

HELP FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS: You can help bring relief to people dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. First, pray for the families affected, and the many United Methodist volunteers already on the ground doing relief work, from the conferences in the area and UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief). Second, you can donate to UMCOR, to support its relief and recovery efforts. 100% of your donation goes to the cause. You can give online to UMCOR's Domestic Disaster Advance #901670; or send a check for UMCOR, with the Advance number in the notation line, either to the church office, or to: Conference Treasurer, Eastern PA Conference, United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 820, Valley Forge, PA 19482. Contributions support the personnel, supplies and equipment needed to organize disaster response and a long-term rebuilding. You can also make flood buckets, relief kits and health kits, through our local mission central; contact the office for more information on this.

SUDAN REBIRTH MINISTRY FALL FUNDRAISER

When: Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM
 Where: Tellus 360, 24 East King St., Lancaster
 This annual fall fundraiser pledges support to educate Sudanese students. The fundraiser includes hors d'oeuvres and silent auction.
 The cost is \$30 per person.
 Please RSVP to Anne Griswold at momeocran@hotmail.com or 717-823-0757 no later than October 18, 2017.

YOUNG ADULTS LANC IMPACT! HAPPENINGS: Today, the Young Adults are going hiking in County Park! Plan to meet by the covered bridge at Kiwanis Rd. off of Golf Rd. Park to the right before going onto the bridge. Bring a bagged sandwich and snack for dinner; we'll find a spot along the way to break for dinner. The hike will begin with prayer and introductions. This is a dog and people-friendly hike so bring your best friend! Contact Megan Blackmon with questions, meganalisewilliams@gmail.com.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS: The thrift shop has reopened. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering this fall or winter, contact Iris Lehman at brianandiris@verizon.net. The thrift shop supports our InsideOut Youth Ministry. It provides sponsorship for the youth outreach small group, McCaskey Breakfast Club, and it helps to reduce the cost of youth retreats and activities. Youth can now volunteer for an hour, sorting and organizing or running the thrift shop, to earn \$10 of "Mission Moolah" which can be used toward youth activities and opportunities. If you are a youth looking for volunteer hours or to earn "Mission Moolah," please contact Youth Minister, Kate Beiler at youth@engagegodfirst.org.

The thrift shop accepts pre-washed clothing and blanket donations. Currently the Thrift Shop needs gently used men's and women's coats, jackets, sweaters, shoes, work attire, sheets and blankets. Please note: the thrift shop does not need pants, accessories, young children's and baby clothes. Please plan to donate these items elsewhere. Thank you for your support of the Thrift Shop!

CAN YOU HELP COMPLETE THE YOUTH DOOR PROJECT?: InsideOut Youth needs old barn or rustic door donations to complete a project begun in 2014. We began lining the bottom of the wall in the large youth room with doors. Our purpose is to finish the space in a rustic way as well as promote the concept of "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors." If you have any old doors or shutters that you could donate to the youth program to complete this project it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Kate Beiler at youth@engagegodfirst.org.



Contemporary Worship at 9:30

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Bring an offering, and come before him. Worship the Lord in holy splendor. – 1 Chronicles 16:29

Worship Music: Joe Anthony, Worship Leader
Look to the Son
Enter the Gates

Welcome

Worship Music:
Mighty to Save
You are my King (Amazing Love)

Prayer Pastor Kerry Leeper

The Word **Genesis 4:1-16; Matthew 18:21-35 NRSV**

Sermon "Seventy-Seven Times: The Freedom of Forgiveness" Pastor Kerry Leeper

Offering

Blessing

First United Methodist Church

Senior Pastor: Rev. Joseph DiPaolo
 Associate Pastor: Rev. Kerry Leeper
 Pastor of Discipleship & Administration: Rev. Eddie Cameron
 29 E. Walnut Street, Lancaster, PA 17602
 717-394-7231
 www.EngageGodFirst.org

First United

Methodist Church of Lancaster
September 17, 2017
 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Our Mission
 Connect People to Jesus Christ
 Grow Disciples
 Relieve Suffering

Prelude *How Firm a Foundation* arr. Sandra Eithun
 Youth Handbell Choir, Peter Omundsen, Director

Announcements & Greeting

Introit *For the Beauty of the Earth*
 Chancel Choir; Brian Norcross, Conductor

* Call to Worship *(based on Isaiah 1:18)*
 Leader: Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.
People: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

* Hymn *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* No. 89

Common Prayer Liturgist
 8:15-Pastor Eddie Cameron 10:45- Pastor Joe DiPaolo
O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others; open my ears that I may hear their cries; open my heart so that they need not be without help; let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed, and use me to bring them to those places. And so open my eyes and my ears that I may this coming day be able to do some work of peace for you. Amen. (Hymnal, No. 456)

Anthem (10:45) *Nearer My God to Thee* Joseph Martin
 Chancel Choir; Brian Norcross, Conductor

Scripture Reading **Genesis 4:1-16** (Pew Bibles, OT, page 3-4) Liturgist

Anthem (10:45) *My Shepherd is My Lord* Pepper Choplin
 Chapel Choir; Judy Williams, piano; Dot Lippart, flute

Children's Sermon (10:45) Laura Sambrick

Concerns of the People

Choral Call to Prayer (10:45) *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* (refrain) No. 133
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (10:45) No. 895

* please stand if able

FIRST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS!
September 17, 2017

We welcome all to worship today. To help us stay connected with you, please fill out the “Connect Card” that is found in your bulletin. This card helps the church track changes in email, phone, address, and more. On the card you can tell us your areas of interest by checking all that apply. Be sure to share your prayer requests with the staff by writing them on the card. Staff members pray for each request on Monday afternoon. Place the card in the offering plate today. Thank you for helping us to get to know and stay connected with you!

ALTAR FLOWERS: *Flowers are given to the Glory of God in honor of the marriage of Kate Beiler & Michael Toner.*

HOLY LAND VIA JORDAN – JANUARY 15-24, 2018: While you are on the Holy Land via Jordan pilgrimage in January 2018, you will spend two days in Jerusalem. You will walk on the Cardo, the very streets on which Jesus and his disciples walked. You will go to the Teaching Steps where Jesus taught. You will go to the Western Wall in which you can place your prayer request. You will visit the Antonia Fortress where Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate (Luke 23). You will walk the Via Dolorosa, the traditional road where Jesus carried the cross from the Praetorium to Calvary. You will end your day at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which was built over the place of Jesus’ crucifixion and the tomb where Jesus’ body was laid and where He resurrected. Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center today and plan to go on this life changing journey. Call Pastor Joe or Katherine with any questions at 717-392-7231.

STEPHEN MINISTRY: “If someone listens, or stretches out a hand, or whispers a kind word of encouragement, or attempts to understand a lonely person, extraordinary things begin to happen” (Loretta Girzartis, American writer and educator). There are people here at First Church ready to listen, stretch out a hand, whisper kind words of encouragement and try to understand what you are facing. They’re called Stephen Ministers. Find out more about how to meet with your own Stephen Minister by talking to Pastor Joe, Pastor Kerry or Pastor Eddie.

PASTORAL CARE AND HOSPITALIZATION: If you are hospitalized and have not received a pastoral care visit for 2-3 days, please inform the church office. There are times when the information of your stay is not listed in the hospital’s Chaplain Office under First UM Church. You are important to us, and we want to connect with you in times of crisis. Also, if you have a scheduled procedure, write it on the Connect Card under prayer requests. This enables us to provide spiritual care and support before and after surgery.

SUNDAY BRUNCH – SEPTEMBER 24: Immediately following the Contemporary Worship Service in Celebration Center. All are welcome!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19: Faith Circle Meeting at 9:30 AM

SACRED WORTH TEAM: You are invited to see *Gender Revolution*, a film by National Geographic, which will be shown on Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 PM at Grace UC Church. Grace Church is located at 1947 New Holland Pike. A discussion time hosted by Embrace and Grace UCC will follow the film.

8:15 ONLY
 The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem *My Shepherd is My Lord* Pepper Choplin
 Chapel Choir; Judy Williams, piano; Dot Lippart, flute

Prayer after Communion
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

* Hymn Jesus, Lord, We Look to Thee No. 562

* Blessing

Dismissal *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (stanza 1)* No. 89
Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

Postlude *To God Be the Glory* arr. Lyle Neff
 Peter Omundsen, Organ

	8:15	9:30	10:45
Greeters	W: N:	Tom & Mary Whitlatch, Nat Gilchrist, Bill Butler	W: Kyle McWilliams & Allen Popjoy N: Jean Kahler
Ushers	Kirk Blazic, James Campbell, Lamonte Cooke, Eugene Ewachiw, James Herr, Daniel Lapp, Charles McWilliams, Arthur Ramsay, Lisa Shank, Steven Shank, Charles White	Tom & Mary Whitlatch, Nat Gilchrist, Bill Butler	Kirk Blazic, James Campbell, Lamonte Cooke, Eugene Ewachiw, James Herr, Daniel Lapp, Charles McWilliams, Arthur Ramsay, Lisa Shank, Steven Shank, Charles White
Sound Tech	Tim Benton	Chris Reindollar	Chuck McWilliams
Liturgist	Pastor Eddie Cameron		Pastor Joe DiPaolo
Communion Assistant	Kathy Fowler		
Acolyte	Madhuri Sakrudkar		Josey Dombach
Welcome Center	Dottie Reidlinger	Cathy Doremus	Dr. Ethel
Fellowship Time	Anita Lewis & Ann Banzhof	Thorbahn & Mearkle Families	Lynne Dommel
Safety & Security	Wayne Betty		

* Hymn *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* No. 390

Prayer for Illumination Pastor Kerry Leeper

Scripture Reading **Matthew 18:21-35** (Pew Bibles, NT, p. 19) Pastor Kerry Leeper

Sermon “*Seventy-Seven Times: The Freedom of Forgiveness*” Pastor Kerry Leeper

* Affirmation of Faith *A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada* No. 883

* Gloria Patri *Glory Be to the Father* (stanza 1) No. 70
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

8:15 ONLY
 Invitation to The Lord’s Supper Madhuri Sakrudkar, Acolyte

Confession and Pardon
Almighty and merciful God, we know that when we offend another, we offend you. We are aware that we have often allowed the shadow of hate to cloud our souls. We have said unpleasant and hurtful things to our brothers and sisters when they failed to live up to our expectations. Grant that we might find that spark of love that ever burns within us, that love that you have shown to us even when we failed you. Fan the embers of that love until it roars again in flames of love, peace, and reconciliation. Forgive us our sins and help us to forgive those who have sinned against us. Lead us into new life through your Son Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of all. Amen.

(All pray in silence.)
 Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ.
 But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for us.
 Believe the good news:
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.

* Passing the Peace

Invitation to the Offering Liturgist

Offertory *Jesus Loves Me* arr. E Mercer
 Diane Styer, Piano

Procession of Offerings 

* Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Thanksgiving Acolyte
 8:15-Madhuri Sakrudkar 10:45- Cooper Lehman