WELCOME TO

First United Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



November 8, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE TRADITIONAL SERVICE
8:30 A.M

Introit: "We Gather Together"
(Handbells)

Welcome

Call to Worship

"Marching to Zion" #733

Prayer For the Day

Kids Moment

Reception of New Members

Sounds of Worship:
"Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones"

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer
(Psalm 92:1-2)
"It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High, to declare your steadfast love in the morning and your faithfulness by night"

Scripture:
Numbers 13:1-3, 21, 25-33

Sermon:
"Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 5: King Kong"

Consecration of Our Gifts

Doxology #95

Offering Prayer

"Here I Am Lord" #593

Benediction

Postlude

THE GATHERING SERVICE
11:00 A.M

Countdown Video

Welcome

"What A Beautiful Name"

"The Joy"

Kids Moment

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer
(Psalm 92:1-2)
"It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High, to declare your steadfast love in the morning and your faithfulness by night"

"Gratitude"

Scripture Reading:
Numbers 13:1-3, 21, 25-33

Sermon:
"Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 5: King Kong"

Consecration of Our Gifts

Offering Prayer

"Make Room"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching:
Rev. Dr. Lew Parks

Liturgist:
Al Robinson

Accompanist
Brandon Rhody

Special Music:
Handbell Choir, Sounds of Worship

Worship Band:
Steve Almond, John Gross, Geri Nuss, Sarah Pugh, Cindy Smith,

Sound and Media:
Michael Garman. Jim Murdoch, Bill Richie

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Zywan & Poly Blum placed by Ed Blum & Karen Zywan.

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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Ken & Haddiee Spidle



Ken and Haddiee attend our 8:30 a.m. service and are excited to be part of the First Church family! Ken is a U.S. Army veteran and retired UPS employee, while Haddiee is retired from banking. They are proud grandparents of 6 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren! They enjoy spending time with family, hosting get-togethers, and keeping busy with their hobbies. Haddiee enjoys fundraisers, yard sales, and preparing meals, while Ken collects Hot Wheels and NASCAR memorabilia. Please join us in giving Ken and Haddiee a warm welcome!

Martin Sheely



Marty has been attending our 8:30 a.m. service for many years and is excited to officially become part of the First Church family! He works as a commercial development manager, is married, and has two sons. As the son of longtime members Pat and Jerry Sheely, First Church has always been a familiar place to him. In his free time, Marty enjoys hunting, gardening, working on cars, and helping others. Please join us in giving Marty a warm welcome!

Going Deeper

Things that Go Bump in the Night, Part 5: King Kong

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 distinguishes between fear generated by real things out there (dangerous animals, bandits, storms, invading armies, heights) and fear that is generated or expanded by the workings of our imagination. Most of the Bible's fear nots are spoken by God and a significant number of them address that second group.

Sun, Nov 08: Moses sends spies into the land of Canaan (Numbers 13:1-3, 21, 25-33).
Mon, Nov 09: After the Flood, animals fear humans and vice versa (Genesis 9:1-17, esp. 2)
Tues, Nov 10: Fear of lions (Amos 3:8); courage to face lions (Daniel 6:14-24).
Wed, Nov 11: Fear of the sea (Jonah 1:1-5); fear dispelled (Mark 4:35-41).
Thur, Nov 12: Fear of aging (Eccl 12:1-5); courage to face aging (Psalm 71).
Fri, Nov 11: Real fear (hippopotamus, crocodile) combined with imagination equals monsters (Behemoth, Leviathan) (Job 40:15-41:34). God says, Fear not!

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

Growing Together – Sunday, Nov. 15th | 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM | Hardwood Café
Paul writes to the Philippians that he is truly happy when believers are agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose (Phil 2:2). We too value learning and serving together with one heart and one mission. 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 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.

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

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!

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.

Monthly Ladies Night | Third Mondays September-May I 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!

Senior Solo's Fellowship | Nov. 10
The Single Solo's fellowship will dine at Olive Garden on Tuesday, November 10th at 11:30 a.m. If you plan on attending, please call Bonnie Guyer at 717-766-0145. Transportation can be provided upon request.

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!

Youth Retreat | Sign up by Nov. 15
Students in grades 6- 12 are invited to sign up for the Youth Retreat, which will be held on the first weekend in December, Dec 4-6. This will be a weekend filled with growth, connection, and fun! Sign up on Church Center by November 15th and reach out to Lisa Aronson with any questions.

GENEROUS GIVER

Handbell Pies | Orders Due by Nov. 15
It's time to order your pies from the Handbell Choir. The date is always the Saturday before Thanksgiving (November 21 this year). Pumpkin, Mincemeat, and Apple Crumb or Crust top. Remember we can bake them or freeze them for you to bake at your leisure. Pies can be ordered from a handbell member, in your Sunday School Class, at the table in the narthex, and online at Church Center. Price is still $14. Last day to order is November 15. Thank you!

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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