

The First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg

18 Market Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837

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

Beginning Sunday, September 8th: Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

As summer rolls into fall, I am excited about the changes that September brings to our church schedule.

Rally Day, the start of our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School classes, is September 8th. Our Christian Education team have provided an opportunity for everyone to grow in our understanding of who God is, the gift we've received in Jesus Christ, and how to better serve as His disciple. Jesus said that the greatest commandment included "loving God with all your *mind*!" So bring your Bible! Bring your questions! Bring your experience! And let us deepen our faith together!

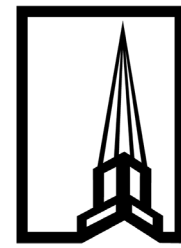
Also on September 8th, at a special 4 p.m. service, the Presbytery of Northumberland will install me as Pastor. This is the final step in affirming God's call for me to serve this congregation and will include ministers and elders from churches across our Presbytery. It is a celebration of how God has led us together to share this season of life and ministry. Afterward, we'll enjoy a light reception and time of fellowship.

Later in September, I will dedicate several sermons to thinking about stewardship – how we use what God has given us in the service of His mission and purpose. I'll be preaching from the Old Testament book of Ruth, a beautiful story of commitment, trust, and faithfulness. On Sunday, September 29th, we will dedicate our pledges, both financial and of time and service, for God to use through our church in the coming year. Through Minutes for Mission, we will hear about opportunities to serve our church, community, and Presbytery. Be listening for God's call to join in the wonderful work He's doing!

Every day I discover more ways that God is moving in and through our church family. I am continually giving thanks for the commitment, wisdom, and gifts of our Staff, Session, Deacons, and Trustees. There are good things happening here!

Peace to you in Christ,

Pastor Ryan



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 4

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Sunday, September 8

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

4:00 p.m. Installation Service for Pastor Ryan in the Great Hall

Wednesday, September 11

10:00 a.m. **Ladies A.M. Bible Study** in Chapel begins

Thursday, September 19

7:00 p.m. **Magician Justin Kline performs at the Himmelreich Library**

Saturday, September 21

7:00 p.m. **Old Fashioned Hymn Sing** on the Library Lawn

Monday, September 23

7:00 p.m. **International Peacemaker, Lucy Awate Dabi, speaks at the Himmelreich Library**

Ushers This Month

Jim Apple

Jon Miller

Rick Gathman

Wayne Samuelson

HELP! Additional volunteers for ushers are needed in the upcoming months. Please notify the Church office if you are able to help.

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 Leshner, Alexa Mast
- 8 Richard Erdley, Caroline Graves, Rob Royer
- 9 Paula Young
- 10 Audrey Kalcich, Jan Peterson, Samantha Reif, Bart Shaffer, Kimmy Tarves
- 11 Richard Cooper, Mark Temple, Chris Zellmann
- 12 Kelsey Roussell
- 13 Kirk Jarrett
- 14 Jackie Mast
- 15 Liv Heid
- 16 Lisa Kraus, Barbara Yocum
- 17 Benjamin Redding
- 18 Sarah Graber
- 19 Rachael McVicar
- 23 Crystal Reid
- 24 Landon Jarrett
- 28 David Goehring, Robert McTammany
- 29 Sawyer Kovaschetz

September Anniversaries

- 1 Bob & Nancy Martin
- 4 Keith & Pat Ringkamp
- 16 Brad & Barb Lawton
- 19 John & Leslie Mutschler
- 24 Richard & Sharon Beaver
- 25 Nick & Amanda Kovaschetz
- 26 Scott & Kristin McVicar



Greeters

September 1

Jusko Family

September 8

Paul & Karen Miller

September 15

Cliff & Dorcas Welch

September 22

Graver Family

September 29

Eric & Barb Schmidt

In the Community

Dinner By The River Teams

September 5

Sacred Heart Team

September 12

Zellmann Team

September 19

Shady Grove Team

September 26

Christ Lutheran Team



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Show God's Love and Share the Good News of Jesus Christ

Wow! It's already September and Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoebox Collection Week is less than two months away! First Presby has long been involved in OCC and so many have volunteered, donated, prayed, encouraged and done so much to support this amazing program. Thank you all!

If you are new to First Presby, and unsure of what OCC is all about... it is a project of the international relief organization, Samaritan's Purse. People like us, fill shoeboxes with items, like toys, stuffed animals, hygiene items, crayons, pencils, paper, flip flops, t-shirts...you get the idea! The shoeboxes are then delivered to children around the world, and along with the gifts, the message of Jesus Christ is shared. Filling a shoebox is a tangible way for us to show God's love to children that are needy, hurting and may even feel forgotten.

First Presby's Shoebox Program Needs You! There are many ways you can get involved.

If you have a heart for the mission of OCC, here are some options.

- Provide items to be packed. We've been collecting items each month in a box that is located outside the church office. The theme for September is small games or puzzles.
- Pack a shoebox. It's so much fun picking out just the right items to put in your shoebox and knowing the joy it will bring to a boy or girl. For great ideas about what to pack and also what items cannot be accepted, visit <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>
- Pray! Pray that each child will receive just the right shoebox, will feel God's love and will hear the good news of Jesus Christ. And, please pray for the entire OCC team all around the world.
- Volunteer. National Collection Week is November 18-25 and we will need many hearts and hands to help! As a Drop-Off location, we will need folks to staff our collection table,

complete paperwork, pray with people as they drop off shoeboxes, pack cartons, and even transport the cartons to Emmanuel Bible Fellowship Church in Sunbury. Please reach out to Alice or Sandy if you would like to volunteer – you don't have to commit to a specific date or a particular job at this point, but we would love to start gathering names.

- Share your ideas. If you have a thought or idea about how we can make the OCC program and mission a success here at First Presby, please share it with Alice or Sandy. We're looking for ways to expand and energize the program so please share!

This year, Alice Marquart is serving as an OCC Church Relations Team Member and Sandy Miller is serving as Drop-Off Team Leader. Alice is a veteran of OCC and Sandy is a rookie (learning much with Alice's patient and kind mentoring and with the support of Joyce Clayberger). Please get in touch with either of us with any questions or thoughts or just to let us know you're willing to help out.

Blessings,

Alice Marquart, Church Relations Team Member,
alicemarquart@gmail.com or 570-522-0973

Sandy Miller, Drop-Off Team Leader, sjmx2@ptd.net or 570-713-7071



6:00pm in the Choir Room (yes, the air conditioning still works there). No previous ringing experience is needed, just a willingness to learn, fellowship, and have lots of fun. Please consider joining us and becoming one of our new faces. Our first rehearsal of the year will be on September 4th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susan Erdley or any member of the Bell Choir.

Meeting Reminders

Tuesday, September 3

7:00 p.m. Congregational Life

7:00 p.m. Missions

Monday, September 9

7:00 p.m. Christian Ed

Tuesday, September 17

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

Wednesday, September 18

6:30 p.m. Worship Life

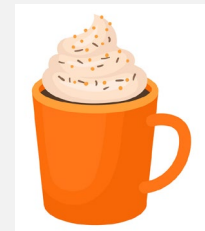
Coffee Hour

September 8 – **RALLY DAY!**

Sept. 15 – Mark & Amie Reif

Sept. 22 – Victor & Sally Vogel

Sept. 29 - Wayne & Pat Samuelson



Sundays from

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. in Parlor

Nursery:

Sept. 1 - Drouin

Sept. 8 - McSween

Sept. 15 – Barb Taggart

Sept. 22 – Graver

Sept. 29 - Jarrett

Kids Church:

Sept. 1 - Jusko

Sept. 8 - McSween

Sept. 15 - McSween

Sept. 22 – McSween

Sept. 29 – Family Sunday

2019 Church Officers

Elders:

Marcia Thomas	Victor Vogel	Jessie Walsh
Rick Gathman	Bonnie Troxell	Steve Mebius
Mary Kay Torretti	Don Steckel	Mike Pursley
Amie Reif	Gene Heid	Kathy Storm

Deacons:

Glenn Dobbs	Marilyn Gaver	Amber Lind
Sharon Pearce	Pat Samuelson	Connie Moore
Mary Lou Rich	Jeannie Lepley	Jan Temple
Peg Bouton	Barb Schmidt	

Trustees:

Bill Snyder	Katie Cavanagh	Sally Vogel
David Grill	Dan Wagner	Craig Harley
Wayne Samuelson	Eric Schmidt	Randy Storm



Corey Jusko at cejusko@gmail.com.

Moms in Prayer invites you to have a profound impact on your children and their schools, from preschool to young adult. We will meet on Fridays during the school year, beginning September 6th at 9:15 a.m. in the reading room of the Himmelreich Library. If you have any questions, please contact



Rally Day is Sunday, Sept. 8th beginning at 8:45 a.m. in the Great Hall. Join us for the start of a new, exciting Sunday School year! Breakfast will be served! Following breakfast, adults will remain in the Great Hall for an introduction to the classes and teachers, and children will be dismissed to their classes. Adult classes will officially start Sunday, September 15th at 9:00 a.m. in their designated class locations. Our Worship service will follow Sunday School and begin at 10:30 a.m. Hope to see you there!

Adult Sunday School Class Offerings

Join us Sundays, Sept. 15 – Dec. 22 at 9:00 a.m.

Class Title

Location

Discovering the God of Creation

Library

If you've ever wondered if science denies or supports the theory of evolution, join us all this fall for the latest discoveries and scientific evidence which uphold the hand of God in the miraculous "Intelligent Design" of the universe. We open in September with "Darwin's Black Box" the meticulously researched study from Chemical Biologist Dr. Michael Behe which launched the Intelligent Design movement. Behe's persuasive challenges to evolutionary theory clearly present evidence for God's design in nature. Join us for this illuminating scripture-based study. (Taught by Rick Gathman)

Engaging the Scriptures

Basement next to Finance Office

A lively study of that morning's worship service scripture will take place. Information and questions will be presented by the class leader. Opportunities for discussion and pre-reading will provide preparation and insight into the background and culture of the time and place of the scripture passage. You will find this class to be an opportunity to learn and be prepared for morning worship. (Taught by Victor Vogel, Marcia Thomas, and Dave Shrom)

Issues and Headlines:

2nd room on Left in Ed. Wing

What Role Does Our Faith Play?

Every day brings new headlines and stories that challenge our ideas about good and evil, power and politics, the environment and technology. What part does our faith play in how we both understand and respond to current events? Come and join Pastor Ryan, Youth Director Matt Rishell, and Elder Bonnie Troxell as we look for God's point of view on the news and issues of our time. This is a chance for students and adults to share their unique perspective and experiences, and to explore together how the Bible contributes to our conversations. (Taught by Pastor Ryan, Matt Rishell, and Bonnie Troxell)

The 5 Love Languages

1st room on Left in Ed. Wing

The 5 Love Languages® by Gary Chapman, Ph.D. is one of Chapman's most popular titles, selling over twelve million copies and winning a place on the New York Times best-sellers list since 2007. Chapman has been directly involved in real-life family counseling since the beginning of his ministry years. Dr. Gary Chapman presents a simple truth: relationships grow better when we understand each other. Everyone gives and receives love differently, but with a little insight into these differences, we can be confidently equipped to communicate love well. This is true for all forms of relationship – for married or dating couples, for children and teenagers, for friends and coworkers, for long-distance relationships, for those brand-new loves and for the romances that are older than the hills. In this class, we will dive into this book and watch the corresponding videos presented by Dr. Chapman himself! (Taught by Leslie Mudge)

September 2019

Check out what's happening at **First Presby Kids** and see how you'll join in the fun!



SAVE THE DATE

First Friday Fall Fest

Friday, October 4, 2019

5:30 – 8 p.m.

BRING A FRIEND!

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



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! "Coffee Hour" follows Sunday School in the Parlor where all can enjoy refreshments and fellowship before the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Cherub Choir

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Blue Room of the Wing. All ages. Kids start off the Sunday School hour with a joyful noise before breaking for their Sunday School classes at 9:15. This year the Cherub Choir will also practice during Kids Church then sing in the Worship Service on Family Sundays, as well as some other 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 3. Little ones have a place of their own to experience God's love through the special care and attention they receive in the Nursery while moms and dads join us in Worship.

Kids Church

Follows the Children's Message during the 10:30 Sunday Worship Service (except Family Sundays) in the Blue Room of the Wing. Ages 4 through 3rd Grade. At Kids Church we're getting to know Jesus and learning about the wonderful truths in God's Word through fun activities and music.

Family Sunday

Last Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. It's back this year! On the last Sunday of every month children ages 4 and up remain in the service with families and help to lead us in worship by singing with the Cherub Choir.

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.

First Friday @ First Presby

*First Friday of the month @ 5:30-8:00 p.m. Ages 3 (potty trained, please) through 5th Grade. **FREE and OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!** Kids have a blast during this high-energy event filled with games, food and friends, while parents have the evening off. Check out our fall calendar to see upcoming theme nights!*

Volunteer with us! From picking up pizza for First Friday or designing costumes for the Christmas program...to planning VBS decorations or leading Kids Church one Sunday...there are so many ways you can use your gifts to serve the Lord in the Children's Ministry. **BE PART OF THE FUN!** I'm just a call, a text or an email away and I'd love to hear from you.

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

School is back in session! That means that the youth program is underway in their fall semester.

Do you have a heart for high school ministry? We are looking for a few volunteers to become small group leaders and/or volunteers at Refuge on Sunday nights. Beginning this September, there will be a guy's and a girl's small group that meets throughout the week. We will be discussing the book "Everybody Always" by Bob Goff – an incredible book about loving others through the brokenness. But we can't do it without your help! Volunteers must be able to commit to meeting with their small groups regularly and have a desire to help high schoolers understand who our Lord really is and how relentlessly He loves them. If interested, please contact me at firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org.

We are in the middle of a complete remodel of the Cave and are in need of seating. Do you have a gently used couch or chair that you'd like to donate? Perhaps you'd be able to "sponsor a seat" and donate towards the purchase of seating for our youth. The youth room is a place where our high schoolers learn about the Word of God, build relationships with other followers of Christ, learn about how He loves them, and how to pursue Him more and more each day. We can't wait to get our youth room up and running again and continue to work for His kingdom together and thank you in advance for your help!

As of September 1st, our summer schedule is over and we will be back to normal. The schedule is as follows:

Sunday:

Sunday School (Starting Sept. 8th): 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Fuel (Middle School): 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Refuge (High School): 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday:

Guy's Breakfast at Matt's: 7 a.m.

Friday:

Girl's Breakfast: 7 a.m.

As we begin the fall semester, please be praying for:

Our leaders – That they will be refreshed, guided by the Spirit in thought and words, and be able to continue the work of the Kingdom.

Our students – That as they begin the new year they will continue to grow in their relationship with the Lord, chase Him first, and that more believers will be added to our numbers daily.

Our programs – That they will be effective in reaching the lost and discipling the found. That they will be a place to fuel them for the rest of their week and a place of refuge and strength when it can be hard to come by. That our programs are fun and exciting, but most importantly are a lens through which our students see Christ clearer.

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