THE FIRST PRESS September Newsletter 2022

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. 4) 10:30 a.m. (beginning Sept. 11)

Just this week, as I took our dogs Luther and Audrey outside for their morning walk, I found myself wondering about something that hadn't crossed my mind in long while, "Hey, it's cool out here! Where are my sweatshirts!" September brings not only a welcome break from this summer's heat, but new events and activities in the life of our church.

I'm really excited for Sunday, September 11th. From a Rally Day breakfast in the Great Hall, to exploring "messy faith" with our youth and children, to an evening hymn sing on the Himmelreich lawn, the day is loaded with evidence of God's love for us, and of the great things He is doing in and through our church, in and for this community.

The following Sunday, September 18th, I look forward to sharing details about where and how I'll be serving as an Army Chaplain, as I prepare to deploy to the Middle East with the PA Army National Guard. We'll offer light refreshments at this reception after worship in the Great Hall.

Sunday, September 25th will be a bitter-sweet day for me, the last Sunday I'll be in church until my unit returns. Throughout this month we'll share information about what will be different while I'm gone – from our rotation of four local, retired Pastors who will be filling the pulpit,



Upcoming Events

Sunday, Sept. 4 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Wednesday, Sept. 7,14,21,28

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, Sept. 11- Rally Day 9:00 a.m. Breakfast in the Great Hall 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

5:00 p.m. Family Kick-off Event 6:00 p.m. Library Hymn Sing

Thursday, Sept. 15 7:00 p.m. Author's Night in the Himmelreich Library

Sunday, Sept. 18 Following Worship- Reception for Pastor Ryan in the Great Hall

September Meetings Wednesday, Sept. 7 6:30 p.m. Worship Life Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 20 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting 7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting

September Ushers TBD to whom to call about a question or concern. Our Session and Staff have developed a solid, thoughtful plan to keep our services, programs, and ministries going strong. I will miss you, and our life together in Christ. At the same time, I'm very curious to see how God will use this season to bring new people and new ideas to help our church serve and worship God, as well as new opportunities to love the world in Jesus' name.

With each new day, I thank God for His faithfulness, for the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and for you, my brothers and sisters, with whom I get to share it.

Praying peace to you, and God's peace in this word, near and far,

Pastor Ryan

New Church Entry System

On September 1st, we activated our new interactive entry system on the Market Street and Cherry Alley entrance doors. During regular weekday office hours, please press the button on the video intercom and our staff will unlock the door for you. Entry "fobs" have been issued to our Elders, Deacons, and Trustees, as well as to Staff and program leaders who require access at other times. The system is programmed to unlock automatically on Sunday mornings, and for other congregational events. Please speak to Alison Collins if you need to schedule access for a meeting or other event.

Pastor Ryan's Deployment Send-off – Sunday, Sept. 18th

Following worship on September 18th, in the Great Hall, we'll hold a fare-well reception for Pastor Ryan. He leaves for a deployment to Kuwait with his PA Army National Guard unit in early October (with a planned return to the church next August.) Ryan will share about what our Soldiers are doing in Kuwait, and what his ministry as a Division Chaplain in the region will entail. Light refreshments will be served!



Volunteers are needed to ensure coffee hour continues every Sunday from 10:00–10:30 a.m. Coffee and treats provided, or you can bake/buy your own. Please choose a date on the sign-up sheet located in the kitchen. Thank you!

UPCOMING USHERS: October 2022

Ken Jusko Pat Samuelson Wayne Samuelson

*If the month isn't convenient for you, let the Office know. If you will be absent one week, please find a substitute.

Updated Office Hours:

Monday: Closed Tuesday-Friday: 9am-3pm



September Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

Elyse Kempen, Judith Ziegler
 Alice Marquart, Sharon Pearce, Kim Wagner
 Carolyn McSween, Karen Shurtliffe
 Rich Erdley, Caroline Kepner, Rob Royer
 Audrey Kalcich, Jan Peterson
 Richard Cooper, Mark Temple
 Kirk Jarrett
 Liv Heid
 Lisa Kraus
 Sarah Graber
 Landon Jarrett
 Robby McTammany
 Sawyer Kovaschetz

<u>September Anniversaries</u> 24 Rich & Sharon Beaver 25 Nick & Amanda Kovaschetz

Sunday School is Starting



- Children 2 classes: Grades PreK 2nd, and 3rd 5th. Curriculum "Follow Me". Meet in the CE wing.
- Youth Combined Middle and High School class, led by Lisa Doutt. Curriculum "Follow Me". Meets in The Cave.
- Adults have 3 options to choose from:
 - o "Follow Me" led by Corey Jusko. Meets in the CE wing, Green Room.
 - Engaging the Scriptures Take a closer look at that Sunday's sermon text.
 Team led. Meets in the Chapel.
 - Sunday Conversations Various series and Biblical topics. Led by Rick Gathman. Meets in the Himmelreich Library.



HOPE YOU FIND TIME TO LOOK BACK ON ALL YOUR SWEET MEMORIES TOGETHER. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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Operation Christmas Child: Item of the Month



Join the Bell Choir!

For the month of September, we will be collecting small puzzles and games in support of Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to donate any of these items to be packed in the shoeboxes for OCC, please place them in the collection box located in the parlor. As in previous years, we will be collecting different items each month. It is a fun way to get a jump start on shoebox packing for November!

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 6:30pm 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 7th. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Susan Erdley (susan.erdley@gmail.com)



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Dinner By The River

We are seeking an apprentice to Mary Kay Torretti, who coordinates this free community meal ministry. Managing donations from local grocery stores and restaurants, scheduling cooking teams from our own congregation and other local churches, and ordering supplies are part of what Mary Kay does to enable us to lovingly prepare and serve 50+ hot and delicious meals at each Dinner By the River. As she anticipates retiring from this program, we're asking God to provide someone to "learn the ropes" from her, in order to keep this important demonstration of God's love going strong for years to come. If you are interested, or have questions, please speak to Mary Kay or to Pastor Ryan.

Furniture looking for a Home

Several months ago, we cleaned out the Manse for Lisa's arrival and have some furniture which we were not able to sell on the antiques market. Before we proceed further with disposition, we would like to offer members the chance to claim one or more pieces. There is no charge. The current inventory is as follows:

2 upholstered side chairs with wooden arms

1 black leather or simulated leather office chair with arms

1 small painted desk

1 ladderback chair with cane seat

1 framed mirror suitable for top of a dresser or buffet

1 square end table

1 brass table lamp

1 2 drawer small metal file cabinet - beige

1 small end table - venier on flakeboard

1 antique china cabinet in 2 pieces

2 very large upholstered couches

These items will be available for inspection in the church's garage on Cherry Alley after the 10:30AM worship service until noon on the following Sundays in September -Sept 11, 18 and 25th. All items are to be claimed on a first come basis and must be removed from the garage not later than Sept 30th. For questions or additional information, please contact Bill Black at wmdblack@gmail.com or 484-624-2714





First Presby Kids News

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." Ephesians 4:15 (NIrV)



Rally Day is Sunday, September 11. We will gather in the Great Hall at 9:00am for breakfast, fellowship and an introduction to all Sunday school offerings.



Sunday School Returns! This year we are introducing a new curriculum called Follow Me, which leads family members of all ages through the same scripture every week. We will have a class for pre-K through 2nd grade, 3rd through 5th grade, 6th through 12th grade, and a class for parents!

Nursery care will continue to be available for children from birth through age 3. The nursery is open during the Sunday school hour and for the duration of our Sunday morning worship service. Adult supervision is required if no volunteer is assigned.

Kids' Church remains open to children from age 4 through 3rd grade. Kids' Church meets every Sunday immediately following the Children's Message.

Family Sunday moves to the second Sunday of the month beginning September 11. All children are invited to stay in the sanctuary for the duration of the service. However, the library will continue to offer story time for children ages 4 through 2nd grade.

First Friday returns! Mark your calendars for the following dates:

Sunday, September 11, 5-7pm – all families are invited to join us for a kickoff event Friday, October 7, 5:30-8:00pm – Fall Festival for kids 4 through 5th grade

Friday, November 4, 5:30-8:00pm – OCC Shoebox Packing party for kids 4 through 5th grade

Friday, December 2, 5:30-8:00pm – Jesus' birthday party for kids 4 through 5th grade

Follow us on Facebook @ FirstPresbyLewisburgPA

Corey Jusko

Director of Children's Ministry

firstpresbykids@gmail.com

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FIRST PRESBY YOUTH NEWS



"Messy Faith"

Sun, Sept 11, 5-7

pm

For all youth in grades 6-12

Join us as we kick-off the 2022-23 year.

Taco Bar and "Gutter" Sundaes, lots of games, bring your friends. You might get messy so don't wear your best clothes.

Hebrews 11:1 - Faith makes us sure of what we hope for and gives us proof of what we cannot see.

SEPT/OCT YOUTH DATES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

FALL KICK-OFF for ALL YOUTH 5:00-7:00 pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 ALL YOUTH - 6-7:30 pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING 6-7 pm (grades 8-12)

SUNDAY. OCTOBER 2 MIDDLE SCHOOL - 6-7:30 pm HIGH SCHOOL - 7:45-9:00 pm

<u>SUNDAY. OCTOBER 9</u> ALL YOUTH - 6-7:30 pm

SUNDAY. OCTOBER 16 MIDDLE SCHOOL - 6-7:30 pm HIGH SCHOOL - 7:45-9:00 pm

SUNDAY. OCTOBER 23 ALL YOUTH - 6-7:30 pm

<u>SUNDAY. OCTOBER 30</u> HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP MEETING 6-7 pm (grades 8-12)



ADULT VOLUNTEERS needed for youth group. If you have a heart for 6th-12th graders please let Lisa Doutt know. You DO NOT need to commit to every week.

Lisa Doutt

Director of Youth Ministries

NEW YOUTH GROUP TIMES



Starting in October, the Youth Group will meet separately twice a month as Middle School and High School and together twice a month to work on community service projects and do something special (ie bowling, sledding, theme nights, Christmas party, indoor climbing, progressive dinner, etc). See dates on the left.

- Middle School will meet in the CAVE
- High School will meet at the manse for dinner and discussion based on Messy Faith.

(Please note, these plans may change at any time. Our goal is to best reach ALL the youth in a way that excites them and strengthens their faith.)

How can you help?

Would you like to help the Youth Group but volunteering isn't the right fit for you?

Could you: HELP with Kick-off PRAY for us PROVIDE snacks for us

If you answered "YES" to any of these, please contact Lisa Doutt to learn more.



There will be Sunday School for grades 6-12 this year. Join us for Rally Day (and breakfast) on Sept. 11 at 9 am to learn more. Classes start on Sept. 18 at 9 am.

Did you know the Youth Group has an Instagram account? Please check it out and follow us (and share with your friends): www.instagram.com/1stpresbylbg/

firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY



Would you like to participate in a new kind of Bible study this year?

Do you have a device where you can download an app? Can you find 15-30 minutes in your day for each lesson? Are you able to meet with a small group once a week or every other week either live or via Zoom?

If so, why not join Lisa in a Wordgo study group? Wordgo lets us choose from their study options and we can set our own schedule. It is appropriate for High School, College, and Adults.

Check out this short video to learn more: <u>https://youtu.be/AhJpav2rjac</u> and download the Wordgo app for more information.

We can form as many small groups as we want to depending on everyone's schedules. Let Lisa Doutt know if you're interested.

WEBSITE UPDATE

We are in the process of creating a new website for the church. If you have any information you would like us to include, please get that to Lisa Doutt (firstpresbyyouth@first-presby.org) by September 30. Thanks!

From the Himmelreich

Greetings!

It's been a little while since I've sent out this letter but wanted to keep everyone informed about what's happening at the Himmelreich. Here is the schedule for September.

Library is closed on Monday, September 5 for Labor Day.

Friday, Sept. 9: Book Sale, 2-6.

Sunday, Sept. 11: Story Hour for ages 3-7 during Church Service.

Sunday, Sept. 11: Ice Cream Social and Hymn Sing, 6:00.

Thursday, Sept. 15: Author Night featuring Jill Thomas, 7:00. Refreshments follow.

Saturday, Sept. 17: Historical Tour of Lewisburg, Himmelreich is on the tour! 10-5.

Each Wednesday at 2, we will be meeting for a book study. We're starting, Love Your Age, on Sept. 14. Copies of the book are available.

Hannah's prayer is found in Samuel 2. Hannah was a godly woman who desperately wanted a child. She prayed that if God would give her a baby she would dedicate

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the child to Him. Samuel was an answer to Hannah's prayers and his life had a powerful impact on his nation. The prayers of moms (and would be moms!) can have a major impact.

I'm starting a Moms in Prayer Group for Moms and Grand Moms of Bucknell and Susquehanna students. We will probably meet via Zoom because the Moms are from varied locations. However, we also have a few local moms so there may be two groups. If you are interested in more info or in taking part, please let me know. Blessings,

Barb Yorks, Head Librarian

Union County Giving Closet



Questions??? Please contact Alison Collins at the church office at 570-524-4419 or <u>ucgivingcloset@gmail.com</u>. Follow us on Facebook @ucgivingcloset.

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LEWISBURG'S WALK AGAINST FOOD INSECURITY

The Lewisburg Council of Churches helps raise money to support programs in our area that fight food insecurity through providing food and education.

JOIN THE WALK



When?

Sunday, Oct. 2nd at 2pm

Where?

We begin at St. Paul's UMC and walk through out Lewisburg. (1 Mile or 5k)

What do I do?

Help raise money and get the word out about the walk.

You can raise money on your own or participate with a church's initiative and bring your raised money to the walk!

All Checks Payable to: Lewisburg Council of Churches

Organizations we've supported: The Eastern Union County Supplemental Food Bank, the Emergency Food Pantry, the Beacon Shop, and the Donald Heiter Community Center.

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