



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAMBERTVILLE
First Presbyterian Church

Many voices with one faith, one heart.
One family under God.

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear church family,

In this time of Lent, I'm praying that we are deepening our relationship with Jesus. As we've been journeying along with him on his final trip to Jerusalem in Luke's gospel, we've heard his call to us to repent – to turn from looking to be satisfied by other things, or find our security elsewhere, and instead turn to him alone. Is Jesus perhaps saying to us:

“Come to me. Don't spend energy on what does not satisfy, but instead walk with me and receive my life into every area of your life. Put me at the center of your personal life and the life of First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville.”

The 17th century poet, George Herbert, had a deeply personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. So he's someone who can help us in our own journey with Jesus. He spent the final years of his short life pastoring a small country church in an English village – maybe like our church here in Lambertville at the edge of farm country.

I want to share with you one of his poems that's been put to music by Ralph Vaughn Williams; it's in dozens of hymnals. Herbert is speaking very personally to Jesus, and he's showing us how repenting in order to follow Jesus brings us abundant life, full of joy!

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a way as gives us breath;
Such a truth as ends all strife,
Such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a light as shows a feast,
Such a feast as mends in length,
Such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a joy as none can move,
Such a love as none can part,

From the Pastor's Pen Cont...

Let's make this our personal prayer to Jesus – you are *my* Way, *my* Truth, *my* Life – even as we also proclaim that Jesus is *the* Way, *the* Truth, and *the* Life for people everywhere – especially over the peoples and nations of Ukraine and Russia. As we mourn with and pray for them, let's take hope in Jesus Christ who is the Lord seated “at [the Father's] right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion” (Ephesians 1:20-21).

In the joy of Jesus,
Pastor Dan

“From the Office”

Hi All!

The Handbell Choir will be playing in church this month, we are looking forward to playing for you on Palm Sunday! The Shad Fest is the weekend of April 23rd, and the Chamber of Commerce will be in the Gym from Friday the 22nd to Sunday the 24th for the Poster Auction. Don't forget to sign-up to volunteer! As always, thank you for your submissions for the Newsletters. The last Newsletter for the season will be in June. Thank you! Sue



Church News:



Communion Sunday is April 3rd. We are also having Communion during the Tenebrae Good Friday Service on April 15th. That service will be at 7:00 pm in our Sanctuary. The pastors from Kirkpatrick Memorial and Mt. Airy will be joining us.

Maundy Thursday is April 14th.

The Deacons will be hosting the Easter Breakfast on Easter, April 17th. The time is to be determined. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. There is no Sunday School. Prelude Worship is at 10:20 and Worship is at 10:30 am.

The Shad Fest is April 23 and 24th, from 11:00 am-5:00 pm, rain or shine. The Deacons will be having their table in the front of the church, as well as the Fishpond! We will also be selling hot dogs as a fundraiser to see *David* at Sight & Sound in October. We will not be having our Sunday service here at First Pres. on the 24th, we will be worshipping with Mt. Airy at 10:00 am.

We are having Care & Share after church on Communion Sundays. If you are able to help, please see Karen Thatcher.

Our Accompanists for the month are: Hilary Orlando, Emily Atzert and George Warner.

See the Flyers for the Easter Flowers-pg. 4 and the Women's Retreat pg. 5.

2022 Easter Memorial Flowers Information

Your name: _____

Phone number: _____

Easter Lily \$9.00 Number: _____

Hyacinths \$8.00 Number: _____

Tulips \$8.00 Number: _____

In memory of (please print)



Deadline for ordering Easter flowers: April 10th (Palm Sunday)

Please fill out form and give it to either Gail Armitage or Donna Zambella.

Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church and indicate “flowers” on the memo line. We must receive payment (check or cash) at the time you place your order. Thank you!



Women's Retreat

Sandy Cove

Friday, May 13 - Sunday May 15, 2022

Spring Women's Weekend Schedule

We would love for you to join us and have a great weekend!

Please contact LaNelle Gallagher to join this great adventure to learn about our Lord! **609-306-1479** or Lgallagher@eastamwell.org

Living a Better Story

Everyone loves a good story, but not everyone loves their own story. We all have unwanted pages we'd love to rip out—ones we wish weren't there. But what if those are the very ones God wants to use? God turns broken stories into beautiful prose and unwanted pages into stunning narratives of victory when we let Him.

Speaker Sharon Jaynes will show you how the hard parts of your story give you a greater purpose than you would have ever known without them. In fact, the worst parts of your story might just be what God uses the most! Sink deep into God's life-changing truth. The next chapter is just beginning. And it's a good one!

Session One | *Embracing the Power of Your Story*

We all have pages of our stories that we'd like to tear out and throw away. But what if the God doesn't want us to rip out our difficult chapter but turn them around and use them for good? Your story matters! It might just what someone else needs to hear in order to take one more step. In this session we'll look at the power of your own story as Sharon shares her own.

Session Two | *Changing the Ending of Your Story*

It is easy to get stuck in a bad story. Like picking at a scab and not allowing it to heal, we can pick at what was done to us and what was done through us—our past mistakes and failures, not allowing our hearts to heal. In this session we'll talk about how to let go and move forward...changing the ending of our most difficult chapters.

Session Three | *Changing the Title of Your Story*

One of the most powerful ways to have a better story is by looking at it through a different lens. Could it be that if we simply flip down a different lens, we would see a better story than the one we've been telling ourselves all along. In this session we'll look at viewing our stories through the lens of God's love and our gratitude.

Session Four | *Living Never Less Than*

If there were ever a group of people who did not like their stories, it was the women of the New Testament. But somewhere along the line, something happened to change those stories...rather Someone happened to change those stories. In a culture that told women they were less than in every way, Jesus came to empower, equip, and esteem God's female image bearers. Her story is your story...And it's a good one. In our final session, we'll see how Jesus broke the rules of His day so that women, including you and me, can have a better story.

Friday 4:00 pm - Guest Room Check-in | On-site Activities Sign Up | Vendors

5:00 - Dinner

7:00 - Session 1 | Speaker Message

9:00 - Snack & Fellowship | Sports Pool & Hot Tub Open

Saturday 7:30 am - Continental Breakfast

9:00 - Session 2 | Speaker Message

Noon - Lunch

Free Time | Optional activities to be announced

5:00 pm - Dinner

7:00 - Session 3 | Speaker Message

9:00 - Snack & Fellowship

Sunday Check Out by 10:00 am

7:30 am - Continental Breakfast

10:00 - Session 4 | Speaker Message

Noon - Lunch & Departure

All meals are included and along with hot spa and gym. To look up more info go to the Sandy Cove website.

Ministry and Outreach:

News From Your Missions Team~ Please see the bulletin in the back of the Sanctuary.

Your Missions Team: Addie Andino, Gail Armitage, Konni Sandford, Russ Topping and Donna Zambella

Greetings From Your Church Deacons~

This year we are short one Deacon as Terry's term of office expired. We will miss her and all her input. Thank you Terry.

Going forward we continue our usual programs:

1. Pray, pray and pray some more.
2. Meeting the needs of our congregation.
3. Meeting the needs of our community, whether emotional, physical, or financial.
4. The usual Deacon duties, including communion, taking the offering, and any other arena where we are needed. Our upcoming activities include: The Shad Fest, the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast.

As always, we keep you all in our prayers and wish you love and peace.

**Gail Armitage, Jen Chernoski, LaNelle Gallagher, Danielle Griffiths,
Phil McCloughan, and Heather Pursell**



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Our Soup Sales Were a huge Success!

On Saturday October 15th, we will be going to Sight & Sound Theatre to see "David." The soup sales were held to raise funds for the show tickets, our lunch at Bird-in-Hand Restaurant, and for the bus. God has truly blessed us in our endeavor as we made a clear profit of \$3,287.00! As a result, this has enabled us to offer a full day of "fun and fellowship" for the cost of \$100.00 per person.

A BIG "thank you" to Heather Pursell and her kitchen crew for providing a delicious variety of soups on our sale days. Also, many thanks to those who helped out with packaging the soups and labeling the containers for us. Special thanks to those who showed up on Saturdays to sell the soups-we had many wonderful compliments from people who came back to buy more soup! Finally, "thank you" to our church family for your ongoing support buying soups each week. We wouldn't have had the success we did without everyone coming together to lend a hand! God is good and we are so grateful! Amen!



Remembering Our National Character: Courage, Not Fear!

Here are some excerpts from a Christian Journalist:

- When courage is called for, we either have it or not. (Not only is that important for a nation, but also for a Christian life.)
- Fear is rolled out by weak leaders, false media and our worst instincts to expect less of others, ourselves, the nation and our future. *Deuteronomy 31:6, Joshua 1:7-9*
- History is clear, fear leads to demoralization and dependence, loss of choices, lack of personal responsibility and progressive darkness. *Psalms 27:1, Psalm 56:3-4*
- Courage is about the confidence to make moral choices, which means we are grounded in our past, timeless percepts, natural law and unwavering faith in a higher and just, loving God.
- George Washington fought for rights promised by God and natural law. The principles of natural law in our constitution which provides for self-determination, limited government and individual rights are clear.
- They are timeless and proven, they contradict any personal or collective default to fear.

Chronicles 16:11 Isaiah 41:10-13

- Abraham Lincoln said “Courage is not the absence of fear. It is going forward in the face of fear.”

2 Timothy 1:7

- The nature of true Americans is to be optimistic, faithful, resolved and indignant in defense of personal liberty. (That should also describe those of us who call ourselves Christians.)

Matthew 10:26-31

- If you have children and grand children, get involved with what they are being taught in the classroom. Explain to them why Jesus needs to be a priority in their lives. We must have the courage to do what is morally right.
- All through our faith history, scripture lifts us with words and examples of trust and courage. We do not travel this road alone, we have a mighty God who goes before us into battle.

Galatians 6:7-10

Joanne DiBlasi

April Birthdays

2 Becky Hopkins

4 Kendra Thatcher

7 Dan Serlenga

9 Julia Stratuik

9 Donna Zambella

11 Jason Shurts

14 Elise Stratuik

15 Carol Shurts

28 Suzanne Zambella

28 Richard Coleman

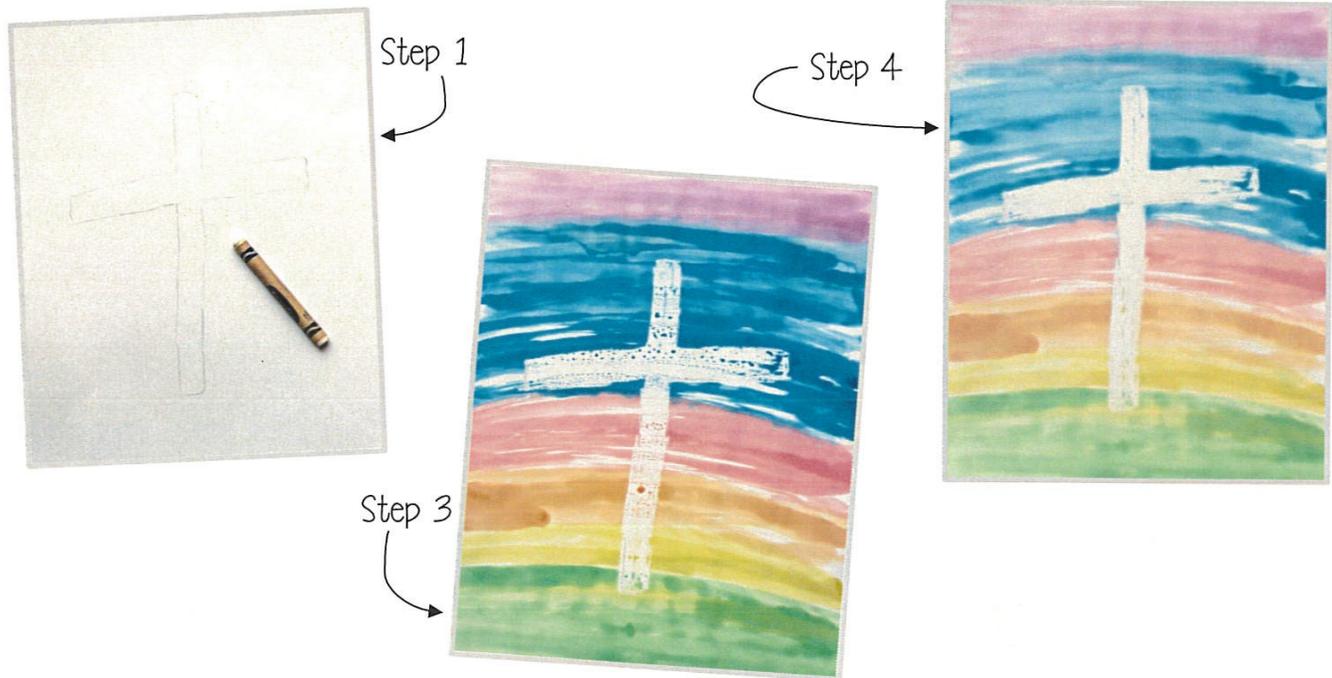
30 McCade Cummings



Just for Kids....

Easter Watercolor Painting

Matthew 28:1-15



Materials you will need:

- Card stock, watercolor paper or heavy copy paper
- Grease pencil or crayon
- Watercolor paintbrush
- Watercolor paints
- Cup of water

Instructions:

1. Using a pencil, draw a faint outline of a cross on your paper.
2. Take a crayon or grease pencil (we used white) and color the cross. **Be sure to press hard** to put down a lot of "wax" from the crayon or grease pencil onto the paper.
3. Paint a rainbow or a sunrise over the entire piece of paper using watercolor paint. As you paint over the entire page, the crayon part should "resist" the watercolors and remain white on the paper. If you find you have water drops like shown in the photo, simply use a piece of paper towel to wipe away the access paint.
4. Let your painting dry.

April Assisting Schedule:

Elder Schedule

April 3- **Communion**/Russ Topping

April 10- Joanne DiBlasi

April 17- Don Pidcock

April 24- **Mt. Airy Pres.**

Deacon Schedule

April 3- **Communion** *Heather Pursell (Stair Glide), Phil McCloughan

April 10- Jen Chernoski

April 17- Gail Armitage

April 24- **Mt. Airy Pres.**

Greeting Schedule

April 3- Gail Armitage

April 10- Karen Armano

April 17- Carol Griffiths

April 24- **Mt. Airy Pres.**

**If you unable to serve your scheduled dates,
please find a replacement and contact the church office. Thank you.**

Schedules are subject to change

Session Minutes
First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville at Westminster House
February 21, 2022 Session Business Meeting 7:00 PM

Class of 2022

Pat Durborow

Carol Griffiths

Heather McIntyre

Don Pidcock

Russ Topping

Class of 2023

Rich Hopkins

Class of 2024

Karen Thatcher

Rev. Dan Dorrow, Moderator

Susan McCloughan, Clerk of Session

Present: Pat Durborow, Carol Griffiths, Rich Hopkins, Heather McIntyre (via Zoom),
 Don Pidcock, Karen Thatcher, Russ Topping, and Rev. Dan Dorrow

Excused: None

Welcome: Reverend Dorrow, declaring a quorum, welcomed all to the February
 Session Business Meeting and opened in prayer.

Devotion – Heather McIntyre

In recent times as I fall into times of depression and anxiety, and also as I watch my children struggle with the same mental health issues, I find myself very overwhelmed. I pray for my mental health as well as the mental health of others, but in order to do that I need to recognize and verbalize that I am going down a dark path, which can be hard when you are overwhelmed and exhausted. I have been led to several verses in the bible to help me continue to remember God's Promises to me.

Jeremiah 29:11 God has a plan for my life — “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

Hebrews 10:23 God can be trusted — “Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.”

Isaiah 54:17 No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the LORD.

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 14:14 The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Around the Room - The Elders, Dan and myself went around the room and shared our concerns.

Dan closed this section with prayer of what was discussed.

Moderator Time - Rev. Dan Dorrow

Dan went around the room and gave messages to the Elders that were going off Session at this time. Dan's messages were as follows, to Pat, he talked from *Ephesians 3:8*, and that Pat should continue to "Evangelize" and to Carol, *Luke 13:34*, as "A Mother in God's image," and to Rich, *Matthew 25:23*, "Faithful." Well done to you! Everyone talked about how each Elder helped them and how we were able to learn from each other.

Child Protection Policy- Heather M. and Karen spoke about what our church will need and what the Presbytery will require for our church. Karen had gotten the "Small Church's Children and Youth Protection Policy" off of the Presbytery website. This is a longer policy than the "Safe Church" child protection policy for churches, which would be another possible policy. An example to put this policy in place would be to 1., run background checks on our volunteers and we will need to have two adults per Sunday School class. Heather will put our information into the "Safe Church" policy and will email out to the Session.

Mask Policy- This should be updated at this time. Session will recommend that masks are optional and available. Sue will put this out in the weekly email to the congregation.

Session and different positions in the Church body- Dan asked for feedback what he can do to make his position here as a Pastor go smoother. Suggestions were: Dan could possibly make his sermons a bit shorter, but the Presbytery gives a minimum of 15 hours per week to work on a sermon, and Dan is a 20 hour a week pastor, and he can't do more at this time. He suggested that we should invest in a music person to take on more of a leadership role, so that our music stays strong. Dan suggested that we pray on this and talk about it more at the March meeting. Dan prayed for the Session after everyone was done speaking.

Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box - Susan McCloughan

Review of Minutes: Session reviewed the minutes from [January 17, 2022](#) and Dan asked to revise his section, before the Session is to approve them. The Session has decided to vote on January's minutes at February's meeting. Session will review both the minutes from January 17, 2022 and February 21, 2022 at that time. A **motion** will be called to approve both the January and February Minutes as written. All are in favor. The approved Minutes will be sent to Sue/Church Office to be printed in the Book of Minutes and to be included in the Church Newsletter.

Mail Box- An email was received from Don at Holicong who handles our keys. A lot of C/D keys have been lost or gone missing. Don suggested a few things and were discussed. At this time, we are going to leave things with the keys as they are. Pat Durborow is the Sexton and will handle the keys from now on. For those who will need a key, they can contact Pat on her cell. The Facility Use Agreement and deposit was received from the Lambertville Chamber of Commerce for the usage of the Gym for Shad Fest-April 22-24. This was ok'd by Session and Sue will get in touch with the COC and send the agreement back.

Calendar Highlights from March-May 2022:

Ash Wednesday is March 2nd. A joint service will be held at Kirkpatrick, Ringoes at 7:00 pm. Communion will be held on Sundays 3/6 and 4/3 and 5/1. Skating and Friday Night Hang will end on March 11th. The last Soup Sale to fundraise to see *David* at Sight & Sound will be held

on Saturday 3/5. Installation Sunday will be during the worship service on March 6, 2022. Daylight Savings Time begins. Palm Sunday is April 10th and Palms will be given out. On Easter Sunday April 17th, The Easter Egg Hunt will be held for the children and the Deacon Breakfast will be before the worship service. Our church will host the Good Friday service, at 7:00 pm. Sue, Phil and Stephen McCloughan will not be available to do the

“Fish Pond” at this year’s Shad Fest. Sue was asked to email the Deacons to see if they would like to head-up this worthwhile cause. The Elder Assisting schedule was discussed. Pat will assist on Communion Sunday 3/6.

The rest of the schedule is being updated and will be emailed to Session soon. There is no church service here on Sunday April 24th, due to Shad Fest. Our service will be at Mt. Airy Presbyterian at 10:00 am. The National Day of Prayer is May 5th, and our doors will be open for prayer. Mother’s Day is 5/8. and Memorial Day Sunday is May 29th.

2021 Church Statistical Report- This was emailed to Session on 2/16/22. A **motion** was called to accept the report. All were in favor. The report is on file in the church office.

Worship and Music/Church Life - Karen Thatcher

There has been fundraising for Sight & Sound on October 15, 2022. We have raised money during the soup sales, and there will be hot dog sales during Shad Fest. It looks at this time to be \$100.00 per person, but the bus will be extra. More details of how much the price will be for everything as the trip gets closer. We will reach out to others in the community to go on the trip, if our church can’t fill the 50 spots. The deadline for the sign-up for *David* is September 1st.

The Child Protection Policy was discussed during the Moderator’s Time, but the Duryea Agency is looking into the possibility of getting a written policy if needed. Dennis from the agency would like to come and speak to Session regarding this. Karen and Heather will follow-up.

The Accompanist position is continually being worked on with Karen as well as members of our congregation. We had 3 people that contact us regarding the position, and they haven’t worked out. We keep praying on this. The position was put on “Handshake”, and that expired. She was asked to re-post the position on “Handshake.”

Building and Grounds - Pat Durborow/Don Pidcock

Friday Night Hang was discussed by Pat and Russ and they would like to make changes for next season. Some examples were: to have Skating for the older kids, maybe a coffee, family movie night, or more activities, but what sort? They will take the summer to reorganize. Possibly to talk with the Youth Group over in New Hope to see if they would like to join in on our Friday nights. Cooie suggested to advertise for both Skating and Hang. Maybe to use WDVR radio, the Chamber of Commerce, Bucks County Herald, or Comcast.

Children’s Time was discussed, members of the congregation will continue with this, but Dan said he can do the Children’s Time- two times per month, the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

More about the Westminster House Bathroom at a later time.

Budget and Finance - Rich Hopkins

Rich went over the Year-to Date Summary from 1/1-2/21/22, and we are over \$941.80 in our plate offering. The Lowell Hunter Estate was discussed and it is ongoing. Boy Scouts and what is going on with their legal issues are still ongoing. The annual Boy Scout Sunday is on February 27, 2022. The Church Bylaws will be presented at the Annual Meeting on 2/27/22. These were adapted in June 2020 by Session, but have to be voted on by the congregation. The Bylaws are going to be amended due to the fact that the New Brunswick Presbytery no longer exists, but we are in a new Presbytery, the Highlands. This change is what is being amended.

A letter to Craig Reading was drafted up by the Session in regards to getting the church’s historical documents back that were used for the plaque in the church cemetery. When the documents are returned, Sue should let Don and Pat know, so they can be safely secured.

Sunday School/Junior Deacons - Carol Griffiths/Don Pidcock

Carol spoke about the Junior Deacons, and it is up to the Deacons to see that the Jr. Deacons are started, and what their responsibilities are. Stephen, Karen and Pat, are going to have the Sunday School children doing some special music on Palm Sunday. The high school teens continue to attend the Adult Sunday School.

Notations

Holy Communion- Was held on Sunday February 6, 2022.

Continuing of Education- Elders are encouraged to continue in and share the word of God through reading His Word, devotions, prayer and to be involved in education.

Elders-Are to continue Pastoral Care as needed.

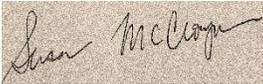
Prayer Meetings- Will continue the first Monday of each month with members sharing His Word through readings, thoughts, scripture and prayer, and will continue on Zoom. If for personal reasons keep session members from attending, the session resolved to pray wherever they are during the 7 o'clock hour.

Session Devotion Rotation- For the March Meeting is: Don Pidcock and is followed by Karen Thatcher

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm and the meeting was closed in Session prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan McCloughan
Clerk of Session