

## First Church

604 Market St.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

570-322-3572

office@firstchurch.cc

Check us out at

www.firstchurch.cc

Donate



### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am—Traditional

604 Market St.

9:30 am—Blended

604 Market St.

11:00 am—Contemporary

601 Market St.

11:00 am—Contemporary

1157 Market St.

(live streamed message)

4:30 pm—Celebrate Recovery

604 Market St.

### WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

5:00 pm—601 Market St.

First Night meal, fellowship, music,  
brief message, children's ministries,

fuse\* (youth ministries), First

Friends (special needs group) &

adult small groups.

### CYCLE OF PRAYER:

**April 15 —21:**

John, Laurie, Olivia, Sophia &  
Chloe Erb; Chuck (Ray) Evans III;  
Barbara Farley; Todd, Carol, Emily,  
Tyler & Caleb Fausnaught; Wayne  
& Gerry Fausnaught; Curtis,  
Stephanie & Benjamin Fay; Kim  
Fischer; Nina Rae Fisher; Rob &  
Karen Fisher & Judy Mick; Cindy  
Flook; Peggy & Kolten Flook; Scott  
& Judy Flook; Scott & Tammy  
Foresman; Carrie, Elle & Alex  
Fortin; Doug & Judy Foster; Bill &  
Patty Fox; Michael, Megan, Parker  
& Piper Fox; Xavier, Traci & Jordan  
Francis; Dan Frankenfield; Rick,  
Mary Beth, Justin & Kevin  
Frankenfield; David & Doreen  
Frey; Matthew, Kristen & Leigh-  
ton Frick; Michael Frick; Ron &  
Judy Frick; Shirley Fry; Michelle &  
Shyla Fulp; Dan & Martha Gandy;  
Chuck & Bonnie Garner; Jennifer  
Garner; Donna Gee; Hal & Joyce  
Gee.

# PRAY

*Welcome to*



# First Church

United Methodist

Week of April 15, 2018

### TRANSFORM 2018

Transform is our local mission experience where we seek to meet some of the practical needs in our community as the hands and feet of Jesus. We want to bless our community with home repair projects, landscaping, and painting, as well as things like cleaning, volunteering and serving. Instead of just one week of serving, Transform 2018 will occur multiple times throughout the year:

April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

August 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

October/November TBD

Register online by April 25 at [www.firstchurch.cc/transform](http://www.firstchurch.cc/transform).

### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Church would like to congratulate Matthew & Kristen Frick on the birth of their daughter, Leighton Claire Frick on February 20, 2018.

### SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

Do you have musical talent that could be shared? During the summer months there is a need for special music at the 8:00 and 9:30 services. This invitation is for anyone blessed with the gift of music and is especially extended to our musically gifted children and youth. If you or your child/young person is interested in performing, please contact Mary Engle for further details. 570-419-5441.

Transformation in Christ | Changing lives inside and out (Romans 12:1-2)

# INVITE

## GRAND FRIENDS

We will meet on Tuesday, **April 24** at noon at the **North Campus**.

Program: movie about the untold story of the black women mathematicians who helped win the space race.

Menu: Pizza, chips, dessert, drink and of course POPCORN!

Cost: \$6.00

**Please RSVP** to Carol Cassidy @ 570-323-5596 no later than **April 22**.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women will meet at North Campus on Wednesday, April 18 at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITY

WHEN: Sunday, May 6 through Saturday, May 12, 2018

WHERE: Tarboro, North Carolina

WHY: To share the love and hope offered by Jesus Christ with those whose homes and lives were destroyed by flooding.....and who still have not returned to their homes.

COST: \$175

MAXIMUM TEAM SIZE: 25

TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION PACKET, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN BEST AT [jmbest2@gmail.com](mailto:jmbest2@gmail.com).

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

### Training Update

Here is what our Stephen Ministers are studying this week:

Session Sixteen—*Bringing the Caring Relationship to a Close*

There is no set time frame for Stephen Ministry caring relationships - they go on until the crisis has passed, the need for care is diminished (not necessarily completely over), and the care receiver is able to cope on their own. In this session our Stephen Ministers explore how to know when it is time to bring closure to a caring relationship—and how to do so in a healthy way. *Please continue to pray for our Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers as Stephen Minister training nears completion.*

### SIGHT & SOUND BUS TRIP

Come join us on Wednesday, May 9 for a bus trip to Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster to see “Jesus.” The cost is \$125 for adults; \$90 for children under 12. All proceeds benefit United Churches. Seats are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. There are only 3 seats left! Contact Yvonne Shenuski at 570-546-7786 for more information or to reserve a ticket.

## MISSION ITEMS NEEDED

**Local Food Pantry** —cake mixes, frosting, juice/juice boxes, mac and cheese.

**Shepherd of the Streets** — bar soap, deodorant, combs. Donations for these missions may be left in the baskets at the following locations: Christian Life Center - the Market Street entrance; First Evangelical Center - the Ross Street entrance; North Campus - Lounge.

**PLEASE DO NOT PLACE OPENED OR EXPIRED ITEMS IN THE BASKETS.**

## SECOND MILE GIVING

Formerly the “Pregnancy Care Center,” Expectations provides a variety of pregnancy and relationship services to expectant mothers and fathers. These services include pregnancy testing program, ultrasound program, healthy pregnancy classes, labor and birth courses, healthy marriage/relationship program, adoption education, and other programs to assist parents.

[www.expectationswc.org](http://www.expectationswc.org)

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE CORNER

*Do you know someone who needs our care?* First Church provides care to each of our homebound members and affiliates by pairing each one with a lay Partner in Care who visits regularly to share the love of Jesus on behalf of our church family. Partners in Care assure their partner of the continuing care and connection of our congregation with our homebound brothers and sisters. We send weekly newsletters as well as each edition of the Upper Room. The children in our Children’s Ministry send handmade artwork and cards. Altar flowers are personally delivered by a caring team. Our congregation provides a generous gift bag (decorated by our children) each Christmas of homemade goodies and other items. The Pastor of Care visits each homebound person regularly to share communion. It is important to us that we are not missing anyone who needs to receive our love and care. If you know of anyone in our church family who has become homebound please let the church office know.

# TEACH

# SEND

## SCHOLARSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

### Louise Stryker Music Scholarship

Several years ago the Louise Stryker Music Scholarship Fund was established in honor of Louise to aid and assist young people who have expressed an interest in an aptitude for music. The scholarship amount will vary from year to year depending on the availability of investment income and the number of qualified applicants. Young people through age 21 years may apply. The scholarship may be used for lessons, classes, or training in vocal or instrumental music (does not include the purchase or rental of instruments). Preference will be given to members and/or regular attendees of First United Methodist Church.

### Cindy Lou Sweeting Memorial Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to aid students in the greater Williamsport community who are continuing their self-development through higher education. Up to two students may receive the award. The amount will be determined by the Scholarship Committee. Eligibility: student must be active in student ministries of First United Methodist Church, student must be admitted to an institution of higher learning for the upcoming academic year, and student must have maintained at least a "C" average during most recent academic year.

### Fund for Church Leadership

In 2006 the Church Council voted to set aside unrestricted funds within the Endowment Fund to create a scholarship to aid First Church members who are attending a seminary or college in preparation for a church related vocation. In addition, the scholarship could aid those who are involved in campus ministries, those who are eligible for matching funds or those who have been approved for a First Church internship as outlined by the SPRC. The scholarship is open to those who have been active members of First Church for at least one year.

Details and applications for the above scholarships are available at the information centers and the church office. **Deadline for the return of applications is Monday, April 30 at 3:30 p.m.** Please return completed applications to the church office. If there are any questions regarding any of these scholarships, please call the church office at 322-3572.

## KIDS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

We will meet on April 18 from 5:45-7:00 p.m. ONLY. Kids will be combined preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade. We will have choir and then do VBS prep projects. NEEDED: used and even broken umbrellas for VBS decoration (we only need a few).

# CHILDREN/YOUTH



Children <sup>Petty</sup> <sup>Trained</sup> 3 yrs-4th grade

**JUNE 18-22**

**9 am - Noon**

Register\*: [www.firstchurch.cc](http://www.firstchurch.cc)

\*registration will start April 16



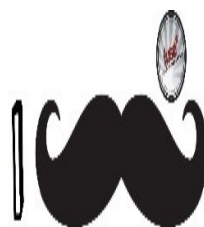
Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join  
fuse\* student ministries on

**Sunday, April 22nd from 4-8 pm**

At the First Church CLC



FUSE\* is excited to invite any students in grades 6-12 to the Mission: ONE laser tag event on Sunday, April 22 from 4-8 p.m. The purpose of Mission: ONE is for students to INVITE ONE friend to connect with us. Drop off and pick up will be at the First Church CLC. Laser tag will happen in the Bennett Street lot. Dinner and other activities will be included at no cost to students. Registration materials can be picked up at information centers or in the fuse\*box. Questions can be directed to Josh Tobias: [jtobias@firstchurch.cc](mailto:jtobias@firstchurch.cc).



**YOU A QUESTION**

Students in grades 6-12 are always welcome at fuse\* on Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. This is especially true as we begin a new devotional series "I mustache you a question". YOU get to submit questions about the Christian faith, the Bible, or other faith related topics as we will build the series as we go, based on those questions! fuse\* meets in the First Church FEC, fuse\*box student ministry center, located at the Ross Street entrance. Contact Josh Tobias, [jtobias@firstchurch.cc](mailto:jtobias@firstchurch.cc), with questions.

# CHILDREN/YOUTH

## Sermon Outline

Quiet Power- Get Control  
1 Corinthians 9:22 – 10:14

Sermon in a sentence: To gain quiet power for control, look to the one whose image you bear.

- I. In our culture of busyness, our schedules tend to \_\_\_\_\_ us rather than us \_\_\_\_\_ our schedules.
- II. There is power in reclaiming that we are created in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. Quiet power is God's power; not ours... yet it is gained through \_\_\_\_\_.
- IV. John Wesley spoke of three dimensions of God's image.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Image  
\_\_\_\_\_ Image  
\_\_\_\_\_ Image
- V. We have the goodness of God within us, but as sin entered the world with the first man and woman disobeying God, our image of goodness became \_\_\_\_\_.
- VI. Jesus is our \_\_\_\_\_ for direction in what to say yes or no to in our schedules.
- VII. Our \_\_\_\_\_ is living in relationship now and forever with the one who created us in his image to love.
- VIII. An idol is anything we pursue at the \_\_\_\_\_ of loving God and loving others.
- IX. Spiritual disciplines are \_\_\_\_\_ that grow our relationship with Jesus stronger.

### Life Reflection:

*In what ways is my schedule out of control? How is my schedule being determined? What do I need to say "no" to. What do I need to add to my schedule? What spiritual disciplines am I willing to exercise this week to keep my eye on the prize of Jesus?*

### Scripture Reflection: Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

## Pastor's Page

### A Transforming Opportunity

First Church,

You may remember a few weeks ago Aaron Russell (our director of College and Community Outreach) shared a new format that we are moving towards regarding how we operate our annual Transform mission experience. Transform has been an incredible mission opportunity right here in Williamsport in which over 400 projects have been completed in recent years. At the same time, many other churches have joined us in this endeavor.

This year we are making some significant changes to Transform to allow more people to be a part of Transform and for Transform to continue more than just once a year. The first of those opportunities is now quickly coming upon us. I have asked Aaron to share with us a bit more on what changes have been made, the dates that Transform will occur this year, and how you can be a part of it. Aaron shares:

*"It has always been our goal to make it as easy as possible for people to jump into service opportunities like Transform. When folks feel that Holy Spirit "nudge," we have tried to clear the way, creating easily accessible opportunities for people to put into action what God might be calling His people to.*

*Admittedly, there have been times we have not done a great job of this. Designating one week a year as our "mission week" is great, but that only works for certain people. One scheduling conflict could disqualify someone from serving during our one big community outreach event for the whole year!!*

*That is why we are switching from one week, to three work sessions of 3 days each throughout the year. Join us for all days, or even just one Saturday.*

**April 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>**

**(Transform Kids Edition in August only)**

*For those of us who are not hammer and nails workers, what is there for us to do? Blessing our community can take many forms. We are all uniquely wired by God, and we want to set you loose to serve in a way to use your gifts. What does that look like for you? Construction? Landscaping? Serving meals? Cleaning? Good conversation? How has God wired you to be a blessing?*

*First Church, will you join us in what God is doing? Register online for Transform at [www.firstchurch.cc/transform](http://www.firstchurch.cc/transform)."*

First Church I invite ALL of us to commit now to be a part of Transform. This is a direct way to be the hands and feet of Christ right here in our own community. At the same time, as Aaron has highlighted, this is an opportunity not just for folks comfortable with hammers and nails, but ANYONE willing to make a difference in any way.

Jesus says, "Whatever you have done for the least of these you have done for me" (Matthew 25:40). Let us serve Jesus through these upcoming Transform experiences.

In Christ,  
Pastor Matt