



# The First Press

July/August 2015

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## From the Pastor:

I want to let you know of a couple of challenging opportunities we have before us. For nearly 5 years we have had the privilege of having Tim and Lauren Halteman as our youth directors, Lauren fulltime and Tim part-time while holding down a fulltime secular job. For over a year now there have been elders and a few other members of the congregation praying, discussing, and seeking to discern what the next steps are for Tim and our congregation. It has become clear to those involved that our congregation has a need to bring Tim on fulltime as Director of Adult Ministries; overseeing and coordinating adult education, Life Groups, missions experiences (local and distant), and adult fellowship opportunities. We believe Tim has the perfect combination of gifts, abilities, experiences,

and passion for this ministry.

The challenge is finding the finances to bring Tim onboard fulltime. This challenge is multiplied by two other financial concerns. Our heating and cooling systems are 20 years old, inefficient, and in a constant state of disrepair. We need to replace them, which will not be inexpensive. We also have our reoccurring problem of being behind in our annual budget, we are about where we were a year ago, so we should be able to make it up by the end of the year, but we don't like and shouldn't be running a deficit.

You may be thinking, "but Jim we have the Master Trust to bail us out." While it is true that, thanks to the forward thinking and the generosity of members who have remembered the church in their will (have you?), we have a variety of endowments

that make up the Master Trust. Those endowments have the restriction that we can only use the income generated and can never use the principle. Most of the funds have also been directed for a specific purpose. The Master Trust is a wonderful resource that is to be used to further ministry, not something we should count on to bail us out.

The truth is we as a congregation, should be able to afford adding a Director of Adult Ministries, purchasing new climate control systems, and meet our annual budget. If we all work together to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to us we can fulfill the opportunities before us.

Please be in prayer about these things, and be on the lookout for special giving opportunities in the coming months.

Jim

## July Birthdays

1 - Eric Schmidt,  
 3 - Marilyn Gresh,  
 4 - Evan Gilger  
 5 - Molly Mayfield  
 6 - Elizabeth Underkoffler  
 7 - Karen Ishii , Amanda Rathburn  
 8 - Brad Wakeman, Stephen Foster,  
     Kyle Shutt  
 9 - Scott McVicar  
 10 - Jean Lepley,  
 11 - Megan Wright, Megan Jones  
 12 - Peg Erdley, Lynn Berg, Libby  
     King  
 15 - Kirk Kerstetter, Marina Gresh  
 19 - Scarlett Schroeder  
 20 - Joe Diblin, David Young,  
     Dave Reid,  
 22 - Blake Winner  
 24 - Karen Gallagher  
 25 - Michael Gilger  
 26 - Karen Fox, Riley Roussell  
 28 - Mary Lou Rich, Susan Erdley,  
     Devin DeCosmo  
 29 - Avis Hans  
 30 - John Troxell

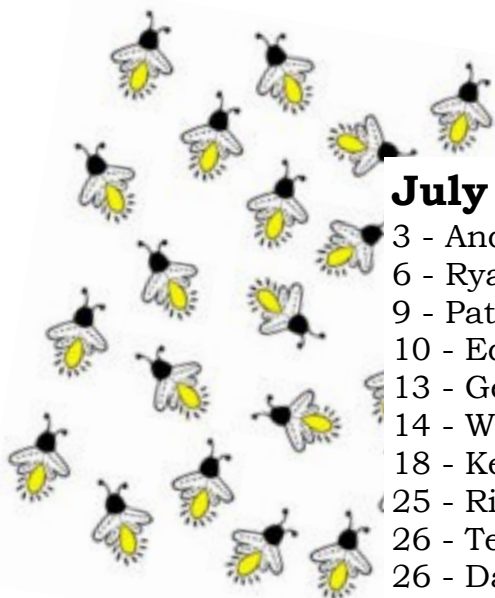
## August Birthdays

1 - Megan Lawton  
 2 - Thomas Rathburn  
 4 - Rebecca Mignot, Laura Graver, Lucas  
 Winner, Rylee Dyroff  
 7 - Ann Roll, Mark Reif, Jacob Ziegler,  
     Savannah Winans, Tim Cavanagh  
 8 - Tom Gresh  
 9 - John Walsh, Christian Gallagher  
 11 - Barb Schmidt, Alesia Foster, Jack  
 Schroeder  
 14 - Nancy Curran, Ariel Cooper, Avery  
 Mast, Audrey McSween  
 15 - Carley Shaffer  
 16 - Priscilla Merritt, Joan Hunter, Lamar  
 Bruckhart  
 18 - Pat Samuelson  
 20 - Celia Stamm, Keith Kunkel,  
 22 - Ann Miller, Connie Moore, Sammy  
 Miller  
 23 - Kim Gilger  
 25 - Sam Gill, Kerry Shutt  
 28 - Patricia Apple, Garrett Brown  
 29 - Richard Stancavage  
 30 - Keay Hathaway  
 31 - Nate Reid

## Firefly Facts

- There are more than 2,000 species of fireflies, a type of beetle. Despite their name, only some species produce adults that glow. Fireflies in the western United States, for example, lack the ability to produce light.
- Firefly light can be yellow, green or orange.
- Larvae are carnivorous and particularly enjoy snails. Adult fireflies usually live off of nectar and pollen, but some don't feed at all.
- Factors that may be contributing to firefly decline include light pollution and habitat destruction—if a field where fireflies live is paved over, the fireflies don't migrate to another field, they just disappear forever.





## July Wedding Anniversaries

- 3 - Andrew & Jayme Host celebrating their 22nd
- 6 - Ryan & Laura Graver celebrating their 8th
- 9 - Patrick & Emily Chiboroski celebrating their 10th
- 10 - Ed & Rhiannon Dame celebrating their 11th
- 13 - Gerry & Kathleen Schwieger celebrating their 47th
- 14 - Wayne & Pat Samuelson celebrating their 42nd
- 18 - Kevin & Jody Zimmerman celebrating their 28th
- 25 - Richard & Marianne Barlett celebrating their 23rd
- 26 - Terry & Barb Light celebrating their 46th
- 26 - David & Carolyn McSween celebrating their 12th

## August Wedding Anniversaries

- 2 - Jason & Sarah Friedberg celebrating their 18th
- 4 - Richard & Peg Erdley celebrating their 48th
- 4 - Matt & Ashley Kalcich celebrating their 3rd
- 5 - Tom & Mary Lou Rich celebrating their 48th
- 7 - David & Mary Ruth Campbell celebrating their 50th
- 7 - Mike & Jackie Mast celebrating their 16th
- 8 - Matt & Wendy McTammany celebrating their 17th
- 9 - Ted & Carol Edmonds celebrating their 63rd
- 9 - Jim & Ginny Michael celebrating their 40th
- 12 - Seth & Judith Ziegler celebrating their 54th
- 14 - Wayne & Marilyn Gaver celebrating their 45th
- 15 - Jim & Patty Apple celebrating their 56th
- 16 - Tom & Jean Morgensen celebrating their 40th
- 17 - Dick & Donna Ward celebrating their 54th
- 17 - Clint & Karen Shurtliffe celebrating their 47th
- 19 - John & Jessie Walsh celebrating their 43rd
- 23 - Ralph & Peggy Starkey celebrating their 46th
- 25 - Dave & Anne Goehring celebrating their 59th
- 25 - Bill & Phil Moore celebrating their 54th
- 25 - Dave & Paula Young celebrating their 31st
- 26 - Seth & Vickie Ziegler celebrating their 26th
- 26 - Brent & Ashley Papson celebrating their 9th
- 27 - E. Roland & Nancy Ritzman celebrating their 66th
- 29 - Dave & Marcia Thomas celebrating their 51st
- 31 - Bart & Linda Shaffer celebrating their 24th



## Lightning Bolts or Lightning Bugs?

Mark Twain once said that the difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug. The struggle between conservatives and liberals in the PCUSA is, among other things, a language struggle. Conservatives see the Bible as the breath of God, a tremendous lightning bolt, a divine message shot out across the ages from our Creator, its words crackling with His holiness and his love. Liberals tend to tame the impact of scripture, acknowledging its wisdom but reminding us that it is delivered through fallible men and should be filtered through scholarship and seen in the context of ancient culture. It is one source of wisdom and guidance.

In a similar way the divide between conservative and liberal views of God is better described as a chasm. Conservatives acknowledge the triune God of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They believe that Jesus Christ is the Lord of all life, the only path to salvation. On the other hand, the liberal view of salvation is that Jesus is *one way* to salvation. In a PCUSA-initiated religious and demographic profile of Presbyterians (2011), the PCUSA publication, *The Presbyterian Panel*, reported that of 1900+ members, 1900+ ruling elders, and 2300+ pastors surveyed, 42% of the members, 45% of ruling elders, and 41% of pastors “strongly agreed or agreed” that “only followers of Jesus Christ can be saved.” As for the trinity, PCUSA liberals have described it in words such as “compassionate mother, beloved child, and life-giving womb.”

To save space, I must paint this scenario with a broad brush. Nevertheless, the essential differences between reformed and liberal views of scripture and God lie at the heart of the issues dividing churches in the PCUSA. Since its inception in 1983 the PCUSA has lost half of its members.

“Gracious separation” has been the byword for leaving the denomination, but the process across the country has at times been caustic, with presbyteries demanding exorbitant amounts of money from their exiting churches and in the case of a Korean church in California, even refusing to permit them to leave. Fortunately, our conservative presbytery has been far more gracious in overseeing the exit of two congregations and in opening the process with two or three others.

Sometime in 2016 our congregation will vote on whether to remain in the PCUSA or to join another reformed Presbyterian body. I believe that the right word for this decision is *momentous*.

When Christians disagree and divide, our witness to the world suffers. On the other hand, our responsibility to God is to discern which lights will best guide us as we seek to obey Him: God’s lightning strikes or the sporadic flashes of our secular culture. In the coming months, we have an opportunity to grow in our faith as we clarify where we stand amid today’s theological and cultural issues. Doing so will take courage, understanding, and grace. Our common bond in Christ must overcome any notions of one-upmanship. We will be wise to remember words from Francis Schaeffer’s book, *The Mark of the Christian*: “Holiness without love is harshness; love without holiness is compromise.” We worship a holy, loving God.

—Bob Kribbs



"The difference between the almost right word and the right word is really a large matter—it's the difference between the lightning bug and the lightning."

~ Mark Twain



## JAM News

We've been busy this summer! June saw us filled with over 200 children and adults all working together to learn more about all God's Power at Everest VBS. Teachers used stories from the Old and New Testament: experiences involving Elijah, Naaman, Peter and Jesus to reach children within our church and many from the larger Lewisburg/Milton community. Children watched Pastor Jim act as Trek Rockrambler then rotated through fun stations including science, crafts, snack, games, music and Bible re-enactment where volunteer leaders worked hard reinforcing that days theme and lesson. Here are some direct quotes from parents whose children participated-

- ◇ *This was the best Bible School experience my children have had and they have been to a few others including our own home church. They had a great week and were very sad when it was over.*
- ◇ *They look forward to next year."*
- ◇ *They really enjoy the rotation of activities, the music, and the positive atmosphere that is created."*
- ◇ *My daughter loved the helpers and particularly one named Jack who she just adored and talked about every day. A few days after bible school ended we were listening to the CD in the car and she started crying because she missed Bible School and seeing Jack. It was definitely a memorable experience for her and we will plan on sending her again next year."*
- ◇ *They talked about opening ceremony (and the really funny pastor) and crafts but did A LOT of singing!!"*



Summer is winding to a close but before it does, don't miss one last chance to be with friends and have a ton of fun!!! Everyone entering grades 2-8 is welcome to join us for our Kids' Cantata, which takes place August 10-14 12:30-3:30. This fun-filled (VBS like) week kids will have the opportunity to act, sing, work on sets and props, learn movements and all about the Trinity. The culmination of this great week will be when we share our project in worship on Sunday August 16th during the service. **Friends are welcome!!!**



Are you looking for a way to get to know the younger families of our church? Considering volunteering for the nursery or joining a Sunday School team! Rhiannon is always looking for people to join our dynamic ministry! Because we share the duties, the commitment is minimal but the reward is great!!! **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR ALL AGES ARE NEEDED!!!** Email her at [rhidame@gmail.com](mailto:rhidame@gmail.com) or call [570-971-2218](tel:570-971-2218) for more information!

Some important dates to mark on your calendars:

**August 10-14 Kids Cantata 12:30-3:30**

**August 16 Kids Cantata Performs in Worship**

**September 13 Rally Day (Sunday School Begins) and All Church Picnic**

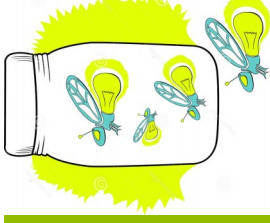
**September 9 JAM Begins (This year we will be studying the Lord's Prayer.)**

### VBS 2015 Photos



# July

# First Presby Youth



# 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			<b>FUEL</b> 7-8:30pm			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship 9:30	<b>SPLASH</b> @Blacks 12:30-2:30	<b>Movie Night</b> 7:30-9:30				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship 9:30	<b>SPLASH</b> @Felthams 12:30-2:30	<b>REFUGE</b> 7-8:30pm	<b>FUEL</b> 7-8:30pm		<b>Service Project</b>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship 9:30	<b>SPLASH</b> @ Matukaitis 12:30-2:30	<b>REFUGE</b> 7-8:30pm	<b>FUEL</b> 7-8:30pm			
<b>Paintball Event</b>						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Worship 9:30	<b>SPLASH</b> @ Kerstetters 12:30-3:00	<b>REFUGE</b> 7-8:30pm	<b>FUEL</b> 7-8:30pm			
Guys Event						





# July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 7:00 Fuel	<b>2</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>3</b> Office Closed 7:00 NA	<b>4</b> 7:00 NA
<b>5</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10 Staff Mtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>8</b> 7:00 Fuel	<b>9</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>10</b> 7:00 NA	<b>11</b> 7:00 NA
<b>12</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>15</b> 7:00 Fuel	<b>16</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>17</b> 7:00 NA	<b>18</b> 7:00 NA
<b>19</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>22</b> 7:00 Fuel	<b>23</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>24</b> 7:00 NA	<b>25</b> 7:00 NA
<b>26</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>29</b> 7:00 Fuel	<b>30</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>31</b> 7:00 NA	

# August 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 7:00 NA
<b>2</b> 9:30 Worship 2:00 NA	<b>3</b> 7:30 Missions	<b>4</b> 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>5</b> 7:00 Fuel	<b>6</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>7</b> 7:00 NA	<b>8</b> 7:00 NA
<b>9</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>10</b> 9-12 Cantata VBS	<b>11</b> 9-12 Cantata 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>12</b> 9-12 CantataVBS 7:00 Fuel	<b>13</b> 9-12 CantataVBS 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>14</b> 9-12 CantataVBS 7:00 NA	<b>15</b> 7:00 NA
<b>16</b> 9:30 Children's Cantata Worship	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>19</b> 6:30 Y Brkfst 7:00 Fuel	<b>20</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>21</b> 7:00 NA	<b>22</b> 7:00 NA
<b>23</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10 StaffMtg 7:00 Refuge 7:00 NA	<b>26</b> 6:30 Y Brkfst 7:00 Fuel	<b>27</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>28</b> 7:00 NA	<b>29</b> 7:00 NA
<b>30</b> 9:30 Worship	<b>31</b>					



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Dr. James C. King

**July Ushers:** Seth Ziegler Sr. Doug and Lucas Winner, Paul Tarves, Tom Gresh, Brad Wakeman, Bob Harder

**Nursery**

5: Taylor, Chiboroski  
12: Graver, Jusko  
19: Mast, Papson  
26: Dame, Mudge

**Lemonade:**

E&D  
Deacons  
Session  
Missions

**Greeters:**

**Dinner By the River Team and (Devotion Leader):** 2 - Temple/Torretti, (Kribbs) 9 - Sacred Heart (Crago), 16 - Beaver UMC (King), 23 - Dittmar (Guissanie), 30 - Bruce/Ishii/Ringkamp (Shaffer)

**August Ushers:** Keith Kunkel, Ralph Starkey, John Troxell, Dave Thomas, John, Christopher and Joshua Tirpak, Tim and Will Taylor, Jonathan and Ray Walz

**Nursery**

2: Roussel, P. King  
9: Graver, Mast  
16: Taylor,  
23: Foster, Cavanagh  
30: Kraus, Redding  
Sept. 6

**Lemonade:**

Trustees  
Fuel & Refuge  
Choir  
Library  
Worship Life  
Adult Ed Ministry

**Greeters:**

M. Temple  
Cavanagh  
Foster  
D. Reid

**Dinner By the River Team and (Devotion Leader):** 2 - Temple/Torretti, (Kribbs) 9 - Sacred Heart (Crago), 16 - Beaver UMC (King), 23 - Dittmar (Guissanie), 30 - Bruce/Ishii/Ringkamp (Shaffer)

## Calling all boys to men!

Sunday, July 26 from 12-3 join us for an outing at Sand Run Hunting Club (1425 Zimmerman Rd. Loganton PA; about a 25 min. drive from Lewisburg) for an afternoon of fishing, canoeing, trap shooting and just enjoying the great Pennsylvania outdoors together. Grilling will be involved, so come hungry!

To give the cooks an idea of numbers: please email or call the church or complete a registration form found in the church bulletin.

**Directions to Sand Run Hunt Club**

1425 Zimmerman Road Loganton, Pa  
Driving North on I5 take I 80 West to Exit 192.

Exit Right on I92 and turn Right on East Valley Road.

Proceed on East Valley Road approx. 7-8 minutes

Turn Left on Zimmerman Road (there will be red balloons tied at the sign as it is difficult to see)

Proceed on Zimmerman Road for approx 5 minutes keeping left at any forks in the road. You will drive through a gate and this will take you up to the house at Sand Run.

Contact info: Louann Graves [570-939-1779](tel:570-939-1779)

