



*Jesus is alive! That  
means God's grace will  
never run dry.*

DRINK FROM THE  
*Fountain of Grace*

# First United Methodist Church

Our Vision  
To be a central hub of Christian  
ministry in Lancaster County & beyond

Our Mission:  
Connect people to Jesus Christ  
& the church, grow Christian disciples,  
& relieve suffering

**Easter Sunday**  
**April 5, 2026**  
**8:15 & 10:45 AM**

Prelude "Fanfare on LLANFAIR" (Franklin Ashdown)  
Peter Omundsen, organ

Announcements & Greeting Pastors Jason Ríos & Laura Sambrick

Introit "Easter People, Raise Your Voices" (Henry Smart)  
Chancel Choir– Brian Norcross, Director

\*Call to Worship

**People: Praise the Lord! Christ is risen! Praise the Lord!**

Leader: Jesus is risen indeed! Praise the Lord! While it was still dark, God got up!

**People: While it was still dark, the women ran to tell the good news.**

Leader: While it was still dark, Jesus rose, giving the whole world new life.

**People: God does the best work in the dark! Jesus came, died, and rose in the midst of our sin, shame, hopelessness, and despair. Yes, God does the best work in the dark!**

**All: Praise the Lord! Christ is risen! Praise the Lord!**

\*Hymn No. 302 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (stanza 1-4)

**(10:45 AM)** Cherub Choir "The Angels Rolled the Stone Away" (arr. Don Hustad)  
Jan Betty, Director; Bill Crabtree, piano

Common Prayer

**Risen Lord, we worship you today with thanks that you meet us in the dark and shine your light brightly into our lives. Thank you for your incredible gift of forgiveness and eternal life that we celebrate today. We invite you to pour into the parts of our lives where we most need your grace, and we receive the living water that you are and that you give so freely. Amen.**

**(10:45 AM)** Reception of New Members Beth Bjerklie, Robert Guy, Sarah Hanle  
Irma Hernandez, Gladys Luciano  
Jessica Pflugler, Paul & Nicole Silverman

**(10:45 AM)** Carol Choir "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" (arr. Ashley Brooke)  
Jan Betty, Director; Bill Crabtree, piano

Scripture Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (*pew Bible, OT, p. 534*)

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Resurrection Celebration" (Heather Sorrenson)  
Chapel Choir– Peter Omundsen, Director  
Chancel Choir– Brian Norcross, Director

Preparation for Prayer, No. 186 "Alleluia" (sing twice)  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Laura Sambrick  
**(10:45 AM) 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.**

*\*\* Children ages 3-5th grade are dismissed to Jr. Church \*\**

\*Hymn No. 308 "Thine Be the Glory"  
Scripture John 20:1-18 (*pew Bible, NT, p.108*)

Message "The Cup That Never Runs Dry" Pastor Jason Ríos

\*Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed Hymnal, No. 881

\*Song of Praise, No. 177 "He Is Lord"

**He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**8:15 AM ONLY**

Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Confession and Pardon

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*(All pray in silence.)*

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
Glory to God. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

**8:15 AM ONLY** (continued)

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.**

Sharing the Sacrament

Congregational Prayer

**In thy hand, we see the whole cosmos, Heaven and earth reflect the mystery of thy handiwork. In thy hand, we see a little child, people are recaptured by the event of Bethlehem. In thy hand, we see the scar of the cross. Sin and death are vanquished by thy suffering on Golgotha. In thy hand, behold a new light, Day and night are transformed in the glory of Easter morning.**

\*Doxology, No. 682                      "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night" (stanza 5)

**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.**

\*Hymn No. 310    "He Lives"

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Response, No. 310                                      "He Lives" (refrain)

**He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.**

Postlude

Toccata, from "Symphony No. 5"  
Peter Omundsen, organ

(Charles-Marie Widor)

**8:15 AM Worship**

Ushers - Mark Stoner  
          Don Herneisen  
          Mike Cole  
Acolyte - Natalie Reed  
Liturgist - Marc Russo  
Sound Tech - Amayah DiBiasi

**10:45 AM Worship**

Usher Chief - Bruce Grove  
Acolyte - Rachel Ridgeway  
Liturgist - Correen Russo  
Sound Tech - Amayah DiBiasi

Pastors– Jason Ríos & Laura Sambrick  
Ministers– First Church Congregation

*Please recycle your bulletins  
in the marked bins. Thank you!*

**DONATE  
HERE**

**Thank you for giving!**

## NEW MEMBERS CEREMONY

### PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

I present Beth Bjerklie, Robert Guy, Sarah Hanle, Irma Hernandez, Gladys Luciano, Jessica Pflugler, Paul Silverman, and Nicole Silverman who come seeking professing membership of First United Methodist Church.

### RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Pastor Jason addresses the candidates:*

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:  
Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,  
reject the evil powers of this world,  
and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you  
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression  
in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,  
put your whole trust in his grace,  
and promise to serve him as your Lord,  
in union with the Church which Christ has opened  
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

To all the new members, according to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

**I will.**

*Pastor Laura addresses the congregation:*

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life  
and include these members now before you in your care?

**With God's help, we will proclaim the good news  
and live according to the example of Christ.  
We will surround these persons with a community of love and  
forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God,  
and be found faithful in their service to others.  
We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples  
who walk in the way that leads to life.**

*continued . . .*

## **RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Pastor Jason addresses the candidate(s):*

As members of Christ's universal church,  
will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church,  
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

**I will.**

## **RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION**

*Pastor Laura addresses the candidate(s):*

As members of this congregation,  
will you faithfully participate in its ministries  
by your prayers, your presence,  
your gifts, your service, and your witness?

**I will.**

*Certificate of membership is presented to new member(s).*

## **COMMENDATION AND WELCOME**

Members of the household of God,  
I commend these persons to your love and care.  
Do all in your power to increase their faith,  
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

## **BLESSING PRAYER**

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.  
Amen!

Now it is our joy to welcome our new siblings in Christ!

## CREATING HOMES. RESTORING HOPE.

This year's **Easter mission offering** will support our affordable housing partnership with Chestnut Housing to renovate our apartments. Chestnut Housing's mission is to connect communities of faith with affordable rental housing to people experiencing homelessness.

To support the work of renovating our apartments to provide affordable housing, you may donate by check payable to "First UMC" with "Easter Mission" in the memo line, placing cash/check in a brown pew envelope clearly marked "Easter Mission", or ***online with this link*** (select "Affordable Housing-Apartments" from the drop down menu).

**PLEASE NOTE:** For those using giving envelopes from the boxed sets: the Easter Special Giving Envelope is designated to the housing rehab mission Manifest, which unfortunately is not in operation. Therefore, all monies given using that envelope will be directed to our Affordable Housing-Apartment outreach. Thank you for your support!

### *Thoughts from artist Brian Lehman about the Easter Eve painting*

As I envision the image each year when planning for this event, I begin by listening to the music Dr. Norcross selects. This time around, the compositions took on a slightly calmer tone with Arlen Clark's *Nocturne for Julia* and Korsakov's *Russian Easter* dominating the visions in my mind.

While the normal portraits we have painted in the past offer the bold drama of an ascending Christ with diverse approaches such as

downpours, rich vegetation and mountaintop experiences, this year's painting embraces a calmer, more peaceful and early morning setting for the completed triptic.

"And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven." -Luke 24:50-51

Imagine the glory of witnessing a moment like this firsthand.



### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY APRIL 19th "I WILL NOT BE AFRAID"**

This has been an exciting year for the children's choirs at First UMC! We're small, but mighty! We'll end our choir season on Sunday, April 19 with a special musical presentation by Carol Choir at 8:15 & 10:45AM. Cherub Choir will sing at the 9:30 & 10:45 services. This year's musical takes a lighthearted look at facing our fears, Pastor Jason will make an appearance, and there will be a special "mystery guest". Come, join us. What are you afraid of?

# SPRING 2026

## Event Schedule

APR  
**19**

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY - 8:15 & 10:45 AM

A joyful service led by our children in song and drama.

APR  
**26**

### SPRING CANTATA - "ROSE OF SHARON" 8:15 & 10:45 AM

MAY  
**10**

### MOTHER'S DAY

A day to honor the women in our lives.

MAY  
**17**

### CELEBRATE SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 AM

Rejoice in our children's growth and the teachers who guide them.

MAY  
**24**

### GRADUATION RECOGNITION 8:15, 9:30 & 10:45 AM

Celebrating and sending them forth.

MAY  
**31**

### WOMEN IN FAITH LUNCH - 12 PM

A sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world.

JUN  
**22-  
26**

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Illumination Station:** Shining a light on who Jesus really is



**EVERY  
MONTH**

### TAIZE PRAYER SERVICES

4th Saturdays, 6 PM

### WOMEN IN FAITH NIGHT OUT

1st Fridays at Southern Market Food Court

**First United Methodist Church**  
**[EngageGodFirst.org/Events](https://EngageGodFirst.org/Events)**

# 2026 Easter Garden



## Presented in Loving Memory of

Rafe Grové Shearer, daughter of Jack & Shirley Grove, sister of Michelle Dombach

Our parents

Stan Williams

Dorothy & Clinton Hughes and Sam Seaber

Sydney & Shirley George, Earnst Roy, and George & Ruth Findley

Our parents and grandparents

My parents, Joseph & Lois Ashkar

My husband, Philip C. Murley

John S. Bradley III; and Bradley, Rineer & DiBella families

Our parents

## By:

The family

Ted & Carol Maurer

his wife, Judy

Kathy Hughes Seaber

Michael & Lucinda George and Robin Roy & family

Lynn & Herb Freeland

Karen A. Murley

Karen A. Murley

Bradley, Rineer & DiBella families

Barb & Jeff Greiner

## Presented in Honor of

My parents, Homer & Dorothy May and my brother, John May

Our Church Staff

Billie Reed

Jan Wiedemann

Sara Fisher

Our Church Staff

Our grandchildren

Bradley, Rineer & DiBella families

Jeff's parents, Kay & Gordon

## By:

Ginny May

Members of First UMC

Grandsons Kevin, Dominic & Mark

Grandsons Kevin, Dominic & Mark

Barry Rodeffer

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Barb & Jeff Greiner

Bradley, Rineer & DiBella Families

Mary Lou & Jeff Fisher