

The First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg

18 Market Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837

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

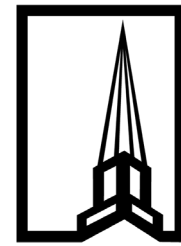
Sunday Worship: Worship Service – 9:30 a.m.

Online or In-person

This Tuesday, June 30th, marked one year since I began serving as Pastor. The year has passed quickly, bringing many new blessings, and many new challenges! While I have known First Presbyterian Church for decades (going back to when I attended services here as a Bucknell student), I've really loved discovering the deep faithfulness and wide-ranging talents of our church family, and how very far into our community, and across the world, our individual and corporate ministries reach. We are blessed - with an active children's ministry, with a youth group that provides a spiritual home to teens from non-church going families, with thoughtful Sunday school classes, with beautiful music to offer to God in our worship, with missions that further the Gospel near and far, with strong leadership, with dedicated staff, and with members who care for one another like the brothers and sisters in Christ that we are. I could go on and on!

Of course, just when I thought I was starting to get a feel for how this church works, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to rethink how and when we conduct our worship and all our other ministries. Now 15 weeks since our last 'normal' Sunday morning, I believe some of the changes we've made will stay with us even after the pandemic passes. Our web-posted and live-streamed worship services have had as many as 100+ views per week, and we'll continue using this technology to share worship with members and friends at home, out of state, or as they travel. (By the way – if you're interested in becoming part of the team that runs our live-stream from the balcony on Sunday mornings, please let me know!) In the months ahead, I am excited for August 3rd – 5th, and the new way we'll hold Vacation Bible School. In the absence of gathering for fellowship, I am glad to hear that members are checking up on each other with calls and cards.

As a Chaplain in PA's Army National Guard, the COVID-19 outbreak also resulted in me being called-up to full-time service for 65 days, ministering to Soldiers and Airmen across our state in various military support operations. On the many days this pulled



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 4



Sunday, July 5, 12, 19, 26

9:30 a.m. [In-person worship](#) ([guidelines on page 3](#)) or [livestream](#) ([link to Youtube service can be found on our website and Facebook page](#))

July Meetings

Tuesday, July 28

7:00 p.m. Zoom Session Meeting

July Ushers

Tom Gresh

Don Steckel

Joseph Stenglein

Cathleen Stenglein

Dave Thomas

Reminder: Guidelines for In-Person Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

- Entrance to the church will be limited to the sanctuary doors on Market St., and the CE building doors (both the parking lot and ramp, and sidewalk from Market St). Signs will be placed on the other exterior doors directing people to these entrances. Entrance and interior doors will be propped open.
- Masks (cloth or surgical) are required to be worn inside the church building. Signs announcing this will be posted at entry doors. Masks will be available and provided to those who arrive without one. If someone indicates they cannot wear a mask for a medical reason, they will be directed to watch a live-feed of the service from the Chapel.
- A sign-in sheet will be located at each door so that we can accurately record who attends. This information will be used to assist with contact tracing in the event an infection is identified.
- Hand sanitizer will be located at each door. Gloves will also be available.
- A Greeter wearing gloves will be stationed at each entrance to monitor mask wearing, assist with sign-in, direct guests to the sanctuary, and offer a warm welcome back to church!
- Sanctuary pews will be roped off before Sunday morning. Windows will be open to promote air circulation. Families/households will sit together. There will be no childcare. Children will stay in their seats for the Children's Message.
- Ushers will monitor sanctuary seating to maintain safe distancing. Overflow seating will be provided in the Chapel and Parlor.
- Bibles, hymnals and fellowship pads will be removed from pews before Sunday. The screen and projector will be used for lyrics and announcements. We will not sing along with hymns, but quietly hum and meditate on the words.
- Offering plates will be placed at the exits at the end of the service. Following the benediction, Pastor Ryan will dismiss members by section in order to maintain safe distancing.
- The only restrooms open will be those located between the office hallway and the CE/Great Hall stairway. Doors will be propped open.
- The CE wing, Offices, Library, Kitchen, Great Hall, Cave and lower-level will be marked off as 'closed.' Water fountains will be covered.
- Pastor Ryan advises that anyone in a higher-risk category, or who is experiencing any symptoms of illness, should continue to participate in worship from home. The service will be live-streamed and dvd copies can be mailed by request.



First Presby Kids News JULY 2020

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Sunday Services are back! But, please remember all children's programming is currently suspended, which means no nursery or kids church. Children will remain in the sanctuary with their parents for the duration of the service. But don't let that scare you! We want to see you – wiggles, giggles, squeals and all!

VBS is coming! August 3, 4, 5 @ 6:30 p.m. Gracious volunteers have offered the use of their driveway, front yard and/or backyard and will lead small groups through a bible story, activity, craft and game. Registration has closed, but if you'd like to get involved – either a child in a small group or a youth as a helper or an adult who wants to help with prep, please let me know!

Our theme this year is FOCUS: Take a closer look. Children will be encouraged to investigate the world around them, to see God wherever they go!



Looking forward to Fall! It is our hope to return to Sunday school in the fall. Sunday school teaching teams are being formed now! We will have nursery available to children birth through pre-K, a Sunday school class for Kindergarten through 2nd grade, and a class for 3rd through 5th grade. We will continue to follow proper measures to protect the health of our children and adult leaders. If you have an interest in joining a teaching team for our children's Sunday school programs, please let me know!

Follow us on Facebook @ First Presby Kids for resources, updates and more!

Corey Jusko, Director of Children's Ministry

708-296-7906

firstpresbykids@gmail.com

July Youth Newsletter

We hope that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones well and healthy.

After many months of remote youth group, we're excited that our High school group will begin meeting in person on a trial basis beginning July 5th.

Under normal circumstances, June is when rising 6th graders can begin attending Fuel and rising 9th graders can begin attending Refuge. However, as so many other things, our plans must change. At this point, rising 9th graders are invited to join us for youth group activities. For rising 6th graders, we are excited for you to join us with a kick-off event later in summer!

Believe it or not, we have already started planning for our 2021 mission trip! We're excited to be going to **Wilmington, DE from July 11th – 17th, 2021**. If your student signed up for this past year's trip, all money paid is automatically rolled over for this next year – just contact me and let me know your student would like a spot! If your student did not register for this past year's trip, a \$50 deposit is required to reserve a spot!

In situations such as these, prayer may be our most powerful, yet most underutilized resource. Please join us in praying for the future of our youth program, the development of student leaders, and guidance for its leaders. Please pray for the essential workers, a swift end to Covid-19, and the recent riots in cities across the nation. With so much turmoil, let us remember to turn to and rely on God in all things.

Thank you all,

Matthew Rishell – Director of Youth Ministry

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 firstpresbyouth@first-presby.org



If you are unable to view the weekly worship service online and would prefer a dvd copy of the service to watch, please notify the office at info@first-presby.org or leave a message at 570-524-4419. We are also working on providing bulletins and sermon notes prior to the service to anyone who may be interested. These pages could be mailed or emailed by request.

Support for Seth Jr. and Vicki Zeigler:

On June 17th, the Zeigler's home suffered extensive damage from a fire. If you would like to support them in what will be a long rebuilding process, you can contribute to their recovery through gofundme at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/zieglerhousefire>