From the Pastor

November is a month of thanksgiving. This has two basic elements: recognizing what we are thankful for and expressing our thanks.

I am thankful for all the people stepping up and taking an active role in the life of the church. On Sunday November 12 we will have our congregational meeting where we elect our new church officers. Our nominating committee has done excellent work and I believe we have a strong slate of candidates for our boards of elders, deacons, and trustees. I am thankful for the nominating committee and for those who will be our leaders in the coming years.

I am thankful for Juan and Manuel Aldana and the blessing they have been to our congregation and beyond. I am thankful for all those that helped out. Mark Speake and Kathy Storm were the driving forces, but many people enthusiastically served in a variety of ways that made it a blessing for everyone involved.

How do we express our thanks? Saying thank you is a good start, but we can do more, in fact we are to do more. Jesus instructs and models for us that we are to serve as an expression of our gratitude to God. We are to serve everyone we come across, but Jesus makes it clear that we are "to serve the least of these". There are many ways we can do this; Operation Christmas Child is one way we, as a congregation, do this.

How are you involved in OCC? Everyone should be packing a shoebox. How about giving of some time during OCC week? Some people can give a shoebox, but can't give the $9 it costs to process and send the shoebox to its destination. Each of us should pray for the recipient of our shoebox(es).

In this month, as we pause and give thanks for God's countless blessings in our lives, let us seek to be a blessing in the lives of others both locally and around the world as an expression of our gratitude to God.

I look forward to seeing you Sunday,

Jim

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November Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 - Bill Shutt
2 - Emma Heid
3 - Molly Graver
4 - John Tirpak
5 - Fletcher Bell
6 - Beth Shutt
7 - Kristin McVicar
9 - Abigail Gilger,
Madalyn Redding
11 - Lisa Stancavage
12 - Wayne Samuelson, Joshua Tirpak
14 - Joseph Santorine
15 - Nicholas Zellmann
17 - Ashley Cox,
18 - Tom Rich, Sarah Reif
19 - Jim Apple
21 - Pat Oberlin
27 - Karen Miller
28 - Marianne Barlett, Hannah Kraus
30 - Shirley Grose, Becky Lumpkin,
Sue Barnhart

2 - Bill & Lisa Bernard celebrating
their 21st wedding anniversary

3 - Kirk & Nicole Jarrett celebrating
their 12th wedding anniversary

7 - Larry & Marian Fletcher celebrating
their 48th wedding anniversary

10 - Jeff & Richelle Jones celebrating
Their 28th wedding anniversary

12 - Daryl & Janine Fisher celebrating
their 36th wedding anniversary

20 - Mark & Leslie Temple celebrating
their 25th wedding anniversary

24 - Cliff & Nina Lesher celebrating
their 28th wedding anniversary

25 - Chris & Joyce Zellmann celebrating
their 38th wedding anniversary

Thanksgiving Dinner

For many years we have been providing a free Thanksgiving meal to the community. The dinner is from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Great Hall with about half the meals being delivered to homes (we are the meals on wheels for the day). This year Kathy Storm is organizing the dinner. There are opportunities to help in every aspect of the meal: donating food, cooking food, working in the kitchen, helping host the meal, delivering meals, and cleaning up. There will be sign up sheets in the Narthex and throughout the building. The more people working on this together the better it is for everyone.

Thank You, LORD!

Congregational Meeting

Following the Worship Service on Sunday November 12 there will be a congregational meeting. This meeting is to elect Elders, Deacons, and Trustees for the class of 2020. The congregation will also review the budget for 2018.

First Presby KIDS

Growing In God Together.

Don't Miss This!
Check out these First Presby Kids happenings and dates of note for your calendar:

Sunday, November 5 **Daylight Saving Time** - Turn your clocks back and sleep in an extra hour before coming to Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. If you haven't tried Sunday School yet this year, come and try it! We'd love to see you there!

Sunday, November 12 - **Cherub Choir Sings "Psalm 100" during the 10:30 Worship Service** - Be sure to come to the Sanctuary for practice during the regular Cherub Choir time (9:00 a.m.) that morning.

Shoebox Packing Party - Sunday School classes will be helping to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We will be using boxes and items that have already been donated but children will have fun bringing additional items to contribute for this special service project. Go to www.smaritanspurse.org for a list of items that can be packed.

Christmas Program Rehearsal - Kids of all ages can be part of our annual Christmas program by attending this one-day-only rehearsal for "Christmas Presents; The Pageant that's Never the Same." The "Pageant" performance is in the Great Hall during the all-church Christmas Dinner, December 3, at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 19 **Shoebox Sunday** - This is the big morning for bringing in your packed shoeboxes. During the Worship Service, kids will carry shoeboxes from the pews to the front of the Sanctuary where we'll pray for the children who will be receiving them.

Sunday, November 26 **Kids' Christmas Craft Night** - Kids will love getting in the spirit of this Christmas season doing fun crafts with Mrs. McSween in the Great Hall from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Parents can grab a cookie and some hot cider, too - then you're free to join in the "Hanging of the Greens" in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 3 **Christmas Dinner and Program** - Join First Presby Kids for "Christmas Presents; The Pageant that's Never the Same" when we'll share a dinner theater experience as the kids retell the greatest story ever told - with a little help from the rest of us! Dinner is at 4:00. Sign up with the bulletin insert or the church office (info@first-presby.org or 570-524-4419)

Sunday, December 24 **Christmas Eve** - Cherubs, bring your most joyful voices to sing in the 7:00 Christmas Eve service! We will be practicing our Christmas songs throughout November and December in Cherub Choir (9:00 a.m. in the Wing at the start of Sunday School) and will meet on Christmas Eve to practice in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.

There will be **no Kids Church** on December 17 for children to enjoy the Carols of the Christmas Cantata. **No Big Idea** on November 26 (Family Sunday), December 17 (Christmas Cantata) and December 31 (Family Sunday).

For any questions about First Presby Kids event and programs please contact Carolyn McSween by email, (carolynmcsween@gmail.com or firstpresbykids@gmail.com) phone or text (570) 939-2119.

NEW! **First Presby Kids CREATE!**
First Presby Kids CREATE! is giving kids a new way to let their imagination and creativity shine. Here are two chances for all our young artists to enjoy using the gifts God's given them and share those gifts with others. Shoebox Sunday Illustration Challenge - Kids and Youth through 12th Grade will get to see their work on the cover of a Sunday morning bulletin with an illustration to celebrate Shoebox Sunday. *Submission Deadline is Monday, November 13.*

Nativity Comic Strip - Calling all cartoonists! Create an original comic strip of the Christmas story for display in the Parlor during the month of December. *Submission deadline is Wednesday, December 29.*
Can't wait to see what First Presby Kids CREATE!

(For the Youth Page:)
Girl Talk Is Back!
Just for Middle School girls...Meet up with Mrs. McSween for some good gab (and snacks, too) Thursdays from 3-4:00 p.m. Transportation from school is provided!

First Presby KIDS
Growing In God Together.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

National Collection Week is Monday, November 13, through Monday, November 20. Sign-up sheets are ready for volunteering during this time. One or two hours (or more if you are able) on the sign-in table is one way to help. Give me a call (570-522-0973) or email me (aim123@ptd.net) if I haven't reached out to you as yet and you are available to lend a hand.

Shoebox Sunday is November 19th. Bring your packed boxes to the worship service to pray for them and send them on their way. In 2016, **22,156** boxes passed through our collection center and were shipped from here to the Baltimore, MD Processing Center. The Mid-Atlantic Region (PA, NJ, DE, MD, and VA) collected a total of **1,195,922** shoeboxes. From Baltimore they were shipped to Rwanda, Malawi, Barbados, South Africa, Kenya, Ukraine, Burundi, Bahamas, Haiti and Lesotho.

Have you ever thought about traveling to an Operation Christmas Child Processing Center to help sort the shoeboxes before their international journey? This church has been sending both youth and adult teams for many years. It is a remarkable experience to be in a very large area with so many other followers of Jesus Christ working on something together that will touch so many children's lives. The energy level is amazing. If you are interested, ask me for names of folks who have been and I feel certain they would be glad to share their experiences. We have dates for an adult team to go to the Baltimore/Washington DC Processing Center on Tuesday, December 6, work an evening shift, stay overnight at a local hotel, work a morning shift Wednesday, December 7 and return home that afternoon. How about joining our team? I'd be glad to give you more details.

The parent organization of Operation Christmas Child is Samaritan's Purse.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support this amazing mission this year. Thank you.

Alice Marquart
Drop-off Center Team Leader

Christmas Cantata

*The **First Presbyterian Choir** will be presenting a Lessons & Carols service on Sunday, December 17. We cordially invite any of you who are interested in singing but can't commit to the whole school year, to join us for this special event. Beginning Oct. 25, rehearsals will take place every Wednesday (with the exception of two Monday rehearsals on Nov. 6 and Nov. 20) from 8:30-9:00 pm in the choir room. Please prayerfully consider joining us as we present the Christmas story as told through music and scripture.*

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Prayer Time every Sunday 8:30am			1 10:00 Lambs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	2 5:45 DBR	3	4Daylight Savings Begins-change your clocks!
5 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge	6 9:15 Trainers	7	8 10:00 Lambs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	9 5:45 DBR	10	11
12 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge Congregational Mtg.	13 9:15 Trainers	14	15 10:00 Lambs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	16 5:45 DBR	17	18
19 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge	20 9:15 Trainers 7:00 Session/ Deacons/Elders	21	22 10:00 Lambs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	23 **Thanksgiving Dinner 11-1** 	24	25
26 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge	27 9:15 Trainers	28	29 10:00 Lambs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	30 5:45 DBR		

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

Ushers: Mark Speake, Wayne Samuelson, Ken Lepley, Randy Storm

Pulpit Assistant: Rick Gatham

Nursery	Coffee Social	Greeters
5– Amy Tirpak	Don & Glen Dobbs	Dan & Katie Cavanagh
12– Roll	Bill & Beth Shutt	Mark & Amie Reif
19– Mindy & Amber Lind	Wayne & Pat Samuelson	Terry & Barbara Light
26-Volunteers Needed	None	Dave & April Shrom

Dinner By River Teams and (Devotion Leader) : 2: Miller **9:** Beaver UMC **16:** Keiser **30:** Temple/ Torretti

Fall Annual Mtg. Luncheon: Ann Miller , Dave and Ruth McCord, Dave and Marcia Thomas

Hanging of the Greens: Marc & Jess Heid & Family, Ann Roll, Jack & Rebecca Mignot, Marilyn Gaver, Peg Erdley, Alice Marquart, Leslie Temple