

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)

HUMAN SEXUALITY SUMMIT

You are invited to the table conversation around the topic of human sexuality and our United Methodist denomination. These conversations will include Bishop Jeremiah Park and will be held in locations throughout the Susquehanna Conference, including Montoursville. Registration is requested.

Saturday, February 25, 2017

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Faith UMC, Montoursville

700 Fairview Dr., Montoursville

Registration: jjohnston@susumc.org
or 570-323-7452

UPDATE:

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR SEARCH

We are continuing to look for a full-time Director of Technical Ministries to oversee audio, visual, lighting, and livestream needs of our ministry. Please spread the word and pray for God's provision in fulfilling this important staff vacancy with a person who has the skill and calling to effectively lead this ministry. Contact the church office at office@firstchurch.cc for more information. Also, special thanks to our tech staff and tech team for providing the support that is needed in this transition period.

Welcome to



First Church

United Methodist

Week of February 5, 2017

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

Step 1) **MEET FIRST CHURCH: Sunday, February 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.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's choir will be singing at the North Campus on Sunday, February 12 at 11:00 a.m. The service will be a celebration of the ministry of MOPS within First Church. Children will be in worship with families the whole service, but they will be able to participate during the service.

LYCOMING COLLEGE TOUR CHOIR

The Lycoming College Tour Choir, under the direction of Dr. Christopher Jackson, will join us in worship during the 9:30 service on Sunday, February 12th.

MOPS CELEBRATION SUNDAY AT THE NORTH CAMPUS 2/12

First Church children's choir, testimonies, VBS songs, pizza - it's all part of our regular worship time next week as we praise God and celebrate Mothers of Preschoolers. Don't miss this especially child-friendly worship service.

INVITE

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

LEADERSHIP DAY 2017

February 11, 2017 from 8:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. (lunch is included)

Stryker Hall of the Christian Life Center

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH—register online at www.firstchurch.cc or on the Communication Card.

Is Leadership Day for me?

- YES if you believe God may be calling you to leadership.
- YES if you want to grow as a disciple of Jesus.
- YES if you are passionate about Transformation in Christ and want to be involved in changing lives.
- YES if you have any type of leadership responsibility.

We will focus on "Executing the Vision" and will give an overview of the strategy and emphases planned for 2017.

Leadership Day 2017 includes 2 Breakout Sessions (listed below) during which you can learn more about one of the Primary Ministries of First Church.

1. Caring Ministry led by Pastor D.G.

2. Acts Network led by Mitch Marcello

It's no secret that our world moves at an increasingly fast pace. Join us today to talk about how First Church is starting communities outside our walls to connect with different people, and how you could be part of this adventure. If you are a small group leader, we will also talk about what it might look like for your group to incorporate some of these ideas!

3. College Ministries led by Aaron Russell

4. Safe Sanctuaries Equips Ministries led by Angie Tobias

Looking at how Jesus led, we will look at Safe Sanctuaries. Safe Sanctuaries

is a policy that we have to follow, but it also equips volunteers and ministries to God's work.

5. Children's Ministry in Action led by Angie Tobias & Kathy Choate

Through the voice, witness and action of the children, we will see first hand how the mission of INVITE-TEACH-SEND can look in Williamsport, PA. "Jesus Christ is the Same Yesterday, Today and FOREVER" (Hebrews 13:8); but ministry is constantly changing in our world. We will look at what God is already doing & what opportunities are in the future for Children's Ministries at First Church (including First Nursery School).

6. fuse* student ministries; exploring Jesus' model of leadership led by Josh Tobias

Josh will help participants explore Jesus' model of leadership as it applies to his disciples. Learn how fuse* student ministries applies this model of leadership to ministry with 6th - 12th graders, and how it could apply to your life and personal ministry.

7. Lead Council - What do they do? led by John Best

8. Mentoring led by Pastor Janet

9. North Campus Ministry led by Pastor Rick

How and why the North Campus is transitioning by reaching out to a unique neighborhood, building relationships, and moving toward a more self-sufficient identity while remaining part of First Church ministry.

10. Celebrate Recovery led by the CR Leadership Team

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED

Coffee/juice prep volunteers needed for both the 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. services. Please see or contact either Ben Marzo benmarzo@yahoo.com or Steve Tallman stevet100@verizon.net if you can help.



WILL YOU JOIN US FOR THIS IMPORTANT DISCUSSION? For many, the racial divide is an argument, a political position, or a debate on television. The panelists in UNDER OUR SKIN forum desire to move us from argument and debate to understanding by being intentional about trying to put ourselves in someone else's shoes. This forum will also provide us with practical and actionable tools—and a strong call to action—to effectively address challenging issues about race in our churches, schools, and communities.

Baltimore Ravens tight end Benjamin Watson and other national thought leaders—including author and Hall of Fame football coach Tony Dungy, former NFL Walter Payton Man-of-the-Year award winner Warrick Dunn, Heisman Trophy winner and Executive Director of Desire Street Ministries Danny Wuerffel, author and speaker Mo Isom, Detroit pastor and author J. Kevin Butcher, and Executive Director of Restoration Academy Ben Sciacca—will come together to discuss race and faith. The event will be moderated by ESPN's Sage Steele and music will be provided by Lizzy Cameron.

UNDER OUR SKIN; A FORUM ON RACE AND FAITH will be LIVESTREAMED into First Church First Evangelical Center on Thursday, February 16, from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Please enter at Ross Street, between Market and Packer, and follow signs to the **fuse*box**. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Suitable for tweens and older. Admission is FREE. Sponsored by First Church Outreach Ministry & Roots of Justice Small Group.

SEND

Sermon Outline

Seeing Jesus: In the Feeding

John 6:1-14; 27-35

- I. The miracle of the feeding of the 5000 is the only miracle told in all _____ Gospels.
- II. To unpack John 6:35 we examine:
 - a. The meaning of bread in _____
 - b. The meaning of this bread in _____
 - c. Why _____ alone can give us this bread
- III. For folks during Biblical times bread literally means _____.
- IV. Two historic references about bread for the Israelites:
 - a. _____ in the wilderness
 - b. The inclusion of the _____ showbread in the tabernacle
- V. The particular type of bread Jesus talks about in John 6:35 is _____.
- VI. Jesus _____ the bread of life... the bread is not something Jesus _____ us.
- VII. 3 Realities if we SEE and receive Jesus as the bread of Life
 - a. Jesus is not just someone we believe but He becomes our _____ and life
 - b. It is often the _____ times that teach us to feast
 - c. Anything more important in our life than Jesus will eventually _____

Life Reflection:

Do I see Jesus as the bread of life? Have I come to believe in Him in such a way that He is my strength and life? What would allow me to rely more upon Christ for strength and life? Am I experiencing eternal life now? What would allow me to truly live and not just exist? What does it mean that the "I AM" of the universe died for my sake?

Scripture Reflection: John 6:35

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty

Pastor's Page

A Time To Connect

First Church,

In recent weeks I have begun putting out an invitation to the leaders of our First Church small groups. It is my hope to have the opportunity to come and visit your small group sometimes between *February 14 and May of 2017* along with our Lead Council chair person, John Best.

In past years I have made this opportunity available to any small group that desired to have John and I come. This year I am asking every small group to please make an intentional effort to find some time to connect in this way. I have found these times to visit our small groups to be very valuable. These gathering times have provided opportunity to answer questions, celebrate praises, and share information. I am expecting that to be the case this year as well.

However, in addition to times of answering questions and connecting I am also hoping to have John and I share more specifically about how we see First Church moving forward in terms of how we execute and live out our vision. We would like the opportunity to define more clearly how we see our vision being lived out among us and to answer questions you might have about how we are seeking to do this.

Small groups are in so many ways the "back bone" of First Church. They provide places for deeper discipleship and connection in the larger First Church body as a whole. Thus, the more our small groups understand and live out our vision of seeing transformed lives in Jesus Christ, the more this vision will become the reality of the whole church.

Therefore, if your small group has not yet signed up for a time for John and I to come, please get in touch with Sherry in the church office (office@firstchurch.cc) to arrange such a time.

Also, if you are a part of First Church, but not yet part of a small group, please prayerfully consider which small group you can join. Joining in a small group is one of the best ways to not only be more deeply connected at First Church, but to also grow more deeply in our faith journey. If you have any questions about which small group may be the best fit for you, please be in touch with Mitch Marcello as our Director of Small groups (mmarcello@firstchurch.cc).

As always, it is my great, great joy to serve with you First Church.

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, February 5

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)
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 6

7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
1:15 p.m.-Joyful Hearts (NC-Fellowship Room)
5:00 p.m.-Bower Basketball (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)
6:45 p.m.-Women's Step Study (NC-214)
7:00 p.m.-Women of Faith (1508 Elmira St.)
7:00 p.m.-fuse* student ministries volunteer staff meeting
(MC, FEC-fuse*box)

Tuesday, February 7

7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
10:30 a.m.-Daughter's of Grace (MC, FEC-101)
10:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers (MC, FEC-102)
12:00 p.m.-Contemporary Worship Meeting (MC, FEC-202)
12:15 p.m.-Jewel's Women's Small Group (MC, FEC-102)
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.-EFT Monthly Meeting (NC-Wesley Hall, Sanctuary,
Lobby, Fellowship Room)
7:00 p.m.-First Place for Health (MC, CLC-Kitchen)
7:00 p.m.-Volleyball/Bible Study (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
7:30 p.m.-Christian Book Group (1701 Clarion Dr.)

Wednesday, February 8

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)
Fresh Express (MC, FEC-Fellowship Hall)
5:15 p.m.-Wed. Night Worship Experience
(MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
5:45 p.m.
Children's Small Groups & Choir (MC, CLC-1st Floor)
Get F.I.T. (MC, FEC-Lounge)
6:00 p.m.
A Disciple's Path (MC, FEC-206)
Bible Study—Romans (MC, FEC-202)
d-fuse* (MC, FEC-fuse*box)
First Friends Bible Study (MC, FEC-101,Fellowship Hall)
Marriage Matters (MC, FEC-102)
Men of God (NC-212/213)
Moms of Faith Study Group (MC, FEC-105)
Sister's in Christ (MC, FEC-201)
Women's Small Group (Netzley/Vierra) (NC-216)
7:00 p.m.
Bower Basketball (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
Chancel Choir (MC, FEC-104)

Thursday, February 9

6:00 p.m.-Men's Bible Study (Marzo) (NC-Fellowship Room)
7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
9:15 a.m.-MOPS (NC-Entire Bldg.)
3:15 p.m.-Tutoring (NC-Wesley Hall)
5:30 p.m.-Lyco Choir Rehearsal (MC, FEC-Sanctuary)
6:30 p.m.-Bell Choir (MC, FEC-104)
7:00 p.m. CLC Praise Band (MC, CLC-Stage/Stryker Hall)
7:00 p.m.-NC Praise Band (NC-Sanctuary)

Friday, February 10

6:00 a.m.-Weekly Prayer Time (NC-Sanctuary)
7:30 a.m.-First Nursery School (MC, CLC-Entire Bldg.)
5:00 p.m.-Open Gym (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)
7:00 p.m.-Bower Basketball (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

Saturday, February 11

7:00 a.m.-Men's Group (Wegman's)
8:30 a.m.-Leadership Day 2017 (MC, CLC-Stryker Hall)

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 5—11:

Matthew & Kristen Frick; Michael Frick;
Ron & Judy Frick; Shirley Fry; Rob,
Michelle, Justin & Shyla Fulp; Dan &
Martha Gandy; Chuck & Bonnie Garner;
Jennifer Garner; Joshua Garner; Donna
Gee; Hal & Joyce Gee; Sal & Millie
Giampapa; Andrew Giordano; David,
Marian & Roman Giordano; Guy & D.G.
Giordano; Maria Giordano; Terry & Susan
Girdon; Michael, Sonja, Tyler & Dylan
Glucksman; Keith Godfrey; Jim
Golembeski; Sara Golembeski; Ashley &
Juliana Gonzalez; James & Johanna
Goodspeed; Jay & Linda Gordner; Rich &
Barb Green; Jan, Lori, Andrea & Ryan
Griffin; John & Debbie Grove; Gary, Dawn
& Aaron Guerrisky; Carol Gundrum; John
Hall; Scott & Tushanna Hamilton; Donna
Hancock; Chet & Barb Harbach; Jeff &
Barbie Harbaugh; Mike Harbaugh; Marilyn
Harer.

Weekly Worship Attendance
for week ending January 29, 2017
TOTAL — 874