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)
5:00pm—Celebrate Recovery
604 Market St.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

5:00pm—601 Market St.
Night meal, fellowship,
music, brief message,
small groups (kids, youth & adults)

FEC FLOWERS

The altar display is presented to the glory of God and in memory of Michael G. Durrwachter by George, Shirley, Susan and Katie Durrwachter.

CHRISTMAS SOCK TIME

Once again it is time for our "Christmas Socks for Nursing Home Shut-Ins", a project of the Church Women United of Lycoming County. Our United Methodist Women are filling socks for the county nursing facilities. The cost to fill one sock is $3.00. If you would like to assist with this project, please give $3.00 or more to Barb Harbach by December 1st. Our goal is to fill at least 75 socks this year - won't you please help us achieve this goal?

CELEBRATION SUNDAY AT NORTH CAMPUS

A Celebration Sunday will be held at the North Campus immediately following the service on November 15th. This will provide a time for North Campus worshippers to share and celebrate recent blessings as well as fellowship with one another. Cake and beverages will be provided.

Welcome to

First Church

United Methodist

Week of November 15, 2015

Transformation in Christ | Changing lives inside and out

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

Step 1) **MEET FIRST CHURCH—December 6th** right after worship
Join one of our pastors for a few minutes getting to know First Church and learn about the ministries most relevant for you. Bring the kids.
After 9:30 service; room 101 below the sanctuary
After 11:00 Life Center service; upstairs in the loft
After 11:00 North Campus service; in the Fellowship room

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 Rick Waters, 6:00-7:00p.m. Wednesdays beginning January 13 in the church office, 604 Market Street. Childcare provided.

BAPTISM

The First Church family would like to congratulate Derek Hostrander on his baptism. Derek is the son of Kyrie Hostrander.

NEW MEMBERS

The First Church family would like to welcome the following new members who are joining on Sunday, November 15: Sebastian Bush, Bessie Schaeffer, Mike Armbruster, Rana Colaianni.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference will be held this year on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Faith UMC in Montoursville. Charge conference is a time for all members of First Church to vote.

INVITE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
The United Methodist Women will meet on Wednesday, November 18th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room at North Campus. The program will be led by Sonja Saar and the guest speaker will be Susan Little Lantz. Please join us!

GRAND FRIENDS
Grand Friends will meet Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at noon at Hoss's restaurant. Yvonne Shenuski will be speaking about her mission trip to Africa. Lunch will be on your own. Please RSVP no later than November 22 to Carol Cassidy@ (570) 323-5596.

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER
For anyone who wishes to come, we will be gathering at the North Campus sanctuary every Friday morning from 6AM-6:30AM. This prayer time will serve as a reminder, and a joy, that we come into the presence of the RISEN Savior! I hope you all will come as you are able!

JOIN THE PRAYER CHAIN TEAM
It is incredibly meaningful and powerful to have others pray for us; especially in times of need. The First Church e-mail prayer team is a way to request prayers; and there are currently 82 people committed to pray. Won't you join the team of pray-ers? You will receive the requests from the Church as they are submitted. Pray for those requests in you daily prayer time. After a week or so, move on to new requests as they are received. Quite a few requests are received each Sunday; so your prayers are needed. Sign up to pray on the communication card today.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Next Sunday (Nov 22) the children's choir will sing "Give Thanks" at the 9:30 service. ALL children over 3 yrs old will meet in the Sanctuary in the FEC at 9:30 with their families in worship. Following the children's anthem and a special message for the kids in the front of the Sanctuary, children will then be dismissed to Sunday school. Children will exit the Sanctuary in the back (toward Ross Street) and together, with the help of the Sunday School teachers, will carefully walk the kids across the street to the CLC for Sunday School. Nursery for kids under 3 will meet as normal at 9:30 in the CLC.

SECOND MILE GIVING
The Second Mile Giving for November and December is Missionary Support. First Church supports the following missionaries: Missionaries Phil (doctor) and Linda (nurse) Byler spent 20 years in Williamsport and are now working in northern Uganda under Africa Inland Mission in medical Hospital work (Phil) and administration (Linda); Missionaries Jordan and Kate Egli are missionaries in Aix-les-Bains, France, one of the most secular countries in the world. Less than 2% of the population has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. JordanandKateEgli.blogspot.com Please make checks payable to "First Church" with "Missionary Support" in the memo line.

MISSION ITEMS NEEDED
Local Food Pantry— fruit snacks, mac –n- cheese, chunky soup, tomato soup. **Shepherd of the Streets—** toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss. Donations for these missions may be left in the baskets at the following locations: Christian Life Center - the Market Street entrance; Evangelical Center - the Ross Street entrance; North Campus - Lounge.

ALL-CHURCH LEADERSHIP RETREAT
Join us in the Christian Life Center on Saturday February 6, 2016 from 8:30-1:30. There will be a Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. All are welcome.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THANKSGIVING
Once again the Missions Committee will be collecting grocery bags of food to be used for the needy of our community this Thanksgiving. Please be sure to pick up a bag at any of the church locations and return it to First Night no later than November 18th or to Worship no later than Sunday, November 22nd. If you forget to pick up a bag, no worries. Any bag will do! Thank you in advance for your support!

MISSION TRIP
JOIN US in working with the poor!
Second Annual First Church **MISSION TRIP to NASSAU, BAHAMAS (cost is $750)** Monday, January 25 -Tuesday, February 2, 2016 ($100 Deposit to commit). Volunteer opportunities include preschool to 12th grade, Sunday School & Church, and Young Life ministry in this cross cultural rural community. TEAM LIMITED TO 16. For more information or an application contact John or Susan Best at 570 -326-1943 or Jmbest2@gmail.com. This is NOT a construction trip.

TEACH **SEND**

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

The First Church family would like to express their sympathies to the family and friends of Bob Turner. Bob passed away on Tuesday, November 10, 2015.

DONATION TO FIRST CHURCH

In honor of John Konieczny by Chuck and Jeannie Lahickey

ABIDING MEMORIAL

In memory of Jean McCreery by:

Len and Jean Collins
Bud & Gloria Thomas
Susquehanna OB/GYN
Thomas Takach
Homer & Phyllis Klock
James and Joette Wasser
Joseph and Virginia LaForest
Ginny Campbell Kretow

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

The First Church family would like to congratulate David and Heidi Hartsock on the birth of their daughter, Carolyn Grace Hartsock. Carolyn was born on Saturday, November 7, 2015.

GENEROSITY THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Sunday, October 18 was the Commitment Sunday for our annual stewardship campaign. We have received 199 commitments to date. Thank you to those who have responded. Your commitments help us plan for ministry in 2016. If you did not have a chance to turn in your commitment card, please prayerfully consider what it would be and place it in the offering plate. Cards are available at all information centers.

Average Monthly Attendance	
Service	**October Average for 2015**
Wed. Night	209
8:00	84
9:30	249
11:00 CLC	157
11:00 NC	90
9:30 Live Streaming	19
11:00 Live Streaming	24
Celebrate Recovery	29
TOTAL	**861**
Financial Stewardship	
October Year-to-Date Current Fund Income	$916,584
October Year-to-Date Needed Income	$993,029

Sermon Outline

Waves...Anchors…Movements: Love

John 3:16-21

I. John 3:16 is perhaps the best _____ of the Gospel that we have.

II. John 3:16 occurs in a one on one _____ with Nicodemus away from the temple.

III. This God desires to be in _____ with us.

IV. Anchor for us in our times of change: _____ love.

V. _____ of Change: How is life different now than 10 years ago?

   a. We Face More Intense _____.

VI. When humanity was most in need and could not save itself, God did the unthinkable--God sent _____.

VII. Severe need is a tremendous burden and a tremendous _____.

VIII. We serve a God who will _____ any wave of change in order to be in relationship with us through sacrificial love.

Life Reflection:

How far will I go in order to love people and be in relationship with them? What is my relationship with Christ like? Do I know that I matter to God? How can I let everyone know that they matter to God? How can we as a church let everyone know that they matter to God? Am I willing to offer sacrificial love? What does that look like through the changing waves and increased needs of life?

Scripture Reflection: John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Pastor's Page

A Never-Ending Gift

First Church,

Imagine if God said to us, "I will give you a resource that can not only change your life by drawing you closer to me, but it is a resource that will also change the lives of those around you, the church, and even the world. And oh, this resource is free to you. It is available in abundance to you--in never-ending abundance actually. It is there all the time. ALL the time. You don't have to use it perfectly, you just have to be willing to engage it. It won't hurt you at all. In fact it will help you as it molds you more closely into my image. And for those of you who want to know exactly what I am thinking or want to be able to know my ways or hear my voice, engaging in this one thing is one of the single best ways to do those things."

As you might guess, God DOES give us such a thing. It is called prayer. Deep prayer puts us so in step with God that it is one of the best places to hear God's voice and discern God's ways while at the same time building our personal relationship with God.

Given all of these wonderful components of prayer, you would think that we would be a people who could not share enough in prayer. And yet we all know that while we may often offer up prayers at different times, prayer as a way of life is often not our experience.

One of our goals at First Church is to be a praying church. We know that God uses prayer to change us and the world. God uses prayer for revival and for transformation. What you may not know are all of the ways that we encourage prayer. Some of those include:

**Friday morning prayer (every Friday) at the North Campus at 6AM.

**A monthly prayer calendar with different ministry focus points (The prayer Calendar is available on the church website. http://www.firstchurch.cc/connect/prayer/prayer-calendar/)

**The church prayer chain

**Prayer time in small group gatherings

If you do not currently get the monthly prayer calendar or are not on the church prayer chain, please indicate on the communication card today your desire to share in prayer in these ways and we will make sure you get them.

We cannot pray too much First Church! May God use our prayers for the transformation of our lives and the world for Christ!

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, November 15

8:00 a.m.-Worship (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.-Worship (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
10:00 a.m.-Breakfast (NC-Wesley Hall)
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship (NC)
12:30 p.m.-Celebration Sunday (NC-Wesley Hall)
5:00 p.m.-Celebrate Recovery (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
6:00 p.m.-FUSE* (NC-Wesley Hall/Fellowship Room/212/213/214/215/216))
6:30 p.m.-DC4K (MC, CLC-132/133)
6:30 p.m.-DivorceCare (MC, FEC-104)
6:45 p.m.-Women's Small Group (Somers) (MC, FEC-101)

Monday, November 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 (Growing in Faith Together) (NC-Fellowship Room)
7:00 p.m.-Women of Faith (1508 Elmira St.)
7:00 p.m.-Disciple's Path (NC-Wesley Hall)

Tuesday, November 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)
12:30 p.m.-Women's Small Group (Jewels) (MC, FEC-102)
2:30 p.m.-Worship Design Meeting (MC, FEC-102)
6:30 p.m.-Tuesday Night Small Group (MC, FEC-105)
7:00p.m.-Volleyball/Bible Study (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
7:00 p.m.-Small Group (Murray) (MC, FEC-101)

Wednesday, November 18

6:00 a.m.-Men's Small Group (Konieczny) (MC, FEC-102)
7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-FNS (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
10:45 a.m.-The Flock (MC, FEC-102)
1:30 p.m.-United Methodist Women (NC-Fellowship Room)
FIRST NIGHT SCHEDULE
5:00 p.m.
Dinner (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
Fresh Express (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, November 18 (Continued)

5:15 p.m.-Wed. Night Worship Experience (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
5:45 p.m.
Children's Ministry (MC, CLC-1st Floor)
F.I.T. Small Group (MC, FEC, Lounge)
Roots of Justice (NC-212/213)
6:00 p.m.
*FUSE (MC, CLC-Third Floor)
CR Step Study (Men) (NC-Lounge)
CR Step Study (Women) (NC-214)
Daniel's Plan (NC-215)
First Friends (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall/101)
Life of Christ (Reeder House, Lead Pastor's Office)
Married Couples Small Group (MC, FEC-102)
Men of God (NC-Wesley Hall)
Moms of Faith (MC, FEC-105)
Relational Wisdom 360 (NC-216)
Sister's in Christ (NC-Fellowship Room)
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir (MC, FEC-104)

Thursday, November 19

6:00 a.m.-Men's Bible Study (Marzo) (NC-Fellowship Room)
7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-FNS (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
6:00 p.m.-Lead Council (NC-Wesley Hall)
6:30 p.m.-Bell Choir Rehearsal (MC, FEC-104)
6:30 p.m.-Stephen Ministry Meeting (NC-212/213/Fellowship Room)
7:00 p.m.-CLC Praise Band Practice (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
7:00 p.m.-NC Praise Band Practice (NC-Sanctuary)

Friday, November 20

6:00 a.m.-Prayer Time (NC-Sanctuary)
7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-FNS (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
5:00 p.m.-Open Gym (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

Saturday, November 21

7:00 a.m.-Men's Group (Wegman's)
9:00 a.m.-First Tech Team Meeting (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall)

NC = NORTH CAMPUS (1157 Market St.)
MAIN CAMPUS
CLC = Life Center (601 Market St.)
FEC = Evangelical Center (604 Market St.)

CYCLE OF PRAYER –
November 15—November 21

Howard & Loraine Manley, Stephen, April & Andrew Manley, Sheena Mansfield, Darren Wise, Dave & Kathy Marcello, Michael, Bethany, & Genevieve Marcello, Mitch & Elizabeth Marcello, Glen & Hershey Marks, Xavier Orquia, Brian, Erin, & Kennedy Marsh, Ben, Jess, Noah, Miles & David Marzo, Brandy Matthews, Malachi White, Jim & Donna Maule, Robert & Donna Maxwell, Virginia Mayer, Tom & Deborah Mazurek, Sean, Marcy, Tyler, Andrew & Allyson McCann, Austin, Liesel, Talon & Selah McCardle, Judy McCormick, Todd & Eleanor McCoy, Jean McCreery, Michael, Elaine & Alayna McGovern, Carol McMurray, Devin, Laura, & Luke Mellott, Cindie Merrick, Gerald Merrick, John & Suzette Meyer, Mat, Nicole, Kaleb & Kohen Meyer, Matt, Holley, Kate & Emma Meyer, Dennis, Melody, Cody & Corey Miller, Jennie Miller, Isaiah Fenner, Cameron Smith , Joanne Miller, Jordan Miller

Weekly Worship Attendance
for weekending 11/8/15
TOTAL — 887