

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN

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DEACONS' NEWS

The Grocery Distribution took place on July 19 with 24 families receiving bags of groceries. The Mission Committee also provided a “Grab and Go” lunch for the families. Over sixty lunches were given out that day. Each bag consisted of two hotdogs, pasta salad, chips, and homemade cookies. This new addition was greatly appreciated. Please spread the word that the Grocery Distribution is every third Tuesday of the month from 10:30 until noon.

The Mission Committee was contacted by the City of Warren Fire Department for help with their Fire

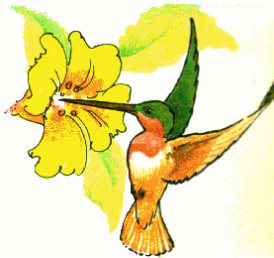
Safety Education Program. A \$300.00 donation was given by the Deacons to help support this important safety program for the children in our community.

The Fellowship and Congregational Care Committees hosted a “Strawberry Shortcake Soiree” on July 11, following the Congregational Meeting. These opportunities for fellowship are so enjoyable after the many months of social distancing; hopefully, more events will be planned.

The Deacons will return to their monthly meetings in August. We strive to continue to make a positive difference in our

congregation, community, and the world around us as we enjoy the beautiful, fleeting days of summer.

Sarah Hirt Buzulencia
Deacon, Vice Moderator



THE SP_{IRE}

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The Church Growth Committee would like to send a big thank you to Chris Lovett for inviting us to the Warren Olympic Club for our church picnic. After a year of not socializing due to the pandemic, 32 people chatted and enjoyed fried chicken from a local business (RBG Eatery) and a lot of delicious pot- luck dishes. A few brave souls took advantage of the pool on this very rainy day.

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In mid-July our stately old Christmas pine tree had to be removed because it was starting to die. This was interesting to watch as they used a large crane and removed it in two pieces.



MUSIC MINISTRY



We're getting ready to rehearse, so now is the time to join the Music Ministry Program! If you would like to ring a bell or lift your voice in praise of God's greatness, PLEASE JOIN US! Bell Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, August 12, from 6-7 pm in the Sanctuary. Motet Choir rehearsals will begin Sunday, August 29, following the church service from 11:15 am-12:00 pm. Being a part of the Music Ministry @ FPC does not require exceptional talent nor experience. It does require a commitment to spreading God's message using the talents given to you. Being a part of the Music Ministry @ FPC brings fellowship, friendship, and, most importantly, first pick of the donuts every Sunday! We hope to see you at one of our "get ready" rehearsals!

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL 2021-22

Let's continue our efforts to help our community children, many of whom will lack the basic supplies needed for school. Don't forget **School Supplies** the next time you are out and about. Some of the supplies needed are glue (stick or liquid), pencils/pens, folders, wide-ruled notebook paper, erasers, scissors, etc. Every little bit helps those children less fortunate. You can drop off your donations at the Church Office.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the award of FPC scholarships for 2021 to the following students:

Everett Burd - Kent State University, son of Amy and Tom Burd

Tavish Burd - University of Cincinnati, son of Amy and Tom Burd

Brandon Holk - Youngstown State University, son of Heidi and William Holk

Alexis Musgrove - Youngstown State University, daughter of JoAnn and Bradley Musgrove

Zachary Scher - Ashland College, son of Karen and Jim Scher

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success!

FPC Scholarship Committee

Moving Forward: Living through a Season of Change

August 20 – 21. In person.

Crestfield Camp and Conference Center, Slippery Rock, PA

The last eighteen months have been crazy. It's time to take a breath, hit the pause button, reflect on where we've been and gather hope for the journey ahead. For pastors, elders and interested others.

Friday's Focus: Adaptive Change. 2 pm -early evening

Learn tools to help lead change while continuing in ministry and mission. The day will include community building, an overview of the adaptive change model, hands-on exercises, and worship. Campfire and s'mores to close the day.

Saturday's Focus: Processing COVID. 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Reflect on the impact COVID has had on you personally and on your congregation. Using a mix of journaling, reflection, storytelling, and worship, our facilitators will help us grieve what we've lost, identify where we've found strength, seek healing for what remains wounded, and find hope for ourselves and our congregations in the time ahead.

Costs and Lodging:

Day rate: \$10 per person per day.

Overnight rate: \$75 per room

Rooms in Scott Lodge sleep up to three on twin beds. Each room has its own bath. Participants can either reserve a private room or share a room with a spouse or roommate(s). A room costs \$75 regardless of how many people occupy it.

Registration Deadline: August 5

Register at www.eastminsterpresbytery.org/events



GOOD STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION Our next celebration of Communion will be *Sunday, August 1, 2021*, during our regular 10:00 a.m. worship service.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING Don't forget to include this with your offering on **Sunday, August 1, 2021**. This provides a channel for Presbyterians to respond to the crisis of hunger at home and abroad. Don't forget to bring your coins to drop in the special offering buckets.

FPC WEB PAGE ADDRESS is <http://www.fpcwarren.org> - come visit us on the 'Net! Our e-mail address is fpcwarren@hotmail.com

LISTEN TO US EVERY SUNDAY MORNING at 10:00 a.m. on WHTX 1570 AM or watch us live on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church of Warren.

THE SPIRE DEADLINE for this month is **Monday, August 23**. Please send your articles and pictures to Kathie at fpcwarren@hotmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL CARE If you or someone you know would like a visit or assistance from the Deacons, please call the Church Office.

JOIN US THURSDAY MORNINGS for our weekly prayer talk. We meet in Fellowship Hall for guided devotionals with scripture, prayer, and fellowship at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome. Please join us.

VACATION: Kathie is on vacation **August 19 - 20**. The Church Office will be open for phone calls from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Thursday but will be closed on Friday.

NARTHEX UPDATE: All of the repairs to the Narthex have been completed except for the carpet. The carpet has been ordered and will be delivered and installed sometime between three to five weeks.

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Greetings! My name is Amy Lynn Clark, and I am the new Director of Youth & Family Ministries at First Presbyterian Church. A little about myself so that you can get to know me: I was born and raised Episcopalian and have been in ministry most of my adult life. I received my Bachelors of Arts degree in Religious Studies and Christian Education from Thiel College in 2004 and have been in ministry ever since, with the exception of the last few years when I was a Senior Community Development Manager for the American Cancer Society. I have worked across most denominations including Methodist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and even a non-denominational church. I live in Sharon, PA, just across the state line, with my high school sweetheart who just so happens to also be my husband. Together we are raising our six-year-old nephew, along with our two four-legged fur babies, Hazel and Zoey. I enjoy reading - any James Patterson fans out there? I am happiest when I am spending time being creative in my "studio", whether using fabric, paper, or vinyl – I love to find inspiration on Pinterest and make it my own! I am excited for the opportunity to work with the young people, families, and members at Warren FPC. If you see me around over the next few weeks, please take a minute and introduce yourself. I am anxious to get to know each and everyone of you!



Greetings from the Communications Committee!

We hope you are enjoying the new Church Website and encouraging your friends to enjoy it as well! We also hope you are enjoying the FPC Jar Opener that you should have received on a recent Sunday. If you haven't gotten yours yet, be sure to ask after the service the next time you are at church.

We also wanted to let you know the procedure for getting something posted on Facebook. If there is something you would like to post, you should first contact Amy Burd, chair of the Communications Committee. You can email her at amy.h.burd@gmail.com. She will then bring it to the committee for their approval; finally, it will be given to Brian Annandonono, also a member of the Communications Committee, to be posted. Thanks in advance for following this procedure!

WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

In essence: Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Said another way, it is a **Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund** — *part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together*. Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system should be shared by everyone as well.

Congregations (through their sessions) pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their respective presbyteries. The per capita amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation's presbytery (Eastminster Presbytery \$19.77), the synod in which the presbytery is located (Synod of the Covenant \$3.25), and the General Assembly (\$8.48) — based on their respective budgets for the coming year(s) for a total of **\$32.00**.

Per capita funding is how we mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future.

For example, the funding provides for the cost of bringing together:

- Gathering church leaders from presbyteries and synods for training events-*Mary Ann Bromley attended the national Moderator's training; various members have attended Vital Congregations' national training*
- Supporting work in the area of ordered ministry, helping all Presbyterians respond to God's call in their lives as teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons
- Providing scholarships to college students from the synod-*3 FPC college students received these funds in 2020*
Providing grants to churches for vitality from the Synod-*The Voices of Micah group received an \$1800 grant for the "Just Mercy" Book Club discussion*
Providing support from the presbytery in the form of Vital Congregations, Committee of Ministry, and various retreats.

Because the Session of this Church affirms our connectedness to the presbytery, synod and general assembly, they have voted to support the per capita for each member, regardless of whether the individual has paid their own portion or not. When support is not designated for this cost separately, that support is taken from ministry and building needs. Please contribute your portion, if you haven't earlier, so we can continue to do vital ministry! Thank you, The Finance Committee



BETTY'S JOYFUL NOISE

Dave and I bought a very small travel trailer this May, so that we can journey and travel - go see our children, visit places nearby while being outside and in God's creation. In fact, we just returned from our maiden voyage to Upper Black Eddy, PA outside Philadelphia and near the Delaware River and seeing our children. We learned new things about camping, each other, and the eastern part of Pennsylvania. We had a nice time being away for a while.

As we drove to this unknown place along I 80 east then turning onto this road, then that road, then this road, we were somewhat like Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 12, but we had our "trip tik" aka our gps computer road maps to guide us. You should know that my map quest and Dave's Waves had different routes but we had a plan. We had something we could look at and figure out what direction we were headed and how to get there.

Abraham and Sarah went on a journey to an unknown place to them. They didn't have a road map. More importantly, they had God. God was steadfast with them. Leading them, guiding them, making way for them, and being present with them.

As a church we are now like Abraham and Sarah, learning to rely on God more and more without knowing exactly where we are going. We did this during the pandemic with Facebook worship, outdoor worship, Zoom Sunday school. We changed our ways, adapting to our conditions. We did not have a guidebook that could give us step-by-step instructions. We learned as we went, trying new ideas, keeping what worked and throwing out what didn't.

The pandemic obviously isn't over. Neither are we done with our own adaptive changes as the summer begins to end and we plan for the fall. We have the new Family and Youth Director; we have new officers being trained and installed; Melanie is getting the vocal and bell choirs together in a new way; we will be deciding about the future shape of Sunday School and spiritual formation for our children and youth. Just like Abraham and Sarah, God is guiding us to do new things in new ways. It will be important for us to remember that and to keep worshipping, praising God, giving thanks to God and rejoicing in all that God provided.

Let August be the month for us to continue to travel together as we plan and strategize for the fall and the time to come.

Joyfully, Betty

Worship Committee

Communion will be celebrated on August 1, 2021, during worship.

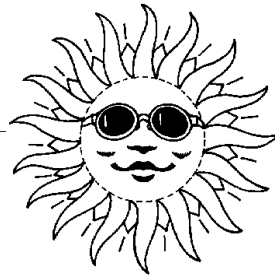
Our evening vesper services will continue on August 10 and 24. Fellowship starts at 5:30 with the vesper service starting at 6:30. These will be outside, weather permitting.

50 year membership: When we celebrated Founder's Day last year, the new members from Niles were included in the celebration. It was brought to our attention that we have members who were fifty-year members in another church before joining Warren First. If this situation applies, please notify the Church Office with the information about your membership (church, city, and dates) so you can be recognized as a fifty-year member of a congregation. Ray Rubrake

FPC Birthdays

08/01 Sarah Buzulencia
 08/04 Sharon Jorgensen
 08/08 Rebecca Burns
 08/10 Bill Burns, Jr.
 Karen Sanders
 08/11 Frank Morrison
 08/13 Gary Wireman
 08/15 Chick Haering, Jr.
 Matt Ries
 08/19 Barbara Pollock
 08/22 Mike McKee
 Buck Gillispie
 08/25 Theresa Kemp
 Cindy Athya
 Tim Ward
 08/28 Ian Vasil
 Jeffrey Miller
 08/29 Katie Chuirazzi
 Lydia Sasnecki
 08/30 Betsy Parsons
 08/31 Parry Hesselman

If we have overlooked anyone's birthday, we apologize. Please contact the Church Office so that we may update our records.



AUGUST 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 2¢/meal 10:00 am Worship Scholarship Awards	2 1:00 pm Alt. Gift Giving Mtg., P 7:00 pm AA, MC	3 9:30 Al-Anon, MC 7:00 NA, MC	4 10:00 am CE Meeting 6:30 pm AA, MC	5 9:30 am Prayer Talk, FH 7:00 pm Worship Mtg. 7:00 pm AA, MC	6 11:00 am AA, P	7
8 10:00 am Worship	9 7:00 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm VOM	10 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 4:00 pm Finance Mtg. 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm NA, MC	11 6:30 pm Officer Training 6:30 pm AA, MC	12 9:30 am Prayer Talk, FH 7:00 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm CE Meeting	13 11:00 am AA, P	14
15 10:00 am Worship	16 6:00 pm Fibromyalgia, P 7:00 pm AA, MC	17 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 10:30 am Free Lunch Grocery Distribution 7:00 pm NA, MC	18 1:00 pm MVI, P 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm Session Meeting	19 9:30 am Prayer Talk, FH 4:00 pm Church Growth Mtg. 7:00 pm AA, MC	20 11:00 am AA, P Vital Cong. Retreat	21 Vital Cong. Retreat
22 10:00 am Worship	23 SPIRE Deadline 7:00 pm AA, MC	24 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm NA, MC	25 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm Communications Meeting	26 9:30 am Prayer Talk, FH 7:00 pm AA, MC	27 11:00 am AA, P	28
29 10:00 am Worship	30 6:30 pm B&G Meeting 7:00 pm AA, MC	31 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 7:00 pm NA, MC				

