WELCOME TO

First United Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



November 15, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE TRADITIONAL SERVICE
8:30 A.M

Welcome

Call to Worship

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" #110

Prayer For the Day

Kids Moment

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer
(Psalm 67:1)
"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, Selah"

Scripture:
"Mark 5:1-8"

Sermon:
"Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 6: Dracula"

Announcements

Offering

Doxology #94

"It Is Well With My Soul" #377

Benediction

Postlude

THE GATHERING SERVICE
11:00 A.M

Countdown Video

Welcome

"Who You Say I Am"

"Make Room"

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer
(Psalm 67:1)
"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, Selah"

Scripture Reading:
"Mark 5:1-8"

Sermon:
"Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 6: Dracula"

Announcements

Offering

"Living Hope"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching:
Rev. Dr. Lew Parks

Liturgist:
John Bowen

Accompanist
Brandon Rhody

Worship Band:
Janice Bowen, George Canonizado, John McHenry, Geri Nuss, Sarah Pugh, Tracy Wertz

Sound and Media:
Jim Murdoch, Ken Rapp, Holly Kurten (8:30a), Jim Robinson (11a)

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lance & our loved ones placed by Larry & Judi Buddenbaum and 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

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 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

A friendly reminder to please submit your building use forms to the office for all scheduled activities and events. This helps ensure our church calendar is accurate and that doors are properly scheduled to be unlocked. Thank you for your help and cooperation!

Going Deeper

Things that Go Bump in the Night: Part 6: Dracula

The Bible has much to say about fear. The final counsel of God on fear is an expression that occurs 90 times in the Bible, almost always in reference to God: fear not! I invite you to join me this fall as we listen for that "**fear not!"** and confront seven contemporary (yet ancient) fears. We will explore the storytelling genre of horror literature and film to amplify the conversation with Scripture. Our journey maps out like this: Oct 11 The Frankenstein Monster... Oct 18 Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde... Oct 25 Haunted Houses... Nov 01 Zombies... Nov 08 : King Kong... **Nov 15 Dracula..** and Nov 22 Aliens from Outer Space.

The Bible appears directly and indirectly in Bram Stoker's novel Dracula (1897), the origin of the Dracula monster. This week we will look at some of the biblical texts behind the details of that novel and the 1931 movie that followed. We will also look at the texts that call believers to choose life and choose light.

Sun, Nov 15: The full story of Jesus' exorcism of demons from a tortured soul (Mark 5:1-20).
Mon, Nov 16: "I have set before you this day, life and death, choose life!" (Deut 30:11-20).
Tues, Nov 17: Count Dracula: "the life is in the blood" (Leviticus 17:10-16).
Wed, Nov 18: Why Count Dracula avoids the crucifix (1 Cor 1:18-25; Phil 2:6-8; Gal 2:20).
Thur, Nov 19: Why Count Dracula won't drink wine (1 Cor 11:23-31; 1 John 1:7).
Fri, Nov 20: Be "children of light not darkness" (Eph 5:6-21; 1 Thess 5:1-11; 1 John 1:5-9).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

West Shore Interfaith Thanksgiving Service | Nov. 22
The Mechanicsburg Council of Churches is holding its annual Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 22, 2026 - 6 p.m. at Trindle Spring Lutheran Church, 14 State Road, Mechanicsburg PA 17050. Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations to be distributed to our community through New Hope Ministries.

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Christmas Decorating | Nov. 23 & 24
It's almost that time! We will be decorating the church for the Christmas season on Monday, Nov. 23 and Tuesday, Nov 24. If interested in helping, please show up at 9:30am, or you can reach out to the office with any questions. Due to safety concerns this is adult only. Thank you!

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Holiday Harmony Concert | Dec. 6, 7pm
Celebrate the season with our Holiday Harmony Concert! The fourth concert in the 2026 Concert Series will take place on Sunday, December 6 at 7pm in the sanctuary. Come enjoy a collection of group numbers, solos, duets, readings, lessons and carols by our First UMC music and worship ensembles. Light refreshments will follow afterwards.

DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes! | Due Nov. 22 by noon
Support Operation Christmas Child by filling a shoebox with gifts for the upcoming holiday season! Start by picking up the instructions and a shoebox at church (or use your own shoebox). You'll find these items on the display in the main entrance hallway. Next, fill your box with items suggested on the list (also available on the display). Finally, remember to bring your filled shoeboxes back to the church display in the main lobby no later than November 22 (by 12:00PM).

RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Save the Date: Family Christmas Event- Sat. Dec. 5th 9-11am
Looking for something exciting for the entire family to do this Christmas? Don't miss The Joy Jam Family Christmas Event! Join us for an unforgettable Christmas Experience complete with fun, games, and music! Invite your friends, family, and neighbors for a morning filled with joy celebrating the best gift at Christmas: Jesus! This free event is for kids and families to participate all together, this is not a drop-off event. Registration opens Nov. 8th! We are looking for people to help us with greeter, giving out snacks, and running craft/game stations. You can register online or email Katie Knorr, Director of Children and Family Ministry at kidscount@fumchurch.com.

Sensory Santa Saturday, Dec. 12th
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/santa2026. If you have any questions, please email Katie Knorr, Director of Children and Family Ministry at kidscount@fumchurch.com.

Women's Retreat, January 29 to 31, 2027
The 2027 Women's Retreat will be held at Rhodes Grove Retreat Center in Chambersburg. Lisa Aronson will be leading us on the topic of Living a Long Faithfulness as mapped out in Hebrews. Registration forms can be found on the Registration table outside the Multipurpose Room and on Church Center beginning November 1. We continue to offer the full weekend and one-day option. Questions or registration information, contact Lisa Aronson at discipleship@fumchurch.com or Lori Hoffnagle at l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com. All women are welcome!

Cookie Walk – Calling all Bakers!
It's time for the annual Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser, the Cookie Walk! This year we will be having our annual cookie walk on Dec 12th. This event has become popular in part because of wonderful bakers like you! Try out a new recipe or stick to Grandma's secret recipe. Anything will do! To have enough cookies, we ask bakers to provide 4-5 batches (8-10 dozen) per style of homemade cookie. Fill out the form on registration table, or sign up on Church Center. Don't forget, cookies freeze well, so you can even start baking today.
Please help us continue this tradition and raise money for the youth mission trip. Any questions please email Lynn Rapp at minion.youth17@gmail.com. Cookies need to be at the church no later than 7:00 A.M. on December 12th. They can be placed in the church kitchen before the walk labeled as "COOKIE WALK." If baking 4-5 batches is too much, please still reach out – we would love to have what you can make.

GENEROUS GIVER

2027 Commitment Cards Still Being Accepted - Final Due Date November 22
If your family has not yet completed a pledge card for 2027 please consider doing so this week. Cards can be dropped in collection baskets by the entrances to the sanctuary, given to Kelsey Goll in the church office during the week, or if you prefer you can just indicate your pledge for next year to Brian Sanker at sankerb@gmail.com. We thank everyone for their commitments to First Church in giving and in service, past, present, and future.

Poinsettia Orders | Due by Wed, Nov. 25
Honor your loved ones and beautify our sanctuary this Christmas! To reserve yours, fill out an order form and return it to the church office by **Wednesday, Nov. 25!** Forms can be found in the church office, or near both sides of the sanctuary. Poinsettia's cost $13 each. Checks can be made out to First United Methodist Church (with "Poinsettias" on the memo line).

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"

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