



The Presbyter

June 2018

The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit

Refugee Resettlement

The June 6 Table Talk on refugee resettlement resulted in much interest but also many questions regarding the kind of volunteer assistance needed. Sonya Sarner, Program Director for Catholic Social Services Refugee and Immigration Services provided us with a long list of opportunities, including everything from cooking a meal or donating furniture and household items to actually “adopting” a refugee family and everything in-between! These newcomers to our country are starting out with not only few possessions, but also little knowledge of English, basic appliances, grocery shopping, transportation or medical care, not to mention the logistics of registering for school or getting a driver’s license. Volunteers can give as much or as little time as you want.



The full list is available in the church office. For more information, contact Sonya at ssarner@cssscranton.org or 570-207-2283 ext. 121.

COME CELEBRATE!

World Refugee Day

JUNE 24, 2018

2:00—4:00 PM

Nay Aug Park, Scranton

(Mulberry St. Entrance, Across from GCMC Hospital)

World Refugee Day honors the strength, resilience, and courage of millions of refugees throughout the world. Everyone is welcome to come to this free event to share in the rich cultural heritage of the refugee communities in Northeast Pennsylvania.

Table Talk on Immigration, Detainment, and Unaccompanied Minors-June 3rd

As a follow-up to the May talk on refugees, Kaitlin Porter, Social Services Coordinator of the Florence Project in Arizona, will be joining us to provide a first-hand account on the life of a detained immigrant. The Florence Project provides legal and social services to men, women, and unaccompanied children in immigration custody in Arizona.

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**Notes From the Session Meeting
Tuesday, May 8, 2018.**

1. Please join the members of Session in welcoming Jay Clymer, Jo Ann Hall, and Grant Taylor to service on the Session as part of the class of 2021. Many thanks from a grateful congregation to Frank Garnecki, Adrienne Horger, Nancy Post, and Bill Davis for the time and talents they have freely shared over the last several years.
2. Frank Garnecki announced that the new tables and chairs have been ordered for the Session Room.
3. On Sunday, June 3rd, Session will honor church members who have attained the milestone of 90 years or more of life. Thanks be to God!

**The Presbyterian deadline for
the July/August issue is
June 15.**

The Presbyter is a monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church, 300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

All visitors are welcome to worship with us.

Worship services are held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Child care is available. Communion is observed the first Sunday of every month.

If you do not attend a church in this area, we invite you to any and all of the events, programs, and worship services described in this newsletter. Please call the church office to arrange child care. Our sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are both handicapped accessible.

Church Office	(570) 586-6306
Fax	(570) 587-3784
Web Page	www.fpccs.org
Pastor	William G. Carter
Administrative Assistant	Nancy Owens
Coordinator of Children & Youth	Jana Schillinger
Treasurer	Wayne Griffiths
Editor	Amanda Roberts
Clerk of Session	Beverly Bright
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane

Board of Deacons

Care Team Ministry Coordinators are:

Independent & Assisted Living: Many thanks to Sara Ann Hosier for her dedication to this Team over the last several years. As she retires from the Board of Deacons, a new coordinator of this team will be selected. Watch this space for updates.

Deacon Meals: Donna Kepler
587-2729

Time of Loss: Anne Rich
587-2802

Emergency Home Repairs And Maintenance: Joe Waters
586-7233

Please let the Board of Deacons Care Team Coordinators or the church office know if anyone is in need of care.

We're here to care for FPC members and friends and we count on all of you to let us know when help is needed. This is our ministry and our Christian privilege to care for you.

**FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE
FOR THE MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2018**

REVENUE

Budget	\$ 122,445
Actual Received	<u>118,376</u>
Difference	\$ (4,069)
	=====

EXPENSES

Budget	\$ 126,569
Actual Expenses	<u>120,902</u>
Difference	\$ 5,667
	=====

BUDGET VARIANCE \$ 1,598

PLEDGE INCOME

Budget	\$ 106,667
Received	104,939
Difference	\$ (1,728)
	=====

Per Capita 2018 is \$33 per member. As of the end of April, \$2,892 has been contributed.

Contributed this year to One Great Hour of Sharing was \$5,336.

From the Pastor June 2018



I was enjoying a meal with a good friend when he got into a heated conversation with somebody else at the table. The other person was trying to pigeon-hole him into a category: are you a liberal or a conservative? My buddy proudly replied, "I'm both. I'm a preservative!"

As he went on to explain, "Liberal means 'generous,' and a conservative wishes to 'conserve.' Both are appealing postures for me. So I am a preservative: I want to generously preserve the things that are valuable enough to keep. For what it's worth, I am a progressive, too, because I value progress."

I liked that very much. In that political conversation, it created another way to speak. Neither extreme is sufficient to capture the whole truth. There is, as one of my ethics professors taught, some value in the authentic position that our opponents hold. If all of us seek the truth - and seek it together - we can move ahead. Most of us can agree on what is most valuable for our lives; the hard work is coming to agreement on what is most essential for all of us.

"I'm a preservative." His words returned to me when we recently welcomed a fund-raising concert for the Northeast Philharmonic in our sanctuary. Our Session enthusiastically declared the orchestra is one of our cultural gems. It creates value to our region. We want to ensure that it continues, in one form or another.

Yet as you know, just because something is valuable doesn't mean that everybody will support it. The Philharmonic recently cancelled a season because of a dwindling audience and declining funding. Many agree that classical music is important and enduring. But as I'm fond of saying these days, "If we don't show up, valuable things will go away."

I've noticed the same challenges to our life together as a church. That's why I am no longer a fan of surveying the congregation to get ideas for programming. I learned years ago that everybody believes "youth ministry is important," but a lot of parents haven't always valued it enough to make it a priority for their own kids. Just because something is valuable doesn't mean it will have an audience. We can honor something from a distance and give it lip service, and many do. What really matters is that we show up.

I guess I'm a preservative too. And I want our church to be a place that honors the things that matter. Worshiping God is essential for our well-being, which is why I sit in a pew and sing hymns even when I'm on vacation. Growing in our understanding of faith, hope, and love is of inestimable value, so we pursue ways to keep learning all our lives. Serving others in a way that honors their dignity is what Jesus has first done for us, and this can push us beyond suburban isolation toward authentic community.

It seems to me that church is one of the few safe places to talk about the things we value. What are the things that are really important to you? How will anybody else know that you support them?

With you in the journey,

Rev. Bill

Christian Education



It's for life!

The Christian Education and Growth committee would like to say **thank you** to all of our teachers who helped lead **THE WAY**. Your support, enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment to sharing God's word is appreciated. Many thanks -- and we hope to see you again in the fall!

Worship, Music and Arts Committee is looking for volunteers!

Nancy Post

Have you ever wondered about the people sharing the pulpit with Rev. Carter each Sunday morning? Who chooses them?

Have you ever wondered about the participants on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday or other special days? Who chooses them?

They are members and friends of our congregation who **volunteer** to help lead us in Worship. No prior experience is necessary.

All material is provided for you - days in advance - so that you can rehearse your "lines". Worried about some of those tricky pronunciations? Don't let that stop you! Rev. Carter is happy to help!

Are you a Deacon or Elder? If you haven't been assigned to a Communion team and would like to serve, please let us know

To volunteer, email Grace Farrell (glee1124@yahoo.com) or text/phone her at 570-878-7396.

*"No matter what Spiritual gifts we have,
God wants us to open them up and give them away"....Renee Swope*

**VBS NEEDS
VOLUNTEERS!**

Calling all volunteers! VBS 2018 needs your help!

Join us as we bring ancient Babylon to life, exploring Daniel's new life in the king's service as we learn that God is always with us!

We can't do it without you...we need teachers, leaders, and behind-the-scenes helpers.

Vacation Bible School runs July 16-20. Please consider volunteering for a day, for the week, or to help set up and decorate for our Roman adventure.

Sign up at myvbs.org/fpcs or contact Jana Schillinger for more information.

Adopt-a-Highway

The next road clean-up will be Saturday, June 9th. We will meet at 9 AM in the parking lot of the Clarks Summit Methodist Church. Any questions contact Donna Porter at 585-4006 or porterhouse@epix.net

MISSION Yaya Update



Williamson Jacques, Yaya, is currently in his third year at Keystone College as its International Education and Peace Scholar in the Child and Family Studies program. On May 11th, he returned to Haiti to fulfill activities for two community education internships in his home country. To help fund these internships he hopes to raise \$2,000 through the month of June and July. With that money he will be able to organize camp activities with ADIC, a youth group that promotes the Haitian culture through its talented children. He will also fulfill an internship with Foundation for Peace and Justice (FOPJ) that is located in Port au Prince.

Many expenses for these summer internships and time with his family are already covered by our church, including his airline tickets and medical insurance. Donna and David Porter provide sponsor support with funds for Yaya's food, incidentals, and in-Haiti transportation. Yaya asks that, if it is possible, others participate in helping him raise funds for these internships through his newly posted GoFundMe fundraising activity at the web address www.gofundme.com/camp-adic-haiti.

Please, consider supporting him in this way. He is also grateful to Janet Dobson for the children's educational games she has donated for his trip.

Should you have questions please contact David Porter [570-585-4006].

Thank you for considering this support for Yaya.

Volunteer Form for Helping with Funerals and their Meals

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Phone number _____

Please feel free to circle all that you would like to help with.

You will not be asked to do multiple tasks at once (unless one is to prepare a dessert).

Usher Set up Cook Serve Clean up Provide a dessert

Please feel free to add pertinent information like:

Can only help on weekends or out of town December to April.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE

BIBLE STUDIES

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Last month the morning circle finished our 2017-2018 Circle Bible Study in Hebrews. We will be having our summer lunch on June 19. The Dorcas and Priscilla Circles will be going to the Canoe Club at Lake Winola. You can meet at the church at noon to carpool or else meet at the Canoe Club by 12:30.

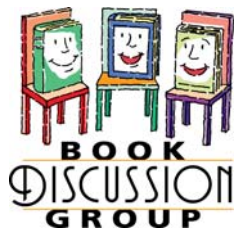
The Eunice Circle will meet at the church at on June 19 at 6:00 p.m. Colarusso's Pizza will be served. Following that, we'll complete our final lesson of the study year.

We look forward to this time together before our summer break.

On September 11 at 6:00 p.m. the combined Circles will meet for Relate, Relax, Renew at the church. This is our annual pot luck dinner to begin the new 2018-2019 Circle year. Our Circle Bible Studies will begin on September 18.

Our lesson this year will be God's Promise: "I am With You" by Amy Poling Sutherland who currently co-pastors First Presbyterian Church in San Marcos, Texas and is a wife and mother. Our author will trace the repetition of God's frequent promise, "I will be with you (or I am with you)" as it winds its way through scripture. She wants us to discover how God's promise speaks to our circumstances, as individuals and as a community as we study the Biblical passages from which the promise comes.

Have a great summer and see you in the fall.



The book group takes a break for the summer. We are working on the list of books we will read starting in September. Watch for the next Presbyter to see what we will be enjoying.

If you would like more information about the group or would like to be on the email list, contact Judy Cutler at jdragonflyc@hotmail.com or 570-446-9310.

Church Safety and Crisis Preparation

On Friday July 13th, at 10:00 a.m. we will host 2 state troopers who will address the challenges of preparing for armed intruders and other safety concerns. Please join us for a one hour presentation and discussion on this serious topic. We encourage everyone who can make it to attend.

The Building and Grounds committee is forming a "Crisis Team", which will be responsible for leading our congregation to safety in an emergency or crisis. Training will be provided once the team is assembled. We are looking for a few volunteers who usually attend service regularly, and who can keep calm in a crisis. If interested in being on the team please contact Frank Garnecki at 570-586-0937 or via email at: fjalpha@aol.com.

Lectionary Readings

June 3

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

June 10

1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15), 16-20 (11:14-15);
Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

June 17

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Psalm 20;
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

June 24

1 Samuel 17 (1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49; Psalm 9:9-20
OR 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16 and Psalm 133;
2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

Save the date!

On Sunday, August 26 we'll be worshipping in the woods.

Join us at Camp Lackawanna for a 10am service, followed by our annual church picnic. More details coming soon!



Come join us for our annual bike ride down the Lehigh Gorge on June 9, 2018. We will start at White Haven and ride all downhill to Jim Thorpe, have lunch, and shuttle back to White Haven. Bike rentals are also available.

Contact Dick Cochrane at 570-587-3970 to reserve your spot.

Activities around the Presbytery

Time to play ball, Lackawanna Presbytery! The crack of a bat can be heard all around NEPA these days as players and fans of every age enjoy America's best loved sport. Our popular annual RailRiders outing is on the calendar for August 15 (with an early July deadline to ensure our seats are together and our first pitcher has time to practice.)

Join us! It's a great opportunity to invite some folks from your neighborhood to take advantage of the discount price and to meet some friendly Presbyterians. Sign up as a church or individually...the order forms may be found on the bulletin board between Rev. Bill's and Jana Schillinger's offices.

JUNE 3 - Jacobs Brothers Concert, PC of Mountain Top, 6:00 PM, pbychmt.org

JUNE 21-22 - Ice Cream Social, 7:00-8:30 PM, Dunmore PC, dunmorepresb@verizon.net

JUNE 24- JULY 27 - Camp Lackawanna summer program, info and registration at camplackawannafirst.com

JULY 6-8 - Family Camp for all ages! camplackawannafirst.com This camp is filling up fast!

AUGUST 15 - Presbytery Baseball Night at the Railriders, 7:05 PM. See Presbytery website for more details and to reserve a seat. There is also a flyer on our church bulletin board.

SEPTEMBER 22 - Save the date! Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Lackawanna at Camp Lackawanna

OCTOBER 13 - Presbyterian Women gathering, FPC Nicholson, 9:30 AM



Beloved children

God our heavenly Father loves us so much that he calls us his.

Directions: Follow the instructions below. Then read the remaining words, going across the rows from left to right, to complete 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV.

- Cross out the opposite of blessings.
- Cross out the disciple who betrayed Jesus.
- Cross out the opposite of love.
- Cross out a word for jail.
- Cross out what happened to Jesus.
- Cross out the opposite of friends.
- Cross out the opposite of found.
- Cross out a word for disobeying God.
- Cross out an animal.
- Cross out a place.
- Cross out a book of the Bible.

I	enemies	will	be	Judas
hate	a	Father	to	serpent
you	and	you	will	crucified
cursings	be	my	sons	and
sin	Golgotha	daughters	says	the
Lamentations	prison	Lord	Almighty	lost

Answer: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV

DADS are a BLESSING

Surprise your dad or another special man with this Father's Day gift.



What you need:

- Photos of you and your loved one (together, if possible)
- Scissors
- 8.5" x 11" paper
- Glue stick
- Marker
- 8.5" x 11" photo frame



What you do:

1. Cut photos into shapes (hearts, circles, etc.).
2. Arrange photos on the paper, leaving room for a message, and glue them down.
3. Write: "I'm blessed as can be. My heavenly Father has given me the best _____ [dad, uncle, friend] in the world, and he belongs to me!"
4. Place your picture message in the frame.
5. Give your gift to show love and appreciation.

Robert London Scholarship Fund



The Christian Education and Growth Committee is pleased to award scholarships to any child, teen or young adult who wishes to go to a church camp, church leadership conference, church national event, or other Christian Education event. The amount given to each student is considered on an individual basis. Applications can be picked up in the church office.



**Summer camp at
Camp Lackawanna
is the adventure
your camper is
looking for!**

We've got a variety of programs, such as Wet 'n Wild, Sports Camp, Art and Drama, and our popular Night Owls Camp. There are options for campers from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Older teens can combine leadership and fun in our Staff-In-Training program. Campers all enjoy swimming, crafts, canoeing, games, learning about God, and making new friends.

Go to www.camplackawannafirst.com to register. Camperships are available through the Christian Education and Growth Committee. (See Robert London Scholarship Fund above.)

If you are jealous that your camper gets to come to camp this summer, why not join them? **We are offering a Family Camp Weekend from July 6th – 8th for all ages.** You can stay in tents, cabins, or a lodge. Our staff will run a selection of your favorite camp activities and we will enjoy spending time with God, our families, and relaxing in God's creation. Registration is online.

Summer Programs at Camp Lackawanna

- June 24th – 29th
 - Wet 'N Wild (grades 2-4, 5-8)
 - Leader-In-Training (ages 14 and 15)
- July 1st – 3rd
 - You and Me (grades K-2)
- July 1st – 4th
 - Explorers (grades 1-3)
- July 6th - 8th
 - Family Camp Weekend (all ages!)
- July 1st – 13th
 - Staff In Training (ages 16 and 17)
- July 8th – 13th
 - Mad Scientist (grades 2-4)
 - Craft Camp (grades 3-5)
 - Discovery Camp (grades 2-4)
- July 15th – 20th
 - Night Owls (grades 4-6, 7-9, 9-12)
- July 22nd – 27th
 - Music, Art, and Drama (grades 6-9, 9-12)
 - Sports Camp, (grades 3-5, 6-8)

Church Family Joys and Sorrows



Wilson Townes Owens, son of Julianne and TC Owens, was born on April 30, 2018. Wilson's big brother is Henry, and they are grandsons of Nancy Owens.

Hannah Ruth Glasser, daughter of Dave and Andrea Weiss Glasser, was born May 11, 2018. Hannah has a big brother named Jack, and is the granddaughter of Connie and John Weiss.

Blessings and best wishes to these young families.

June 3 Karis Naehar
 June 5 Sherry Connell
 Ron Wescott
 June 9 Deb Traettino
 June 10 Hadley Gilbert
 June 17 Al Traettino
 June 21 Gerry Conklin
 Jacob Wescott
 June 22 Jacob Cole
 Kim Rich



June 23 Jay Clymer
 June 24 Ran Billiot
 June 25 Jacki Bailey
 June 28 Tom Decker
 June 30 Janet Dobson



June 4 Jay and Liz Clymer
 June 8 Al and Deb Traettino
 June 11 David and Donna Porter
 June 26 Wendy and Ron Wescott



The sympathy of the congregation is sent to Jane Van Horn and her family upon the passing of her mother, Carolyn Morgan.

June 3 Communion Servers

Myrna Diven, Captain

John Diven, Ginny O'Brien, Nancy Dennen,
Nancy Post

Welcomers

June 3 Mary Parry
 June 10 John Conklin
 June 17 Betty Keen
 June 24 Janet Stansbury

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH JUNE 2018</p>					1 7am—AA	2 7am—AA 6 pm-Hitchcock Recital
3 7am—AA 10 am-Worship 11:15-Table Talk 12:30 Girl Scouts 3:00pm-OA	4 7am—AA 6pm-Weight Watchers 7pm-Mission & Justice	5 7am—AA 10am-PW Exec. Board 6pm-OA 7pm-Big Book	6 7am—AA 11am-Prayer & Share 7:15 Adult Choir 8pm-AIAnon	7 7am—AA 8:30am-Men's Breakfast 7pm-Building & Grounds 7pm-Christian Ed. 7pm-Finance	8 7am—AA	9 7am—AA 9am-Highway Clean-up 
10 7am-AA 10 am-Worship 11 am-Arts Series Planning Mtg 3:00pm-OA	11 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	12 7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 6pm-OA 7pm-Session 7pm-Big Book	13 7am—AA 10am-LP Nomi- nating Team 11am-Prayer & Share 8pm-AIAnon	14 7am-AA 4:30pm-Staff 	15 7am-AA Presbyter Deadline	16 7am-AA
17 7am-AA 10am-Worship 11:15-Fellowship 3pm-OA 	18 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	19 7am-AA 12pm-Dorcas & Priscilla Circles Summer luncheon 6pm-OA 6pm-Eunice Circle 7pm-Big Book	20 7am-AA 11am-Prayer & Share 8pm-AIAnon	21 7am—AA 8:30am-Men's Breakfast	22 7am—AA	23 7am-AA
24 7am-AA 10am-Worship 3pm-OA	25 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	26 7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 6pm-OA 6:30-Deacons 7pm-Big Book	27 7am-AA 9am-Presbyter Mailing 11am-Prayer & Share 8pm-AIAnon/AA	28 7am-AA 7pm-AMPOA mtg	29 7am—AA	30 7am—AA



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411-1536

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Permit No. 30
P A I D
Clarks Summit PA

DATED MATERIAL

Return Service Requested



WHAT: VBS 2018

WHEN: Monday, July 16 to Friday, July 20, 9am-12pm

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church

300 School St, Clarks Summit

WHO'S INVITED: all children age 4 to completed grade 5

TO REGISTER, VISIT: myvbs.org/fpccs

Want to volunteer? You can help bring ancient Babylon to life by teaching, leading, or preparing.

Please contact Jana Schillinger, or send an email to fpccs.vbs@gmail.com

