WELCOME TO

First United Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



November 22, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE TRADITIONAL SERVICE
8:30 A.M

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

"We Gather Together" #131

Prayer For the Day

Sounds of Worship:
"It Is Well With My Soul"

Kids Moment

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer
(Psalm 1:3)
"They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all they do, they prosper."

Scripture:
Luke 10:25-37

Sermon:
"Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 7: Space Aliens"

Announcements

Offering

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come" #694

Benediction

Postlude

THE GATHERING SERVICE
11:00 A.M

Countdown Video

Welcome

"Bless God"

"Goodness of God"

Baptism of Michael Ortiz

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer
(Psalm 1:3)
"They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all they do, they prosper."

Scripture:
Luke 10:25-37

Sermon:
"Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 7: Space Aliens"

Announcements

Offering

"Make Room"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching:
Rev. Dr. Lew Parks

Liturgist:
Lisa Aronson

Accompanist
Brandon Rhody

Special Music:
Sounds of Worship

Worship Band:
John Gross, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker, Allison Shield

Sound and Media:
Michael Garman, Ron Nichols, Fred Espenshade (830a), Violet Sanker (11a)

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's altar 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

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

Baptism

Today during our 11:00 a.m. worship service, we joyfully celebrate the baptism of Michael Gregory Ortiz, born January 3, 2025. Michael is the son of Matthew and Amy Ortiz, grandson of Michael and Nadine Ogden and Michelle Moore, and nephew of Harold and Roxanne Reed.

Please join us in celebrating this special occasion and welcoming Michael into the family of God!

Going Deeper

Things that Go Bump in the Night: Part 7: Space Aliens

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 Space Aliens**

This week we look at some of the great underestimations of the Bible when persons sorely misjudged others based on appearance.

Sun, Nov 22: The background story of why Jews despised Samaritans (2 Kings 17:24-41).
Mon, Nov 23: Gideon ("least of my family") not only called to lead (Judges 6:11-6; 33-35) but also called to pare down his army before a major battle (Judges 7:1-9).
Tues, Nov 24: An unlikely candidate for Israel's second king (1 Samuel 16:1-13).
Wed, Nov 25: Not expecting much out of that place (Micah 5:2-6; Luke 2:1-7).
Thur, Nov 26: Paul addresses the "nobodies" in the Church at Corinth (1 Cor 1:3-9, 26-31).
Fri, Nov 27: And the greatest underestimation of all (Isaiah 53:1-3; Philippians 2:5-11).

Update:

The Staff Parish Relations Committee wants to announce that Candace Rudy, our custodian, will be leaving FUM as of November 30th. The committee wants to acknowledge Candace and her contribution in keeping our facility clean and in good condition for both visitors and congregants.

As of November 23rd, Nastashia Whitney will be joining our staff as the new custodian. Nastashia lives locally and had previously worked with Paul. She will be a welcome addition to our staff. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Nastashia if you see her.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Advent Study with Pastor Lew (in-person & online)
Join Pastor Lew for a four-week Advent study, "The Nativity: Memory, Imagination, Resolve," as we explore the stories and traditions surrounding Jesus' birth and how they deepen our understanding of the Christmas story. In-person sessions will be held Tuesdays, December 1, 8, 15, and 22, from 1:30–2:30 p.m. in 105, or join via Zoom on Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 16, and 23, from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Please sign up at the church office and provide your email address if participating by Zoom. All are welcome!

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Advent Devotional Books
Grab a free Advent Devotional in the main lobby before the start of Advent (November 29). Books are available on registration table and are a great way to ready your hearts for the Christmas season. Consider a friend or neighbor whom you could invite to read with you and pick one up for them too.

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

West Shore Interfaith Thanksgiving Service | Today, 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.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Joy Jam | 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! Dec. 12
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

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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