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**WELCOME TO**

**First United  
Methodist Church**

**MECHANICSBURG, PA**



WHISPERS IN  
**SCRIPTURE**



**May 4, 2025**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn  
*"How Firm a Foundation" #529*

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Choir Anthem  
*"Come to Me and Rest"*

Scripture Reading  
*1 Kings 19:11-12, Psalm 46:10-11,  
Hebrews 1:1-3a*

Sermon  
*Whispers in Scripture*

Communion

Announcements

Offering

*"My Hope is Built" #368*

Benediction

Postlude

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

Countdown Video

Welcome

*"Let The Light In"*

*"Holy Spirit"*

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Scripture Reading  
*1 Kings 19:11-12, Psalm 46:10-11,  
Hebrews 1:1-3a*

*"Altogether Good"*

Sermon  
*Whispers In Scripture*

Communion

Announcements

Offering

*"Way Maker"*

Benediction

Postlude

# LEADING IN WORSHIP

## Preaching

Pastor Mira Hewlett

## Liturgist

Lisa Aronson

## 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.)

Nate Erno, Geri Nuss, Sarah Pugh, RJ Wertz, Tracy Wertz

## Sound and Media

Fred Espenshade, Bill Richie, Holly Kurten (8:30), Jim Robinson (11)

## ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents Carl & Sonja Richie placed by Bill and Karen Richie.

## MACHE BASKET

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my parents Paul and Virginia Miller and friend Jim Donna placed by Marilyn Donak.

# 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

11 am - 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

Road trip July 14-18th 9-noon

VBS Registration is open for VBS! Open to kids ages 4-completed 5th grade

More info at [fumchurch.com/vbs2025](http://fumchurch.com/vbs2025)

### Stay Connected!

Learn more about our programs and upcoming events on our website ([fumchurch.com](http://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.

# YOUTH

## GRADES 6-12

**4G Youth Group (6th-12th grade) | TODAY | 6:00-8:00**

**Mission Trip Meeting (Youth Lounge) | TODAY | 12-2:00**

### Coming Up:

**June 1 | Graduate Recognition Sunday**  
**June 19 | Jubilee Day Parking Lot Fundraiser**

### Keep In Touch!

Join our Remind text list (text @4Gyo to 810 10)

Follow our instagram ([@fourgyouthministry](https://www.instagram.com/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.

# Hearing God's Whispers through Scripture

## *Lectio Divina*

Lectio Divina, "divine reading", is an ancient Christian practice that began in the 3rd century in monastic communities. In the 20th century it grew in practice through Pope Benedict XVI and continues to be used in many Christian traditions today.

It's reading a short passage of scripture several times, working towards a listening heart with expectation that God has a message to share. Lectio divina involves a rhythm of reading, reflecting, responding and resting.

1. Read the scripture slowly.
2. Reflect on a word or phrase that stands out or sparkles to you.
3. Read the scripture again slowly.
4. Respond in a short prayer to God around the word and what God shared with you.
5. Rest in God's presence.

Passages to practice Lectio Divina (find more online)

Micah 6:8  
Psalm 46:10-11  
Isaiah 43:19-21  
Isaiah 43:1-2, 4  
Matthew 5:13-16  
John 17:20-26  
1 Corinthians 13:4-8  
Ephesians 1:3-10  
Colossians 1:15-20  
1 John 3:1-3

# NOTES

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## LIFELONG LEARNER

### VBS | Jul. 14-18, 9-12 p.m.

Vacation Bible School is officially accepting travelers! Registration is now open for kids, as well as teen and adult volunteers to join us July 14-18th from 9am-noon. Kids will Join Navigator Miss Katie and Scout the dog on an epic adventure filled with games, music, crafts, snacks and amazing Bible stories. Sign up today at [fumchurch.com/vbs2025](http://fumchurch.com/vbs2025) and receive a free gift if you register before June 1st.



## PRAYING FOLLOWER

### 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! Whether you find yourself "stuck at home", no longer able to get out to church, or you are able to get to church but are missing your friends who are "stuck at home"...Janice would love to hear from you! 717-766-4611 x112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)



## PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

### First Church Handbell Choir Concert | TODAY, 7 p.m.

The First Church Handbell Choir is proud to present their spring concert, "Love is the Answer" on Sunday May 4th a 7pm. The concert takes place in the sanctuary, with light refreshments held afterwards in the MPR. The concert is free and open to the public, donations will be accepted. We hope to see you there!

### Artwork Display in Worship

Is there artwork you've created where you felt God speaking to you? Is there a piece of artwork that speaks to you throughout your walk of faith? In conjunction with our May sermon series, "Whisper" (based on the book by Mark Batterson), we are looking to incorporate and display artwork throughout the sanctuary. For more information, reach out to Sarah Pugh at [worship@fumchurch.com](mailto:worship@fumchurch.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.

### Peace Garden

Mechanicsburg Area Churches are joining together to create a Peace Garden at Temple Beth Shalom (913 Allendale Rd, Mech). Helpers need for planting May 15 from 4-8pm. Donations for flowers (money or flowers) are needed. Contact master gardener Carol Glasgow at [cglasgow725@gmail.com](mailto:cglasgow725@gmail.com).



### **Sign up for Church Summer Camp!**

Register for camp! FUMC will pay half (50% OFF) of all camp fees. The conference provides additional discounts for "Siblings" as well as "Inviting-a-Friend" who has never been to camp. Visit [suscrm.org](http://suscrm.org) to register and see a complete list of camps and retreats. Forward your camp confirmations/questions to Deb Noss [sdppp@msn.com](mailto:sdppp@msn.com) or to [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com).

### **Senator's Game | Jun. 8 | Register by May 18**

Mark your calendar for our annual summer church outing to see the Harrisburg Senators play baseball on City Island. Sign up on Church Center. Ticket prices include a picnic lunch and seats for the game. Register and pay by May 18th. Please reach out to Jeff Hoffnagle with questions.

### **2025 Graduates**

As we near the end of the school year, we want to learn about those in our church family who are graduating so that we can celebrate with them (any recent graduations from any level of education, including December graduates). Please take a moment to fill out this form on Church Center to help us celebrate our graduates.

### **Friday Food Trucks at First | May 16**

Join us in the parking lot at First United Methodist Church, 135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg for Friday Food Trucks at First! On Friday, May 16th, we will have music on the patio with RJ and Friends, along with the following food trucks: Grappling Crab Shack, Tomasic Sausage, 360 Cuisine, MoMo BBQ, Creekview Foods, DonutNV. Outside tables and chairs provided for your comfort. Children in attendance can visit the Simpson Library table and register for the Summer Learning Program! All children who register can choose their very own handmade Reading Buddy Bear (while supplies last). The food trucks serve from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. Visit [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) for details. Upcoming dates are Jul.18 (indoor family friendly movie) and Sept. 19 (Fun and Fit Fair with Sadler Health).



## 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 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.

### **Handbell Hoss's Steak & Sea Fundraiser | May 17**

We are excited to team up with Hoss's Steak and Sea House to raise money for our trip to Scotland in August 2026. We plan to attend our 5th International Handbell Symposium. Please consider visiting the Mechanicsburg Hoss's location to aid us in raising money. Show or present our flyer on 5/17/2025 at Hoss's in Mechanicsburg and they will then donate 20% or 25% of your total check paid to The Praise Ringers from First United Methodist Church. Flyers available at registration table in lobby or on church center.

***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](https://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](mailto: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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