

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)

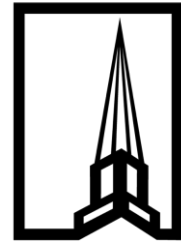
We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on Sunday, October 4th, and again on Sunday, November 1st. November 1st is a day of particular significance on the Christian calendar, known as All Saints' Day, when we recognize and remember those who have passed through death and have entered the kingdom of heaven. The earliest evidence for celebrating All Saints' on November 1st goes all the way back to the 700's A.D., and in medieval England this holy day became known as All Hallows. This celebration has extended far beyond the Christian Church, as seen by the many people who dress up in masks and costumes the night before, on Hallow's Eve, or as it's better known to the sweet-toothed among us, Halloween.

During our worship service on Sunday, November 1st, we will give thanks for the lives of those saints from our First Pres church family who have died in the past year, and as we gather around the Lord's table we will take comfort in the promise that all who dwell in Christ are "raised up with him, in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 2:6). Our communion with Christ through the bread and the cup gives us a foretaste of the great heavenly banquet that we too will one day enjoy, and it unites us with all the faithful in heaven and on earth who now enjoy his glory and love face to face.

This All Saints' Day, if you would like a loved one remembered, please let us know with a phone call or email to the church office. Pastor Ryan will light a candle on the communion table in their memory, and include them in our Prayers of the People.

Peace to you,

Pastor Ryan



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Oct. 4

9:00 a.m. [Virtual Sunday School for all ages](#)

10:30 a.m. [Holy Communion](#)
In-person worship or livestream
(link to Youtube service can be found on our website and Facebook page)

Thursday, Oct. 8,15,22,29

6:00 p.m. [Bell Choir Practice](#)

Sunday, Oct. 11,18,25

9:00 a.m. [Virtual Sunday School for all ages](#)

10:30 a.m. In-person worship or
livestream (link to Youtube
service can be found on our
website and Facebook page)

Sunday, Oct. 25

10:30 a.m. [Harvest Homes Sunday](#)

October Meetings

Tuesday, Oct. 20

7:00 p.m. Zoom Session Meeting

October Ushers

Mike Pursley
Ken Jusko
Ryan Graver
Steve Mebius
Meghan Mebius

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthdays

2 Ian Cavanagh, Audrey Collins, Bonnie Troxell

3 Jody Zimmerman

4 Melanie Brown

8 Matt Kalcich, Elizabeth Veening

9 Dede Gronlund, Jack Temple

10 David Miller, Alexandra Remmey, Bill Roll

12 Paul Tarves, Samantha Wakeman

15 Richard Barlett

17 Howard Stoelting

18 Dan Wagner

26 Charlie Heid, Ruth McCord

28 Judy Bruce, Amelia Collins, John Jones

29 Marsha Tarves

October Anniversaries

1 Bill & Beth Shutt

2 William & Judy Bruce

5 Dan & Kim Wagner

15 Tony & Alison Collins

18 Rusty & Karen Graber, Tom & Marilyn Gresh

26 Paul & Karen Miller



Dinner By the River

Thanks to everyone who helped prepare, serve, and clean-up on Thursday, October 1st at the first Dinner By the River since March. From the church's porch steps on Cherry Alley, we served 30 delicious boxed, take-out meals of ziti and meat sauce, salad, bread, brownie, and fresh fruit.

We plan to offer this take-out dinner next on Thursday, November 5th, from 5:30-6:30pm. If you would like to contribute or help, please contact Mary Kay Torretti.



Sunday, October 25th, we will celebrate Harvest Home by collecting food items for the Presbyterian Home in Williamsport. They are in need of #10 cans of fruits and vegetables, flour, sugar, coffee, pasta, rice, etc. If you are unable to attend Church that Sunday, you may bring donated items any time throughout the month of October. Donations can be left outside of the office.

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://www.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://www.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 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.

IT'S TIME TO START PACKING SHOEBOXES !!

Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child have been working diligently to assure there will be a shoebox collection season during this strange year we are all experiencing. National Collection Week is Monday, November 16 – Monday, November 23 ... always the third week of November. Billions of needy children around the world need to hear about the love of Jesus even more this year. Since 1993, more than 178 million children in over 160 countries and territories have received a shoebox. Operation Christmas Child has partnering churches and volunteers around the world that are willing to work to deliver these boxes and the Gospel message.



With our restricted worship service we probably won't try to have Shoebox Sunday this year, but we certainly can pack and collect boxes. The church has a number of "GO" (Gospel Opportunity) boxes to hand out – those are the preprinted ones - plastic and cardboard. Of course it is still fine to use a standard size shoe box either plain or wrapped. The boxes we have will be in the Parlor beginning October 15th for you to pick up or contact me and I will be glad to deliver them to you and pick them up again when they are packed and ready. There will also be supplies and information available.

Operation Christmas Child has a way of sending a shoebox online. It is called Build a Box and costs just \$25.00. You get to choose WOW items and small toys for a boy or girl, ages 2-4, 5-9 or 10-12 and OCC provides the "basic" items (school supplies, hygiene items, etc.) The fee includes the \$9.00 shipping/handling fee. This is really a good deal and fun, too. I recently did one to see how it worked. Another good feature of doing your box(es) this way is that they can be sent to some Restricted Countries where customs regulations are very strict and regular shipments cannot go. I plan to set up a "Goal Page" under Build A Box for First Presbyterian so that our church can receive credit for boxes done this way. Website: Samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child.

First Presbyterian will continue to be a Drop-Off Location with Sandy Miller as Leader. Things will be quite different, however, as all donations will be taken from the donor's vehicles and brought inside by volunteers. We are going to need many able-bodied helpers. More information will be coming about this.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions. I don't have the exact numbers, but last year we collected around 200 boxes do you think we can match that or do even better???? Let me know if I can help.

In His Service,
Alice Marquart
Year-Round Volunteer
Operation Christmas Child
570-522-0973
alicemarquart@gmail.com



First Presby Kids News

OCTOBER 2020

“God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God.” Ephesians 2:8 (NLT)

Join us for virtual Sunday School! Every Sunday at 9 am, our kindergarten through 5th grade students gather together online for a 30-minute lesson led by our rotating team of Sunday School teachers.



October’s lessons introduce us to “The Fab Five” – the 5 prophets of the Old Testament, that is! Each week we’ll meet the prophets – Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Jeremiah, and Daniel – who have the power to see into the future and the courage to warn Israel about the error of their ways. What lessons we have to learn from them! This comic-book inspired series of lessons will help our kids discover what it means to be faithful to the one and only God.



Join our teaching team! Want to get in on the Sunday morning fun? Become a part of our teaching team. Lessons are provided for you with plenty of time to prepare. Lessons are interactive and creative and get our kids talking! Contact Corey for more information or to get involved!

Looking forward. Virtual Sunday School has received positive feedback and, because we are unsure of what the next few months hold for us, we’ve decided to continue virtual Sunday School through the end of 2020.

Follow us on Facebook @ FirstPresbyLewisburgPA

Corey Jusko

Director of Children's Ministry

firstpresbykids@gmail.com

October Youth Newsletter

We are continuing to host Refuge each Sunday night at 7pm and are excited for the return of our middle school programming as well. We're working hard on finding creative solutions to make sure that we can be properly sanitized and can safely hold both groups Sunday nights.

We'll be passing on information as soon as we are able!

Spots for our summer 2020 mission trip from July 11th – 17th are already filling up fast. But we still have 2 spots left! The total cost per student is \$260 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.

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 not all of our programs will be starting in the fall as we hoped. Although we look forward to being back to normal, for the time being, we will not be holding before school breakfasts or Wednesday night small groups.

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.

Read below to hear about an exciting new way our youth will be giving back this year!

Thank you all,

Matthew Rishell – Director of Youth Ministry

“Love Does” School in Afghanistan



The author of our 2 high school small group books, Bob Goff, has started numerous schools for marginalized communities around the world. Beginning when he was the ambassador to Uganda and started the original “Love Does” school, Bob has since founded schools and nurseries for mothers and children in Somalia, a school designed to educate and rehabilitate Witch Doctors in Uganda, and schools in Nepal, Iraq, and Afghanistan as well.

The schools offer education in communities where it is either not readily available, dangerous to pursue, or a combination of the two. The schools don’t only provide the resources necessary for a traditional education, but also emphasize care for the individual and a chance for many of them to hear the Gospels for the first time.

Among all the incredible schools to support, the youth have decided to donate towards the “Love Does” School in Afghanistan. Our goal will be to raise \$30 per month – 100% of which goes directly to the school itself.

We ask for prayers for all the incredible work that these schools are doing around the world, for the students and teachers at each, and that the youth will not only reach, but exceed, our \$30/month goal.



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

Trustees Report

Capital Campaign Dollars at Work

The painters have started our building "facelift". They will include the steeple and expect to be busy for about 8 weeks. Carpenters have repaired doors inside and out so they can open and close properly. A new metal door was installed in a utility room in the basement. At the outside entrance near the cave, a new door was constructed and installed with breakaway for safety exit. HVAC insulation is being installed to complete work on the 6 units that were replaced last fall.

Thank you for continuing to pay your pledges to our capital campaign fund. We are thankful for every contribution. We welcome any amounts above your pledge. We still need \$12,500 pledge dollars to reach our goal of \$250,000. WE ARE BLESSED.

Unified Budget Maintenance Dollars at Work

New energy efficient lights have been installed on the steeple. Outside electrical outlets have been installed at the manse. HVAC repairs are scheduled for the library and education wings. A roof repair and wall repair in the hallway between the office and the library has been repaired.

A special thanks to our sexton, Marcia Aikey, for sealing and painting the handicapped parking area in the rear of the church and painting the railing along the rear entrance. She is painting pews and touching up areas in the sanctuary where needed. Marcia, we thank you for all that you do and realize that we fail to see and appreciate your work at times. WE ARE BLESSED.

Trees are being trimmed on our property and plans to tidy up garden beds in the spring are forming. We give a special thanks to Bill Black and Tom Rich for tree trimming and to Bill for his general contracting skills coordinating all of our projects. WE ARE BLESSED.

Thank you all for continuing to support our unified budget. WE ARE BLESSED.