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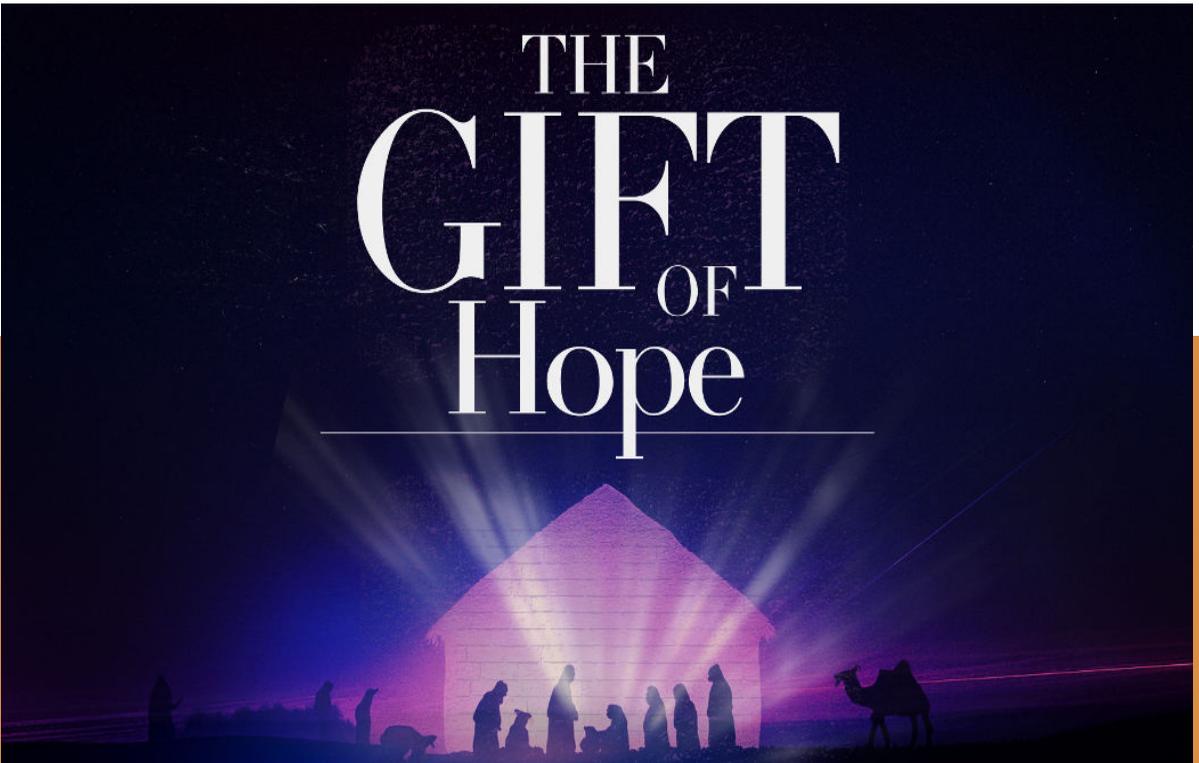
WELCOME TO

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



# THE GIFT OF Hope



November 30, 2025

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Sounds of Worship Choir  
*"Advent Noel"*

Welcome

Call to Worship

*"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #196*

Lighting of the First Candle of Advent

Scripture Reading  
*Isaiah 9:6 and Romans 15:9b-13*

Sermon:  
*The Gift of Hope*

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Offering

*"What Child is This" #219*

Benediction

Postlude

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

Countdown Video

Welcome

*"What A Beautiful Name"*

*"Hope Has A Name"*

Lighting of the First Candle of Advent

Kids Moment  
Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Scripture Reading  
*Isaiah 9:6 and Romans 15:9b-13*

*"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

Sermon:  
*The Gift of Hope*

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements

Offering

*"Manger Throne"*

Benediction

Postlude

# LEADING IN WORSHIP

**Preaching**  
Pastor Mira

**Liturgist**  
Jeff Hoffnagle(830), Sarah Pugh (11)

**Accompanist (830)**  
Brandon Rhody

**Special Music (830)**  
Sounds of Worship

**Worship Leader (11)**  
Sarah Pugh

**Worship Band**  
Nate Erno, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker, Abigail Wertz, Tracy Wertz, RJ Wertz

**Sound and Media**  
Fred Espenshade, Michael Garman, Holly Kurten (8:30a), Violet Sanker

## ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Louise Nailor Shelley placed by W. Michael Nailor.

## MACHE BASKET

This week's mache basket is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert and Mildred Shannon placed by the D'Agostino and Shannon families.

# 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](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com)) with questions.

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# YOUTH

## GRADES 6-12

Happy Thanksgiving!

### Upcoming Youth Events:

December 13th – Cookie Walk Fundraiser  
December 14th – 4G Youth Christmas Party  
January 30-February 1 – Zeteo High School Conference

### 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](mailto:uthrock@fumchurch.com)) to receive email updates.

# NOTES

## Special Advent Events

### **Nov. 30- Dec. 21 | Advent Study, Sun. 9:45-10:45 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.

**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.

*Service of Remembrance and Hope*



Sunday, Dec. 7, 4 p.m.  
First United Methodist  
Church Sanctuary

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## LIFELONG LEARNER

### **Advent Study | Nov. 30- Dec.2, Sundays 9:45-10:45 a.m., Rm. 105**

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. Come one week or every week, 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!

### **Writing Our History**

We are seeking a person to research and update First Church's history from around 1983 to 2004. This covers the ministry of Rev. Donald Ciampa, the building of the 1997 addition and the beginning of the contemporary service. If you are interested working on this project, please contact Alan Robinson at 717-919-9065, or Pastor Mira.



## PRAYING FOLLOWER

### **2026 Women's Retreat – Jan. 23-25 2026, Register Now! Early Bird Due Dec. 14, 2025**

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](mailto:discipleship@fumchurch.com). All women welcome!



## PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

### **Service of Remembrance & Hope | Dec. 7, 4 p.m.**

If you are feeling blue and weighed down by grief this holiday season, please join us for a time of worship and reflection to honor the memory of cherished family and friends at our Service of Remembrance and Hope. Contact Janice Bowen at [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) for more details.



## 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 at the Missions table located in the Main Entrance hallway. Collect the items and return to the 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 9-11 a.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](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com) for more info or questions.

### **Sensory Santa Saturday, Dec. 13th, 10-4p.m.**

Sensory Santa is a one-on-one experience for you and your family to spend some time with Santa in a calm and quiet way. This Sensory Santa experience is designed especially for children who get overstimulated easily and need some extra guidance and care going into new environments. This event is open to all, but time slots are limited. Registration is required, no walk-ins will be permitted. Register on church center or at [fumchurch.com/santa2025](http://fumchurch.com/santa2025). If you have any questions, please email Katie Knorr, Director of Children and Family Ministry at [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com).



## 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](mailto: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](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)

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## 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:



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**Rev. Mira Hewlett, Senior Pastor** | [pastormira@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastormira@fumchurch.com)

**Kelsey Goll, Office Manager & Communications** | [communications@fumchurch.com](mailto:communications@fumchurch.com)

**Lisa Aronson, Youth & Adult Discipleship** | [discipleship@fumchurch.com](mailto:discipleship@fumchurch.com)

**Katie Knorr, Kids & Family Ministry** | [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com)

**Sarah Pugh, Worship Arts** | [worship@fumchurch.com](mailto:worship@fumchurch.com)

**Janice Bowen, Congregational Care** | [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)

**Paul Zito, Facilities Manager** | [facilities@fumchurch.com](mailto:facilities@fumchurch.com)

**Lori Hoffnagle, Administration & Outreach** | [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com)

**Amy Erno, Finance Director** | [financedirector@fumchurch.com](mailto:financedirector@fumchurch.com)

**Janet Rice, Director of Little Friends Preschool** | [director@littlefriendspreschool.org](mailto:director@littlefriendspreschool.org)