



May all who come behind us find us faithful.

FIRST PRESS



November 2009

Inside this issue:

B-days & Anniversaries 2

Moment for Missions 3
Poinsettias
SVCC

OCC 4
Cantata
Pajama Tree

Youth Page 5-6

November Church Calendar 7

Volunteers 8
Hanging of Greens
Thanksgiving Dinner

From the Pastor

For many of us when we think of Thanksgiving we think of gathering with family. We've all heard that the American family is under attack. I have a wild concept: I believe one person has done more to harm the American family than anyone else? Norman Rockwell. Okay, not really Norman himself, rather the stereotype of family that is the legacy of his art. It creates the misconception that our families should be like a "Norman Rockwell painting."

This is not the portrayal of family that the Bible paints. In fact every family portrayed in Scripture is pretty messed up. The Old Testament is filled with stories of misbehavior and animosity toward family members. The

New Testament does not have many stories of families, but most of them show some level of hostility toward family members. At one point Jesus' own family was antagonistic toward His ministry (Mark 3:21). Within the Christian community this misconception manifests itself in the idea that, "a good Christian family is a trouble free family." The reality is "a Christian family" is one that loves one another through thick and thin, deals with problems in loving and caring ways, extends and receives forgiveness, and seeks reconciliation. I Corinthians 13, the Love Chapter, is frequently read at weddings, but it applies to all loving relationships.

It doesn't say there won't be problems, misunderstandings, or conflicts. It does say that love "always protects, always trust, always hopes, always preserves." I recommend reading this in your devotional time prior to gathering with family for the holidays. It is my hope and prayer that you and your family have a really good Thanksgiving, not because it was like a Norman Rockwell painting, but because family really loved one another.

May you have blessed Thanksgiving!
Jim K



November Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 - Bill Shutt
 2 - Jessica Rigdon
 3 - Peter Jones
 4 - John Tirpak
 5 - Brad Lawton, Fletcher Bell
 6 - Beth Shutt
 7 - Judy Lebda, Kristin McVicar,
 9 - Bill Dittmar
 11 - Joan Bush, Alice Donaldson, Lisa Sabo
 12 - Wayne Samuelson, Joshua Tirpak
 14 - Sadie Mutschler
 17 - Jean Ruhl, Ashley Cox, Brooke Zimmerman
 18 - Tom Rich, Sarah Reif
 19 - Jim Apple, Scott Ringkamp, Tyler Aikey
 21 - Pat Oberlin
 22 - Nate Michael, Jared Young, Will Van Patter
 27 - Karen Miller
 28 - Larry Lawson, Bob Lebda, Marianne Barlett
 30 - Shirley Grose, Becky Lumpkin, Sue Barnhart



3 - Kirk & Nicole Jarrett celebrating
 their 3rd wedding anniversary
 7 - Larry & Marian Fletcher celebrating
 their 39th wedding anniversary
 12 - Daryl & Janine Fisher celebrating
 their 27th wedding anniversary
 20 - Wayne & Naomi Gartzke celebrating
 their 64th wedding anniversary
 20 - Mark & Leslie Temple celebrating
 their 16th wedding anniversary
 24 - Stephen & Rebekah DeLong celebrating
 their 8th wedding anniversary
 24 - Cliff & Nina Leshner celebrating
 their 21st wedding anniversary
 25 - Chris & Joyce Zellmann celebrating
 their 31st wedding anniversary
 26 - Bob & Sharon Kribbs celebrating
 their 43rd wedding anniversary



We will be sending care packages to our college students the first week in December. Our Mustard Seeds students will be decorating and packing the boxes for them on Dec. 2.

☺ Please call or e-mail the church office with your student's address (even if it is the same as last year).

☺ If you would like to contribute something to the boxes please drop the items off in the box located in the Parlor. Requested items are: chapstick, small tissue packs, hand sanitizer, snack crackers, small snack bags, gum, granola bars, fruit roll ups, fruit snacks, ramen noodles, microwavable soup, home-baked treats etc.



Moment for Mission

The House of Hope Susquehanna Valley, has been one of First Presbyterian's local missions since shortly after the facility's opening in 2006. The organization is a nondenominational, nonprofit residential and educational home for troubled teens where they can be nourished, protected, and reconciled with their families through the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Education, Christian counseling and spiritual guidance are administered in a loving home-style environment as efforts are made to bring about healing for teens and their families.

The facility is located on a 37 acre property in Rush Township that includes a residential building with 4 bedrooms and a three

room apartment. There is a 14,000 square foot building used for the office, school and counseling center. A three stall garage has been renovated into a chapel and library. Eventually they hope to house 48 residents and to further develop the surrounding land for agricultural use and outdoor athletic fields.

Currently there are six female teenage residents lead by four full time SVHOH staff members. The staff is composed of young women who cook for, chauffeur, lead devotions and oversee the chores of the residents, much as a mom or dad would.

There are also nonresidential coed students that attend on weekdays. These students suffer from anger problems, drug and/or physical abuse, depression, and eating or anxiety disorders. Each student attends the on-campus Hope

Academy which features Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) and A Beka programs. The ACE program offers a high school diploma with transferable credits.

The SVHOH staff also counsels families with weekly parent education classes and counseling sessions. An important part of the organization's mission is to work with both students and their families to restore the family after the teen graduates from the House of Hope program. Wilmer Leinbach, SVHOH chair, will give the Minute for Mission during the worship service on November 15th. He will also be available for questions in the Parlor after the service for those interested in learning more about this important local mission.



Poinsettias

We will be adorning the sanctuary with poinsettias during the Christmas season. If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone, please complete the form found in the Sunday bulletin, or stop by the church office. You may pick up your poinsettia following worship on Dec. 24th. Any poinsettias left after the 27th will be shared with a nursing home.



The Susquehanna Valley Chorale Children's Chorus will perform in concert Sunday, Nov. 22nd, 3 PM, in our sanctuary. Director Valerie Flamini Caldwell and the children will be joined by pianist Coleen Renshaw and harpist Ruth Hunter in a seasonal program. Rachel Wakeman and Nate Reid of our congregation are SVCCC singers this fall. Tickets are \$8 at the door, ages 6 and under free. Auditions for new singers (grades 2 - 9) will be held Dec. 5th. Winter season rehearsals on the campus of Susquehanna University begin Jan. 4th, with a performance on Mar. 28th.

To schedule an audition, contact Coleen, (570)837-0634, renshaw@ptd.net For audition information see www.svcmusic.org.

Nearly **8** Million Shoe Boxes
Collected in 2008

United States 4,881,577
United Kingdom 1,228,787
Canada 713,146
Germany 506,976
 (includes Austria & Switzerland)
Australia 303,933
 (includes New Zealand)
Ireland 269,148
Netherlands 53,814
Finland 9,620
Total 7,967,001



Shoebox Sunday is November 22nd. Bring your filled shoeboxes to be one of the many shoeboxes that bring a smile to almost eight million children worldwide. New this year; make your donation online by using a credit or debit card and then print out the EZ give label included in your e-mail receipt. The barcode on the label will enable them to track each shoe box gift. When shoe boxes begin shipping overseas, you will receive an e-mail telling you the destination of your gift, along with information about Operation Christmas Child in that country.

Pick up Operation Christmas Child brochures on the back railing and start packing!



Mark your calendars for the upcoming Cantata and Christmas Dinner. The cantata will be performed in lieu of the children's Christmas program. It is entitled "I Hear the Prophet Callin'." The collection uses both music and narration to tell the Christmas story from prophecy to fulfillment. The music reflects a number of different genres including: Appalachian, Irish, Latin, Cajun, and Early American.

It will be performed on Dec. 6 for both the 10:30am service and again at 4:00pm right before the church Christmas Dinner.

Pajama Tree?

The Deacons are collecting the following items in any size for children: flannel pajama bottoms and zip-front hooded sweat-shirts.



Please place your donations on the tree rack in the Parlor by Dec.13th so that the Clothes Sharing Program may receive them in time to distribute them.

SERVICES/EVENTS

Jr. High: We will meet in the "Cave" on Tuesday nights from 7-8:30 pm. This is a time specifically for Jr. High students to learn about God and develop a relationship with Him! Come hang out with us as we worship, Fellowship, and hear a relevant teaching from the Bible.

High School: We will meet in the "Cave" on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm. This is a place where High School students can begin to learn what the Lord has done for them and how they can better serve Him. It is a place where teens can come together and feel confident in their choice to serve God. Come hang out with us as we worship, Fellowship, and hear a relevant teaching from the Bible.

Wednesday Morning Breakfast: We meet in the "Great Hall" at 7am. Come and start your morning off right with great food, people and a brief devotional.

Sunday School: We meet in the "Cave" on Sunday morning at 9 am. This is a time designed for Jr. High and High School students to come and learn about God and grow into a deeper love for Him and his Word.

Turkey Bowling: We will meet in the "Great Hall" at 7 p.m. This will be an "All Youth Night" where we will come together celebrating Thanksgiving and bowl with Frozen Turkey's!

Dinner By The River: This is our all youth monthly service opportunity. Meet us in the "Great Hall" @ 5 p.m. on Nov. 19th

NOVEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Jr. High Service	4 -Breakfast! -High School Service	5	6	7
8 Sunday School	9	10 Jr. High Service	11 -Breakfast! -High School Service	12	13	14 Shoobox Madness!
15 Sunday School	16	17 Jr. High Service	18 -Breakfast! -High School Service	19 Dinner By the River	20	21
22 Sunday School	23	24 All Youth "Turkey Bowling!"	25 No Youth Events	26 Have a Great Thanksgiving!	27	28
29 No Sunday School	30					



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH

Mike: rigdon.mike@gmail.com
 Jessi: jessi.rigdon@gmail.com
 Phone: 570-524-4419

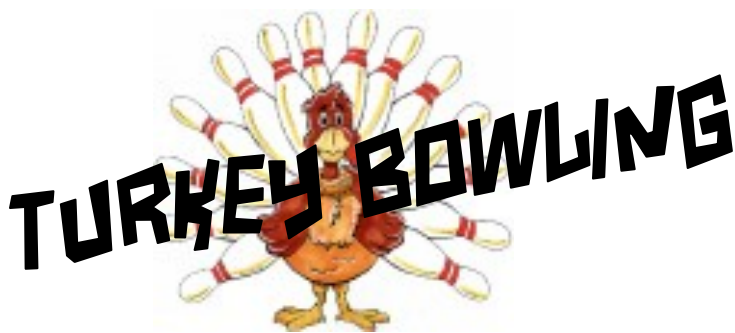
18 Market St.
 Lewisburg PA. 17837

Reach, Teach, Release...



"Operation Christmas Child" (OCC). We will meet at 5 p.m on November 19 to pack shoe boxes. "Shoebox Madness" is an annual service opportunity that the youth of the church have been heavily involved in. Parents/ students, your help is needed so email Jessi jessi.rigdon@gmail.com if you would like to be a part of this exciting night.

We are collecting new, small stuffed animals and balls. If you happen to have any fast food restaurant packaged toys that you haven't used, bring them to the church too.

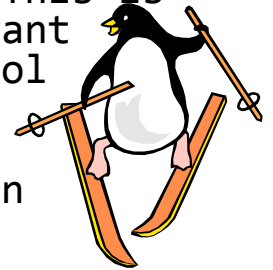


"November 24 @ 7-8:30 p.m in the "Great Hall." This is going to be an exciting night where the youth of the church can bowl with frozen turkeys, snack on some delicious treats, and hear what the bible says about having a thankful heart. This event will put everyone in the Thanksgiving mood!

March 26-29, 2010. This is a high school only ski trip where we will hop on a charter bus and head to Southern Vermont for 2 full days of skiing.

The cost for this trip is \$250 and includes everything except ski/ snowboard rentals and lunches. We also have a non-ski package available for \$200 for those of you that just want to come and lounge.

A deposit of \$100 for this trip is due by January 22nd. This is the trip you want your high school student to be on. Spots are limited so sign up fast!



December Service Project

Every Month, we are giving the Students an opportunity to serve in the church or community.

December 6th, we need students to help serve at the yearly church Christmas dinner! We will be serving drinks, desserts, and filling in as needed. Email Mike or Jessi if you are able to help with this event.

November 2009

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	2 9:00 Trainers 7:30 Worship Life	3 7:00 Jr. High Youth	4 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible 11:00 Prayer Group 5:00 Sparrows/Mustard 7:00 Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir	5 6:00 Dinner By River 7:30 Bell Choir	6 6:00 NA	7
8	9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fall Annual Meeting and Luncheon	9 9:00 Trainers	10 7:00 Jr. High Youth 7:30 Missions	11 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible 11:00 Prayer Group 5:00 Mustard Seeds 7:00 Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir	12 6:00 Dinner By River 7:00 Christian Ed 7:30 Bell Choir	13 6:00 NA	14 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9-12 noon Session 5:00 Shoebox Madness
15	9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	16 9:00 Trainers 7:00 Session, Deacons and Trustees	17 7:00 Jr. High Youth	18 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible 11:00 Prayer Group 5:00 Mustard Seeds 7:00 Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir	19 6:00 Dinner By River 7:30 Bell Choir	20 6:00 NA	21
22	Shoebox Sunday 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	23 9:00 Trainers 7:30 Choir	24 7:00-8:30 Jr. High & Sr. High Youth Turkey Bowling	25	26 Thanksgiving 11-1:00 Dinner	27 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:00 NA	28
29	10:30 Worship 6:00 Hanging of the Greens	30					

First Presbyterian Church

18 Market St
Lewisburg PA 17837
570-524-4419
www.first-presby.org
Email at info@first-presby.org
Rev. James C. King

November Volunteers:

Pulpit Assistant: Liz North

Ushers: Mark Speake, Bryan Speake, David Miller, Mike Mast, David Carey, Scott McVicar, Wayne Samuelson, Larry Winans

Dinner By The River Teams: 5 - Shaffer 12 - Storm 19 - Dittmar

Annual Mtg. Luncheon: Bruce & Alison Van Patter, Tom & Ann Miller, Lamar & Lorri Bruckhart, Ruby Grimm, Frank & Keay Hathaway, Dave & Ruth McCord, Jim & Betty Lou McClure, Dave & Marcia Thomas

Hanging of the Greens: Linda Shaffer, Adam & Melanie Brown, Jeanette Campbell, Jeff & Heather Creighton, Peg Erdley, Susan Erdley, Brian & Karen Fox, Marilyn Gaver, Karen Ishii, Alice Marquart, Skip Miller, Jack & Louise McCormick, Bill & Ann Roll, Jack & Rebecca Mignot, Reber family, Bruce & Alison Van Patter

Nursery

1: Foster, Lynch, Miller
8: Brown, Emigh, Gallagher
15: Fox, DeCosmo, Ellis
22: Dittmar, Landis, Dyroff
29: Sabo, Reid, Harder

Greeters

McCord
Black
Winans
Winner
Graber

Coffee Social

M. Thomas
Shaffer
Moore
Samuelson
No Coffee



The Hanging of the Greens will take place on Sunday, November 30th. Needed are a few strong people to erect the trees immediately following the worship service. Join us at 6:00 to decorate the church with Christmas garland. No reservations are needed, just show up! Enjoy cookies after the church has been decorated.



The First Presbyterian Church will host a free Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 26th from 11:00 – 1:00.

Meal deliveries are also available. Scott Mertz will be the organizer of the dinner again this year. If you would like to donate food or help with the dinner, please use the sign up sheets on the back railing of the church.