
WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



*Cultivating
Gratitude*

November 23, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come" #694

Kids Message

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sounds of Worship
"There Is None Like You"

Scripture Reading
Psalms 100, Philippians 4:6-7, 11-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Sermon:
"Cultivating Gratitude"

Announcements

Offering

"To God Be The Glory" #98

Benediction

Postlude

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

Countdown Video

Welcome

"The Heart of Worship"

"Abide"

Kids Moment
Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Scripture Reading
Psalms 100, Philippians 4:6-7, 11-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Goodness of God"

Sermon:
"Cultivating Gratitude"

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements

Offering

"Take You At Your Word"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching
Pastor Mira

Liturgist
Krissy & Eliza Marshall (830)
Lynn Rapp (11)

Accompanist (830)
Brandon Rhody

Special Music (830)
Sounds Of Worship

Worship Band
George Canonizado, Geri Nuss,
Allison Shield, Abigail Wertz, Tracy
Wertz, RJ Wertz

Sound and Media
Jim Murdoch, Ron Nichols, Bill Richie

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harold & Doris Zimmerman placed by the family.

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

Upcoming: Check out Jingle Jam on 12/6, and Sensory Santa on 12/13. More info 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) with questions.

YOUTH

GRADES 6-12

Today: Service Project | 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Come help make Cookies for the upcoming Cookie Walk.

Coming Up:
December 13th – Cookie Walk Fundraiser
December 14th – 4G Youth Christmas Party

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 to 717-722-4800 to opt into receiving texts. Contact Lisa Aronson (uthrock@fumchurch.com) to receive email updates.

Special Advent Events

Nov. 30- Dec. 21 | Advent Study, Sun. 9:30-10:45 a.m. Join Pastor Mira in this 4 week video study in Rm 105 to see the richness of the Advent season of expectant waiting and preparations that draw us closer to Jesus.

Nov. 30 | Advent workshop, 9:45-10:45 a.m. Help to put up the Christmas tree in the main lobby as well as making gifts for our at home members to remind them they are remembered and loved.

Dec. 6 | Jingle Jam, 9am-11am. A morning for families with kids filled with activities, crafts and learning about Jesus' birth. Sign up required.

Dec. 7 | Service of Remembrance and Hope, 4pm. A reflective advent worship for those struggling with loss of loved ones, relationships, jobs, etc. to encounter Christ's light in the darkness.

Dec. 13 | Cookie Walk & Marketplace of Miracles, 9am-12pm. These two events will be once again held alongside each other. This year, we welcome Peace Promise, She's Somebody's Daughter, Greenlight Operation, Northstar and Hope.Inspire.Love. These organizations provide support and advocate for survivors of human trafficking and exploitation.

Dec. 13 | Sensory Santa, 10am-4pm. A way for you and your family to spend some time with Santa in a calm and quiet way. This experience is designed especially for children who get overstimulated easily and need some extra guidance going into new environments. Sign up required.

Dec. 21 | Church Christmas Caroling, 4pm. combined with Rejoicing Spirits in the main lobby with option afterwards to visit some at-home members.

Christmas Eve Worship

5pm | Family Service for all ages to sing favorite hymns and retell the message of Christmas.

10pm | Traditional Candlelight Service weaves together scriptures and hymns celebrating the birth of Jesus bringing light into the world.

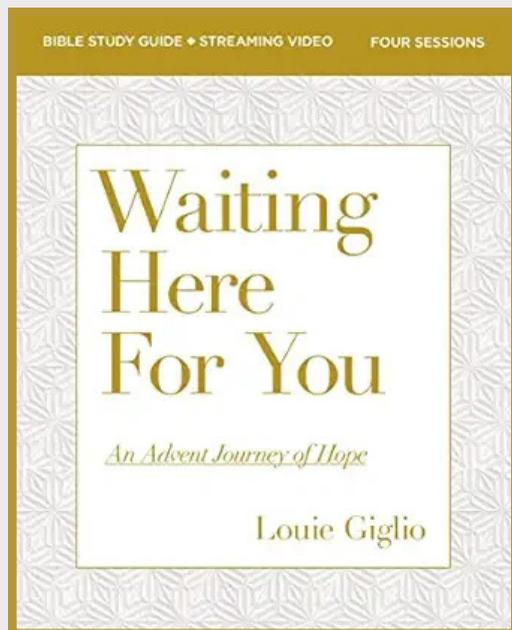
****Please note the Church office will be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28. Happy Thanksgiving!****

Sunday Morning Advent Study

9:45-10:45 A.M.

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 21
ROOM 105

A 4-WEEK STUDY ON
PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS
LED BY PASTOR MIRA



NO STUDY GUIDE NEEDED; COME TO ONE OR COME TO ALL FOUR.

JINGLE! JAM!

SATURDAY, DEC. 6 // 9-11 A.M.

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
BIG ENOUGH FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

REGISTER AT [FUMCHURCH.COM/JINGLE](https://www.fumchurch.com/jingle)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Advent Study | Nov. 30- Dec. 21, Sundays 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Join Pastor Mira in this video study to see the richness of the Advent season of expectant waiting and preparations that draw us closer to Jesus. Book is optional for daily readings during the week: *Waiting Here For You* by Louie Giglio. Sign up on church center by Nov 23 if you want to order a book. We will meet in rm 105. Come one week or every week, please reach out to Pastor Mira for questions!

Advent Devotional Books

Grab a copy off the registration table and take time to prepare yourself for Christmas. Read with a friend, on your own, or follow along with the sermon series. If you'd like to follow the sermons in worship, we are following the UMC Advent Candles in the order of: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love. Take time this Advent to prepare your heart for Jesus' arrival in our lives!

PRAYING FOLLOWER

2026 Women's Retreat – Register Now! Early Bird Due December 14, 2025

Women's Retreat, Jan. 23 to 25, 2026

Our 2026 women's retreat, "Awakening Awe, Rediscovering God's Greatness." will be held at Rhodes Grove Retreat Center, 7693 Browns Mill Road, Chambersburg. Lisa Aronson will lead us in experiencing a central element of worship: Awe. We will explore the profound importance of rekindling our sense of wonder in a culture that often dulls our spiritual sense. Together we will learn to stand in awe of God and reignite our hearts with amazement, empowering us to carry that sense of awe back into our daily lives. Join us for a weekend filled with fellowship, fun, food and faith! Program starts on Friday evening and concludes on Sunday before noon. Hotel-like accommodations and 4 meals are included. We are pleased to offer a One-Day option (lunch and dinner included)! You can find the registration form at the sign-up table in the church lobby (outside the multipurpose room), on the Church Center or email Lisa Aronson at discipleship@fumchurch.com. All women welcome!

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Advent Event: Deck the Halls and Deliver Hope, Nov. 30

Join us in the multipurpose room to create and package a gift item for our members who worship at home and help to put up and adorn our church's Christmas tree in the main lobby. All materials will be provided with simple instructions to help make our at-home members feel loved and remembered. Just pop in during Sunday School hour to lend your hand at bringing joy this Christmas season. Snacks will be provided!

DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Reverse Advent Calendar Returns!

As we approach this season of Advent, many of us look forward to opening an Advent Calendar to discover a special treat to enhance our holiday season. Once again this year, we are turning things around, instead of getting a special treat, you give to others! We are collecting food items for the Little Free Pantry located on our property. The pantry provides a 'no barrier access point to food' to those in our community. The Reverse Advent Calendar lists simple items for you to collect and bring back to stock our pantry. Feel free to pick up the list and a bag for your collected items next Sunday, Nov. 30th at the Missions table located in the Main Entrance hallway. Collect the items and

return to area under the balcony in the sanctuary any time during the month of December. Thanks again for your support of the Little Free Pantry and for helping us celebrate this wonderful season of giving! Questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle or Sandy Walton.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Jingle Jam- A Family Christmas Event | Sat. Dec. 6th 9-11a.m. | Registration on church center!

Looking for something exciting for the entire family to do this Christmas? Don't miss Free Family Christmas Event! A Christmas Experience complete with fun, games, and music! Invite your friends, family, and neighbors for a morning to get you in the Christmas spirit and learn about the true meaning of Christmas. This is an event for kids and families to participate all together, this is not a drop-off event. Please email Katie Knorr at kidscount@fumchurch.com for more info or questions.

Church Center

First Church uses Church Center as a platform for sharing information and registrations for events. Church Center can be accessed on both desktops and mobile devices, and will prompt you to create an account to log in. This platform can also be used for electronic giving, registrations, and to access our directory. However, to access the directory, you will need to receive an email invitation, which serves as a security measure to protect the information you share - you can email the office or sign up to receive an invitation at the Registration Table. Additionally, there are steps you must take on the profile you create to make it visible to others in the directory.

Information cards are available on the tables as you leave service today, which have a QR code to make accessing Church Center as easy as possible. Other churches do use this platform, and as part of signing up, you will choose First Church as your main church affiliation.



GENEROUS GIVER

Cookie Walk | Dec. 13, 9-11 am

CALLING ALL BAKERS! The annual Youth Cookie Walk needs bakers! Try out a new recipe or stick to grandma's secret recipe. Anything will do! To have a great enough quantity of cookies, we ask bakers to provide 4-5 batches (8-10 dozen) per style of homemade cookie. (If baking 4-5 batches is too much, please still reach out – we would love to have what you can make). Fill out the form on Church Center or at the Registration Table. Any questions please email Lynn Rapp at minion.youth17@gmail.com.

Upcoming Handbell events and fundraisers!

We're excited to announce we will be hosting a **Trivia Night** at the Maple Shade Barn in Dillsburg! Our own Brian Sanker is our host for the evening. All you Trivia buffs, please see the papers on our Handbell Table in the main tower entrance. Registration is open and spots will fill up quickly!

AND we thank you for your continued support of our **Send a Bell or Chime to Scotland**. Find a card with the bell or chime you want to send and keep the card as a reminder to pray for us. In the envelope, place your cash or check (made out to FUMC). Then put it in the Scrip box or give it to Kathie Bittenbender. Thank you to all!

***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

Janice Bowen, Congregational Care | wecare@fumchurch.com

Paul Zito, Facilities Manager | facilities@fumchurch.com

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

Amy Erno, Finance Director | financedirector@fumchurch.com

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