

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.

Night meal, fellowship,

music, brief message,

small groups (kids, youth & adults)

BAPTISM

The First Church family would like to congratulate Dan Frankenfield on his baptism Sunday, February 19, 2017.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Church would like to express their sympathy to the family and friends of Fran Confer. Fran passed away on Saturday, February 11, 2017.

First Church would like to express their sympathy to the family and friends of Fred Dahlgren. Fred passed away on Saturday, February 18, 2017.

COMMUNION DURING LENT

Communion will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Lent, rather than on Sundays. You are invited to make communion and prayer part of your Lenten practices. Join us on Tuesdays at 6:00-6:30 a.m. (North Campus Sanctuary) and Thursdays at 12:00-12:30 p.m. (First Evangelical Center Sanctuary) starting March 2.

LENTEN EARLY MORNING PRAYER

We invite you to make prayer a part of your Lenten journey. Every weekday morning during Lent (March 2-April 14), the people of First Church gather at 6:00 a.m. for 30 minutes of silent prayer in the North Campus Sanctuary. For centuries, Christians have observed Lent through the practice of prayer. We would love for you to join us and to experience the humble power of prayer.

Welcome to



First Church

United Methodist

Week of February 26, 2017

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

Step 1) **MEET FIRST CHURCH: Sunday, March 19th** 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, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Mondays beginning February 27th in the North Campus, Room 212/213. Childcare is not available for this class.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MARCH 1st-6 p.m.

Every year, we mark the beginning of Lent with an all-church worship service on Ash Wednesday. This year, worship will be on March 1st at **6:00 pm** in the Evangelical Center (FEC) Sanctuary. As usual, you will have the opportunity to receive ashes on your forehead and to confess your sin using dissolvable paper. We will once again be worshipping in a slightly different way. Instead of a sermon, we will spend more time reading Scripture, praying, and singing simple choruses. We will experience a style of worship called Taize, which originated in France and seeks to offer people an opportunity for participation and reflection. Since Lent is a season for reflection and we will be focusing on prayer during our lenten sermon series, we hope that this worship experience will help you begin your lenten journey in a meaningful way. The service will be appropriate for all ages. Worship bags will be available for children 5th grade and younger and nursery will be provided for children 3 and under.

INVITE

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

MONTHLY CHRISTIAN BOOK GROUP

Join us on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Donna Johnson (1701 Clarion Dr.) for the March Book – Bonhoeffer by Eric Metaxas. No reservation needed. Come once, come every time!!!! Great discussion, good fellowship. “COME AND SEE”.

GRAND FRIENDS

We will meet at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28th at Hoss’s Restaurant. Our program will be presented by Pastor Matt Lake. He will provide an update on the church and our vision. RSVP by February 26th to Carol Cassidy at 570-323-5596.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MOMENT

People need other people to listen to them...True or False? True! As we can see from our own lives, sometimes people just have to talk to someone. Sometimes hurts and frustrations will explode inside us unless we can let them out by telling someone about them. Just talking about your problems with someone sometimes helps you figure out what to do. *“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:4)* Lord, give us ears that listen to the needs of others!



The fuse* 9one2 retreat is March 3-5 at Camp Krislund; all 9-12th graders are encouraged to attend as we explore Extreme Trust in the Bible and discover how we can trust God and his word. We will also unpack our own sources of distrust and how that affects our journey with Jesus. Cost to participate is \$50 each, and registration cards are due on or before February 26th. A current 2016/2017 fuse* permission form is also required. Registration cards are available in the fuse*box and at information desks at each building. Contact Josh Tobias, Director of Student Ministries, if you have questions: jtobias@firstchurch.cc.

SECOND MILE GIVING

The Second Mile Giving for February is **Shepherd of the Streets Ministry**. The Shepherd of the Streets Ministry is often the first responder for persons in financial need. The Shepherd provides financial assistance for utility bills, uniform needs, transportation, prescriptions, and other basic needs. In addition to financial assistance, the Shepherd provides pastoral care and other support services. www.uclc.org/content/shepherd-streets Please make checks payable to “First Church” with “Shepherd of the Streets Ministry” in the memo line.

MISSION ITEMS NEEDED

Local Food Pantry — saltine crackers, chunky soaps, chicken noodle soup, fruit snacks.
Shepherd of the Streets — shampoo & deodorant. 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.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

WHEN: April 2—8, 2017
WHERE: White Sulphur Springs, WV
PURPOSE: To share the love and hope offered by Jesus Christ by rebuilding homes and lives devastated during flooding in June 2016.
COST: \$150
REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINE: Sat., March 11, 2017
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: John Best at 570-326-1943 or jmbest2@gmail.com

TEACH

SEND

Sermon Outline

See Jesus—Out from the Grave

John 11:18-44

- I. The signs in John point to both _____ Jesus is as well as to _____
He came to do.
- II. We see that with Martha Jesus is claiming to be _____. But with
Mary Jesus is showing Himself to be _____.
- III. Our hearts are drawn to real _____.
- IV. Jesus came to _____ for us.
- V. How can Jesus destroy death without destroying us? By _____
for us.
- VI. Jesus knew that the only way to get Lazarus _____ of the grave was
for Jesus to put Himself _____ it.
- VII. If Jesus is really so powerful and He is so great then we need to take off
the _____ we have to our allegiance of Jesus.

Life Reflection:

What will it take for us to SEE Jesus as the God-man? The author of life over death? The one who holds the galaxy in His hand? And then what will it take to move us to action? To respond in such a way that we give all our allegiance to Jesus rather than someone or something else? In my life right now what most competes for my allegiance to Christ? What will help me to better see Jesus?

Scripture Reflection: John 11:25-26

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Pastor's Page

NORTH CAMPUS UPDATE

First Church,

You might recall that we launched the North Campus (NC) now five years ago. After four years of the NC existing primarily as an extra worship service opportunity, we made the shift one year ago to help the NC develop more of its own identity. Pastor Rick in particular has helped us to change our focus at the NC in line with our vision:

To experience radical vitality in Jesus and as Jesus' followers! To equip the NC to reach its full potential by encouraging the development of meaningful relationships through an established identity (a place to "know" and "be known" by others) that will include the ability to be self-sufficient while still being clearly connected to First Church as a whole. To draw on the best strengths of a larger congregation while also drawing on the strengths of a smaller, more intimate setting; maximizing outreach and ministry in a specific context and neighborhood, while still part of First Church.

This effort directly reflects the living out of the Vision DNA sheet that was shared with you a few weeks ago. The North Campus helps us realize we are united by our vision, values, and practices in a relational way rather than by facilities or geography.

Overall we have been encouraged by the development of the NC in the last year. Although various circumstances have led to a decrease in Sunday morning worship attendance we have at the same time seen an increased sense of self sufficiency, a greater percentage of those who attend actually serving at the North Campus (actually this number is the highest at the NC compared to any of our other Sunday AM worship experiences), and extended outreach into the community in many ways.

Please be praying for the NC. Unfortunately some gossip has been shared that the NC is in the process of closing. Not only is this not true, it is hurtful to the ongoing ministry efforts at the NC.

We believe that God is in the process of doing something powerful at the NC. To get a sense of all that the NC is doing, please visit the information center and pick up a North Campus summary sheet that shares so much of what is going on there. You will be surprised to discover all that is happening!

What a joy to serve with you First Church...with a group of folks who are willing to see God's kingdom expand in all kinds of new and wonderful ways.

In Christ,
Pastor Matt

FIRST CHURCH

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Phone: 570-322-3572

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



Sunday, February 26

8:00 a.m.-Traditional Worship (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.-Blended Worship (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.-Children's Sunday School (MC, CLC-1st floor)
9:30 a.m.-d-fuse* student ministries (MC, FEC-fuse*box)
9:30 a.m.-Nursery (up to 3 years) (MC, FEC-204, 205)
9:30 a.m.-Sermon Talk (MC, FEC-201)
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
11:00 a.m.-Nursery (up to 3 years) (MC, CLC-124)
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship (NC)
11:00 a.m.-Nursery (up to 3 years) (NC-211)
1:00 p.m.-FEC Music Staff Meeting (MC, FEC-202)
4:00 p.m.-Open Gym (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
4:30 p.m.-Celebrate Recovery (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
6:00 p.m.-fuse* student ministries (MC, FEC-fuse*box, Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)(MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
6:00 p.m.-Roots of Justice (8 Woodlyn Terrace)
6:30 p.m.-DivorceCare (MC, FEC-104)
6:30 p.m.-Women's Small Group (MC, FEC-201)

Monday, February 27

7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
9:30 a.m.-FNS Donut with Dad Day (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
1:15 p.m.-Joyful Hearts (NC-Fellowship Room)
5:00 p.m.-Men of Integrity (1508 Elmira St.)
5:30 p.m.-GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) (NC-Fellowship Room)
6:45 p.m.-Women's Step Study (NC-214)
7:00 p.m.-Women of Faith (1508 Elmira St.)
7:00 p.m.-A Disciple's Path (NC-212/213)

Tuesday, February 28

7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
9:30 a.m.-FNS Donut with Dad Day (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
10:30 a.m.-Daughter's of Grace (MC, FEC-101)
10:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers (MC, FEC-102)
12:15 p.m.-Jewel's Women's Small Group (MC, FEC-102)
12:15 p.m.-Grand Friends (Hoss's)
2:30 p.m.-Worship Design Team (MC, FEC-102)
3:15 p.m.-Tutoring (NC-Wesley Hall)
6:30 p.m.-Kingdom Seekers (MC, FEC-206)
7:00 p.m.-First Place for Health (MC, FEC-201)
7:00 p.m.-Volleyball/Bible Study (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

Wednesday, March 1

ASH WEDNESDAY

6:00 a.m.-Early Morning Men's Group (MC, FEC-102)
7:30 a.m.-Eagle's Group (Julie's Coffee House)
7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
11:00 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)

6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)

Nursery available for under 3 years old

NO Group/Ministries will occur during this time so that all may participate in worship.

Thursday, March 2

6:00 a.m.-Men's Bible Study (Marzo) (NC-Fellowship Room)
6:00 a.m.-Weekday Prayer through Lent (NC-Lobby)
7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
9:00 a.m.-Sewing in the Spirit (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall)
9:30 a.m.-MOPS Steering Meeting (NC-211/212/213)
12:00 p.m.-Lenten Communion (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
3:15 p.m.-Tutoring (NC-Wesley Hall)
6:30 p.m.-Bell Choir (MC, FEC-104)
6:30 p.m.-Stephen Ministry Meeting
(NC-Fellowship Room, 212/213)
7:00 p.m. CLC Praise Band (MC, CLC-Stage/Stryker Hall)
7:00 p.m.-NC Praise Band (NC-Sanctuary)

Friday, March 3

6:00 a.m.-Weekday Prayer through Lent (NC-Lobby)
7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
5:00 p.m.-Open Gym (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

Saturday, March 4

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: February 26—March 4:

Benjamin, Michelle, Alec, Deryk & Grayson Kulp; Richard, Tammy, Joey & Anthony LaCerra; Robert LaCerra; Matt, Jenn, Alex, Josh & Zach Lake; Shirley Lambert; Ben Landon; Doug & Bessie Lane; Brian, Erin & Amy Langer; Don, Deb & Krista Leathers; Jeff LeCrone; Liz Lehman; Pam Lewis; Courtney, Alexander, Jackson & Evelyn Linn; Joshua Lisson; Nathan Litz; Marsha Lloyd; Sharon Long; Joe & Flicka Losch; Pete, Missy, Abby & Jake Loudenslager; Roberta Loudenslager; Peg Lowmiller; Ray & Susanna Lukas; Mike, Melissa, Elizabeth, Nathan & Madelyn Lundy; Christopher, Anne, Nelson & Eleanor Macdonald; Ken & Lynne Maietta; Howard & Loraine Manley; Steve, April & Andrew Manley; Sheena & Darren Mansfield; Dave & Kathy Marcello; Michael, Bethany & Genevieve Marcello; Mitch & Elizabeth Marcello.

Weekly Worship Attendance
for week ending February 19, 2017
TOTAL — 894