

### 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,

On Sunday mornings, we've been learning about discipleship from Luke's account of Jesus's road trip from Galilee to Jerusalem with his original followers. As a congregation, we, too, are a group of Jesus's followers, so I'd like to hold up two things we've recently heard him say to us about fellowship.

First, Jesus calls us to spend unhurried time siting at his feet, like Mary did at a dinner party in her home (10:38-42). When we are in fellowship with Jesus like this, we're receiving his love and giving him our love, listening to Jesus our master, worshiping him as Lord, and trustingly receiving his guidance.

Second, as we are filled with his love, Jesus sends all of us out on mission together, to bring God's kingdom to those who don't yet know his love. And Jesus tells us to do this in the context of fellowship, really getting to know our neighbors, not just talking at them (10:1-20).

Are we ready to be disciples like this – spending time in relationship, first with our Lord and then with our neighbors – with an outward focus, not just looking after ourselves? Or, are we content to be like those first century onlookers – taking great interest in Jesus, and glad when he meets our needs, but not willing to leave all behind to follow him?

The choice is ours, dear church family. Let's be his disciples together!

Come, Holy Spirit: give us ears and hearts to hear Jesus, and strengthen our wills to trust and obey our risen Lord.

In the love of Jesus, Pastor Dan



# "From the Office"

Hi Everyone!

Sincerely,

Sue

I hope you all had a great summer. My family and I went on a lot of adventures, and had fun! We start our new church year on Sunday September 11th, and resume the 10:20 am Prelude and 10:30 am Worship. The Bell Choir will resume in November, so if anyone would like to ring with us, please let me know. Reading of music isn't required, we work, but have fun too :-) Thank you and have a blessed day! "Grace be with you all." *Hebrews* 13:25



# **Church News:**

We will be having Care & Share after church on Sunday September 4th. Music Ministry will be hosting. If you are interested in hosting a future Care & Share, please reach out to Karen Thatcher.

Please see the upcoming bulletins and calendars for our Accompanists.

Dan is away the week of September 12th. Russ Topping will be giving the sermon on Sunday September 18th.

The Ladies' Bible Study will be on Wednesdays in September, at 3:00 pm.

The Riverside Symphonia will be using our Sanctuary on Friday September 30th and October 1st. They will be holding an ensemble concert on October 1st at 8:00 pm. More information to follow soon.

There will be a Hymn Sing at Mt. Airy Presbyterian on Sunday September 25th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome, and refreshments to follow.

### Come One, Come All!

We are seeking ideas for Friday Nights. Put on your thinking caps. Adults, kids, and parents, your thoughts are very important!! We will be having a meeting soon regarding the new look of Friday Night Hang. What do you think? Some sort of refreshments will be supplied, yum!

We do need volunteers, but right now we need ideas and prayers. Let's get together and get 'er done!! Please contact Pat Durborow, at 609-651-7388, for more details!

God be Glorified!!



# 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, Konni Sandford, Russ Topping and Donna Zambella

### **Greetings From Your Church Deacons!**

Our verse this month is *Ecclesiastes 4:2-7*.

You choose which one fits your situation at this particular time in your life. We trust that is a good place as your look forward to the new season in peace and with anticipation of what God has in store for you and your family. No matter what His plans are, you can be certain that is will always be in you best interest because He loves us.

We continue to keep all of you in our prayers and hope to see you in the near future.

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

### The Centenary United Methodist Church Community Kitchen is Back!

You can pick-up a free bagged lunch each Wednesday from 11:30 am-1:00 pm at

108 N. Union St., Lambertville. Each lunch includes~ 2 sandwiches, assorted salads, fruit, drink

and dessert. If you have any questions, please call: 609-397-2468 or email Centenary Methodist at: cumclambertville@gmail.com



# New Church Year

As we approach the new fall church year and its activities, what changes are we as individuals (or as a church family) going to focus on? Or, is it going to be..."Same OL" "Same OL?"

You and I both know that "Same OL," "Same OL," is not what God expects from any of His followers.

Scripture encourages us to live life expecting God to do great things through us and for us; as individuals, as a country, and as a congregation.

It shouldn't matter how young or old we may be. The Holy Spirit desires to work through us until we breathe our last breath and step into eternity.

First Pres. has been here for over 200 years, let's all work together to continue the faithful legacy of those who came before us.

Share your thoughts and ideas so we can plan accordingly.

\*Here are some areas to prayerfully consider being a part of:

- Sunday morning Sunday School for adults and children.
- Music and worship teams.
- Wednesday afternoon Women's Bible Study.
- Men's Bible Study
- Thursday evening Handbells
- Praise Band
- Friday evening Roller Skating
- Friday Night Teen Hang

God has given all of us gifts and talents—let's use them to glorify Him and share the good news of the gospel.

Blessings, Joanne DiBlasi

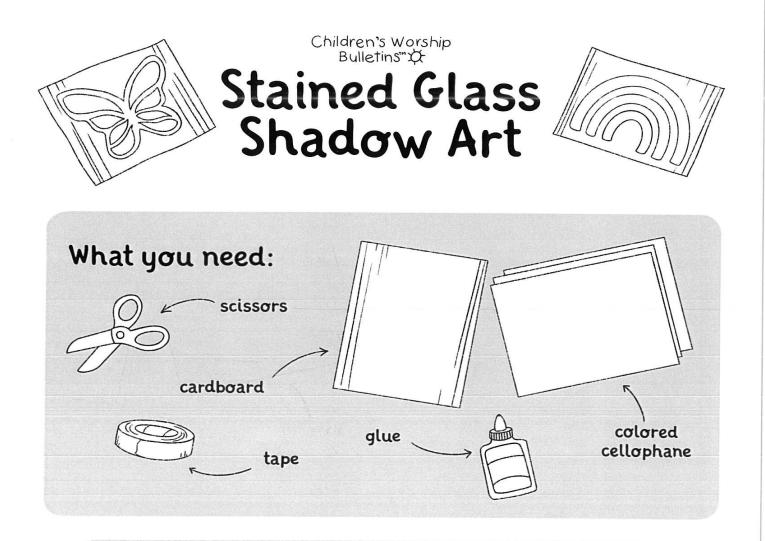


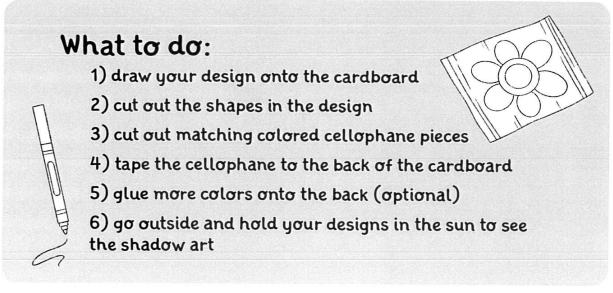
September Birthdays 2 Grace Reading 8 Kara Jo Pachnieski 15 Chris Garrenger 17 Allison Joy Zambella 21 Chris Vaccarino 21 Jack Allshouse 22 Tucker Griffiths



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Just for Kids...





# **September Assisting Schedule:**

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## **Elder Schedule**

Sept. 4- **Communion**/Joanne DiBlasi Sept. 11- Don Pidcock Sept. 18– Karen Thatcher

Sept. 25–Russ Topping

# **Deacon Schedule**

Sept. 4- Communion/\*Phil McCloughan, (Stair Glide), Danielle Griffiths Sept. 11– Gail Armitage Sept. 18– Jen Chernoski Sept. 25– LaNelle Gallagher

# **Greeting Schedule**

Sept. 4– Sue McCloughan Sept. 11– TBD Sept. 18– TBD Sept. 25– TBD

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

Schedules are subject to change

## Castles Made of Sand

I watched a young boy playing on the beach dreaming dreams so grand, he worked deliberately, silently molding the wet brown sand. He piled, packed patted and smoothed and a castle soon took shape. He built turrets, put in windows and a moat he did scrape. He raised it's walls, they were fine, smooth and straight, and as a final, he even added on a gate. Just then a wave rushed in and when it had withdrawn, the castle on which he had worked so lovingly was gone. I wonder, when the Master builder comes and tests the works of our hands, will they stand or be like castles made of sand?

# Submitted by Russ Topping



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### Session Minutes First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville Westminster House

#### May 16, 2022 Session Business Meeting 6:30 PM

Class of 2023Class of 2024Class of 2025Don PidcockKaren ThatcherJoanne DiBlasiRuss ToppingHeather McIntyre

Rev. Dan Dorrow, Moderator

Susan McCloughan, Clerk of Session

Present: Joanne DiBlasi, Heather McIntyre, Don Pidcock, Karen Thatcher, Russ Topping, and Rev. Dan Dorrow

Excused: None

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

Devotion - Russ Topping

Russ talked about the first paragraph of *Genesis 1*, and how in the beginning, that God gave us life, in the physical sense and new life in Jesus Christ. He also spoke of *Hebrews 4:16* "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Do we know the power of God's word? Contemplate at least once a week, how God changes our lives, so we can see the changes a bit more. We should make sure we spend time with the Bible.

<u>Around the Room -</u> The Elders, Dan and myself went around the room and shared our concerns. The highlights were: Joanne spoke about the Women's Retreat that took place, and what a blessing it was. Sunday School was discussed by Joanne and Don during this time. Don talked about that we will be looking forward to Sunday School in the fall, and to either write letters or call the parents of our children from the Church Directory, to see who would like to become more involved with Sunday School. It was mentioned that we may need more Sunday School teachers. Joanne mentioned the Junior Deacons, and she will reach out to the parents in the upcoming months regarding the youths to see if we can get the Jr. Deacon program up and running. Russ talked about getting the Men's Tuesday mornings breakfast started again at Sneddon's, and to pray for that over the summer. After, Dan closed this section with prayer.

### Moderator Time - Rev. Dan Dorrow

Dan would like 4 Elders to serve communion on **Communion Sundays**, and that we should aim for that each month. He asked 1 person to coordinate who is serving. Joanne would take this on.

**Shad Fest Incident-** We are very aware of how our church presents itself to the community. There were a young group of female teenagers in front of our church. A sensitive subject was spoken about by a religious person in the area of our church, to one of the girls of the group, but they were not a member of our church, these religious people were giving out sensitive literature as well. The parent of the child that was talked to from this group, called Dan and he spoke with her. Dan was able to give the parent reassurance that the sensitive message that was given did not come from a member of our church. There was some confusion about what adult spoke with the female teenager. Joanne mentions that "God doesn't cause confusion."

**Long Term Vision -** Dan said that we should not maintain the "Status Quo," and that we should reach out to our community to invite more people to join us. The first step in this is discipling our current members to strengthen everyone's relationship with Christ, and then all of us will be more naturally reaching out to others. Some examples are: Women's fellowship, men meet for prayer and sharing, and also our youth.

**Elder Care Call List** - Dan asked for feedback from Session, and what the members found out from the phone calls that were made. Dan went through the list and talked about "shepherding" for the men and youth of the congregation, to get them more involved. Some examples of more involvement were given: Karen mentioned the Father's Day picnic after church, and the July 3<sup>rd</sup> joint service. Don talked about a movie night or bowling for our youth. Dan talked about getting the youth or adults that want to be in a group. This will be discussed more at the June business meeting.

#### Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box - Susan McCloughan

**Review of Minutes**: A **motion** was called to approve the minutes from April 18, 2022. All were in favor. The 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-** The Almira Holcombe College Scholarship application was received from Donald Gallagher. A **motion** was called to approve the scholarship for Donald. All were in favor. Don Pidcock will speak with Donald Gallagher to have him come to a worship service to accept the scholarship and to speak to the congregation about his aspirations. An email was received at the church office regarding the Hodgson/Brazzi wedding on July 16<sup>th</sup>. A deposit was also received by mail. Sue will reach out to the bride to see who the officiating pastor will be for 7/16 and get back to Session.

### Calendar Highlights from June-August 2022:

Communion Sundays are on 6/5, 7/3 and 8/7. The last Sunday for Sunday School and the 10:30 service is June 5<sup>th</sup>. Starting on June 12<sup>th</sup>, our Prelude will start at 9:20 and Worship is at 9:30 am, and will continue until September. Sunday School will resume in the fall. The joint service will be held at the Holcombe-Jimison Farm, at 10:00 am, on 7/3. All are encouraged to bring their own lunch with some extra to share. Pat Masterson is our Accompanist for the joint service. Father's Day is June 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be having the "Opening of the Grill" after the worship service, and Father's Day gifts will be given out to the men of the congregation. Dan will be away the week of June 20<sup>th</sup>. Russ Topping will be giving the sermon on Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>. Joanne will let Sue know in the office when Bible Study will be taking place on Wednesdays over the summer.

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#### Worship and Music/Church Life - Joanne DiBlasi/Karen Thatcher

Children's Time- Joanne spoke that the Children's Time is continuing.

**Sight & Sound-** Is now paid for, and Karen is collecting the money for the tickets from the congregation. Through the hot dog sales from Shad Fest over \$1000.00 was raised, and \$500.00 was given back to the Deacons, since they had given some start-up money. The bus rental is being worked on, but hasn't been paid for as of yet.

**Insurance Review-**Representatives from the Duryea Agency were not at tonight's meeting, but they will be here at the June Business Meeting to discuss our insurance matters as well as the Child Protection Policy.

**Boy Scouts**-Heather and Karen talked about the claims that have been filed. Our church is in the process of finding out what our insurance was in 1976, and how any claims that should come up be handled. Heather had spoken to Jean Radek from our Presbytery who directed her to get in contact with Ellen O'Connell, who is the legal expert in handling these cases. More information to follow.

Accompanist/Pianist- We are continuing to look for a Part-Time Accompanist/Music Director. Karen spoke that we have a person of interest possibly coming to our church service on 6/12 to see what our church is about, and to possibly to play on Father's Day.

#### Building and Grounds - Don Pidcock

The Organ was discussed, and Sue will contact Steve Emery to get prices of what needs to be done. More follow-up to come at the next meeting.

#### Budget and Finance - Heather McIntyre

Heather went over the Year-to-Date Summary from 1/1- 5/16/22 and we are over \$2569.00 in our plate offering. The Zoom information was also given. She spoke with Tim Stevens from Morgan Stanley are keeping our investments safe. Tim mentioned that there may be a Recession coming in the next year. Tim is aware of the situation and reaches out to Heather on a regular basis.

The Lowell Hunter Estate, there is no update at this time. This is in the same place as it was at the April meeting.

Regarding the Boy Scouts and insurance, Heather spoke about that during Worship/Music/Church Life time.

#### Sunday School/Junior Deacons - Joanne DiBlasi

This section was done during the Around the Room time.

#### Missions - Russ Topping

Russ let Session know that The Missions Team meets four times a year, and that he will keep Session and the congregation updated as needed.

### Notations

Holy Communion- Was held on Sunday May 1, 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 be held on Mondays during the summer on July 11 and August 1. These meetings will be to prepare for September. Members will be 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 June Meeting is: Joanne DiBlasi and the September meeting is Heather McIntyre.

#### **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Sun Mclion

Susan McCloughan Clerk of Session