

Happy June to you all! In case you have lost track of the days, weeks or months during COVID-19, it is officially June. 😊 Although it is a very different start to June than we are accustomed to having.

Normally, we would be attending graduation parties, checking out a local festival, or attending an outdoor concert. Nowadays, as we roll into a "yellow phase," we'll continue practicing social distancing in groups no larger than 25 people and we'll still be wearing our masks into stores with limited hours and greater cleanliness guidelines.

Some days we wonder if this might be our new "normal." We ache for the days when we felt much more carefree and took for granted the things we were able to do such as walking with a group through a park or talking to our friends in a Bible study inside someone's home or gathered together to worship God on a Sunday morning.

I ache for those days when we gathered in the sanctuary to pray and sing and participate in worship together as the Body of Christ. I ache with longing, while I give thanks to God for the advancement of technology that allows us to continue our familiar worship and Bible study activities together on Zoom.

If not now, soon, we will watch our community, our state, and even our world run fast forward back to a way of living that feels more "normal." We feel that now within our church and among



our Elders as we are inundated with resources guiding us to open safely by adhering to practices that ensure the safety of anyone who enters through our church doors.

I believe there will be increased pressure to open our doors, perhaps not from within our church community, but perhaps outside our church community. Already, as I drive through Lewistown, I

see churches announcing the Sunday they will gather in person to worship God.

Admittedly, their decision may be the very best for their church members, but our Session has the responsibility to make decision that are best for our church members, visiting support groups and our surrounding community.

The Session does not face easy questions. They face questions that require faithful discernment, an ability to listen to one another and a willingness to be guided by the work of the Holy Spirit.

During the Session meeting on May 21, the Session decided to keep the church building closed to worship, ministry and mission activities through the month of June. Until the end of June, the Elders will meet additional times to review necessary data and instructions to reach a point they feel comfortable opening the church to members, friends and the community.

I'm proud of their faithful work and the concern they have expressed in creating a healthy church

continued on page 2

PASTOR'S PAGE

(continued from the front page)

environment. I'm grateful for the work of our Deacons, who, since the beginning of the pandemic have done their very best to maintain faithful contact with each of you. I give thanks to God for the steadfast work of the church staff who have remained flexible to a changing environment and expectations.

I don't know how long it will be until it feels like "normal" to us all, but this I do know. . . the same God who created the universe, created us into being, and laid a spiritual and physical foundation for the growth of Lewistown Presbyterian Church is

the same God who is present in the midst of this pandemic.

And I am quite sure that our Mighty God will bring us through this entire experience not to our "normal" but to something better that only God can create. As difficult as it may be, we wait with hope, expectancy, and holding onto the sure and certain knowledge that God love us and God is in control of everything on earth.

God bless you this day and every day!

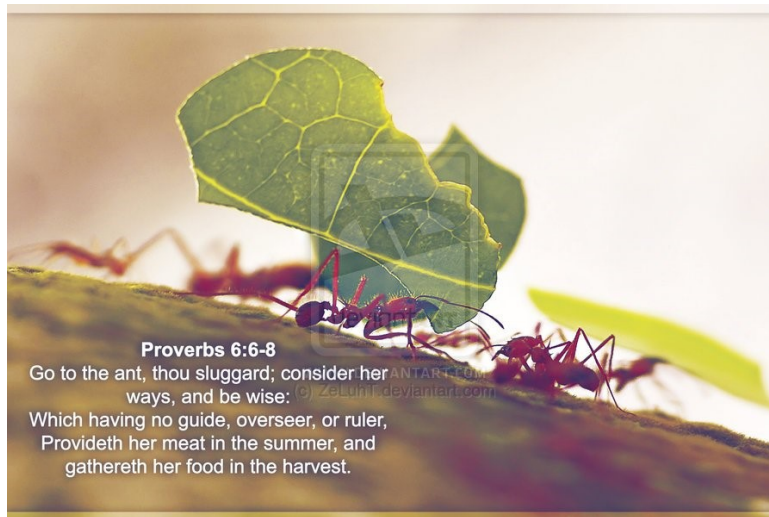
Pastor Sarah

LOOK TO THE ANT

Rev. Robert Zorn, Pastor Emeritus

Recently, as I was walking along the road near our home out here in Treaster Valley I noticed a peculiar scene which required closer examination. Something that appeared to be a soft, white cotton string which stretched for many yards on the ground in both directions. As I watched, the white line appeared to move, as if it was being pulled by an unseen hand, undulating as it moved. Closer examination found that it was not a string, but a procession of tiny ants, each ant was carrying a tiny white egg. Tracing the procession back to it's source, I found that a roadside mower had demolished a rotten stump which had been their home. Now the whole colony was to locate a new home, bringing the next generation with them. All of the workers were bearing their treasure and moved with purpose and determination, seeking a new dwelling place.

Lest you may think that my experience was just the idle pastime of a bored retiree, let me assure you that it was nothing less than a Biblical



Proverbs 6:6-8

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

admonition, with less than subtle candor. **Proverbs 6:6-8 'Go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider her ways, and be wise; which having no guide, overseer or ruler, provideth her food in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard?'**

And now, gentle reader, if you will permit me one pun.. Don't you suppose that in the parade of insects, the marchers may have been singing? Surely you have heard of an "ant hymn?" But their migration was more than just "moving day at the ant hill"—their cause and purpose was simply—Life!

Our lives, our society, our church our and security have been disturbed. Now it is necessary for all of us to carry on the life for which God has called us, **"to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Him."** Micah 6:8

CHRISTIAN ED

Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

We may have all given a collective sigh when Governor Wolf issued us into "phase yellow." It has been a long, difficult journey of repeated adjusting and re-adjusting to everything from the way we work and do school to the way we get our groceries. We have felt the whole gamut of human emotion. Our faith and our resiliency have been tested and stretched. Our priorities and perspective have been shaken and sifted. We are tired of living in quarantine and are ready to "get on with it" - whatever "it" will be. There is much speculation about what's next. One thing is certain, we will not be returning to many of the ways things were before the outbreak of Covid-19 and as disheartening as this may sound, there is really much good to be found in this new normal. Here's what the beginning of the summer will look like for the Christian education ministry here at LPC:

Zooming in June

We will continue to utilize this platform to connect and grow together. Who knows? By the time we are consistently meeting together in our church building we may just have all the kinks worked out! I am so grateful for Susan's understanding of technology! (and her ability to teach one who is not so inclined... For all I know, I might still be sitting in a zoom room all by myself had she not come to the rescue!).

Tuesday night small group

Use the Sunday worship link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5766618472> (password, 4561), and join the group each Tuesday in June at **6:30 PM**. On June 2 we will begin a six session study by Max Lucado called, "You'll Get Through This" using the DVD study on Right Now Media. Under the **library** tab on the Right Now Media's home page click on "Lewistown Presbyterian Church" and you will find "You'll Get Through This" under "current studies." It looks to be a timely study; come find encouragement from God's word and each other.



Youth Group

Join your friends in grades 6-12 from **6:00-7:00 PM** for some virtual fun and discussion producing Bible study. We'll be using the 4-week series by Frances Chan called, "Finding Truth." Check it out at Right Now Media.

Community Vacation Bible School

We are moving full steam ahead with plans for "Bible School in a Bag"; an on-line guided Vacation Bible School using Group Publishing, **Rocky Railway**. The Christian Ed Committee is **excited** about



this unique opportunity to partner with our community's churches to spread the good news of Jesus' love to the children in our neighborhoods! Joining Lewistown Presbyterian in this venture is First United Methodist, Grace United Methodist and Sacred Heart. We will be using a combination of Rocky Railway videos and our own recordings posted online as well as off-line, along with a week's worth of VBS fun in a bag delivered to children's homes. Each "Bible School in a Bag" will contain instructions to participate online, a Bible adventure book with all the Bible stories, materials to make each day's craft, coloring pages, Bible buddy characters, a pre-packaged snack, and more!

Rocky Railway will take place **Monday, June 29 – Friday, July 3.**

How can you get involved?

Pray! This is not just a word to say. God's work is accomplished through the intentional, incessant prayers of his people. If our desire is to see the Spirit of God change lives and see families come into relationship with Jesus Christ (and it is!) then we **must** pray! Please lift the families in our churches and neighborhoods to God, asking him to prepare hearts, impress the need to engage with VBS and be open to receive his gift of salvation. Please pray for all who are involved in preparing; that we would keep in

CHRISTIAN ED *cont.*

Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

step with the Spirit of God, stay unified and communicate clearly to the children and with each other. Please pray for technology to work and run smoothly.

Help Deliver Bags! (details are in the works for this; it may entail driving to homes and dropping off bags or helping with a drive-by pick-up).

Purchase Pre-packaged, Individualized Snacks. We need snacks for 200 kid's times 5 days! That's 1000 individual, pre-packaged snacks! Donations of individual, store-manufacturer's wrapped Rice Krispy treats, pretzels, crackers, gummies, cookies, etc. are welcomed and can be dropped off at the church by **June 19**.

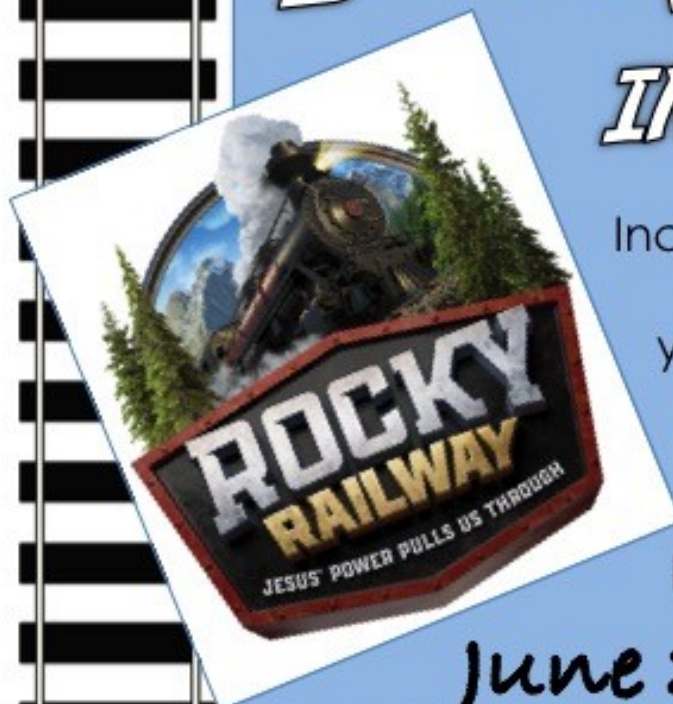
Sponsor a VBS child and bag. Sponsor a "Bible School in a Bag" for \$10 per bag. Sponsors will receive the first name of a child so that you can pray for that child through VBS and the summer. Contact the church office for more information.

One of the most exciting positives that the Pandemic has brought about, in my opinion, is a coming together of followers of Jesus Christ who are focused on the common goal of bringing honor to him through demonstrating his love. I recently read these words from John 17. They continue to stay in my mind: (Jesus prays,) ***"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one – as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."*** (John 17:20-22 NLT) May we always serve with this in mind, whatever phase of re-opening we're in!



All aboard for
summertime fun!

BIBLE SCHOOL IN A BAG



Includes a goodie bag
with everything
you will need to do
VBS in the safety
of your home
while viewing a
local online video!

June 29-July 3

or whenever you want from then on all summer

To reserve a goodie bag for you and your friends,
call 248-4561 or email lewispres@comcast.com or
watch for the online registration form on Facebook

Brought to you by these Lewistown churches so far:
First United Methodist, Grace United Methodist,
Sacred Heart Catholic and Lewistown Presbyterian!

THANK YOU for your prayers and support!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Susan L. Ferguson, Church Treasurer

	Jan - Apr 2020	Budget	% of Budget
Income			
BUDGETED INCOME	60,132.98	201,121.00	29.9%
PAYROLL PROTECTION LOAN	38,600.00	0.00	0.0%
INVESTMENT INCOME	38,486.29	135,672.00	28.37%
Total Income	137,219.27	336,793.00	40.74%
Expense			
BENEVOLENCE	4,647.49	30,000.00	15.49%
MINISTRY OF THE WORD	24,271.24	82,462.00	29.43%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	1,406.48	5,700.00	24.68%
MUSIC AND WORSHIP	63.50	2,750.00	2.31%
PROPERTY	16,349.55	47,740.00	34.25%
ADMINISTRATION	7,149.09	25,873.00	27.63%
PERSONNEL	41,809.63	136,968.00	30.53%
FELLOWSHIP	218.21	1,800.00	12.12%
PRESCHOOL	519.22	3,500.00	14.84%
CAPITAL RESERVE	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Expense	96,434.41	336,793.00	28.63%
Total Income	40,784.86		

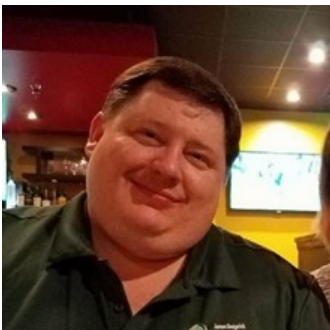
* Note April 30 marks 33.3% of the year to date

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!!



Kirk Bennett

Kirk was born in Pittsburgh and baptized Sept 12, 1958 at Pleasant Hills Community Presbyterian Church. He has lived in Pittsburgh, PA; Cincinnati, OH; Naperville, IL; Indiana, PA; Annapolis, MD; Littleton, CO; Boulder, CO; Schererville, IN; Cary, IL; Aurora, IL; Nashua, NH; South Windsor, CT; Flemington, NJ. He moved to Lewistown in June of 2019. Kirk worked as an Architect/Engineer for 32 years. He retired in February of 2019. His wife, whom he started dating in 1972 and married on Flag Day in 1980 passed on December 22, 2018. His wife, Lana, struggled with breast cancer for 12 years. He has 34 year old twin sons who live in Philly suburbs. Both sons are married. Joshua and his wife, Jacquie, have a 4 year old son and a 2 year old daughter. Derick's wife, Courtney, is pregnant and their daughter is due on June 21. He hopes to continue volunteering for Habitat for Humanities and he looks forward to serving in our church.



Jim Sedgwick

Jim Sedgwick is joining the church by certificate of transfer from First United Presbyterian Church of DuBois where he served as a Ruling Elder and assisted with the monthly Community Breakfast. Jim served three years in the United States Air Force and earned his Associates in Specialized Business. Jim is self-employed and owns Sedgwick Business Solutions, providing administrative support services, bookkeeping, payroll and merchant services. Jim and Pastor Sarah were married September 6, 2015 and have three children, Brett (22), Cole (17), and McKenzie (14). Originally from Curwensville, PA, Jim lived in Alaska and northern Virginia, before returning to Central PA in early 2000.

OUR 2020 GRADUATES!!



Riley Cullen

Riley graduated from Mifflin County High School. He was active in the marching band, concert band, Trading Card Guild and Extreme Gamers club. He enjoys trading cards, gaming and friends. He plans to attend Penn State University, University Park to study Art Education.



Mikayla Pecht

Mikayla will be attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania this fall and will be majoring in Natural Sciences/Pre-Optometry.



Hailee Weader

Hailee received her Associate's Degree of Science in Nursing from Pitt Bradford. She is now pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing also at Pitt-Bradford this fall.



CONGRATULATIONS!

2020 Preschool Graduates!



Cullen Donaldson

son of Reana Donaldson

Cullen's favorite part of preschool was playing. In the future he wants to keep playing and drink chocolate milk.



Evie Merry

daughter of Ryan & Tara Merry

Evie's favorite parts of preschool, "was when we got to say what day it is and sometimes the teacher picked me" and centers. In the future Evie would like to "become a scientist of underwater sea creatures, a vet for dogs, cats, and other animals, and a mom."

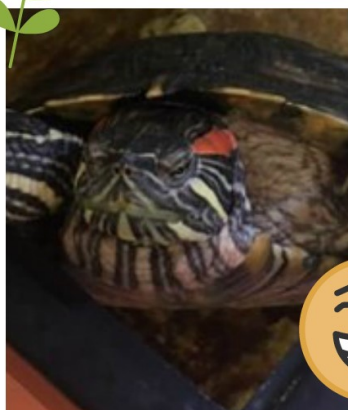
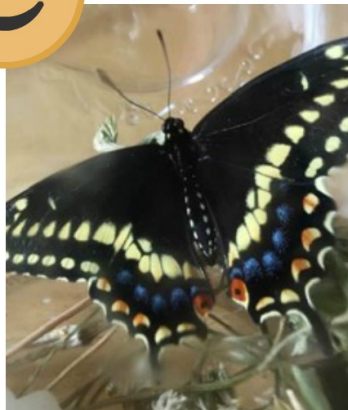


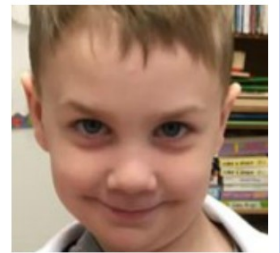
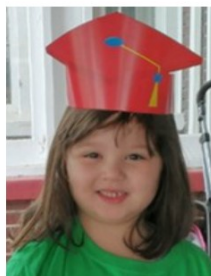
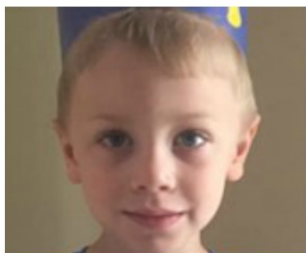
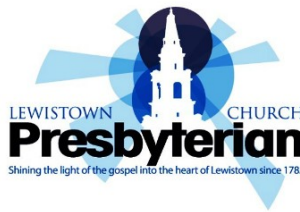
Nora Smith

daughter of Michael & Stephanie Smith

Nora's favorite part of preschool was...EVERYTHING! In the future Nora wants to become a police officer.

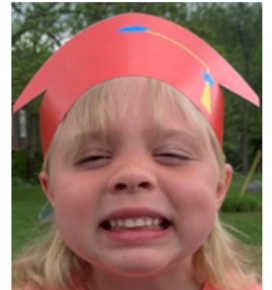
PRESCHOOL 2019-2020!!





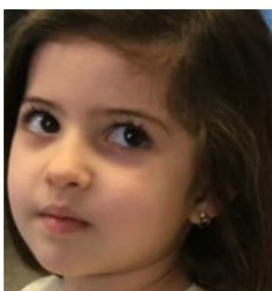
Morning Class

The 2019 – 2020 school year will go on record as “one of a kind”! Who could have imagined that first day of class way back in August that this chapter of these children’s education would come to a close the way that it did! We literally Zoomed to the finish! Mrs. Henry and I are so very grateful for the time that we have had with our students and their families! What a joyous privilege it has been! Graduates, you have endeared yourselves to us with your zest for life, your infectious giggles, and your enthusiasm for learning. Parents, you made this year such a pleasure through your friendly conversations, help in the classroom and overall support; Thank You! Church Session, Preschool Committee and Church Family, your prayers, financial support, advice and creative ideas have seen us through! A special word of thanks to each Book Buddy—the children LOVED receiving their book each month! It’s with much thanks and praise to our wonderful God that we wish you all a great summer!



Afternoon Class

Congratulations!
God bless and
keep you.
Have a
wonderful
summer!



CROSSROAD PREGNANCY CENTER

Baby Bottle Boomerang

What can you do in the fight for life? What can your spare change accomplish?
It doesn't take much to give hope!

By filling a bottle you are helping us recognize the lives that have been touched and saved through the ministry of our centers. Money raised in our baby bottle campaign will support life-changing work of meeting the physical and spiritual needs of men and women who find themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy. You are also reaching out to many students through our sexual-risk avoidance program, making abortion recovery supplies and education to the mothers service through various mentoring programs.



LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN will have bottles available when we are able to meet. Until then, you can GIVE ONLINE at cpcforlife.org

A LITTLE CHANGE MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!

RIGHTNOW MEDIA



Dear Friends,

At Lewistown Presbyterian Church, we want to help you grow in Christ by providing you with resources and equipping you with all the tools you will need. If you consider Lewistown Presbyterian to be your church home, we want to make Right Now Media available to you...for FREE!

RightNow Media is an online Christian Netflix filled with Bible studies, teachings on relationships, parenting, and an entire library of fun, safe children's videos. Over 20,000 on demand videos available to you and your family, completely free! There are many ways we can use these resources and we look forward to learning together!

Please contact the church to receive the link to join.

To learn more about RightNow Media visit <https://www.rightnowmedia.org>

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Address Correction Requested



Please contact us if you would like more information.

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Visit us at Website: www.lewistownpresbyterian.org

Find us on Facebook!

IN THIS ISSUE:

Rev. Sarah Sedgwick	1
Rev. Zorn	2
Christian Ed	3
Summer VBS	5
Financial Report	6
New Members	6
2020 Graduates	7
Preschool	8-10
Crossroads Preg. Center	11
Right Now Media	11