

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.

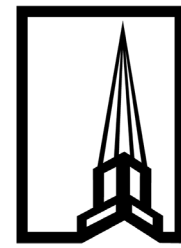
The number "40" has always had special spiritual significance regarding preparation. On Mount Sinai, preparing to receive the Ten Commandments, "Moses stayed there with the Lord for 40 days and 40 nights, without eating any food or drinking any water" (Exodus 34:28). The prophet Elijah walked "40 days and 40 nights" to the mountain of the Lord, Mount Horeb (another name for Sinai) (1 Kings 19:8). Most importantly, Jesus fasted and prayed for "40 days and 40 nights" in the desert before He began His public ministry (Matthew 4:2).

On Wednesday, February 26th, we begin a season of 40 days of preparation. This season is called Lent, and through it we get ready for the great celebration of Easter.

The history of observing Lent goes back to the early church. By the 4th century, Christians were purposefully fasting and praying during the six weeks leading up to Easter. (Sunday, the Lord's Day, is always a celebration day!) The first day of this season, Ash Wednesday, is still marked by making the sign of the cross on your forehead with ashes, and repeating God's words in Genesis 3:19, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." Those ashes remind us that we are but temporary, finite creatures, always on the edge of death. Unless we are willing to die to our old selves, we cannot be raised to new life with Christ.

Through the 40 days of Lent we follow Jesus into the wilderness, resist temptation, fast, and advance toward Jerusalem and his crucifixion. Our Lenten journey is one of turning around, of changing directions from self-serving, to the self-giving way of the cross. To live for Christ, we must die with him.

The name Lent comes from an old Anglo-Saxon word, *lencten*, meaning "Spring." As we eagerly look toward lengthening days and the end of winter, let us also seek how we can more deeply understand God's love for us, and how we can share that love



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 2

10:30 a.m. [Holy Communion](#)

Friday, February 7

5:30-8:00 p.m. [First Friday Kids Night](#)

Friday, February 14



Sunday, February 16

5:30 p.m. [2nd Annual Chili Cook-off & Silent Auction](#)

Ushers This Month

Bill Roll

Ann Roll

George Miller

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

with those around us. Faithfully adhering to the historic Lenten journey of prayer, fasting, and giving, we move as individuals and as the one body of Christ closer toward the glory of Easter.

New life waits for us in Him!

Pastor Ryan

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

February Birthdays

- 1 Joyce Zellmann
- 6 Wanda Einsig, Amber Lind
- 8 Larry Fletcher, Kassie McTammany
- 9 David Campbell, Leslie Mutchler
- 10 Glenn Dobbs, Pat Ringkamp
- 13 Delaney McSween
- 14 Mark Davies
- 16 Amy Matukaitis
- 17 Rob Guissanie
- 18 Samantha Stancavage
- 20 Justin Sabo, Dave Shrom
- 21 Barb Lawton, Erin Redding, Heidi Zimmerman
- 23 Marcia Thomas
- 25 Janine Fisher, Seth Ziegler Jr.
- 26 Bob Gronlund
- 27 Marian Fletcher

February Anniversaries

- 2 Roger & Nancy Curran
- 4 Gene & Bea Heid
- 13 John & Amy Tirpak
- 16 John & Bonnie Troxell

Happy
Anniversary!



Greeters

February 2

Tom & Mary Lou Rich

February 9

Sharon & Amy Beaver

February 16

Dan & Kim Wagner

February 23

Rick Gathman

In the Community

Dinner By The River Teams

February 6

Beaver UMC Team

February 13

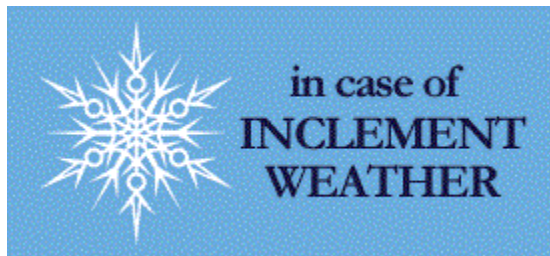
Temple/Torretti Team

February 20

Volunteers Needed

February 27

Zellmann Team



Please note that all church events are cancelled in the event that the Lewisburg Area School District closes school or dismisses

students early. This includes Dinner By the River, committee meetings, and any children or youth events scheduled for that day. In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, please use your best judgment to ensure your own safety when deciding to attend Sunday School and the worship service. We **WILL NOT** cancel Sunday School or the worship service in the event of inclement weather. You are always welcome to attend worship on Sunday morning if you feel you are able to get here safely.



Volunteers Needed for Dinner By the River

We would like to create a new Dinner By the River Team to fill 4 dates that recently became available for 2020. Volunteers are needed for:

- *February 20th
- *May 7th
- *July 30th
- *October 22nd

Please prayerfully consider volunteering for one or more dates so we can continue this

important ministry for our community. Please contact the office at info@first-presby.org or 570-524-4419 if you would like to be part of the team.



2020 Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex. If you have not been assigned envelopes in the past, but wish to use them, please contact the office or use the sign-up sheet located with the envelopes.



The Flower Chart for 2020 is available in the narthex at the bottom of the stairs. Please sign up for your desired date and notify the office of your dedication at info@first-presby.org or

570-524-4419. The cost to sponsor flowers is \$40.

Meeting Reminders

Tuesday, February 4

6:30 p.m. Congregational Life
7:00 p.m. Christian Ed.
7:30 p.m. Missions

Thursday, February 6

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

Friday, February 7, 21, 28

9:15 a.m. Moms in Prayer

Tuesday, February 11

7:00 p.m. Deacons

Tuesday, February 18

7:00 p.m. Session & Trustees

Coffee Hour

Feb. 2 – David & Ruth McCord

Feb. 9 – Cavanagh Family

Feb. 16 – Peg Bouton & Noel Curtis

Feb. 23 – Gerry & Kathy Schwieger



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

Nursery:

Feb. 2 - Drouin
Feb. 9 - McSween
Feb. 16 – Graver
Feb. 23 – Wagner

Kids Church:

Feb. 2 - Papson
Feb. 9 - Heid
Feb. 16 – Remmey
Feb. 23 – Family Sunday



FEBRUARY

2020



From the Director of Children's Ministry

Dear Friends,

The big announcement has been made that I'll be leaving the staff of First Presbyterian Church as of Valentine's Day, and I wanted to write a little something to tell you more about my exciting plans and also let you know what's in store for First Presby Kids. When I stepped into the role of Children's Ministry Director in June of 2017, I expected it would be in a temporary capacity. There remained a need for continuity through the difficult staff transitions at that time and I soon became a permanent part of the staff. I had no idea what adventures awaited our church family as we faced some unknown territory together, but I thought it was bound to be an amazing ride with God at the wheel. I was right! It has been a tremendous privilege to lead, to learn and to serve alongside you, my First Presby family--to take part in sharing the wonderful, transforming love of Jesus with kids and families.

I'm embarking on a new adventure with the same anticipation of God's greatness by setting out to earn my teacher certification in high school English, and I'm getting my classroom feet wet by substitute teaching in the region. Truth be told, this leg of my life's journey has been a long time coming. I started out college majoring in English and Secondary Ed! No matter the twists and turns along any path, God's timing is what counts and we can be sure He knows what He's doing.

What's next for the Children's Ministry? It's my hope that a highly qualified candidate for the Director of Children's Ministry will soon be hired. That may take place within the month, so stay tuned for updates. I believe that whoever is chosen for the role is someone God has prepared for the job. It will be someone with gifts and strengths that are different from mine, someone who will do things a little differently and who carries a different bag of tricks...but whatever's in that bag will be just exactly what the Children's Ministry is ready for. As we await the new Director's arrival First Presby Kids activities will continue normally, thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who make the Children's Ministry programs possible by teaching Sunday School, staffing the Nursery and coming out for First Friday@First Presby, to name a few things. You can even expect to see the church lawns covered with Easter eggs on the morning of Good Friday for our annual Egg Hunt! You can expect to see the church full of excited kids in June for VBS 2020!

It isn't always easy to see a change ahead, but I want to encourage you like you have always encouraged me: God loves us. His grace sees us through it all. He doesn't demand perfection but He Himself makes us whole. He never fails us and He never will. *"He's God, our God, in charge of the whole earth....for a thousand generations he's been as good as his word" (Psalm 105, The Message).* I am thankful to have experienced that grace and faithfulness through this amazing adventure on the staff at First Presby and to have had such a special opportunity to serve in ministry with you.

In Christ,
Carolyn

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

SUNDAY, January 26

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Cherub Choir sings (Family

Sunday - NO Kids Church)

SUNDAY, February 2

Kids can bring canned pantry items to church for "Souper Bowl" Sunday!

FRIDAY, February 7

5:30 – 8 p.m.

First Friday@First Presby

SUNDAY, February 16

5:30 p.m. – Great Hall

Chili Cook-off and Silent

Auction to benefit Youth

Summer Mission Trip

SUNDAY, February 23

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Cherub Choir sings (Family

Sunday - NO Kids Church)

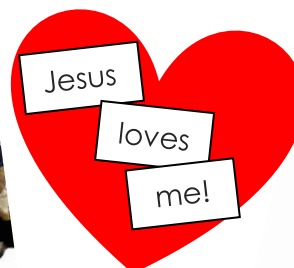
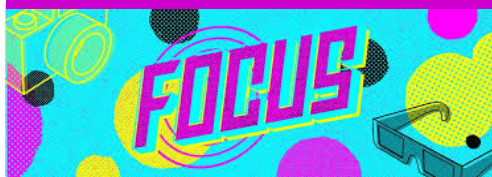
FRIDAY, March 6

5:30 – 8 p.m.

First Friday@First Presby

SAVE THE DATE for VBS 2020!

June 15-19 | 9:00-Noon



February Youth Newsletter

Spots for our summer 2020 mission trip from July 19th – 25th are filling up fast. We've been able to grab some extras, but don't wait to sign up! The total cost per student is \$265 and a \$50 deposit will reserve your student's spot. All mission trip spots are first come, first serve so don't wait!

For more information or questions regarding the mission trip, please contact our Youth Director, Matt Rishell at firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org.

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 busy throughout the week. We are almost done with our study of "Everybody Always" and have been lucky enough to speak on the phone to the author on various occasions.

We held our second annual Friendsgiving at the Manse and were blessed to have even more students than last year, roughly 65 students in all – representing different states and different countries!



As we approach our mission trip, please be on the look-out for our upcoming fundraisers. Located by the main entrance, check out our envelope fundraiser (More details below) and on **February 16th**, join us at 5:30pm for our second annual chili cook-off and silent auction!



Support our annual Youth Mission Trip!

Rochester, NY July 19th – 25th

Look for our envelope wall behind the sanctuary by the front doors – each envelope is numbered between 1 – 100.

It's simple! Choose how much you would like to donate to the youth mission trip and find the envelope with the corresponding number (ex: put \$1 in envelope #1). Then place the envelope with donation inside into the lock box located next to the envelope board.

The locked box will be emptied by Matt Rishell at the end of each Sunday Service.

If all envelopes are filled, a staggering \$5,050 will have been donated to the youth mission trip. These donations go to help the youth have an entire week centered around Christ, to grow in Him, build relationships that will last a lifetime, and to allow us to use our labor to help the people of Rochester.

We would like you to be a part of making this amazing trip happen for yet another year and we can't do it without your help!

Thank you!

Please bring any items in good condition to the office to be auctioned off, or call the office to register your chili recipe in the competition! \$2 for children 10 & under and \$5 for ages 11+ at the door!

As we continue this 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 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 firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
LEWISBURG, PA
2ND ANNUAL

CHILI COOK OFF

SUNDAY
Feb. 16, 2020
5:30pm

VENUE
First Presbyterian Church
18 Market Street, Lewisburg, PA

Includes chili samples from all contestants and all you can eat after voting!!

Cost: \$5 AGES 11+ \$2 AGES 0 - 10 \$0 The Cooks

And SILENT AUCTION!

All proceeds directly benefit our summer Youth Mission Trip!



Beginning Wed., February 26th, and continuing every week through Wed., April 1, you are invited to a Soup and Scripture lunch sponsored by the Lewisburg Ministerium and Council of Churches. It is held from noon to 1pm at Christ Lutheran Church, located on the corner of St. Louis and 3rd St. Local pastors will present a Lenten devotion based on a passage from the Psalms. Teams from participating churches will provide a warm, delicious soup and sandwich lunch.