

## 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:

June 3— June 10:

Shirley Remsnyder; Christopher,  
Tarah (Ransom), Nala, Orion,  
Landen, & Miles Rennicks; Gene  
Ricci & Andrea Tyson; Mo & Cathy  
Richards; Todd, Carolyn, Ryan,  
Joshua, & Kaitlyn Ritter; Caleb  
Robbins; Ed, Jill, & Benjamin  
Robbins; Mike, Jen, Connor,  
Ethan, & Mae Rodgers; Stacey  
Roman; Deanna Roth; Alice & Adin  
Rothgeb; Aaron & Kristen Russell;  
Bob & Beth Russell; Wayne &  
Paula Sager; and Elizabeth &  
Maggie Sauers

### PRAYERS FOR AFRICA

*"But you will receive power when  
the Holy Spirit comes on you; and  
you will be my witnesses in  
Jerusalem, and in all Judea and  
Samaria, and to the ends of the  
earth." — Acts 1:8*

**Pray for our church mobilization  
teams as they meet with pastors  
across Africa to invite churches to  
join us for Freedom Sunday in  
September.** Churches in the  
countries where we work have  
been able to provide support to  
survivors and fight for justice in  
their communities. In Ghana,  
pastors from fishing communities  
where little boys are trafficked for  
slave labor are catching a vision  
for what it looks like to speak up  
against injustice.

# PRAY

Welcome to



# First Church

United Methodist

Week of June 3, 2018

### MEET THE PASTORS

New to First Church? Take a few minutes on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> to meet one or more of the pastors and let us help you get connected with First Church.

After 8:00 and 9:30 service, First Evangelical Center - Room 206

After 11:00 service, Christian Life Center - in the back of Stryker Hall

### WORSHIP STAFF UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that **Carol Schwanger** will become the **Director of FEC Worship** beginning July 1. In this position, Carol will design and lead our 8:00 and 9:30 worship services. This includes directing the Chancel Choir and supervising our worship staff who serve in the FEC services. **Jamie Caputo**, who has served as our staff at the North Campus, will be serving with Carol as our **Worship Leader** at the 9:30 service. Carol has grown up in First Church, which gives her a deep understanding of our vision and DNA. She has a passion for offering worship in a vital and fresh way that honors the rich tradition of the church and reaches people today. We believe that she is uniquely equipped and has been called by God to serve First Church in this way. Jamie is gifted as a worship leader who is sensitive to the movement of the Holy Spirit and is beloved by the North Campus community. We thank God for once again providing gifted, committed, and spiritually mature leaders. Please keep Carol and Jamie in your prayers.

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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.”

## 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](mailto:office@firstchurch.cc) to let us know so that we can keep our calendar accurate for the custodial staff. Thank you for your help!

## FIRST CHURCH 2018 GRADUATES

On Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, we will offer a special prayer in recognition of all our First Church graduates at each worship service. We will also list their names in the weekly newsletter and in the pre-service rolling slides. If you are a First Church graduate or have a First Church graduate (high school, college, military, grad school, etc.) that you would like us to include in prayer, please email their name and graduation info. to the office no later than Monday, June 4, 2018, at [office@firstchurch.cc](mailto:office@firstchurch.cc) or provide the information on the back of the communication card.

## MISSION ITEMS NEEDED

**Local Food Pantry** — pudding, Jell-O, granola bars, Manwich.  
**Shepherd of the Streets** — dental floss, toothbrushes, toothpaste. Donations for these missions may be left in the baskets at the following locations: the Market Street entrance of the CLC and the Ross Street entrance of the FEC.  
**PLEASE DO NOT PLACE OPENED OR EXPIRED ITEMS IN THE BASKETS.**

## FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK

First Church is hosting Family Promise families THIS WEEK, 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.

## FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR D.S. BETH JONES

Come join us to celebrate Beth's time with us on the Williamsport District on Sunday, June 10, 2018 at Pine Street UMC (441 Pine Street). There will be gathering and snacks at 2:30pm followed by a service of celebration at 3:00pm. All are welcome!

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>.

## SPRING OUTDOOR CLEANUP

Please join us on **Wednesday** evening, **June 6**, beginning at **5:45PM**, 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.



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

Register online at [firstchurch.cc](http://firstchurch.cc)

or using registration cards found in the fuse\*box or at campus information centers. Contact Josh Tobias, [jtobias@firstchurch.cc](mailto: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](mailto:kchoate@firstchurch.cc).*

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

## CHILDREN/YOUTH



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

# JUNE 18-22

# 9 am - Noon

Register\*: [www.firstchurch.cc](http://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](mailto: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—The Power of Community Acts 4:23-37

- I. Deep community occurs for those engaged in the adventure of pursuing a particular vision or goal that forges a special type of \_\_\_\_\_ to which only they can relate.
- II. In the face of tremendous challenge, God's people form \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. Like the book of Acts, we live in a time in which the world does not know the \_\_\_\_\_, and the people of God have to figure out how to \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- IV. Without \_\_\_\_\_ with the outside world, churches quickly become sheltered, artificial environments.
- V. Through the \_\_\_\_\_ of the challenges the church faces, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit may once again come and form us into a risk-taking, adventure-seeking, faith-walking, miracle-occurring community called Church.
- VI. In a changing world, what if we could be a church that \_\_\_\_\_ both core and fresh expression forms of church in a synergistic way?

#### **Life Application:**

*In the face of challenge, what will we do? Wilt? Or band together as the community of God? Make it a point this week (or sometime soon) to: 1) Watch the movie "Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" with the perspective of understanding what true fellowship is. 2) Commit to embracing BOTH forms of church—both the established/inherited/core form of church AND new/fresh expressions/organic form of church. How can you support both? How can we model this form of church for a changing world? What step is God calling you to take?*

#### **Scripture Reflection – Acts 4:32**

"All the believers were one in heart and mind."

## Pastor's Page

### Lasting Legacies: Rugged Disciples

First Church,

At First Church we talk about having a culture defined by rugged discipleship, humble power, beautiful diversity, and a willingness to be here for those not yet here.

A few weeks ago, I saw up close and personal an absolutely incredible display of rugged discipleship that was both inspiring and beautiful. As you know, our North Campus shared in its final contemporary, 11AM worship experience a few weeks ago. Obviously, this was not the easiest of times. Over the years our North Campus folks have developed an incredibly close-knit community. They have shared in many beautiful moments. They have loved each other deeply.

And yet—and here is the part I want us to hear—our North Campus community never made it about THEM and what THEY wanted. With incredible grace, humility, and commitment they have demonstrated for all of us a maturity of discipleship that we must celebrate and embrace. I was personally blown away as I visited with our North Campus participants at the conclusion of their final worship service and received hugs along with hearing hopes of what God would be doing in the future. I was humbled by their trust and faith in Christ regarding next steps.

So that First Church can best utilize the resources it has, and so that we can plan on moving into future opportunities with momentum, our North Campus folks have embraced moving forward in new ways through their willingness to invest more fully into the other worship experiences that we currently have.

If they had chosen, they could have allowed their own desires to supersede the direction of the entire church. They could have allowed bitterness to foster division over unity. They could have allowed their desires to be more important than attempting new ways of reaching out.

Instead, they have literally said, "Not my will, Lord... but yours."

And I am so very grateful.

Many have asked what our plans are for the future of the North Campus moving forward. The short answer is that we do not know exactly what will happen with that facility. We have no current plans to empty or close the building and we are exploring future ministry options for the North Campus. While we seek to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to us, and we must be mindful of some of the major costs that come with the building, we ultimately desire to see the facility best utilized for transformation in God's Kingdom.

Thank you to Pastor Rick and all who have played a significant role at the North Campus for living such a selfless faith. Your legacy is one that has made First Church a more faithful people... and it will benefit future generations to come.

In Christ,  
Pastor Matt