

# The First Press

February 2016

## From the Pastor

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Psalm 19 is a part of the One Year Bible reading plan on January 23, coincidentally (if you believe in such things) it was the lectionary text for Sunday January 24, and the text for my sermon that day.

The psalm is really an expression of love for God. It begins by describing how God's greatness is seen in creation. The second half of the psalm speaks of the perfection of God's law and the goodness of God's teaching. That is pretty radical/counter cultural stuff. It seems that in today's world people are looking for the "errors" God's law and the "meanness" of God's teaching, not seeing them as loving.

This shouldn't surprise us. We are God's children and all children at one time or another rebel against their parents' guidance and strain against their discipline. Most come around to seeing the reason, wisdom, and love of their parents.

In this month of Love, may we remem-

ber that "God is Love" (I Jn.4:8) and His law and teaching are not easy, may even seem counter cultural, but they are perfect and good, because God is perfect and good.

This is something God's people have always struggled with. In the 1980's while Alec Wendell was pastor, our Session adopted a document called In Essentials Unity. This was done in response to the increasing diversity within the denomination. You may remember reading In Essentials as a part of your Inquirers class. Periodically our session reviews the document and reaffirms it as an expression of the core beliefs for our congregation. We did so just last month.

There are copies of In Essentials on the back railing of the Sanctuary, I encourage you to pick one up and read it. I hope you find it helpful and encouraging to your faith and to our walk together as the Body of Christ.

Jim

Volunteers are needed at the Himmelreich Library. Help us serve our nearly 2,700 patrons from Lewisburg and the surrounding towns. How Can You Help? At the Library: covering circulation desk, re-shelving, data entry, putting bar codes on materials. From Home: repairing or covering books, replacing worn out audio book covers. Create a Program: story time, knitting group etc. Contact Caroline (570)523-3377 at the Library for more information, or to volunteer.

## February Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 - Joyce Zellmann
- 2 - Kyle Santorine
- 3 - Liz Speake
- 6 - Wanda Einsig, Amber Lind
- 7 - Irene John
- 8 - Larry Fletcher, Kassie McTammany
- 9 - David Campbell, Leslie Mutschler
- 10 - Glen Dobbs, Pat Ringkamp
- 12 - Emily Poust
- 13 - Delaney McSween
- 14 - Mark Davies
- 15 - Emily Fisher
- 16 - Amy Matukaitis
- 17 - Rob Guissanie
- 18 - Samantha Stancavage
- 20 - David Shrom, Justin Sabo
- 21 - Heidi Zimmerman, Erin Redding, Evie Dame
- 23 - Marcia Thomas, Mark Speake
- 24 - Isabelle Taylor
- 25 - Seth Ziegler Jr.,
- 26 - Robert Gronlund, Brandon Reid, Natalie Halteman
- 27 - Marion Fletcher, Bryan Speake,

2 - Roger & Nancy Curran celebrating their 56th wedding anniversary

4 - Gene & Bea Heid celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary

13 - John & Amy Tirpak celebrating their 17th wedding anniversary

14 - Rob & Lisa Black celebrating their 17th wedding anniversary

16 - John & Bonnie Troxell celebrating their 42nd wedding anniversary

20 - Elmer & Shirley Grose celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary

### Historian Needed

The Trustees are looking for someone interested in working with the historical records. Our Archives committee has been actively preserving our documents in protectors and documenting what we have. The missing piece is a historian to archive our material. Please contact Key Hathaway if you are interested or for more information: 570-523-8054.

## Souper Bowl Sunday

The Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 with a simple prayer said by Rev. Brad Smith of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat".

February 7th. Bring canned soup (any variety) to be collected on Super Bowl Sunday. All donations will go to the local Food Bank.



# That Italian Girl

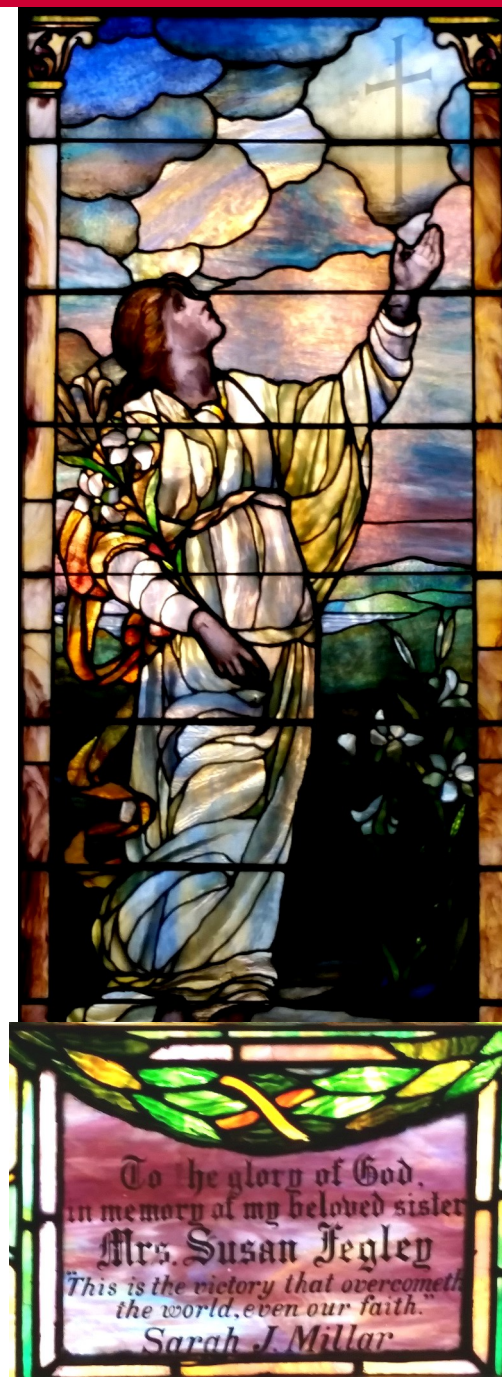
On a recent visit to a friend in a retirement home, I discovered upon entering the building that she was in the social room enjoying a special presentation. The program soon ended, and my friend joined me for conversation in chairs outside her room at the end of the hall. She could hardly contain her enthusiasm for the hour-long travelogue on Italy, accompanied by stunning pictures and historical notes, and topped off with Italian sweet treats for all.

As my friend and I talked, a tall, dignified looking gentleman made his way toward us and the door to his room, just across the hall from that of my friend. “Bob,” my friend said, “I’d like you to meet Harry. He’s our newest resident.” Turning to Harry, she said, “I bet you really enjoyed that program, especially since you spent time in Italy during the war and married an Italian girl.”

The gentleman smiled, paused a moment, and with a distressed look, pointed to his hearing aid. “You know, when she talked from the podium, her voice was sort of garbled; but when she came closer to me I could hear her just fine. I missed a lot of what she said. You know, I was over there for three years—I’m sure that I could have contributed to the conversation.” Then he added, “I even married an Italian girl.” Pausing for a moment as if recalling that day long ago, he smiled wistfully. “I have wonderful memories, but, you know, it wouldn’t have been fair to the rest of those people for me to do all the talking.”

As the gentlemen disappeared inside his room, I wondered at his frustration over not being able to “contribute” to the conversation and his grace in not wanting to stifle the stories of those around him. My friend and I concluded our conversation with prayer, and I left, thinking, “The next time I visit, I’ll knock on Harry’s door. I want to hear about that Italian girl.”

-Bob Kribbs



This month we highlight the stained glass window closest to the choir room. Did you realize there is a cross in the cloud that the angel is looking towards? We recently had the windows appraised in the sanctuary. The Baut Studios writes that the window is very much expressive of the style used by Louis C. Tiffany in almost all aspects of its design. It actually would be the most expensive to replace at a value of \$78,000! We don't have any information on the two sisters mentioned in the dedication of the window, but what a beautiful example of a love for a sister.



# 2016 First Presby Open

August 5th & 6th



Join us once again (or for the first time) for the annual First Presby Open taking place on Friday and Saturday, August 5th & 6th at Toftrees Golf Resort in State College. Whether you are an avid golfer or get out once or twice a year, you will be guaranteed to have a great time of fun and fellowship with other members and friends of the church. Highlights of this year's event include:

- Two 18-hole rounds of golf with cart & range balls
- Friday night lodging, buffet-style dinner & Saturday morning breakfast
- Prizes for closest to the hole & partner/team competitions (\$10 entry prior to tee-off)
- Putting competition (a Friday night tradition)
- Tee times start at 10:30AM on Friday and 8:00AM on Saturday

The total cost for the event is \$245 which includes a \$100 deposit **due by May 1**. The balance will be paid directly to Toftrees upon checkout on Saturday. If you feel that the cost of the event would keep you from attending, a "Golf Scholarship" is available by contacting Pastor Jim King in the church office at (570)524-4419. *Please do not allow the cost of the event to deter you or a friend from participating.*

If you have attended in the past or are new to the event this year, consider inviting someone to play along. This could be a new or long-time member of the church, a neighbor, work colleague, family member or friend. Reach out and help make the First Presby Open more than just a couple rounds of golf. Additionally, if you know of a past player in the Open that has missed recently, invite him back to play this year. Any questions regarding this year's Open can be addressed to Brad Wakeman (570-428-5449) or Mike Mast (570-428-2652).

**Return the bottom portion of this flyer and \$100.00 deposit made payable to Brad Wakeman at church or by mail at 1126 Market Street, Lewisburg, by May 1 to make your reservation.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Handicap or 18 Hole Average \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate/1<sup>st</sup> Round Partner Request \_\_\_\_\_

# JAM NEWS

Spending the New Year getting closer to God!!!!

We have been enjoying time together and continuing to grow in our relationships with each other and God.

In Sunday School, and during worship, we finished studying the story of the birth of Jesus. We moved on to stories from Jesus' childhood and the beginning of His teaching ministry.

In JAM, we continue to look at the Lord's Prayer and our own lives. Who does God bless and how can that

help us in everyday living?

In Big Idea, we began talking about Jesus' ministries and how we can live our lives to reflect these teachings.

JAM is going strong- we are having fun, making friends and growing closer to God. Anyone in grades K-5 is welcome to join us at 5:30 in the Great Hall for a snack and fun and learning. If you are in 3rd-5th grade, consider coming at 5 and joining our new chime choir in the choir room! Our February meetings will be on Feb 10 and 24 as we continue our

study of the Lord's Prayer.

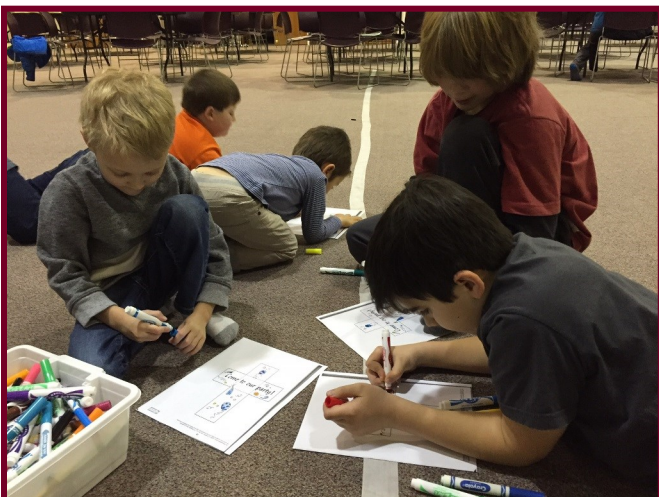
JAM Movie Night will be held on Friday Feb. 5 from 5:30-8 PM. We will be enjoying a classic-Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Plan on meeting in the Great Hall at 5:30 for dinner and don't forget your pajamas and sleeping bag!!!

Dreaming of warm weather and sunny days? While you plan your summer vacation, save the date for our summer special happenings. This year, kids aged preschool-grade 6 are welcome to join us June 13-17 from 9

AM - Noon as we follow Jesus-the light of the world-in Cave Quest.

Children entering grades 2-8 are welcome to join us August 15-19 for *Press On*-an Olympic themed Kids' Cantata. This week will give you the opportunity to act, sing, work on sets and props, learn movements and all about the fruits of the spirit. The culmination of this great week of fun will be when we share our project in worship on Sunday August 21st at 10 AM.

-Rhiannon Dame



# Love Committee

First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg has historically had a “Love Committee” for many years. The committee more recently has been so frequently used that we weren’t really sure how many people knew it still existed.

The Love Committee’s purpose is to provide a gesture of love and concern to those in need. That need could be a family in the midst of transition or a difficult time. Your

love committee is your neighborhood. The Deacons have divided the areas up by neighborhoods and contacted coordinators within each area. When the office receives information that a family is in crisis, the coordinator is enlisted to call that family and check in with them regarding needs they may have. If a committee of neighbors can help relieve some stress by providing meals for a



few days, what a nice gesture of love for a neighbor!

Jan Temple will be updating the love committees in the near future. If you would like to be a coordinator for your area, please give Jan a call (570)524-4877).

## Thru the Bible in a Year Reading Guide: February

1 Ex. 13:17-15:18	Mt. 21:23-46	Ps. 26:1-12	Prov. 6:16-19
2 Ex. 15:19-17:7	Mt. 22:1-33	Ps. 27:1-6	Prov. 6:20-26
3 Ex. 17:8-19:15	Mt. 22:34-23:12	Ps. 27:7-14	Prov. 6:27-35
4 Ex. 19:16-21:21	Mt. 23:13-39	Ps. 28:1-9	Prov. 7:1-5
5 Ex. 21:22-23:13	Mt. 24:1-28	Ps. 29:1-11	Prov. 7:6-23
6 Ex. 23:14-25:40	Mt. 24:29-51	Ps. 30:1-12	Prov. 7:24-27
7 Ex. 26:1-27:21	Mt. 25: 1-30	Ps. 31:1-8	Prov. 8:1-11
8 Ex. 28:1-43	Mt. 25:31-26:13	Ps. 31:9-18	Prov. 8:12-13
9 Ex. 29:1-30:10	Mt. 26:14-46	Ps. 31:19-24	Prov. 8:14-26
10 Ex. 30:11-31:18	Mt. 26:47-68	Ps. 32:1-11	Prov. 8:27-32
11 Ex. 32:1-33:23	Mt. 26:69-27:14	Ps. 33:1-11	Prov. 8:33-36
12 Ex. 34:1-35:9	Mt. 27:15-31	Ps. 33:12-22	Prov. 9:1-6
13 Ex. 35:10-36:38	Mt. 27:32-66	Ps. 34:1-10	Prov. 9:7-8
14 Ex. 37:1-38:31	Mt. 28:1-20	Ps. 34:11-22	Prov. 9:9-10
15 Ex. 39:1-40:38	Mk. 1:1-28	Ps. 35:1-16	Prov. 9:11-12
16 Lev. 1:1-3:17	Mk. 1:29-2:12	Ps. 35:17-28	Prov. 9:13-18
17 Lev. 4:1-5:19	Mk. 2:13-3:6	Ps. 36:1-12	Prov. 10:1-2
18 Lev. 6:1-7:27	Mk. 3:7-30	Ps. 37:1-11	Prov. 10:3-4
19 Lev. 7:28-9:6	Mk. 3:31-4:25	Ps. 37:12-29	Prov. 10:5
20 Lev. 9:7-10:20	Mk. 4:26-5:20	Ps. 37:30-40	Prov. 10:6-7
21 Lev. 11:1-12:8	Mk. 5:21-43	Ps. 38:1-22	Prov. 10:8-9
22 Lev. 13:1-59	Mk. 6:1-29	Ps. 39:1-13	Prov. 10:10
23 Lev. 14:1-57	Mk. 6:30-56	Ps. 40:1-10	Prov. 10:11-12
24 Lev. 15:1-16:28	Mk. 7:1-23	Ps. 40:11-17	Prov. 10:13-14
25 Lev. 16:29-18:30	Mk. 7:24-8:10	Ps. 41:1-13	Prov. 10:15-16
26 Lev. 19:1-20:21	Mk. 8:11-38	Ps. 42:1-11	Prov. 10:17
27 Lev. 20:22-22:16	Mk. 9:1-29	Ps. 43:1-5	Prov. 10:18
28 Lev. 22:17-23:44	Mk. 9:30-10:12	Ps. 44:1-8	Prov. 10:19

# February 2016

First Presby Youth

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Girl Talk 3-4 Refuge 7-8:30pm	3 Breakfast 6:30am Fuel 7-8:30pm	4	5 Movie Night	6
7 Sunday School 9-10	8	9 Girl Talk 3-4 Refuge 7-8:30pm	10 Breakfast 6:30am Fuel 7-8:30pm	11 Rejoicing Spirits 6:30pm	12	13
14 Sunday School 9-10	15 No School	16 Girl Talk 3-4 Refuge 7-8:30pm	17 Breakfast 6:30am Fuel 7-8:30pm	18	19 Movie Night	20
21 Sunday School 9-10	22	23 Girl Talk 3-4 Refuge 7-8:30pm	24 Breakfast 6:30am Fuel 7-8:30pm	25	26	27
28	29					

**COLOR KEY:** Green Events - ALL youth event  
 Red Events - High School events  
 Blue Events - Middle School events

Questions or comments? Feel free to contact us!  
 Tim and Lauren Halteman, Youth Directors  
[thalteman@first-presby.org](mailto:thalteman@first-presby.org), [lhalteman@first-presby.org](mailto:lhalteman@first-presby.org)



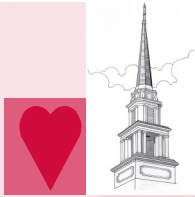
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# February 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> 9:15 Trainers 7:30 Missions	<b>2</b> 10:00 Staff Mtg 3:00 Girl Talk 7:00 NA 7:00 Refuge	<b>3</b> 6:30 Y Breakfast 10:00 LAMBS 6:00 Bells 7:00 Fuel 7:30 Choir	<b>4</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>5</b> 7:00 NA	<b>6</b> 7:00 NA
<b>7</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>8</b> 9:15 Trainers	<b>9</b> 10:00 Staff Mtg 3:00 Girl Talk 7:00 NA 7:00 Refuge	<b>10</b> 6:30 Y Breakfast 10:00 LAMBS 5:30 JAM 6:00 Bells 7:00 Fuel 7:30 Choir	<b>11</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>12</b> 7:00 NA	<b>13</b> 7:00 NA
<b>14</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>15</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 7:00 Session, Trustees, Deacons	<b>16</b> 10:00 Staff Mtg 3:00 Girl Talk 7:00 NA 7:00 Refuge	<b>17</b> 6:30 Y Breakfast 10:00 LAMBS 5:00 Soup & Bingo 6:00 Bells 7:00 Fuel 7:30 Choir	<b>18</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>19</b> 7:00 NA	<b>20</b> 7:00 NA
<b>21</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>22</b> 9:15 Trainers	<b>23</b> 10:00 Staff Mtg 3:00 Girl Talk 7:00 NA 7:00 Refuge	<b>24</b> 6:30 Y Breakfast 10:00 LAMBS 5:30 JAM 6:00 Bells 7:00 Fuel 7:30 Choir	<b>25</b> 6:00 DBR 7:00 NA	<b>26</b> 7:00 NA	<b>27</b> 7:00 NA
<b>28</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>29</b> 9:15 Trainers					



First Presbyterian Church  
 18 Market St  
 Lewisburg PA 17837  
 Phone: 570-524-4419  
 Web: www.first-presby.org  
 Email: info@first-presby.org

Living fully in Christ,  
 through His Word,  
 community and mission

**Pulpit Assistant:**

**Ushers:** Bill Moore Sr., Holly Moore, Bob Martin, Bill Roll, Darryl Fisher, Bart Shaffer, Matt Kalcich

<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>Coffee Social:</b>	<b>Greeters:</b>
7	Dave Reid	
14	John & Bonnie Troxell	
21	Connie Moore	
28	Lamar & Lorri Bruckhart	

**Dinner By the River Teams and (Devotion Leaders): 4:** Shady Grove (Troxell), **11:** Zellmann (King), **18:** Shaffer (Guissanie) **25:** Dittmar (Shaffer)

**All Church Family SOUP and BINGO Night**

Please join us for an  
 All Church Family  
 SOUP AND BINGO NIGHT  
 Wednesday Feb. 17th  
 5:00 to 7:00

Bring your favorite soup or covered dish to share  
 Dessert, Bread and Beverage Provided

