



THE PANORAMA

The Newsletter of
The Lewistown
Presbyterian
Church

SEPTEMBER 2019

MEET OUR NEW INTERIM PASTOR



Rev. Sarah Sedgwick will begin as our church's new interim pastor on October 1, 2019. Sarah will be our interim pastor as our church's Pastor Nominating Committee continues its search for a long-term, installed pastor.

Rev. Sedgwick has been pastor of First United Presbyterian Church in DuBois, Pennsylvania for the last nine years, ably serving their congregation much as she will serve ours. Before coming to First United Presbyterian Church, she was youth director at Faith Presbyterian

Church in Indianapolis, Indiana for six years. She graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and won a prize for showing the most promise in serving small churches with effective Biblical preaching and compassionate pastoral involvement.

Sarah is very committed to local community mission work, and was attracted to Lewistown Presbyterian Church partly because of our local community outreach. While serving in DuBois, she led the creation of The Red Mission House, an outreach ministry of First United Presbyterian Church that offers housing for work teams helping in the DuBois area. She also helped found The Soul Platter Café in DuBois, which provides food for people and asks people to pay what they can.

Sarah comes highly recommended as caring, compassionate, and friendly, among other outstanding qualities. She believes in the priesthood of all believers—all of us have opportunities to lead worship, pray, teach and minister to the world around us. She feels called to churches that appreciate their past, are grateful for their present situation, and are excited about their future.

Sarah's first Sunday with our church will be October 6, World Communion Sunday. We hope that you will come to worship at our church at 10:30, take part in the Lord's Supper with fellow church members and friends, and meet our new interim pastor. We will look forward to seeing you then.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September Guest Speakers

1st Rev. Zorn
8th Christian Ed
15th Rev. Sam Strohm
22nd Rev. Kari Swigart
29th Rev. Jeanette Mater

September 4

11:30 AM
Presbyterian Women
Lunch & Fellowship
Honey Creek Inn

September 22

11:30 am
Lemonade on the Lawn

September 29

Community Luncheon

October 6

Rev. Sarah Sedgwick
World Communion
Sunday

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

How would you fill in this blank? Change _____.

Here is a sampling of answers I received from a very random, anonymous, "on the street" survey of sorts: (Change...)

- is inevitable.
- is fun sometimes like when you get to go to some new water park or something, but other times it's not. It's more scary.
- is happening at such a rapid rate these days, especially in technology that it's mind boggling; almost impossible to keep up with (at least for an old guy like me).
- is something I don't usually like at first, but then get used to it.
- stinks – well, unless it's like a pay raise or new car or something like that.
- can be an adventure that's looked forward to or something you dread. I think it depends on where the change is happening. I think we tend to resist and fear the things we can't control.
- has its positive and negative elements. I love the changes in seasons, for instance, and seeing the changes in students from year to year. But the changes that come with a body that's getting older...not so much!
- (deep sigh) There's SO MUCH change happening all around: society's morals, ways people communicate (or don't) with each other, weather, the global community, kids growing up, friends dying, businesses closing, people changing jobs and moving...too much!

- Well...I read this quote that said, "Life is like underwear; change is good."
- is exciting!
- is not something I like at all. I'm a "don't rock the boat" sort of person.
- goes easier if you can prepare for it. The more prepared you can be, the better.
- helps us rely on each other.
- encourages us to DOG or FROG; "Depend On God" or "Fully Rely On God"

Can you relate with some of these thoughts about change? We have experienced a lot of change as a church community over the past year... and while some elements of these changes have been difficult and uncomfortable, what wonderful gifts we have also received in the process! The passion, wisdom, and laughter that Pastor Cindy brought to us will not soon be forgotten! I love that we have collectively bowed our hearts and squared our shoulders, praying together and pulling together while we wait on God for a full time pastor. God's presence is a constant through the process. As the hymn writer declared, "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee. Thou changes not, Thy compassions they fail not. As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be." Our God is completely trustworthy. Let us continue to trust Him, placing our future into his hands and placing our hands into each other's as we live out Christ's love in our world.

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR CINDY

Many thanks for sending me off with such kindness. I will cherish Carole's painting. It was so nice to be able to have lunch together one last time on Sunday. My heart was warmed with all the cards and well-wishes. I thank God for calling me to be with you for a time and for placing such a wonderful congregation in Lewistown. Blessings to you and yours until we meet again,

Your Sister in Christ,

Rev. Cindy Carlisle



SMILES

Rev. Robert Zorn, Minister of Visitation

The recent cleaning and replacement of the bulbs in our lighting fixtures has greatly improved the illumination in our church sanctuary (you did notice the difference, didn't you?). That happenstance brings to my memory a similar incident in our former parish.

Carol and I and our family lived for 25 years at the address of 198 Main Street in the river town of Tidioute, PA. I served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church and Carol was employed as the secretary to the principal of the K-12 Tidioute public school. The Presbyterian Church was built in 1893 and reflected the prosperity and opulence of the area at that time. The Allegheny River, in close proximity to the church, was often crowded bank to bank with oil barges and timber log rafts. In fact, less than 100 yards from the church was the home of a prosperous oil well developer. He, and his partners, actually sold their holding to the Rockefeller family, which became one of the origins of the Exxon Corporation, of which we are all aware.

With such vast resources available it was fitting that the Presbyterian Church should be a very ornate building, both inside and out. To this date, it still houses an actively worshipping congregation.

Originally the sanctuary was lighted with gas lamps. Pipes which provided this utility are still in evidence in the walls of the rooms. The building was finally electrified and low sconces were installed at the lower congregational level.

The main lighting for the sanctuary was provided by a huge five glass bowl chandelier. This lighting unit could only be serviced by lowering the whole unit down to the floor of the sanctuary by means of a winch and cable.

The utilization of the building for worship was similar to what we have here at LPC. The chancel, pulpit, choir loft and organ were located in one corner of the room. Come worship time, the mixed and intergenerational choir would robe themselves in the office area. They would pass through the large social room, the kitchen, and enter to their places in

front of an ancient "tracker" pipe organ and behind the large pulpit.

Things usually went well with our worship experience until suddenly, it seemed that there was a "sour" note coming from the choir loft. It was not a musical dissonance, but rather an exclamation of outrage by one of the choir ladies. She certainly deserved to voice her opinion as she had been a choir member from her teens well into her 90's. The reason for exasperation was that one of the light bulbs in the central chandelier had burned out. And, of course, it was the one nearest the choir loft. Her repeated hints, requests and demands fell on deaf ears. Every Sunday the errant bulb hung in mocking darkness.

Something had to be done! Finally, an unnamed culprit locked all the doors, climbed into the attic, cranked down the fixture and replaced the worthless bulb, and replaced all five. Suddenly he realized that there would be absolutely no fun in only restoring the light to its former state. (Who would know?) Then, with a perverse mischief, a plan was devised. All the globes were cleaned and replaced with new bulbs, but in the globe closest to the choir a 3 lb. coffee can lid was fashioned into a "smiley face."... It was not just a usual smiley face; with tin snips this face displayed a winking eye. Then the light was hoisted to its original place, high above the congregation.

The next Sunday as the choir came into their places, someone looked up and nudged the next singer. Soon others became aware of the winking face. Everyone in the church was smiling (except one).

As we learned at our church on August 18, church is a good place in which to be happy.
So Smile.

And we read in Psalm 2:4. *"He who sits in the heavens laughs."*



"Better that he laughs with us—
than at us."

PRESCHOOL PAGE

Ginny Westover, Preschool Director

Summer was here and then, POOF! the fall routine began and suddenly day number two of Pre-K is in the books! At least that's how it seems, sometimes. The prelude to preschool was actually pretty prolonged. Weeks before the first day of school, Secretary Deb's keyboard was humming with letters, lists, and labels. Many eyes helped proof the final draft of the new handbook and more sets of hands typed, printed, and bound the pages together. Work in the classroom began the first week of August cleaning out cupboards, putting up bulletin boards and prepping student materials. Custodian Kathy gave our space a thorough cleaning from windows to floors and everything in between. Thank you, Kathy! You make our classroom a bright and cheery place! As the first day of preschool came in sight, plans for the first annual Back to School Bar-B-Q sprang into action. Many thanks to Carole and Scott Auker, Ruth Fisher, Lonnie Griffith, Kathy Hardin, Tom and Margie Henry, Lisa Snyder, and Mercy Westover for all your work to set up, serve, and tear down! Despite the blistering heat, "a good time was had by all"! The following two days held "Meet and Greet" times for Pre-K families to get better acquainted with both the classroom and the teachers (and eat up those left over cookies from the Bar-B-Q!). And then it was Wednesday; the first day of preschool!

Happy hustle ensued! The quiet hallway of summer (way too quiet most weeks!) was quiet no more! Doors clacked open and shut while voices and footsteps filled the air. New backpacks made their way to the coatrack and new friends got acquainted around the tables in the classroom. Lots of happy chatter, words of

encouragement, smiles, hugs, "good-byes", and a few tears.

Two hours flew by, filled with all manner of four year old activities and conversations! What a joy for Mrs. Henry and me to welcome back last year's three year old class ("My, how you've all grown tall and tanned!") and meet our new students! We must

have said it a dozen times over the course of the day – "What a wonderful group of children!" And what a great group of parents!

What really touched our hearts was watching the children interact with one another. Last year's students were genuinely delighted to see each other again! Such big smiles and hugs! Their excitement and caring extended to the new members of the class, too. With very little or no prompting, the "veteran" preschoolers offered to include the "newbies" in their play, extending a doll or a block, holding out a "fresh out of the oven" piece of "pizza", or showing a new friend the class hermit crab. When one new student, in his struggle to adjust to the goings on of the morning classroom, sat by himself on the floor, a student from last year quietly left what he was doing and sat down by his classmate. He slipped his hand onto the new student's arm and just sat beside him. Not a word was necessary to communicate his caring. In the afternoon class, a new student was missing her mom and feeling quite sad. Having experienced many of the same emotions last year, a returning student said, "I can make a picture to help her feel better." And she did! Such wonderful examples of the compassionate children in our classes – and this is only after day two! We are grateful and excited to begin a new year!



FINANCIAL REPORT

From Church Treasurer, Susan L. Ferguson



	JAN - JUN 2019	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income			
BUDGETED INCOME	118,017.50	211,915.00	55.69%
INVESTMENT INCOME	74,700.44	135,850.00	54.99%
Total Income	192,717.94	347,765.00	55.42%
Expense			
BENEVOLENCE	8,582.82	30,000.00	28.61%
MINISTRY OF THE WORD	46,998.66	86,647.00	54.24%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	1,584.43	5,700.00	27.80%
MUSIC AND WORSHIP	1,368.24	2,450.00	55.85%
PROPERTY	28,246.45	54,800.00	51.55%
ADMINISTRATION	13,515.36	25,531.00	52.94%
PERSONNEL	72,034.44	137,187.00	52.51%
FELLOWSHIP	1,396.94	1,800.00	77.61%
PRESCHOOL	802.21	3,650.00	21.98%
Total Expense	174,529.55	347,765.00	50.19%
NET INCOME	18,188.39		

July 31 marks 58.33% of the year to date

VOLUNTEERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Children's Chat

- 1 Susan Ferguson
- 8 Elaine Siddons
- 15 Leah Riden
- 22 Ginny Westover
- 29 Sue Garner

Children's Church

- 1 Communion
- 8 Elaine Siddons
- 15 Leah Riden
- 22 Ginny Westover
- 29 Griffiths/Cunningham

Acolyte for September

Lucas Garner

Liturgists

- 1 Susan Ferguson
- 8 Mercy Westover
- 15 Leah Riden
- 22 Ginny Westover
- 29 Jimmy Zagurskie

Infants and Nursery

- 1 Elaine Siddons
- 8 Mercy Westover
- 15 Brett Buchanan
- 22 Zoe Finan
- 29 Tara Reeder

Deacon for the Month

Zoe Finan

September Community Luncheon

September 29 — Christian Ed

Counters

- 1 Lonnie Griffith & Ed Curry
- 8 Lisa Snyder & Lynn Curry
- 15 Maryann Haines & Dave Noss
- 22 Bill Sisson & John Gregory
- 29 Kari Cullen & Jack Wilson

Ushers

Karen McCurdy (head usher)
 Dale Henry
 David Noss
 Joyce Dixon
 Cathy McClenahan
 David Eichenlaub

ANNOUNCEMENTS

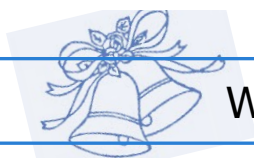


HUNTINGDON PRESBYTERY CHILDREN'S FAIR: All children K-5th grade are invited Saturday, September 21, 2019. Huntingdon Presbyterian Church, 508 Mifflin Street, Huntingdon. The time is 10 AM—Noon. Registrations begins at 9:45 AM. Fun, games, learn about Deborah the Judge, prizes and snacks!

ART OF CARING CONVERSATION CLASS: The Spiritual Care Department of Geisinger Lewistown Hospital is offering this class this Fall. This four-week, twelve-hour training is the initial basic requirement for persons wishing to volunteer as a Chaplain Assistant in the hospital. Participation in the course is open to everyone who seeks a greater level of skill and comfort in supporting others. The classes will

be held on Monday evenings, from 5:30—8:30 PM at Geisinger Lewistown Hospital, 400 Highland Ave, Lewistown. The dates this year will be September 16, 23, 30 and October 7, 2019. These classes are highly interactive as well as informative. Class size is limited so please contact the Spiritual Care Department soon to reserve your place. The phone number is 717-242-7059. Please leave a message. Participation in all four sessions is expected. Completion does NOT require one to continue as a volunteer.

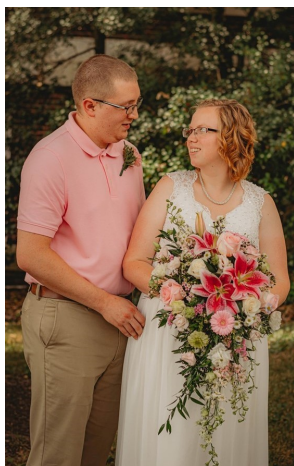
HOPE STALEY joins the staff at LPC Preschool as Assistant Teacher to Mrs. Henry in the 3's program. Hope has worked for St. John's preschool and volunteered at her church, Locust Grove Mennonite. We welcome Hope to our Preschool!



WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS!



**Victoria (Pecht) and
Brandon Wain**
June 1, 2019



**Kathryne (Pecht) and
Caleb Diven**
August 3, 2019



**Tedmond and Maggie
(Creighton) Mitchell**
August 24, 2019

PASTOR 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 Doug Knudson
At-Large: Kari Cullen, David Eichenlaub, Kris Hill and Ginny Westover

SEPTEMBER 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Communion 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>2 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>3 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor</p>	<p>4 11:30 am Presbyterian Women @ Honey Creek Inn 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>5 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	6	7
<p>8 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>9 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>10 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor</p>	<p>11 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12 11:30 am Prayer Ministry 6:00 pm Deacons' Mtg. 7:00 pm Session</p>	13	14
<p>15 Deacons' Offering 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>16 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>17 5:30 pm Presbytery Meeting East Kish 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor</p>	<p>18 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>19 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	20	21 Children's Fair Huntingdon Presbyterian 10-noon
<p>22 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Lemonade on the Lawn</p>	<p>23 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>24 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor 9:00 am Backyard Min. cookie collection</p>	<p>25 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>	27	28
<p>29 9:00 am Adult Study Group 9:15 am Children's Choir practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Community Luncheon</p>	<p>30 11:30 am Prayer Ministry</p>					

Lewistown Presbyterian Church
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Address Correction Requested



Please contact us if you would like more information.
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Find us on Facebook!

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