



The Presbyter

February 2017

The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit

Friday-Sunday, February 17-19, 2017

Clarks Summit Ice Festival activities at FPC

The church will participate in the Clarks Summit Festival of Ice on February 17-19 by offering an ice sculpture outside and a variety of activities inside. Elaine Tweedy will again organize an exhibit of artwork from local artists and FPC congregation members, with a juried photography show on Friday night. Activities on Saturday will include a Broadway Revue at 2 pm, performed by students of the Erin Malloy Vocal Studio. Our Chili Café will provide a place to warm up, grab a bite to eat, converse, and listen to students from the Abington Piano Academy and the Scranton Music Academy as they entertain. Aspiring young artists from Barry's Art Room will display their talents downstairs. The Art Show upstairs will also be open on Saturday and Sunday.



On Sunday our church will host the Ice Lights "Cabaret" at 4 pm, featuring the Broadway Jazz Orchestra and Vocal Ensemble. I wouldn't be surprised to see our pastor Bill Carter on stage as a part of the ensemble!

Please plan on stopping by that weekend to enjoy the various activities.

Alert: Volunteers are needed to assist us with the Chili Cafe. We will need help setting up the Cafe and volunteers to provide the chili. If you can assist us, please call Karen White 570-563-2135 or Barbara and Jack Pittman 570-587-2050.

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ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit has been called for Sunday, February 5, 2017 beginning at 11:45 a.m.

A potluck lunch will take place at approximately 11:00 a.m. Please bring a dish to share and your own table setting. Dessert and beverage will be provided.

Notes from the Session Meeting, January 8, 2017

1. Session welcomed the confirmation class to their January meeting. Confirmation Sunday is set for Sunday, May 21, 2017.
2. The Nominating Committee met to organize on January 23rd. If you have a suggestion for a church officer, please complete the nomination form in the narthex and place it in the manila envelope on the bulletin board.
3. Many thanks to the members and friends who have helped our church exceed the budgeted dollar amount in pledges. We ended the year in the black! With deep appreciation, we thank you for your generosity and your faithfulness to First Presbyterian.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Do you get discouraged in your faith? Come and let's study Jesus through the lens of the book of Hebrews. Siker invites us to consider the superiority of Jesus to the highest-level mediators in Judaism – angels, Moses, high priests, etc. As she says: "We can see the majesty, grandeur and perfection of Jesus, yet this Jesus is one who can relate to us in our earthly circumstances."

Dorcas Circle meets at 10:00 a.m.; Priscilla Circle meets at 1:30 p.m. and Eunice Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. All meet at the church. Please join us this month. Together we can receive encouragement from studying Hebrews just as the early Christians were encouraged by its message.



**Per Capita offering for 2017
is \$32 per member**

**The Presbyter deadline for
The March issue is
February 17, 2017**

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	Lindsey Hardy
Clerk of Session	Beverly Bright
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Director of Chapel Choir	Kay Ten Eyck
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Sexton	John Conklin

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION
FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE
FOR THE MONTH ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

REVENUE

Budget	\$ 353,400
Actual Received	<u>363,179</u>
Difference	\$ 9,779
	=====

EXPENSES

Budget	\$ 352,405
Actual Expenses	<u>341,051</u>
Difference	\$ 11,355
	=====

BUDGET VARIANCE \$ 21,134

PLEDGE INCOME

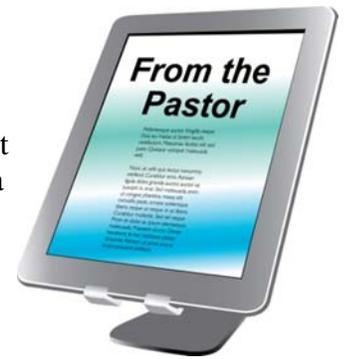
Budget	\$ 320,000
Received	<u>329,599</u>
Difference	\$ 9,599

Per Capita 2016 total
received in 2016 was \$4,482.

Dear Friends,

A few days before the presidential inauguration, a remarkable moment took place that was not widely noticed. Two Presbyterian (USA) ministers met with Mr. Trump for a conversation and a prayer before he began his term.

The Rev. Patrick O'Connor, pastor of the church in Queens where Mr. Trump was baptized, joined the Rev. Scott Black Johnston, pastor of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church—which is literally across the street from Trump Tower. They spoke openly with the President-elect for about twenty minutes, and then concluded their visit with a prayer.



I shared the prayer in worship on Sunday, January 22, and have had numerous requests for a copy. It's reprinted below, as I am including it as one of my prayers during these days of transition.

It was the apostle Paul who declared, "Pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Good advice, and always in season.

Gratefully yours,

Rev. Bill Carter

A Prayer for the United States of America and the President-Elect

Almighty God, all the people of the earth are yours. We are all your children. Your will is done when governments are rightly administered, liberty is preserved, justice is decreed, dignity is assured, and care is extended to the most vulnerable of your children.

This day, we ask that you would look with favor on President-elect Donald J. Trump. Protect him and keep his family safe. Grant to him equal doses of courage and humility. Guide him as he makes countless decisions. Give him wisdom and mercy. Enable him to find the right words: good words, true words, healing words.

Our country's differences and divisions are vast. Deliver us, loving God, from rancor and cynicism. Forgive our sins. Encourage us to kindness. Teach us to mend the tattered places in this society. Give us hope and holy perspective for the living of these days.

Tender Creator, in some ways -- important ways -- we *all* want the *same* things. We want opportunity. We want fairness from our government. We want safety. We want order. We want clean water and fresh air. We want to come home at night feeling like we are making progress, like we are part of something bigger than ourselves, like we matter. We all want to matter.

Give to us all, O Lord, in this time, common purpose and an uncommon commitment to this great country. Help us to work together to achieve a more perfect union -- a nation that is more than the sum of its parts. Mold the President-elect into your servant. Help him to lead us in pursuing your extraordinary vision.

This we pray in the name of the One who calls all people to reconciling and redemptive work, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. .

Board of Deacons

Care Team Ministry Coordinators are:

Independent & Assisted Living:	Sara Ann Hosier	587-0371
Deacon Meals:	Donna Kepler	587-2729
Time of Loss:		
Emergency Home Repairs and Maintenance:	Joe Waters	586-7233
	Greg Matthews	587-2644

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.



MISSION AND JUSTICE

Earth Care Task Force Solar Energy Table Talk

As faithful stewards of the earth, when we seek environmental justice and conscientious use of our resources, it is important to understand the different types of energy. Join the Earth Care Task Force on Sunday, January 29th during the Fellowship Hour for a Table Talk on Solar Energy led by Jay Clymer.

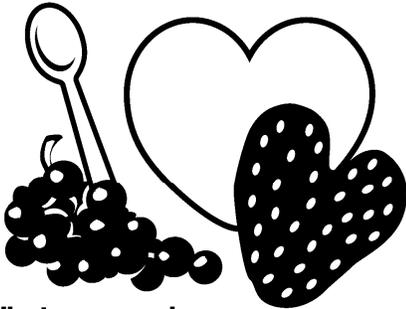
Bethel AME Cold Weather Homeless Shelter.

Mission and Justice recently purchased needed supplies to help restock the shelves at the Bethel AME Cold Weather Homeless Shelter. The shelter is at capacity (24 people) nightly. Thank you for the many contributions of warm clothing, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, etc. Gerritys' of Clarks Summit is providing bread and baked goods that are delivered to the shelter each Saturday. A recent connection was made with The American Janitor & Paper Supply which resulted in a contribution of 200 bars of soap. A special thank you to all who have signed up to provide Sunday meals for the season. If you wanted to sign up but didn't do so yet, see Melba Fialko (570-586-2563) for available Saturday evenings. Our participation in helping with Bethel's mission to house the homeless population in Scranton is so appreciated and needed. We are truly committed to the command in Deuteronomy 15:11 - "You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy, and to the poor, in your land."



Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!



Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

- (1) You really like ice cream! _____
- (16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____
- (21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____
- (4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____
- (11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____
- (17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____
- (6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____




 "Honor _____ and _____, and _____ your _____."
 

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

Christian Education



It's for life!

THE W.A.Y.The Wednesday Adulds and Youth Christian Education

"I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE"

Supper, 5:00 p.m. * Classes for all ages, 6:15 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATE**Wednesday, March 1** - Ash Wednesday - classes will be held from 6:15-6:55, followed immediately by worship.

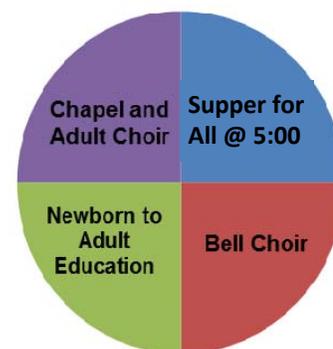
Spark (Newborn - 3 year old) enjoy Bible stories, songs and games in the nursery. In February they will hear the stories of four friends, ten men healed, the good Samaritan, and the lost sheep & lost coin.

Power Xpress (4 year old - Grade 5) Experience Bible stories through interactive rotation classes. In February they will discover a lesson about neighbors with the Good Samaritan and focus on the Lord's prayer and talking to God with Teach us How to Pray.

We Believe (Grades 6-8) This winter, students will explore a unit called *The Bible and Prayer*, answering questions about how God speaks to us through scripture and beyond. In February, we will answer questions about how God answers and speaks to us as we dig deeper into prayer.

Adults: Rev. Carter is leading a winter series of **"The Faith of Jesus in a Pluralistic World."** Increasingly, people are recognizing that the survival of the human race depends upon adherents of the major world religions coexisting peacefully with one another. Yet many Christians wonder how peace is possible apart from conversion to Christianity, particularly in light of Jesus' statement, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Is it possible to take these words seriously without denying the existence of other paths God may create for humanity? In this series, we will discover how this question is being answered and lived in surprising and hopeful ways. **Continuing until February 22 in Room 206.**

Dr. Charlie Pinches leads a Bible study on the Apostle Paul in Room 210 until February 22. Join him for a fascinating look of an amazing leader of the early church.

Welcome to Wednesdays

Christian Education is an important part of who we are and what we do...and we need YOU to make it happen. How? You can enrich your own faith and help our church grow in Christ by:

- ◆ Attending
- ◆ Bringing a friend
- ◆ Volunteering to teach
- ◆ Joining the CE committee
- ◆ Helping to set up, cook, and serve our weekly meal.

**Wednesday Supper Reservations**

Light Supper is served before The Way classes from 5:00-6:10 for those with **reservations**. Suggested donation: \$3 per person.

Please return reservation slips no later than **Monday**. Slips can be placed in the **basket near the phone in the kitchen** or in the **offering plate**. You may also **call the church office** to make reservations.

Reservations slips can be found in the church office, in the kitchen, or in pews.





Notes from the Chapel Choir and the Alleluia Choir

submitted by Kay Ten Eyck

"The fact that children can make beautiful music is less significant than the fact that music can make beautiful children". Cheryl Lavender

Announcing the "birth" of a brand new, bouncing middle school choir! We are fortunate to have middle school singers to give voice to their own songs. Their choir name is the Alleluia Choir and you will see them sing once a month for worship.

Thank you to the parents, grandparents and choir parents for their support as we continue to grow as Christians and musicians.

Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 5 isn't just the Big Game... it's a big opportunity to help those in need!

As you leave worship, our youth will be standing by with soup pots to collect money to combat hunger.

All proceeds will benefit the AEM Food Pantry.



Are you ready for a new adventure?

Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 9:45 as we prepare for worship in a special way. We spend time getting to know each other and developing our knowledge of the Bible through storytelling, activities, crafts, and songs. Teachers tell the story, and children get a chance to retell or reenact it through "Godly Play." Crafts, activities, and songs reinforce the lesson and give children a chance to express what they have understood. The only thing we are missing is YOU!

Feel free to email either Tabbi Miller-Scandle (tabbi.miller-scandle@scranton.edu) or Karis Naeher (klnaeher@outlook.com) with any questions.

Try something new for the new year!

Adventures in the Bible



A famine is coming...



Poor nutrition causes nearly half of all deaths in children under 5. Every day, over 7,000 kids die from hunger-related causes.

Together, we can make an impact:

February 24-25

World Vision's 30 Hour Famine

How can you help?

- Participate! Youth grades 6-12 are encouraged to take a stand against world hunger as we spend some eye-opening time together in fellowship and fun.
- Volunteer! Adult chaperones are needed...spend a few hours with us as we starve our bellies and feed our souls.
- Give! Every \$40 raised feeds a child for a month. Look for ways to give in upcoming weekly bulletins or on our website fpccs.org.

Need more info? Contact Jana Schillinger at (570) 586-6306 or by e-mail at ce@fpccs.org.

Youth Fellowship

All youth grades 4-12 are invited to join us

Friday, February 10th
8:15-10:15PM
for **Cosmic Bowling**

Bring a friend! New faces always welcome.



What is the Stephen Ministry? Stephen Ministry is a way congregations can provide high-quality care and outreach to hurting people in the congregation and community. Stephen Ministers are congregation members who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care. Each Stephen Minister is matched with a hurting person—men are paired with men, women with women—and meets weekly with that person to listen, care, pray, and encourage. Stephen Ministers care for those dealing with grief, divorce, job loss, hospitalization, financial struggles, loneliness, convalescence, terminal illness, and many other life difficulties. For more information, contact one of our Stephen Leaders, John Conklin, Judy Cutler, or Rev. Carter.



February finds us at Nancy London's home on February 23rd at 7:00.

Join us as we discuss **The Nightingale** by Kristin Hannah. In the quiet village of Carriveau, Vianne Mauriac says goodbye to her husband, Antoine, as he heads for the Front. She doesn't believe that the Nazis will invade France ... but invade they do, in droves of marching soldiers, in caravans of trucks and tanks, in planes that fill the skies and drop bombs upon the innocent. When a German captain requisitions Vianne's home, she and her daughter must live with the enemy or lose everything. Without food or money or hope, as danger escalates all around them, she is forced to make one impossible choice after another to keep her family alive. Vianne's sister, Isabelle, is a rebellious eighteen-year-old girl, searching for purpose with all the reckless passion of youth. While thousands of Parisians march into the unknown terrors of war, she meets G etan, a partisan who believes the French can fight the Nazis from within France, and she falls in love as only the young can ... completely. But when he betrays her, Isabelle joins the Resistance and never looks back, risking her life time and again to save others.

With courage, grace and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristin Hannah captures the epic panorama of WWII and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. *The Nightingale* tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France--a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.

The church office will be closed
on February 20 in
observance of Presidents' Day.



Chili Café

There's nothing like a warm bowl of chili on a cold February day!

Drop by Fellowship Hall on Saturday, February 18 (Ice Festival Weekend) between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for a bowl of chili to take the edge off the cold.

If **YOU** would like to **showcase your favorite chili recipe**, please call Karen White (570-563-2135) or Barbara and Jack Pittman (570-587-2050).

See you there!



My Brother's Keeper quilting group would like to thank everyone who has donated items for our work. We certainly appreciate the handmade scarves, hats and mittens, the shirts and sweaters, the towels, washcloths, sheets and blankets, the soaps, shampoos, toothbrushes and toothpaste given so we can continue this ministry.

Please keep these wonderful donations coming!

Looking ahead: Our Quilting Workshop will be held March 14, from 10-2.

A *Special Guest* will be joining us! Details will be in the March Presbyterian!

Thank you.

Marie Cochrane, Coordinator

THANK YOU to all the elves who helped with our Holiday Pajama Drive from cutting out all the tags, setting up the tree and sorting all the packages for delivery to the Head Start Centers.

Christian Education & Growth Committee

Baptism



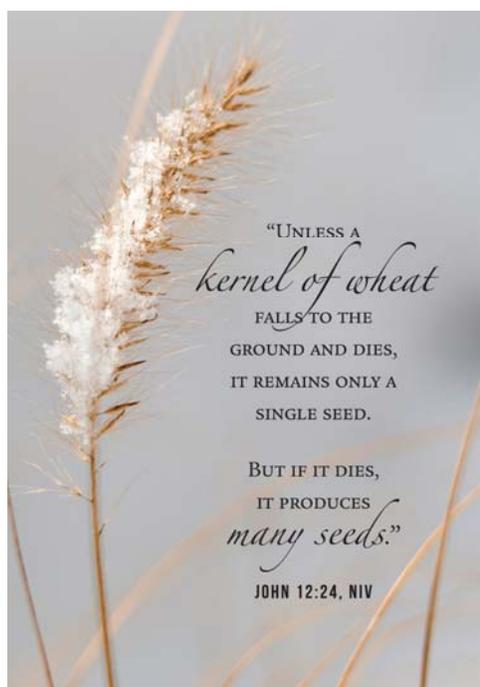
Baptism: Jillian Deborah Shane, daughter of Holly and Kevin Shane, was baptized on Sunday, January 8, 2017 by Rev. Carter. She is the sister of Dean Shane, and granddaughter of Debbie and Tim Shane and Chris and Linda Woodley. Her aunt, Briar Woodley, served as assisting elder for the baptism.

Jillian's grandma, Debbie Shane writes that Jill's baptism gown was worn by her Mom, Holly and also her Aunt Briar Woodley. She wore knitted booties made by her great grandma Woodley. The blanket/shawl that Holly wore when she and Kevin got married was made by Linda Frangos. I [Debbie] got her the heart necklace and made her head band from my Mom's wedding gown. Lots of history going on on that little baby!!! It was a beautiful service!!!



2017 Offering Envelopes have arrived!!! They are available in the hallway on tables next to Rev. Carter's Office.

They are organized alphabetically and everyone has a new number, so be sure to double check the name on the box.



- 2 - Jeff McLaughlin
- 4 - JoAnn Hall
- 7 - Jonathan Schillinger
- 10 - Sara Ann Hosier
- 17 - Holly Shane
- 19 - Melba Fialko
- 21 - Rev. Bill Carter
- 28 - Diane Cole
- 28 - Gayle Hamilton
- 29 - Katie Taylor

Lectionary Readings

February 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12); Psalm 112:1-9 (10); 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

February 12

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

February 19

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119:33-40; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5:38-48

February 26

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

February Welcomers

- Feb. 5 - Janet Stansbury
- 12 - Jay Clymer
- 19 - Barbara & Jack Pittman
- 26 - Linda Schuller & John Conklin

February Ushers

John Diven, Laura Schillinger

Communion Servers

- Myrna Diven, captain
- John Diven
- Ginny O'Brien
- Nancy Dennen
- Nancy Post

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3	Saturday 4
First Presbyterian Church February 2017						
			7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:30-Bell Choir	7am-AA 8:30-Men's Breakfast 4:30-Staff 7pm-Building & Grounds 7pm-Christian Ed.	7am-AA	7am-AA 12:30-Community Classroom
5 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15am-Potluck Lunch 11:45am-Annual Meeting 3pm-OA	6 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	7 7am-AA 10am-PW Board Mtg. 4pm-Art Class 7pm-Big Book 7pm-OA	8 7am-AA 10am-LP Nominations 11am-Prayer/Share 1pm-LP COM 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:30-Bell Choir	9 7am-AA	10 7am-AA	11 7am-AA 12:30-Community Classroom
12 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15am-Confirm. 3pm-OA	13 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers 7pm-Worship, Music, Arts	14 7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 4pm-Art Class 7pm-Big Book 7pm-Committee Chairperson mtg. 7pm-OA 	15 7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:30-Bell Choir	16 7am-AA 8:30-Men's Breakfast	17 7am-AA Presbyter Deadline	18 7am-AA Clarks Summit Ice Festival
19 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15am-Confirm. 11:15am-Fellowship 3pm-OA 4pm-Ice Lights "Cabaret"	20 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers Presidents' Day— Church Office is closed.	21 7am-AA 10am-PW Dorcas Circle 1:30-Priscilla Circle 4pm-Art Class 7pm-Big Book 7pm-OA 7pm-Eunice Circle	22 7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:30-Bell Choir	23 7am-AA 7pm-FPC Book Group	24 7am-AA Youth: 24-Hour Famine	25 7am-AA
26 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15am-Confirm. 3pm-OA	27 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	28 7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 4pm-Art Class 7pm-Deacons 7pm-Big Book 7pm-OA				



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

Nonprofit Org.
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P A I D
Clarks Summit PA

DATED MATERIAL

Return Service Requested



Save the Date

Attention all children,
families, and volunteers!
Mark your calendars...



VBS 2017

will be held

July 10-14, 9AM-12PM

Join us for an amazing Bible adventure filled with
laughter, learning, and fun times with friends new
and old!

Look for more information this spring.