



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,

Soon we'll be celebrating Thanksgiving, one of my favorite holidays. I love relaxing and feasting together with family and friends and, best of all, going around the table as each of us gives thanks to God for blessings of the year gone by. At times like this, I have a real sense of well-being; as the Westminster Catechism tells us, "our highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever." Thanksgiving is such a blessing because we are glorifying God – giving him our thanks – and enjoying his presence with us as we gather with one another.

Even as I'm grateful for my family who'll be coming together at our table this year, I imagine that, for many of us, Thanksgiving will be different as Covid-19 keeps us separated from some of our loved ones – or maybe even alone. My heart goes out to those of you who'll be missing someone this year – perhaps a beloved family member who's passed on.

So I want to proclaim to you the Apostle Paul's words to the Philippians: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (4:7).

This peace of God is *shalom* – overall well-being and fullness of life – that does not depend on our circumstances. Paul tells us how we can participate in this fullness of life that's ours in Christ: at all times and in every situation, do not worry but instead pray and give thanks (4:6).

So let us receive the peace of God in this season by sharing with each other our blessings from the Lord as we give thanks to him. I'll get us started:

Thank you, Lord, for your dear children here at Lambertville, for your love that I can see has been poured out into their hearts, and for their warm welcome and generosity to me as their pastor.

Thank you, Lord, for providing our large sanctuary where we can meet together to worship you, and for protecting us from Covid-19.

Christ will guard our hearts and minds no matter what circumstance we're in.

In Christ's peace,

Pastor Dan

“From the Office”

The Handbell Choir played in church on October 25th, we are glad to be back and ringing for our Worship Service! We are planning on playing in November, with Thanksgiving Selections. I am usually in the office from Tues.-Friday. My hours are usually from 9:30- 1:30 pm. If I am not in, please send me an email or you can leave me a message. The Church Office will be closed on November 26th and 27th for the holiday. The First Sunday in Advent is November 29th.

Sincerely,
Sue



Church News:

Our trip to Sight and Sound will be taking place on Saturday November 14, 2020. to see Queen Esther. There are still some tickets available. If you are interested in attending and haven't signed up, and would like to attend, please contact Karen Thatcher-609- 397-8430 or the Church Office 609-397-0650. The bus will be meeting at the CVS parking lot in Lambertville at 7:30 am, the bus will leave promptly at 8! Please carpool to the CVS if possible, thank you.

Women's Bible Study~ Will be meeting every Wednesday at 3:00 pm in the church building. Please remember to wear your mask.

Operation Christmas Child-Is in full swing. If you need a Christmas Shoebox and or paperwork, please see Joanne DiBlasi. Finished boxes will be delivered to the dropoff location November 22nd. Again, a special thank you to Grace Hendricks and Aileen Burnett for their donation of Beanie Babies to this outreach.

Skating and Friday Night Hang will be starting on Friday December 4th. Skating is from 6-8 pm, for children up to 6th grade and Hang is from 8:00-10:00 pm. In the Gym. Hang is for youth in grades 7-12. We thank all who are participating in this worthwhile ministry.

The Church will be decorated for Christmas the week of November 23rd. Please see Pat Durborow if you are able to help.

Ministry and Outreach:

News from your Missions Team~ It has been a busy few months for Missions! At a recent Moment for Missions, Elder Don Pidcock presented a video and spoke about Blessings of Hope, a food bank ministry in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Some of our church members have already traveled out and been a part of this valuable ministry. It is hoped that others will want to get involved and share the Lord's love by helping to pack food items for those in need. More details on this later.

As the holidays draw near, we have begun collecting toys for the children of mothers who are incarcerated at Edna Mahan Facility for Women in Clinton, NJ. This is one of the many local ministries that Terry Slemmer, one of our missionaries, is involved with. Terry says, "this is a wonderful, tangible way to reach children and their mothers with the love of God at Christmastime." A box has been placed in the church lobby for anyone who would like to donate a new toy or a gift card for a child. Any questions, please see one of the Missions Team members.

As a reminder, our Missions collections are held every 3rd Sunday of the month. As always, the Missions Team is grateful to our church family for their ongoing generosity. We are excited to see how God will use these monies for His glory as we continue to support Terry Slemmer, Grace Morillo and John and Aruna Desai. May the Lord continue to bless us as we are faithful to His call.

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



Veterans Day 2020

In a building over 160 years old you witness a lot of history. In the walls of First Presbyterian is the history of our nation and service. The church was a meeting and rally location in the days after Fort Sumter and the start of the Civil War for the formation of the Union regiments on both sides of the water. 10th PA. Volunteer rifles out of New Hope and 14th NJ infantry. In WW1 many victory bond rallies were held in the church, given that for a period of time it was the largest public meeting space between Philadelphia and New York City. The USO would host many canteen services out of the old basement for troops traveling to the Philadelphia and transport to Europe during WW2. The point being the church has been part of, and witness to national and world history.

As you enter and leave the sanctuary you will see the over 50 names of those who in our church and community, who have served our nation in both war and peace on our memorial plaque. Many of those names represent the families who have been part of this Faith Community going back to 1816. This Veterans Day 2020, yes we continue to face the challenges of the Pandemic and the changes brought. But we also remember those in our faith and families who have stood tall in our nations call to service and those who have paid the price for us.

The cost of Freedom is never free, but at times calls for the blood, sweat and dedication of those who have worn the Uniform and those whose services is one of Duty, Honor, Faith and Service. God bless them all.

Peter Gregory HR

CDR USN (ret)

Pastor 2007-2019

Just Sayin'...

By Donald Pidcock

Roller Skating and Teen Hang will open this year on December 4th. At this time we are requesting that mask be worn by all attendees other than those actively participating on the floor. There will be noncontact temperature reading as you enter the activities building. There will not be any snacks available other than water and soft drinks. At this time to reduce the number of participants we will be limiting the number of attendees until further information is available. We are also be monitoring the local schools Covid status and will react accordingly.

Thank you for your understanding. God Bless and hoping to see you soon.



Some Thoughts from Joanne DiBlasi~

How often have you heard the phrase “Listen to your heart.” That might sound safe, but let’s look at that from scripture and from Jesus’s perspective. If we are truly honest with ourselves, some of the things we hold in our hearts are downright ugly and non-Christ like.

* **Please Read 1 Samuel 16:7 and Ezekiel 36: 26-27**

In these verses we see that God knows the depth and true intentions of our hearts and only He can clean them, prioritize them and soften them.

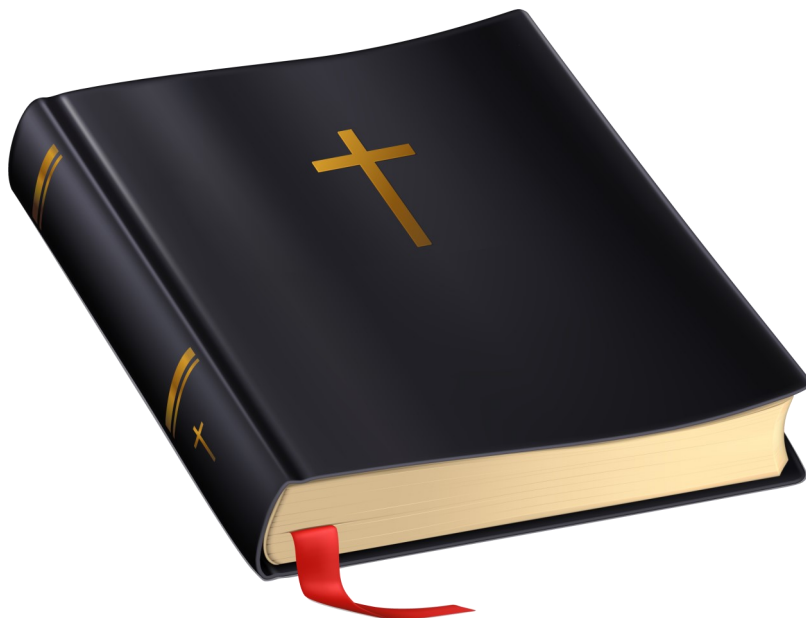
* **Please Read Matthew 12: 33 to 37, Matthew 15: 16 to 20 and Luke 6:45**

In all of these, Jesus makes it very clear what the original true condition of our heart is. So, if what He says is true, and we know it is, then the only way we should “Listen and follow our heart” is when the Holy Spirit has completely transformed it. I think back to the years before the Holy Spirit worked in me, by the way that work is a daily and necessary process until the moment we set foot in heaven.

* **In John 7: 37 to 39**

Jesus says “Anyone who is thirsty may come to me; anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the scriptures declare, rivers of living water will flow from their heart!” We need to produce that living water instead of the swampy water that is too often there.

May I end by asking you to read Paul’s Blessing in **Ephesians 3: 16 to 19,** that is my prayer for you and myself.



More of You...From Elder Russ Topping...

Faith to move the largest mountain, the submission to go where you send.

The strength to fight to the bitter end.

**The boldness to promise, the courage to follow through, but more than all of these,
Lord I want more of you.**

A peace that passes all understanding, the wisdom to know and do What is right.

**The grace to forgive, the humility to depend solely on you, but more than all of these,
Lord I want more of you.**

Patience with others, the capacity of a child to learn and to grow, a love to love the unlovable.

**To reach out and touch the lives of all those I know, but more than all of these,
Lord I want more of you.**

To sacrifice everything I have, am, or ever hope to be, counting them all as loss.

**The courage to take a stand for you without counting the cost. But more than all of these,
Lord, I want more of you.**

**To be an agent of hope, as vehicle for change, to comprehend all of life's mysteries, But more
than all of these, Lord, I want more of you.**

**More of you, Jesus is my heart's greatest plea, because when I have more of you,
Lord, you'll have more of me.**

A Prayer for November

For each new morning with its light,

Father, we thank Thee.

For rest and shelter of the night,

Father we thank Thee.

For health, and food, for love and friends,

For everything Thy goodness sends,

Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

November Birthdays

8 Noah Lucas

9 Katie Vaccarino

10 James P. Buchanan

12 Antonia Pursell

13 Karen Armano

13 Tom Crews

14 Bob Pierman

18 Patrick Durborow

18 Madison Hartpence

20 Danielle Fisher

25 Heather McIntyre

26 Natalie Hoffman

27 Joan Yannarella

30 Karen Thatcher

20 Debra Wiley-Geis

30 Ella Dudick



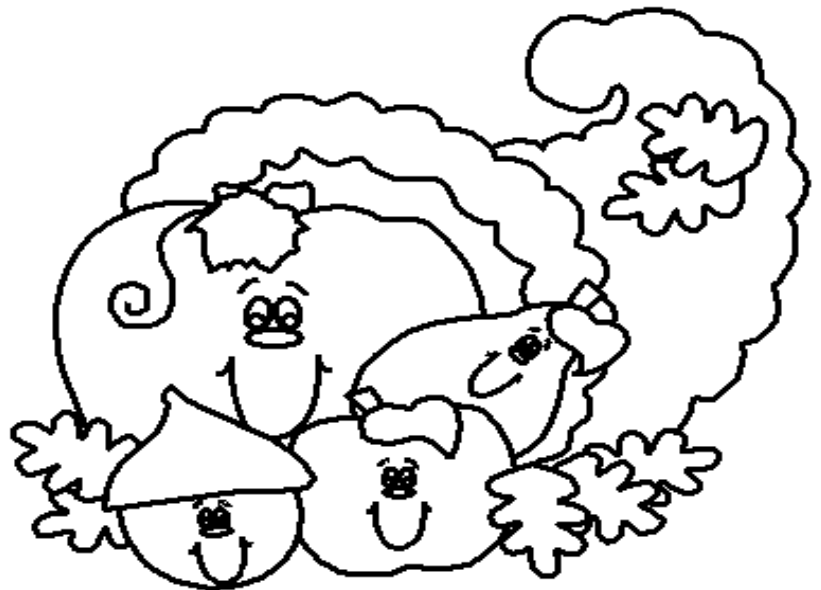
Just for Kids.....

Thanksgiving Word Search

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

cook
 corn
 dinner
 fall
 family
 feast
 food
 gravy
 harvest

maize
 pilgrims
 pumpkin
 relatives
 settlers
 squash
 stuffing
 thanks
 turkey



November Assisting Schedule:

Elder Schedule

November 1- **Communion**/Pat Durborow

November 8- Carol Griffiths

November 15- Rich Hopkins

November 22- Heather McIntyre

November 29- Don Pidcock

Deacon Schedule

November 1- **Communion**/*Gail Armitage (Stair Glide), Terry Peck

November 8- Heather Pursell

November 15- Phil McCloughan

November 22- Gail Armitage

November 29- Terry Peck

**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 Online Zoom Meeting

September 21, 2020 Session Business Meeting 7:00 PM

Class of 2021

Joanne DiBlasi
 Mark Dudick

Class of 2022

Pat Durborow
 Carol Griffiths
 Heather McIntyre
 Don Pidcock
 Russ Topping

Class of 2023

Rich Hopkins

Rev. Dan Dorrow, Moderator

Susan McCloughan, Clerk of Session

Present: Joanne DiBlasi, Pat Durborow, Carol Griffiths, Rich Hopkins, Heather McIntyre,
 Don Pidcock, Russ Topping and Rev. Dan Dorrow

Excused: Mark Dudick

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

Devotion- Russ Topping

Russ read excerpts and discusses Max Lucado's book *He Still Moves Stones*, which included Jesus and the Man at the Well. As well as; Jonah in the belly of the Whale, Daniel in the Lion's Den. Barabbas the thief was talked about how he was going to die, but someone took his place, and that someone was Jesus. The time to cry never comes. Jesus tells us to stand and not to worry, to take up his word and that he is with us.

Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box- Susan McCloughan

Review of Minutes: Session reviewed the minutes from the July 20, 2020 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. A **motion** was brought to approve the Called Session Business Meeting and Communion Dates for 2021. All were in favor. The approved schedule will be listed as "**Addendum A**" and will be filed in the Book of Minutes.

Sue discussed a price quote with Session, to get a newer "used" copy machine from Prior-Nami. A **motion** was brought forth to buy the copier and retain the maintenance contract with Prior-Nami. All were in favor. Sue will contact Prior-Nami to get the newer copy machine and roll over our current maintenance contract. The older copy machine will be returned to Prior-Nami. Session also discussed SDG and the ongoing problems with the alarm system. It keeps going off and it hasn't been fixed properly. Heather McIntyre will follow up with SDG regarding this issue.

Extended Communion Training- Pastor Dorrow will look over the information that he received. Pastor will send the information out to Session before the next business meeting to be looked over, and to be discussed then.

Calendar Highlights from October-December 2020:

Communion did restart on August 30, 2020, and it was done during in person worship. The Deacons will be hosting a clothing drive during the month of October to benefit the Rescue Mission of Trenton. The scheduled pick-up for the clothing drive is Sunday October 18th. The Boy Scouts are slotted in the 7:00 pm time on Monday evenings. They will most likely be meeting in our gym again soon. The gates of the church will be locked from Friday October 30th until Sunday November 1st. Phil McCloughan would like to do a special presentation the Sunday before Veteran's Day. He will need to contact Pastor Dan to discuss. The trip to Sight and Sound is on Saturday November 14, 2020 to see Queen Esther. As of now, the trip is still on. The Lambertville Basketball League is going to start on Saturday December 5, 2020 and will be running until March 2021. Jim Troutman is still our point of contact. Plans for the season and Christmas Eve are being discussed. More information to come soon.

Worship and Music-Joanne DiBlasi

Joanne will be restarting to send out a weekly email to all for bible study. She talked to the ladies of the church, and they are looking to have their bible study on Wednesday afternoons at 3:00 pm, here at our church. The date when to start is being determined. There is no Sunday School or Care & Share until further notice. Rich and Becky will be away on Sunday October 11th. Sue will call Emily Atzert to see if she will be able to substitute.

Operation Christmas Child- We will be collecting for Operation Christmas Child this year. The boxes and pamphlets have been ordered. and will be given out to the congregation when they are received.

Building and Grounds- Pat Durborow/Heather McIntyre/Don Pidcock

Don spoke about the church bell tower and made our songs in the tower from two to one. Also, he will be giving a Moment for Mission on Sunday September 27th. He will be speaking about one of he and Desre's ministries-"Blessing of Hope."

Church Kitchen- Pat Durborow is in the process of getting information on updating the church kitchen. The Iron Fence, this will be fixed/painted before the frost sets in. the Pidcock Family Stone was not discussed. The Plaque for Dr. Henry, Don Pidcock will take a walk through the Gym to see where the plaque may be placed. Security for Westminster House, front door, Pat has the buzzer security system for the front door and it will be installed soon.

Pat Durborow yielded her time to Heather McIntyre so that she could discuss the **façade/dental work** of the church's roof, as well as the chimney. Gutters also need to be cleaned. The chimney has to be removed and that the dental work will be taken care of by Nate McIntyre. It was determined that the church roof is 29 years old and will need to be replaced. This is a large job, and Heather will look into the price of a new roof. Heather also discussed our furnace system and that we are getting estimates from local companies to obtain a maintenance contract.

Budget and Finance-Rich Hopkins/Heather McIntyre

Our Year to Date Summary is that we are down \$11,192.17 as of September 21, 2020 This was reviewed by Heather to the Session. Heather is looking into getting our investment checks sent from Morgan Stanley to our our account electronically to pay bills, so no more paper checks will have to be deposited.

Sunday School/Junior Deacons- Carol Griffiths

Sunday School- Pastor Dan asked if Carol and Mark Dudick could either call or email the parents of our Sunday School children how they are doing, since there is no Sunday School. Maybe possibly to have a Children's Sermon Time during the worship service. Carol will also get in touch with Danielle Griffiths regarding the youth in our church. Joanne DiBlasi would like to encourage our youth during this time of the pandemic.

Junior Deacons- Carol spoke about the Junior Deacons and a list was given to Pastor Dan. At this time the Junior Deacons are on hold.

Moderator Time-Rev. Dan Dorrow

Pastor Dan asked if we could start our Sunday Service with a worship and sing at 10:20 am. To call it "Prelude Worship." This would be put in the bulletin to let the congregation know what to expect. He also asked if an Elder can be put in charge, so that we can meditate in the Sanctuary, and have conversations when everyone first comes into the church or first floor. Pastor asked if he could have plexiglass put in front of the pulpit, so a mask wouldn't be necessary. This is in relation to Covid-19 safety issues. He would pray about this.

There is going to be a Prayer March in Washington, D.C. on September 26, 2020. We are looking to have a service at our church to coincide with the march, to be outside in the Westminster Garden, where safety precautions will take place. It was discussed that Karen Thatcher will be picking the hymns for the service on September 26th. Pastor would also like to continue to greet outside after the worship service. Feedback from Session is always welcome.

Around the Room

Session Members discussed and shared praises and concerns.

Notations

Holy Communion- Was held on Sunday September 13, 2020.

Videotaping our worship service- Pat Durborow asked if we could videotape our service, and possibly to put on Social Media. This could be another way of reaching out to our community. All were asked to pray about this.

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.

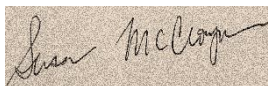
Prayer Meetings- Will continue the first Monday of each month with members sharing His Word through readings, thoughts, scripture and prayer. If weather is an issue or for personal reasons keep session members from attending, the session resolved to pray wherever they are during the 7 o'clock hour.

Session Devotion Rotation-For the October Meeting is: Joanne DiBlasi, followed by Mark Dudick, Pat Durborow and Carol Griffiths

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan McCloughan
Clerk of Session