
WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA

A dark purple silhouette of a woman's head in profile, facing right. A small white crown is positioned on top of her head. The text is overlaid on the silhouette.

FOR SUCH A TIME
AS THIS

January 11, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

"I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry"
TFWS #2051

Kids Moment

Mission Moment:
Special Sundays Offering

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sounds of Worship Anthem
"Son of God Most Holy"

Scripture Reading
Esther 4:6-17

Sermon:
"For Such a Time as This"

Announcements

Offering

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" #117

Benediction

Postlude

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

Countdown Video

Welcome

"Holy Forever"

"Battle Belongs"

Kids Moment
Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer

"Defender"

Scripture Reading
Esther 4:6-17

Sermon:
"For Such a Time as This"

Announcements

Mission Moment:
Special Sundays Offering

Offering

"New Wine"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching

Rev. Mira Hewlett

Liturgist

Allison Shield (830), Kelsey Goll (11)

Accompanist (830)

Brandon Rhody

Special Music (830)

Sounds of Worship

Worship Leader (11)

Sarah Pugh

Worship Band

Janice Bowen, George Canonizado,
Nate Erno, Geri Nuss, Sarah Pugh,
Cindy Smith, RJ Wertz

Sound and Media

Fred Espenshade, Ron Nichols, Bill
Richie

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's
flowers are given to
the Glory of God.

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

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

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 at discipleship@fumchurch.com to receive email updates.

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY SUNDAY

TOGETHER

OUR REACH IS BEYOND MEASURE



WHAT ARE CHURCHWIDE SUNDAYS?

Church wide celebrations unite us to accomplish missions that no single church can achieve alone. On these designated days, United Methodists come together to reaffirm their commitment as God's people and to support special programs endorsed by the Church. To see how your contributions make a difference, visit [UMC.org/yourimpact](https://www.UMC.org/yourimpact).



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Churchwide Sundays unite us in serving, giving and strengthening our faith

WHAT IS HUMAN RELATIONS DAY SPECIAL SUNDAY?

We are called to make a difference in communities where our brothers and sisters in Christ lack the resources to reach their full, God-given potential. Our contributions support the creation of a beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community development initiatives, and efforts to assist at-risk teens. On the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, a special offering is taken to embody his vision of "the beloved community." United Methodists observe this churchwide special Sunday to honor the message Jesus lived out: every one of God's children is equally important.



Reading Together...

The Book of Esther: Seeing the Invisible Hand of God

Week 2: Courage & Calling — Stepping Into Purpose

"Courage often begins in recognizing that your position and influence have divine purpose — "for such a time as this."

- Jan 12: Esther 3:1–6 — Haman's hatred for Mordecai
- Jan 13: Esther 3:7–15 — The decree to destroy the Jews
- Jan 14: Esther 4:1–8 — Mordecai's plea
- Jan 15: Esther 4:9–12 — Esther's hesitation
- Jan 16: Esther 4:13–17 — "If I perish, I perish" — Esther's resolve

Reflection Question: What situations might God be calling you to face with courage and faith, trusting that God has placed you there "for such a time as this"?

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LIFELONG LEARNER

Worship January 18th

On January 18th Josh Herring will visit to share about his campus ministry with Discipleship Makers. He grew up at First Church and has been one of our missionaries supported for over 10 years. Josh will preach in both services as we continue looking at the book of Esther. During Sunday School, 9:45-10:45am, he will share stories about his work in campus ministry and how God has been using him in ministry in and beyond the campus.



PRAYING FOLLOWER

2026 Women's Retreat – Jan. 23-25 2026, All registrations due TODAY

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

Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry | Jan. 21, 6:30pm

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. The next volunteer opportunity is January 21 at 6:30 p.m. To find out how to get involved, contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com.

Daily Bible Reading Plan

God speaks to us through His Word, and our daily Bible reading plan is customized to go along with our weekly sermons! You can find the plan that pairs with the sermon series on our church website, fumchurch.com.



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Mission Central | Every Third Tuesday of the Month

Once a month, FUMC members and friends bag groceries at Mission Central for the Bethesda Food Bank. On Tuesday Dec 16, we surpassed the 5,000 bag mark for the first time since 2016. We bagged 5,210 bags in 2025. There are no weather delays or cancellations for this dedicated group of individuals. Thank you to this group! Reach out to Sandy Walton at 717-433-3687 if interested!



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Solo Seniors Fellowship | Jan. 13, 11:30am

The Solo Seniors will dine at The Morning Fuel restaurant on Tuesday, Jan. 13th at 11:30am. If you plan on attending, please call Bonnie Guyer at 717-766-0145. Transportation will be provided upon request.

Soupy Saturday | Jan. 31, 9am

If you enjoy cooking, we invite you to the church kitchen to cook-up some delicious soup and muffins to share with a friend, neighbor, or church member at home! Questions? Contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com.



GENEROUS GIVER

Upcoming Handbell Events and Fundraisers!

Come dine and support the Handbells at **Texas Roadhouse on January 28!** Pick up a flyer at the handbell table in tower entrance hallway and present this at the restaurant to have 10% of your check donated to our Handbell Choir. Thank you for your support!

We will be hosting a **Trivia Night** at the **Maple Shade Barn in Dillsburg**, Please see the papers on our Handbell Table in the main tower entrance to register!

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!

Penny Bucket

Water is the foundation of our very lives. Yet, according to the United Nations, over 2 billion people lack access to clean, readily available drinking water. Help us to support well-digging efforts in Africa by dropping your loose change (or even paper bills) into the blue Change for Water bucket located in the lobby -in front of the multipurpose room. Thank you!

***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