



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,

One of my favorite parts of the Old Testament is Isaiah Chapter 40, hopeful words written to a people living in harsh exile, whose hopes are yet to be fulfilled and whose daily lives are very difficult.

The prophet tells them:

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep. (Isa. 40:10-11)

I am encouraged and nourished by knowing that our Lord does come near to us -- with his mighty arm that's able to rule over every obstacle, and with his gentle, personal, pastoral care.

I know that many of you are facing challenges, and we all have hopes for our families and for our world that remain unfulfilled. Do not lose heart because our Lord comes as our strong and compassionate shepherd-king who's fully engaged with us and for us.

Speaking of our having been "living in exile" in certain ways over the past year, your Session is planning, Lord willing, on "returning us from exile" by having *in-person* Sunday School for all ages beginning in September as well as Friday night youth activities. We put our hope in the Lord regarding these plans as we lift up our prayers for the strength and wisdom to accomplish them.

In Christ,
Pastor Dan

“From the Office”

Happy Mother’s Day to all the Ladies out there. I hope you enjoy your special day! Dan is going to be away the week of May 24-30. Rich Hopkins is giving the message on Sunday May 30th. The handbells will also be ringing on that Sunday. Our Bell Choir will be wrapping up our season in June. We should be starting our practices again in late September. We are always looking for new ringers, so if you are interested, please see me. Our practices are on Thursday nights starting at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The last Newsletter will be next month, and will be restarting in September. If anyone has questions, please reach out to me in the Church Office, either by email or phone.



Thank you,
Sue

Church News:



Communion Sunday is May 2nd. Becky is going to be away, and Emily Atzert is our Guest Accompanist.

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday May 6th. Our Church will be open for individual prayer.

Women’s Bible Study is on Wednesday’s during the month of May at 3:00 pm. There is No Bible Study on Wednesday May 5th or 12th.

The Lambertville Basketball League will be in the Gym, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, in the evenings. Their last week in the Gym, is the week of June 10th.

For Mother’s Day:

“I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.” – Abraham Lincoln

Ministry and Outreach:

News from your Missions Team~ Helen and Sarah Tielmann were here on Sunday April 18th and presented a Moment for Missions. Please see the below message from Sarah:

Sarah served with the campus ministry Cru, formerly known as Campus Crusade for Christ, for the past three years in Williamsport Pennsylvania. She is currently raising her support to head to Bogotá, Colombia with a team of five others to serve on college campuses within that beautiful capital city. She is excited to serve where her family has before her and is blessed that God has allowed her to be the third generation of her family to serve in Colombia as a missionary. The verse in Matthew 9, where Jesus talks about the harvest being plentiful but the laborers few, rings true of Bogotá as there are 113 university campuses within the city limits and only four staff members currently serving there. Sarah's team will be going to provide more workers for this area with the hopes of training up Colombian college students to share the gospel and the hope of Jesus with their classmates, family and friends, as well as discipling them in what it looks like to live like Christ through reaching the refugees and orphans of Bogotá. You can also make a difference in the lives of unbelievers in the capital city of Colombia! Your financial and prayer support is vital in reaching these college students and making an impact in the world for His Kingdom. Sarah's greatest need at this time is for others to join her ministry team by giving in monthly donations of any amount you feel led to give. If you would like to partner with her in this ministry, or receive prayer updates and newsletters, you can reach out to the churches missions' team or contact her at

sarah.tielmann@cru.org or call at (610) 905-1532.

Thank you for your prayers and support!!



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

Ministry and Outreach Cont...

Deacon's Report~ Greetings and love from your church Deacons. The church is open, both physically and virtually. We miss you all and look forward to the time when we can all be together again in God's love. The exciting news is that we have some of our young children back in church and have started having the time for children again. Hopefully, this will continue.

We have several members who are dealing with health issues of one kind or another, and we will continue to support and hold them up in prayer, as we do with all of you.

Your Deacons: Gail Armitage, Jen Chernoski, LaNelle Gallagher, Danielle Griffiths, Phil McCloughan, Terry Peck and Heather Pursell.



Standing with Christ in an Age of Confusion

* God has given believers the need to discern His will. Without the Holy Spirit, we will wander off God's path and away from the truth.

*God is calling His children to learn the truth, stand for the truth and share the truth in a culture that is more concerned with opinions and emotions.

A. What is Truth?: [John 18: 22 to 40.] Truth is absolute and factual, even if we fail to recognize and/or acknowledge it. [John 8: 31-32/ Proverbs 9: 9-12.]

B. Seek Truth for yourself: [Psalm 25: 1-5/ Acts 17: 1-15.]

*God longs for us to feast on His word; If we don't spend time studying it, we risk being deceived by false teachers.

C. Be brave in the "war": [Matthew 5: 11-16/ Ephesians 6: 10-18.]

* A lot of our culture considers biblical truth foolish and even hateful.

* Fallen humanity wants to be God, not submit to His will.

* In Christ, the war on truth has already been won; we need only to walk in that victory!

Blessings,
Joanne DiBlasi

May Birthdays

3 Joanne DiBlasi

9 Addie Andino

9 Sean Alan Durborow

13 Brooke Pursell

13 Kris Gregory

14 Jeffrey Pursell

16 Jace Vaccarino

18 Bertha Marriott

20 Joan Gilbert

22 Brayden Chernoski

23 Ginny Moraski

24 Emma Chernoski

25 Tom Griffiths

30 Tristen Pursell

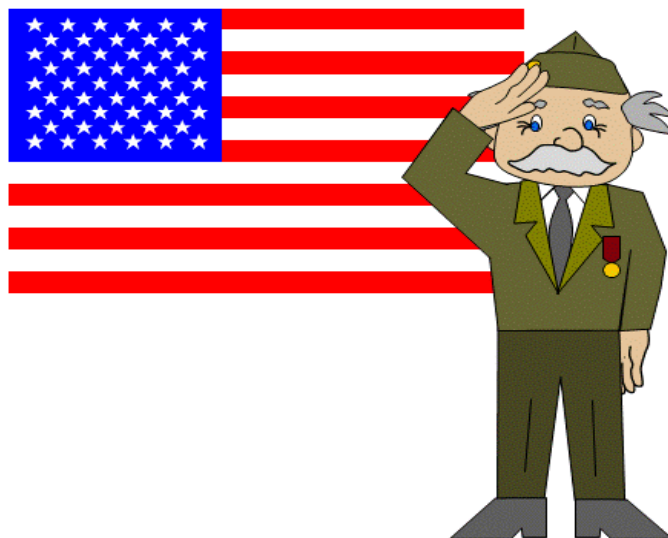


Just for Kids.....

Memorial Day Word Search

B U W D V L B U C Y G S S F G B P H V D
 Y A H E D B A U Q I N Y O S P A E T Y G
 S X I C N N H I E A N F L W T W H A Q P
 R C T O O C R V R M T C D R N J P E R J
 A M E R I C A E O O Y U I L E D A R A P
 B D U A Z R T N S S M O E P M G H W D T
 Q L F T G E D B D P T E R C U H O N O R
 N Y M I V A L Q J I E A M F N O B L E D
 Z P A O Y U Z J C X Z C R W O D X C I B
 W B D N E G A L F V H O T S M Q E P F F
 N V J V W L U N O I T I D A R T X R S Q
 C L U P V V L S U F R Z E Z Z O K O P U

America
 blue
 decoration
 flag
 grave
 honor
 memorial
 Monday
 monument
 parade



patriotic
 picnic
 red
 respect
 soldier
 stars
 tradition
 veterans
 white
 wreath

May Assisting Schedule:

Elder Schedule

May 2– **Communion**/Russ Topping

May 9– Heather McIntyre

May 16– Don Pidcock

May 23– Russ Topping

May 30– Rich Hopkins

Deacon Schedule

May 2– **Communion** *Danielle Griffiths (Stair Glide), Jen Chernoski

May 9– Terry Peck

May 16– Gail Armitage

May 23– Heather Pursell

May 30- LaNelle Gallagher

**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
Via Zoom Online Meeting

March 15, 2021 Session Business Meeting 7:10 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,
Don Pidcock, Karen Thatcher and Rev. Dan Dorrow

Excused: Russ Topping

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

Devotion- Carol Griffiths

Carol read *Matthew 11: 28-30*. She started by saying, what Jesus had said: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” After reading the passage, come to me, all you that are weary, and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. With all of the health issues and problems we all have to deal with, this bible verse was very comforting knowing we can always turn to Jesus and He is there to listen to all our troubles. When we spend quiet time with Jesus, we find rest for our souls. Jesus promises to help us, and I believe Him. As he has said, He is very gentle and humble in heart. Amen. In checking on the definition of yoke, it had been used between a pair of oxen, usually to help pull together a load. Who joined me in this yoke? It is Jesus himself. He is helping us with the loads of life that we all deal in every day.

Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box- Susan McCloughan

Review of Minutes: Session reviewed the minutes from February 15, 2021, Session Business Meeting. A **motion** was called to accept the Minutes as written. All were 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.

Annual Review of Minutes for the NB Presbytery- Sue McCloughan met with Sally Horner from Stockton Presbyterian to complete the annual review for the minutes for the Presbytery. The annual review minutes were submitted to the NB Presbytery on February 26, 2021 via email. I am waiting for a response from the Presbytery office.

Mail Box- Rich discussed mail that was received from the Boy Scouts, and AA, and also, the certificates for their insurance. The certificates are updated yearly. The yearly Fire Test for the church was discussed for 2021, and Sue will contact SDG to have them come out and conduct the Fire Test so that it can be submitted to the City for our Fire Inspection Certificate. Heather also discussed our Workman's Comp. policy with Franklin Mutual with a representative from the Duryea Agency. This is done yearly. Also, Heather spoke to Dina Shoty at Duryea regarding our yearly Audit, it is going to be done by email not in person.

Calendar Highlights from March- June 2021:

Becky is away on March 21st. Sue Johnson will be our Guest Accompanist. We will be having in person service on Palm Sunday, March 28th. Palms will be available for our congregation. The Maundy Thursday service and Good Friday services are on Zoom, but the Good Friday service is at First Presbyterian, Lambertville and will be in person for our congregation as well. Easter and Communion on April 4th, is being planned as in person. The National Day of Prayer is Thursday May 6th. There is No Women's Bible Study May 5th or 12th. Mother's Day is Sunday May 9th, and the Memorial Day service is Sunday May 30th. The last Sunday for the 10:30 am service is June 6th. Our summer worship starts on Sunday June 13th at 9:30 am. LBL will be in our Gym until June 10, 2021. The Shad Fest was changed to October 9-10, 2021, as per the Chamber of Commerce.

Elder Job Assignments- Karen Thatcher took over the Worship & Music and added Church Life. Don Pidcock was added to Youth Group Ministry/Sunday School, to work with Carol Griffiths. Building & Grounds, and Budget & Finance are the same.

Worship and Music/Church Life-Karen Thatcher

All of Session discussed in person service for 3/21/21, due to previous Coronavirus exposure. It was decided that we would have in person service, due to the exposure being at a minimum. contact tracing was also discussed to see if anyone who had been in the church (Bible Study or Bell Choir), to see if there have been Covid symptoms. Heather M. and Russ are in charge of the contact tracing. There is enough room in the Sanctuary to keep everyone separated, and other measures will be taken. Most of the congregation will come back to in person service, when they feel it is safe to do so. Sue McCloughan will get in contact with our Guest Accompanist Sue Johnson to let her know we are having in person service on 3/21.

Building and Grounds- Pat Durborow/Don Pidcock

The spring flowers and wreaths are up. The iron fence is going to be scraped and painted very soon. Don will contact Bill Huffnagle of Lambertville to arrange this. At the end of the month, Martinez Landscaping will be here to take care of the church grounds. Pat is finding a painter to look at the windows in and to paint the kitchen. New lights were put up in the Gym. Don will work on getting the Ring security system up and running for Westminster House/ Church Office. Rich Hopkins let Session know that we received 2 bulletin boards from Ray Sziber, and they will be installed by Addie and Joanne D. Both will be going in the Gym.

Budget and Finance-Rich Hopkins/Heather McIntyre

The Year-to-Date Summary emailed to Session and was discussed, from 1/1- 3/15/21. As of March 15th, the collection plate is down \$3531.77. Our church was eligible for the PPP government sponsored loan, which was received and deposited. The Lowell Hunter Estate has gone through Trenton, NJ and is now in the final accounting stage at the Buchanan Law firm in Lambertville. Once the Estate has been accounted, our church will be receiving the rest of the Estate. Heather addressed our service with Comcast Cable. A new deal is not needed at this time. The wifi was also discussed and that seems to be working ok in the Church Office and Sanctuary, but the wifi seems to be spotty in Dan's office. Most think the reception can be problematic, due to Westminster House being old. If we were to switch over to a wired system, our cable may be less expensive. This option may be looked at in the future. Duryea Agency/Workman's Comp. was discussed earlier by Heather.

Sunday School/Youth Group- Carol Griffiths/Don Pidcock

Carol addressed the fact that not much is going on with Sunday School or Youth Group. She will reach out to Mark Dudick to see what is happening with the Youth Group. Hopefully in the Fall Sunday School as well as the Youth Group will be restarting. Don talked about the Easter bags that went out to our Sunday School children. Dan blessed the bags before they went out. 38 bags were delivered. For ages 10+ an "Escape Room" that was bible based was included, and for ages under 10, coloring books and toys were given, along with candy. This was well received by all.

Moderator Time-Rev. Dan Dorrow

Dan discussed the Covid situation and how tough it's been on churches. We have been blessed that we have had in person and Zoom combined services. This helps with our sense of unity. He appreciates Session and their prayers for this time. Dan asked Session for suggestions on how to keep the lines of communication open. He also asked for hope for unity and perseverance in doing this.

Around the Room

Session Members discussed and shared praises and concerns.

Notations

Holy Communion- Was held on Sunday March 7, 2021. Communion was also given to Grace Hendricks on the grounds of the Hunterdon Care Center, Flemington, NJ, by Elder Rich Hopkins.

Book of Registry- Has been updated, with the Ordination/Installation of Church Officers on February 28, 2021. Karen Thatcher was Installed as Elder, Gail Armitage, Installed as Deacon -second term. Jen Chernoski, Ordained as Deacon. LaNelle Gallagher, Installed as Deacon. These terms are until February 2024.

Change in Presbytery- As of mid-March 2021, First Presbyterian of Lambertville will no longer belong to the Presbytery of New Brunswick. We will be joining the **Highlands Presbytery** which is located in Newton, NJ.

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.

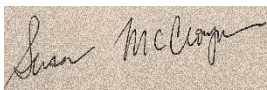
Prayer Meetings- Will continue the first Monday of each month with members sharing His Word through readings, thoughts, scripture and prayer. If weather is an issue or for personal reasons keep session members from attending, the session resolved to pray wherever they are during the 7 o'clock hour.

Session Devotion Rotation-For the April Meeting is: Rich Hopkins, followed by Heather McIntyre, Don Pidcock and Karen Thatcher.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm and the meeting was closed in Session prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Susan McCloughan". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background.

Susan McCloughan