



Shining the light of the gospel into the heart of Lewistown since 1785

## THE PANORAMA

The Newsletter of  
The Lewistown  
Presbyterian  
Church

October 2017

**JOIN US AS WE  
EXPLORE  
MAKER FEST!**

**Saturday,  
October 7,  
8:45—11:45 AM**



During this fun, interactive fall festival, kids will explore their abilities in exciting ways that lead to the discovery that God created each of them as a masterpiece!

Bring the whole family and enjoy a morning of faith-building fun together. It's all free!

At Makerfest, we will tap into the creativity of God's image in us and invent, design and construct all kinds of creations, from toys to our own snack! All along the way, we will learn more of what it means to be God's workmanship. Invite a friend and join the fun on Saturday, October 7, 8:45—11:45 AM!

Lewistown Presbyterian Church  
17 E Third Street, Lewistown  
Please RSVP by October 4 to 717-248-4561

From Pastor James Thomas

[illegible]

Scripture is consistent in its condemnation of these practices.

<sup>1</sup> Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have

Other non-religious spiritual seekers look for forces outside of themselves with which they seek to build connection, but choose not to seek God or trust God's revelation. Some of them are guided by the idea that "Spirituality is not a belief system or ideology; it is the surrender of one's ego to the infinite wisdom and knowledge that is the universe." They seek guidance from what God has created rather than from the Creator. God calls this idolatry. Others use practices like palm reading, tarot cards, horoscopes, séances, charms, spells, and the like to gain other-worldly wisdom. Scripture warns that these practices open us to the influence of demonic spirits in who are in rebellion against God.

Second Corinthians 11:14 warns that "Satan masquerades as an angel of light." 1 Peter 5:8 tells us to "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." In Ephesians 6, we are reminded that, "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

As we work to grow spiritually, it is vital that we do so with proper understandings and practices. Jesus said "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit *and in truth*" (John 4:24). True spirituality is connection with God, not with self or "the universe" or any other created thing. True spirituality trusts that this connection with our Creator is only found through the unique mediator between God and humanity, Jesus Christ. True spirituality believes God's wisdom and measures all truth claims against what God has revealed. True spirituality acknowledges that there is an enemy of our souls and rejects that enemy's influence. True spirituality is joyfully anchored in the love of God, mediated by Jesus Christ and experienced through the Holy Spirit.

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# KEEPERS

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Rev. Robert Zorn

One day this week, I decided to mow our grass for the last time this season (I hope). I began with the small powered push mower to remove the small areas around our garden which this year produced sweat, blisters, an aching back, and little else. While mowing the strip between the garden and the strawberry bed, I encountered thick crabgrass and not a few weeds. In the middle of this mess, I found a daisy with two blossoms. Rather than mow them down, I carefully let them stand to blossom as long as the weather would allow. The weeds and the crabgrass could go, but the daisies were "keepers".

Coincidental with the writing of this article, there came a communication over the internet which seemed applicable to the thoughts I had concerning our late blooming flowers. It was sent to us by Mr. Bob Keller, a lifelong friend of Carol's.

"Some things you keep. Like good teeth, warm coats, and bald husbands. They're good for you, reliable and practical and so sublime that to throw them away would make the garbage man a thief. So you hang on, because something old is sometimes better than something new, and

who you know is often better than a stranger. So, while you have it, it's best to love it and care for it and fix it when it's broken and heal it when it's sick. That's true for marriage and old cars and children with bad report cards and dogs with bad hips and aging parents. You keep them because they're worth it, because you're worth it.

Some things you keep...like a friend that moved away or a classmate you grew up with...there are some things that make life important...people you know are special...and you keep them close!"

Look around your family, your church, your community, and your world. Find your "keepers" and enjoy them!

"Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things."

Fyodor Dostoyevsky

*"This article has been printed in a previous issue of the Panorama, but its message is still timely and appropriate." RLZ*





# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMUNIQUE

From CE Director, Ginny Westover

They say, "third time's a charm". (whoever "they" is) This is time number two. Time number one ended badly in a lame thesis that took half a bag of sourdough pretzel nuggets and countless chocolate chips to poorly develop. After several incidents of nodding off and waking to find half a page looking like this: CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC or this: tttttttttttttttttttt, I crumbled my pages (so to speak) and pulled up a blank screen to start over. I am acutely aware that a third time is just not possible, charming or not. So, time number two has no choice. It must work. This article must go to print. *#waypastdeadline; #outofoptions; #stressingourgracioussecretary.*

It's not that I mind writing. Most of the time I enjoy it. I'm even fairly confident that I can compose an understandable piece of prose. I look forward to typing up the Preschool Page each month. All I need to do is look at the school's monthly calendar, recap the most important events and illustrate them with an anecdote or two. Nothing profound. Pretty fun and easy. Not so, this page. This page is different. I could approach the Christian Ed. page the same way I do the Preschool page and sum up what's happening in classes and small groups each month, but for some reason, I feel the need to communicate something of at least potential spiritual challenge and encouragement here. So, soon after celebrating a completed newsletter, I begin thinking, praying, and looking for the next edition's fodder. Usually by the time the Panorama deadline arrives I have something to offer. Not this time. The night before the deadline this month I picked up my journal and wrote, "Lord, I got nothin'. Please help."

On my way into work on D-day the radio announcer quoted a famous someone who said, "If you want to change the culture, start by

loving your family." That sounded like a possible starting point for an article so I made an attempt to run with it. You already know how that ended. A good part of the reason it crashed and burned was because the more I tried to write, the more I realized I didn't agree with the statement in the first place. Don't misunderstand, I would love to see many things about our culture change. I love my family. But I don't believe that I am to use my energies as a follower of Jesus to try to change the culture. Nor do I believe loving my family is the means to that end. I don't see Jesus teaching that message anywhere in the gospels.



In fact, Jesus' view on the family seems rather alarming. He elevates children as an example of how to receive the kingdom of God, teaching that unless we become like children we cannot even gain entrance to His kingdom. But when it comes to the family, Jesus does not seem to share the same admiration. I've often wished I could hear Jesus' tone of voice and see his face when he spoke words that seem harsh and less than family friendly. "If

anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children...such a person cannot be my disciple." Bible scholars tell us that this is a comparative statement and can be translated, "if anyone comes to me and does not hate (by comparison) father, etc." Even with that little bit of "whew, that's better", the message of Jesus is clear and hard: allegiance to Jesus comes first, before anything else.

I appreciated reading Charles Moore's words: "...Jesus dethroned the biological family. While he never denied the family's worth as a creation of God, he made clear that its importance is not absolute; it is not the primary means by which God's grace is transmitted to this broken world." (Plough Quarterly magazine)

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMUNIQUE—*Continued*

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The good news of Jesus invites us into a new and different structure, expanding the idea of family beyond our social borders to include everyone, regardless of race, gender or status. Jesus' life, death, and resurrection established a new family of God, made up of those who follow him with the entirety of their lives.

It is no secret that families all around us are broken. My own lays in messy pieces. As the Christian Ed committee met together to plan the upcoming Makerfest, our thoughts often turned to our interactions this summer with Traveling Day Camp kids and the brief glimpses we gained into their family life. The majority of these children returned each afternoon to families whose reality

is volatile at best and violent on a bad day. Countless problems seek to undermine any stability, from dysfunction to divorce and poverty to pornography. Most families have bought in to our culture's obsession with stuff, self, and the idea that we can make God in our image without any fall-out. Our hearts are broken for our neighbors and afraid for the future of these kids. Worse, and with cause for more fear, is that many of these mindsets have crept into the church.

Changing our culture might help clean up the wound, but it will not purge the infection. Loving our families is necessary and good. But unless our first love is Jesus and his kingdom, we will continue to pursue dreams, causes, and activities that are empty of lasting life.

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## LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN'S ADOPT-A-PLANTER

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*This excerpt is taken from a letter we received from the Borough of Lewistown in regards to the planters Lewistown Presbyterian Church adopted this summer. **We would like to thank Lynn Curry and Carole Auken** for the planting and care of our planters! They always looked beautiful!!*

*From Scott Welham, Lewistown Borough Manager/Secretary:* Dear Lynn & Carole, I wanted to personally thank you for participating in Lewistown's Adopt-A-Planter program this past summer. The power of a collective group effort is amazing! I have enjoyed the opportunity to view the planters on a daily basis. And the TRUE winner of this program has been the residents, businesses and guests that have visited the Downtown area and taken in the floral presentations.

Please realize that you were a participant in something that truly changed how people perceive the town. I can't tell you how many individuals that have taken the time to tell me how much pride they have in Lewistown because of the beauty of all the planters.

We feel that this initial season has been an outstanding success and hope that you will join us again next. Again, thank you from the Borough of Lewistown!



*Our planter in front of CVS Pharmacy, on the corner of Brown and Market Streets*



# PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

**"Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it." Song of Solomon 8:7**



In a letter from Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus, Director of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance she writes

"I was recently in south Texas with churches and members of Mission and New Covenant presbyteries, learning firsthand the impact and needs following Hurricane Harvey and have begun that same journey with those in the path of Irma in the islands, Florida, and the southeast. As one pastor in South Texas put it, "We are the body of Christ. But in times like these, we need more hands and feet and less mouths." That felt like a word of the Lord to me.

She continues "Many of you are aware that PDA responds through presbyteries and provides both

early emergency support and long-term sources, spiritual care, and rebuilding support. Everywhere I travel, Presbyterians and neighbors of other faiths tell me 'Thank God for the Presbyterian Church, for the blue shirts! We know you will be with us long after others have left, until our streets and our lives restored.'"

**As of 9/28/17 our congregation collected \$910.00 for the efforts of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and will be sending it on to PDA. Thank you for all of your contribution, any additional money received will be passed on as it is received.**



## GIVE

SHARE YOUR FINANCIAL BLESSINGS TO HELP DISASTER SURVIVORS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.



## ACT

GET INVOLVED WITH DISASTER RECOVERY MINISTRY.



## PRAY

OUR BEST RESPONSE IS PRAYER. SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE ON BEHALF OF DISASTER SURVIVORS.



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# PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

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From Ginny Westover, Assistant Teacher

When Mrs. Powell chose "color" as our September theme, I'm quite sure she had all the hues of the rainbow in mind. Sitting at my computer trying to sum up the first month of nursery school and preschool, I can't help but smile, then, as I'm realizing just how apt a description "colorful" is for the first four weeks of school. Think beyond the visible spectrum to classroom atmosphere, conversation and kid characteristics, and you'll understand what I am trying to say.

There was, of course, the very literal colorful array of green and purple, brown and red and yellow and blue displayed by our clothing on the colors' designated day. It was great fun to see each other's wardrobe choices and guess which color won. A line-up of each day's colors proved our guesses right or wrong. We practiced comparing, forming pairs, drawing conclusions and counting; a lot of counting.

Our projects were colorful, too. Golden yellow suns, red and brown popsicles and a loong paper train showcased all shades of the rainbow. Circle time found Brown Bear and his friends (acted out by the children) spying a variety of colors. Beautiful Rainbow Fish learned that sharing is fun and we finally found yellow zebra! (ask your child where he was hiding)

Chapel time began this month, adding new color to our students' learning. Pastor Jim read the Bible stories of creation and Noah. We sang, "My God is So Big" and the creation song, "Everything God made was good." Color all around, from itty bitsy spiders to towering giraffes and the rainbow God put in the sky. We decided that the world would be dull and boring if God had made everything the same color, people included. Not just our skin tones, but our eye and hair color and our personalities; especially our personalities. We learned we are God's masterpieces and He delights in us. There is a special place in God's heart for children. Jesus showed us this when He scolded the disciples for trying to stop children from coming to Him and said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the kingdom of heaven belongs to those who are like these children" (Mt.19:14). Eager, chattering, trusting children, unafraid to ask whatever question pops into their mind. Like one curious inquiry during chapel time. The question was, "Why can't we see God?" While we adults scrambled to come up with a deep, but understandable reply, a classmate answered matter

of factly, "God is wearing camouflage." I think Jesus smiled.

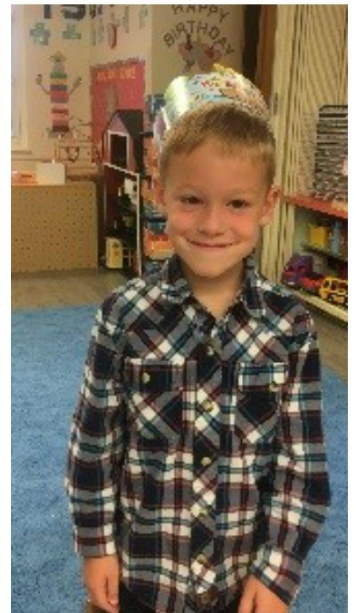
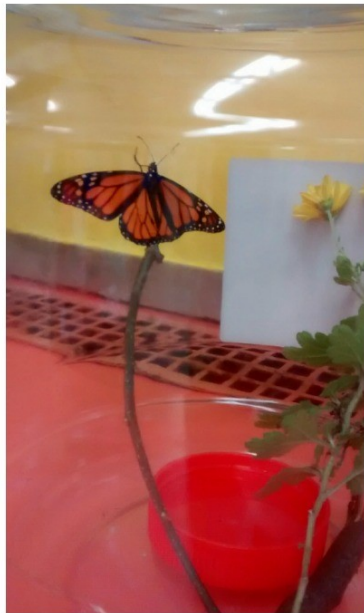
We are just beginning to learn the unique beauty of each student's make up. First glimpses never reveal every facet of who a child is. We've seen lots of growth and changes during these early days of school. Tearful, shy children who began their first day needing to be gently pried from Mom's leg are now bouncing into the classroom with smiles and many stories to tell. Some are still quiet and reserved, but their eyes are bright and inquisitive. Other children act with a confident exuberance that exceeds their years. We love to watch them organizing group games like "stalking dinosaurs" or building block "bridge" projects. One morning in preschool a group of four or five children embarked on an expedition. There was much chatter and excitement as babies were bundled and placed in strollers (and shopping carts) and essential items collected (never leave home without a hard hat or stethoscope). When the last plastic apple was stuffed into a backpack and the pet carrier zipped with care to avoid catching the kitty's tail, the cavalcade set off. Those in charge (the ones with hardhats and stethoscopes) guided the group across hot lava by way of cardboard block stepping stones. The children were completely absorbed! Equally engaged as an observer was a quieter, more contemplative child in a bean bag chair, watching everything intently through binoculars. Was he a spy? Scout? Guardian angel? Newspaper reporter? The answer is as broad as a child's imagination and inquiring mind.

There was no end to the questions and comments prompted by all of the colorful visitors that came to the classroom this month. Theresa and Megan Snyder from *At the Barnyard* brought pumpkins and gourds of different colors, shapes and sizes for us to see and hold and learn about. Each child received a free pass to The Barnyard and Corn maze, too! Thank you, Snyders!

Most recently, our classes have been fascinated by the life cycle of a Monarch butterfly. From the striking green and black caterpillar, to shimmering chrysalis, and at last, the beautiful orange and black butterfly that hatched sometime on Sunday, we have been in awe of God's artistry. We are so glad He's filled our classroom with color: samples of His colorful creation to observe, colorful projects to make, and especially friends who color our world with smiles and fun!



# PRESCHOOL PICTURES





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## MANY THANKS

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**Thanks** from the youth! We are so excited about the new look of our youth room. Thanks so much to Carole Auker and her paint crew and Pat Brown our seamstress for creating such a welcoming space that we can call our own. We were grateful to be able serve our church family and neighbors at September's Community Luncheon.



September Community Luncheon

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## SESSION NOTES

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From Susan Ferguson: Clerk of Session

Your session met on September 14, 2017 and:

- Focused on John 16:1-11, 25-33
- Prayed for requests presented
- Approved collecting funds for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Hurricane relief
- Approved the request from Barbara Nielsen for use of the Baraca room and parlor for Art Classes (Wednesdays 10/4—11/8/17)
- Received thank you notes from Joy Seekers ministries for use of the Baraca room for its Bible study and Habitat for Humanity for our donations
- Scheduled a Session Retreat at Camp Krislund for 2/2 & 2/3/18 and use of Session Funds to pay for the expenses.
- Property Committee is seeking alternatives and estimates for a long term solution for lighting in the sanctuary and of the steeple
- The Fellowship Committee will be providing Lemonade on the lawn on 9/17/17
- Mission & Evangelism will participate in Safe Trick or Treat night on 10/27/17 in downtown Lewistown and is looking at possible ways to support missions in Guatemala
- Agreed to support Backyard Ministries by providing hats & gloves, pumpkin pies for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner bags in December
- Approved again hosting Krislund Traveling Day Camp 7/16—7/20/18
- Approved Communion dates in 2018 (1/7, 2/4, 3/4, 3/29, 4/1, 5/6, 6/3, 7/1, 8/5, 9/2, 10/7, 11/4, 12/2 and 12/24) also, 1/6/19
- Noted enrollment in the schools include 23 in Nursery School and 32 in Preschool
- Approved use of the Baraca room for the annual Penpal Party on 11/4/17
- Partial scholarships totaling \$2,260 were granted for the Nursery School/Preschool school year.
- The Nominating Committee will meet on 9/17 to begin its work
- Dates and building use requests for the Community Christmas Project were approved

## SAVE THESE DATES!

The Christian Education Committee has planned a number of very special events to guide children in their walk with God—and fulfill the promises we make at their baptisms, to “guide and nurture them word and deed, and with love and prayer encourage them to know and follow Christ and to participate in the life and ministry of Christ’s church. These events are for the whole family!

We encourage all parents and grandparents and, of course, friends, to put the faith of our children on the top of our list of priorities! The Autumn event is on Saturday, October 7 from 8:45 - 11:45 AM. There are other events for Christmas, Easter and summer. We encourage you to make a commitment to attend all three and invite friends’ families, too!

# Save these **2017-2018** dates for some **FaMiLy FaiTH FuN**



8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**Saturday, October 7**

FYI: Concludes in time to catch Penn State @ Northwestern kickoff.



9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

**Saturday, December 2**

FYI: Christmas parade follows at 1 p.m.



8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**Saturday, March 31**

FYI: Includes our annual Easter egg hunt.



Krislund Traveling Day Camp 2018 dates:

**Monday-Friday  
July 16-20, 2018**

Prayerfully consider turning this into a family vacation!





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## OCTOBER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK

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*To get to know each other better, we asked our families of the week to tell us about themselves:*

**Jan Headings** I live in Lewistown on Meadowbrook Lane with my two special canines (Isabella and Fletcher). I am a retired school teacher, but continue to enjoy working as a tipstaff for the Mifflin County Court of Common Pleas. I have two adult children who both live in Virginia. Tish lives in Middleburg, VA and Christopher lives in Charlottesville, VA. In my free time, I am often found hiking, gardening, attending yoga classes, taking early morning walks and traveling. Recently, I spent several weeks in Switzerland with my daughter, Tish, where we paraglided in the Alps. I also spent a week in Antigua with my son, Christopher, where we ziplined in the rainforest. Most recently, the entire family spend time together in the Outer Banks (no shark sightings, thank goodness)!

**Jim and Kris Hill** Jim and I enjoy spending together time doing projects outside our home, seeing the countryside on our motorcycle and visiting with our kids, grandchild and grandfurbabies. Separately, Jim is active in the fire service and I love cleaning and taking care of the inside of our home. We love our relationships within our church and enjoy our Tuesday night Bible study!

**Jane Mauery** I like to read, knit, work in the yard and especially play bridge. It is a shame more people don't learn how as I fear it is a dying game. As for a happy memory of the church there is no doubt about that - it is my marriage to Keith which took place in the church 60 years ago this past Aug.31!

**Brenda McCardle** Brenda's hobbies are helping her friends and family. She gets enjoyment doing for others! She loves flowers and gardening, spending time with family and traveling. She considers herself blessed with two wonderful parents, which still are a part of her life. Traveling to see her son in the military is costly, but a must to see him and his family. She also has a son that lives locally with his family and loves to see all of them. Her favorite memory of the church was attending Camp Krislund and youth group. She is very thankful that her parents raised her in the Christian life.

**Dan & Cathy McClenahan** Cathy is a retired teacher from the Mifflin County School District. She enjoys reading, working in the garden, and decorating the house for holidays. She also loves to travel. Her fondest memories of church are the fellowship of working in the kitchen for various events. Dan is a retired administrator from the Mifflin County School District but for the last twelve years has supervised student teaching at Penn State. He loves to do historical research, genealogy, and traveling. Dan enjoys singing in the church choir at church. They both enjoy their family especially spending time with their grandsons Evan and Kyle.

**Dale Henry** My wife, Ruth Ann, and I moved from Mifflintown to the Village at Ohession in June 2013, along with our cat Mazie. I retired as a manager from the PA Dept. of Revenue in early 2011. We moved to a retirement community at a fairly young age due to the physical mobility problems I encounter from a neurological issue. My mother, Esther, followed us to Ohession a year later. At Ohession, a neighbor lady and I do the Tuesday "Morning Show", a half hour information and entertainment show on our Ohession closed-circuit TV station. I also type and distribute the meeting minutes for our monthly cottage residents association. I enjoy reading large print books, time on the computer, planning our annual fall road trip, attending PEPPI exercise class 3 times weekly and taking several walks around the Village each day. My mother Esther attends church with me at Lewistown Presbyterian, while my wife attends another local church. She attends an early service allowing me to make the late morning service at my church. We have no children, but do have 2 adult nephews, sons of my late sister. Ruth Ann's mother is still living in Mifflintown and does not drive, so we take her for groceries and appointments. I was raised Lutheran but became disenchanted with the monotony and inflexibility of the ritual service in the Lutheran church. I enjoy the friendly people at Lewistown Presbyterian and the flexible service, which varies somewhat week to week, yet incorporates all of the essentials and beliefs of the reformed faith.

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## VOLUNTEERS FOR OCTOBER

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### Children's Chat

- 1 Pastor Jim Thomas
- 8 Devon Thomas
- 15 Maryann Haines
- 22 Lynn Curry
- 29 Sue Garner

### Liturgists

- 1 Sue Garner
- 8 Ginny Westover
- 15 Leah Riden
- 22 Susan Ferguson
- 29 Ken Fisher

### Counters

- 1 Lonnie Griffith & Ed Curry
- 8 Lisa Snyder & Ginny Westover
- 15 Pat Brown & Kari Cullen
- 22 Bill Sisson & Pauli Belfiore
- 29 Bill Sisson & Brad Siddons

### Deacon for the Month

Carol Zorn

### Children's Church

- 1 Communion—No Jr. church
- 8 Elaine Siddons
- 15 Annalise Haines
- 22 Lynn Curry
- 29 Sue Garner

### Infants/Toddlers/Preschool

- 1 Leah Riden & Olivia Smith
- 8 Diane Griffith & Alex Garner
- 15 Susan Mowery & Riley Cullen
- 22 Brett Buchanan & Margo Reeder
- 29 Karissa Zagurskie & Jimmy Zagurskie

### Ushers

Dave Noss (lead usher)  
Jean Burlew  
Gwen Knudson  
Violet Miller  
Leah Riden  
Patty Snyder

### Acolyte

Landon Cunningham

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## DO YOU BELONG TO A SMALL GROUP?

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**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY:** Many small groups are available to encourage you in your faith:

**Adult Sunday Morning Study** led by Pat Brown meets in the church parlor on Sundays at 9 AM. We will be studying "Ten Women of the Bible – One by One They Changed the World" by Jenna Lucado Bishop from the writings of Max Lucado.

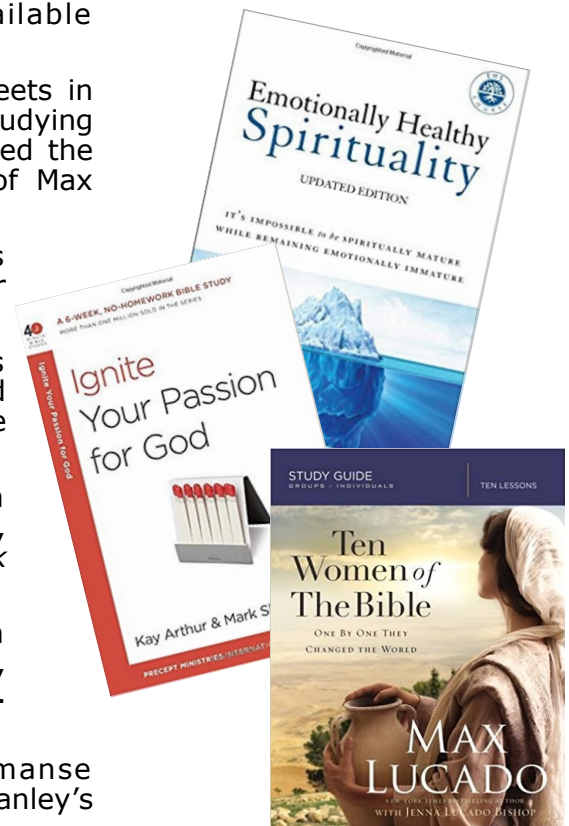
**Youth Sunday Morning Study:** All youth in grades 6–12 are welcome! The group meets on the third floor at 9 AM.

**Sunday Afternoon Study:** This Small group meets on the first Sunday of each month for growth and encouragement. They meet in the parlor following the worship service.

**Tuesday Evening Group** meets at the home of Jim and Kris Hill at 6:00 PM. They are currently studying, *Ignite Your Passion for God: A 6-Week, No-Homework Bible Study* by Kay Arthur and Mark Sheldrake.

**Wednesday Morning Group:** This group, which meets at 6:30 AM on Wednesday is studying, Emotionally Healthy Spirituality by Peter Scazzero. Pastor Jim leads this study.

**Sunday Evening Group:** This group meets at the manse from 6-7 PM on Sundays and is studying Andy Stanley's Twisting the Truth.





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## BACKYARD MINISTRIES

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**Featured BYC Kid this month** is a little girl named Faith. Faith's mother struggles with addiction and has lost custody of her daughter. In nine years Faith has had 11 different men bounce in and out of her and her mom's life. Faith comes to club regularly, listens to our stories, but is reluctant to make a decision to trust Jesus as her Savior. Faith needs lots of prayer as God reveals to her that He can be trusted. Thankful for the men from Backyard Club who go to her neighborhood faithfully each week to show her something different than her life experience. Please pray for this precious child and the hundreds like her living in our neighborhoods.

**Stories from the Backyard:** BYM is now engaged with 931 families. Behind every door there is a story. John is a Huntingdon friend who we have gotten to know over the past several months. John is waiting to have heart surgery. The surgery, however, can't be scheduled until he is able to quit smoking which is really difficult for John. The other day, John and I had a long conversation about this problem. John said to me that one of the reasons he struggles so much with quitting is that he spends so much time all alone in his apartment with no one to talk to. Loneliness is a tremendous problem for so many people, especially among the poor and the elderly. We meet folks at the door every day who just need someone to talk to, to share their needs with, and to remind them that they have not been

forgotten. Please pray for John and others like him. "Those in need will not always be forgotten." Psalm 9:18

**Current Ministry Needs:** BYM has a constant need for **cans of soup**, individually packed hot wheels cars, Bible activity and coloring books, **toothbrushes**, toothpaste, and packs of crayons. We also need volunteers for our kid's programs and more sweet breads. Items can be dropped off in Belleville at Yoder's Tees, in Altoona at 418 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue, or at any of our BYC programs.

**Mobile Soup Kitchen News/Benevolence/Home Bible Studies:** The MSK distributes more than 2500 food items per month to needy families. BYM also helps needy families with food and housing emergencies. More than 450 adults now participate in our Home Bible Study available in English and Spanish.

**BYM Support:** You can sponsor a BYC kid for \$20.00 a month (or \$240.00 a year). Pledges are due the fifteenth of each month. To get started simply send a check made payable to Backyard Ministries to the address below. BYM currently has 45 partnering churches. Please contact us if your church would like to partner with BYM or if you would like us to present the ministry in your church.

*\*To get involved or for more info like us on Facebook or contact us at Backyard Ministries, 418 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 or [kdellape@gmail.com](mailto:kdellape@gmail.com) or (814) 502-8008.*

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# FINANCIAL REPORT

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From Church Treasurer, Susan L. Ferguson

| Income               | Jan—Aug 2017      | Yearly Budget     | % of Budget |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Giving               | 138,760.97        | 214,200.00        | 65%         |
| Investments          | 82,137.42         | 136,375.00        | 60%         |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>220,898.39</b> | <b>350,575.00</b> | <b>63%</b>  |
| <b>Expense</b>       |                   |                   |             |
| Benevolence          | 18,514.04         | 30,000.00         | 62%         |
| Ministry of the Word | 68,254.02         | 107,309.84        | 64%         |
| Christian Education  | 3,148.25          | 5,600.00          | 56%         |
| Music and Worship    | 997.47            | 2,350.00          | 42%         |
| Property             | 32,460.21         | 43,803.00         | 74%         |
| Administration       | 18,065.40         | 28,907.25         | 62%         |
| Personnel            | 58,509.40         | 90,947.89         | 64%         |
| Fellowship           | 1,285.07          | 1,500.00          | 86%         |
| Women's Fellowship   | 0.00              | 550.00            | 0%          |
| Nursery & Preschool  | 19,192.07         | 34,607.02         | 55%         |
| Capital Reserve      | 3,3330.00         | 5,000.00          | 67%         |
| <b>Total Expense</b> | <b>233,759.83</b> | <b>350,575.00</b> | <b>64%</b>  |
| <b>Net</b>           | <b>(2,861.44)</b> |                   |             |

(Note: August 31 marks 66.67% of year to date)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PROJECT:

- Names will be available in the narthex beginning Sunday, November 12. We will be purchasing Christmas gifts for children of Mifflin County who may not have a Merry Christmas. If you would like to purchase gifts for a child, please pick up a name in the narthex Sundays, November 12 and 19. **Gifts must be returned to the church (unwrapped) by Sunday, November 26.** Please attach the name tag to the gift. If you would prefer to make a donation, we will be glad to purchase gifts for you. There will also be a box by the Christmas tree for mittens, hats and socks. Thank you in advance for making a child's Christmas wish come true! The gifts will be wrapped Monday, December 4. You are welcome to join the wrapping party! Bring your own scissors.
- Clothing Boxes and Wrapping Paper are Needed** for the Community Christmas Project this year. There will be many items to wrap. We are very much in need of boxes and wrapping paper. Please bring these into the church before October 15 so we can prepare. Thank you.



**YOUTH GROUP** meets from 6:00 –7:30 every Sunday evening on the third floor of the church.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** In an effort to accommodate choir member schedules, the children's choir will be rehearsing Sunday mornings from 9:15 – 10:15 AM, rather than on Sunday evenings. Please encourage children you know to join!


**LUMINA CARDS** are now available. They can be used for discounts at many local restaurants. Cards are \$10 each and help support the LUMINA Center. Please see Susan Ferguson for more information.



We would like to honor our veterans on Sunday, November 12. If you know of any veterans who are affiliated with Lewistown Presbyterian and who are not already on our list from last year, please send us their name, branch of the military and years of service. You can call the church 717 248-4561 or email the church at [lewispres@comcast.net](mailto:lewispres@comcast.net).



# October 2017

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday                        | Saturday  |
|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> Communion<br><b>9:00 am</b> Teen Study Group<br><b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group<br><b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir<br><b>10:30 am</b> Worship<br><b>11:30 am</b> Adult Study Group<br><b>11:30 am</b> Youth at Barnyard<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Study Group @ the manse | <b>2</b><br><b>11:30 am</b> Prayer<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Joy<br>Seekers<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Boy<br>Scouts  | <b>3</b><br><b>6:00</b> Small Group<br>@ Hill home   | <b>4</b><br><b>6:30 am</b> Group Study @ the Manse<br><b>11:30 am</b> Sr. Ladies @ Honey Creek Inn<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal | <b>5</b><br><b>6:00 pm</b> Deacons<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Committee Night | <b>6</b>                      | <b>7</b><br><b>Family Fall Festival—Makerfest</b><br><b>8:45-11:45 am</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br><b>9:00 am</b> Teen Study Group<br><b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group<br><b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir<br><b>10:30 am</b> Worship<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Youth Group<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Study Group @ the manse   | <b>9</b><br><b>11:30 am</b> Prayer<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Joy<br>Seekers<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Boy<br>Scouts  | <b>10</b><br><b>6:00</b> Small Group<br>@ Hill home  | <b>11</b><br><b>6:30 am</b> Group Study @ the Manse<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal   | <b>12</b><br><b>7:00 pm</b> Session                                  | <b>13</b>                     | <b>14</b>   |
| <b>15</b> Deacons' Offering<br><b>9:00 am</b> Teen Study Group<br><b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group<br><b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir<br><b>10:30 am</b> Worship<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Youth Group<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Study Group @ the manse                                    | <b>16</b><br><b>11:30 am</b> Prayer<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Joy<br>Seekers<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Boy<br>Scouts | <b>17</b><br><b>6:00</b> Small Group<br>@ Hill home  | <b>18</b><br><b>6:30 am</b> Group Study @ the Manse<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal  | <b>19</b><br><b>PANORAMA DEADLINE</b>                                | <b>20</b><br><i>No School</i> | <b>21</b>   |
| <b>22</b><br><b>9:00 am</b> Teen Study Group<br><b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group<br><b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir<br><b>10:30 am</b> Worship<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Youth Group<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Study Group @ the manse  | <b>23</b><br><b>11:30 am</b> Prayer<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Joy<br>Seekers<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Boy<br>Scouts | <b>24</b><br><b>6:00</b> Small Group<br>@ Hill home<br><b>9:00 am</b> Backyard<br>Ministries food prep | <b>25</b><br><b>6:30 am</b> Group Study @ the Manse<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal  | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>                     | <b>28</b>   |
| <b>29</b><br><b>9:00 am</b> Teen Bible Study<br><b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group<br><b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir<br><b>10:30 am</b> Worship<br><b>11:30 am</b> Community Lunch<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Youth Group<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Study Group @ the manse                   | <b>30</b><br><b>11:30 am</b> Prayer<br><b>6:00 pm</b> Joy<br>Seekers<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Boy<br>Scouts | <b>31</b><br><b>6:00</b> Small Group<br>@ Hill home<br><b>7:00 pm</b> Mt. Rock Cemetery Board Meeting  |  |  |                               |   |

**Lewistown Presbyterian Church**  
**17 East Third Street**  
**Lewistown, PA 17044**



***Address Correction Requested***



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Contact us at 717-248-4561, or lewispres@comcast.net. Check out our web site [www.lewistownpresbyterian.org](http://www.lewistownpresbyterian.org) or find us on Facebook!