

First Church

604 Market St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

570-322-3572

fumc2@comcast.net

Check us out at

www.firstchurch.cc

Donate



SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00am—Traditional

604 Market St.

9:30am—Blended

604 Market St.

11:00am—Contemporary

601 Market St.

11:00am—Contemporary

1157 Market St.

(live streamed message)

4:30pm—Celebrate Recovery

604 Market St.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

5:00pm—601 Market St.

Night meal, fellowship,

music, brief message,

small groups (kids, youth & adults)

STAFF POSITION AVAILABLE

Enter his courts with praise! Offer your musical gifts and leadership skills to work for God's kingdom. This is a 15 hour per week paid position with responsibility to lead worship (except First Sundays of the month) at the North Campus; including such things as musician recruitment, music selection, and leading rehearsals. Job description and application are available at the church office; or contact Pastor Rick Waters at 570-322-3572 or by e-mail

richarddwaters@comcast.net.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery (CR) at First Church is living proof that God is in the restoration business. Lives are changing!! It doesn't matter who you are, what you have done or what has been done to you...God is willing to take your mess and make it your MESSAGE! Whatever your bondage is - lust, mental illness, gluttony, sexual abuse, pride, depression, anxiety - until you surrender to Jesus Christ and admit your hurts, habits and hangups, you will never experience freedom. But when you are willing to give your mess to Jesus Christ, He turns it into your message. CR meets Sundays at 4:30 p.m. in the First Evangelical Center. If you have any questions about Celebrate Recovery or wish to order a tshirt, conveying this very message, contact Alisa Cohick at 570-447-0193 or email at volbalchick@hotmail.com.

Welcome to



First Church

United Methodist

Week of May 15, 2016

NEW TO FIRST CHURCH? - Steps to find your way:

Step 1) **MEET FIRST CHURCH SUNDAY, MAY 22nd** right after worship

Join one of our pastors for a few minutes getting to know First Church and learning about the ministries most relevant for you. Children are welcome!

After 8:00 a.m. service, First Evangelical Center—Room 206

After 9:30 a.m. service, First Evangelical Center—Room 206

After 11:00 a.m. service, Christian Life Center—back of Stryker Hall

After 11:00 a.m. service, North Campus—in the lounge

Step 2) **A DISCIPLE'S PATH** 6 week group

This group will guide you onto a path of growing discipleship and connection at First Church. It is also the membership group if you would like to join at any time. Led by Pastor D.G. Giordano 6:00-7:00 p.m. Wednesdays beginning September 7th in the First Evangelical Center, Room 206. Children's Ministry takes place at the same time as part of First Night so your children can also grow in their discipleship.

BAPTISM

The First Church family would like to congratulate the following individuals & their families:

Miriam Joy Schwanger, as she was baptized on Sunday, May 8, 2016 at the 9:30 a.m. service at the First Evangelical Center. Miriam is the daughter of Dan & Carol Schwanger.

Sadie Elizabeth Bower & Addison Taylor Bower, as they will be baptized on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at the 11:00 a.m. service at the Christian Life Center. Sadie & Addison are the daughters of Ryan & Paula Bower.

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

INVITE

STEPHEN MINISTRY – “SOUNDS HORRIBLE”

I recently watched the movie *Still Alice*. This academy Award winning film tells the story of Alice, a 50-something college professor who is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. In a short, poignant scene toward the middle of the film, Alice's daughter Lydia asks about her experience with Alzheimer's: "What's it like? What does it actually feel like?" Alice tells her daughter: Well, it's not always the same, I have good days and bad days...on my bad days, I feel like I can't find myself...I can see the words hanging in front of me and I can't reach them and I don't know who I am. And I don't know what I'm going to lose next." After a moment, Lydia replies with just two words: "Sounds horrible." Alice

smiles a little and says, "Thanks for asking." The words "Sounds horrible" might not sound caring, but actually they convey tremendous empathy and compassion. All too often, when someone shares painful feelings, we're so anxious to help the person feel better that we downplay that pain. Lydia could have done that, saying something like "Try to focus on the good days, not the bad" or "You need to stay positive!" Instead, Lydia validates and shares in her mother's feelings – which was just what Alice needed right then. So the next time someone shares about a painful situation, something like "Sounds horrible" might be just the right thing to say. (Author: Joel Bretscher, Stephen Ministries, St. Louis, Missouri)

GRAND FRIENDS

We will meet on Tuesday, May 24th at 12:15 p.m. at Hoss's Restaurant for lunch and a program. This month's program will be presented by Guy Giordano on "My Experience as an Ebola Fighter." Please RSVP to Carol Cassidy by May 21st at 570-323-5596.

MISSION ITEMS NEEDED

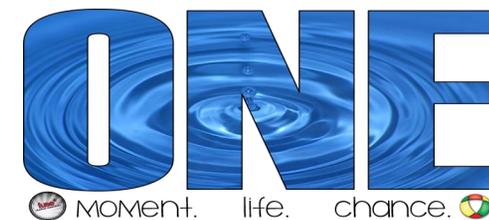
Local Food Pantry—tuna fish, peanut butter & jelly.

Shepherd of the Streets—diapers, wipes & 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.

SECOND MILE GIVING

The Second Mile Giving for May and June is "Transform PA". This specific week of local mission efforts and community outreach is set for August 1-5, 2016, but efforts continue all year long. During the months of May and June we will collect monetary donations for these efforts. Please make checks payable to "First Church" with "Transform PA" in the memo line.



Applications are being accepted for students currently in grade 6 and up, as well as adults, to serve on our mission trip in Crisfield, MD from June 26th through July 2nd 2016 through fuse* student ministries & First Church. Applications are available at information centers, and will be accepted until May 29th. Participants who are accepted onto the team will receive notification and trip information during the first week of June. Any adults wishing to participate will need their safe sanctuary clearances with application, and are expected to apply with the intention of leading and guiding students in mission. Together, we will serve while focusing on the theme of ONE; studying Acts chapter 8. Questions can be directed to Josh Tobias (jostobias@comcast.net) or Aaron Russell (arussell@firstchurch.cc).

SAVE THE DATE:
Transform PA
A week of mission
in our community
August 1-5, 2016

TEACH

SEND

Sermon Outline

Can You Breathe—God's Breath

Acts 2:1-21

1. Breathing room is the _____ between our current pace and our limits.
2. When we are out of breath, it's hard to take in _____.
3. God's breath = God's _____.
4. Pentecost literally means _____.
5. To receive God's breath, follow God's _____.
6. The breath of God _____.
7. When God breathes, _____ and _____ things happen.
8. God's breath blows _____ down.
9. God's breath brings _____.

ACTS 2:1-4 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues^[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

Life Application: When is the last time you witnessed God do something amazing? If God has become ordinary, you may have spiritual asthma. Do you need to slow down so you have time to breathe in the breath of God? Do you need to practice spiritual disciplines like worship, Bible Study, prayer, and giving so that you can receive God's breath? Do you need to remember that God has already broken down the barriers so that YOU can experience life to the full?

The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life!"
Job 33:4

Pastor's Page

GENERAL CONFERENCE 2016

First Church,

As some of you may know I had the privilege of being elected to go to the United Methodist General Conference this year in Portland, Oregon. This General Conference is currently going on. In fact, we are right in the middle of it. Because of this I am not with you this week.

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church is the primary governing body of the entire United Methodist Church (UMC). It meets once every four years in order to make major decisions when it comes to the overall life and direction of the church. The UMC is a world-wide church and therefore delegates from around the world come to conference together at this time.

I would ask for your prayers as this group currently gathers. There are many different and difficult issues that the delegates are praying through. As you can imagine, when you bring folks together from around the world, from many different contexts and cultures, it can be difficult to come to consensus on issues related to justice, society, ministry, and what it means to best be a faithful follower of Jesus Christ.

Because of the potential divisiveness around various issues, the news media will focus on what happens at General Conference. Therefore, you may or may not hear about "decisions" that were made at General Conference. I would ask that regardless of what you hear from the general news media that if you have specific questions that you check our conference website at www.susumc.org for daily updates and resources on what is coming out of General conference. Beyond that, if you would need, please feel free to contact me (mlake5@comcast.net) and I will do my best to share accurately on any significant developments that occur. Some years at General Conferences there have been major decisions made that would impact us as a congregation, and some years there have been relatively minor changes that functionally have no effect upon us.

Most of all I would covet your prayers. Pray that the delegates at General Conference reflect Jesus Christ. Pray that God's Holy Spirit would reign. Pray that we seek God's desires over our own. Pray that unity in the spirit of Christ will prevail over division found in the human spirit. Most of all pray for faithfulness to Jesus Christ that leads to the transformation of lives!

Thank you for your prayers and support First Church. I look forward to being back with you soon.

In Christ,
Pastor Matt

FIRST CHURCH

604 Market St.

Williamsport, PA 17701

Phone: 570-322-3572

We're on the Web!
www.firstchurch.cc and



Sunday, May 15

8:00 a.m.-Worship (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.-Worship (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.-Sermon Talk (MC, FEC-201)
9:30 a.m.-Children's Sunday School (MC, CLC-1st floor)
9:30 a.m.-fuse*student ministries (MC, FEC-fuse*box/105)
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship (NC)
4:30 p.m.-Celebrate Recovery (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
6:00 p.m.-fuse* student ministries (MC, FEC-fuse*box)

Monday, May 16

7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-FNS (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
1:15 p.m.-The Joyful Hearts (NC-Fellowship Room)
5:00 p.m.-Open Gym (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
5:00 p.m.-Men of Integrity (1508 Elmira St.)
5:30 p.m.-GIFT Women's Group (NC-Fellowship Room)
6:45 p.m.-Women's Step Study (NC-214)
7:00 p.m.-Women of Faith Service Project (MC, CLC-Kitchen)

Tuesday, May 17

7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-FNS (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
10:30 a.m.-Daughter's of Grace (MC, FEC-101)
10:30 a.m.-Women's Bible Study (McMurray) (MC, FEC-102)
12:00 p.m.-Daytime Disciple's Path (MC, FEC-206)
12:30 p.m.-Jewels Small Group (MC, FEC-102)
2:15 p.m.-Worship Design (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall/102)
3:30 p.m.-Tutoring (NC-Wesley Hall)
5:00 p.m.-Scholarship Committee Meeting (MC, FEC-202)
6:30 p.m.-Tuesday Night Small Group (Lane) (MC, FEC-206)
7:00 p.m.-Small Group (Murray) (MC, FEC-201)
7:00 p.m.-Volleyball/Bible Study (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

Wednesday, May 18

6:00 a.m.-Men's Small Group (Konieczny) (MC, FEC-102)
10:45 a.m.-The Flock (MC, FEC-102)
FIRST NIGHT SCHEDULE
5:00 p.m.
Dinner (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
5:15 p.m.-Wed. Night Worship Experience
(MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
5:45 p.m.
Children's Ministries (MC, CLC-1st floor)
6:00 p.m.
CR Step Study (Men) (NC-212/213)
CR Step Study (Women) (NC-Fellowship Room)
Life of Christ (Reeder House, Lead Pastor's Office)
Married Couples Small Group (MC, FEC-102)
Men of God (NC-Wesley Hall)
Mom's of Faith (MC, FEC-105)
Sister's In Christ (MC, FEC-201)
7:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir (MC, FEC-104)

Thursday, May 19

6:00 a.m.-Men's Bible Study (Marzo) (NC-Fellowship Room)
9:00 a.m.-Sewing in the Spirit (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall)
3:30 p.m.-Tutoring (NC-Wesley Hall)
6:00 p.m.-Lead Council (NC-Wesley Hall)
6:30 p.m.-Bell Choir Rehearsal (MC, FEC-104)
7:00 p.m.-CLC Praise Band (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall/Stage)
7:00 p.m.-NC Praise Band (NC-Sanctuary)

Friday, May 13

6:00 a.m.-Prayer Time (NC-Sanctuary)
5:00 p.m.-Open Gym (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

Saturday, May 14

7:00 a.m.-Men's Group (Wegman's)

NC = NORTH CAMPUS (1157 Market St.)

MAIN CAMPUS

CLC = Christian Life Center (601 Market St.)

FEC = First Evangelical Center (604 Market St.)

CYCLE OF PRAYER: May 15—May 21

Howard & Brenda Berthold; John & Sue Best; Michael, Jennifer & Keller Best; Robert Bickel; Jean Binderup; Peggy & Constance Bird; Alfredo, Mary Ann, Micaella, Mia, Maria & Marco Blas; Betsy & Jarrett Bobenmoyer; Jourdan Boehmer; Mel & Pat Bole; Michael, Natalie, Emily, Joshua, Zachary & Henry Bonislawski; Rob, Lori, Austin & Grace Boos; Pamela, Jay & Brooke Bossert; Chad, Nikki, Elijah, Adalyn & Abram Bower; Dale Bower; Don, Heather, Madyson & Jackson Bower; Jeff & Deborah Bower; Paul & Judy Bower; Ryan, Paula, Addison & Sadie Bower; Scot, Desiree', Cayce & Austen Bower; Mary Bowersox; Chris Boyce; Paul, Patty, Emily, Beth & Alison Braunegg; Bill, Kelly, Tripp, Molly & Mia Breen; Susan Breen; Forrest Breitenbach; Eric & Madison Briggs; Sean Brink; Rob & Patty Britton; Robert & Helen Brown.

Weekly Worship Attendance
for week ending May 8, 2016:
TOTAL — 846