
WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



PRAYERS
FROM THE
HEART



joy praise
surrender mercy grace thank you
hoping please justice teach
transform how long? healing
renewal protection
glory be trust give us
lead peace your will be done clarity
wisdom sorry speak
courage

September 27, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE TRADITIONAL SERVICE

8:30 A.M

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

"And Can It Be that I Should Gain" #363

Prayer of the Day

Kids Message

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer
(Psalm 17:8)

**"Guard me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of your
wings..."**

Sounds of Worship:
"Yes, My Lord!"

Scripture:
2 Samuel 12:1-10 &13; Luke 23:39-43

Sermon:
"Prayers from the Heart, Part 4: Sorry!"

Announcements

Offering

"Amazing Grace"

Benediction

Postlude

THE GATHERING SERVICE

11:00 A.M

Countdown Video

Welcome

"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord"

"Raise a Hallelujah"

"Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me"

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer
(Psalm 17:8)
**"Guard me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of your
wings..."**

Scripture Reading:
2 Samuel 12:1-10 &13; Luke 23:39-43

Sermon:
"Prayers from the Heart, Part 4: Sorry!"

Announcements

Offering

"The Heart of Worship"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching:

Rev. Dr. Lew Parks

Liturgist:

Al Robinson

Accompanist

Brandon Rhody

Special Music:

Sounds of Worship

Worship Band:

George Canonizado, John McHenry,
Sarah Pugh, Cindy Smith, Tracy Wertz

Sound and Media:

Fred Espenshade, Ken Rapp, Jim
Robinson

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

MACHE BASKET

This week's mache basket is given to
the glory of God and in loving
memory of Tony Perno placed by
Mary Juson.

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

Keep in Touch!

We have a 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.

NOTES

Going Deeper:

Prayers from the Heart, Part 4: Sorry!

The most fundamental act for a Christian believer is so simple you could miss it. We are a people who talk to a Higher Power. We do it because we believe God is and God “rewards those who seek him” (Heb 11:6). In this sermon series we are exploring Prayers from the Heart. We’ll study the Bible for the raw experiences behind five fundamental types of prayers. Through the centuries the church has given them formal theological names: petition, intercession, thanksgiving, contrition, and praise. But before that reflective stage they were and are vivid encounters between God and the believer. Won’t you join us as we look at: *"Help! Please! Thanks! Sorry! and Wow!"*

Sunday, Sept 27

The most repeated sorry! prayer of the Bible – prayed by David after confronted by Nathan. (Psalm 51)

Monday Sept 28

Pharaoh’s heart hardens by degrees until he is no longer capable of saying *sorry!* (Exodus 8)

Tuesday Sept 29

Two men went up to the Temple to pray; only one prayed *sorry!* (Luke 18:9-14)

Wednesday Sept 30

The Bible recognizes a death bed sorry! but doesn’t recommend it. (So, Matt 21:28-31 & Luke 23:39-42, but Acts 24:22-27 & James 4:13-17)

Thursday Oct 01

Saying *sorry!* to God with more than your mouth.

Wear sackcloth & cover self with ashes (Dan 3), tear garment (Joel 2:3), weep and wail (Ezra 10:1), fast (Jonah 3:5), face to the ground (Joshua 7:6); beating breast (Luke 18:13), pour water on the ground (1 Samuel 7:6), and shave head (Job 1:2).

Friday Oct 02

Christians also pray *sorry* in a corporate voice because they are inspired to take responsibility for the common good of the community of believers. (Daniel 9:3-19; Matthew 6:9-12)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LIFELONG LEARNER

Health & Wellness Presentation | Oct. 18th, 9:45am

AI: Understanding the Myths and Risks of Artificial Intelligence

Health and Wellness invites you to this upcoming presentation with Jason Fisher on Sunday, October 18th, 9:45 a.m. in the Multi-purpose room.

A presentation and conversation about what AI is, how it's perceived in shaping our daily tasks, and the opportunities and challenges it presents. We'll explore its uses in everyday life, as well as concerns about privacy, misinformation, scams, jobs, bias, and the environment.

New Member Class | Oct. 4th | 9:45-10:45am

Ready to become a member of First Church? Want to explore the foundations of our faith?

Join us for a four-week study, "A Disciple's Path." Together with Pastor Lew, you'll explore what it means to faithfully participate in the life of the Church through your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Confirmation:

If you are a student wishing to join as well, please express your interest in being confirmed with Lisa Aronson. Confirmation is best suited for those 6th grade and older.



PRAYING FOLLOWER

Flu Shots | Sunday, October 18th, 9-11 a.m.

We will offer flu shots provided by Sandy Leister, RN on October 18th. There's no need to pre-register - simply stop by the Main Lobby between 9-11 am. Anyone 18 or older is welcome to receive a vaccine. Some insurance plans will be accepted. Without insurance, the flu shot costs \$40 (cash or check, made out to VNA of Central PA). Please contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611 x112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions. Accepted insurances: Medicare B; Medicare B and a secondary insurance; Medicare B and AARP; Medicare B and commercial (supplement); Railroad Medicare B; GHP; GHP Gold; Humana Gold; Humana Choice PPO.

Finding Hope & Peace in Grief | Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm, Rm 105 (10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17)

If you are experiencing grief and loss and would like to share in a group experience this fall, we invite you to journey with us Tuesday afternoons for 4-weeks as we search together for hope, peace, and meaning in our grieving. Contact Patti Vogl or Janice Bowen with questions or to register by October 20th. Patti - pvogl@timelessconnections.org 717-319-7318; Janice - wecare@fumchurch.com 717-766-4611 x112



PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Rejoicing Spirits | Today, Sept 27, at 4pm

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, a brief message, as well as refreshments and fellowship afterward. For more information, reach out to Karin McHale at karinmch@comcast.net.



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Mission Field Trip to Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

We are organizing a group of volunteers for a field trip to the Baltimore, MD Operation Christmas Child processing center in December! We will have opportunity to inspect, pack, and prepare shoe boxes for shipment to children around the world. The time commitment is roughly 6 hours (3-hour volunteer shift and an hour drive there and back). For more information, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112

Growing Together | Sunday October 18th | 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM | Hardwood Café

Several times throughout the year, we will have a Growing Together opportunity following the 11:00 AM service. Stick around after service at the round tables in the green chair side of the sanctuary. We will provide lunch and a learning/service activity for any and all ages. Registration is encouraged to help us plan for food and accommodate any dietary restrictions. Registration is on Church Center and at the Registration Table. Reach out to Katie Knorr with questions at kidscount@fumchurch.com.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Monthly Ladies Night | Third Mondays September-May | 6-8 p.m.

Join us for our Monthly Ladies Night hosted by the Women's Ministry of First UMC (previously known as Mom Connection). Our goal for this ministry is to be a gathering of women from all stages of life. Women of all stages of life (single, mom (of...), empty nester, grandma, young adult, etc) are invited to a once a month evening of friendship, support, and guidance. We meet together for a meal, learning, conversation and prayer in the hopes of creating connections and cultivating community. Sign up on Church Center or contact Katie Knorr at kidscount@fumchurch.com or Lisa Arsonson at discipleship@fumchurch.com for more info!

Community Dinner | TONIGHT, Sept. 27, 5pm at Buhrig's Gathering Place

Our next Community Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, September 27 at 5:00 p.m. at Buhrig's Gathering Place in Mechanicsburg. Local churches collaborate to bless the downtown community with a meal, music and a gift card drawing, free of charge. We are expecting 100 neighbors and friends and are in need of table hosts for this dinner. If you would like to sign up or have questions, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com.



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 love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously. 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 or in the Church Center app.

***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. Dr. Lew Parks, Senior Pastor | pastorlew@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

"Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously"

135 W. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg PA 17055
office@fumchurch.com | 717-766-4611 | fumchurch.com | [@fumchurch](https://www.instagram.com/fumchurch)