

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. (Sept. 5)
10:30 a.m. (beginning Sept. 12)

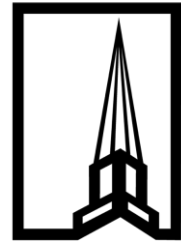
School has started, the temperature has dropped, and I've even seen some early colored leaves swirling around the yard. I'm ready for a new season to start and look forward to the new schedule and events that fall will bring.

At this changing of the seasons, I encourage you to make some changes in your life of faith as well. This September, try something new! The church provides us with a multitude of opportunities for growth, fellowship, and service, a few of which I'll highlight below.

Our Nursery needs volunteers to spend time with our youngest members (birth to age 3), both during the Sunday School hour from 9:00-10:00, and during worship from 10:30 to 11:30. Kid's Church, which begins after the Children's Message, has a complete curriculum of lessons and activities – we just need you to help share it with our 4- to 9-year-olds. Corey Jusko is glad to walk you through what both these programs require.

If you've been gifted with a welcoming smile, consider helping to Greet or Usher for the worship service. For first-time visitors our church building is a veritable maze, and having someone there to offer a warm "good morning!", point the way for them, or to answer a question, might very well determine if they ever come back. Session member Marcia Thomas coordinates this important ministry as part of our Worship Committee. She would love to talk to you about how, when, and where you can help.

Our free community supper, Dinner By the River, continues on the first Thursday of the month from 5:30-



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

LEWISBURG, PA

Upcoming Events

Friday, September 3

5:30-8:00 p.m. **First Friday Kids Night in the Great Hall**

Sunday, September 5

9:30 a.m. **Holy Communion**

Saturday, September 11

TBD **Volunteer Work Day at the Church & Manse**

Sunday, September 12

9:30 a.m. **Sunday School**
10:30 a.m. **Worship Service**

September Meetings

Tuesday, September 7

7:30 p.m. Missions Meeting

Tuesday, September 14

7:30 p.m. Youth Director Search Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 21

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
7:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting

September Ushers

TBD

Anyone interested in ushering can sign up on the board in the narthex or notify the office.

6:30 PM. We are in need of more teams before we can expand to include additional weeks. Two or three families working together can easily compose a team, and Mary Kay Torretti can coach you through what it takes to make the meal. Mary Kay also coordinates the behind-the-scenes preparation, so even if you can't cook, plate, or serve, you can still help during the week by picking up or sorting locally donated food items.

Other areas you can participate in include Sunday School classes, Mission Committee, the Himmelreich Library, singing and handbell Choirs, Congregational Life Committee, and various other projects organized by our Session, Deacons, and Board of Trustees. You'll find the list of current members of these church boards further down in this newsletter. If you've ever wondered what they do – please reach out and ask one of them!

First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg can only demonstrate the Gospel clearly, and offer the presence of God powerfully, when we commit to following God's call and to sharing in the ministries the Lord has entrusted to us. God brought you to this church to show you his love for you. God also brought you to this church because you have something to contribute here, something without which, the body of Christ is lacking. So step up and jump in! And discover what good things God has planned for you and through you.

In Christ with you,
Pastor Ryan

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

- 1 Elyse Kempen, Judith Ziegler
- 2 Alice Marquart, Sharon Pearce, Kim Wagner
- 4 Carolyn McSween, Karen Shurtliffe
- 8 Richard Erdley, Caroline Kepner, Rob Royer
- 10 Audrey Kalcich, Jan Peterson
- 11 Richard Cooper, Mark Temple
- 13 Kirk Jarrett
- 15 Liv Heid
- 16 Lisa Kraus



September Birthdays (continued)

18 Sarah Graber
24 Landon Jarrett
28 Robert McTammany
29 Sawyer Kovaschetz



September Anniversaries

24 Richard & Sharon Beaver
25 Nick & Amanda Kovaschetz

Join the Bell Choir!

The Bell Choir is seeking a new look this year. How, you may ask? By adding new faces. For a relatively small time commitment of 30-45 minutes per week, you too can become a part of this ministry of our Church. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. No previous ringing experience is needed, just a willingness to learn, fellowship, and have lots of fun. Whether you are an experienced ringer or just interested in trying something new, please consider joining us. Our first rehearsal will be on September 8th. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Susan Erdley (susan.erdley@gmail.com).

Make a
Joyful
Noise!



Singers Wanted!

Are you looking for a way to be active in the life of our church? Do you like to sing? If so, I would like to personally extend an invitation to be part of our Chancel Choir this fall. We are always looking for extra voices. It is not necessary to commit to a weekly basis in order to participate.

Our rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 7:30pm. Please prayerfully consider joining us to sing unto the Lord.

Using Our Online Giving through Faithlife

We consider it a joy to give to the Lord, and we are thankful for your support as we proclaim the good news of the gospel in our community. We know that many of you give sacrificially and cheerfully to support our ministries and missions.

As Pastor Ryan mentioned, we have recently launched a new giving platform, Faithlife Giving. With it, you can easily and securely make one-time or recurring gifts!

To give, you can go directly to <https://faithlife.com/lewisburgpresby/give> and follow the prompts. You can also get there from the church's website, <https://first-presby.org> when you click on the green "Give" button at the top of the page.

Once on the Faithlife site, you can create an account so you can view your giving history, access your giving statements, and keep track of your giving methods. You have the option of giving to our Unified fund, which supports our budgeted personnel, programs, and facility expenses. By selecting the box, "Add or change funds," you can contribute to other church accounts, such as Deacons, Memorial Gifts, Capital Campaign, Missions, or Youth Summer Mission Trip. You will receive an email from Faithlife confirming your gift.

We also have text to give! Simply text "Give" and a numerical amount to: (570) 203-1059 (e.g. Give 50). You'll receive a text response with a link to follow to complete your gift. After setting up your account, future gifts can be processed automatically.

Thank you for choosing to be a part of what God is doing here at First Presbyterian! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the office at (570) 524-4419 or email us at info@first-presby.org.

Adult Sunday School Class Offerings (Sundays, Sept. 12 – Dec. 19 at 9:00 a.m.)

Class Title

Location

Made In the Image of God

Chapel

God's final act in the creation story of Genesis 1 is making mankind in the image of God, "both male and female." Thinking about what it means to be a human being, how do we understand our shared role as bearers of God's image, yet also account for the differences and impacts of our male and female gender? As one author says, "There is simply no way around the fact that the human being does not exist as a sexually neutral being."

In light of ongoing debates in our society and within the Church concerning gender, sex, sexual identity, and marriage, this class will seek a scriptural and theological basis for responding to these questions. Beyond any single verse's command to, "do this," or "don't do that," we will seek a broader understanding of what God says about sex and gender.

Be ready to speak to one another in love and with respect about issues with which we have very strong feelings, and very different experiences. No matter your views, be ready to learn, to be challenged, and to grow in faith.

Meeting in the Chapel starting Sept. 12 at 9:00 a.m. This class is for adults and high school youth. (Taught by Pastor Ryan)

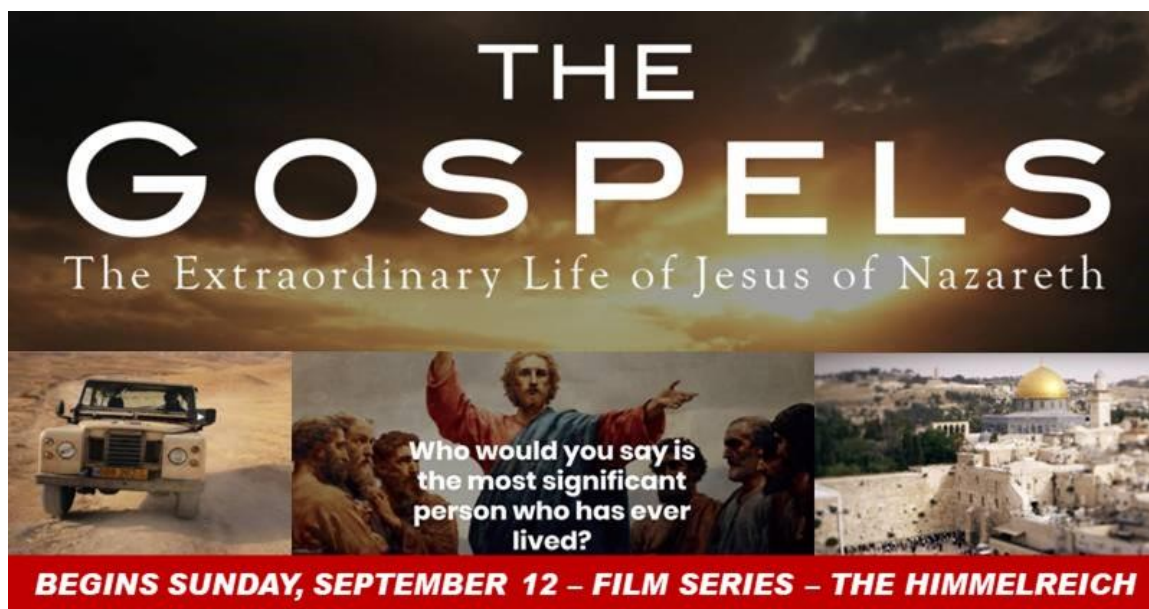
Engaging the Scriptures

Zoom

A lively study of that morning's worship service scripture will take place. Information and questions will be presented by the class leader. Opportunities for discussion and pre-reading will provide preparation and insight into the background and culture of the time and place of the scripture passage. You will find this class to be an opportunity to learn and be prepared for morning worship. This class will be taught on Zoom. If you are interested in joining the class, please email Dave Shrom at dshrom@csrlink.net. (Taught by Victor Vogel, Bonnie Troxell, and Dave Shrom)

The Gospels

Library



Join Us Sundays!

Your Choice – 9:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.

THE GOSPELS – "The Extraordinary Life Of Jesus Of Nazareth"

THE MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

THE 18-PART FILM SERIES CONTINUES!

This study takes us on a wild adventure as it tells the story of Jesus from the locations recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Travel to over 50 ancient sites in The Holy Land to discover the Gospels in a fresh and compelling way.

"SUNDAY CONVERSATIONS"

Begins SUNDAY, September 12th

At 9:00 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.

Join The Conversation!

Invite your Friends!

All Are Welcome – Refreshments Served

A Multi-Media Presentation

Only At The Himmelreich!



THE HIMMELREICH LIBRARY

AND CHRISTIAN RESOURCE CENTER "THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW"

"This is the day that the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24

In recent months there's been talk and anticipation about returning to normal (or at least a new normal). We've faced so much challenge and heartache but also unexpected blessings during the COVID season. The news has been scary and unsettling in so many areas. In the midst of drama nationally, politically, in the health arena...it's been hard to find hope and joy. And yet...

I believe that God is at work in both the dramatic and the ordinary areas of life. I think that every day we are blessed with small acts of love and kindness, helpful deeds, enjoyable moments and gentle words of encouragement.

Our family has increased to four grandchildren so there is always activity. But the problems of little ones are easily solved: a bottle, a diaper change, a kiss on the forehead, a hug. I want to cherish each of these days because I know they will pass quickly. So today, I invite you to look at your ordinary days. Pause, take a breath and consider the God moments of the past day or week. COVID has caused us to slow down. I hope it's also enabled us to appreciate new ways of connection, new opportunities to rest and the beauty of the moment.

I'd also like to hear of your experiences. Details that may seem trivial to share are really very important.

Celebrate the ordinary. Appreciate the routine. Be grateful to our Lord for each new day.

Blessings,

Barb Yorks



We're looking for some help running our cameras, sound, and livestream from the "tech booth" in the balcony. Requires you arrive 30 minutes before the service starts. We will train you and compensate you for your time! If interested, please speak with Pastor Ryan or Mike Pursley.



First Presby Kids News

September 2021

“The Lord is faithful and will keep all of his promises. He is loving toward everything he has made.”

Psalm 145:13b (NIRV)

Volunteer with us! Our First Presby Family includes so many young children. And we offer those children many opportunities to grow their faith. We need volunteers in all areas of Children’s Ministry – **Sunday School, Nursery, Kids Church, and First Friday!** Contact Corey Jusko to learn more or to sign up!

Sunday School returns! On Sunday, September 12 we bring back Sunday school at 9:00 am every Sunday. During our fall semester, we’ll work our way through the Old Testament, reading about some of the most notable people in Bible history. Lessons about Abraham, Moses, Joshua, and Samuel ultimately lead us to the celebration of Jesus’ birth in December!



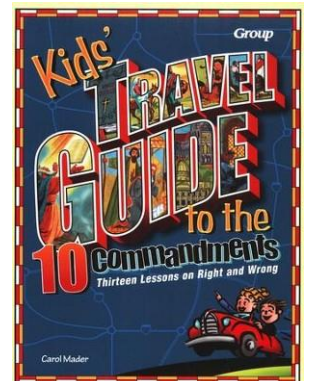
Nursery is OPEN! The nursery remains open, staffed with loving volunteers. The nursery is open to our youngest members from birth through age 3 and is open during Sunday school from 9:00 to 10:00 and again at 10:30 through the worship service.

Kids Church! This fall we’re taking a journey through the 10 commandments. Using 13 weeks of short, simple lessons, we’ll learn that God gives us law because He loves us.

Kids Church is available for kids age 4 through 3rd grade. Children are dismissed from the sanctuary immediately following the Children’s Message.

First Friday returns! Plan to join us on **Friday, September 3** as we bring back First Friday for First Presby Kids! It’s a time for worship, learning, creating and playing and, of course, PIZZA!

First Friday is open to kids in our community, ages 3 through 5th grade. First Friday runs from 5:30 – 8:00 pm and will be held on September 3, October 1, November 5 and December 3.



Follow us on Facebook @ FirstPresbyLewisburgPA

Director of Children’s Ministry

Corey Jusko

firstpresbykids@gmail.com

September Youth Newsletter

As we work to fill the role of Youth Director, we are happy to report that youth activities will continue with the help of Rob Guissanie, Brent Papsen, Wendy McTammany and Pastor Ryan. If you have any questions, please reach out to the office at info@first-presby.org in the interim.

First Presbyterian Church Officers:

Session

Gene Heid
Mike Pursley
Amie Reif
Marcia Thomas
Ryan Graver
Kathy Storm
Wendy McTammany
Steve Mebius
Bonnie Troxell
Victor Vogel
Jessie Walsh
Dave Shrom

Deacons

Jan Temple
Peg Bouton
Barb Schmidt
Amber Lind
Glenn Dobbs
Ann Miller
Karen Ishii
Kristen Mebius
Ann Roll
Nancy Steckel
Sally Vogel
Kim Wagner

Trustees

Wayne Samuelson
Eric Schmidt
Katie Cavanagh
Tom Rich
Randy Storm
Bill Black
Craig Harley
Dan Wagner

Alternates: Bill Roll (Trustees)

Nominating Committee Members: Craig Harley, Gene Heid, Karen Ishii, Ann Roll, Kathy Storm, Mary Kay Torretti



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.