

# 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. (Virtual Only)

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. (In-person or Livestream)

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (I Corinthians 13:4-7, ESV)

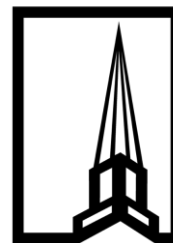
You often hear this passage of the apostle Paul's letter to the church in Corinth read at weddings. And while these words are perfectly appropriate for a ceremony celebrating love, that's probably not the setting Paul imagined when he picked up his pen. The church in Corinth was a congregation facing significant obstacles, both from a hostile community around it, and from deep divides among its own members.

Looking at our world today, our situation here in Lewisburg as the end of 2020 fast approaches, I hear Paul's words as a challenge to aspire to. When faced with a world that doesn't agree with us, or a neighbor that doesn't understand our faith, or with a fellow brother or sister in Christ who stands on the opposite side of an important issue or question – what are we to do?

God calls us to respond with love.

Not just the emotion, mind you, that warm glow from our heart that makes everything feel light and easy. The love Paul describes is expressed through action; love is being patient, being kind, being humble. It is love expressed through self-restraint; reigning in our own wants and desires for someone else's sake. It is love that stands fast and burns strong, even in the face of long odds, unfair fights, and relentless criticism.

It is the same love that God himself demonstrated in Jesus Christ, who was patient, kind, and gentle -even unto death. When things are hard – and this year has offered more than



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

LEWISBURG, PA

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, Nov. 5**

5:30-6:30 p.m. **Dinner By the River Take-out Meal**

6:00 p.m. **Bell Choir Practice**

**Monday, Nov. 16 – Nov. 23**

11:00 a.m. **OCC Shoebox Collection Week Begins**

**Sunday, Nov. 22**

10:30 a.m. **OCC Shoebox**

**Sunday**

11:45 a.m. **Congregational Meeting**

**Thursday, Nov. 26**

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Carry-out Thanksgiving Meal**



**Sunday, Nov. 29**

1:00-5:00 p.m. **Hanging of the Greens**

## November Meetings

**Tuesday, Nov. 24**

7:00 p.m. Zoom Session Meeting

## November Ushers

Randy Storm

Rich Erdley

Dave Thomas

its fair share of hardships – we are to respond with love. Because that's what God is. And as we live and move and have our very being in Him, that's the very best thing that we can be in this world too.

Peace to you,

Pastor Ryan

## November Birthdays & Anniversaries

### November Birthdays

- 1 Bill Shutt
- 2 Emma Heid
- 3 Molly Graver
- 4 John Tirpak
- 6 Beth Shutt
- 9 Abigail Gilger, Madalyn Redding
- 11 Lisa Stancavage
- 12 Wayne Samuelson, Josh Tirpak
- 14 Joseph Santorine
- 17 Ashley Cox
- 18 Sarah Reif, Tom Rich
- 19 Jim Apple, Lucy Kalcich
- 21 Matt Rishell
- 27 Karen Miller
- 28 Marianne Barlett, Hannah Kraus
- 30 Shirley Grose, Becky Lumpkin

### November Anniversaries

- 7 Larry & Marian Fletcher
- 12 Darryl & Janine Fisher
- 20 Mark & Leslie Temple
- 24 Cliff & Nina Leshner



### Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-12:30

This year our annual Thanksgiving dinner will be offered for pick-up or local delivery only. Reservations for meals will be required and orders must be received by November 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are interested in volunteering to help or you would like to reserve a meal for pick-up or delivery, please call Kathy Storm at 570-490-0646 or April Shrom at 610-405-4066.

## Worship from Home

At each meeting of the Session, we evaluate and reassess the precautions we're taking to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We are committed to maintaining as safe a facility as we can for those who want to worship in person, and will continue to provide a livestream broadcast and recorded version of our service for those who choose to stay at home.

You can access our worship services over the internet in several ways.

1. Facebook: At 10:30am on Sunday morning, you can participate from home by going to our church's Facebook page, @**FirstpresbyLewisburg**. On Saturday evening, we post a link, and picture of the church, that will take you to a Youtube video. We start streaming live video from the sanctuary around 10:20am. If you visit our Facebook page anytime after Sunday morning, the link will take you to the stored Youtube video of that week's service.
2. Website: If you don't use Facebook, you can find the same Youtube link on our church website: <https://first-presby.org>. The scrolling header on our front page will have a headline, "Sunday's date – 10:30am Worship Service and Livestream!" Click on the text of that headline and it will take you to a page where you will find more information about the service, and a picture of the church. The picture is a link to Youtube, from which you can watch the livestream on Sunday morning, or, anytime afterward, find the recording of the service.
3. Youtube: If you want to access our worship service directly from Youtube, go to [youtube.com](https://youtube.com) and search "First Presby Lewisburg." The search results will bring up my channel, Ryan Kraus. (There are other Ryan Kraus' out there – be sure to look for "First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg, PA" in the description!) Click "Ryan Kraus," and under the VIDEOS tab you'll find all the services we've recorded, starting with the most recent. You can subscribe to this channel to make it easier to find when you revisit [youtube.com](https://youtube.com)

**A Note on Communion:** For our in-person services in the sanctuary, we will continue celebrating the Lord's Supper using the prepackaged "fellowship cups." Any Sunday that we share this sacrament you are welcome to participate with bread and grape juice (or wine) which you already have at home. If you would prefer to share in the same elements that we're using here at church, we are glad to bring a supply of "fellowship cups" to you ahead of time. Please call the church office and let us know the best way to deliver them.



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](mailto: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.



## Operation Christmas Child

National Collection Week is coming up quickly – always the third week in November. This year that is Monday, November 16 – Monday, November 23. So glad that many empty shoeboxes have been picked up from the Parlor so far. Remember, if you would like boxes but cannot get to the church, we would be glad to bring them to you. Also, Build A Box Online is another fun and easy way to pack a box if you have computer access. The link to that site is

<https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/view/562cbbdd-7619-4e93-8298-0d19b3bec5ce>



### Packed boxes can be dropped off at the back entrance to the church at the following times:

Monday, Nov 16	11:00am – 2:00pm	Friday, Nov 20	11:00am – 1:00pm
Tuesday, Nov 17	4:00pm – 7:00pm	Saturday, Nov 21	10:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday, Nov 18	11:00am – 2:00pm	Sunday, Nov 22	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Thursday, Nov 19	4:00pm – 7:00pm	Monday, Nov 23	9:00am – 11:00am

### Volunteers Needed for National Collection Week

Once again, First Presbyterian Church will be a Drop-Off Location for the Susquehanna Valley region during Collection Week. Things will be a bit different this year as we will be conducting a “Curbside Drop-Off” focused on “no contact” whereby the donors will remain in their cars. As we implement the new process, we will be looking for volunteers to be Greeters/Hosts (they will be outside directing cars, collecting information from the donors and taking prayer requests), Shoebox Unloaders (they will be outdoors with carts, unloading shoeboxes from the donors' vehicles, stacking them on carts in easy to count stacks of 5 boxes, and pushing the carts inside the Church), and Shoebox Carton Packers (they will be inside the Church, will unload the shoeboxes from the cart, count and record the number of boxes, then pack the shoeboxes into cartons as time permits). Volunteers need to know that many of them will be outdoors in the weather (rain, snow or sunshine) and that it will be a more physically demanding role than in the past, as we take on the duty of transporting all boxes from the vehicles as they arrive. We will also be taking precautions such as having masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer available for volunteers.

We would love to have you help with this special ministry that has been a part of First Presby for so many years! You can sign up by clicking on the link here or by contacting Sandy Miller at the phone or email below. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48aaac2da5fbc34-operation>

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

In His Service,

Alice Marquart  
Church Relations Team Member  
Susquehanna Valley Area Team  
Phone: 570-522-0973  
Email: [alicemarquart@gmail.com](mailto:alicemarquart@gmail.com)

Sandy Miller  
Drop-Off Leader – Lewisburg Presbyterian Church  
Susquehanna Valley Area Team  
Phone: 570-713-7071  
Email: [sjmx2@ptd.net](mailto:sjmx2@ptd.net)



**"THE AWAKENING" – One Million Prayers For America  
THE HIMMELREICH LIBRARY LAUNCHES NATIONAL PROJECT TO CALL  
AMERICA'S CHRISTIANS TO PRAY FOR GOD TO "HEAL OUR LAND"**

***Thousands reached. National press stories. Inspiring prayers among Christians across America.*** First Presbyterian and The Himmelreich Memorial Library are serving as ***ground-zero for a new national outreach*** that launched from our church's campus in September.

**"THE AWAKENING" seeks to lift One Million Prayers For America.** **Pastor Ryan Kraus** is one of seven Prayer Leaders offering prayers through daily online videos every day since Labor Day. "The Awakening is inspired by the clear promise of God in the Bible," Pastor Ryan says, citing 2 Chronicles 7:14 as the basis for the online outreach:

*"If my people, who are called by my name,  
will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways,  
then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."  
– 2 Chronicles 7:14*

**Pastor Ryan offered the very first of "THE AWAKENING'S" ongoing online prayers right from the Reading Room of the Himmelreich – 55 days ago on September 8th.** "Prayer unites us with God and with each other," he says. "God has given us the gift of prayer to bring healing where we are divided. The Awakening is simply an online gathering of Christians who take the promises of the Bible to heart – that as we turn back to God in repentance and prayer, He will heal our land, as He has promised. Our goal is to raise one million prayers for America."

**Rev. Walt McCord of San Antonio, Texas** – another of the project's online prayer leaders – agreed. ***"Just 50 prayer-partners in 50 churches in each of our 50 states praying daily can raise millions of prayers in just days,"*** said McCord. "Given the power of online and social media networks to unite Christian believers together in prayer, our goal can be realized."

"The Awakening is not political," said Caroline Campagna, head librarian for The Himmelreich, the project's national sponsor. "We are simply a gathering of believers joining together to pray for God to heal America." The project is organizing now for the second wave of our online prayer outreach – and we wish to thank those who served as our ***"Awakening Prayer Leaders" during our first 8 weeks.***

- **MONDAYS** – Rev. Barb Yorks (Saint Andrew United Methodist, Milton, PA)
- **TUESDAYS** – Rev. Ryan Kraus (First Presbyterian, Lewisburg, PA)
- **WEDNESDAYS** – Rev. Glen Bayly (Ret. Missionary Alliance, Mifflinburg, PA)
- **THURSDAYS** – Rev. Rich Earl (Ret. Mountainside Church, Shamokin, PA)
- **FRIDAYS** – Rev. Steve Shirk (First Presbyterian, Milton, PA)
- **SATURDAYS** – Rev. Andrew Knisely (Elysburg Alliance, Elysburg, PA)
- **SUNDAYS** – Rev. Walt McCord (Wayside Chapel Evangelical Free, San Antonio, TX)

The Awakening is a non-denominational outreach of The Himmelreich Memorial Library. For over a century The Himmelreich has been dedicated to the proclamation of ***the Gospel of Jesus Christ*** through our library collections, programs, and lending services, all of which are offered ***FREE*** to the public. Upon our opening in 1902, The Himmelreich was recognized as ***"the finest library of its kind in America, and the second largest in the world."***

**Please join us in prayer for at least one-minute every day! Find out more at:  
[www.TheAwakeningWorldwide.com](http://www.TheAwakeningWorldwide.com)**



# First Presby Kids News NOVEMBER 2020

*"God is working in you. He wants your plans and your acts to fulfill His good purpose."*  
Philippians 2:13

**Virtual Sunday School!** Every Sunday at 9 am, our kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students gather together online for a 30-minute lesson led by our rotating team of Sunday School teachers.



In November we fast forward to the distant future, the year 5,000, and the "Space Ninjas" and "Pirate Squirrels" help kids to discover stories of God's faithfulness and power through the exile of His people into a foreign and hostile land.



**Nursery is open!** The nursery is now open during Sunday morning worship services. It is available for children ages 3 and under, accompanied by 1 adult. No nursery volunteers are assigned at this time. Please continue to follow our safety precautions including sanitizing hands before play and wearing masks during play.

**It's shoebox time!** Operation Christmas Child shares the Gospel of Jesus Christ with millions of children throughout the world through the generous gifts of carefully packed shoeboxes. Pack a box yourself (pick up a box in the parlor) OR go online to select items for OCC to pack for you OR contribute items for our youth to pack. Donations of approved items can be accepted in the church office until November 8!

**Follow us on Facebook @ FirstPresbyLewisburgPA**

Corey Jusko

Director of Children's Ministry

firstpresbykids@gmail.com



# November Youth Newsletter

We are still hosting youth group on Sunday evenings! Although it's been difficult to adjust the way we do youth group and suspend some of our youth activities for the time being, we are happy to continue to safely offer what we can!

The youth are continuing to donate towards the Love Does School in Afghanistan and we're excited hearing back about all the incredible work that is being done.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, the youth groups will be packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We are looking for donations on box stuffing supplies. We are looking for:

- **Hygiene items** (toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, bandages, etc)
- **School supplies** (pencils, pencil sharpeners, notebooks, pens, erasers, glue sticks, etc)
- **Other items** (hats, scarves, mittens, small collapsible bags, etc)
- **Fun, "Wow" Items** (small toys, stuffed animals, etc.)

We will be bringing back high school small group the first week in November and meeting Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Church Parlor to maintain proper social distancing! Our small group book will be "Blue Like Jazz" by Donald Miller. Contact Matt Rishell if your student would like a copy of the book.

We're continuing to observe all CDC guidelines to the absolute best of our ability. We know it's not ideal, but thank you to all the parents and youth that have been wearing masks, distancing, and remembering to wash hands whenever possible to keep everyone healthy.

As we have been, we will continue to monitor the situation and will be adapting as the CDC or Lewisburg School district decides.

Unfortunately, this means that there will be no Friendsgiving this year.

We ask for your continued prayers for our ministries and for the health and well-being of all our students. We ask for prayers in an unusually trying time for us all.

Thank you all,

Matthew Rishell – Director of Youth Ministry

Don't forget to use amazon smile for all your  
Christmas Shopping!



smile

You shop. **Amazon gives.**

Thank you!

Because of you all, Amazon has donated over \$400 dollars to the Youth Program this year alone!

Curious how it works?

When you go to smile.amazon.com, you have the option to support a charity of your choosing. When you select to support "First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg", 0.5% of each purchase will be donated directly to our youth programs.

The best part is that all of your prime benefits work the same, you don't pay more for any items, and anyone can use it anytime and anywhere!

Over \$80,000 worth of purchases were made using smile.amazon.com this year, which is incredible!

Please continue to use smile.amazon.com (even on the app now!) and support the youth whenever you shop at Amazon!

**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](mailto:firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org)**