

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.

11:00 am—Contemporary

1157 Market St.

(live streamed message)

4:30 pm—Celebrate Recovery

604 Market St.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

5:00 pm—601 Market St.

First Night meal, fellowship,
music, brief message,
small groups (adults)

MISSIONARY ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Two of our missionaries, Jordan and Kate Egli, will be returning to the United States for a 1-year home missionary assignment in January, 2018. They need to rent a furnished apartment with at least 2 bedrooms. If you are able to help them find housing, please contact them at Jordankegli@gmail.com.

MOPPETS VOLUNTEER MEETING

There will be an informational meeting August 31st at 9:30 am at North Campus for new and returning volunteers/workers of the Moppets ministry. Moppets are infants through preschool-age children whose moms are attending MOPS. Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at the North Campus between September to May. If you are unable to attend, but still are interested in volunteering please call Kelby Hodge at 717-825-8089. Safe Sanctuary clearances must be completed before volunteering.

Welcome to



First Church

United Methodist

Week of August 6, 2017

A DISCIPLE'S JOURNEY

We invite you to connect with God and others here at First Church through *A Disciple's Journey—Step 1*. If you are not yet connected as a member in full discipleship at First Church, this 4 week group will guide you as you begin your next step in your journey of discipleship. *A Disciple's Journey—Step 1* is for you if you wonder what connecting in faith in Jesus Christ is about or if you wish to connect in full discipleship at First Church as a new disciple/member. Pastor D.G. Giordano leads Step 1. Your next opportunity to take this step will be on Wednesdays beginning *September 6* from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the First Evangelical Center. The group meets in FuseBox B on September 6th (please bring your children along to class tonight). Then starting September 13th Children's Ministry takes place at the same time as part of First Night so your children can also grow in their discipleship (Christian Life Center, First Floor).

STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED!

First Church is a busy place. We want to make sure you aren't missing out on anything. Besides reading the Weekly Newsletter, you can go to www.firstchurch.cc to learn all about First Church. The First Glance email newsletter, sent every Saturday, briefly highlights some important upcoming events every week. You can also like the First Church Williamsport Facebook page. Stay connected and get involved!

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

INVITE

WOMEN'S STEP STUDY – THE JOURNEY BEGINS

The Journey Begins will allow you to begin to experience the true peace and serenity you have been seeking, restore and develop stronger relationships with others and with God, and find freedom from life's hurts, hang-ups, and habits. Every other Monday starting September 11th from 6:00-7:00 pm at The North Campus.

Contact Sandy Hartle Krise at 570-916-8731.

MONTHLY CHRISTIAN BOOK GROUP

Join us on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. (**NOTE THE NEW DATE & TIME**) at the home of Linda Schon for a Potluck Dinner. The group's summer read will be discussed on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Donna Johnson (1701 Clarion Dr.). The summer book is – So What's the Difference? by Fritz Ridenour. The book is a look at 20 world views, faiths & religions and how they compare to Christianity. No reservation needed. Come once, come every time!!!! Great discussion, good fellowship. "COME AND SEE".

SECOND MILE GIVING

The Second Mile Giving for August is **Bishop's Partners in Mission**. The Bishop's Partners in Mission is a campaign to raise \$1 million for the United Methodist Church's *Imagine No Malaria* campaign. And to raise \$1 million to eliminate the remaining mortgage at Mission Central in Mechanicsburg. Please make checks payable to "First Church" with "Bishop's Partners in Mission" in the memo line.

MISSION ITEMS NEEDED

Local Food Pantry — ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, microwave popcorn. **Shepherd of the Streets** — shampoo, conditioner, towels & wash clothes. 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.

FIRST NURSERY SCHOOL PRAYER WARRIORS

I am excited to have an opportunity for First Church Prayer Warriors praying for the kids at First Nursery School. What praying in this way would mean is that each group of kids would have one, two, or many people praying for them. We would love to have individuals, couples, or families, praying for one of the groups each day during the school year. It is my hope to have all 13 groups be undergirded in prayer each day.

I am excited for First Church members to become involved in praying for our kids who enter the doors each day. This is a way for you to play a part in preparing our kids for Kindergarten "and share directly in our core practices of inviting, teaching, sending, and PRAYING." If you are interested in being a Prayer Warrior for First Nursery School, please sign up on the back of the Communication Card. If you have questions, please email them to me, Kathy Choate, at kchoate@firstchurch.cc or call 570 322 3993.

TEACH

SEND

Sermon Outline

It Does a Body Good: Forgiveness
Matthew 18:21-35

_____ is receiving what we DO NOT deserve and NOT receiving what we DO deserve.

Forgiveness is _____.

Forgiveness is _____, not _____.

Forgiveness is _____.

Forgiveness is _____.

Forgiveness is not _____.

*“To err is human, to forgive is divine” Alexander Pope
Not forgiving someone is like drinking poison expecting the other person to die.*

*“As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison.”
Nelson Mandela*

Life Reflection

Ready to take a next step? Start the 7-Day Bible reading plan “Forgiveness Reading Plan” by Dr. John Townsend and Dr. Henry Cloud on The Bible App or search for this plan on www.bible.com

Scripture Reflection Matthew 6:12

Forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Pastor's Page

A Disciple's Journey

First Church,

I am SOOOOOO excited to share with you today.

I am taking a brief break from the series of pastor pages I have been sharing with you related to the new challenges that growing churches encounter because I want to begin placing something of incredible significance on your radar.

Starting this fall we will be giving every person connected with First Church the opportunity to consider their next step of discipleship! Something we are calling “A Disciple's Journey.”

On the surface, this may not sound very “exciting.” However, *this will be the most significant discipleship endeavor that First Church, as an entire church, will have engaged in since we shared in Rick Warren's “Purpose Driven Life” close to 20 years ago!* That study was a game-changer for First Church. I believe a Disciple's Journey will be another one of those watershed opportunities that shapes First Church for years to come.

The concept is very simple. All of us are involved in a journey with God. Some of us may be at step 1 just thinking about what such a journey would look like. Others of us are at later steps and have been on the journey with God for a long time. But no matter what step of that journey you are on right now, “A Disciple's Journey” will help you take your NEXT step.

Many of us would like to take our next step with God but we are just not sure how. What if we could focus on where we are and just take that next step in a clear, intentional, focused manner? Well, now we can!

In the weeks to come we will lay out some of the elements associated with each of the 4 Steps that a disciple of Jesus takes on their journey.

In a nutshell, these steps relate to:

Step 1: CONNECTING to God and others (4 sessions)

Step 2: DISCOVERING what discipleship means (6 sessions)

Step 3: EMBRACING God's call on our life (12 sessions)

Step 4: TRANSFORMING the world (ongoing)

Beginning this fall then we will be starting with Step 1 of a Disciple's Journey and moving throughout the Fall, Winter, Spring and into next Summer with steps 2-4. Over this next year you may take 1 step forward on this journey... or two or three. Would you begin praying now about what step God may have you take on the journey? And let God continue to transform us in Christ inside and out?

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



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: August 6—12:

Wendy Adams Lockuff; Laurie Alberts Salita; Edward & Linda Alberts; Seth, Noah & Olivia Alberts; Justin, Kristi & Laurel Alexander; Dan & Patti Alters; Melissa Anderson; Paul & Diane Anderson; Alex Andy; Mike & Rana (Colaiani) Armbruster; Jim & Janis Arp; Donielle & Paige Ashton; Lori Baier; Patrick, Summer & Kage Bair; Jeffrey, Becky & Caroline; Baker; Jim, Jeannie & Jimmy Baker; George & Nancy Ballein; Les, Lou Anne, Megan & Kevin Barnhart; Heath, Shelli, Paige & Lucas Bashnick; Bob & Joan Bauder; Sandy Baumgartner; Sean Baumgartner; Tom & Kelly Beam; Ed & Barb Beamer; Jeff, Krista, Alexander, Madelin & Jack Beattie; Dennis & Christine Beck; Ainsley Bennett; Robert & Tami Bergman; Erik, Shari, Abigail & Elise Berthold; Howard & Brenda Berthold; John & Susan Best.

Weekly Worship Attendance
for week ending July 30, 2017
TOTAL — 724