

First Light

A weekly e-newsletter from
First United Methodist

September 26, 2025



**Did you know...Do you remember?
First UMC - A Resource for the Community**

Do you remember our vision statement?

"We are a welcoming family of Christ followers, living lives of generosity as we seek to be a blessing to others".

We are a welcoming family

"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith." ~Galatians 6:10

Of Christ followers

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." ~John 8:12

"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor." ~John 12:26

Living Lives of generosity

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." ~Luke 6:38

"You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us." ~2 Corinthians 9:11

As we seek to be a blessing to others

"A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives water will get water." ~Proverbs 11:25

"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." ~ 2 Corinthians 9:8

This is an exciting time for First UMC, the future is bright! TOGETHER, as a Church Family, we can do great things, sharing and showing Christ's love to our neighbors.

It's Time to Sign Up!

October 5th is World Communion Sunday.

Please plan to join us and sign up for the informational luncheon after the combined worship service.

Sign-up sheets are at the Connection Tables in the narthex and outside the Living Water Cafe.

Reminders:

Bus Trip to Sight & Sound

The church is hosting a bus trip to see "Noah" at Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. The bus trip will be on December 2nd and we will attend the 11:00 am showing. Afterward, we will enjoy a late, buffet-style lunch at Diener's Country Restaurant. We are anticipating leaving around 7:30 am and returning by 6:00 pm. The cost per person is \$162.00 and includes the bus transportation, the show ticket, and the meal at Diener's. We are asking that each person pay at least an \$80.00 deposit when signing up. This deposit is REQUIRED in order to reserve your seat on the bus and your show ticket. You can sign up for the trip at the Connection Tables and pay the deposit by either dropping it off at the church office or placing it in a special offering envelope and placing it in the offering plate. Be sure to clearly mark the envelope "bus trip." Checks should be made payable to First UMC. The deadline to sign up and to pay any balance due is October 28th. Any questions can be directed to Lisa Laidacker at 570-419-8786.

NOTE: We still have spots available so feel free to invite your friends or family who might like to join the trip.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY—OCTOBER 5TH

World Communion Sunday is a day to celebrate the Christian practice of breaking bread together, and to recognize that the Lord's Supper is celebrated around the world. We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 5th with one combined worship service at 10:00 am in the sanctuary. There will be no JAM Children's Church or nursery that day. We will take a special collection that will go to support scholarships and leadership development opportunities for international and U.S. racial-ethnic students. 50% goes to fund scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color pursuing ministry careers. 35% goes toward grants for worldwide diversity, equity, inclusion and access training. 15% goes to fund leadership development grants in partner churches. To donate, place your cash or check (payable to FUMC) into a special offering envelope found in the pews or on the Connection Table, mark the envelope for "World Communion Offering" and place it in the offering plate.



Special Blood Drive to Honor a Friend-Oct. 31st



First UMC will host a special American Red Cross Blood Drive to honor the life of George Frey, a good friend and running partner of Gary Laidacker's. Please consider donating blood to The American Red Cross on October 31st 12:00-5:00 pm in the Celebration Center. To register,

call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org. Thanks in advance for helping us to celebrate George and make a difference by giving blood.



TRUNK-OR-TREAT—OCTOBER 26TH

It's getting close to "spooky season" again and the JAM Children's Ministry will hold a Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday October 26th from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Celebration Center. They need YOU to make it a success again this year. Would you or you committee or small group consider having a "trunk" (really a table) this year and handing out candy to all of our young guests? We estimate that we will have 150 children come through the doors. All you have to do is think up a theme for your table, decorate, provide the candy and come have fun. The JAM leaders would like to know how many tables to set up so they are asking that you register your table ASAP. You can do that by calling the church office, emailing the JAM leaders at jesusandme@firstumcmuncy.org or following the link in the QR code.

Let's Celebrate!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1 Robin Bardo, Travis McNett
10/2 Nancy Lyons
10/3 Betsy Mothersbaugh, Bonnie Rebuck
10/4 Rowan Potts
10/5 Mary Root, Kay Wagner, Randy Welch
10/7 Brooke Hansen, Alexa & Madison Karschner
10/9 Murray Hanford, Sadie Ritter
10/10 Tom Brittain, Jamie Hanford
10/12 Waylon & Kora Rarick
10/13 Leah Rabb, Celia Roca
10/15 Gary Edwards, Craig Miller, Kathy Hurley
10/17 Katie Nichols, Stacie Nierzwicki
10/18 Ryan Riddell
10/20 Mark Beyer, Don Johnson, Barry Shuck
10/22 Heather McCaslin
10/23 Brooke Reynolds
10/24 Jo Langer, John Smay
10/25 Amy Myers, Abby Potts
10/26 Linda Geise
10/28 Mike Wood
10/29 Jackie Shuck

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/1 Nicole and Don Johnson
10/2 Jayme (Winters) and Ryan McClung
10/5 Ann and Wayne Dougherty, Steph and Jan Mostowy
10/6 Valerie and Dan Kelley
10/7 Donna and Leon McCaslin
10/11 Juli and Dan Mingle
10/12 Barb and Mitch Morgan
10/15 Michelle and Chip Cowher, Dani and Gordie Eck
10/16 Penny and Luther Merrill
10/17 Jo Ann and Dave Swartz
10/22 Patrice and Bill Bond
10/25 Shelley and Bob Webb
10/30 Lyla and Gary Allshouse, Katie and Brad Nichols



September 28, 2025
"Church: A Blessing to God"
Psalm 103
Psalm 145:1-3, 17-21

Good 'N Plenty Dinner
Wednesday, October 1st
Curb Side Take Out - 4:00-5:30
(or until sold out)
Dine In - 5:00-6:30



Roast turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetable, cranberry sauce & dessert
\$12/meal (suggested donation)

No Call Ahead Orders Please