
OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY!

Loving our Backyard Ministry Friends this Fall!



MITTENS AND HATS: There is a mitten tree in the narthex with paper mittens. Pink is for girls' mittens and hat, and blue is for boys' mittens and hat. Each set of mittens has a size on it. If you would like to help keep children warm this winter, please pick a mitten and shop for a hat and mittens or gloves for the girl or boy and size indicated. Please return the **hat and mitten set by October 20** to the church in a plastic bag with the paper mitten inside. We will make sure Backyard Ministries receive our donations for their families!

PUMPKIN BREADS: The week of Thanksgiving we will be delivering pumpkin breads to our backyard families. If you would like to make a bread, please bring it to the church by **November 24**. They can be made ahead and frozen! Small or large loaves are appreciated!

BACKYARD MINISTRIES is a Christian outreach to poor and needy children and their families living in public housing communities and other low-income neighborhoods. They do direct ministry work right in the neighborhood, running programs for kids and doing simple acts of Christian kindness for their families.

THEIR MISSION IS TO DO TWO SIMPLE THINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS. First, to offer small gifts of food to neighborhood families: bread, baked goods, and snack bags for kids. Each week they knock on hundreds of doors offering simple gifts and meeting and developing relationships with adults. Over time, they become neighborhood chaplains, offering spiritual support, encouragement, and prayer to anyone in need. Once a year they invite adults they meet at the doors to join a home Bible study program. Over the years, they have engaged hundreds of adults in their home Bible study program.

The second thing they do is offer a program for neighborhood children ages 4-12 called Backyard Club. The Backyard Club meets in the neighborhood once a week for one hour during summer months (and other months as staffing and facilities permit). During the club, leaders and volunteers play games with the kids, have a snack with them, and share a Bible story. The neighborhood kids love Backyard Club and are always very excited to see them in their neighborhood. Each year, Backyard Ministries is blessed to minister to more than 1000 low-income children through the club program. In addition, our ministry blesses the club kids with t-shirts, new winter hats and gloves, new socks for Christmas, and various other useful items throughout the year.

Lynn Curry serves and works closely with Backyard Ministries. Please contact Lynn if you would like more information.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

Waiting is an action that everyone is familiar with. We wait in check-out lines, wait in traffic, wait for return calls, wait to get called back into the doctor's office, then wait for the results. We wait for our food to arrive at a restaurant (did you ever wonder why the person who brings the food is called a waiter or waitress?) and once the Buffalo Wings have been eaten, wait for indigestion to kick in.



As a church, we've been doing a lot of waiting during our search for a pastor. While much good has come from the process, it has not been easy. Just ask the dedicated members of the PNC, who continue to work long and hard to discern the person God has called. (We are grateful to each and all and continue to pray!) Waiting is on no one's bucket list (that I know of, anyway) yet we will wait thousands of hours in a lifetime. And while we cannot always choose the "why" of waiting, we can choose the "how". Two words that are often associated with waiting are "anticipation" and "expectation". These words give a clearer picture of *how* we wait. Both speak to feet planted in the present, but looking to the future. Both speak to outlook. One most often results in joy, the other in disappointment.

What comes to mind when you hear the word, "anticipation"? Maybe it's an event such as a vacation trip or graduation. Maybe the word stirs a childhood memory of waiting to open a present. Can you feel the butterflies in your stomach? To anticipate is to look forward to; regard as likely; to hope for.

How about the word, "expectation"? I don't know about you, but memories of "clean your room" and other chore do-overs come to mind...and memories of the perfect vacation that wasn't. Expectation is a projection of my wants or needs. It focuses inward, holding tightly to my wishes. Expectation almost always goes unmet with

disappointment as the result.

Liz Uram, a life coach from The Coach and Mentor Group, gives this description of the difference between anticipation and expectation: "the difference is in our attitude. One is hope and one is entitlement. Hope allows for any number of things to happen. Hope keeps us open to possibilities we couldn't even imagine. Entitlement usually has a very specific outcome. It relies on other people to react and behave in the way we want them to."

The happy result of these past weeks of waiting together as a church family is our new interim pastor, Rev. Sarah Sedgwick. We are looking forward to welcoming her! How have you been waiting for this day? How have we been waiting? With expectation or anticipation? I trust the wait has been one of anticipation with an openness to all that God's Spirit will lead us to participate in during the weeks and months ahead. For surely, God *"is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."* Ephesians 3:20

YOUTH EVENT!

The Youth will be going to the **Corn Maze at Ard's Farm, Sunday, October 13!** McVeytown youth will join us. Meet at the Downtown OIP for lunch after worship service. Cost of the maze is \$10/person plus any additional snacks you would like to purchase. Please see Ginny or Susan for a permission form. We will return to the church at 6:30 PM. All youth grades 6-12 are invited to come along and join the fun!



TALE OF TWO TEACHERS

Rev. Robert Zorn, Minister of Visitation

One recent September, Carol and I drove to western PA to attend a school reunion. The reunion date coincided with our wedding anniversary so we had much to celebrate. While there, we drove past some once familiar scenes of our younger years. In Webster, where Carol was born and lived until our marriage, we found that the elementary school which she had attended has been demolished. The Presbyterian Church, where we were married, held its final worship service and is now closed. Our return there evoked some true stories which have been passed down through our families.

Carol's mother attended school in Donora, a river mill town. Some of the students were a little less than ideal. One boy thought that he would manhandle the lady who was his teacher. However, the teacher was prepared for his attack, and it was the boy who wound up on the floor, next to unconscious. She simply stepped over his body and announced that the boy would be alright—which he was. Needless to say, she had no further discipline problems in her classroom.

A second school story took place in the little red brick, one room schoolhouse, which all seven of us Zorn kids attended. This story was related to us by my eldest brother, now deceased. He said a teacher whom we both knew, but whom shall remain nameless, was confronted by a disobedient boy. She thought to settle him down by administering a "bonk" to his head with the large brass school bell. As he tried to avoid the blow, the edge of the bell made a severe cut across his scalp. The teacher declared an instant recess and got the first aid kit out of her desk. The kit consisted of

strips of cloth torn from bed sheets and a bottle of mercurochrome. When she discovered that sutures would be appropriate she sent several of the boys out to find someone to take the boy to Dr. Bell, who had an office in Dawson, about a mile and a half away. No cars were to be obtained at any of the five homes near the school. But one of the boys who lived nearby brought his coaster wagon and hauled his wounded classmate to the doctor. The teacher gave them each a nickel so that they could buy an ice cream bar at the Atlantic Service Station.

Such stories make us aware of how much things have changed over the span of our lifetime. Today we live in a more humane society. Classrooms are no longer considered places of adversarial confrontation where there is a constant battle of wills. Rather, learning takes place in an environment of inquiry and cooperation. Limitless opportunities come to those who truly seek to fulfill a good purpose for their lives and for other people.

In reality we are all students—we are all teachers. We grow and learn from one another. Everything we do or say affects someone. Life is an awesome responsibility. We may ignore the needs of others with callous indifference or we may do everything within our power to help others. We do not have to wait for a crisis before we offer someone a ride in our "Little Red Wagon." God expects no less of us.

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2 NRSV

NOMINATING COMMITTEES

Please keep our Pastor Nominating and Congregational Nominating Committees in your prayers.

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

Carole Auker, Lynn Curry, Ruth Fisher, Sue Garner, Diane Griffith,
Carl Haldeman, Kathy Hardin, Lisa Snyder, Larry Welshans with COM Liaison Rev. Scott Andrews

Congregational Nominating Committee

Elder Lisa Snyder (Chairperson), Elder Ed Curry (Vice-Chairperson), Deacon Diane Griffith
At-Large: Kari Cullen, David Eichenlaub, Kris Hill and Ginny Westover

PRESCHOOL PAGE

Ginny Westover, Preschool Director

You know the three R's of education: reading, writing, and arithmetic. Here in the preschool classroom during these beginning weeks of school, we have only two: routine and relationships. The children are learning to navigate each quite well.

Like anything that's new, the daily routine takes a while to get used to. There are new ways of doing things and many new things to do. Repetition is the word of the day; and the next day, and the next, and the day after that! Hang up your backpack, put your green folder in the big, green tub. Choose a table-top activity. Stay in *this* area; we'll get to play *over there* later; but, yes, you may look at the turtle (and the frog, and the caterpillars, and the hermit crab). "Clean up, clean up, everybody, everywhere!" then find your mat. "This is the day that the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it!" Calendar, pledge, morning message. Centers, snack, second circle, and home! Except for Fridays (now that there will be a few full weeks in a row) - then there's Chapel time and a project. Whew! That's a lot to remember! And if all that wasn't enough, there are added details too: walking feet, inside voices, raise your hand when you have something to say, just one paper towel (not four) to dry your hands, wait and sing our "thank you" song before we eat, the singing bowl says, "zero talking," etc., etc. Double "Whew!"

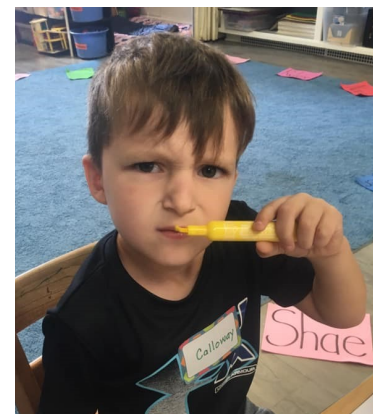
Transitions from one activity to the next pose the biggest challenges. Progress can be seen already, though! When we first began Play and Practice Centers the classroom resembled a NYC rush hour minus the honking taxis. Now the



switch from one center to the next reminds us more of a traffic rotary with a few "deer in the headlight" faces. But we are getting smoother at transitions every day! Walking in a line presents preschoolers with a new learning curve. "Taking the train to Chapel Time" helps. Winding our way through the church sanctuary, chugging in and out of pews is fun practice for staying behind the person in front or us. After a few weeks practice we've noticed a significant drop in de-railment numbers!

The most encouraging piece in learning the routine is seeing the relationships develop among the students. The song lyrics, "Make new friends but keep the old; one is silver and the other gold" are playing themselves out in the classroom as "besties" from last year's 3s class extend a smiling "hi" and a friendly hand to new students. In this year's 3s classroom, September's curriculum spent an intentional couple of weeks focused on making and being a friend. It puts a smile on a teacher's face to hear even the youngest student ask a classmate, "Hi, do you want to come play with me?" Recently we welcomed three new students into the Pre-K program and we are so proud of our students for helping our new friends learn the routine and inviting them to play. The children are also quick to notice when a classmate is absent, quick to remind us to pray for him/her, and quick to welcome back their friend.

In a world where people long for the day when kindness, compassion, and empathy are routine, it is encouraging to see these qualities being learned and lived out (not perfectly, but routinely) in our preschoolers' relationships.



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

From Ruth Fisher, Stewardship Committee Chair

God has Blessed Us Abundantly

"Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8-9)

God has given to us most abundantly. God has given his grace and love freely to us. God has given us his only son, Jesus Christ, so that we might have redemption and eternal life through Christ. God has also given us our lives on this earth, including our time, talents and treasure. Without God's astounding gifts to us, we would have nothing. With God's gifts, we have everything that we need.

What should our response to God be for all these amazing gifts? Paul tells us that since we have all that we need through God's grace, we in turn will abound in every good work. In verse 11 of Chapter 9, Paul also affirms, *"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."* Having been made rich by these many gifts from God, we can in turn be generous with others, showing our thanks to God and causing others to be thankful to God.

Part of sharing God's gifts and our thankfulness to God with others is sharing our financial gifts with others through our church. For many years,

the members of our church have given generously to our church's ministry both for individuals and families in our congregation and to people in our community and around the world.

This fall Lewistown Presbyterian Church is asking you to again consider what God has given to you, and in turn how you can share some of these gifts through our church's ministry to others in 2020. With the support of all of us, next year promises to be an abundant year of ministry to our fellow church members and to people in our local community.

Please prayerfully consider responding to God's gifts to you by pledging to contribute financially to the important ministry work of Lewistown Presbyterian Church in 2020. We encourage you to come worship God on Sunday, November 10 at 10:30 AM, and to bring your pledge to church to be dedicated to God's work in our church and community.

Thank you for prayerfully reflecting on what God has given you, and how you can respond to his amazing gifts. We hope to see you at worship on November 10.

VOLUNTEERS FOR OCTOBER

Children's Chat

6 Kari Cullen
13 Maryann Haines
20 Lynn Curry
27 Joan Loewen

Children's Church

6 Communion
13 Elaine Siddons
20 Ginny Westover
27 Griffiths/Cunningham

Acolyte for October

Cunninghams

Liturgists

6 Ruth Fisher
13 Ken Fisher
20 Gerri Aitkin
27 Lisa Snyder

Infants and Nursery

6 Zoe Finan
13 Amy Smith
20 Pam Pecht
27 Venus Shade

Deacon for the Month

Elaine Siddons

October Community Luncheon

October 27 — Tues. Study Group

Counters

6 Ed Curry & Lonnie Griffith
13 Maryann Haines & Kari Cullen
20 Lisa Snyder & Lynn Curry
27 Jack Wilson & Dave Noss

Ushers

Leah Riden (head usher)
Ray Wilde
Ginny Westover
Mercy Westover
Maryann Haines
Elaine Siddons

FINANCIAL REPORT

From Church Treasurer, Susan L. Ferguson

	Jan - Aug 19	Budget	% of Budget
Income			
BUDGETED INCOME	135,162.51	211,915.00	63.78%
INVESTMENT INCOME	80,422.20	135,850.00	59.2%
Total Income	215,584.71	347,765.00	61.99%
Expense			
BENEVOLENCE	9,158.25	30,000.00	30.53%
MINISTRY OF THE WORD	54,389.63	86,647.00	62.77%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	1,805.43	5,700.00	31.67%
MUSIC AND WORSHIP	1,411.22	2,450.00	57.6%
PROPERTY	33,454.56	54,800.00	61.05%
ADMINISTRATION	14,181.39	25,531.00	55.55%
PERSONNEL	51,409.64	91,737.00	56.04%
FELLOWSHIP	1,539.35	1,800.00	85.52%
PRESCHOOL	802.21	3,650.00	21.98%
Total Expense	168,151.68	302,315.00	55.62%
NET INCOME	47,433.03	<i>August 31, marks 66.67% of the year to date</i>	

NEW GROUP STUDIES

SUNDAY MORNING GROUP is beginning a new study entitled, "Experiencing the Heart of Jesus" by Max Lucado. Though Jesus' name is familiar and his story universal, so few of us could really call him a close personal friend. Just as over time we learn the subtle, familiar expressions of our closest friends, so too we can come to know the personality of our Savior. "Experiencing the Heart of Jesus" is about really knowing him. In this study, beloved author Max Lucado invites you to step closer to Jesus. This group meets in the parlor on Sunday mornings at 9 AM, and is led by Pat Brown.

TUESDAY NIGHT GROUP: Are you hungry for more of God's Word? Come to the 3rd floor Tuesday night at 6:30 PM for the beginning of a brand new study by N.T. Wright on 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. Just as Timothy and Titus needed help to lead their young churches well in the midst of powerful cultural forces, we need guidance for correct leading and living in our own context. These studies on Paul's letters point us in the right direction. Thoughtful questions, prayer suggestions, and useful background and cultural information will guide us more deeply into God's Word. All are welcome to join us!

CELEBRATIONS!



Elsea Louise Diven,

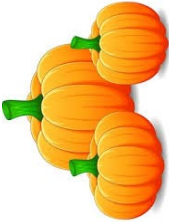
Parents—Caleb and Kate (Pecht) Diven,
Grandparents—Don and Pam Pecht
Elsea was born September 14!



Rachel Brown and Patrick Fitzgerald
Married, August 31, 2019!

OCTOBER 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 6 Rev. Sarah Sedgwick World Communion Sunday 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 pm Reception	7 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	1 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor	2 11:30 am Presbyterian Women @ Honey Creek Inn 7:00 pm Choir Practice 8:00 pm Music & Worship Comm.	3 11:30 am Prayer 6:00 pm Deacons' Mtg. 6:00 pm Stewardship Comm. 7:00 pm Property Comm.	4	5
13 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Youth Corn Maze	14 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	8 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor 7:00 pm Mt. Rock Cemetery Board Meeting	9 7:00 pm Choir Practice	10 11:30 am Prayer Ministry 6:00 pm Mission & Evang. 7:00 pm Session	11	12
20 Deacons' Offering 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship	21 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	15 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor	16 7:00 pm Choir Practice	17 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	18	19
27 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Community Luncheon	28 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	22 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor 9:00 am Backyard Min. cookie collection	23 7:00 pm Choir Practice	24 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	25	26
	29 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor	29 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor	30 7:00 pm Choir Practice	31 11:30 am Prayer Ministry		

Lewistown Presbyterian Church
17 East Third Street
Lewistown, PA 17044

Address Correction Requested



Please contact us if you would like more information.
Phone: 717-248-4561
Email: lewispres@comcast.net
Visit us at Website: www.lewistownpresbyterian.org
Find us on Facebook!

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