

The First Press

September 2017

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From the Pastor:

I know that technically January 1 is the New Year, and we treat it as the time of new beginnings, but the reality is that the start of the new school year is the time we engage in new things. Our young people are starting new grades, some even new schools, picking up a musical instrument, learning a new language, trying a sport that is new to them.

How about those of us who are not so young, are we doing anything new this school year? There have been some significant changes in our congregation since this time last year, but these changes present new opportunities.

Our Youth Summer Mission Team recently shared with us about their experience in Valdosta GA. The youth shared about serving and being served, and how meaningful it was. In the children's message Derek Guissanie spoke on looking for little ways you can serve. I'd like to share with you some opportunities to serve in some big and little ways.

Juan Aldana and his father will soon be coming from Guatemala, they are going to need transportation, meals, probably someone to take them shopping for winter clothes and other essentials, and many other needs we are not yet

aware of.

One of the long-term strengths of our congregation is our music ministry. Our choral choir and bell choir are wonderful opportunities for people to use their musical skills, even develop their musical skills, to lead us all in worship. Please consider joining one or both of these choirs.

The Dinner by the River is in its eleventh year. We have 10 cooking teams. Those teams are constantly changing, we are adding new teams and reconfiguring existing teams. If you have never been a part of The Dinner by the River you should give it a try. You can be on a team, you can help deliver to our shut-ins, you can lead a devotion. There are many from other congregations and the greater community who have joined us in this ministry, this is a good thing. I invite you to join us. Please talk to Mary Kay Toretti if you are interested.

November is Operation Christmas Child month for us and it is a big operation. The big job with O.C.C. is the coordinator, Alice Marquart (world's greatest mother in-law) has agreed to take this on. Now what she needs is volunteers. Some volunteers work for a single shift, some take a shift nearly every day, some help with a spe-

cific area of the ministry. I am thankful for Alice and the other volunteers we already have in place, but there is room for more.

Do you know that many churches are no longer having Sunday School? We are committed to having Sunday School for all ages. Many have already committed to teach, but we are always looking for more teachers and the best way to learn something is to teach. We have teams of teachers for each age group so they can take turns and have a high degree of flexibility.

There is one more opportunity I want to mention and it is a big one. Our wonderful custodian, Marcia Aikey, will be away for the month of October. We are looking for someone who would be able to clean and maintain our facility while Marcia is away. This is a temporary part-time job requiring about 20 hours a week. Please talk to me if you are interested in this.

These are a few of the areas where you can become involved within the life of our congregation. Where are you involved? Please pick one or two of the areas listed above, or one not mentioned and get involved. Make sure your Christian faith is active in worship, study, and service.

Jim

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 - Judith Ziegler, Vickie Ziegler, Meg Morgensen | 1 - Bob & Nancy Martin celebrating their 45th wedding anniversary |
| 2 - Alice Marquart, Sharon Pearce, Lorri Bruckhart, Kim Wagner | |
| 3 - Caroline Sigl | 2 - Jonathan & Sarah Gresh celebrating their 6th wedding anniversary |
| 4 - Karen Shurtliffe, Carolyn McSween | |
| 5 - Tom Hans | |
| 6 - Alexa Mast | 4 - Keith & Pat Ringkamp celebrating their 42nd wedding anniversary |
| 8 - Richard Erdley, Rob Royer, Caroline Graves | |
| 9 - Paula Young | 8 - Jack & Rebecca Mignot celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary |
| 10 - Jan Peterson, Bart Shaffer, Samantha Reif, Audrey Kalcich | |
| 11 - Chris Zellmann, Richard Cooper, Bill Bernard, Mark Temple | 19 - John & Leslie Mutschler celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary |
| 12 - Kelsey Roussell | |
| 13 - Tom Miller, Kirk Jarrett | 21 - Matthew & Emily Poust celebrating their 5th wedding anniversary |
| 14 - Jackie Mast | |
| 15 - Liv Heid | |
| 16 - Barbara Yocum, Lisa Kraus | |
| 17 - Sidney Dame | |
| 18 - Sarah Graber | |

New Address

Irene John

920 Munger Road

Holly, MI 48442-9159

Rally Day Picnic

September 10, 2017

**Picnic will follow Worship
in Soldiers Park**

**Hamburgers, Hotdogs,
Beverages and Table Ser-
vice provided**

Everyone is invited!!!!

Clothes Sharing Program:

The Eastern Union County Supplemental Food Bank is in need of a director for the Clothes Sharing Program. The Clothes Sharing Program offers free clothing to the clients of the program on the first and third Friday of every month. Keeping the program running requires 4 hours weekly. Clothing donations are dropped off at First Baptist Church, and are sorted by volunteers. If you have any questions please contact Lisa Bernard at 570-522-5043 or Gayle Pepper at 570-523-0182.

September is Hunger Action Month

Dinner by the River has been a church ministry for eleven years. We have done this because we care about those who need a healthy meal. God has graced us with so many volunteers. We now have ten teams, many from our church, but, also, from two Methodist churches, Sacred Heart Church, Shady Grove Mennonite Church and the Lewisburg Alliance Church. A team cooks 5 times a year. We are in need of a new team from our church. Training will be provided. Please pray and consider if God is leading you to help feed those in need.

Mary Kay Torretti

570-713-8157



This year's Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 8. Registration will begin at 1:30pm, with the walk leaving St. Paul's Methodist Church on 4th St at 2 pm. There will be a one mile route and five mile route, both mapped out in the Downtown

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir is preparing for a new year of ringing our praises to God. Beginning September 6th, we will rehearse in the Choir Room on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45pm and participate in worship 5 or 6 times between September and June. Although helpful, neither previous ringing experience nor the ability to read music are necessary. The only requirements are that ringers should be in 6th grade or older, have a willingness to learn, dedication to our group, and the desire to have some fun. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please contact Susan Erdley at (570) 524-7174 or susan.erdley@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!



Rally Day

September 10, 2017

Picnic will follow Worship in Soldiers Park

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Beverages and Table Service will be provided.

Everyone is invited!

Bring a salad or desert to share!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is not too early to begin thinking about how you can assist with this year's Operation Christmas Child. First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg will be a 'Central Drop-Off' location. A check of the records shows that we have participated in this capacity for 17 years. WOW!

National Collection Week is Monday, November 13 – Monday, November 20. A team of leaders has been organized and there will be various ways you can volunteer. Manning the table when people come in to register their boxes is an extremely important spot for gathering all their information. You might oversee a group of youth from a local school or church when they come to help. Able-bodied gals and guys are needed to carefully load the trucks with the large cartons full of shoeboxes. Perhaps you could provide snacks and beverages for the goody table. These are just a few ways to consider.

In 2016, 22,156 boxes passed through our center and were shipped from here to the Baltimore, MD Processing Center where they were sorted and then shipped to various countries around the world and distributed through churches in those countries. A simple yet powerful way to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The parent organization of Operation Christmas Child is Samaritan's Purse, headed by Franklin Graham.

Please prayerfully consider how you can volunteer this year. Thank you.

Alice Marquart

Drop-off Center Coordinator

570-522-0973

aim123@ptd.net



Hand Up Dinner Cruise

Hand Up, the Christian organization in Milton, has recently acquired a house that will allow them to develop a new outreach program. The home will be used to house 4 women, for 4-6 months at a time, to prepare them as they move out of Women in Transition. To raise money for funding of this program, Hand Up is hosting a charitable event on Saturday, September 9 in Williamsport. The main event is a two hour ride on the Hiawatha with dinner catered by Le Jeune Chef. There will be a cash bar and tableside magic as we cruise the river. Prior to launching the boat there is a silent auction with many nice gifts donated by local businesses. The auction will begin at 4:30 and the boat will be ready to board by 5:30 with the cruise ending by 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$50 per person and may be purchased online at <http://dinnercruise.brownpapertickets.com>. All proceeds will be used for operational expenses of Renewed Hope Women's Home.

More information, as well as pictures of the auction items may be found by visiting Hand Up on their Facebook page.

Children's Ministry

Thank you to all the Children's Ministry volunteers who served over the summer during VBS, Kids Cantata Week, Wonderful Wednesday programs, Summer Kids Church, and in the Nursery. Your oodles and oodles of hours spent sharing your time, talents and love with children in our church family and our community have shown Jesus' love to them in truly lasting ways. Now with the start of the new school year the Children's Ministry is calling out to those willing and able to serve on our amazing team of volunteers. Whether you have a couple hours a week or an hour a month, there is a place for you to help share God's gift of grace with His young ones.

"For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building." (1Corinthians 3:9) I can't wait to hear from you by phone, email, text, or in person on a Sunday morning that you'd like to be part of all the fun we're having with First Presby Kids.

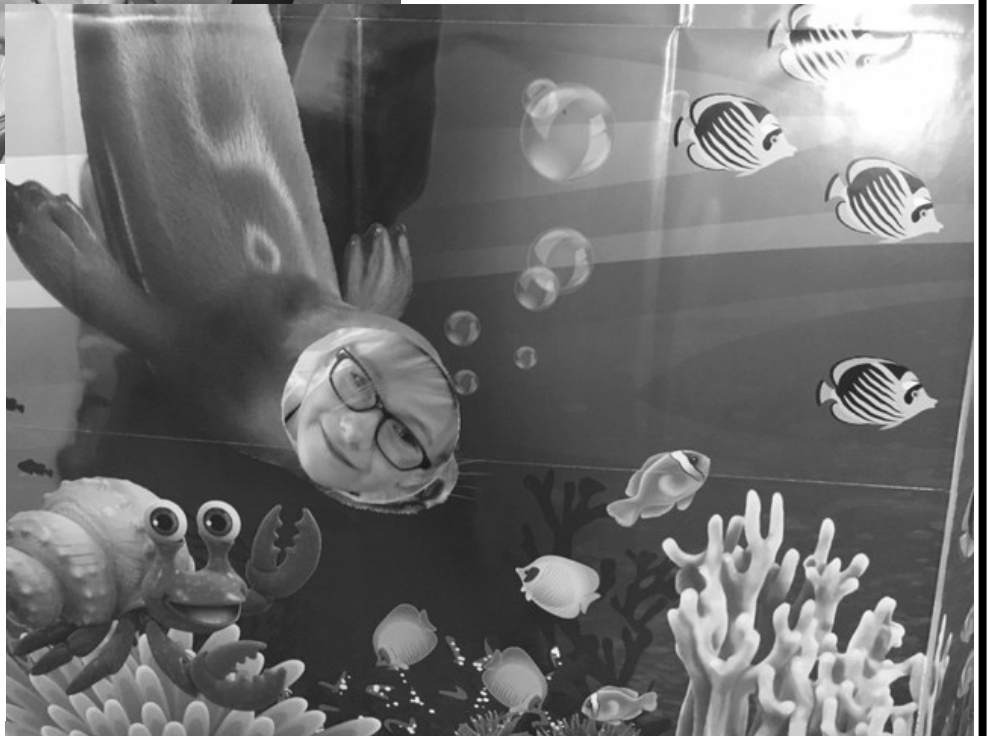
To all our kids and parents of kids, I can't wait to see YOU at Sunday School, which begins again with Rally Day on Sunday, September 10th at 9:00 a.m. And stay tuned to find out the kick-off date for the mid-week kids' program. **I love**

Growing In God Together!



Carolyn McSween Interim Children's Ministry Director carolynmcsween@gmail.com(570) 939-2119





Sunday School

One of the best ways to weather life's storms is to pay attention to our spiritual development. God wants us to seek him, to learn about his Word and to interact with other Christians.

We have a wonderful Sunday School program for children and youth beginning on Rally Day, September 10, at 9:00 am. But did you know that we have a great adult program beginning the same time every Sunday? Four class selections, giving adults the opportunity to learn and grow and gain spiritual insight into God's Word. Sign up sheets will be available for you at Rally Day.

If you attend adult Sunday School, you can look forward to great class selections this fall. If you have not been attending, please consider one of the following classes. Come learn with us!

Engaging the Scripture

One of the on-going Sunday School classes, Engaging the Scriptures, is a discussion of the sermon passage in advance of the morning worship service. The participants read the passage and the discussion leader provides background information and asks questions to enhance understanding of the text. The advance preparation gives insight into the Pastor's message and prepares hearts to learn during the morning worship service. Discussion leaders Marcia Thomas and Bonnie Troxell welcome you to join them for a time of learning and growing in God's Word. Classes start on Sunday, September 10th.

The Reformation: Why It Still Matters

The 500th Anniversary of The Reformation. This fall the protestant church celebrate the 500th Anniversary of The Reformation. This 7-week class will examine the impact of Protestant Reformation on the church, and how it transformed western culture. The doctrines and world-view from this movement continue to affect Christian orthodoxy and practice – as well as our politics and culture today. We will examine the historical, cultural, and theological developments leading to, and following from, this fascinating period. Participants will come away with a greater understanding of their own faith, as well as the tenets of Reformed Theology, and learn how their own understanding of scripture is shaped by the historical, cultural, and theological history of Christianity. Texts used to develop this course are *The Unquenchable Flame* by Michael Reeves, and *Why The Reformation Still Matters* by Michael Reeves and Tim Chester (Amazon Prime, \$23.00 for both). Additional resources will be provided, and discussion is encouraged. Leaders: Terry Fike and Rick Gathman.

Romans

Romans, perhaps the most doctrinally loaded book of the Bible, is a unique letter written by Paul to the church in Rome. Why is it "The First Epistle"? What makes it unique? What is the Romans Road? Jim King will be leading a this year long Sunday School class that will simply start at the beginning and work its way through Romans. This class will meet in the Chapel.

Parenting God's Way

"Love & Respect in the Family" by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs

All parents are welcome to join us as we read, listen to audio podcasts, and discuss this book together! We will "Discover how Dr. Eggerichs' practical biblical insights can turn the Family Crazy Cycle of conflict into an energizing, rewarding home life." Come learn how children need the love that God tells us to give them (Titus 2:4) and parents desire the respect that Scripture plainly says is our due (Exodus 20:12).



September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 Worship	4 Office Closed	5	6	7 5:45 DBR	8	9
10 9:00 Rally Day 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge	11 7:00 C.E. 7:30 Mission	12	13 10:00 LAMBS	14	15	16
17 9:00 S.S. 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge	18 7:00 Session, Trustees and Deacons	19	20 10:00 LAMBS	21 5:45 DBR	22	23
24 9:00 S.S. 10:30 Worship 5:00 Fuel 7:00 Refuge	25	26	27 10:00 LAMBS	28 5:45 DBR	29	30

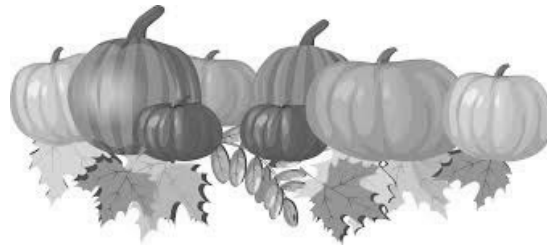
First Presbyterian Church
18 Market St

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Web: www.first-presby.org

Email: info@first-presby.org

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



Ushers: Keith Ringkamp, Steve Foster, Jim Appli, Seth Ziegler, Jr., Jon Miller, Sammy Miller and Robyn Cienki

	Nursery	Coffee Social	Greeters
03	Foster, DeCosmo	Steve & Alesia Foster	Alice Marquart
10	Kalcich, McSween	Mark & Liz Speake	John & Bonnie Troxell
17	Remmey, Jusko	Sean & Natalie VanFleet	Brad & Sallie Jordan
24	Roll, TBA	John & Bonnie Troxell	Tom & Mary Lou Rich

Dinner By the River: 7: Sacred Heart 14– Zellman 21– Shady Grove 28 - Beaver Dittmar

Volunteers Wanted

Evangelical Community Hospital/Hospice Volunteer Training

September 11-12, 2017 from 9-3 at 235 Hospital Drive, Lewisburg

Fee: **FREE**

Are you searching for a volunteer experience that is gratifying and emotionally meaningful? Hospice of Evangelical has the opportunity you're seeking and all the training you need! No healthcare experience needed—just a caring heart and time to fill lives with hope and joy.

The Hospice of Evangelical Team has specially trained, caring volunteers working alongside staff providing friendly visits, vigil care for families, patient care, as well as bereavement support to patients and their families facing a life-limiting illness. Certified pet therapy and music support volunteers are always welcome. There are also other volunteer opportunities for office and fundraising support.

Volunteers visit area nursing and assisted living facilities, in-home patients, or work at the Hospice office. For more information or to request an application, call the Volunteer Liaison at **570-522-2955**