

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 24– June 30:

Josh, Angie, Micah & Jocelyn
Tobias; Shirley Tompkins; Mark,
Betsy, Brianna & Andrew
Trueman; James, Patti Jo, Mia &
Kyle Turner; Pat & Roger Turner;
Vanessa & Kaseem Turner; Todd,
Rachel, Shea, Brianna & Alexa
Ulmer; Sherry Ungard; Norm &
Andrew Venema; Michael &
Tereasa Verbeck; Ruth Vierra;
Ryan, Kristin, Braden & Arianna
Vincenzes; Kelly, Bryn, Katherine
& James Vogel-Laughner; Paul &
Betty Vollman; Harry Voss; Keith &
Pam Wagner; Jonathan, Valerie,
Layla, Xander & Lauger Waldman;
Terry & Denise Waldman; John,
Lisa & Molly Walker; Sean &
Michelle Walker; Peter & Chris
Wallace; Tom, Barb, Madelyn, Ian,
Connor, Gwyneth, Jillian & Simon
Wallace; Betsy Ward; Dan &
Darlene Warner; Doris Warren;
Jan Warren; Lonianne Waters;
Rick, Suzanne & Graham Waters;
Dave, Kate, Tristin & Brock
Weaver; Jim & Cathy Weibley.

PRAY

Welcome to



First Church

United Methodist

Week of June 24, 2018

BECOMING A MULTIPLYING DISCIPLE

Take some time to pray about who you can introduce to First Church through these upcoming opportunities:

- **Meet the Pastors—July 22**

Take a few minutes after Sunday morning services to introduce someone to the pastors of First Church.

- **Transform—August 2-4**

We want to bless our community with home repair projects, landscaping, and painting, as well as things like cleaning, volunteering and serving. Register online at www.firstchurch.cc/transform.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Starting next Sunday, July 1, we will have an updated format to the weekly newsletter. One of the changes will be printing in color! In order to do this, we needed to move up the announcement request deadline. If you would like to request an announcement for the weekly newsletter, please email office@firstchurch.cc by **9:00am on MONDAYS**. Be sure to check out next Sunday's Pastor Page for more details about our new weekly newsletter.

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

INVITE

SUMMER CHRISTIAN BOOK GROUP

The summer book for the Book Group will be The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. We will discuss this book at the first meeting on September 4th at the home of Donna Johnson, 1701 Clarion Drive in Williamsport. Join us on August 7th for a potluck dinner at the home of Linda Schon, 2630 Lincoln Drive in Montoursville. We will be deciding the book choices for the following year at this meeting. All are welcome!

2018 FIRST CHURCH GRADUATE

First Church would like to congratulate Morgan Comini on his graduation from Basic Training at Great Lakes Recruit Center in Chicago. He has orders to leave in July for Saseba Naval Base in Japan for 2 years. As you look toward the future and where the Lord is leading you, always remember that your First Church family is here for you and praying for you and your future endeavors.

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.

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.

...Continued from Pastor Page

3) What makes Acts Network groups different than small groups?

Small Groups, in general, exist primarily to train and nurture those who are already part of a church body. Acts Network groups are specifically started for those currently outside the community of faith. However, Acts Network groups do need Christians who are mature in their faith and willing to pioneer to be part of their groups in order to be a faithful witness throughout the community and world. At the moment, approximately 33% of participants in the Acts Network are not connected with a church or active in their faith. We would expect this percentage to continue to go up as the Acts Network grows into new venues outside of Sunday morning expressions of church.

I so appreciate these responses from Mitch and would ask for your continued prayers for all of the Acts Network as we seek to most faithfully be God's church in the world today.

In Christ,
Pastor Matt



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.

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!

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

Those entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade will meet from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. each day. Those entering 3rd through 5th grade will meet from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. each day. The cost is \$20.00 per child.

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/>.

TEACH

SEND

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Sermon Outline

Becoming X Disciples: The Church as God Intended

Acts 1:3-8

“The word of God grew and multiplied.” Acts 12:24

The Church as God intends:

1. Recognizes that Jesus is Lord.
2. Embodies Jesus.
3. Fosters deep community.
4. Ministers incarnationally.
5. Creates an APEST culture—Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds, and Teachers.

What can I do to be a multiplying disciple?

1. _____ on God.
 - A. Pray for _____.
 - B. Pray for _____.
2. Don't put God in a _____.
3. Be a _____: Tell your _____.
 - A. My life before Jesus
 - B. How I got to know Jesus
 - C. My life with Jesus
4. Be an _____. (one who is sent out)
5. Raise up _____. The foundation of raising up an apprentice is building a _____.
6. Remember that the church as God intends it to be cannot be _____.

To listen to sermons in this series on becoming multiplying disciples, go to <https://firstchurchwilliamsport.podbean.com/>.

To learn more about the beginning of the book of Acts, watch a brand new 6-minute video from The Bible Project. Google “Bible Project Acts Ch 1-7.”

Recommended Reading: *The Forgotten Ways* by Alan Hirsch

“I am the Lord's Servant. May it be to me according to your Word.”
Luke 1:38

Pastor's Page

The Church At Its Best (Part 4)—Living as both “Inherited” and “New/Pioneering”

First Church,

In this series we have been focusing on a new model of how to be and “do” church so that multiplying discipleship may occur. In previous pastor pages I have described how the embrace of both inherited forms of church (think established ways we have done traditional church for a long time) and new forms of church (think “pioneering” ways of being the church moving into the future) leads to a synergism that fosters new life for all of First Church—but particularly fosters transformation in Christ, Changing Lives Inside and Out.

The primary way that we are living into the new/pioneering model of Church here at First Church is through the Acts Network. Mitch Marcello is our primary staff person who works with the Acts Network, but we have a number of you who are beginning to lead Acts Network groups. Because this model of ministry is newer to us, we understand there are many questions around it. Therefore, I have asked Mitch to provide some answers to some basic questions in the hopes that his responses will give us even more clarity and also help foster excitement about how God is moving among us. Mitch shares the his responses to the following questions:

1) What is the Acts Network?

A Network of fresh expressions of church which exist to connect with non-believers and the unchurched primarily outside the walls of the existing church. The Acts Network creates forms of fresh expressions of church to bring the church Jesus loves closer with the people Jesus loves. All seek to be meaningful, incarnational communities of faith. The goal is to be a form of church for our changing culture established primarily for the benefit of those who are not yet members of any church. Currently we have nearly 300 individuals connected in the Acts Network.

2) How are Acts Network groups connected/tethered to First Church?

Acts Network leadership overlaps with the rest of the church at both a staff and laity level. Acts Network leaders share in a covenant based off the United Methodist vows made by everyone who joins First Church. Acts Network participants are encouraged to give electronically to First Church when they reach a certain level of maturity in their discipleship. Certain times of worship (such as Christmas and Easter) and service opportunities (such as Transform) are encouraged for all Acts Network participants to share in with the rest of First Church. The Acts Network operates out of the same DNA and under the same Vision of “Transformation In Christ, Changing Lives Inside and Out” as the rest of First Church.

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