

The First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg

18 Market Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837

www.first-presby.org T: 570-524-4419

Beginning Sunday, September 9th: Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

Greetings!

It's been said that Alexander the Great, at the age of 33, sat in his tent and wept. He believed there were no more worlds to conquer. He had defeated and then stabilized the Greek city-states, and consolidated the Persian Empire from Asia Minor and Egypt to India. At that point, he saw no more kings to defeat, no more empires to be won, and he cried tears of frustration.

Although we might sympathize with Alexander, he overlooked an important fact. Every day there is some new land to conquer. Every day in the kingdom of the soul, there is some new empire to challenge us to new endeavors of character and commitment.

Our new church year is starting soon. It is an uncharted land before us. We don't know what the year will be like- it's new territory. Be we know it can be a good land. It will have both mountains and valleys. There will be some dry spots but also some lush green areas. I'm confident it will be a good land because I know the landowner. He travels with us and delights in GOOD land.

My prayers as we begin this new journey together is that God, the landowner, will work in our hearts, our souls and our Church to bring blessings and fulfillment, richness and joy. I know there will be challenges but I also know that "greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4) May we move forward in confidence.

Blessings,

Pastor Barb



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

September 5

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

September 9

8:45 a.m. **RALLY DAY!**

Ushers This Month

Jim Apple

Jon Miller

Rick Gathman

Wayne Samuelson (Sept. 2nd, 23rd)

Additional volunteers are needed for this month as well as October. Please notify the Church office if you are able to help.

Greeters

September 2

Mark & Leslie Temple

September 9

Atwood & Gail Ross

September 16

Don & Nancy Steckel

September 23

Peg Bouton

September 30

Mark Heid & Family

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

- 1 Cameron McDowell, Judith Ziegler, Vickie Ziegler
- 2 Lorri Bruckhart, Alice Marquart, Sharon Pearce, Kim Wagner
- 4 Carolyn McSween, Karen Shurtliffe
- 5 Tom Hans
- 6 Annie Lesher, Allie Mast
- 8 Richard Erdley, Rob Royer
- 9 Paula Young
- 10 Audrey Kalcich, Jan Peterson, Samantha Reif, Bart Shaffer, Kimmy Tarves
- 11 Bill Bernard, Richard Cooper, Mark Temple, Chris Zellmann
- 12 Kelsey Roussel
- 13 Kirk Jarrett, Tom Miller
- 14 Jackie Mast
- 15 Liv Heid
- 16 Lisa Kraus, Barbara Yocum
- 17 Sidney Dame, Benjamin Redding
- 18 Sarah Graber
- 19 Rachel McVicar
- 23 Crystal Reid
- 24 Landon Jarrett
- 28 David Goehring, Robby McTammany
- 29 Sawyer Kovaschetz

September Anniversaries

- 1 Bob & Nancy Martin
- 4 Keith & Pat Ringkamp
- 8 Jack & Rebecca Mignot



In the Community

Dinner By The River Teams

September 6

Sacred Heart

September 13

Zellmann Team

September 20

Shady Grove

September 27

Christ Lutheran

Looking for ways you can be involved in the Children's Ministry?

Contact Carolyn McSween to find out more about volunteer opportunities with First Presby Kids!

carolynmcsween@gmail.com

or

570-939-2119



September Anniversaries (continued)

19 John & Leslie Mutschler

24 Richard & Sharon Beaver

25 Nick & Amanda Kovaschetz

26 Scott & Kristin McVicar



Nursery Volunteers

September 2: Kathy Gathman

September 9: Graver Family

September 16: Volunteer needed

September 23: Volunteer needed

September 30: Volunteer needed

Kids Church Volunteers

September 2: Mrs. McSween

September 9: Mrs. McSween

September 16: Mrs. McSween

September 23: Volunteer needed

September 30: Mrs. Heid



Meeting Reminders

September 4

6:30 p.m.: Congregational Life

September 10

7:00 p.m.: Christian Ed

September 17

7:00 p.m.: Session, Deacon & Trustee

September 26

6:30 p.m.: Worship Life

It's time for us to update our photo directory!

We are partnering with Lifetouch for this important project. Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our Church and every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait. Our scheduled photography days and times are:



Wednesday, September 26th: 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 27th: 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, September 28th: 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 29th: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

You may sign-up online for a time slot at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/7s770tqg/> or call the Church office at 570-524-4419. Our directory won't be complete without you so please plan on being included, and help us celebrate our church family!

***Please note-** online sign-ups will be unavailable over the weekends so anyone without online access may use the paper sign-up sheet while attending worship on Sundays.

Coffee Hour

September 9- **RALLY DAY!**

September 16- Youth Group

September 23- Reif Family

September 30- Speake Family



Sundays from

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 5th at 6:00 p.m.

The Bell Choir will begin weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, September 5th at 6:00 p.m. Many reasons have been presented as to why people "can't" join the bell choir:



- "I've never played bells." – *There's a first time for everything and after the first time, you have experience and every time after that only adds to your experience.*
- "I can't read music." – *We've had ringers in the past that couldn't read music, but most people never know it.*
- "I can't get up in front of people." – *We are a group. You would never be alone unless you make that choice.*
- "I don't have time." – *We all have busy lives. With the relatively small time commitment of about 45 minutes per week, we are able to share our gift of music with the congregation 5-6 times per year.*

We would love to have some new faces join our team as we come together to make a joyful noise to God. Besides that, we like to have fun and laugh with each other. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susan Erdley or any Bell Choir member.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work." 1 Corinthians.

-Susan Erdley

Wednesday, September 5th at 7:30 p.m.



Are you looking for a way to assist within the life of our church? Do you like to sing? If so, I would like to personally extend an invitation to be a part of our **Chancel Choir** this fall. We are always looking for new faces and extra voices. It is **not** necessary to read music nor commit to a weekly basis in order to participate. The choir is comprised of many individuals who are from both musical and non-musical backgrounds. Our singers enjoy selections performed in 4 – 8 part harmony

and experience a variety of musical styles including: contemporary, gospel, classical, and spirituals.

The choir is a part of every service (except the summer months) including: Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunday. In addition, an annual Christmas Cantata is presented. Rehearsals take place Wednesday evenings from September through May. **Our first rehearsal will occur September 5 at 7:30 p.m.**

If you love to sing, please prayerfully consider joining us to sing unto the Lord!

-Jon Walz



Sunday, September 9th at 8:45 a.m.

It's the Sunday School Kick-off! You will not want to miss this!

Have you noticed that the days are getting shorter, college students are heading off to their campuses, and students are back in our local schools? Most of us do not want to see summer end. The good news is that this time of year brings new beginnings. For First Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, it means

new Sunday School classes! The kick-off for Sunday School is Rally Day and you will not want to miss this one! Rally Day is September 9th at 8:45 a.m. in the Great Hall. Breakfast is being served so bring your appetite! Pastor Barb Yorks will be bringing us a devotional and new Sunday School classes will be introduced. There will also be informational tables detailing upcoming events and activities. Please join us for Rally Day. Bring your friends and family. Most importantly, come learn about the opportunities Sunday School will provide, allowing you to connect with God and other Christians as we study the Bible. We look forward to seeing you!

-Christian Education Committee



Trainers Bible Study for Moms

Starting Monday, September 10th, we'll be meeting Mondays from 9:15-11:00 a.m. in the Himmelreich Library Reading Room (adjoining the Church). We'll be starting off this fall learning to become more deeply

rooted in God's faithful promises with a book study on "Gracelaced" by Ruth Chou Simons. (Books will be purchased through Trainers). All Moms welcome, no matter the ages and stages of your kids! Friends are also welcome! Childcare provided.

Ladies A.M. Bible Study

Starting Wednesday, September 12th, the Ladies A.M. Bible Study (formerly L.A.M.B.S.) will be meeting Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. All ages are welcome!



Fall 2018 Adult Sunday School Class Offerings (Sundays from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.)

Class	Dates	Location
Engaging the Scriptures	9/16 – 12/23	Room next to Financial Office
<p>A lively study of that morning's worship service scriptures, with background information presented by Session members. Get to know Session members, prepare for the morning sermon, and learn from God's Word in a discussion format. (Taught by Victor Vogel, Marcia Thomas, & Bonnie Troxell)</p>		
The 5,000 Year Leap - The Intersection of Faith & Freedom	9/16 – 12/23	Library
<p>Presenting the key principles of freedom that America's founders said must be perpetuated by any nation desiring peace, prosperity and freedom. Learn about the historic moment that changed the world! (Taught by Rick Gathman)</p>		
The Joys and Challenges of Christian Parenting	9/16 – 12/23	First room on left in Children's Wing
<p>Parenting is a very important responsibility. Come hear Christian parents share from God's Word, as well as their own experiences of the joys and challenges of the most important task any adult will ever do: raise Godly children. (Taught by Brent Papson)</p>		
New Member's Class	9/16 – 10/28	Library Basement
<p>Anyone considering becoming a member of the Church is welcome to meet members and leaders in the Church. It is a great opportunity to learn the format and doctrine of the Presbyterian Church. (Taught by Mary Kay Torretti)</p>		
Philippians	9/16 – 10/28	Chapel
<p>The Church is an incredibly exciting and challenging institution. The early Christian Church has so much to teach us about God's intentions and the role of the Church in bringing the lost to God. Paul wrote this letter to the Church in Philippi. The messages in this letter are timeless and speak to our Church today. (Taught by Dave Shrom)</p>		
Gifts of the Spirit	11/4 – 12/23	Great Hall
<p>The Spiritual Gifts Class offers the opportunity for everyone to explore the ways God is working in and through each individual to help them find their unique gifting. We all have special ways to be part of the body of Christ. The Biblical gifts listed in Scripture will be explored. (Taught by Pastor Yorks)</p>		

Adult Sunday School Questionnaire

Please help the Christian Education Committee to better serve you with adult classes that meet your spiritual, emotional and intellectual needs. Please fill out the following questionnaire and place it in the offering plate or return it to the Church office **by Sunday, October 7th**. **Thank you in advance for helping us to serve you.**

1. Have you attended adult Sunday School classes in the past? (Circle one)

Yes

No

2. Do you currently have a child/children who attend Sunday School? (Circle one)

Yes

No

3. What adult Sunday School classes have you attended in the last year? (Circle all that apply)

Engaging in Scripture

Romans

The Reformation: Why It Still Matters

Parenting God's Way

New Testament Study

The Couples Class

4. What other adult Sunday School classes have you attended in the past? Please list class titles or write a brief description.

5. What did you enjoy about adult Sunday School classes that you have attended? Be as specific as you can.

6. What did you not enjoy about adult Sunday School classes that you have attended?

7. What type of classes would you like to attend as we plan for future adult Sunday School classes?

8. Are you interested in teaching an adult Sunday School in the future? If yes, please briefly describe the course you would like to teach and include your contact information so we can follow up with you.

9. Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make to help with our planning?



Fall 2018



There's lots happening at First Presby Kids! Come and join us for the fun!



Sunday School

Sundays from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Christian Education Wing. For kids of all ages. Classes for babies through 5th Grade give kids a chance to dive into God's great story and learn about His love for them through hands-on fun! Don't miss "Coffee Hour" in the Great Hall following Sunday School, where kids (and adults, too) can enjoy a snack, meet up with friends and get their wiggles out before the 10:30 Worship Service.

Cherub Choir

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Music Room of the Wing. All ages. Start off the Sunday School hour by making a joyful noise! We meet to sing at 9:00 a.m. before kids go to their Sunday School classes at 9:15. The Cherub Choir also sings in the Worship Service at special times throughout the year!

Nursery

Always available during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service. Find the Nursery in the Christian Education Wing. Babies through age 2. Little ones have a place of their own to experience God's love through the special care and attention they receive in the Nursery, as moms and dads join us in Worship.

Kids Church

Following the Children's Message during the 10:30 Sunday Worship Service. Meeting in the Violet Room of the Wing. Ages 3 through 3rd Grade. Older kids can sign up to be helpers! At Kids Church we're getting to know Jesus and each other, learning about the wonderful truths in God's Word through lots of fun activities and music.

Trainers Playgroup

Mondays @ 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Blue Room of the Wing. Babies and kids of any age. While moms gather for fellowship and Bible study in the Himmelreich Reading Room, kids can play, learn and grow during this fun-filled morning.

Children's Story Hour

Tuesdays @ 10:30 a.m. in the Himmelreich Library (adjoining the church). For kids of all ages. In a cozy corner of the Reading Room, storybooks from old classics to new favorites are read aloud for children to enjoy. We end with a special craft!

Got an idea for the Children's Ministry? Want to become a volunteer? Have questions about a program or event? I'm just a call, a text or a click away and I'd love to hear from you.

Carolyn McSween | Director of Children's Ministry
firstpresbykids@gmail.com | (570) 939-2119

SAVE THE DATE!
Neighborhood Fall Festival
October 20, 2019
Noon - 3:00pm
On the Library Lawn at
First Presbyterian Church

The ministry of First Presby Kids is only possible with the help of ALL our awesome volunteers! It's because of you that we're "Growing In God Together!"
THANK YOU!!!



First Presby Youth Newsletter

Both Fuel and Refuge continued all summer, but we are gearing up for a big fall season ahead of us!

The week following Rally Day is when the Youth program officially kicks off for fall. The Middle school will be continuing their look at Romans. It can be a really theologically dense book, but it is choc-full of wisdom, God's promises to us, and what the foundation for our relationship with Christ should look like. Our high schoolers will be doing something a little bit different this fall – a book study! We will be going through the book "Love Does" by Bob Goff. It is an absolutely incredible book that relates incredibly well, but is also fun and full of the Lord's wisdom. "Love Does" is a New York Times best seller, and *by far* my favorite book.

Our before school breakfasts are also back the week of September 9th – bright and (very) early, there will be a breakfast with juice, pastries, chocolate chip pancakes and French toast cooked by yours truly every week. High school guys are invited every Wednesday and High school girls are invited every Thursday!

And for the high school guys, our Thursday night wing nights at the Lewisburg Hotel will continue through the fall as well.

Some big news – also beginning the week following Rally day, during the coffee hour time, there will be a time for contemporary worship down in the cave followed by a short devotional immediately after Sunday School. The youth are then invited to sit together during the service up in the balcony and join us for food together downtown after the service.

Finally, look out for an announcement about our 2019 Mission Trip Location! We're already very excited – and it's not too early to begin to pray for next summer's youth mission trip!

This fall as we kick off another year of programming, please be praying for our games - that they are full of fun and laughs; our time together - that it can continue to build strong relationships based on Christ; our lessons - that they reach each student in their own walk with Christ and leads a vibrant relationship with Christ. Finally, please pray for your kids and the students themselves - for their school day, sports, activities, family life, and personal, mental, and spiritual health. Thank you!

Matthew Rishell – Youth Director

Next Month:

Neighborhood Fall Festival

October 20, 2018 Noon-3:00 p.m.

Himmelreich Library Lawn

Mark your calendar for this special community event that will benefit the Summer 2019 Youth Mission Trip. Bring your family, friends and neighbors for the food and fun!

Donations are needed for the following items and can be dropped off at the church office:

Hot Dogs

Bottled Water

Mini Pumpkins

Apple Cider

Sodas

Balloon-Animal Type Balloons

Bake Sale Items

Bagged Apples

Face Painting Paints

Chips (Individual Size)

Popcorn

Also needed are people to assist at the activity booths. To be part of this ministry opportunity, please contact Alison in the Church office: 570-524-4419, or send an email to info@first-presby.org.



Future Events:

Guatemala Medical Mission Trip

January 19 – 27, 2019

The Guatemala Medical Mission Team is planning a trip to Guatemala for January 19-27, 2019. Please contact Amber Lind at 570-847-6200 or AmberRLind@gmail.com if you are interested. *No experience or medical skills required!*

In addition to team members with doctor and nursing skills, we also need people who can assist the doctors, work in the pharmacy, and play with the children! We are also looking for donations of over-the-counter medicine and vitamins as well as monetary donations used to purchase supplies to take to Guatemala.