



THE PANORAMA

The Newsletter of
The Lewistown
Presbyterian
Church

March 2020

Greetings to you all in the name of the Lord! Throughout this month's Panorama newsletter you are going to learn a lot about the life of Fred Rogers and the enduring impact he has made upon the lives of children and adults. His life is a reflection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who came to serve and not to be served.

There are multiple words that come to mind when we think of Mr. Rogers. Words like: Relationships, childhood, creativity, play, communicating, feelings and so on. He had the special ability to explain the things of earth that are difficult to discuss or understand.

When anyone watched an episode of Mr. Rogers Neighborhood, they were welcomed into a world where they felt special and heard and welcomed just the way they are.

You might say that everyone has that desire to be a part of a neighborhood or a group of people where they feel like they belong. No matter how old we are, belonging is what we like. Am I right?

In February, Jim, McKenzie, and I prepared to enter a new neighborhood—your community; and that decision has come with a lot of excitement and anticipation.

Jim has begun making connections in the community by attending events hosted by the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce.

McKenzie has registered for school at Mifflin County Junior High and at the release of this newsletter will begin and end her 8th grade year.

And although she is nervous to attend a new school, the best experience she has had has

been the kind welcome she has experienced by many of you. We've had lots of discussions about the blessing of change and that no matter what change we endure, we don't experience it alone.

This understanding that we do not meet our experiences alone ties very well to the message of Fred Rogers. Our familial experience of moving to the Lewistown neighborhood has been challenging, busy and stressful, but it has also been blessed, rewarding and special.

Jim, McKenzie, and I are so grateful for the kindness that has been extended to us as we have transitioned (and will continue to transition) to life in Mifflin County. We want to be your neighbors and hope you will be ours!

We begin new "firsts" within this community with the blessing of your full support. We appreciate your kind welcome and now we look forward to getting to know you as our neighbors and family in Christ.

As warmer weather appears, we are excited to open our home to you through small groups, shepherd group gatherings and other fellowship opportunities.

Your neighbor,
Pastor Sarah



CHRISTIAN ED

Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

It's March and we have entered the season of Lent once again. Lent is a time of inward reflection and repentance; an opportunity to take a long look at our humanity, our brokenness and our desperate need of a Savior. These forty days before Easter are also a time to contemplate Christ's suffering and death on the cross for us and ponder the love that motivated Jesus to bear the punishment for our sins. As the hymn writer penned, it is "amazing love"; love without limits, without conditions, unrelenting and unending. The love of God in Christ Jesus is a love that seeks the lost, initiates spending time with sinners, reaches out to the undesirable, lifts up the weak, and heals the sick in body and soul. It is a love that forgives, restores, and overcomes every evil; even death.

The love of God in Christ transforms. Darkness turns to light. Death to life. Strife to peace. Hatred to forgiveness. Enemy to friend. When individuals receive God's gift of love in Christ Jesus their hearts are changed – from hearts of "stone" to hearts of "flesh"; "...a new creation: the old life is gone; everything is new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). When the love of God is in our hearts through Christ we are able to love. The apostle John says, "we love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19) The same is true of forgiveness. We are able to forgive because we have been forgiven. Paul writes, "Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32). As followers of Christ we are called to love and forgive.

Our all church Lenten study, "*A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*," begins with the story of transforming love and forgiveness. I hope that you've been able to see the film. I am looking forward to hearing your responses to it! I also hope that you have chosen to join a small group. I believe that it is within the context of these groups and the relationships formed in them, that the impact of the movie will move from our heads to our hearts and be acted upon through our



hands and feet. Each time I watched "*A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*" I found myself digging a little deeper and thinking a little harder and longer about quite a number of questions. Maybe you asked some of the same:

What kind of listener am I?

How can I be more present and less distracted when I'm with someone?

How can I be kinder and more compassionate with friends, family, neighbors and strangers?

Am I the same person when I'm alone as I am when I'm with someone; the same person at home as I am at church?

How do I handle emotional hurts?

Are there emotions that I'm more comfortable expressing than others? Why might that be?

Am I able to empathize with all people? Even those with whom I don't share a lot of common interests?

Do I truly believe that each person on earth has value and is worthy of love and respect just by being? How do I communicate this?

Am I holding anything against anyone? Is there anyone I need to forgive?

Am I willing to invest sacrificially in the life of another person?

I found "*A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*" to be an inspiring movie. The impact that Fred Rogers had on Lloyd was truly amazing! Mr. Roger's display of kindness, gentleness, and compassion makes me want to mirror the same. His love and understanding of children and his passion to protect their hearts and communicate each child's worth energizes me to strive to be the same as an educator of young children. This is also the case with Fred Roger's practice of reading the Bible, praying, and exercising each day. Oh, to be so consistent and disciplined!

continued on the next page

"A *Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*" reminds me of a familiar quote: "Preach the Gospel at all times; when necessary use words." I am inspired by Mr. Rogers' living out what Jesus called the second of the greatest commandments: "love your neighbor as you love yourself." It is certainly easier to talk about Jesus than it is to live as he lived and love as he loved. Fred Rogers walked a consistent life of love, and I believe, from other writings, videos, interviews, etc. I have learned from, that his walk was heavily influenced by his faith. I do not know why Mr. Rogers did not appear to talk overtly about Jesus; maybe he did and I haven't found examples of it yet. He did, as Christine Chakoian of Pittsburgh Seminary notes, "convey Jesus' teachings in subtle (and not so

subtle) ways. He enthusiastically welcomed the little children (Matthew 19:14). He taught forgiveness, of oneself, of one's debtors and of one's enemies (John 8:11, Matthew 6:12, Matthew 5:33,34). And every time Fred Rogers sang, "*Won't you be my neighbor*", he embodied Christ's command to love one's neighbor as oneself (Matthew 19:19)."

We would do well during these weeks of Lent, to take stock of our own living out of these teachings of Jesus and evaluate how we're doing. Then with empathy toward each other, we can encourage and pray for one another as together we love our neighbors. That has the makings of a beautiful day, indeed!

LET'S FLY A KITE!

Rev. Robert Zorn, Pastor Emeritus

At this writing, a thick blanket of snow and ice covers our whole valley. Hopefully the frozen February will soon give way to muddy March. Folklore has it that the month of March is usually a very windy month. So, it may provide many opportunities for kite flying.

Many years ago Carol gave me two books which gave me great encouragement in my preparation for the ministry. The books were entitled: The High Calling and The Gauntlet. The featured clergy person was Rev. London Wingo. In one of the parishes, pastor Wingo encourage the youth of the church to have a kite flying contest. Local businesses paid to have their advertisements printed on the kites. All the kites were sent aloft. Prizes were awarded in several categories, and all of the donated money was used to further the youth missions.

Once my brother and I built our own kite. It was over five feet tall, and we covered it with the strongest paper we could find. We got our string by ripping out the seams of old feed sacks and rolling it into a hug ball. On a late March afternoon we took the kite and string out into the meadow and



proudly watched as the colorful kite climbed high into the sky. Evening chores soon took us from our game, we tied the string to a fence post and left the kite sailing silently over the farm. After milking, we found the kite still flying. Even after dark, when the flashlight could no longer spot it, we knew the kite was still flying because we could feel it tugging on the string. Sometime during the night the wind fell, and so did the kite.

I believe that there are some valuable lessons we can learn by flying a kite. First, we can learn that there is a power which is unseen, but powerful enough to lift our dreams and aspirations to high realms. A second lesson is that we must hold the string to capture the power of the wind. And, third that even though we cannot see it, there is an uplifting Spirit which call us to a closer relationship with God and with each other. So to have a richer, fuller faith, let's go fly a kite.

"O Lord my God, thou art very great—who rides on the wings of the wind. Who makes the winds your messengers."

ALL CHURCH LENTEN STUDY

ADULT STUDY

The Gospel According to Mr. Rogers: Healing and Freedom from Forgiveness

The season of Lent provides a time for us to explore the necessity for forgiveness as we approach the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We can learn a lot about expressing our emotions and extending forgiveness through the lives of Jesus Christ and Mr. Rogers.

You are welcome to join one of the small groups.
Call the church office (717-248-4561) to sign up or use the insert in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

* * * * *

Come see the movie
"A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood."
We will be showing the film at the church
Saturday, February 29 at 10:00 AM.

Childcare is available.

Please RSVP to the church office.
717-248-4561 or email lewispres@comcast.net



ALL CHURCH LENTEN STUDY BEGINS MARCH 1ST

ADULTS

Sunday, Morning 9:00 AM—Parlor

Sunday, Noon—Parlor

Sunday Evening, 4:30 PM—Manse

Tuesday Evening 6:30 PM—3rd Floor

Wednesday Afternoon 2:00 PM—Valley View (call the church office for specific place)

YOUTH

Sunday evening, 6:00 PM – Manse

**Please sign up in narthex or contact the
church office, 717-248-4561
email—lewispres@comcast.net**

BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU!

SERMON SERIES FOR LENT

The Gospel According to Mr. Rogers: Healing and Freedom from Forgiveness

Sermon Series Description: The season of Lent provides a time for us to explore the necessity for forgiveness as we approach the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We can learn a lot about expressing our emotions and extending forgiveness through the lives of Jesus Christ and Fred Rogers.

- March 1: Feelings Internalized, Not Expressed
Mark 11:12-28
Small Groups Lesson 1: March 1-7
- March 8: When You Are the Brother
Luke 15:11-32
Small Groups Lesson 2: March 8-14
- March 15: Anything Mentionable is Manageable
John 13:1-11
Small Groups Lesson 3: March 15-21
- March 22: Finding Forgiveness and Reconciliation
Matthew 18:23-35
Small Groups Lesson 4: March 22-28
- March 29: Just The Way You Are **CARDIGAN SUNDAY**
Matthew 22:34-40
Small Groups Lesson 5: March 29–April 4

**Have a little fun and join us for
Cardigan Sunday on March 29 as we
conclude our sermon series
and Lent activities.**

**We'll add the "spirit" of Fred Rogers
to our worship service by wearing
his signature cardigan!**



Dear Members and Friends,

Thank you to everyone who attended my installation service and extended good wishes and blessings to Jim, McKenzie, and myself. We appreciate those who participated in worship and provided a wonderful reception in the Baraca Room. It is good to be settled in our new home in Lewistown!

In Christian Love – Pastor Sarah



Kidz Klub

**Every Sunday during Lent
March 1 – April 5, 2020**



Living our Lives, Loving our Lord

Children in Pre K – 5th grade will enjoy Bible adventures, games, crafts
and songs every Sunday afternoon from 4:30–5:30 PM.

Supper is at 5:30 PM.

Whether we're glad, mad, or sad, Jesus loves us!

We'll be learning about the story of Joseph and with the help of emoji's
take a look at all Joseph's adventures.

Kidz Klub will end with an [emoji egg hunt on April 5.](#)

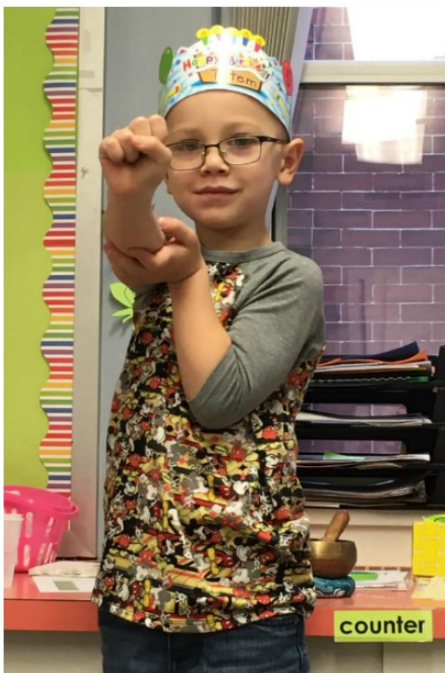
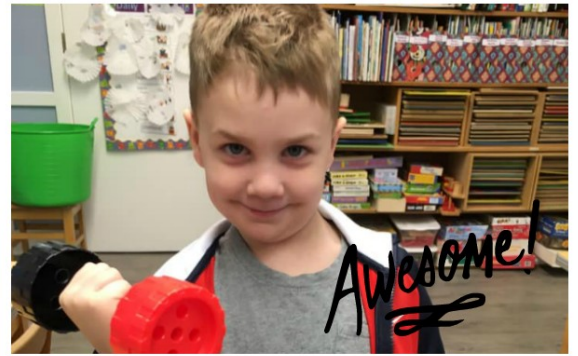
Our theme verse is from Psalm 139:1

**"O Lord...you know everything about me and are intimately
acquainted with all my ways."**

Lewistown Presbyterian Church
Corner of Third and Brown Streets
Lewistown, PA 17044
717-248-4561

Bring a friend!

PRESCHOOL PAGE



ANNOUNCEMENTS



EASTER TULIPS: The Worship and Music Committee has ordered tulips for Easter. If you would like to sponsor a pot(s) of tulips, please call the church office at 717-248-4561 or pick up an order form in the narthex of the church. The price is \$7 each. The deadline is **Sunday, March 22**. Tulips may be picked up after the worship service on Easter morning.

WRAPPED CANDY IS NEEDED: We are in need of small, individually wrapped candy to fit inside plastic Easter eggs for the egg hunt at the last

Kidz Klub on April 5. Please bring donations to the church by April 1.

OUR ALL CHURCH LENTEN STUDY begins March 1. The study is: *The Gospel According to Mr. Rogers: Healing and Freedom from Forgiveness*. The season of Lent provides a time for us to explore the necessity for forgiveness as we approach the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We can learn a lot about expressing our emotions and extending forgiveness through the lives of Jesus Christ and Fred Rogers.

You are encouraged to join one of several small groups to discuss "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" movie and lessons from Mr. Rogers. Small groups will meet once a week beginning the week of March 1.

- **Sundays at 9 AM** in the church parlor
- **Sundays at 12 noon** in the church parlor
- **Sunday evenings at 4:30 PM** at the manse
- **Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM** on the third floor
- **Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 PM** at Valley View in Belleville (call the church office for specifics)
- **Youth—Sundays at 6:00 PM** at the manse

LENTEN LUNCHEON SCHEDULE: The Lewistown Ministerium is sponsoring Lenten Luncheons on Wednesdays during Lent again this year. We begin at noon at the sponsoring church and end well before 1 PM. Each church will provide a meal and worship or a devotional thought. The schedule of host churches:

- **March 4—St. Mark's Episcopal**
- **March 11—Lewistown Presbyterian**
- **March 18—Sacred Heart Catholic**
- **March 25—First United Methodist**
- **April 1—St. John's Lutheran**

HOW TO BE INVOLVED IN PRAYER:

- You can e-mail requests to lewispres@comcast.net
- Join the prayer chain by calling Margie at 248-0427 or email mcsmith12@verizon.net
- Join us at 11:30 AM on Mondays in the Baraca Room
- Join us in prayer for the church on Thursdays at 11:30 in the church office
- Use the prayer guide in the bulletin in your daily prayers

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU! If you are interested in designing slides for the screen on Sunday mornings or simply using a laptop to move the slides forward during the service, please speak to Doug Garner or Cole Cullen. This is a great way to participate in our weekly worship together!

BOY SCOUTS FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST: Troop 4 will be serving breakfast Saturday, March 28, from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM in the Baraca room. They will be serving a full breakfast of pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, orange juice and coffee. The cost is \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children and children under five are free with a paying adult. Proceeds benefit summer camping scholarships.

MOTHER HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD: The suggested donations for March are: pork & beans, Ivory soap, tomato soup, canned luncheon meat, macaroni & cheese, cereal, canned/boxed juices and paper products.

KIDS! SAVE THESE DATES FOR THIS SUMMER!

Summer 2020

Save the dates!

We are the host church this year for the Community Vacation Bible School. Save the date, mark your calendar and think of the children in your family and community that you would like to invite!

Monday—Friday

June 22nd —26th



6:00—8:00 PM

Supper at 5:30 PM

The Christian Education Committee are looking for opportunities for Christian growth for our children and families within the church and the community.

Through the generosity of the church, we are able to provide partial or full scholarships for children to attend Krislund. We would like to highlight [You and Me Camp](#) that will be held for children entering grades K-6, from July 1—3. For more information about this and other summer activities at Krislund, go to *Krislund.org*.

We are also looking into programs for community outreach replacing Krislund Traveling Day Camp this year. Please continue to lift up the children in our community as we seek God's guidance.

Please talk to a member of the Christian Education Committee if you would like to learn more about scholarships and other activities available for children.

Leah Riden, Elaine Siddons, Ginny Westover Susan Ferguson & Pastor Sarah



FINANCIAL REPORT

Susan L. Ferguson, Church Treasurer

	January 2020	Budget	% of Budget
Income			
BUDGETED INCOME	19,766.75	201,121.00	9.83%
INVESTMENT INCOME	5,959.06	135,672.00	4.39%
Total Income	25,725.81	336,793.00	7.64%
Expense			
BENEVOLENCE	65.98	30,000.00	0.22%
MINISTRY OF THE WORD	5,798.70	82,462.00	7.03%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	723.90	5,700.00	12.7%
MUSIC AND WORSHIP	29.84	2,750.00	1.09%
PROPERTY	3,090.52	47,740.00	6.47%
ADMINISTRATION	994.26	25,873.00	3.84%
PERSONNEL	9,548.60	136,968.00	6.97%
FELLOWSHIP	0.00	1,800.00	0.0%
PRESCHOOL	115.07	3,500.00	3.29%
Total Expense	20,366.87	336,793.00	6.05%
NET INCOME	5,358.94		

Note: January 31 marks 8.33% of the year to date

MARCH VOLUNTEERS



Liturgists

- 1 Sue Garner
- 8 Lynn Curry
- 15 Kevin Kodish
- 22 Alex Garner
- 29 Tara Merry

Infants and Nursery

- 1 Kate Diven
- 8 Donis Zagurskie
- 15 Brett Buchanan
- 22 Amy Smith
- 29 Shelly Kodish

Deacon for the Month

Doug Knudson

Counters

- 1 Karen McCurdy & Ed Curry
- 8 Maryann Haines & Lisa Snyder
- 15 Mercy Westover & Kari Cullen
- 22 Michelle Knudson & Kari Cullen
- 29 Lynn Curry & John Gregory

Ushers

- Brad Siddons (head usher)
- Roger Barr
- Jim Crimmel
- Alex Garner
- Danny Garner
- Doug Knudson

Children's Chat

- 1 Pastor Sarah
- 8 Joan Loewen
- 15 Ginny Westover
- 22 Leah Riden
- 29 Susan Ferguson

Children's Church

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

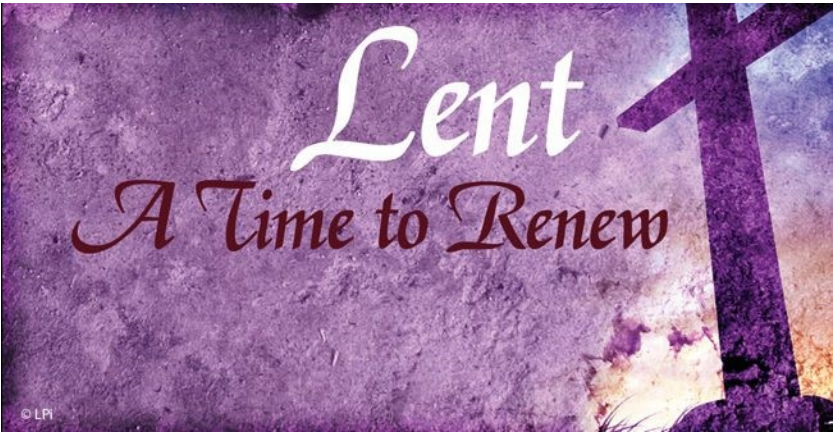


MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Ingathering 9:00 am Lenten Small Group—parlor 9:15 am Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30 am Worship - Communion 12:00 pm Lenten Small Group—parlor 4:30 pm Lenten Kidz Klub 6:00 pm—Youth small group—manse	2 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	3 6:30 pm Lenten Small Group—3rd floor	4 12 noon Lenten Lunch— St. Marks 2:00 pm Small Group—Valley View 7:00 pm Choir Practice	5 11:30 am Prayer Ministry 6:45 pm Committee Night Baraca Room	6	7
8 9:00 am Lenten Small Group—parlor 9:15 am Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Deacons' Meeting 12:00 pm Lenten Small Group—parlor 4:30 pm Lenten Kidz Klub 6:00 pm—Youth small group—manse	9 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	10 6:30 pm Lenten Small Group—3rd floor	11 12 noon Lenten Lunch-LPC 2:00 pm Small Group—Valley View 7:00 pm Choir Practice	12 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	13	14
15 Deacons' Offering 9:00 am Lenten Small Group—parlor 9:15 am Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Lenten Small Group—parlor 4:30 pm Lenten Kidz Klub 6:00 pm—Youth small group—manse	16 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	17 6:30 pm Lenten Small Group—3rd floor	18 12 noon Lenten Lunch-Sacred Heart 2:00 pm Small Group—Valley View 7:00 pm Choir Practice	19 11:30 am Prayer Ministry 7:00 pm Session	20	21
22 9:00 am Lenten Small Group—parlor 9:15 am Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Lenten Small Group—parlor 4:30 pm Lenten Kidz Klub 6:00 pm—Youth small group—manse	23 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	24 9:00 am Backyard Ministries cookie collection 6:30 pm Lenten Small group—3rd floor	25 12 noon Lenten Lunch-1st United Methodist 2:00 pm Small Group—Valley View 7:00 pm Choir Practice	26 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	27	28 Boy Scouts' Breakfast 8-11 am
29 9:00 am Lenten Small Group—parlor 9:15 am Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Community Luncheon 12:00 pm Lenten Small Group—parlor 4:30 pm Lenten Kidz Klub 6:00 pm—Youth small group—manse	30 11:30 am Prayer Ministry	31 6:30 pm Small Group—3rd floor	1 12 noon Lenten Lunch-St. John's Lutheran			

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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