#### THE FIRST PRESS

#### May Newsletter

## 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.

#### Faith In A Great God

By Mike Stello

"Touched the hem of His garment...took her by the hand." – Matthew 9:18-26 NKJV

We may remember the story of a heartbroken father that spoke to the Lord Jesus about his 12 year-old daughter who had just died. The Lord Jesus agreed to go with him, but along the way a woman who had a hemorrhage (a flow of blood) for 12 years touched the hem of His garment and was healed. After that event, the Lord continued on to the young girl's house and, taking her by the hand, gave her life.

God has joined these two stories together to give us a complete picture of our salvation from both man's side and God's. We are like the woman in our helplessness and uncleanness and similar to the young girl in our lifelessness before God. But a person by faith, however so slight, may simply touch the hem of His garment and be made whole. He, by His mighty hand, grasps ours and gives us life!

Notice that this word "took" when He "took her by the hand" is actually a much stronger word in the Greek which means "seized or grasped." It is related to the word for "might and power." What a wonderful thought! Our faith may be ever so weak and faint, but His mighty hand is infinitely strong and powerful. We shall never perish and no one can pluck us from His or His Father's hand. So trust, dear believer, not in your feeble touch but His mighty grasp. The respected missionary to China, J. Hudson Taylor (1832-1905), once expressed the matter this way: "The issue is not greater faith, but faith in a great God." GT

"Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. For the Lord is the great God, and the great King above all gods." –Psalm 95:1-3



#### **Upcoming Events**

Thursday, May 2 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m National Day of Prayer

#### Friday, May 3

5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. First Friday Kids' Night in the Great Hall

#### Sunday, May 12



Sunday, May 19 10:30 a.m. Youth Led Worship Sunday, May 26 12:00 p.m. Church Picnic Monday, May 27



#### **Ushers This Month**

Jim Zaiser Terry Light Bill Shutt Dan Wagner Bill Snyder Cliff Welch

#### May Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### May Birthdays

- 2 Daniel Gallagher, Mary Kay Torretti
- 3 Ruth Campbell, Drew Miller, Aaron Roussell, Seth Ziegler
- 7 Mike Matukaitis
- 9 Ashley Kalcich, Brett Newcomb, Amie Reif, Jan Temple
- 14 Maya Jusko, Brittany McVicar
- 15 Anne Goehring
- 17 Jeff Creighton, Katie Mebius
- 18 Jake Bruckhart, Derek Guissanie, Virginia Means, Rachel Ziegler
- 19 Barbara Light
- 22 Laura Mae Chiboroski, Carole Friery
- 23 Doug Winner, Marilyn Zaiser
- 25 Lois Lesher, Leslie Temple
- 26 Avery Brown
- 29 Ryder Winans
- 31 Joseph Gallagher, Andrew Newcomb

#### May Anniversaries

- 1 Mark & Kathy Davies 9 Michael & Kim Gilger
- 16 Ken & Cindy Reber
- 21 Paul & Marsha Tarves
- 24 Aaron & Molly Roussell
- 28 Tom & Ann Miller
- 29 Lamar & Lorri Bruckhart
- 31 Ken & Corey Jusko





#### Greeters

May 5 Joseph & Cathleen Stenglein May 12 Don & Nancy Steckel May 19 John & Bonnie Troxell May 26 Barb Taggart and Lily Bolig

#### In the Community

Dinner By The River Teams May 2 Storm Team May 9 Miller Team May 16 Beaver UMC Team May 23 Temple/Torretti Team May 30 Lewisburg Alliance Team

Page 2 of 6





#### PORT VBS Registrations are already pouring in for VBS 2019! Here's

what you can do to help make it a success.

#### VOLUNTEER

See the job descriptions and sign up for a position by going to https://vbspro.events/p/events/firstpresbylbg

#### DONATE

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING VBS 2019!

From the decorated rooms to the crafts, games and snacks, a lot goes into making VBS an exciting and rich experience where children encounter God's truths. To bring ancient Athens to life this year, use the handy lists here for ideas of what to donate. If you simply want to give any amount to offset the cost of VBS supplies, Amazon, Walmart or Weis gift cards would be welcome! Or put a special offering in the offering plate designated "VBS Supplies'

#### PRAY

There's no better way to help than to pray that God's transforming light would shine into the lives of each child that comes to VBS!



## VBS CRAFT SUPPLIES Laper tubes (from paper towels, wrapping paper, oatmeal tubs, etc.) 2 Dried Beans 3 Ribbon/yarn 4 Washi tape C. all tape including Lille 3. Nibbon'yarn 4. Washi Tape 5. Craft-type jingle bells 6. Dowel rods 7. Craft paint 8. Mini (2 inch) terra cotta pots 9. Greek-motif stencils 10. Old CDs or DVDs 11. Rubber bards 12. Chalk markers 13. White + Green Cardstock 12.

Greenery Any color latex paint Tapestries/fabrics/tassels

Oversize cardboard tubes (for

lumis) Persian rugs Large baskets Urns/old-looking pottery Open market place props/furnishings Patio umbrella stands

3

White + Green Cardstock

lce cream cones Cheese doodles Froot-by-the-foot Pretzel Sticks l preizel Jicks Fruit: Apples, grapes, watermelon Olives Rila Chips Cheeve Cubes Cheeve Cubes Cheeve Cubes Cheeve Cubes Cheese slices (square)

#### **Calendar Highlights**

10

#### **FIRST FRIDAY** @ **FIRST PRESBY**

Friday, May 3 @ 5:30-8:00 pm Friday, June 7 @ 5:30-8:00 pm Kids ages 3 (potty trained, please!) to 11 meet up in the Great Hall for pizza and games with friends. There is no cost to attend attend.

#### YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, May 19 @ 10:30 am During this student-led service the whole Kids Church gang will be singing the Books of the Bible songs we've learned this year!

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION Sunday, May 26 @ 9:00 am

Let's celebrate what a great time we've had in Sunday School for this last class of the year! Sunday School will kickoff again on September 8.

VBS

M-F June 17-21 @ 9:00-Noon Meet us in the Athens of Paul's time to be part of his amazing journey to share the truth about Jesus.

Have questions or ideas to share about the Children's Ministry at First Presbyterian Church? Contact me anytime by phone, text, or email. I'd love to hear from you! Carolyn McSween | Director of Children's Ministry | firstpresbykids@gmail.com | (570) 939-2119

Page 3 of 6

# JESUS LOVES ME!













## THANK YOU, TEACHERS!

YOU ARE A BLESSING



#### **OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

As the Sunday School year wraps up I am reflecting on all the things in God's Word that the kids have learned and experienced, and it's the dedication of our Sunday School Teachers which has made it possible. I hope you'll take a moment with me to thank God for them, and when you see next let them know they're so appreciated for what they add to the life of our church!

NURSERY TEACHERS - Susan Erdley, Karen Miller, Glenn Dobbs and Emily Chiboroski PreK, K AND 1st GRADE TEACHERS - Pat Samuelson, Sally Vogel and April Shrom 2nd - 5th GRADE TEACHERS - Steve Mebius, Leslie Temple and David McSween CHERUB CHOIR ACCOMPANIMENT - Avis Hans

Is God tugging on your heart to become part of the Sunday School Teaching Team? We have a place for you! Contact me anytime by phone, email or text to learn how you can serve.

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

Page 4 of 6



Plan ahead for our Church Picnic on **May 26<sup>th</sup>** following worship!

We will be set-up on the lawn in front of the library.

A-L Bring a dessert to share. M-Z Bring a casserole or salad to share.

Hot Dogs, beverages, condiments, chips, and tableware will be provided. See you there!



- Next event is Friday, May 3

#### **Meeting Reminders**

Friday, May 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

9:15 a.m. Moms in Prayer

Monday, May 6

7:30 p.m. Missions

Tuesday, May 7

7:00 p.m. Congregational Life

Monday, May 13

1:00 p.m. "Welcome to Mitford" Book Club in the Library

7:00 p.m. Christian Ed

Wednesday, May 15

6:30 p.m. Worship Life

#### Monday, May 20

7:00 p.m. Session, Trustees & Deacons

#### **Coffee Hour**

May 5 – Mark & Liz Speake May 12 – Caroline Campagna & Emily Chiboroski May 19 – David & April Shrom May 26 – John & Jessie Walsh

> Sundays from 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. in The Great Hall



Page 5 of 6

#### First Presby Youth Newsletter

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Art's Festival. Thanks to your donations, financial support, and man-power we raised \$419 dollars despite blistery wind-conditions.

Fuel is beginning an exciting series dissecting the parables of Jesus, while Refuge is in the middle of a series on 1 John. Our high schoolers are also beginning a small group structure during the lesson time on Sunday nights and we are looking to develop small groups outside of Sunday nights beginning this summer and really taking off in the fall!

We are gearing up for Youth Sunday on May 19<sup>th</sup> and hope to see you there as we celebrate God and His work with this incredible group of youth.

We are also excited to announce that both Refuge and Fuel will have a guest speaker on May 26<sup>th</sup> – our very own Caroline Graves. She will be talking to both middle school and high school about her journey, discernment of God's call in her life, and her incredible heart for missions. We can't wait!

Our mission trip is fully funded for this year, and we are beginning to prepare for next year's trip so we can avoid being in the same situation we found ourselves in this past year. We only have 1 fundraiser left – the Strawberry Festival on June 9<sup>th</sup>. You're not going to want to miss it!

Thank you all for sponsoring the spots! Our goal was 18 (one for each student), 20 would have been incredible, but we now have 24 spots sponsored! If you sponsored a spot, please be praying for your student(s) now and during the trip – you can never have too much prayer in my opinion!

We will have a slightly different schedule this summer than last year. We will be meeting Sunday nights only every other week, but we would love to have a fun event in the "off" weeks – movie nights, bonfires, pool parties, or anything that continues to build awesome relationships in our youth program. If you have a fire pit or pool and would like to host the youth one week, please contact me.

Each night on our mission trip, I will be sending out an email with updates of what we are doing, prayer requests, answered prayers, and lots more. If you would like to be added to the email list, please send me an email at <u>firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org</u>.

Thank you all for your prayers and support of both myself and the youth program. We are encouraged by how far we've come in the past year and a half and are excited to see where God continues to lead us.

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 <u>firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org</u>

Page 6 of 6