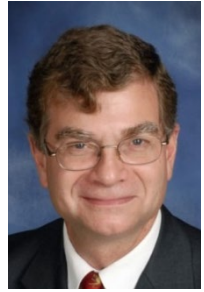


Pastor's Pen

News on Charge Conference 2025, our Ministries and some areas needing your help!



Dear Congregation,

“**Charge Conference**,” the official yearly business meeting of the church, was held Saturday, October 25, District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Hun Ju Lee presiding. The charge conference elects officers for the coming year, reviews the state of the church, approves the pastor’s annual compensation package, and conducts any other business required by the Annual Conference for the life of the church. The members of the Administrative Board constitute the charge conference, acting officially on behalf of the entire congregation.

Attendance this year was good. It was held in the sanctuary, and only for our church. We reviewed the various ministries of the church, celebrating such good works and outreach as Embrace Grace, the Alpha Course, the Vineyard and Community Lunch, Stephen Ministry, and our small group discipleship ministry, discussed the recent rental of the parsonage as an income generator, and recognized **the reelection of our faithful board members, as well as two newly elected members** Raquel Fisher, new president of the Young Adult Fellowship, and Eva Fisher, new president of the Youth Council.

We also recognized our **need to restart Christian education** ministry for children on Sunday morning. Embrace Grace, the Alpha Course, the Vineyard and our youth ministry have brought new families with children to the church who need to be discipled. The children are of varying ages. We have evening ministries for middle and senior high youth, but there is no current Christian ed ministry for pre-school or elementary children. We’re working to change this.

We are grateful for those who signed up to help with children’s ministry in September. They are already helping run children’s ministry during the Sunday morning Alpha course this fall. We want to extend that ministry to all ages after the completion of Alpha. We will need more volunteers to make that happen. **Please prayerfully consider volunteering** to serve if you are at all able,

and sign-up when children's ministry is next highlighted. Jesus loves the little children, and it's a blessing to be his hands and feet to extend that love to the new children and their families who are coming into our midst.

Our call to renewed children's ministry highlights another need: we must get our staff, ministry leaders, and all volunteers who want to help with children, youth and vulnerable adults **trained or retrained in the "Safe-Sanctuary" policy** of the church. This training teaches basic ethics for church leaders, safe boundaries for ministry with children, youth, and vulnerable adults, as well as various procedures to be followed in the event of emergencies and difficulties. The training is **REQUIRED** and must be renewed for all volunteers and staff every three years. Anyone who wishes to begin or continue volunteering or helping with children or youth ministry must take the next training, which will be offered on **Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall**. More details can be found in the pages that follow.

At Charge Conference, the District Superintendent highlighted some challenges which go with our new DBA (*doing business as*) name, **"Christ Fellowship Church."** He recognized we are in the lawsuit to exit the UMC, but reminded us that while we wait, we are still part of the denomination and cannot completely remove its identifiers from our signage. Trustees will be considering carefully how to legally conform to what is required in this interim period, while still maintaining the new course and direction we have set. Please keep the matter in your prayers and be encouraged we are continuing to move in the new direction we believe the Lord is leading us, despite challenges and obstacles.

Alpha, Embrace Grace, the Vineyard, and our Youth Ministry are reaching new people for Christ. It is exciting to see the evidence of revival, and of God's Holy Spirit moving in our midst. But the enemy is not sleeping. We must be constantly vigilant not to fall for his tricks and attacks. We must keep the shield of faith before us, and keep being kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other as God in Christ has forgiven us, united in showing hospitality and kindness to new folks God sends our way, giving no foothold to the devil. Keep studying the scriptures and putting them into practice, for they are able to make you wise for salvation. Be fervent in prayer, always filled with hope, and united in God's love.

On a different note, I want to thank everyone for your expressions of love and support and the beautiful glass plaque you gave us as the church recognized Lisi and I and our children on Laity Sunday in honor of our 20th anniversary with you. Hard to believe we have been in ministry here together since July 2005! We are blessed in so many ways to be part of FUMC/Christ Fellowship Church. Thank you for your encouragement and support. We pray God's rich blessing on all of you, and on all of us as we continue in ministry together for the Lord.

Yours in the love of Christ! Dr. Chris Fisher



Worship & Preaching Schedule November – December 2025

Sunday Worship: 9:00AM Live & Online

11:00 AM Coffeehouse Worship in Fellowship Hall

Saturday Worship: Live at 6:00 PM

9 AM Theme: *Genesis, God and Science*

Coffeehouse:

11:30 Alpha Course 2025 (Thru Dec. 14)

- Nov 2** ***All Saints Day with Holy Communion***
9:00 AM – “The First and the Last Adam”
11:00 AM – Coffeehouse Worship (no Alpha today)
- Nov 9** ***Anniversary Sunday***
10:00 AM – *Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. Reid Thomas*
- 11:30 AM – Anniversary lunch and Thanksgiving
Feast sponsored by the Community
Lunch Team.
(No Alpha Session Today; resumes Nov 16)
- Nov 16** ***23rd Sunday after Pentecost***
9:00 AM – Genesis, God and Science: Genesis 2
11:30 AM – Alpha
- Nov 23** ***Thanksgiving Sunday***
9:00 AM – Genesis, God and Science: Genesis 3
11:30 AM – Alpha
- Nov 30** ***1st Sunday in Advent***
9:00 AM – Genesis, God and Science: Genesis 4-5

11:30 AM – Alpha

Dec 7 ***2nd Sunday in Advent with Holy Communion***
9:00 AM – Genesis, God & Science: Genesis 6-8
11:30 AM – Alpha

Dec 14 ***3rd Sunday in Advent***
9:00 AM – God, Genesis & Science: Genesis 9
11:00 AM: Coffeehouse Worship
11:30 AM – Alpha Session 6

Dec 21 ***4th Sunday in Advent***
9:00 AM – Genesis, God & Science: Genesis 10
11:30 AM – **SPECIAL PROGRAM**
“CHRISTMAS WITH THE CHOSEN”
All-church movie experience, Potluck lunch

Dec 24 ***Christmas Eve Worship (Wednesday evening)***
7:00 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Dec 28 ***First Sunday After Christmas***
10:00 AM – Only One Worship Service

Jan 1 ***HAPPY NEW YEAR!!***



Communion Offerings

Nov 2 The Vineyard
Dec 7 Pastor's Discretionary Fund



123rd Anniversary Sunday: November 9, 2025

Combined Worship: 10 AM

Thanksgiving Theme Lunch: Noon

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Reid Thomas

Our 123rd Anniversary is here! We will celebrate together on Sunday, November 9 with one combined service at 10 AM, lunch to follow at Noon.

Our guest preacher is Rev. Dr. Reid Thomas, who lives in Lexington, Kentucky with his wife Amy, where he serves as a teacher and professor at Asbury College. Dr. Thomas served as youth pastor at our church in the early 1990s, Amy closely helping. We are delighted to welcome them back this Anniversary.

This year's Anniversary Lunch is a special combined event with our Community Lunch ministry. Community lunch is usually held

2nd Saturday of the month, reaching area residents with a complimentary lunch and fellowship. This year, in honor of our anniversary, we are combining the two meals by inviting the community lunch regulars to join us for Anniversary Sunday. Thanks to Kelly Daly and her team for their effort to help make this possible. Thanksgiving meal theme. Kelly will appreciate all volunteer help she can get! Call the office if you can help.



**ALL CHURCH MOVIE EXPERIENCE
THE CHOSEN'S CHRISTMAS SPECIAL:
"HOLY NIGHT" on DECEMBER 21**



Everyone is invited to enjoy this church family Christmas experience of The Chosen's "Holy Night" on Sunday, Dec. 21, 11:30 AM, in Fellowship Hall. Free admission. Bring a potluck dish and a plate of your favorite Christmas Cookies to share. Fried chicken, drinks, and movie popcorn will be provided.



What's Happening in the Lawsuit

Nothing new to report. The trial is still set to begin on **March 30, 2026**. The judge has blocked out 7 days for it. While we wait, let's keep our eyes on the Lord and keep doing the work of the Kingdom! Live as faithful disciples, keep praying, share the good news, worship fervently, do the good works God has given you to do. Pray for our lawyers and for those who oppose us. Ask the Lord for a favorable outcome.



!!URGENT!!
MANDATORY “SAFE SANCTUARY” TRAINING
(FIRST-TIME & RENEWAL)
FOR ALL STAFF AND ALL VOLUNTEERS IN
CHILDREN’S & YOUTH MINISTRY
Sunday, January 11, 10:30 AM

It is time to renew and/or receive first-time “Safe-Sanctuary” training. This is mandatory for all staff and for all volunteers in children and youth ministry, or those working with vulnerable adults. This is required whether you are new to volunteering or have had the training before (it must be renewed every three years).

The training covers basic ministry ethics, safe boundaries for volunteers, state reporting requirements concerning various types of harm and abuse, internet safety standards, and procedures to be followed in the event of emergencies, crisis situations, and other ministry difficulties. Anyone who wishes to begin or continue volunteering or working with children or youth ministry **MUST TAKE THE NEXT TRAINING**, which will be offered on **Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall**. Light lunch included. The training will be updated to account for culture and ministry changes, including:

- 1) Boundary expectations for staff and ministry volunteers.
- 2) Background check requirements.
- 3) New Internet risks and safety protocols in the church context.
- 4) State mandated reporting requirements for suspected abuse, threat of suicide, and other personal crises.
- 5) Chain of command and confidentiality expectations for reporting issues to church leaders.

Please make every effort to attend this vital training if you wish to be involved in any way helping in ministry with children, youth, or vulnerable adults. A make-up session will be offered for those who due to emergency are unable to attend. Current staff and volunteers will receive a letter of reminder in mid-December. Thank you.



Please Help Us with Your Online Worship

Dear Friends, if you are watching our Sunday worship services online, we're glad you are tuning in. Drop a comment from time to time to let us know you tuned in. If you can get here, please try to come. Online worship is a nice supplement to being part of the church, but it should not be a long-term replacement for meeting together in person. Being together in the body is the best way and sometimes the *only* way we can actually love each other and encourage each other in faith.

If you are blessed by the church, kindly consider giving to support it. You can give through the church's website (www.havencfc.org), or through the **QR code** in this newsletter.



ORDERING SHIRTS WITH THE NEW LOGO



Church shirts with our new logo are available in various colors, sizes, and cloth types. If you would like to order one, order forms are still in the foyer. Baseball caps are also available. The last day to order this time around is Anniversary Sunday, 11/9/25.



Church Prayer Ministry Updates

9 Things to Pray about in Nov – Dec 2025

- 1) Pray for those in authority everywhere, in the church and among the nations, for peace for the sake of the Gospel.

- 2) Pray for the spread of the Gospel, including in hostile countries. Pray for persecuted Christians in Nigeria, and for the peace of Jerusalem.
- 3) Pray for your brothers and sisters in the church, for strength and endurance in faith, for help, encouragement, and healing.
- 4) Pray we will be faithful and bold in sharing the Gospel! Pray for our outreach ministries, for our church leaders, and for the missionaries and outside ministries we support.
- 5) Pray for salvation for the people of our county who do not know the Lord.
- 6) Pray for our work to renew and develop Children's ministry, for our youth and young adult ministries and their leaders, and for all our small groups and outreach ministries, the Vineyard, the Community Lunch, Embrace Grace, and Alpha.
- 7) Pray for the lawyers at the NCLL who represent us in the civil lawsuit, and for those who oppose us.
- 8) Pray for the sick, those in prison, for our nursing home and shut-in members, for those who are in trouble or in need.
- 9) Pray God will fill you with his Spirit and give you opportunity to share kindness with others in word and deed, remembering what Jesus said: "Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me."

Weekly prayer team ministry continues.

We continue to call our members to join the prayer rotation of praying for a week, one hour each day. We ask you to pray for the Kingdom of God to come more fully in our church and community.

An invitation to spend concentrated time with God each week:

Consider spending serious time alone with God each day in prayer and searching the scripture. Your whole day will be blessed.

Do you have a testimony to share?

Please consider sharing your story as part of our faith-stories series. Contact the office at office@havenfirstumc.org if you want to share.

Kairos Update

Doug O'Connell

A huge thank you to all of you who prayed during our recent 3 day Kairos retreat at Allenwood Federal Correctional Institution (FCI). This retreat originally scheduled for Feb. and then scheduled for April has been a spiritual battle. Your prayers are what helped break the prison open so we could minister to the men, some of whom have been incarcerated for decades.

We showed up on Monday at 11:30 prepared to meet the 29 men who signed up, and get to know them from noon – 2:30. Shortly after we arrived they had “recall” which is like a lock down, and we were told to go home, come back tomorrow. Tuesday morning we showed up at 6:30, and again got half way through security when the prison went on lockdown due to fog. Told to come back at 10:00.

We finally got in but only 7 participants attended. The chaplain even made a special announcement of the Kairos retreat starting, but also explained they had been on lock down for the last 4 weeks, so some of the men were probably at commissary, or just enjoying the outside, which they hadn't seen.

Wednesday was much better, with 17 men showing up on time. They were all engaged and most were quite talkative – definitely not the norm. Men opened up immediately – also not the norm – talking about their faith walk, and their hopes. Thursday had 14-18 participants, in addition to us 14 volunteers. We got to sit and pray with the men at our table families. One of the brothers asked for prayers for his mom who was in rehab. She had apparently been in rehab several other times – all unsuccessful. Prior to his incarceration, one of the brothers shared he had what he described as “half faith” – a believer, but not so much faith that it changed his life, or kept him out of trouble. Now he claimed to be fully committed to Jesus, and looked forward to staying out of trouble when he got out.

Some of the feedback at “open microphone” at the end of the retreat was:

- “I was in a dark place. I felt that no one on the outside cared at all about me. Then I read the names on the prayer wheel.

I realized there were a lot of Christians who DID care about me – enough to pray for me even though they didn't know me. It impacted me deeply.”

- One of the men, who looked really tough, with tatoos all over his face, shaved head, and neck, got up and spoke. “I went through a Kairos weekend at Allenwood USP (max security prison) 20 years ago on Feb. 21. It touched me deeply. Every Feb. 21 I pray for Kairos and the work they're doing.”
- I had met one of the brothers at a one day retreat we held back in April. All he did all day was complain about how Allenwood was the worst prison he'd ever been in. The 3 days of our retreat, he was always upbeat and smiling. I never heard him complain once. One of the other volunteers commented on the turn around they saw in him.

Thanks again for your prayers, they made a huge difference! Please keep praying for the men who participated, for the 12 guys who signed up but didn't participate, and for the church inside all 3 prisons in Allenwood.

WEEKLY PRYER MINISTRY

November 2-8: Liz Wallace

November 9-15: David Williams

November 16-22: Lisa & Fred Yuengling

November 23-29: Ruth Noecker

November 30- December 6: Jean Twardzik

December 7-13: April Bergen

December 14-20: Kristy Kraft

December 21-27: Darlene Beers

December 28- January 3: JoAnn Daum



Tis the Season to be Thankful!

Can you feel it in the air? Yes, it has gotten a little colder. Time to get the winter weather clothing out of storage and put the warm weather in that same box. There – just helped you with a little storage maintenance.

Along with the colder weather, there are the seasons that remind us of the many reasons to be thankful for. Family, friends, health, purpose. But most of all – God! God gives us reason and a purpose that brings together all the other things in our life – Love for one another as He loved us.

Our youth have been showing that kind of love these past couple months. They gathered at the flagpole of their schools on September 24th to pray for their peers, teachers, facility and community during the annual See You at the Pole event.



They face painted kids and help families paint their pumpkins at the annual Schuylkill Haven Pumpkin Patch on October 19th.

Meanwhile, they have been learning what it means to be 'One of a Kind' (this month's lesson). Finding out that they are special in God's eyes even when

the world might think differently. Knowing they have a purpose even when they may feel left out of other things. We also started a monthly series with Dr. Elizabeth Fisher (yes, our own Lisi Fisher) on overcoming obstacles in our lives with faith in God.





Now this is not without some fun and games. October 25th, we ventured to the Roller Roost for some skating, arcades and laser tag (thankfully, we all left unscathed). On November 16th, we join up with Bethesda

Church at the JAM Center for some Nerf battle and some craft decorating. We'll have Thanksgiving break (Nov 24 to Dec 6) before we gather a few more times and celebrate together (currently Dec 21st) for a Youth Christmas.

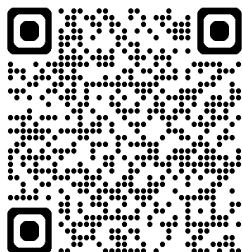
Plans are still being thought out for 2026. There may be some change up from the trend of the past few years but plans to be eventful and fruitful. We will continue to keep you updated via text group and Flocknote. We do ask you to please contact us promptly with sign-ups or weekly gatherings, as we need to know about transportation and food.

Updates to the calendar will be relayed both on the Youth Ministry's webpage <https://www.havenfirstumc.org/youth-ministry> and via text or email.

God Bless,

David and Youth Ministry Support

Want to participate in youth events? Do we have your emergency contact information? To help us be ready for anything (mostly positive), we need to have an updated permission/emergency contact/photo release form. Use the QR Code below to open and fill the form.



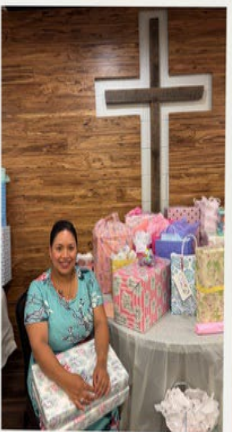
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Thank you to everyone who participated in Operation Christmas Child. **Please remember that boxes are due by Sunday, November 9th** (Anniversary Sunday) so that they may be shipped in time for Christmas!

Just a kind reminder that our Moms on Mission (MoMs) Group will be on *Christmas Break* for the month of December. We encourage you to take this time to enjoy the season with your family. We look forward to seeing you again on **Tuesday, January 6** from 6-7:15 PM.





Our Embrace Grace Mamas & Team say THANK YOU!!!

I want to thank our Christ Fellowship Church family for their support, prayers, and gifts for our Embrace Grace shower again this year. Your support of this ministry is so awesome. We couldn't have



done it without you. The young women are overwhelmingly grateful to our church family and so am I. Again, this year I heard them say..." But they don't even know me!" You have shown the Mamas that you are living your faith. We are seeing the fruits of this ministry through your faithfulness. Several of the women are now walking with Jesus and attending services and Alpha. Again, thank you to all. May God bless you abundantly. ~Nancy Kraft



I send a sincere thank you for your incredible generosity. Words cannot express how you touched our hearts. Our mamas are truly grateful for your prayers, and your expressions of love to them & their babies. Blessings, April



A big thank you to anyone who contributed to our Embrace Grace shower. The young mamas were blessed by your generosity and overwhelmed by your love. We are so grateful to those of you who attended the shower and mingled



with these special women. They were touched by your warmth and loving spirit. How wonderful it is to be part of a community of believers that are truly the hands and feet of Jesus! I praise God for all of you! Your Sister in Christ, Ann Moyer



I just wanted to take a moment to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for the beautiful baby shower you threw for me. Every detail, every smile, and every kind word made me feel so deeply loved and supported. I truly could not have asked for a more special day. Your generosity and thoughtfulness mean more to me than I can express. Each gift and gesture reminded me of how blessed I am to be part of such a caring and faith-filled congregation. I felt God's love shining

through each of you that day, and it filled my heart with so much gratitude and peace. As I prepare to welcome this little blessing into the world, I am so thankful to know my baby will grow up surrounded by such a wonderful church family. God's hand is clearly at work through this community, and I'm endlessly grateful to be a part of it.

With love and appreciation,

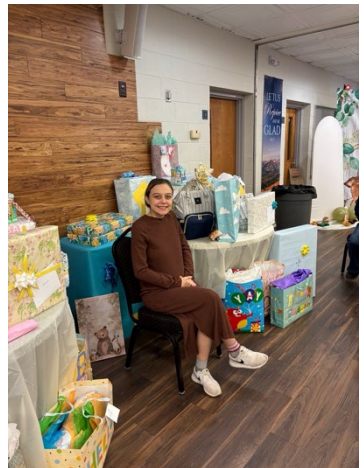
Haley Kanger



I would just like to say thank you to everyone who helped and showed up. It means a lot to me and Jose. I wouldn't have gotten anywhere without you guys, and I appreciate this little family I have so much. The love and support are well needed. Thank you to everyone who got me things and made my baby outfits and quilts I am so filled with tears of joy, and the blessings are really beautiful. I can't wait to see everyone hopefully again soon! Thank you everyone for noticing me when you don't even have to know me to love me. It is amazing. I'm thankful for the blessings and family I have made.

With love and gratitude,

Alina



I wanted to take a moment to send a heartfelt thank you to the lovely women who welcomed me into the Embrace Grace group, and to the entire Christ Fellowship Church—both those who attend in person and those who watch online. Before arriving, I had only heard about the pastor and the church—how it's a congregation filled with people who love the Lord, love children, and are just genuinely kind. Now, I get to witness that for myself through attending Alpha on Sundays, and even more so during the baby shower. I truly wasn't expecting anything. I didn't think the turnout would be what it was. But God showed me—once again—that He is in everything. His intentionality takes my breath away. I am so thankful to Pastor Fisher, his wife, and the entire church for providing a bigger car seat for my growing girl. It's beautiful and was such an incredible surprise—the final gift I opened, and truly the icing on the cake! And a special thank you to Ann for gifting us the highchair, just in time for her journey into eating solids. I can't thank everyone enough for each and every item we received. God made sure she got exactly what she needed for this season. My mind was blown over the weekend as I gazed at a table set aside just for us—so many beautifully wrapped boxes and bags, toys, clothes, and even handmade items woven with such precision, care, and love. It reminded me of how the Lord knits us together in our mother's womb—with beauty and attention to detail. I've attended many churches, but I've never been to one like this—where people truly have a heart to serve and a heart for others. I thank God daily for what He's doing in my life and for leading me to this town. It's all Him.

I hope to meet more members as time goes on, but the ones I've already met have been some of the kindest. Thank you for welcoming me and my baby girl, Nasirah, with such open arms. We send you all our love, and again, thank you for showering us with so many thoughtful gifts—we love every single one. Most of all, thank you for loving on us during this journey. It truly does take a village.

*Many blessings, Kiana, Nasirah,
Nazaiah & Mario Perez*



Methodist Women Ministries

Upcoming Events

November

9th- regular meeting to discuss upcoming Alpha meal and Harvest Home events. 1 pm in Room 6.



22nd Sat. night Service and Sunday **23rd**-Thank Offering and food collection for the Vineyard. The second offering will be taken during the last hymn of the service.

Requests for the Vineyard: soups, stews, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, cereals, peanut/nut butters, kitchen trash bags, dishwashing liquid, shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste/toothbrushes.

23rd- Also providing Alpha meal – 11:30am- If you would like to help serve or provide a dessert, please let Jean or Sharon Krammes know.



December

9th- Christmas luncheon at Roman Delight- 11:30am. Please contact Linda Wagner by Nov.30th, if you are interested in attending.

Thank you

Many thanks to all who contributed to the collection for the Providence Place hymn and sing a-long. Blessings were had by all.

Finance Committee Update

So far, to date, 34 Statement of Intent cards have been received offering approximately \$227,980 toward the 2026 budget. As a reference, our 2025 budget was \$469,159. If you have not returned your card yet, please do so. Thank you to all. We are very blessed to belong to a giving church.

Please Remember the members of our Church Family who can not be with us due to many different situations with your thoughts, prayers and perhaps a card or so:

Sandy Berger:

640 Clairmont, Schuylkill Haven, PA.

Barbara Brady:

5 Zerbe St., Cressona. PA.

Marga Conners:

118 Centre Ave., Schuylkill Haven, PA,

Shirley Emerich:

2200 First Ave. Apt.127, Pottsville, PA.

Eleanor Gicking;

216 Independence St. Apt. 108, Orwigsburg

Dolores Rubright:

33 Grist Mill Rd. Orwigsburg

Gloria Stein:

2200 First Ave. Apt. 210, Pottsville, PA

Carol Wagner:

Seton Manor, Orwigsburg, PA.

Shirley Yenilaitus:

61 Memorial Drive, Schuylkill Haven, PA.

JoAnn Moyer:

2200 First Ave. Apt. 129, Pottsville, PA.

Faith Community Nurse's Notes

Brought to you by Ann Moyer RN, FCN

Spiritual Health

We hear much said about our physical and mental health. As Christians, we should also be very concerned about our spiritual health. As a nurse for many years, I have seen the importance of a healthy body, mind, and soul. The three are very much connected and the health of one of those parts affects the others. In this newsletter I will be focusing on our souls (spirit).

Just as you practice good physical hygiene and fitness, you should practice good spiritual hygiene and fitness by feeding, strengthening, and renewing your faith.

Kerry Shook's article on How to Get Spiritually Fit, says it best; "The first step toward spiritual fitness is to make sure you are connected to the source of spiritual life-Jesus Christ. Only He has the power to change your life and He does it from the inside out as you abide in Him." Recognizing Jesus as your personal savior and striving to remain in relationship with Him each and every day is the center of spiritual wellness. John 15:4-5 (NIV) states "Remain in Me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."

To grow in relationship with God you need to communicate with Him, so pray,pray,pray! Connect and

talk to God wherever and whenever you can. Starting your day with Him is always a good practice. I know it helps me tremendously! Cast your cares upon Him, know that He hears you and walks with you through the good and bad of life.

Remember to offer up your thanks and praise in that prayer time. Having an attitude of gratitude is uplifting, even when times are difficult there is something in our life that we may be thankful for.

Read, memorize, and become familiar with Bible scripture. Get into the word, know God's truth and promises. Doing this will help you draw upon His word in times of temptation or when you are in need of assurance.

Spend time with fellow believers. Bible study groups as well as small groups are a wonderful way to deepen friendships, share your beliefs, and discuss Biblical values. They also help in the area of keeping you accountable.

Attend church and worship. Offer up your thanks and praise with other Christ followers. Put your faith into action. Be Christ like in serving others by utilizing your God given abilities and blessings. Walk in obedience to God and align yourself with His good and perfect will. Seek forgiveness. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23 (NIV).

Avoid negative people and situations. Limit negative influences like social media and toxic relationships. Cultivate positivity by remembering who you are in Christ. Keep a journal with prayer requests, blessings, favorite scripture and devotions.

Rest in Christ. Be still and allow God to be God. Listen for His still small voice. Allow Him to strengthen and

empower you so that you may effectively contribute to His kingdom.

Develop consistent, healthy spiritual habits to help grow your faith and allow for a robust spirit.

“Bodily exercise is all right, but spiritual exercise is much more important and is tonic for all you do. So exercise yourself spiritually, and practice being a better Christian because that will help you not only now in this life, but in the next life too.” 1 Timothy 4:8 (TLB)

Information from:

[https://derekcharlesjohnson.com/latest-news/posts/the benefits of stayingspirituallyfit](https://derekcharlesjohnson.com/latest-news/posts/the-benefits-of-stayingspirituallyfit)>Apr20,2017

<https://www.kerryshook.org/blog/howtogetspirituallyfit>>Jan4,2025

[https://corechristianity.com/resources/artivles/4waystogetspiritually fit](https://corechristianity.com/resources/artivles/4waystogetspirituallyfit)>Jan5,2017

*May the Light of Jesus bring Joy to your Heart and
Peace to your Soul this Christmas 🎄*

POINSETTIAS

Will once again beautify the Sanctuary this Christmas. If you would like to donate a plant as a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out this form and either place it in the offering plate or return it to the Church Office.



This year you can choose either red, pink, marble or white poinsettias. The cost for the poinsettia will be \$12.00. Please indicate color choice on the bottom of this form. ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025.

All checks or cash should accompany this order form-checks can be made payable to First UMC, earmarked "Poinsettias". Please note: The list of Poinsettias will only appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Your Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Red _____ White _____ Pink _____ Marble _____

I will take the flowers

Please see that a shut-in receives them.

420 Saylor Street
Schuylkill Haven, PA. 17972
Phone:570-385-3941 Fax:570-385-6842
office@havenfirstumc.org

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Dated Mail Please do not delay

The Circuit Writer

November / December 2025

Christ Fellowship Church

"Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"

In Person Sunday Service at 9:00 A.M. & Saturday Night at 6:00 p.m.

11:00 A.M. Coffeehouse Worship Service

You can also join us online at: www.havenfirstumc.org Or like us on Facebook and join us there.