

The First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg

18 Market Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837

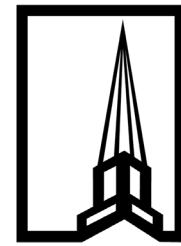
www.first-presby.org T: 570-524-4419

Sunday Worship: Worship Service – Online or In-person
Beginning June 14th

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place” (Acts 2:1). So begins the account of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church in the book of Acts. As we celebrate Pentecost this year, we understand that it may not be possible for the members of our congregation to be “all together in one place” for some time to come. While restrictions are being lifted, the ongoing threat of the Covid-19 global pandemic will require that we return to church in a way that is measured and mindful of the needs of the most vulnerable among us. While some may begin to attend public worship in person, we know that others will need to continue to worship at home. In the weeks and months ahead, we will continue recording services and posting them to our website and Facebook pages. We are glad to send you a DVD if that format works better for you.

Our plan is to resume in-person worship in our sanctuary starting on Sunday, June 14th, at 9:30 a.m. With safety in mind, we ask that you wear a mask while inside the church. Seating will be by household, with two pews spacing in between. To avoid possible contact transmission, we will not print bulletins, and the Bibles and hymnals will be removed from the pews. Words and lyrics will be projected onto the screen at the front of the sanctuary, and you are invited to engage hymns and songs with prayerful whispering or by humming along with the music. As choirs and group singing has been shown to cause high levels of airborne droplets that can transmit the virus, our music will include only piano, organ, or solo instruments. The offering will occur at the end of the service, and ushers will place collection plates near the doors to use as members depart.

Despite these impacts to our church’s life together, we continue to give thanks for the promise of our faith—that the Lord God will bless and keep us, the risen Christ is with us, and the Holy Spirit connects us with believers near and far. We take comfort and inspiration from the example of the earliest believers, who “spent much time together in the temple” and “broke bread at home ... with glad and generous hearts” (Acts 2:46). As we anxiously track the news in these times—with numbers of new cases,



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 13

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Strawberry Festival



(see page 3 for details)

Sunday, June 14

9:30 a.m. Return to in-person
worship (guidelines on page 4)

Sunday, June 21



June Meetings

*Cancelled or held virtually at this time

*More information will be provided as it becomes available

numbers of persons who have died, and numbers of those who are recovering—we remember the good news of the gospel: “And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved” (Acts 2:47).

As we begin to resume in-person activities, know that our Session and Staff will do so through a careful process of discussion and discernment, with an abundance of caution and concern for those who are most vulnerable, upon consideration of the best scientific knowledge at our disposal, in the spirit of constant prayer, and with full trust in the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

We may make mistakes along the way. There will surely be awkward moments as we adjust to new protocols and practices. There will be times of frustration, disappointment, and grief. We will have countless opportunities to exercise the spiritual gifts of patience, kindness, gentleness, and self-control.

But there will also be blessings. There will be wonderful surprises, great celebrations, and moments of deep satisfaction. We will get to see glimpses of the new thing God is doing, even now. We will have opportunities to savor the spiritual gifts of love, joy, peace, generosity, and faithfulness.

Let us be faithful, then—to God and to one another—as we receive the gifts and work through the challenges of this time in the life of our congregation and world. Let us be guided by the Word, responsive to the Spirit, and open to the grace of God. Let us remember that nothing can separate us from God’s love in Christ Jesus.

Peace to you,
Pastor Ryan



June Birthdays & Anniversaries

June Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Nicole Jarrett, Matthew McTammany | 18 George Koons |
| 2 Don Steckel | 19 Alison Collins |
| 3 Hunter Grimes | 20 Chelsea Stanton |
| 5 Paul Simington | 22 Colin Papson |
| 6 Isaac Kraus, Liz Einsig Wise | 24 Jessica Heid |
| 7 Malcolm Arter Jr., Cindy Jones | 25 Sarah Friedberg |
| 8 William Bruce | 28 Jonny Miller |
| 10 Heather Creighton, Donna Ward | 29 Clara Chiboroski |
| 11 Harold Graber | |
| 12 Eric Gilger | |
| 14 Charles Heid | |
| 17 Rick Gathman, Bea Heid | |



June Anniversaries

2 Ryan & Lisa Kraus

7 Eric & Bonnie McDowell, Rick & Lisa Stancavage

8 Jim & Marilyn Zaiser

10 Dan & Katie Cavanagh

12 Joseph & Karen Gallagher, Bob & Dede Gronlund

17 Bill & Karen Black, Tom & Avis Hans, David & Ruth McCord

20 Mark & Amie Reif

22 Joe & Caroline Campagna

23 Patrick & Heidi Decosmo

24 Brad & Jennifer Wakeman

25 Victor & Sally Vogel



Although we are not quite back to worshipping together in person we can stay together in spirit!

Strawberry season is almost here and we want to welcome it with joy as a congregation!!

Although we can't do our typical Strawberry Festival in the Great Hall, we are having a "Take-It & Make-It" Strawberry Shortcake.

SATURDAY JUNE 13TH

We are offering a full quart of freshly picked berries (not sliced or sugared) and shortcake to serve at least 4.

All food will be prepared and packaged Serv Safe Certified and safe for you to enjoy! Just pull up to the front of the church between **10 and 12** and we will safely bring your order to your car.

If you are not able to pick up curbside, let us know and we will drop it off at your front door.

Please place your order by Monday, June 8th

Cost is by donation when you pick up your food

Place your order by emailing the church at

info@first-presby.org, calling April Shrom @ 610-405-4066 or emailing April

shroms@uplink.net

Guidelines for In-Person Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. on June 14th, 2020

- 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 JUNE 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

It's time to return to church! But, wait! It will look a little different. As Pastor Ryan indicated, there will be NO child care provided at this time – that includes nursery and 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've missed being together and witnessing the murmurs, screeches and wiggles of our youngest members. We want to see you! But I do want to remind you that if anyone in your family is feeling unwell, please refrain from attending. We are making our best effort to return to "normal" with the health and safety of our entire congregation as primary concern.

VBS is coming! August 3, 4, 5 @ 6:30pm It will also look a little different this year. Instead of over 100 kids and leaders gathering in our sanctuary, great hall and education wing, we will gather in small groups throughout Lewisburg in a "backyard" style VBS. Gracious volunteers have offered the use of their driveway, front yard and/or backyard and will lead groups of 12-15 kids (entering kindergarten to 5th grade) through a bible story, activity, craft and game. We hope you can join us! Children will be assigned to the location nearest to their home, with siblings assigned to the same group. Each nightly session will be approximately 60-90 minutes long. Registration will be opening soon! If you have questions or would like to participate, reach out! I can answer your questions.

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!



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

Corey Jusko, Director of Children's Ministry
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firstpresbykids@gmail.com

June Youth Newsletter

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

All of our normal programming continues to be on hold for the time being. Despite not being able to meet in person, we are finding ways to continue learning and diving into God's word together through the use of group devotionals and weekly messages on Zoom. Although circumstances aren't ideal, it's been encouraging to see how we can continue to grow despite remaining apart for the time being.

Unfortunately, with so much uncertainty we can't offer any firm dates or plans for in-person youth group, Youth Sunday, or summer plans in lieu of the annual mission trip.

We continue to monitor the situation closely. Although we are eager to be back together and get back to our new normal, our and our students' safety is the foremost priority.

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 our weekly Zoom calls and high school devotionals on YouVersion. For rising 6th graders, we are excited for you to join us with a kick-off event later in summer when we can all meet again.

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 firstpresbyyouth@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.

To the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg:

Glenn and I have received so many beautiful and thoughtful cards, notes and calls these past few months as we battle with cancer and all that it entails. Your prayers and kindnesses have made each day a little brighter and have strengthened our faith. We sincerely appreciate all that you have done to encourage us on this journey. May God bless each and every one of you for all you do.

In Christian Love, Don Dobb's