



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAMBERTVILLE
First Presbyterian Church

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

From Our Elder ~ Heather McIntyre



It's Sunday but Monday is Coming

As Christians we rejoice at Christmas, celebrating the birth of our savior. We observe Lent as a solemn time leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus, and again we rejoice as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. After all, the resurrection of Jesus is what sets us apart. We believe that Jesus died on the cross for us, a perfect lamb to be sacrificed for our sins. We earnestly share with others that Jesus died for each of us. He died for each of us, perfectly imperfect. He knows every hair on our head.

We accept these things as facts but as days pass by, spring turns to summer and the resurrection gets further in the rearview, we find human judgements slipping back in... maybe they come from love, or maybe they come from a place that we like to pretend is well intentioned, but ultimately the only judgement that matters will come from our Heavenly Father.

In a world where politics are thrown at us from every direction, where social media makes it just as easy to share facts as it is to share myths, it's easy to convince ourselves that all Christians look like us, vote like us, and live like us.

If Jesus were alive in 2025, would he have an Iphone or an Android? Would he have a Facebook or an Insta? Definitely not Snapchat... would he be a public figure? How many friends and followers would he have on Facebook? All of these questions seem absurd... Certainly Jesus wouldn't have a Facebook page (or would he?) It should give us a tiny pause to think about *living like Jesus*. If you don't think Jesus would share it on Facebook, or comment it on Facebook, then maybe it's not serving him to post it...

There are many Facebook pages that promote ministries and beautiful gospel messages. Certainly, I'm not suggesting the Christians shouldn't use social media. After all, social media is only one of many ways that we get ourselves into trouble.

What I am suggesting is that Jesus loves us all. He loves the drug addicts, the bullies, those that don't live a righteous life, he loves the alcoholics, the adulterers, those who get married and those who don't, he loves all the odd people that live very differently than you. He loves the pagans and the atheists who don't love him back. He even loves the people who put mayo on French fries and raisins in potato salad. He loves the Republicans, the Democrats, the Independents, the Green Party and everyone in between. Jesus knows all of the unique things that make you amazing and he knows your darkest secrets.

From Our Elder– Heather McIntyre

It's Sunday but Monday is Coming Cont...

I will admit, I struggle not to judge with some things. I find it hard to believe that mass murderers or human traffickers might end up in heaven. I find it hard to stomach that people who abuse animals are forgiven for the suffering that they have caused... Good thing that my feelings on all of that just don't matter. Jesus wants me to pray for those people. No where has he ever asked me to spend any time judging them.

It's actually quite freeing to accept that Jesus loves us all and doesn't need any help in deciding which sins are the worst. Groan... we all know that genocide is up there.... But what about people who just live their whole life as sinners... oh wait, that's all of us. Yikes. I guess we should all be grateful for GRACE and MERCY. Unfortunately, that grace and mercy applies to everyone. It applies to the parents who parent very differently, to the girls who have babies without a husband, to those who love curse words, the liars, those who break promises, the gossips, the people who speed everywhere and those who drive 10 under the speed limit.

So my message to you is this, it's Sunday but Monday is coming! We are wrapped up in the solemn season of lent and the excitement of the resurrection. We are feeling the promise of eternal life through our Lord Jesus. This is an amazing time to be a Christian. The excitement of knowing our savior transcended death is like no other feeling. As Sunday turns into Monday, keep that feeling in your heart. But don't keep it in one compartment...Don't just apply it to those who worship with you or to your loved ones... Instead apply it freely to everyone!

Sometimes the people who need grace the most are the ones that make it the hardest. There are some people who just seem like a lost cause, like nothing could ever soften their wicked heart. And maybe people have tried, and then again maybe they haven't. God doesn't call on us to judge them, but he does call on us to plant the seed. He doesn't expect us to handle the sunshine, the rain and the whole harvest, he calls on us to plant the seeds.

But make no mistake, you can't plant seeds when you stand in a place of judgement.

So, on Monday, and every day that follows, let's pray to push those judgements out of our hearts and make room to plant those seeds!



“From the Office”

Thank you to all who have contributed to the monthly Newsletters. Your input is greatly appreciated! Shad Fest went well, and we raised funds from the Fish Pond to go to the Grace Covenant Church in North Carolina to help in the Hurricane Helene Relief. **Happy Mother's Day!!** The Handbell Choir will be ringing in church this month. Pastor Gregory will be here for Memorial Day Sunday on May 25th. Have a blessed month,
Sue



Church News:



Communion is Sunday May 4th here at First Pres. of Lambertville, and Mt. Airy will be joining us. At 10:00 am.

There is a Post Easter Hymn Sing on Sunday May 4th , 7:00 pm at Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church 39 Mt. Airy Village Rd. All Welcome!

The Ladies Bible Study is continuing on Wednesdays, 2:00 pm. On May 5th Bible Study will be at Joanne DiBlasi's, and on May 14th, it will be in the Church Library.

The Spanish Ministry will continue meeting on Sundays at 3:00 pm.

The Friendsgiving Luncheon has been rescheduled for Sunday May 18th, the **time to be determined**. Please bring a dish to share, and Walmart gift cards, and monetary donations that will be used to purchase additional gift cards. These gift cards will be donated to local families in need. There will be a sign up sheet in the downstairs hallway of the church for the pot-luck.

The last day of both Adult and Children's Sunday School is June 1st.

BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED

Old Rocks Church Ladies Tea for Missions

Saturday, June 28th, 10:00 am Old Rocks Church Fellowship Hall

260 Mt. Airy - Harborton Rd. Lambertville

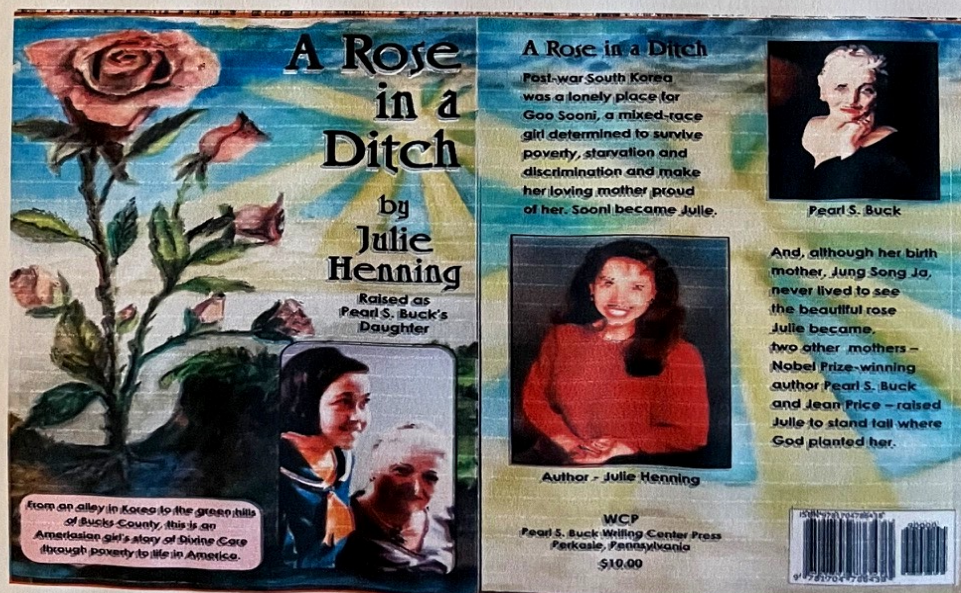


NO CHARGE, DONATIONS APPRECIATED

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO MISSIONS

RSVP'S A MUST DUE TO LIMITED SEATING

CALL OR TEXT: TERRI MARRIOTT 908-246-8711



Ministry and Outreach:

News From Your Missions Team~

Please see the Bulletin Board in the back of the Sanctuary.

Your Missions Team:

Addie Andino, Gail Armitage, Russ Topping and Donna Zambella

Deacon's Corner.....

Hello All,

The Easter Breakfast was wonderful, thank you to all who shared so much delightful food. The Shad Fest was a bit rainy on Saturday, but it did not dampen anyone's spirit! Sunday was a beautiful day, but windy!

If you need us, your Deacons are always here for you, and especially for prayer.

Gail, Jen, Heidi, LaNelle, Dana and Stephen.

The Fish Pond was well received by all the children who fished!! Our goal was to raise funds for Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville, North Carolina. They are still helping those in need from Hurricane Helene in their area.

A BIG thank you to all who came out and helped at the Shad Fest, it was an interesting weather weekend for sure!!

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Hebrews 13:16

May Birthdays

3 Joanne DiBlasi

8 Lucia Lee

9 Addie Andino

9 Sean Durborow

13 Brooke Pursell

13 Kris Gregory

14 Jeffrey Pursell

16 Jace Vaccarino

20 Joan Gilbert

22 Brayden Chernoski

23 Ginny Moraski


24 Emma Chernoski

25 Tom Griffiths

30 Tristen Pursell




Just for Kids.....



My mom's name is _____

Her favorite color is _____

Her favorite food is _____



Finish the garden for your mom!

MY Mommy is THE BEST


LOVE...


My mom is the best because:

WORD SEARCH

SPECIAL	LOVE
FUN	GENEROUS
MOTHER	KIND
BEST	FRIEND

TIC TAC TOE





MOM

Color and cut out the bookmark!

May Assisting Schedules:

Elder Schedule

May 4- **Communion**/Don Pidcock
May 11- Phil McCloughan
May 18- Karen Thatcher
May 25- Russ Topping

Deacon Schedule

May 4- **Communion**/Heidi Danberry (Stair Glide), Gail Armitage
May 11- Stephen McCloughan
May 18- Jen Chernoski
May 25- Dana Garrenger

Greeting Schedule

May 4- Joan Yannarella
May 11- Carol Griffiths
May 18- Sue McCloughan
May 25- Connie Fisher

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

Schedules are subject to change

Thank you!

Session Minutes
First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville
Westminster House
March 10, 2025 6:30 pm

Class of 2026

Pat Durborow
 Phil McCloughan

Class of 2027

Don Pidcock
 Karen Thatcher

Class of 2028

Russ Topping

Rev. Jeanne Radak, Moderator

Susan McCloughan, Clerk of Session

Present: Pat Durborow, Phil McCloughan, Don Pidcock, Karen Thatcher
 Russ Topping and Rev. Jeanne Radak

Excused: None

Welcome: Reverend Radak, declaring a quorum, welcomed all to the
 March 10, 2025 Session Business Meeting and opened in prayer.

6:30 PM-Devotion, Don Pidcock

Don spoke about the “**Seven Wonders of the Word.**”

1. The Wonder of the Word-the way in which it went into all the world, and still going is timeless. Mark 16:15 was quoted. 2. The Wonder of its Oneness: A collection of 66 books but yet one book. Genesis to Revelation. 3. The Wonder of its Age- a most ancient book. A notable book for all the ages. 4. The Wonder of its Sale-the most sold book in the world. The Bible has sold 5 billion copies and is in 800 languages. 5. The Wonder of its Interest- a select book read by all classes and all people of the world. Jesus is the theme. 6. The Wonder of its Language- written by many uneducated men, yet a best book of literary truths. Penned from Fishermen, Kings and Shepherds. 7. The Wonder of its Message- hated by some and loved by many and still exists. “The Wonder of it All”
 Some examples: George Shea, and Billy Graham.

Seven Wonders of the Modern World: Chichen Itza of Mexico, Machu Picchu of Peru, Christ the Redeemer of Brazil, Colosseum of Rome, Petra of Jordan, Taj Mahal of India and the Great Wall of China.

Seven Wonders of the Ancient World: These ancient wonders are Colossus of Rhodes, Great Pyramid of Giza, Hanging Gardens of Babylon, Statue of Zeus at Olympia, Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, and Lighthouse of Alexandria.

Around the Room

Session Members discussed, shared praises and concerns, and blessings to all.

Moderator Time - Pastor Jeanne Radak

Jeanne spoke about the class for Elders given by the Presbytery who want to be able to do more within their churches. The class was extremely successful, and another class will be offered most likely in September. More information to follow. The upcoming March 11th Presbytery Meeting was discussed and it's the 4th Anniversary of the Highlands Presbytery.

Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box - Susan McCloughan

Review of Minutes: A motion was called to approve the minutes from February 24, 2025. All were in favor.

Mail Box/Clerk Correspondence- A letter was received from Pastor Stephanie Templin-Ashford from Thompson Memorial regarding the use of our Kitchen and Gym for the weekly luncheon that was previously done at Centenary Methodist in Lambertville. Sue was asked to reach out to Pastor Stephanie to see when she can come to a business meeting to discuss this. A postcard was sent from the Gideons and they prayed for our church on March 1st. Sue will update the Church Information and Leadership information to the Presbytery.

Former Elder Joanne DiBlasi sent in an email and wanted to let Session know that the one of the refrigerators in the kitchen broke, and see if we can replace it, and the Spanish Ministry is checking with their leaders in Trenton about getting Liability Insurance when they meet here on Sundays.

Discernment Process- “Retreat #1 Gathering the Stories.” was completed on 2/24/25. The congregation was asked to put their stories on the downstairs board, this is going on as of March 16th. Retreat 2 will be scheduled in the near future, and Retreats 3 & 4 will follow. If the congregation has a question regarding the Discernment Process, please reach out to a Session Member or Sue.

Pastor Search Committee- Our Session will be meeting with Mt. Airy to come up with a joint Job Description for the Pastor on March 18th at 6:30 pm at Mt. Airy. The job description will be sent to Jeanne upon completion. More to follow. Our church submitted the pastor job description to Princeton Seminary on February 13th. No information has come back as of yet from Princeton.

Calendar Highlights from March- May 2025

Communion is scheduled for 3/2 and 5/4 here at First Pres., and April 6th at Mt. Airy.

The information will be continuing in the bulletins for who is scheduled to give the upcoming Sermons and our Accompanists. Bell Choir will be playing in church on 3/16, 4/20 and 5/18. We will also be playing for the Shad Fest outside. The Session Prayer Meetings will take place on 3/3, 4/7 and 5/5 at 6:00 pm. The Spanish Ministry will be continuing to meet at our church on Sundays at 3:00 pm. Installation Sunday on 3/5/25. There is a Soup Sale on Saturday March 1st. Ash Wednesday on March 5th, is the start of Lent. The First Sunday in Lent is March 9th. The Session Business Meeting for April was moved from 4/21 to 4/28. Riverside Symphonia is in the Sanctuary on 4/4 & 4/5. The Concert is April 5th. Palm Sunday and Easter Services are here at First Pres. of Lambertville, and the Worship Service on Easter is at 10:30 am. Maundy Thursday is at Kirkpatrick and Good Friday in Titusville, both services are at 7:00 pm. Shad Fest is April 26 & 27. The COC will be in the Gym starting 4/25. There will be 9:00 am Worship w/ no Sunday School on 4/27. The National Day of Prayer is Thursday May 1st, and our church will be open for prayer. Mother’s Day is May 11th, and flowers will be given out to all the women of the congregation.

Wedding Booklet & Facility Use Packets- These were given out to Session last month, and they had a chance to look them over. Wording and fees are to stay the same for 2025. Sue will update the years on both for the website.

Book of Registry- From the Annual Meeting in February, the following church members have been Ordained/ Installed to Deacon or Elder on March 5, 2025: Ordained Deacon Stephen McCloughan, Installed Deacon Gail Armitage and Installed Elder Russ Topping. The terms are until 2028.

Worship and Music/Church Life – Joanne DiBlasi/Karen Thatcher

Insurance Review- Payments have been made for our insurance. Karen will call Jean at the Duryea Agency to go over our policies. The insurance for the Presbytery is Brown and Brown.

Young Adult Time- The Youth Sunday this past week was successful, and the Youth would like to have another service in the future. Karen will check with Joanne on this, and Lucia may want to be more involved in this also.

Accompanist/Music Director- We will continue looking to fill the position. Our Accompanist Schedule is filled through the end of April.

Spanish Ministry- Karen will call Jean Ring from Duryea to see about the Liability Insurance, and an email was sent from Joanne regarding the insurance, which was discussed earlier.

Joint Communion Services- This was discussed earlier in the Calendar section. Someone to check with Pat Masterson to see if either Kris G. or Karen will sing with this upcoming Communion Sunday at Mt. Airy.

July Joint Service at Holcombe-Jimison- The committee will be getting together in March/April 2025 to discuss the service. Titusville Presbyterian will be in charge this year. Phil and Russ are willing to give the sermon in July.

Building and Grounds – Pat Durborow/Phil McCloughan/Don Pidcock

The **new technology** for the Livestream- Phil talked about we are on Facebook and not YouTube at this time. Stephen has a Facebook link that he has been sending out to the congregation.

Church Organ- The refurbishment of the organ will need to be done in the future, but it has been postponed for this year.

Skating-It has been a good year for skating, and will end for the season on 3/14/25.

Martinez Landscaping- Martinez will be coming back in the spring to fix the stone wall.

Hallway in Church/Bathrooms/Front Door Issues- Hallway and front doors, will be taken care of later this spring. The bathrooms need to be ventilated. Don, Phil and Addie will be moving the stove to see where the pipes are. Jay Huff the local plumber will be called to help assist with this issue. Don, Phil and Addie, addressed the freezing pipes in the kitchen along with Jay Huff, and the pipes should no longer freeze. Phil added that we should invest a power surge control box to protect all the equipment and appliances. Maybe in the future to help the community in an emergency, to install Kohler Generators at the church. For when the power goes out in Lambertville.

Church Heaters/Monthly Fire Inspections- The heaters seem to be working in the Church proper, but the heater in Westminster House has been going off from time to time. Garden State will be called to see if they can find out why this happens. This is ongoing. Surge Protectors were talked about again to protect all of our electrical equipment and appliances. Don has been doing the monthly checks on the smoke detectors and Exit Signs.

Kitchen Refrigerators- A **motion** was called to have Pat call Hendricks in Stockton to bring us 2 new refrigerators, the church will need at least 1 new one. Pat has the authority to get 2 if needed. All were in favor.

Pastor Search Committee- Sue sent the resume for the pastor to Princeton Seminary. No response as of today has been received. More to follow.

Report of Commissioner to the Presbytery- Phil will be attending the Zoom meeting with the Presbytery tomorrow, March 11th.

Budget and Finance – Heather McIntyre

The Year-to-Date Summary from 1/1-3/10/25, and that our plate giving is over \$656.79.

This was reviewed by Session. A **motion** was called to approve the Financial Reports as provided. All were in favor.

Lowell Hunter Estate- No updates at this time.

Boy Scouts- No updates at this time.

2025 Per Capita- Not discussed tonight.

Sunday School/Junior Deacons –Don Pidcock

Sunday School will be done for the year in June. The youth (Jr. Deacons) help with the Sunday worship service when they attend. There is Young Adult Time when the young adults are in church.

Missions – Russ Topping

Is going along, there are no changes.

Notations

Holy Communion- Was held on March 2, 2025 at First Pres. of Lambertville, with Pastor Gregory.

Sight & Sound- The sign-up is filling up, and LaNelle is in the process of receiving payment from those who will be attending.

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 be held on the first Monday of each month. Members will be sharing His Word through readings, thoughts, scripture and prayer, and will be in person. For those who cannot make in person, a livestream will be available. If for personal reasons keep session members from attending, the session resolved to pray wherever they are during the 6 o'clock hour.

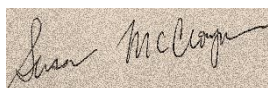
Session Moderator- Thank you to Jeanne Radak our Presbytery Leader for leading our Session Meeting for the month of March.

Session Devotion Rotation- April is Karen Thatcher, May is Russ Topping and June is Pat Durborow.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm and was closed in Session prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan McCloughan
Clerk of Session