

The First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg

18 Market Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837

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

Sunday Worship: Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

Pristine white snow. A 2019 calendar. The first page of a recently purchased novel. What do these items have in common? They represent a fresh start, a new beginning.

January 1 signifies a new year. We often celebrate this date by making resolutions: losing weight, exercising more, spending more time with friends and family...The list goes on. In our family we celebrate the gift of life because our grandson entered the world on January 1, 2013.

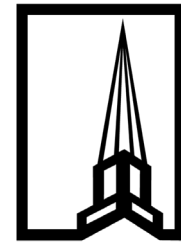
I always like to watch the ball drop at midnight and enjoy the new year from the first moments. But resolutions and celebration quickly fade. We are the same people at 12:01 AM 1/1 as we were at 11:59 PM 12/31. And we're a bit tired from staying up so late. We may also be tired because we drag our old worries, fears, negative patterns into the new year. But there's an alternative.

Instead of focusing on the time on the clock or the date on the calendar, how about directing our attention to the Creator of time? I celebrate my grandson Joseph's birth and each subsequent year he's grown. But, even more, I acknowledge the birth of the Christ Child. Because He came, everything is different. Because He lives within us, we have the potential for repentance, forgiveness and a truly clean slate. January 1 is a good time to start but, because of Jesus, each day there is the potential for a new beginning. Therefore, with Paul, we can forget what has gone before and look forward to what lies ahead, pressing on to reach the goal to which Christ is calling us.* Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Pastor Barb Yorks

*Philippians 3:13,14



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 1



Sunday, January 6

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion

6:00 p.m. Un-Hanging of the
Greens

Ushers This Month

Eric Schmidt

Richard Erdley

Mark Reif

Joseph Gallagher

Brad Zimmerman

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Birthdays

- 1 Noel Curtis, Marge Gill
- 2 Caroline Campagna
- 5 Mindy Lind, Wendy McTammany
- 7 Parker McDowell, John Mutschler
- 9 Roger Curran, Ken Jusko
- 12 Kathleen Schwieger
- 13 Ryan Graver
- 15 Alex Sabo, Zachery Vaji
- 17 Mary Shaffer
- 18 Christina Han
- 19 Nathan Vaji
- 21 Shawn Jones, Peggy Starkey
- 22 Karen Graber
- 23 Matt Reinhart, Jim Zaiser
- 24 Serena Decosmo
- 25 Corey Jusko
- 27 Kyle Guissanie
- 28 Robert Han, Judy Miller, Clint Shurtliffe
- 30 Seth Young

January Anniversaries

- 2 David & Judy Miller
- 9 David & April Shrom
- 11 Ken & Jeannie Lepley



Greeters

January 6

The Mebius Family

January 13

Bill & Beth Shutt

January 20

Ken & Corey Jusko

January 27

Richard & Peg Erdley

In the Community

Dinner By The River Teams

January 10

Shady Grove Team

January 17

Christ Lutheran Team

January 24

Shaffer Team

January 31

Storm Team

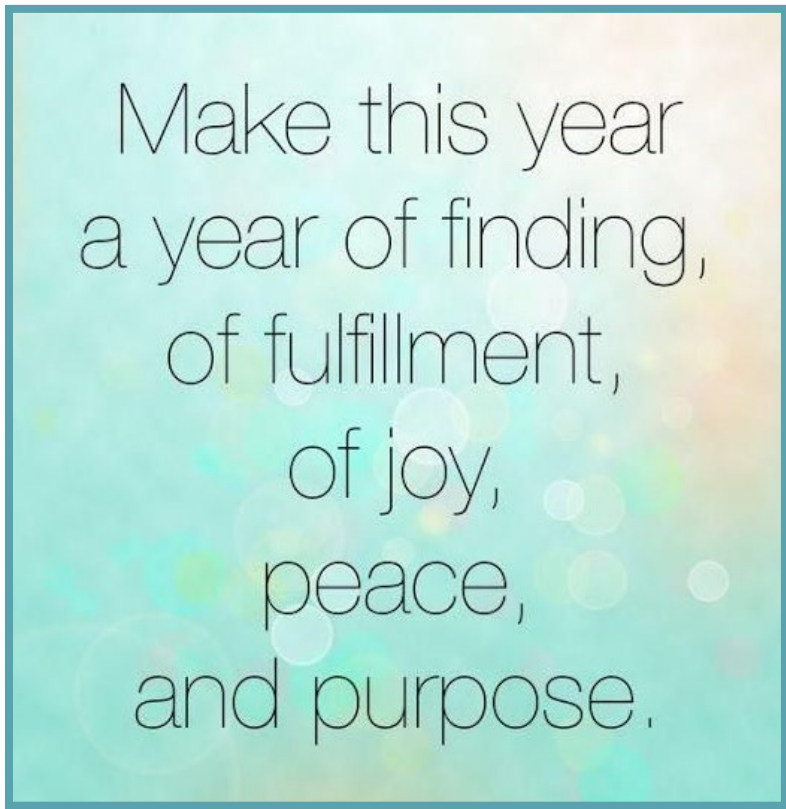
2019 Nominated Church Officers

Session: Don Steckel, Mike Pursley, Amie Reif, Gene Heid, Mark Speake, Marcia Thomas, Victor Vogel, Jessie Walsh, Rick Gathman, Bonnie Troxell, Mary Kay Torretti, Steve Mebius, Kathy Storm (alt.)

Deacons: Jan Temple, Peg Bouton, Barb Schmidt, Glenn Dobbs, Marilyn Gaver, Amber Lind, Ann Miller, Sharon Pearce, Pat Samuelson, Connie Moore, Mary Lou Rich

Trustees: Wayne Samuelson, Eric Schmidt, Craig Harley, Mark Heid, Bill Snyder, Katie Cavanagh, Sally Vogel, David Grill, Dan Wagner, Randy Storm (alt.)

The installation of new officers will take place during worship on **Sunday, January 13th**. Please plan to attend this service if you are being installed.



Meeting Reminders

Monday, January 7

7:30 p.m. Missions

Tuesday, January 8

6:30 p.m. Congregational Life

Monday, January 14

7:00 p.m. Christian Ed

Wednesday, January 16

6:30 p.m. Worship Life

Monday, January 21

6:45 p.m. Session, Trustees & Deacons

Coffee Hour

January 6 – TBD

January 13 – TBD

January 20 – TBD

January 27 – Thomas Family

Sundays from
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.



First Presby Youth Newsletter

Fuel, Refuge, and High School breakfasts are in full swing and going great. All-in-all, we are reaching roughly 70 high school students per week with our various youth programs.

Over the next month, we will be finishing “Love Does” by Bob Goff in Refuge and in Fuel, we will be going through the Gospel of John.

It's full steam ahead for the mission trip! Our bus is booked, our chaperones are in place, and we already have 16 spots filled for Woonsocket, RI.

It's not too late to sign up for the mission trip! A \$50 deposit reserves your spot to Woonsocket, RI from July 21-27th, but time is running out and so are the spaces! Feel free to send me an email or give me a call with any questions you may have.

We had our first annual Friendsgiving this year held at the Manse. What I originally planned to be roughly 20 students grew to close to 40 after a few days, but we ended up with roughly 50 students in all, crowded into the Manse – tables, chairs, and turkey taking up all the space we had to offer. Although it was a challenge, it was definitely a blessing as well.

Please continue to use smile.amazon.com in support of “First Presbyterian Church Lewisburg” as all money goes to this year's youth mission trip! We're all going to be shopping (perhaps more than we should) on amazon anyway, so [use smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), make sure that “First Presbyterian Church Lewisburg” is the charity you're supporting, and we get a portion of the final sale price – you don't have to pay more!

From January through May, look for the bus to Woonsocket in the parlor for another new fundraising opportunity. We would like you to sponsor a spot! We are asking for \$100 per spot – but if you'd rather partially sponsor the spot that is okay too. Each spot that is fully sponsored will be randomly assigned to a student going on this year's mission trip and they will be your prayer partner during our week in Woonsocket.

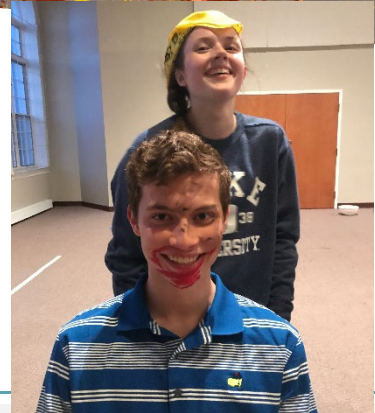
Breakfast for the high school is under way – Wednesday mornings at 7am for guys and Friday morning at 7am for girls at the Manse (14 Market Street) with juice, baked goods from Panera, chocolate chip pancakes, blueberry pancakes, and French toast cooked by yours truly.

As we begin a brand-new year in the coming weeks, please be praying for our youth. For their mental, physical, and spiritual health. That we are able to fundraise what we need for this year's mission trip, that our youth group continues to grow, and that all that we do points back to Christ. Thank you all and God bless!

Matthew Rishell – Youth Director

Would you like to be included in our weekly Youth Newsletter to stay up to date on all of our latest events and updates? Contact Matt at firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org

Enjoy a look back at some of our favorite moments from this past year!





Guatemala Medical Mission Trip

January 19 – 27, 2019

Our Guatemala Medical Mission Team is ready to head to Guatemala on January 19, 2019! In addition to taking trained medical staff to the villages, we also give out vitamins to the children and adults to supplement their diet, which consists primarily of corn tortillas and black beans. We try to leave everyone with a 3 month supply, but would LOVE to

give each person a 6 month supply to last them to when the summer trips visit the villages.

If you are interested in donating money to help purchase vitamins in bulk and other supplies, please place a check in the offering or mail to the church with Guatemala Vitamins in the memo.

If you are interested in the trip or have any other questions, please contact Amber Lind at 570-847-6200 or AmberRLind@gmail.com. Thanks!



Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and talents, or donated food for the Community Christmas Dinner. A very special thank you to Paul and Karen Miller who organized this important event for us to help serve our community and bring joy to others on Christmas Day. Together, we were able to provide an estimated 250 Christmas meals!

A note from the collection counters and the financial secretary:

Offering envelopes for 2019 are now available in the Narthex. If you use envelopes, please use the new ones assigned for 2019. Your envelope may be a different number than you had last year and it is difficult to keep going back to find who the envelope belonged to from the previous year. In addition, if you have assigned envelopes, please use them as it is time consuming to record the loose checks separately. Please label the amount and check number on the appropriate lines. It is not necessary to put your name on the envelope.



The Christian Education Committee extends a warm welcome to each and every adult to participate in a Sunday School class this upcoming semester. The classes provide the opportunity to grow as a child of God but also to get to know others in the Church who are also on a faith learning journey. We look forward to your participation!

Adult Sunday School Class Offerings (9:00 – 10:00 a.m.)

Class	Dates	Location
The Story	1/6 – 5/26	Library

The book study on “The Story” by Max Lucado and Randy Frazier will continue in the Church library. This book is a fascinating and unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. The book discussions are packed with drama, conflict, romance and redemption. “The Story” reveals the God of history for today. You will not want to miss these discussion. If you are committed to another class, please consider Sunday Conversations. This multimedia presentation at 2:00 on Sunday afternoons uses “The Story” as a back drop for studying and understanding God's Word. (Taught by Rick Gathman)

Engaging the Scriptures	1/6 – 5/26	Room next to Finance Office
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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)

The Five Love Languages of Children	1/6 – 5/26	First room on left in Children's Wing
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You love you child but does your child feel loved? Every child has a unique way of feeling loved. When you discover your child's love language - and how to speak it - you can build a solid foundation for your child to trust you and flourish as he or she grows. Drs. Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell offer practical advice through their book and audio. Class discussion will be encouraged. Parents of children of all ages will benefit from this study. (Taught by Leslie Mudge)

Philippians	1/6 – 5/26	Chapel
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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 and Pastor Barb Yorks)

Don't shine
so others
can see you.
SHINE
so that
through you
others can see
HIM.
-C.S. Lewis



The altar flower calendar for 2019 is now available. Please call the Church office at 570-524-4419 or email your requested date and dedication to info@first-presby.org. The cost of flowers is \$40.