November 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.

There are so many good things I'm looking forward to this month!

On Saturday, November 9th, we have a great opportunity to deepen our friendships – and make some new ones – by sharing a meal together at "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" And if you really enjoy preparing wonderful food and setting a welcoming table, you can exercise that gift every Thursday evening at our community supper, Dinner By the River. Elder Mary Kay Torretti can place you on a dinner team, or help you get involved with the food pick-up or home meal deliveries that happen every week.

Following worship on Sunday, November 10th, we will hold a congregational meeting with three items on the agenda. First, the Session will present the 2020 budget. This plan for our financial resources demonstrates both the congregation's great faithfulness and generosity, and our long-held commitment to lifting up the Good News of Jesus Christ locally and around the world. Second, we will nominate and elect new classes to our church boards – Session, Deacons, and Trustees. God has called wise, talented, and devoted men and women to seek His will for our church, and to lead us into a new year of ministry and mission. Third, we'll get an update on the capital campaign and HVAC project. Plan to stay for the lunch that follows!

Sunday, November 24th, is our annual Operation Christmas Child shoebox dedication day. For many years our church has participated with Samaritan's Purse to bring Christmas joy to boys and girls around the world. These gifts demonstrate Jesus' love in a tangible way, and help them learn about the greatest gift of all – the Savior who came for them. You can donate items for the boxes, help pack them, or assist with getting them to the regional collection center.

Later that week, on Thursday, November 28th, we'll celebrate Thanksgiving with a delicious community dinner at 1pm in the Great Hall. There are many ways you can help prepare for and



Upcoming Events

Friday, November 1 5:30-8:00 p.m. First Friday Shoebox Extravaganza Sunday, November 3 10:30 a.m. All Saints Sunday Thursday, November 7 7:00 p.m. Author's Night at the Himmelreich w/ Glen Bayly Saturday, November 9 5:30 p.m. "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" Monday, November 18 9:00 a.m. OCC Shoebox **Collection Week Begins** Sunday, November 24 10:30 a.m. Shoebox Sunday & Thanksgiving Worship Thursday, November 28 HAPPY

Ushers This Month

Ken Lepley

Randy Storm

Ryan Graver

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

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participate in this great event, so be watching for announcements and sign-ups.

We are blessed with a strong, active church – one that loves to worship, fellowship, serve, and eat! God has a place and a purpose for everyone here, and this season I encourage you to get involved. The disciple John says it best, in 1 John 3:1, "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are."

So we are indeed! Thanks be to God!

Pastor Ryan

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Birthdays

- 1 William Shutt
- 2 Emma Heid
- 3 Molly Graver, Peter Jones
- 4 John Tirpak
- 5 Brad Lawton
- 6 Beth Shutt
- 7 Kristin McVicar
- 9 Abigail Gilger, Madalyn Redding
- 11 Lisa Stancavage
- 12 Wayne Samuelson, Josh Tirpak
- 14 Joseph Santorine
- 15 Nicholas Zellmann
- 17 Ashley Cox, Brooke Zimmerman
- 18 Sarah Reif, Tom Rich
- 19 James Apple, Lucy Kalcich
- 21 Matt Rishell
- 27 Karen Miller
- 28 Marianne Barlett, Hannah Kraus
- 30 Shirley Grose, Becky Lumpkin



Greeters

November 3 Tom & Mary Lou Rich

November 10 Bill & Ann Roll

November 17 Mary Kay Torretti

November 24 Dan & Katie Cavanagh

In the Community

Dinner By The River Teams November 7 Beaver UMC Team November 14 Temple/Torretti Team November 21 Lewisburg Alliance Team November 28 NO Dinner By The River

November Anniversaries

7 Larry & Marian Fletcher 12 Daryl & Janine Fisher 20 Mark & Leslie Temple 24 Cliff & Nina Lesher 25 Chris & Joyce Zellmann



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It's Shoebox Time!

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) National Collection Week is almost here. Mark your calendars for the week of November 18– 25. It's such an exciting time, as we share gifts (both tangible gifts as well as the Good News of Jesus) with children around the world. The children receiving our shoeboxes are dealing with many types of difficulties. They may be refugees or have been impacted by natural disaster or war or poverty. How fortunate we are to have this opportunity to offer hope through the OCC ministry.

How to Get Involved – Volunteer Opportunities

• Be a helper at our Drop-Off Table and Area!

We will be staffing drop off table during Collection Week. You'll be greeting and welcoming people, registering boxes, and/or praying with those dropping off boxes. We have lots of time slots available.

• Pack boxes into the OCC Cartons!

Once the boxes are dropped off and logged, they have to be carefully packed into the Samaritan's Purse cartons that have been provided. Sign up to pack cartons.

• Help deliver cartons to Emmanuel Bible Church!

We'll be transporting the cartons to Emmanuel Bible Church in Sunbury where they'll be loaded in the tractor trailers.

Pack and Bring Your Shoeboxes for Shoebox Sunday, November 24

Bring your packed boxes to the worship service and place them at the end of any pew. Our children will gather them and bring them to the front of the sanctuary, where Pastor Ryan will lead us in prayer in preparation for sending them to the children.

And, if you need a shoebox, pick one up in the parlor – we have lots and lots that we would love to have filled! There are also brochures describing what items are allowed and not allowed.

Contact to Sign Up for a Volunteer Opportunity

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

Sandy Miller, Drop-Off Team Leader, <u>simx2@ptd.net</u> or 570-524-6220

Meeting Reminders

Tuesday, November 5

6:30 p.m. Congregational Life 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed 7:30 p.m. Missions Thursday, November 7 1:00 p.m. "Welcome to Mitford" Book Club Friday, November 8, 15 & 22 9:15 a.m. Moms in Prayer Sunday, November 10 11:45 a.m. Annual Meetina Thursday, November 14 7:00 p.m. Deacons **Tuesday, November 19** 7:00 p.m. Session & Trustees Wednesday, November 20 6:30 p.m. Worship Life

Coffee Hour

Nov. 3 – David & April Shrom Nov. 10 – John & Jessie Walsh Nov. 17 – Volunteer Needed Nov. 24 – Volunteer Needed



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

Nursery:

Nov. 3 - Drouin Nov. 10 - McSween Nov. 17 - Chiboroski Nov. 24 - Wagner Kids Church: Nov. 3 - McSween Nov. 10 - Papson Nov. 17 - McSween Nov. 24 – Family Sunday

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Our Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day in the Great Hall. Joe and Cathleen Stenglein have graciously offered to organize the event again this year but we are still in need of volunteers to donate food, help prepare the meal, and assist with set-up and clean-up. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out the sign-up sheet located in the narthex or you may contact Cathleen Stenglein directly at <u>cathleen.stenglein@yahoo.com</u> or 570-428-4585.

Dinner By the River



I am reaching out to the congregation to secure help for Dinner by the River. The ministry began almost twelve years ago when a team serving in Guatemala discussed how we could help those in need in the Lewisburg area. As a result, it was decided to provide a free meal every week. We now have eleven rotating teams to prepare a meal for 50-75 guests. You can be involved at any level - help cook, help pick-up food, lead or co-lead a team, deliver church take-outs, or offer a short devotional and prayer before the meal. There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex in November. You can also call me at 570-713-5157. Please prayerfully consider how you can help.

Mary Kay Torretti Coordinator of DBR



If you did not use offering envelopes this year and would like to be issued offering envelopes for the year 2020, please notify the Church office at info@first-presby.org or 570-524-4419. You do not need to notify the office if you are currently using envelopes and would like to continue using them next year. Anyone currently using envelopes will automatically be assigned envelopes next year.

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NOVEMBER 2019



Penny Challenge Update

The results are in! The winning class will be announced in church on Sunday, November 3...

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the October Penny Challenge. Every penny counts!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, November 1

– First Friday@First Presby

Sunday, November 24

– Shoebox Dedication Sunday

– Cherub Choir sings in the 10:30 worship service for Family Sunday (no Kids Church)

- "Living Nativity" Christmas
Program rehearsal following
church, with light kid-friendly
lunch served

Friday, December 6

– First Friday@First Presby

Sunday, December 8

– All-church Christmas Dinner and Program

Tuesday, December 24

– Cherub Choir sings for Christmas Eve service Hey, kids! You're invited to...

First Friday@First Presby

When is it? On the first Friday of every month – 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Who can come? Ages 3 (potty trained, please) to 11 – open to the community

What's it all about? It's a night of fun, food and friends just for kids to come and have a great time together! Pizza and snacks served. And there's no cost to attend. *Don't miss these upcoming theme nights:*



November 1 - Shoebox Extravaganza!

It's a great season to share God's love by serving others. For this service project night kids will get to see how Operation Christmas Child can impact kids around the world with the love of Jesus - and they'll have the chance to take part in it! Donations collected for this evening will go to cover the shipping cost of shoeboxes packed during First Friday (each box is \$9 to ship). For more information about Operation Christmas Child go to www.samaritanspurse.org.

December 6 – Christmas Joy

Get in the Christmas spirit with a night of crafts, cookie decorating, and more. Also the evening of Late Night Shoppers Night in downtown Lewisburg.

January 3 - Game Night

We're kicking off the new year with this night of fun and games of all kinds. Can't wait to see you in 2020!

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, text or email away and I'd love to hear from you.

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

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November Youth Newsletter

Our 2020 Summer Mission Trip is official!

The total cost per student is only \$265. A \$50 deposit is required to reserve a spot on this summer's mission trip – it's always an incredible week that your student won't want to miss. The spots are first come, first serve!

For more information regarding the mission trip, please contact our Youth Director, Matt Rishell at <u>firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org</u>.

Our programs are all up and running well with Refuge, Fuel, weekly Guy's and Girl's breakfasts, and high school small group book study on "Everybody Always" keeping us buy throughout the week.



On November 26th at 5:30, we will be hosting our second annual Friendsgiving – a thanksgiving meal for all high school students and recent graduates over at the Manse. Last year we had over 60 students in attendance and look forward to another great year. But be sure to contact Matt Rishell to sign up so we can be sure to have enough food!

Finally, as we get closer to the holidays and the holiday shopping season, be sure to bookmark and use "smile.amazon.com" and support "First Presbyterian Church Lewisburg" and a percentage of each purchase will be donated to our youth program without any additional costs!

As we continue 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

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Our students – That as they continue this school 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 <u>firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org</u>

Sunday School Update –

Our new "Issues and Headlines" combined class for youth and adults explores how we live as Christians in this complex and rapidly changing world. So far, we've explored the commandment "Do not murder.", our culture's changing expressions of gender and sexuality, and sharing our faith in Jesus Christ. A great part of this class is you can jump in any time! Our schedule of "issues" for the remainder of the semester is:

November 3rd	Witnessing to Christ		
November 10th & 17th	Election Year – our role in politics		
November 24 th	Environmental issues – where do we stand?		
December 1st	(Thanksgiving weekend - No Christian Ed.)		
December 8 th	Abortion rights		
December 15 th	Safety inside the Church		
December 22 nd	Immigration – a Christian view		

Youth Director Matt Rishell, Elder Bonnie Troxell, and Pastor Ryan lead these discussions, and are glad to answer any questions you might have. Come and join us in the Violet Room of the Christian Education wing!

2019 Church Officers

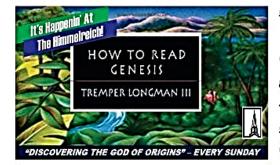
<mark>Elders:</mark> Marcia Thomas Rick Gathman Mary Kay Torretti	Victor Vogel Bonnie Troxell Don Steckel	Jessie Walsh Steve Mebius Mike Pursley	Amie Reif Gene Heid Kathy Storm
Deacons: Glenn Dobbs Sharon Pearce Mary Lou Rich	Marilyn Gaver Pat Samuelson Jeannie Lepley	Amber Lind Connie Moore Jan Temple	Peg Bouton Barb Schmidt
Trustees: Bill Snyder David Grill Wayne Samuelson	Katie Cavanagh Dan Wagner	Sally Vogel Craig Harley	Eric Schmidt Randy Storm

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"Understanding Genesis" DISCOVERING THE GOD OF ORIGINS Sundays 9:00 a.m. © 2:00 p.m.

<u>To properly understand</u> The Book of Genesis, we must consider the times in which it was written. "<u>How to Read Genesis</u>" provides a welcome guide to reading and studying, <u>understanding</u>, and savoring the panorama of



<u>beginnings</u> – of both Israel and the world. We gain insight into how Genesis can be read <u>in light of the Gospel</u> – and how it <u>points to Christ</u>. Offering the best in modern scholarship. <u>Bringing seekers, skeptics, and</u> <u>believers together</u> for trusted investigations of Biblical teaching.

6-WEEK STUDY A "Sunday Conversations" Presentation MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Refreshments Served – Bring A Friendi FREEI – Every Sunday 9 a.m. & 2 p.m. Dress is casual – Join Usi

18 Market Street, Downtown Lewisburg www.TheHimmeireich.com



Advanced Adult Studies At The Himmelreich FREE Christian Library

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