



Churchmouse



First Presbyterian Church ECO 323 Main Street, Greenville PA



Birthdays

Sally Fagley	10/1
Kelly Jones	10/1
Joshua Forbes	10/2
Dan Wilson	10/2
Michael Bray	10/3
Shirley Garrett	10/9
Megan Ohr	10/9
Josh Lentz	10/12
Sam Dailey	10/13
Mary Jane Fay	10/16
Dick Rickert	10/16
Gert Warren	10/16
Lauren Ohr	10/18
Allyn Overfield	10/20
J.D. Titzel	10/20
Aaron Schreiber	10/21
Jeff Wallace	10/22
Michelle Lentz	10/23
Christine Nystrom	10/26
Todd Russell	10/26
John Dobi	10/27
Wendy McCartney	10/27
Jason Forbes	10/28
Marie Mitchell	10/28
Millie McLaughlin	10/31
Don Murphy	10/31
Mary Young	10/31

Youth

Eric Mayberry	10/3
Carly Schreiber	10/6
Madilynn Crompton	10/11
Peyton Davis	10/13
Farrah Carter	10/14
Jonah Lentz	10/14

The Service of Ordination of our new Associate Pastor, Benjamin Claypool, has been scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. to be held in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. We rejoice with Ben and are pleased for opportunity to be an integral part of God's plans for Ben and our church and community. Due to the limited seating capacity in our sanctuary dictated by safe social distancing practices kindly call the church office at 724-588-6520 with your RSVP to the service no later than October 12, 2020.

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. First Presbyterian Church has designated Sunday, October 25, 2020 as a time to thank Rev. Dobi & Bonnie, and Ben & Stephanie Claypool for their service and commitment to our church. During the month of October, Congregational Life Committee will have baskets available in the front and back of the sanctuary for anyone who would like to place a card or note to our pastors and their wives. We will present these cards and notes to them during the morning worship service on Sunday October 25.



VIEW FROM THE PULPIT—

Thanksgiving Day Dinner at First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, has been served in Calvin Hall fifteen consecutive fourth Thursdays each November. Included in gatherings of various sizes over the years (at least 25, as many as 100): members and friends of FPC who would either be alone on the holiday, or would simply desire the blessing of a larger table from which to lift gratitude to God.

Guest have always been welcome. We have hosted groups of international students from Thiel College and the American Scholar Group. We have welcomed student groups from Keystone Charter School.

Like seemingly everything else in this 'year of the virus,' Thanksgiving Day Dinner at FirstPres is being offered in alternative form Thursday, November 26, 2020.

Session met September 14 and decided to offer this year's Thanksgiving holiday meal in 'take-out' form. The plan is to invite again reservations, supplying the 'essentials' (turkey, dressing, etc.), allowing each of us to supply our own side dishes and desserts.

Please watch for directions for making reservations for Thanksgiving Day Dinner as we continue to 'live the adventure' of this challenging season of life together as the people of God in the most faithful and obedient ways we know.

DAD

August 2020

Revenue:
\$32,894.11
Expenditures:
\$37,726.11

NEW ADDRESS:
Virginia Snyder
1852 West Camino Granada
Yuma, AZ 85364



Dear Friends,
Many thanks for all of your visits, calls, cards and flowers during my illness. The presence and prayers of you have been very comforting and a reassurance of God's love and faithfulness. It is such a blessing to have a loving and caring church family. May God richly bless each of you.
With my sincere gratitude, Rosemary Jones

On behalf of Root International, a big THANK YOU to the congregation of FPC for the generous donations of blankets, sheets, towels, and school supplies! The generosity of FPC is always amazing. There were literally enough items donated to more than fill a pallet for transport to the Navajo in Arizona. These dear folks have been greatly affected by the pandemic and already scarce resources are being stretched even more. Many thanks!



Meet Your Session Members

Next up is Fred Hofing. What an interesting life! He worked for thirty years with the Greenville water company! His job as the Pennsylvania rural assistant county manager must have been exciting working with all the changes this area has seen over the years. He also worked with the Pennsylvania DOT District 10 Roadway and bridge design. What a busy guy!

While working, he and his bride Marianne raised one son and two daughters. Adding to their family are 5 grandchildren! Isn't it great to see Riley in church continuing their legacy? They both enjoy going to see softball games to watch their other granddaughter pitch and play ball!

Fred was raised in the Sharon First Presbyterian Church until becoming a member here at First Presbyterian on Easter Sunday in 1997. Since then he has sung in the bass section of the choir and has been involved with a parents group. While on session he has worked diligently on several committees. They include property, security, and the nominating committee. What a blessing to have him!

Fred loves to travel anywhere. He enjoys eating "good stuff". Makes you wonder where he has been and the different foods he has enjoyed! We do know he enjoys the Italian place in Sharon. One more interesting fact is that his grandfather was also a good Christian man. He was instrumental in starting the Christian Reformed Church in Albuquerque New Mexico! Maybe that is why Fred loves to travel!

COMMITTEE NEWS



SHOEBOX TIME

Operation Christmas Child collection week is November 16-23. Delivery of boxes collected here at FirstPres will take place **November 22 after morning worship**.

Boxes and information are available at the front and rear entrances of the sanctuary.



GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The request for the month of October is **soups and stews**. As always thank you for your attention to this community need. The donation baskets are located at the Main Street and parking lot entrances.

Social Concerns Committee

Fall General Election is Scheduled for November 3rd 2020

The last day you can **register** to vote is **October 19, 2020**

The last day you can **request a mail-in ballot** is **October 27, 2020**

You can receive additional information at:

Mercer County Voter Registration and Election Bureau

Thad Hall, Director, 5 Mercer County Courthouse, Mercer, PA 16137

Office Hours: Monday ~ Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

[Except Holidays](#)

Telephone (724) 662-7542 or (724) 962-5711

FAX (724) 662-1530

E-Mail: vregistr@mcc.co.mercer.pa.us

Or go online at

votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

- Outdoor stairway railing is up-concrete project complete.
- Sealing of parking lot and lines painted is finished.
- Discussion to finish repair of the remaining Stained Glass windows has begun.
- Ordered 10 more tables to replace the old ones used in Calvin Hall.

Prayer Opportunity

Beginning Thursday, October 1st, and continuing every weekday through November 3rd (Election Day), the chapel will be open from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to use and enjoy the space for personal prayer and reflection.

Should you choose to utilize this opportunity, please be assured that you would be most welcome. Please also note that the chapel will only be accessible via the outside entrance (front lawn, up the stairs, through the door. There will be a sign for newcomers/community members.). The chapel doors from the inside of the church (by the parlor) will be locked during the 9 to 5 weekday hours.

May we, each one, seek God's wisdom, will, and blessing for such an important time. Welcome!

COMMITTEE NEWS

The Worship Committee has been working hard to start the upcoming seasons with a bang! Our communion services have gone well. The next communion is World-Wide Communion, October 4th. We will continue to use the ones we have been serving. We believe that everyone has gotten the hang of it by now! October starts our busy seasons as we celebrate Reformation Sunday on the 25th, All Saints Day on November 1st, and Veteran's recognition on November 8th. We have also started adding the time with the younger church members in our service! CDC guidelines are being observed while we spend time with the young ones in our service. Stay tuned for more exciting information next month!

"People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. But Jesus called the **children** to him and said, "Let the little **children** come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Luke 18:15-17



Mission Committee

Choon and Yen Hee Lim, Regional Liaisons Team for East Asia will be retiring at the end of this year. Choon writes "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your faithful prayers and support of our 30 years of mission work. We have served with the Islands Medical Mission (Salvation Ship) in South Korea for six years, with the Aboriginal Campus Ministry in Hualien, Taiwan for 15 years, and in the position of Regional Liaison for East Asia, based in Seoul, South Korea, with a focus on China and North Korea, for nine years." Please keep them in your prayers.

Dan & Kaylynn Mills CRU in Papua, New Guinea. Dan's prostate removal surgery was successful, but he still suffers from dizziness. He is on vertigo medication which enables him to work a few hours at a time. The university in Papua has restarted and the CRU staff are permitted on campus to have small group discipleship.

Kaylynn has been working in the CRU's H.R. department as part of the staff care team. They both do zoom meetings with the staff to offer training, encouragement and prayer. Dan and Kaylynn want to thank us for our prayers for them and want us to know that they are praying for us.

Dr. Rob Weingartner, director of the Outreach Foundation will be retiring at the end of September. His retirement celebration will be live streamed Sept. 27 at 5:00 CDT. Click on this link to watch www.theoutreachfoundation.org/celebrate.

News from Soweto Jr. School, Nairobi, Kenya. Geoffrey Ojiambo writes "We had all schools and places of worship closed on the 15th of March, 2020. Before closure, we had a school enrollment of 230 students and 11 teachers all who are needy and come from humble backgrounds. We had to release all these people back to the community due to fear of contracting the virus. We've had to provide them with some food rations to sustain them during these very tough times. The monthly check that we've been receiving from you has been our lifeline and we kindly ask the Missions Committee to keep Soweto Junior School and my entire ministry on the list of beneficiaries. We've already lost three of our school parents to Covid 19 leaving orphans that need food, support and education to enable them to break the vicious cycle of poverty that has engulfed our community for many years."

Jillian Morgan has shared some exciting news about one of our missions! She says: "Blessings from all of us at Creative Learning Christian School! We are so excited to be back together! This is our 9th school year. We have 70 students Preschool-12th grade. Due to changes at Bethany Presbyterian Church, we moved our High School students into the new building. This has been a great change for all of our teachers and students. We are also very excited to be starting our Brain Balance collaboration in October. God has provided for CLCS in countless ways over the last 6 months. Please pray for continued protection and health for our staff and students."



Sunday School Classes for Fall 2020:

PRIMARY YOUTH: Ages 2 years-2nd Grade will meet in person in Room 107

Teachers: Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Christman OR they can participate in a ZOOM class with Mrs. Dersheimer Saturdays at 9:00 AM

GRADES 3-6 meeting in Room 202

Teacher: Mrs. Deist

GRADES 7-12 Meeting in The Den

Teachers: Dan Baker, Mary K Miller, Ben Miller

ADULT CLASSES

*The Parables of Jesus, by James Boice meeting in conference room, Teacher: Rev. Dobi

*Video series "With All Your Heart", by Ray Van der Laan meeting in Calvin Hall with Tom Brainard

*Adult intergenerational class focusing on raising children in the faith, taught by Ben Claypool in the Chapel.

As a continued ministry to North Presbyterian church in Cleveland, the Christian Education/Youth Committee is asking all Sunday School classes to collect laundry soap and quarters for washing machines, to be given to our friends at North Church. These items will be collected for the rest of September through November 20th in Sunday School classrooms.

First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, PA 16125
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SESSION NEWS-At a regular meeting convened at 6:00 PM Monday, September 14 in Calvin Hall all members of Session were present, along with the Associate Pastor and the Pastor

Session heard the following INFORMATION:

- A thorough report and guided walking tour RE: the 'Stained Glass Window Project' at FPC (begun in 2014), was presented by Elder David Miller. Included was current information on what yet remains to complete the project. (Property)
- Ten additional (lighter weight) rectangular tables have been purchased for use in Calvin Hall. Old tables will be donated locally. (Property)
- There is a plan to honor and thank Kathryn Gray and Michael Bray in worship Sunday, September 27. (Congregational Life)
- Chancel Choir has re-gathered and plans to present choral music in worship on a modified schedule beginning September 13 (Worship)
- Kids of the Kingdom Preschool has begun a new school year in-person, with 14 students enrolled. A budget subsidy voted at a previous meeting of Session has been appropriately transferred to maintain staff and service. (Liaison)
- Plans for ordination and installation by Rivers of Life Presbytery ECO for Associate Pastor Ben Claypool Saturday, October 17, 2020, beginning at 4:00 PM in the sanctuary were shared. (Ad Hoc Planning Group)
- Sunday School for the fall quarter will begin September 13 offering classes for all ages on a 'hybrid' schedule of in person and Zoom gatherings. (Christian Education)
- Next service of The Lord's Supper are planned for October 04 (World Communion) and November 29 (first Sunday in Advent). (Worship)
- Head Custodian Jackie Grisetti has announced her plan to retire, effective December 31, 2020 (Personnel)
- A regular fall meeting of Rivers of Life Presbytery ECO is planned for Zoom Saturday, November 03.

By motion and vote, Session took the following ACTIONS:

- Thanksgiving Day Dinner at FPC (Thursday, November 26, 2020) will be served 'take-out' only.
- Westminster Chapel will be open for private prayer Thursday, October 01 until Tuesday, November 03-Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM each day-with appropriate security solutions in place.
- With the advice and consent of the Finance/Stewardship, a gift of \$40,000 will be given to The Good Shepherd Center, Greenville, designated for the purchase of a box delivery truck and related expenses.
- Meeting space for a new women's small group gathering every other Wednesday and convened by Elder Bev Titzel was granted.
- Added to the already approved 2020 schedule of services of the Lord's Supper are Saturday, October 17, 4:00 PM (Ordination/Installation Worship), Thursday, December 24, 6:00 PM (Christmas Eve Worship), and Thursday, December 31, 5:00 PM (New Years Eve Worship)
- Infant and toddler childcare will again be offered during the Sunday worship hour beginning October 04, following Covid-19 Guidelines provided by the Center for Disease Control and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.