

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.

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:

May 20— May 26:

Sean, Marcy, Tyler, Andrew, &
Allyson McCann; Judy McCormick;
Todd & Eleanor McCoy; Carol
McMurray; Jerry & Cindie Merrick;
Dulcey Messersmith; Stefan &
Canda Metropoulis; John &
Suzette Meyer; Mat, Nicole, Kaleb,
& Kohen Meyer; Matt, Holley,
Kate, & Emma Meyer; Jordan
Miller; Kathy Miller; Kevin Miller;
Rocky, Suzanna, Brynn, Paiton, &
Anya Miller; Donald & Ellen
Montis; Jeff, Susanne, & James
Moore; Mike, Lindsey, Julie,
Aidan, Annabella, & Lily Morgan;
Elmer Morrow; Eva Moser; Kevin,
Erin, & Evelyn Mowrey; Gary &
Cherie Moyer; Tom & Tracey
Mulcahy; Chris & Mariah
Mumford; Mary Ann Munro; Mark
Murawski; Richard & Sandy
Murray; Craig & Lorrie Netzley;
Douglas, Ashley, Trey, Parker,
Ryleigh, & Presleigh Nicholas; and
Kevin, Mari, Erin & Katelyn
Niedzwiecki.

ABIDING MEMORIAL

Given in memory of Ray Eck by
Gene Dyke.

PRAY

Welcome to



First Church

United Methodist

Week of May 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.

GRAND FRIENDS (60+)

Join us on Tuesday, May 22nd (**4th Tuesday this month**) at the South Williamsport Pavilion at 12:00 noon. If it rains, we will meet at the FEC. Menu will include chicken, fruit and veggie tray, pasta salad, and dessert. The cost is \$8.00. Please bring a lawn chair and jacket. **RSVP to Carol Cassidy (570-323-5596) by the end of the day TODAY, May 20th.**

BAPTISM

First Church would like to congratulate Melissa Anderson on the baptism of her son Blaize Anderson-Hill; Tim Pfirman and Alyssa Clark on the baptism of their son Finley Pfirman; and Vernon and Tiffany Schwanger on the baptism of their son Henry Schwanger on May 13, 2018.

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

INVITE

LOOKING FOR A SMALL GROUP?

If you are looking for a Small Group to attend over the summer, the First Church website is a wonderful resource to help you find a new group. Also, updated Small Group Information Sheets are available at the Information Centers of the FEC and CLC. You may also contact Kathy Miller at kcmiller1961@gmail.com or (570) 651-2165 for help with matching you with the perfect group.

MONTHLY CHRISTIAN BOOK GROUP

Join us on Tuesday, June 5th at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Donna Johnson (1701 Clarion Dr.) for the June book – The Rent Collector by Camron Wright. No reservation needed. Come once, come every time!!!! Great discussion, good fellowship. “COME AND SEE.”

SAFE SANCTUARIES FULL TRAINING – POSTPONED!

Due to circumstances we will be POSTPONING the Safe Sanctuaries Full training. Rescheduled date will be coming SOON. Sorry for the inconvenience and for any confusion. If you have questions, contact Angie Tobias at atobias@firstchurch.cc.

SUMMER SMALL GROUPS

Summer is coming! Some Small Groups take a break from meeting during the summer. If you are a small group leader of a group that **DOES NOT** meet during the summer, please email office@firstchurch.cc to let us know so that we can keep our calendar accurate for the custodial staff. Thank you for your help!

REGULATING TEMPERATURE ON SUNDAY MORNING

You may have noticed that it is challenging to regulate the temperature in a large space filled with people. This is especially true in the Spring and Fall. While we recognize that it is impossible to please everyone, we strive to provide a comfortable worship space for the majority who join us on Sunday morning. The temperature is currently set at 75°, but you will find that different parts of the room can feel significantly different in temperature. The edges of the room and rear of the room tend to be warmer. Obviously, it is cooler when you sit below a blower. We ask for your continued patience and understanding as we try to make each worship space as comfortable as possible.

MISSION ITEMS NEEDED

Local Food Pantry — canned tuna fish, peanut butter, and jelly.

Shepherd of the Streets — diapers, wipes, and baby bath.

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.

FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK

First Church is hosting Family Promise families June 3 - 10 at North Campus. Please contact Patty Fox (570-971-2872) if you are interested in helping to share God's love to local homeless families. Thank you.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE DURING ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Annual Conference this year is being held May 31-June 2. Retired Pastor Dave Searly is available for congregational care needs on Thursday, May 31, while the other pastors are away. If you need care that day, please contact Dave Searly at 570-506-1594. Pastor D.G. will be available on Friday, June 1, and Saturday, June 2 for congregational care. Her number is 570-447-8469.

SECOND MILE GIVING

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 by blessing our community through home repair, landscaping, painting, cleaning, volunteering, and serving. Instead of just one week of serving, Transform 2018 will occur multiple times throughout the year. Our next event will be August 2nd-4th.

SPRING OUTDOOR CLEANUP

Please join us on **Wednesday** evening, **June 6**, beginning at **5:45 PM**, right as First Night dinner is ending. We are asking for help from those who usually come to First Night as well as ANYBODY **interested in helping the church save money** by joining us to clean up the landscape around the CLC, FEC, and parking lots as well as possible mulching at the Bennett St. parking lot. Many gardening tools will be available but, if you can, please bring garden rakes, wheelbarrows, shrub trimmers, gloves, pitch forks, shovels, and/or tarps. **Small Groups** - need a service idea? JOIN US! Meet in CLC Parking Lot. Children under 18 must be accompanied by their parent. Rain Date - Wed, June 13. Questions? Call Ken Durrwachter at 570-560-3213. Of course...have dinner at 5:00 PM at First Night!

TEACH

SEND



Fuse* student ministries announces our summer mission trip experience to Buffalo, New York from July 15 – 21, 2018. This trip is primarily for students in grades 6-12. Adult leaders to fulfill roles of project manager, crew leader, and nurture and support are also needed. Preference for adult applicants will be given to fuse* volunteer staff, parents/relatives of participating students, and then

others. Since this is a student ministry mission experience, we will limit the number of adults to the team needs.



6th-12th grade students are invited to join fuse* student ministries at the 40th anniversary of the nation's largest Christian music festival, Creation! Join thousands of believers for camping, music, speakers, food, and more from June 26th- July 1st. Registration is required by June 10th, with early bird discounts before May

20th. Register online at firstchurch.cc or using registration cards found in the fuse*box or at campus information centers. Contact Josh Tobias, jtobias@firstchurch.cc, with questions or for scholarship requests.

SEAN WALKER'S BASKETBALL CAMPS

Is your child entering Kindergarten through 5th grade? If so, plan on joining us for an amazing week of basketball camp!

June 11th to 15th (Registration and payment due Wednesday, June 6th)

July 9th to 13th (Registration and payment due Tuesday, July 3rd.)

Kindergarten through 2nd grade will meet from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. each day. 3rd through 5th grade will meet from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. each day.

The cost is \$20.00 per child per week.

Activities will include free shooting, Bible teaching, warm-ups, skills, and scrimmages. Any questions, please feel free to call Kathy Choate at 570 322 3993 or email kchoate@firstchurch.cc.

Register online NOW at <http://www.firstchurch.cc/childrens-ministries/>.

CHILDREN/YOUTH

Continued from Pastor Page...

In recent months I have had the opportunity to speak with a number of different churches. I can tell you that they are hungry for the type of ministry model you are beginning to live into, First Church. Thank you for being a people willing to offer a model of church that is both a hope in our current world and a reflection of the church we find described in scripture.

At the start of this year, Wade Burnett, a national consultant for multi-site solutions started working with us. He was excited about this model of ministry and described us as "one of the few churches healthy enough to live into such a model."

I take that as affirmation that we are on the kind of track that God desires. I also believe God is and will use you, First Church, to be a pioneer for other churches to follow.

Would you join me as we pioneer together?

In Christ,

Pastor Matt



Children Petty Trained 3 yrs-4th grade

JUNE 18-22

9 am - Noon

Register*: www.firstchurch.cc

WANT TO HELP WITH VBS?

Teens and adults are welcome to sign up online or talk with Angie Tobias (atobias@firstchurch.cc)

*all volunteers must comply with Safe Sanctuaries

VBS CDs now available...\$5 donation
see Angie Tobias (Director of Children's Ministries) for details!

CHILDREN/YOUTH

Sermon Outline

Becoming X Disciples—Jesus Is Lord Acts 2:1-4

I. At Pentecost:

- A. The _____ was given to the disciples.
- B. The _____ was born.
- C. A Holy DNA _____ occurred.

II. What is the Holy Spirit activating within the disciples at Pentecost

The seeds of a _____

III. Two-part formula in Acts:

- A. Commitment + the Holy Spirit = _____
- B. Addition + the Holy Spirit = _____

IV. We do not have time to _____ church. We are called to _____ the church.

V. For many churches, addition becomes the _____ goal rather than the catalytic _____.

VI. Prayer: “Lord, make us a _____ people.”

Life Application:

Do I believe that the multiplying, life-given power of the Holy Spirit that began at the birth of the Church at Pentecost can still happen today? Am I truly committed in Christ? Am I content with addition over multiplication? What step(s) am I willing to take to live into God’s multiplying discipleship? To see a multiplying movement? Will I pray regularly: “Lord, make us a Pentecost people.”

Scripture Reflection – Acts 2:4

“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

Pastor’s Page

The Church At Its Best (Part 2) - Living as Both “Inherited” and “New”

First Church,

A few weeks ago I began sharing a bit more on the direction of First Church moving forward. In the book of Acts we see how God used both more “inherited” forms of church and brand “new” or “fresh” expressions of Church to share the Gospel in a world that did not know the Gospel.

I believe this is a helpful, and needed, model for First Church to embrace today as well. In particular, these two forms of church can have a “synergistic” effect on each other. The more inherited form of church offers a rich sense of history, reputation, and mature disciples who can send out disciples into the world. The fresh expressions of ministry can offer a new sense of vitality, experimentation, and ability to meet people on their turf to share the Gospel. Both are needed. Both have been used by God as the book of Acts shows.

From my perspective, this is exactly the type of church God desires today. Yet, interestingly, this model of church is hardly ever found in our current American culture. Most churches exist only in an inherited model (gathering every Sunday morning, in a building, with paid staff members), or a new church plant/fresh expression model (meeting in gyms, or coffee shops, or any other 3rd space but without much connection beyond themselves). But what IF a church could learn to live with a symbiotic relationship between the two? THIS is exactly the opportunity that I believe First Church has to offer.

The beauty of this model is that it allows First Church to more fully live into its vision of “Transformation In Christ, Changing Lives Inside And Out.” In this model of “inherited” and “new” we can see lives changed in the facilities of First Church, but also out in the community. We can see lives changed inwardly in our souls, but also outwardly as we seek to send out people to serve and connect in the world.

What this means practically is that we must organize ourselves in such a way as to embrace the dual model. In the next pastor’s page I will go into more detail on this. We have already begun moving in this direction as we continue to invest in elements often associated with inherited forms of church such as children’s ministry, youth ministry, and powerful worship while at the same time cultivating new pioneers to send out for fresh expressions of ministry such as with the Acts Network. However—and here is the beautiful synergy that begins to be created—please do not read this as all inherited ministries exist without elements of fresh expressions. And please do not read that fresh expressions do not benefit from some of the longevity of more inherited ministries. We believe the two “rub off” on each other in wonderful, creative ways whereby fresh expressions of ministry will be happening in more inherited ministries, and more inherited ministries will help guide emerging forms of fresh expressions.

Continued...