



THE TOWER



APRIL 2018

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TITUSVILLE, PA

A Note from Pastor Norma Murphy

The Lord be with you all!

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

A blessed Eastertide to you all! Holy Week is over, with its drama and passion. And Easter has arrived, full of joyous Alleluias.

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

The reality of Christ's resurrection is the great, high point of the Christian year, even bigger than Christmas. But have you pondered that reality lately?

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

The tomb is empty! Christ is alive again in a new, eternal body. The scars from his crucifixion remain, but the body is all new, able to enter into locked rooms.

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Resurrection is a whole new life, not just a return to this life. It is something that had never been before; Jesus was the first, the pioneer of this new eternal form of life. And it is promised to those who follow Jesus. It is promised to us.

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

How is your life different in the here and now, having celebrated Easter and Christ's resurrection? Because resurrection happens, if we take notice of it, every day that we wake up! New life is ours, in the present, because of God's love and grace. Does that have any effect on you today and tomorrow and the next day?

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

And it is not just a promise to us as individuals, but also to us as a congregation! There is new life for First Presbyterian Church of Titusville, too! How will we capture its essence and live forth as a new people? What new ministry will come forth from us in the coming months? What new challenges will the Spirit confront us with in the future?

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed!

May God bless you abundantly with the reality of resurrection in your life this spring and throughout the coming year.

Grace and peace,
Norma

Session News

Session Meeting Highlights

On Monday, February 26, your Session met to discern God's leading for our congregation. During that meeting the spiritual leaders of the church approved the following:

- Pastor Norma has been permitted to have two weeks off after Easter (April 2-April 13) due to the need to move, as her house she currently rents has been sold.
- The Presbytery is posting our ministry information page on their website for other pastors to check out. Applicants are currently being interviewed by the PNC Committee.
- A "Great Hymns of the Faith" sing celebrating the 130th anniversary of the dedication of our church sanctuary will be held on May 20th.
- Terms for Pastor Norma have been extended.
- A capital campaign for the stain glass windows is being discussed.
- Children's Sunday will be held on May 13, and Graduate Sunday will be held on June 3.
- Programming for 2018 was discussed for upcoming Sr. programs, Lenten lunches, and Family night dinners.
- SAM's Club ministry will have a Potluck Dinner on April 18 with guest speaker, David Derby, from Meadville.
- Eryn Lavery has been accepted as an Inquirer through the Lake Erie Presbytery.

The next Session meeting will be held on April 23 at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service at Pleasantville Presbyterian Church – April 1, 6:30 a.m.

Easter Service at Titusville Presbyterian Church – April 1, 11 a.m.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Mission – Thursday, April 12, 12 noon., Conference Room

Christian Education, April 12, 1 p.m., Conference Rm.

Deacons – Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m., Conference Room

Finance – Thursday, April 19, 5:30 p.m., Conference Room

Session – Monday, April 23, 7 p.m., Conference Room

Worship – TBD

Sunday School News

Senior High Sunday School Class to Host Fundraiser

On Sunday, April 15, following the morning worship service, the Senior High Sunday school class will host a fundraiser luncheon.

The menu will be a potato bar with all the fixings. Tom and Debbie Newcombe, along with teacher, Toby Cressman, and the class members will prepare the meal.

The donations from this meal will sponsor the Senior High Sunday School project.

Sunday School Classes Being Offered

There are 2 Adult Classes, a Middle School Class, and a Senior High Class being offered from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

The Adult Sunday School Classes are:

Commissioned Women meets in the Conference Room

and is facilitated by Marcia Garrett and Nancy Roeder.

The Lee Green meets in Scheide Hall and is class led.

The Middle School will meet once a month during the 11 a.m. worship service.

The Senior High Class meets upstairs

If you would like to come to an adult class and need to bring your children with you, they will be welcomed to our supervised young people's area located in the nursery while they wait for you before church begins.

Elementary Worship

All children in Elementary grades (Kindergarten up to the 5th grade) meet for Sunday school during the church hour. Each child should come to the sanctuary with his/her family; stay for a short portion of worship (about the first 15 minutes); then be excused to their Sunday school classroom.

Christian Education

Women's Bible Study

The Tuesday Women's Bible study will not meet until Tuesday, April 24th, when they will begin a new study on the Book of Ruth. All women of the church are welcome to attend. Please bring your Bible.

Transformation Tuesdays

Transformation Tuesdays, our after-school program for children in K-5 through 5th grade, meets each Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Adult volunteers escort children from Main Street Elementary to the church for snacks, Christian Education, crafts, games, and children's choir. We also love our family of volunteers who help make this program a reality. Consider joining us!

Questions about the program, contact Gail Billig at 827-3122 or the church office at 827-3665.

Note: After-school Programs follow the School Calendar. No School – No After-School Program

Men of First Breakfast Bible Study

MOF meets each Wednesday at 7 a.m. in Scheide Hall. Men of the church and community come for a Bible Study, a delicious breakfast, good fellowship, and conversation on a passage of the Bible, leaving well-nourished and fulfilled.

Missions

Fifth Fridays

As a new mission outreach project, we will be serving meals for our friends and neighbors in the community and congregation each 5th Friday of the year.

The 5th Friday's dates for 2018 are: June 29, August 31, and November 30. Please mark your calendars.

We will have an update on our 1st Fifth Friday in next month's Tower.

Worship

April 1 - Communion by "gathering around the table." Servers will be Gail Billig and Connie McIntyre.

Due to Pastor Norma's upcoming move, she will be taking a bit of time off. The pulpit will be filled on April 8 by Rev. Dale Francis; the pulpit will be filled on April 15 by Barb Frye.

Sandy Smith

Moderator

Ushers

David Snyder, (captain), Dick Peebles, Kelly Evans, Charley Evans

A Note from the Director of Music

An exciting celebration of our church's history and music is fast approaching!

As you have heard, our grand sanctuary is turning 130 years old on May 20th, and what better way to celebrate this historic event than with music!

Great Hymns of the Faith, a program presented by First Church's music department, is an ecumenical celebration of the grand old hymns that so many have come to know and love. You are invited to join in this hymn sing, led by a choir made up of folks from Titusville and the surrounding area. It is sure to be a meaningful evening full of fellowship, music, memories, and laughter.

Also, as our chancel choir season comes to a close at the end of May, I'd like to remind everyone that the summer music signup sheet will be available at the beginning of May and that you needn't be a member of the choir to participate in this over the summer months.

Nathaniel F. Licht,
Director of Music

Fellowship News

Breaking Bread Together

"Do you like eating out? Do you like big crowds? Do you like to fellowship with people from the church?" If you said "yes" to any of the above questions, then you are invited to come and break bread together, Tuesday, April 10, at 12:30 p.m., at Perkin's Restaurant.

To participate, we ask that you call or stop by the church office by Monday, April 9, before 5 p.m. to make your reservation(s). Children, college students, and the young at heart are all invited.

College / Young Adult Fellowship

The College/Young Adult Fellowship meets each Sunday evening at 6 p.m. This group usually meets at facilitator Tom Newcombe's home located at 308 North Fourth Street. If this is your first time attending, contact Mr. Newcombe at (814) 547-1760 or 827-6295.

SAM's (Senior Adult Ministry)

All those 55+ are invited to participate in all SAM's Club events. If you have a suggestion for a movie/event, would like to make the soup for the day, or need a ride, call Tom Newcombe at 827-3665.

SAM's Weekly Programs

Each Wednesday, join the SAM's Club group at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of needlecrafting.

Each Thursday, join the SAM's Club group at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of card playing.

SAM's Lunch and a Movie

On Friday, April 6, at 12 noon, in Scheide Hall, join the SAM's Club for Lunch and a Movie. This group will meet again on April 20.

PW News

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering

Arise, Shine, Your Light Has Come. The internationally acclaimed storyteller Tracy Radosevic will be the key note speaker on April 28th. Hands on mission work, fellowship, breakfast, and registration will begin at 8:30, the event to follow at 10 a.m. Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Road, Erie will be hosting this gathering you won't want to miss.

Sign up in the church office if you would like to attend this event. Any cost to this event will be paid for by the PW Women. Registrations must be in by Wednesday April 18, 2018.

Books Sale Great Success

The PW Women would like to thank everyone who brought in books, bought books, and helped set up and clean up. We collected \$246.00.

Birthdays

Becky Gavin	2	Dana Siebel	13	Caroline Wilkens	25
Samantha Schneider	3	Maryellen Arendash	14	Ray Zahner	27
Sarah Sampson	3	Andrea Fenske	17	Elaine Muirhead	27
Andrew Clark	4	Marcia Garrett	18	Jon Walker	27
Tim Roessner	4	Patti Paden	18	David Steinbuhler	28
Dede Kerr	5	Aaron Mowrey	19	Jean Spence	28
John Proano	8	Elaine Osborn	19	Scott McAllister	28
Megan Arendash	10	B.J. Webb	21	Denise Seib	28
Allison Seib	10	Connie McIntyre	21	Katelyn Garrett	28
Earl Yingling	11	Adam Middleton	21	Susan Webb	29
Carrie Zahn	12	Billie Gilbert	22	Russ Yoas	30
Courtney Zahn	12	Audrey Snyder	23	Jack Gadsby	30
Toby Cressman	12	Chase Middleton	25		

If we have missed your birthday – please let us know.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary on any Sunday throughout the year, let Terry Davitt know at the church office (827-3665) by the Wednesday prior to them being in the sanctuary. This way, she can place the dedication in the bulletin.

Church Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church

A Christian community that welcomes all people and equips them to proclaim, witness, and teach the good news of Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, and caring service.

Community

Alzheimer Caregiver's Support Group Meeting

An Alzheimer Caregiver's Support Group, led by Marcia Garrett and Carol Morgan, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month (April 3 and April 17) at 2:30 p.m. in Emerson Parlor.

A difficult challenge to face alone, Marcia and Carol have participated in special training to equip them to lead the group. All those who live with or care for those afflicted with Alzheimer or dementia of any kind are welcome to participate. If you have questions about the group, call Marcia Garrett at 827-7404.

Arts and Scraps Space

Are you crafty? Do you like to share and fellowship with other ladies over arts and crafts? Do you have a project that you need to spread out to complete? Are you a scrapbooker? Are you limited on space and time? Are you interested in organizing your photos or creating a keepsake? Do you have scrapbook supplies collecting dust? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then Jessica Decker has just the thing...The Arts and Scraps Space, right here at First Presbyterian. Jessica is using an underutilized classroom in the upstairs for her crafting and scrapbooking supplies. She is at the church a few days during the week and often on weekend evenings to work on her various crafts and tasks that need a little more table space. She loves company and welcomes visitors to "The Lair" as she jokingly calls it. She can't wait to share this space crafting and fellowshiping with others. Right now, she doesn't have set hours but she is able to be in the space anytime anyone wishes to join her. She always has a pot of hot water for tea or hot cocoa, light snacks, soothing scents in the oil diffuser and good tunes on the radio. The space is warm and welcoming. Check it out!

The Arts and Scrap Space is located on the second floor between the "Worship Center" and the "Prayer Room."

Please call Jessica at 814-827-9078 (home) or 814-449-4681 (cell) or text her at 449-4681 or e-mail her @ jessicadecker73@icloud.com.

Boy Scout Troop Meets on Mondays

Each Monday evening at 6 p.m., the Boy Scouts meet in Scheide Hall. All boys in grades Kindergarten - 5th interested in joining a great club for boys are invited to come and check it out. Any questions should be directed to Geri Whitney at (814)564-1179.

Crisis Hotlines

Drug and Alcohol Crisis Line: (844)643-5766

Case manager available 24/7 to assist in seeking treatment and to get screenings/assessments and appointments made

Mental Health Crisis Line: (814) 724-2732 or (800) 315-5721

To access help in case of an emergency

Warm Line: (800)951-2055

When you need someone to talk to on a bad day.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry needs our help. It is always collecting food items for its shelves. Gift cards, for personal hygiene items and toiletries, are always appreciated, too.

Contact Us

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Staff

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