to support Isaiah 61 Ministries, a local organization that serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County. They provide a variety of services including a soup kitchen, clothing bank and Life groups. Specifically, First Church members prepare and serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. To find out how to get involved, contact Tiffany Holland at [tholland1967@gmail.com](mailto:tholland1967@gmail.com).



## DEDICATED MISSIONARY

### **Summer Mission Trip**

The youth and other interested individuals are serving in Western North Carolina from June 29-July 4 to aid in disaster relief with Praying Pelican Missions. Register and learn more about the trip on Church Center.



## RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

### **Solo Seniors Lunch Fellowship | Mar. 11, 11:30 a.m.**

The Solo Seniors Lunch fellowship will dine at CC's restaurant on Tuesday March 11, at 11:30. If you plan on attending, please contact Bonnie Guyer at 717-766-0145. Transportation will be provided upon request. CC's is located at 710 W Main St, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

### **Art and Wellness As You Age | Mar. 15-Apr 19, Saturdays, 10 a.m**

Join instructor Patty Aguilera on Saturdays at the church as she guides participants through various creative exercises to enhance well-being. This is a six week workshop for adults over 55, free of cost with all art supplies provided. If you would like to hear more information or would like to sign up please contact Patty at [717-756-3834](tel:717-756-3834) or church office.

### **Ham Loaf Dinner | Mar. 22, 4 p.m.**

This year's annual Ham Loaf Dinner which benefits church missions and ministries will be held Saturday, March 22. Sign up at the Registration Table for tickets. LOTS of help is needed for this dinner to happen! Please also sign up to help serve that evening, or to bake a dessert. MarleyAnn Schmick will be in the main lobby with tickets or to answer any questions after 1st service and after Sunday School the next 2 Sundays.



## GENEROUS GIVER

### **The Great Peanut Butter Challenge | Mar. 9-Apr. 20**

The Harrisburg/River Valley District is challenging churches to collect Peanut Butter and other nut butters during Lent which will be blessing One80 Ministry and Little Free Pantry. Drop off your peanut butter from March 9 through April 20 to the collection box located in the Main Lobby (near coffee station).

### **Christian Fellowship Class Peanut Butter Eggs | Orders due Mar. 25**

We are taking orders for cream cheese peanut butter eggs. Peanut butter eggs will be made on Saturday, March 29. Cost is \$10.00 for a bag of 6 eggs. Order your eggs by signing up on the sign-up sheets at the entrances to the sanctuary, by contacting Sandy Walton at [717-433-3687](tel:717-433-3687), or by emailing [swalton54@comcast.net](mailto:swalton54@comcast.net). Deadline for ordering is Tuesday, March 25. Eggs will be ready for pick-up in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 29, 12:00-2:00 pm, and on Sunday, March 30 after 8:30 worship service and Sunday school. If anyone is interested in helping make peanut butter eggs please reach out to Sandy Walton.

***Scan here or visit [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)  
for more details on upcoming  
events and opportunities!***



# First UMC Worship

8:30 am - Traditional Worship with choir  
WeeWorship for infant-Pre K  
Kids Activity bags at entrance for K-5th graders

11am - Contemporary Worship with Worship Band  
WeeWorship for infant-PreK & Kids Worship for K-5th graders  
Kids Activity bags at entrance for K-5th graders

**\*Both services also streamed live or view later at  
[www.youtube.com/@FUMCMechanicsburg](http://www.youtube.com/@FUMCMechanicsburg)**

**Looking for a Sign-Up? In the Main Lobby is the Registration Table where you  
can register for current studies, fundraisers, events, and more.**



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**Rev. Mira Hewlett, Senior Pastor**  
pastormira@fumchurch.com | 717-766-4611, ext. 103

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