

November 2019

Meeting House News

First Presbyterian Church
On the Square, 2A North Hanover Street
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013



The Reverend Anthony D. Lorenz, Pastor
The Reverend Jon A. Black, Pastor Emeritus
Deborah Madden, Educator Emerita
Arthur Thompson, Organist
Susan Shuey, Choir Director
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Pastor's Corner



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Dear Members & Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

I'm watching leaves fall like giant snowflakes as I type this brief note to you. Fall has arrived in south-central Pennsylvania and has brought some beautiful colors and cooler temperatures along with it. Soon the clocks will go back and days that already seem short will be even shorter (or at least seem shorter). This is a time of transition.

With Debby Madden's retirement we also find ourselves in a time of transition as a congregation. Debby has been a vital part of our ministry here at First Church for twenty years and it is hard to see her go, but we know that she will continue to a treasured friend and sister in Christ even if she no longer serves here. If you were able to attend her retirement celebration then you know that we are sending her off well. The Session presented her with a lovely gift, *Christ and His Mother Studying the Scriptures* by Henry Ossawa Tanner, one of Debby's favorite artists. Because of your generosity we presented Debby and her husband Dave with gift cards for the Philadelphia Phillies; they can now attend several games next year! And Debby was named *Director of Educational Ministries Emerita*, a lasting reminder and expression of gratitude for her good work with, for, and among us as a congregation.

Many of you have asked, so what comes next? Transitions are sometimes hard to navigate. I want to assure you that the Human Resources (HR) Committee and the Church Session have been praying, working, and thinking about what comes next. The HR Committee has completely revised the position description for the Christian Educator and the Session recently approved it. The HR Committee will now work on crafting an advertisement to be publicized after the first of the year when we will receive applications. Continue to watch the newsletter and bulletin for further information.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone who has stepped up to help with some of Debby's duties in this time of transition. We all need to work together as the people of God to continue the ministries of our congregation. I would also like to thank everyone who helped, in any way, with Debby's retirement celebration. You are too many to name individually, but I hold all of you in my heart with deep gratitude.

Since November is the month of Thanksgiving, I will continue to give thanks, first for your prayers and support during my recent trip to the Middle East. I was deeply inspired by the Christian witness in Lebanon and Iraq and I look forward to sharing some of my experiences with you soon. Finally, I want to say thank-you for totally surprising me on October 27th in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month! I didn't see that coming! Thank you for the lovely gift. I'm deeply grateful to be your pastor and to be able to serve God with you.

Yours very truly in Christ,
Pastor Tony Lorenz



The Prayer Community continues under the leadership of Jamie Hoffman. Meet after worship on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Pray-ers are welcome!



Out of town? Listen to sermons & full services, plus read the newsletter at: www.firstprescarlisle.org

PW THANK OFFERING

Since 1888, Presbyterian Women (PW) have expressed their deep sense of gratitude for God's blessings in their lives by giving back to people in their communities and around the world. Through the Thank Offering, we can help fund programs that provide education, safe housing, food, clean water, health care and so much more. At First Church, the PW will receive the Thank Offering on Sunday, November 24th. Highlighted below are several organizations (additional highlights will be provided in a worship bulletin insert):

NATIONAL

Synod of Alaska/Northwest: Green lantern Lunch Program, \$30,000. The lumber and fishing industries that were once the heart of the North Beach area have disappeared and only service jobs remain. Parents work several jobs and struggle to meet minimal costs of living and feed their children. This grant will be used to pay for delivery of meals to children during summer months.

Synod of Mid-America: Room at the Inn, \$24,250. Room at the Inn serves families who had been living in their car, spending nights in a park, or squatting in an abandoned building. They stay for up to 30 days and get assistance in identifying needs, setting goals, accessing services, finding housing, securing employment and becoming more self-sufficient. The grant will help replace outdated equipment that is needed to serve this homeless clientele.

Synod of Mid-Atlantic: Loving Food Resources, \$31,500. This food pantry provides food, health and personal care items to Appalachian residents living with HIV/AIDS or to patients in home hospice care. This grant will help construct a new dock that is safe and will allow the pantry to expand the items they can provide.

INTERNATIONAL

Zambia: Church of Central Africa, Synod of Zambia Health Department. In the eastern Province of Zambia at least 90,000 women are of child bearing age, but only 7,070 women have been screened for cervical cancer. The grant will allow nurses to travel quarterly to provide education and alleviate fears of women in rural health centers.

Ghana: Maternity Ward Partnership, \$40,000. Because perinatal and maternal mortality is a serious problem in Ghana, the new maternity ward will save the lives of infants and mothers, and improve health for thousands in Dzemenu and beyond, for decades to come.

Presbyterian Church in Cameroon: \$21,600. This grant will set up modern blood banks, provide a two-day training workshop for laboratory staffs, nurses, midwives, gynecologists and GPs, and purchase a standby generator.

"Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you."

"When you search for me you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart." (Jer. 29-12-13)

Stewardship

Watch your mailbox for the annual Stewardship mailing, coming soon. Dedication Sunday will be November 24th, when pledge cards should be returned during worship. Pledge cards may be returned to the church office anytime.



Q—What's flat, blue and needs \$27.10?

A—Why, it's your 2019 Per Capita envelope! First Church pledges a Per Capita ("per member") payment to the Presbytery to support their work, and that of the General Assembly and Synod. If you have not yet provided your 2019 Per Capita of \$27.10, please do so. No blue envelope is necessary; you may add "Per Capita" in the memo line of your check. Your payment is distributed by the Presbytery as follows:

General Assembly	\$ 8.95
Synod of the Trinity	\$ 2.30
Presbytery of Carlisle	<u>\$15.85</u>
	\$27.10



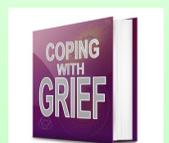
(If you have already paid this, thank you!)

Did You Know?

Since 2016, the Deacons have provided a "Journeying Through Grief" program (a labor of love) for members and family of the congregation. This program provides a set of four short books sent to grieving members at four crucial times during the first year after a loss: at 3 weeks, 3 months; 6 months and 11 months.

The books are: A Time to Grieve; Experiencing Grief; Finding Hope and Healing; and Rebuilding and Remembering. They provide a simple yet meaningful way to reach out to the grieving people throughout that difficult year. These books provide valuable and timely information to help the person better understand feelings he or she may be experiencing. The multiple contacts help the person to feel valued and remembered all year long.

Since its inception in 2016, Ellen Darr, program chair, and Judie Read, deacon, have given or sent more than 45 sets of grief books to church members. In January 2020, deacon Judie Read will become chair of this program. Questions or comments can be addressed to her.





Hanging of the Greens & Soup Luncheon



After worship on the 2nd Sunday of Advent — December 8th — there will be a simple soup luncheon followed by the Hanging of the Greens. Some of the decorating will be done in advance, mainly the gaslight wreaths and the balcony garlands. Remaining will be six projects to complete. A leader will be designated to supervise each project. Projects are:

- Assembly and decorate the tree in Fellowship Hall.
- Decorate the three front doors with pine roping and hang wreaths on all the entrance doors.
- Hang garland on the organ pipes with a wreath and two swags.
- Place greenery and candles on the window sills in the sanctuary.
- Decorate the tower stairway area and place the nativity set on the small table in that area.
- Prepare the candles and holders for distribution at the Christmas Eve service. Prepare the candles for the decorated aisle stanchions. The stanchions will not be put in place until after the worship on Sunday, December 22.

Decorating activities will be followed by a short devotional led by Pastor Tony that will include carol singing. Watch for a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to help us in our planning. We hope you will attend and make this event the start of your Christmas season.

Thank you,
Worship Committee



Poinsettias

Poinsettias will once again be offered for purchase this Christmas season. If you wish to buy one/more to adorn the sanctuary, please provide the information below to either Mrs. Joan Line, 2070 Ritner Highway, Carlisle, PA 17015; or to the church office. The price is still **\$9.00**. Make checks payable to **"Flower Fund, First Presbyterian Church."** Both orders & payments must be received by Sunday, Dec. 8th. Flowers will be available Sunday, **Dec. 15th.**

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

BY: _____

Place a checkmark beside which of the following is/are applicable:

- I will pick up my poinsettia(s) after the Christmas Eve service.
- I will leave my poinsettia(s) to be given to a shut-in.
- I am willing to deliver a poinsettia to a shut-in.



<u>Financial Update</u>		
	<u>SEP</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving	\$23,604	\$173,392
Investments	---	\$ 12,110
Shares Redeemed	---	\$ 14,000
Other	\$ 750	\$ 3,457
Total Income	\$24,354	\$207,959
Expenses	(\$24,496)	(\$230,469)



On Sunday, Nov. 3, we will celebrate our Saints during worship. You are invited to bring in a photo of your loved one to place on a sanctuary windowsill. Members/friends who have joined the Church Triumphant since last All Saints' Day are:

- John Crum
- Constance Hutchison
- Roberta Graff
- Harold Kretzing
- James Compton
- Richard Sommers
- Clark Hefflefinger
- Dennis Rydberg
- John Snaman
- James Peffer
- William Stoops
- Phyllis Bowman

Deacons' Doings

Salvation Army Bell-Ringing. The Deacons & Friends will ring the red kettle bells outside JoAnn Fabrics (Point Mall) on **Sat., Dec. 7, 10 AM—9 PM.** Catch the holiday spirit by signing up for a one-hour shift. If interested in ringing, contact Alice Zimmerman at **717-240-0063.**
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Truck Stop Ministry Cookies. We don't have a date set yet, but until we do, please dust off your rolling pins in anticipation of supporting the local Truck Stop Ministry by providing truck drivers with a taste of home during this Christmas season.  
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Mission Sunday Results. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation (\$2,000+), the Deacons & Session, on Oct. 6, 50 disaster relief buckets were assembled. They were delivered by Ron & Deb Richcreek to

Dear Friends,

The love in the room was palpable, the remarks about trusting me with the spiritual nurture of your children were heartfelt, the poem from e.e. cummings was amazing, the humor was uplifting, the gratitude for my temper was miraculous, and the hugs, kind words, and laughter which continued throughout the entire evening were astonishing. Pastor Tony, Session, the Parish Life and the Education Committees spared no detail to convey your appreciation for my 20 years of faithful service. Yet I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the worship on Sunday morning with music that touched my heart and soul, and prayers which will never be forgotten.

I cannot begin to thank each of you for all the wonderful gifts, cards, and notes. I will think of each of you as I look at the Henry Tanner painting hanging in my living room. I will remember all of you when I am enjoying the Phillies games. And I will certainly be honored knowing that every Sunday my name will be on the bulletin as Christian Educator Emerita.

God bless each of you. You have been an inspiration to me.

Your sister in Christ, Debby



Mark Your Calendars – Sunday, November 24th
 Congregational Meeting....Stewardship Sunday....PW Thank Offering Received

November Birthdays

- 8 Lynne Hofferica
Jack Patterson
- 11 Will Thompson
William Graver
- 15 Marjorie Neusbaum
- 18 Nancy Augustine
- 20 Matt Crum
Babette Madison
- 21 Tracy Eastadt
- 26 Connie Husler
- 27 Frank Valle
- 30 Millie Koishal



"To My Church Family: I would like to thank you for your prayers and cards expressing your sympathy upon the loss of my husband Bill. They are appreciated and a comfort during a stressful time."
Bertie Stoops

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Phyllis Bowman who joined the Church Triumphant on Monday, October 28th.



Notable Quote

"Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received.

Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling.

Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse."

Henry Van Dyke

November Worship Helpers

READERS

- Nov. 3: Molly Shane
Nov. 10: Bob Read
Nov. 17: Deb Ryerson
Nov. 24: Sue Shuey

USHERS

- Nov. 3: Ray Thomas; Barb Allen; Bob Davis; Earlene Heckendorn
Nov. 10: Bruce & Kathy Mulvey; Bruce & Anita Ashbaugh
Nov. 17: Jerry & Jenneane Light; Kari Kornish
Nov. 24: Ryan & Laura Crim; Suzanne McKinnon; Kari Kornish

COUNTERS

- Nov. 3: Joe & Molly Shane; Lynda Mann
Nov. 10: Jim & Barb Crum; David Killian
Nov. 17: Earl & Alice Zimmerman; Charlie Thompson
Nov. 24: Bruce & Anita Ashbaugh; Frank Meehan

FLOWERS

Ellen Darr (chair); Jamie Hoffman

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

- Nov. 3: Bertie Stoops
Nov. 10: Susan & Frank Meehan
Nov. 17: Susan & Ron Palyo
Nov. 24: Connie Husler & Peggy McKeehen

COMMUNION (Nov. 3)

PREPARERS: Alice Zimmerman;
Bob & Judie Read

SERVERS: Deb Ryerson; Lois Lloyd; Ray Thomas

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If you cannot serve as scheduled, please find a replacement and provide the substitute's name to the office as soon as known. Thank you.

The Presbyterian Women (PW) thank you for your recent, generous support of their annual PW Birthday Offering, which spreads love and kindness throughout the world. The offering total was \$832.



November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 1:30: Memorial Service (Bowman)
3 9:15: Prayer 9:30: S.S. 10:45: Worship, w/ Communion After: Home Communion 3-5: Honduras meeting (Fell Hall)	4 7: Deacons	5 7-9: Fell. Hall in use	6 6: Worship Committee	7	8	9
10 9:15: Prayer 9:30: S.S. 10:45: Worship	11  ~Office Closed! 7: Space for God	12 6:30: Bible Study	13 6: Community Dinner 7: Community Thanksgiving Service at Second PC	14 3:30: Property Committee	15	16
17 9:15: Prayer 9:30: S.S. 10:45: Worship After: Prayer Community	18 7-9: Fell. Hall in use	19 7: Session	20	21 7:30 AM: Men's B-Fast	22 Deadline for Dec. Newsletter Items	23
24 9:15: Prayer 9:30: S.S. 10:45: Worship; Congregational Meeting Stewardship Sunday Thank Offering	25 2: Faith Circle 7: Space for God	26 6:30: Bible Study	27	28 	29	30 1-8 PM: Fell. Hall in use
						<p align="center"><u>Coming in December</u></p> <p>Dec 1: Advent I Dec 7: Bell-ringing Dec. 8: Hanging of the Greens & soup luncheon</p>