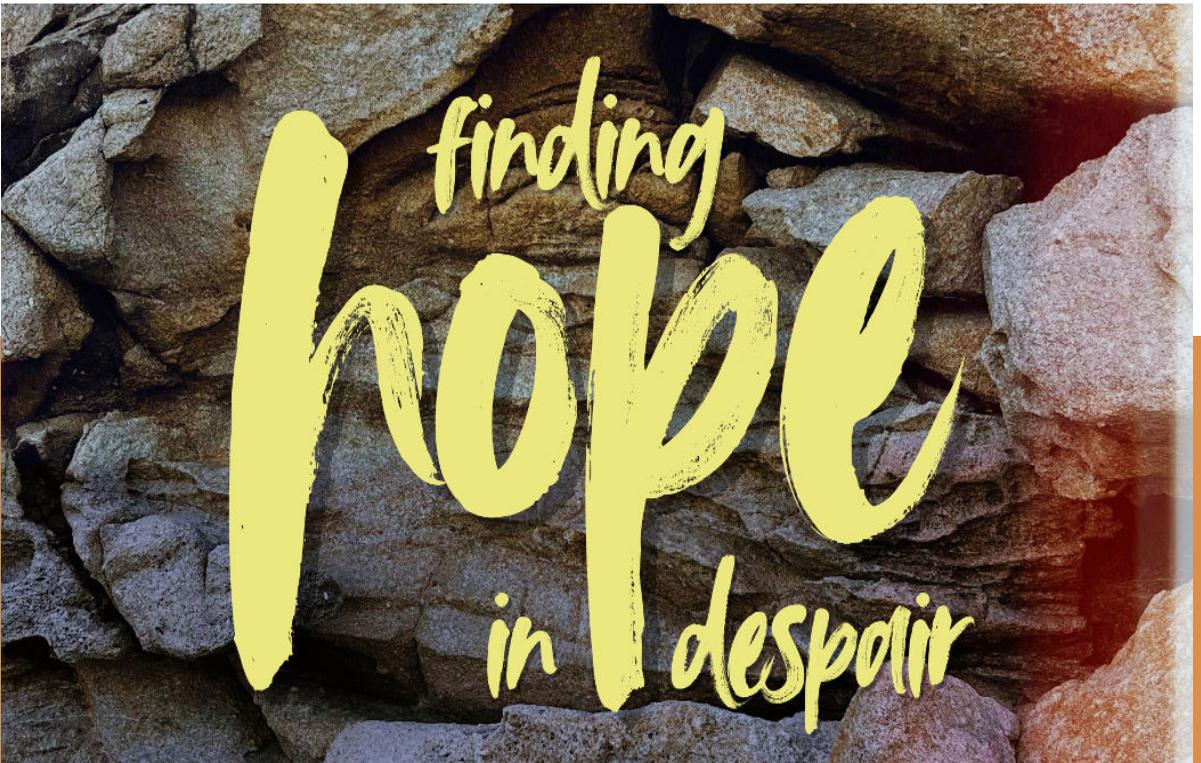

WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



September 28, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FOUNDATION SERVICE **8:30 A.M**

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

"Open My Eyes, That I May See" #454

Affirmation of Faith

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sounds of Worship
"On Eagles Wings"

Scripture Reading:
Genesis 37:1-4, 18-24, 27-28

Sermon:
"Finding Hope in Despair"

Announcements

Offering

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" #526

Benediction

Postlude

FOUNDATION SERVICE **11:00 A.M**

Countdown Video

Welcome

"Holy Forever"

"A Thousand Hallelujah's"

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer

"Praise Your Name"

Scripture Reading:
Genesis 37:1-4, 18-24, 27-28

Sermon:
"Finding Hope in Despair"

Announcements

Offering

"Firm Foundation (He Won't)"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching
Pastor Mira

Liturgist
Lisa Aronson

Accompanist (830)
Brandon Rhody

Special Music (830)
Sounds of Worship

Worship Leader (11)
Sarah Pugh

Worship Band
Nate Erno, Krissy Marshall, John McHenry, Sarah Pugh, Cindy Smith,

Sound and Media
Fred Espenshade, Jim Robinson, Sarah Pugh (8:30a), Taylor Shepley (11a)

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David D. & Helen B. Coover placed by Sandra Coover.

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

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) with questions.

YOUTH

GRADES 6-12

Today -Service Opportunity | 3:00-5:00
Drop off and pick up at First Church. We will be walking down to the Community Dinner on Main Street to help set up for the meal.

Next Week: Large Group 4G Youth
Oct 5, 6:00-8:00

Coming Up:

- Battleball Tournament | Oct 19, 1:30-8:00
(Deadline to register is Oct 5)

-Student Small Groups | Oct 12 6:00-7:30

Keep in Touch!

We have a new Youth Ministry texting platform. To get the most up-to-date and real time messages please text [fumyouthmin](http://fumyouthmin.com) to 717-722-4800 to opt into receiving texts. Contact Lisa Aronson (uthrock@fumchurch.com) to receive email updates.

NOTES

Weekly Prayer Letter: Sign up online or in the Main Lobby to receive the emailed prayer letter that comes out each Thursday. Join others in prayer for those in our congregation, ministries and more at First Church.

You can also scan this QR code:



Sunday Morning Enrichment | 9:45-10:45 | Sunday Mornings

As summer comes to a close, Small Groups and Sunday School classes that took a break for the summer will resume on September 14th! This is a wonderful opportunity to find consistency and accountability in your faith journey while studying God's Word. Here are are list of opportunities for enrichment during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45 AM). We look forward to growing together!

Sunday School:

Growing in Christ, B006; Class leader Marjorie Snyder at 57masnyder@gmail.com.

Fall Studies:

- **The Book of Philemon:** A 3-week video-based series by Bryan Loritts that walks through the book of Philemon to see the apostle Paul's framework for reconciliation.
- **Tame Your Thoughts:** A 6 week video-based series by Max Lucado to help us renew our minds and break free from the negative patterns, and become a little more like Jesus every day.

Christian Fellowship, Room B003; Class leader Wayde Leister at waydeleister@outlook.com.

Fall Study:

- **Aftermath:** A 3-week video-based series by Andy Stanley that explores the struggle the early believers faced against tradition in the wake of the resurrection. Jesus' resurrection launched a series of events that introduced the world to his new covenant and new hope.

Helping Hands, Room B004: Class leader Bob Wertz, Sr., at robert_wertz@plantsitelogistics.com

Fall Study:

- **Cokesbury Adult Bible Study:** "Struggle. Perseverance. Hope." This study reacquaints us with Hebrew women whose faithfulness helped further God's plans; challenges us with Jeremiah's commitment; and offers us insights into living in love, faithfully imitating what is good, and praying with confidence.

Guyer Class, Room 123: Class leaders Steve and Deb Noss at sdppp@msn.com.

Fall Study:

- **Cokesbury Adult Bible Study:** "Struggle. Perseverance. Hope." (see above)

Colossians: One Jesus, One People, Room 105: Class Leader: Lisa Aronson

This is a short-term 3-week class led by Lisa Aronson. This class will explore, alongside the September sermon series, the book of Colossians through a resource written by Jay Y Kim. Meeting September 14th, 21st, 28th.

Small Groups:

There are also Small Groups that regularly meet during the Sunday School hour and strive to not only support each other through faith growth in a classroom space, but also through fellowship and connection as they navigate similar stages of life:

Faithful Families

Contact: Bob and Tracy Wertz at wertzfive@gmail.com.

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

Faith in Everyday Life

Contact: Amy at amyerno@gmail.com or Jenell at jparis@messiah.edu.

A group for adults of all ages focused on fellowship and friendship/mutual support in and outside the classroom

For more information about each group or class, please see information on Church Center or the Church Web site or email Lisa Aronson at adultministry@fumchurch.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

New Member Class | Sundays Oct. 5-Nov. 2, 2025 9:45-10:45 am

If you are new to First Church or interested in becoming a member, this is the class! Learn about the core values of First Church, meet staff and leaders, and understand the broad strokes of the United Methodist Church. Meets for five weeks with childcare provided if registered ahead. Led by Pastor Mira. Sign up by Sept 28th by emailing Pastor Mira at pastormira@fumchurch.com.

Never Give Up Study | Sundays Oct. 5-26, 6-7:30 pm in Rm 105

Dig deeper into the story of Joseph who persevered through great challenges in his life in the book of Genesis. Share your challenges and learn how Joseph found strength in the hardest times from God. The class led by Pastor Mira includes videos, discussion, and reading of Never Give Up by Max Lucado. Sign up by Oct 1st if you want a book, or order on your own. If interested, sign up by reaching out to Pastor Mira at pastormira@fumchurch.com.

Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study | Wednesdays 9:30-10:45 a.m. | Hardwood Cafe

Join other women at the round tables under the balcony as we explore together the books of 1st and 2nd Peter. Sign up on Church Center or at the Registration Table in the Main Lobby. Participants will need the workbook: 1-2 Peter: Living Hope in a Hard World by Lydia Brownback. Study begins on Wednesday, September 24th. Contact Lisa Aronson at adultministry@fumchurch.com for more information.

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

This group meets off-site at a member's house and enjoys great fellowship while focusing on discussion-based Bible studies. Men of all ages are welcome. Contact John Bowen bowenhome720@gmail.com or Bob Wertz, Jr. if interested in more information.

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Joy in the Morning - A small group invitation, TOMORROW, Sept. 29th @ 1 pm

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 info contact Janice 717-766-4611 x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Rejoicing Spirits | TODAY, Sept. 28, 4 p.m.

First Church invites everyone to attend this inclusive praise and 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.

FUMC T-Shirts

FUMC Service T-Shirts are available for pick-up in the main lobby. Sample sizes are also available in the main lobby for those who still desire to order a shirt. Shirts can be ordered at the Registration Table or on Church Center.

DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Trash Pick-up | Memorial Park, Sat., Oct. 4, 10:30 a.m.

Join Eliza Marshall, age six, who cares about having a clean environment take time to pick up trash around our community! Come join us after the homecoming game in Mechanicsburg to volunteer. We will meet near the stadium in Memorial Park. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. If you'd like to sign up or learn more, please contact Krissy Marshall at kjmarsh1126@gmail.com.

Rise Against Hunger | Shepherdsdowntown UMC, Nov. 2, 4-6 p.m.

Rise Against Hunger is a great organization that helps with those facing hunger worldwide and helps us put our faith into action! On Nov 2nd Mechanicsburg area UMCs will join together to pack 10,000 meals in two hours. 60 volunteers are needed to make this happen, with jobs for all ages and abilities. Each meal costs 40 cents and donations are needed too. **Sign up by October 19th** to serve or donate meals in Church Center app, or call the church office to get involved.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Community Dinner | TODAY, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 5 p.m.

The fall community dinner is TONIGHT at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church on Main Street at 5:00 p.m. This collaborative event with other local churches blesses the downtown community with a meal, music and a gift card drawing, free of charge. The idea comes from the book 'Welcome to Dinner, Church,' which encourages churches to share a meal with their neighbors. We serve close to 100 neighbors and friends at these meals. If you would like to help set up, serve or provide a food item, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com.

Men's Breakfast – October 4th, 7:30 a.m., Brothers Restaurant

An open invitation is extended to all men who want to gather for good food and light-hearted fellowship on the first Saturday of each month (Brothers Restaurant is located at 705 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, 17055). Please contact John Bowen bowenhome720@gmail.com or Bob Wertz, Jr. if you are interested in attending.



GENEROUS GIVER

Praise Ringers Fundraisers

The Praise Ringers at First Church are continuing to prepare for their August 2026 trip to Aberdeen, Scotland, where they'll participate in the 22nd International Handbell Symposium! You can help support the Handbell Choir in their endeavor with multiple fundraiser opportunities and events listed below. There will be more fundraisers listed throughout the year. Please visit the website, Church Center, or the registration table in the main lobby for more info and to sign up.

R&K Sub Sale | Orders due by Sun., Oct. 5, Pickup on Sunday Oct. 19

Order your R&K subs and/or pretzel sandwiches from a bell member or at the registration table in main lobby. Delivery date is Sunday, October 19. While you are in the lobby, check out our "Send a Bell to Scotland" board. Inside every envelope find some special surprise information about the bells and/or some of our ringers! We thank you for your support.

***Scan here or visit 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

Looking for a Sign-Up?

In the Main Lobby is the Registration Table for current studies, fundraisers, events, and more.

Church Center

FUMC app to sign up for classes, donate, and request access to the church directory. Scan QR code:



Rev. Mira Hewlett, Senior Pastor | pastormira@fumchurch.com

Kelsey Goll, Office Manager & Communications | communications@fumchurch.com

Lisa Aronson, Youth & Adult Discipleship | discipleship@fumchurch.com

Katie Knorr, Kids & Family Ministry | kidscount@fumchurch.com

Sarah Pugh, Worship Arts | worship@fumchurch.com

Paul Zito, Facilities Manager | facilities@fumchurch.com

Lori Hoffnagle, Administration & Outreach | outreach@fumchurch.com

Janet Rice, Director of Little Friends Preschool | director@littlefriendspreschool.org



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