

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 7, 2025
9:30 a.m. at First UMC
11:00 a.m. at Old First UMC

*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.
Readings in BOLD are to be read in unison.

Hymnals: UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Prelude and Fugue in D Major Handel
As you settle into the sanctuary, please open your phone and share the live service from your Facebook page as a way of inviting the larger community to worship.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please take a moment to fill out the Fellowship Pads located in the pews at the center aisle. Be sure to note the church family worshipping in the row with you.

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (9:30) More Like You TFWS 2167
More like you, Jesus, more like you.
Fill my heart with your desire to make me more like you.
More like you, Jesus, more like you.
Touch my lips with holy fire and make me more like you.
Lord, you are my mercy. Lord, you are my grace.
All my deepest sins have forever been erased.
Draw me in your presence. Lead me in your ways.
I long to bring you glory in righteousness and praise.

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP
We come, because we seek our God.
Every morning, every day, every evening,
every moment, God is with us.
We come, because we hunger for Christ.
Jesus will feed us with hope,
will replace our emptiness with grace.
We come, because we thirst for the Spirit.
Who fills our yearning for peace,
who ends the drought of justice.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST
We invite you to turn to the person next to you and greet them saying,
Peace be with you
You are invited to respond by saying,
And also, with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE Take Time to be Holy UMH 395

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Lord, the hungry come and we give them our unwanted can of food from our overflowing pantries. Lord, the thirsty come and we serve them unhealthy water from our lead faucets. Help us listen to the needs and hearts of others. Make us hungry and thirsty for righteousness! Grant us a passion for loving, knowing, and doing your Word; seeking your justice for our world. Teach us to stop

judging others and to begin to worry more about the distance between the life we live and the life you expect and desire of us.
Pour your heart into our grace-parched souls. Have mercy on us Lord and show us the way as we strive to be better. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM (9:30) Remember Me Adams
Chancel Choir

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

LESSON FROM THE PROPHET Isaiah 55:1-3 Pew Bible OT 685
For the Word of God in Scripture
For the Word of God among us
For the Word of God within us
Thanks be to God

HYMN OF RESPONSE You Who Are Thirsty TFWS 2132

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1-12 Pew Bible NT 4

SERMON Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith
Blessed Are Those Who Hunger & Thirst for Righteousness

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SHARING OUR PRAYERS
During this time, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation.
After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...
Lord, Hear Our Prayer

PRAYERS FOR ALL GOD'S BELOVED PEOPLE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION TFWS 2257-a (9:30)
UMH 13-14 (11:00)

GREAT THANKSGIVING SANCTUS TFWS 2257-b

CONSECRATION MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION TFWS 2257-c

BLESSING GREAT AMEN TFWS 2257-d

LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP OF SALVATION
Come and be filled with the body and blood of Christ, knowing you are beloved and rooted in that love as you go forth to love all God's children. We will serve by intinction. You are invited to come by the center aisle, receive a piece of the bread, dip it into the cup, and partake. Return to your seats by the side aisles. The chancel rail is always available if you would like to take some time to pray. You are invited to reflect in song as all are being served. There is gluten free bread and juice available at our 9:30 a.m. service.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION
A Place at the Table W&S 3149

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have revealed yourself to us. Now nourished at your table and strengthened by your Spirit, may we go into the world and offer your love and presence along our way in your name. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (9:30)

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD

*PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS UMH 94
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creature here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Having been blessed by you, Loving God, we will not waste our gifts but offer them back to you, so the parched throats might be soothed by your grace and the hungry might be fed by your bountiful love through the ministries of this church. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION When the Poor Ones UMH 434

*SENDING FORTH

*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLD (9:30)
Christ Beside Me TFWS 2166, vs. 2
Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me-shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising-light of my life.

*POSTLUDE Voluntary Heron
Please join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and fellowship.
An Adult Study is offered in FUMCO's Wesley Hall at 11:00 a.m., located on the lower level of the building

Our Service Of Worship Has Ended.
Our Worship Through Service Begins.

ALTAR FLOWERS AT FUMCO

Given in honor of Jenny Henderson's birthday by Jaxson & family.
Given in honor of Ryan Henderson's birthday by his family.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Welcome to this service of worship. We pray this service offered an opportunity to engage with the Divine. If we can be of service to you in any way, please let us know. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining together with us, where we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AT FUMCO

- There are **hearing devices** to assist you to experience the service more clearly, with our streaming team, in the rear of the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up.
- A **rocking chair** is available for the comfort of parent and baby, in Blair Chapel, behind the pews.
- To access the **restrooms**, please exit the side door to the right of the lectern/chancel area. In the hall, make a left into Fellowship Hall and follow the signs.
- There are **infant changing tables** available in the restrooms.

The United Methodist Church is a Global and Connectional Church which welcomes and invites the church communities to share resources and ministries. The First UMC of Oakhurst and Old First UMC have been linked with the invisible thread of heritage and now by their pastor, Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith. All are invited to share in all our joint ministries, missions and prayers shared in this bulletin.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAMS THIS MORNING

Greeter/Usher at 9:30: Jeff Danielson/Jay Aretino

Acolyte at 9:30: Robert Scott

Lay Reader at 9:30: Carol Steinat

Lay Reader at 11:00: Garry Smith

Counters at 9:30: Patty Aria, John Montgomery, Judy Gorra

Counter at 11:00: Donna Ahrens

ANNOUNCEMENTS-FUMCO

Coffee cans-Wesley Nursery School is collecting 10.3 or 11 oz, coffee cans with plastic lids. You may leave them in the church office.

Annual Conference-October 26th at 1:30 p.m. at St. John's UMC, Hazlet. All are invited to attend this important meeting of our churches. (FUMCO & Old First.)

Mercy Center-is currently collecting canned pasta, SPAM, pancake mix, corn, pasta sauce, syrup, deodorant, bar soap, conditioner, & cooking oil.

Free Community Dinner-The next free spaghetti dinner is September 21st at 5 p.m. All are invited! Please help spread the word. If you would like to provide a dessert, call the church office, 732-531-1150. (FUMCO & Old First)

This Week We Hold in Prayer...



Our churches, leaders, & ministries. All neighbors, friends, and all God's children.

COMFORT & HEALING: Avery Fallon, her parents, Tom & Katie and her grandparents, Barbara & Len Gruezke, Kristine Dudley & family on George's passing. The Steneck family on Lynn's passing. The Debruin family on Ruth's passing. Ed Ahrens as he continues to recuperate. Terry Frazier as she continues to build strength after successful surgery. June Holder, Debbie (Bette Dibling's friend), Arlene Shaw (Tammy's aunt), Rose Byrne, Jackie Gilman, Ed Foran, George Murphy's brother Charles, Ginny & Vicky (Tammy's cousins).
OUR HOMEBOUND: David Miller, Bev Itell, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould
SUNNYSIDE AT WALL: Nancy Burt

**FUMCO has a team of prayer warriors, known as the Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer need, please contact the FUMCO office.
**If you know someone who is in need of pastoral care, please contact our pastor, Jill Hubbard-Smith 732-209-4563 or revjmhs@gmail.com.

Please Join Us In Mission and Ministry

where together we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.

FUMCO: First UMC at 103 Monmouth Rd. Old First UMC: 197 Locust Ave.

Today

Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m., FUMCO
Service of Worship in Person & Posted	11 a.m. Old First

Monday, September 8

AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m., FUMCO
Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m., FUMCO
12 Step Study – Fellowship Hall	7 p.m., FUMCO

Tuesday, September 9

Women's Covenant Group – Library	8:30 a.m., FUMCO
Spirit Seekers – Library	10:30 a.m., FUMCO
Naranon – Wesley Hall	11 a.m., FUMCO
Scouts – Fellowship Hall	7 p.m., FUMCO
Lydia Circle – Wesley Hall	7 p.m., FUMCO

Thursday, September 11

Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m., FUMCO
Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	6:30 p.m., FUMCO

Friday, September 12

AA – Wesley Hall	7 p.m., FUMCO
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Sunday, September 14

Service of Worship in Person & Online	9:30 a.m., FUMCO
Service of Worship In Person & Posted	11 a.m., Old First



First UMC of Oakhurst

...is a community of faith committed to Christ, seeking to learn the needs of others and responding with Christian love.

9:30 a.m. Worship Every Sunday Morning In Person & Streaming

103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

732-531-1150

FUMCOOakhurst@outlook.com

Oakhurst.umchurches.org

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOOakhurst>

Follow us on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

CCLI #1588788

Pastor: Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

Secretary: Joy More

Director of Music: Denise Furda

Sexton: Lisa Costello

Streaming Team: Chip Stoll, Rob Crowther, Johnny Tocci

Director of Wesley Nursery School: Noel Worthington

Music Director Emeritus: Gary Farquhar

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**11:00 a.m. Worship Every Sunday Morning In Person
& Posted to Facebook**

197 Locust Avenue

West Long Branch, NJ 07764

office@oldfirstumchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Jill Marie Hubbard-Smith **Music Director:** George Murphy

Sexton: Bill Strong **Administrative Assistant:** Donna Ahrens

Streaming Team: Alex Eckert & Justin Wortmann