

Ephesians 4:3-6 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Prayer for the Saints (A Reminder Too!)**

You may know the hope to which he has called you the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Abundant Life / Eternal Life

The New Thing God is continually bringing forth.

**This is the reality** all the Saints inhabit.

**This is the reality** that the Apostle Paul prays we do not take for granted.

FINAL THOUGHTS Luke 6:20-31 p.1,601

*“Living as Saints”*

The Saints are to have a particular **relationship** with the world.

Ultimately not dependent on the things of the world  
but rather the new thing God is doing.

**(Beatitudes – Point to God’s New Thing)**

Hunger/Fed, Poor/Rich, Mourning/Laughter,  
Persecuted/Spoken Well of

To those who have – Be thankful/But passing away.

To those who lack – God’s new day is coming/Future hope.

**Let your wealth serve God’s justice, mercy, and kingdom purposes—because your true treasure is not here.**

**Which also has an effect on the relationships we have with others, including love of our enemies.**

This is hard.

Loving enemies is hard but we don’t do it alone.

Ephesians 1:19-20 God’s incomparably great power for us...is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead.

**Sermon Notes 11-02-2025**

FIRST THOUGHTS Psalm 149:1-5 p. 982

*“The Praise of the Saints”*

**Cause and effect while driving:**

Gas up – Able to drive an extended distance

People speed – Pulled over by police

Caffeinated drink – Drive with more alertness

**Cause and effect in Psalm 149:**

What causes people in Psalm 149 to be called Saints?  
(Other translations “godly ones” or “God’s faithful people”)

God’s hesed (covenant faithfulness)

Israel becomes God’s hasidim — God’s holy, sanctified ones.

**(Before they have done anything,  
it’s who they are in relationship to God)**

God as their “Maker” (ongoing not just Creator i.e. new thing)

God as their “King” (ruler and covenant protector)

Which in turn provides the people’s salvation.

**To the effect of the Saints praising God.**

FURTHER THOUGHTS Ephesians 1:11-23 p. 1,818

*“The Reality of the Saints”*

The diversity of lives of those we remember today.

Obituary Excerpts.

All of these with their diverse pasts were connected together here at First United, connected to us as well.

**And in reality**, were connected to us in Jesus Christ as fellow Saints even before we ever met.

**This is the reality** we celebrate today, that in Christ we are united with all the Saints of all times in places. Our common relationship in Christ overcomes both distance and time.

**We/You in Ephesians 1**

In him we were also chosen...in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ...And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

*Prayerfully, openly engage in relationships  
through Christ's love."*

**CONTACT INFO**

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**PRAYER LIST**

Donnie McKeehan, Patty Geiger, John Nimmon, Pam Nelson Stambaugh, Rev. Jim Richards, James Ferriss, Jody Kann, Nancy McCullough, Catherine Bitner, Family of Dorothy Drescher.

**Prayer Persons:** John denHartog-717-263-4646  
1322 Third Ave. Chambersburg PA 17202

**Local Church:** Christian Life Comm- Steph & Van Hussey

**Presbyterian:** Health Care Chaplains- Howard West

**November Oak Leaves** are on the hallway table, on the church website, and have been sent out via email & mail.

**Pastor Vern has informed Session of his intention to retire** from full time Christian Ministry at the end of November 2026. See the Pastor's Notes in the November Oak Leaves for more information.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>** today is the **All-Saints Communion Service** where we remember those of faith who have gone before us to be with the Lord. Especially members of our church family who have died this past year.

**November 4<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. Community Life Committee** meets in Rhoades Hall.

**November 5<sup>th</sup> Mitten tree** goes up. We need hats, mittens, gloves & scarves for all ages. Deadline is December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**November 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Rhoades Hall.**

**Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>:** ALL church "Eat out" **at Hoss's** Steak and Seafood house in Carlisle - meet at the restaurant at **5:00pm** for good food and great fellowship.

**November 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregation Meeting** to receive the 2026 budget, vote on the 2026 Pastor's Terms of Call, and to vote for Elders, Deacons, and the Nominating and Auditing Committees. **Fellowship time to follow.**

**November 15<sup>th</sup>** You are invited to celebrate Mike and Elaine Frys 50th Wedding Anniversary with a dessert bar on Saturday, at 1stUP from 2-4. Please RSVP to Margie Fry at [sweetmargimae@gmail.com](mailto:sweetmargimae@gmail.com) or (717) 448-4404 by 11/1.

**November 26<sup>th</sup> 7pm Community Thanksgiving Service.**

**If you need transportation** to attend the Service, please let us know by speaking to a Deacon or see the sign-up sheet on the hall table.

**Anyone willing to provide transportation** please speak to a Deacon or see the sign-up sheet on the hall table.

**Your Deacons are:** Sally Ann McCrea, Dee denHartog, Donna Weer, Sarah Keiter, Deb Barrick and Bob Kovanic