



The Presbyter

July and August 2017

The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit

Flute, Classical Guitar, Ice Cream

A great combination for a Friday night in summer!

The air will be filled with sweet music, as First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit offers a free evening concert of classical guitar and flute on Friday, July 21, at 7:00 p.m.

The featured musicians are guitarist Charles Truitt and flutist Ed Wargo. Truitt is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music, Marywood University, and Boston University. A founding member of the Classical Guitar Society of NEPA, he has taught music at Marywood University since 1980.



Charles Truitt, guitarist

Wargo is a graduate of Temple University and the Manhattan School of Music. A guest soloist with numerous orchestras around the country, he also serves on the Marywood University music faculty.

The Rev. Bill Carter says the program will be a real treat for the community. "We want to do something special this summer for our friends, neighbors, and church members. This free concert is offered in memory of Bob Dygert, our wonderful friend who often serenaded our church friends with his guitar."

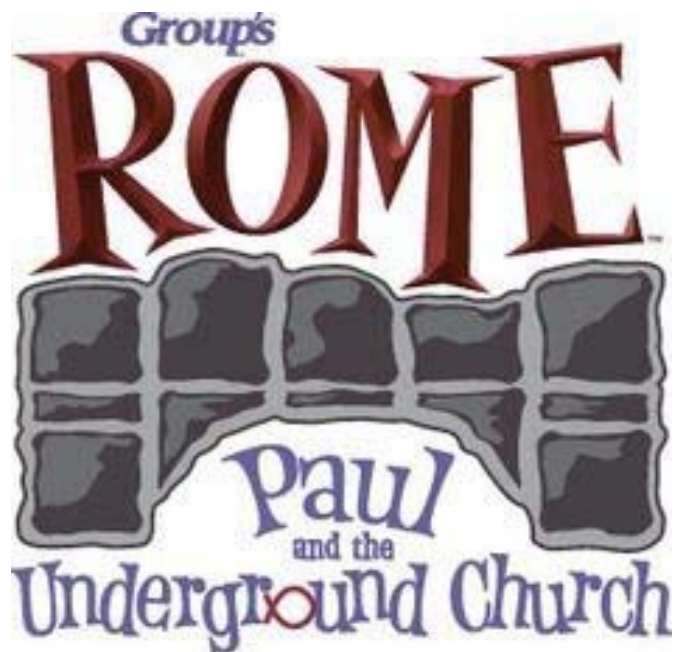
The concert is open to the community, and an old-fashioned ice cream social will follow the concert in the church's fellowship hall. All are welcome to attend this family-friendly concert.



We're collecting for the Food

Pantry during July.

**Please help our friends and
Neighbors.**



Join us for Vacation Bible School

July 10 - 14, 2017

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

All kids ages 4 to completed 6th grade

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Notes from Session Meeting of June 13, 2017

1. Session had conversation about the upcoming Worship Through Service Day which will be held on Sunday, September 24th. A planning meeting will be held on Monday, July 10th.
2. Session and Board of Deacons will hold their combined yearly meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.
3. Plans are being made to extend communion teams to serve people that are homebound and if requested by someone.

Financial Assistance Needed

Recently repairs were needed to the slate roof of this building at a cost of \$18,000. An unplanned expenditure, we let you all know about it, and the response has been amazing. We have now received over \$10,000. If you would like to help, please make your check payable to the church and note "Building Maintenance Fund."

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS
WILL BE APPRECIATED.**

It's a Scavenger Hunt On July 16!



The Fellowship Committee will be holding a Scavenger Hunt after church service on Sunday, July 16th. Details to follow!

**The Presbyter deadline for
The July/August issue is
August 11, 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
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 MAY 31, 2017

REVENUE

Budget	\$ 146,875
Actual Received	<u>142,202</u>
Difference	\$ (4,673)
	=====

EXPENSES

Budget	\$ 152,728
Actual Expenses	<u>154,691</u>
Difference	\$ (1,962)
	=====

BUDGET VARIANCE \$ (6,635)

PLEDGE INCOME

Budget	\$ 133,333
Received	<u>125,401</u>
Difference	\$ (7,932)

Per Capita 2017 is \$2,058 so far.
One Great Hour of Sharing for 2017 equals \$5,642.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA
EFFORTS THIS SPRING!**

From the pastor

On the truthfulness of heretics

As we prepare for the fall program, let me mention that this is Martin Luther's year. Five hundred years ago this October, Luther nailed a list of debate topics on the door of a Wittenberg church. He wished to purify God's church, calling attention to the mistakes that he perceived. In response, the Rome-based church expelled him. The conflict set off a movement that we call "the Reformation." Luther and his protestors ("the "protest-ants") had to forge new communities of fellow Christians who could live by the Gospel without the support of the institution that cast them out.



Christian theology has often developed by argument, disagreement, and the drawing of exclusive circles. I wish I could tell you otherwise, but that's the truth. In a class on church history, I learned of the ancient disagreements between the African saint Augustine and the Irish saint Pelagius. Both of them loved Christ, but they differed on matters such as original sin (Pelagius didn't believe in it) and predestination (Augustine believed it, a good pre-Presbyterian). Historically, Pelagius lost most of the theological battles, and we were instructed to boo whenever his name came up. Bless his heart—Martin Luther particularly despised Pelagius.

It was only a few years ago that I actually read some of Pelagius' writings. You see, it's one thing to disagree with what you hear about another person. It's entirely another thing to actually hear from them. For instance, here is a brief passage from Pelagius himself, which I wholeheartedly endorse:

How can you call yourself a Christian since you do not act like one? "Christian" is the name of justice, goodness, integrity, patience, chastity, prudence, humility, humanity, innocence, and true religion. How can you claim this for yourself when you possess only a few of so many virtues?

That person is a Christian who is so not only in name but also in deed; who imitates and follows Christ in all things; who is holy, innocent and pure; who is uncorrupted; in whose heart there is no place for evil; in whose heart there is only true religion and goodness; who is incapable of hurting or wounding anyone, but can only come to the aid of everyone. That person is a Christian who, with Christ as an example, cannot even hate their enemies but does good to those who oppose them, praying for their persecutors and enemies.

For if anyone is ready to wound or harm another, then they falsely call themselves Christians. They are Christians who can truly say: I have harmed no one and have lived in righteousness with all.

How many times have we dismissed people who disagreed with us? Have we ever listened to the truth that lies within the words that offend us? These days in America, we perpetuate the divisions we deplore when we refuse to listen to the voices who speak honestly from a different perspective. It is only when we can affirm that the capital-T Truth is greater than a solitary opinion - only when we see more than two sides to any issue - that we can begin to hear the Voice of God and live together in peace.

On the quarter in my pocket, it reads "e pluribus unum" - translated "out of the many, one." Until we can affirm that there are many, we will not be able to discern the "One." Isn't that our task?

See you on Sunday,

Rev. Bill Carter

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:	Anne Rich	
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.



Going to Church Camp?

We support Camp Lackawanna as a ministry that helps kids and teens grow in their faith, enjoy God's creation, and have a lot of fun! Take a look at the camp's new website to see the program and register:

www.camlackawannafirst.com

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.

My Brothers' Keeper Quilting

Group by Marie Cochrane



June 13 marked the final quilting session of the season for My Brothers' Keeper group. After finishing this year's 38th sleeping bag for the homeless, we enjoyed a wonderful Pot Luck Luncheon hosted by Shakun Shah.

This topped a busy season starting with the fall Worship through Service Sunday, a Christmas Party at Jeanne Comly's, and a March Sewing Workshop with our guest, the founder of the My Brothers' Keeper program, Flo Wheatley.

To prepare for the upcoming Worship through Service Sunday on September 24, we will have the first fall meeting of MBK on Tuesday, September 12, at 10:00 AM. Please mark your calendars.

Thank you to all our faithful volunteers who sew the quilts; those creative people who knit and crochet handmade scarves, hats, and mittens; and our generous supporters who donate the materials (sheets, blankets, clothing, toiletries) to keep us going. Together we are able to continue to do this much needed ministry.

Relax, Relate, Renew

 by Char Lyon

Presbytery Women's Annual Gathering 2017 will be held on September 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the church. It will be a covered-dish supper followed by a preview of the 2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study presented by Mary Ellen Lawlor.

The name of the study is "Cloud of Witnesses – the Community of Christ in Hebrews", written by Melissa Band Sevier.

Why do we do this? To learn more about God's word and to enjoy the fellowship of one another.

Regular Circle Meetings will begin on September 19.



This summer, put your best foot forward by brightening up a pair of flip-flops.

What you need:

- Flip-flops in your size
- Metallic permanent markers
- Foam stickers
- Craft gemstones
- Plastic flowers
- Ribbon
- Hot glue gun (and adult help)

What you do:

Use these ideas to decorate clean, dry flip-flops:

- Draw with markers on the soles.
- Decorate the sides and soles with stickers.
- Glue gemstones along the strap.
- Glue plastic flowers on the strap between your toes.
- Wrap ribbon around the strap and glue in place.



BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.

ACROSS

- 3. A word for happy (rhymes with had)
- 4. What you do when you're very happy
- 5. A song written by David
- 7. Full of joy

DOWN

- 1. People who obey God
- 2. Our Creator
- 6. The month after April



"But may the 1. _____ be 3. _____ and
 4. _____ before 2. _____; 6. _____ they
 be happy and 7. _____." 5. _____ 68:3, NIV

Answers: (across) 3. glad, 4. rejoice, 5. psalm, 7. joyful; (down) 1. righteous, 2. God, 6. may and joyful." Psalm 68:3, NIV

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!

Calling all volunteers! VBS 2017 needs your help!

Join us as we bring ancient Rome to life, exploring the life of early Christians as we learn about God's love for us!

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

Vacation Bible School runs July 10-14. Please consider volunteering for a day, for the week, or to help set up and decorate for our Roman adventure.

Sign up at vbspro.events/p/fpccs or contact Jana Schillinger or Nancy Dennen for more information.

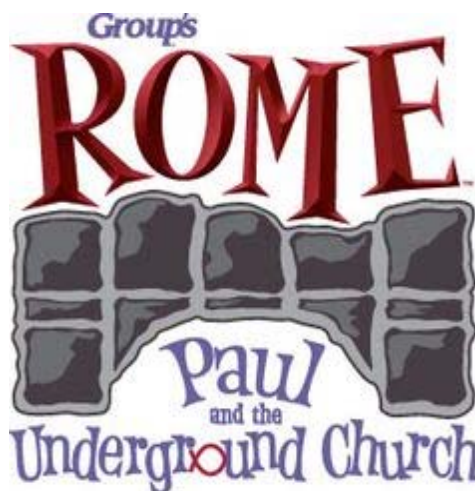
Vacation Bible School 2017

Open to all children

Age 4 - completed Grade 6



Register online at
vbspro.events/p/fpccs



July 10-14

9:00am-12:00pm



Join us in ancient Rome...
Sign up today!

PAUL R. DOBSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to this year's winner, Tyler Kusma. We wish him well as he embarks on his next journey as he heads off to George Washington University

Janet Dobson

Thank you, Lindsey Hardy

Lindsey has been our Presbyterian editor since the beginning of 2007. For ten-and-a-half years, she has carefully collected articles, placed the articles, inserted artwork, contacted people for more information, and generally took care of the layout and content of this newsletter eleven times a year.

Thank you, Lindsey, for your dedication and perseverance.

"You will be a tough act to follow."



A message from Camp Lackawanna Director Laurel Clapper

Since July 4 is on a Tuesday, we've scheduled **2 new "mini" camp options designed for our younger campers.**

Scheduled to begin on Wednesday, July 5 at 3 PM and close on Friday, July 7 at 7 PM,

"You and Me Camp"

(for grades K-2, children attend with parent / adult relative), and

"Explorers Camp" (grades 1-3)

will allow your little ones to enjoy the holiday and still get to attend camp! These options are not yet on our website, so if you have any questions or want to register for these camps, please contact me directly at

**camplackawanna.director@gmail.com or
call 215-896-0080.**



CAMP LACKAWANNA NEEDS NURSES FOR SUMMER CAMPS

Most weeks are still available. There is a stipend and free camp for his/her kids. Know somebody who can help? Contact Laurel Clapper at

camplackawanna.director@gmail.com.

MISSION AND JUSTICE

Mission And Justice – Special Offerings by Diane Scheuer

The Presbyterian denomination encourages each church to participate in 4 Special Offerings a year. There are envelopes supplied in each member's box of envelopes and more provided in the pews.

Peace and Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, first Sunday of September through World Communion Sunday.

- 25% congregational peacemaking ministries *
- 25% presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts
- 50% Presbyterian Mission Agency

Christmas Joy Offering is received during Advent, the four Sundays before Christmas.

- 50% to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions
- 50% to racial ethnic education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges



One Great Hour of Sharing is received during the season of Lent, the six Sundays before Easter.

- 36% Presbyterian Hunger Program
- 32% Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- 32% Self-Development of People

Pentecost Offering is received during the season of Pentecost, which is the 4 weeks before the Day of Pentecost.

- 40% Congregational ministries with children at risk *
- 60% Presbyterian Mission Agency
 - 50% for ministries with youth and young adults
 - 10% child advocacy / children at risk

* Session determines a local ministry to support.

We are taking a break from meeting for the summer.
Here is a list of our titles and dates through the end of 2017.

September 28 – **Unshackled: From Ruin to Redemption**
by Gene McGuire

October 26 – **A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman

November 16 – **When Breath Becomes Air** by Paul Kalanighi

If you would like more information about the group or up-coming titles, contact Judy Cutler at 570-446-9310 or jdragonflyc@hotmail.com



You're Invited

To a Dedication Ceremony for
The Paul Ford Classroom
at The Gathering Place, Clarks Summit
July 23, 4:00 p.m.

Enjoy a few short readings from Paul's memoirs &
lite refreshments with friends and family.

For information and reservations call Anne at 570.881.7612



Join us again for our annual ride down the
Lehigh Gorge Rail Trail, with lunch at
Molly Brannigans in Jim Thorpe.

This year's trip will be on July 8, 2017.
Price is \$20.00 for the shuttle (or \$40.00
for shuttle and bike). There is one return
shuttle, at 4:30 pm from Jim Thorpe.

Contact Dick or Marie Cochrane at 570-587-3970.

July Birthdays

- 3 Heather Cole, Vi Dygert
- 8 Rebekah Naehar
- 14 Jim Wells
- 15 Chris Gilbert
- 25 Janet Stansbury



Lectionary Readings July-August

July 2 Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19

July 16 Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30 Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August 6 Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21;

August 13 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

August 20 Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28

August 27 Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20



July Anniversaries

- 5 Sandra and Steuart Bailey
- 19 Grace and Bill Farrell
- 22 Betty and Don Keen,
Karis and David Naehar

August Birthdays

- 1 Jamie Strong
- 2 Alice Broxton, Joe O'Brien, Johnny Rich
- 4 Barbara Pittman
- 5 Jenn Rich
- 8 Kate Hopkins
- 11 Jack Pittman
- 12 Gwynne Gilbert,
Gail Van Horn
- 15 Fred Lyon
- 17 Ariana Billiot
- 19 Peter Moore
- 23 John Darcy,
Betsy Ellis,
Heather Lyons
- 24 Isaac Diaz
- 29 Mick Wirth



Communion Servers July-August

July: Dave Naehar, Captain, John Conklin, Meg Hatch, Bill Davis, Lee Wirth

August: Beverly Bright, Captain, Kim Barrows, Judy Cutler, Janet Stansbury, Chris Norton



August Anniversaries

- 2 Alice and Dick Broxton
- 5 Lee and Mick Wirth
- 7 John and Connie Weiss
- 26 Robin and Charlie Pinches
- 29 Barbara and Jack Pittman

Welcomers

- July 2: Mick and Lee Wirth
- July 9: Janet Stansbury
- July 16: John Conklin
- July 23: Ann Chamberlin
- July 30: Nancy London



- August 6: Donna and Dave Porter
- August 13: Betty Keen
- August 20: TBD
- August 27: Barbara and Jack Pittman

July Calendar



- 2 10AM-Worship**
3PM-OA
10AM-Health & Wellness for Seniors
- 3 6PM-Weight Watchers**
- 4 Independence Day-Office is closed.**
- 5 11AM-Prayer and Share**
8PM-AIAnon
- 6 8:30AM-Men's Breakfast**
7PM-Building and Grounds
7PM-Christian Education
- 8 Lehigh Gorge Bike Ride**
- 9 10AM-Worship**
3PM-OA
- 10 9AM-Vacation Bible School**
7PM-Planning for Worship through Service
- 11 9AM-Vacation Bible School**
4:30PM-Staff Meeting
6PM-OA
7PM-Big Book AA



- 12 9AM-Vacation Bible School**
1:30PM-LP COM
8PM-AIAnon
- 13 9AM-Vacation Bible School**
- 14 9AM-Vacation Bible School**
12PM-Vacation Bible School closing
- 16 10AM-Worship**
11:15-AM-Scavenger Hunt
3PM-OA
- 17 10AM-Health & Wellness for Seniors**
6PM-Weight Watchers
- 18 6PM-OA**
7PM-Big Book AA
- 19 11AM-Prayer and Share**
8PM-AIAnon



- 20 8:30AM-Men's Breakfast**
- 21 7PM-Guitar/Flute concert with**
Ice cream social to follow



- 23 10AM-Worship**
3PM-OA
- 24 10AM-Health & Wellness for Seniors**
6PM-Weight Watchers
- 25 6PM-Joint Session and Deacons Supper Meeting**
6PM-OA
7PM-Big Book
- 26 11AM-Prayer and Share**
8PM-AIAnon

30 10AM-Worship

3PM-OA

31 6PM-Weight Watchers

August Calendar

- 2 11AM-Prayer and Share**
8PM-AIAnon
- 3 8:30AM-Men's Breakfast**
7PM-Building and Grounds
7PM-Christian Education
- 6 10AM-Worship**
3PM-OA
- 8 6PM-OA**
7PM-Big Book AA
- 9 10AM-LP Nominating**
11AM-Prayer and Share
1PM-LP COM
8PM-AIAnon



Summer Worship

11 Presbyter Deadline

13 10AM-Worship

3PM-OA

14 6PM-Weight Watchers
7PM-Worship, Music, Arts

15 6PM-OA
7PM-Big Book AA

16 11AM-Prayer and Share
8PM-AIAnon

17 8:30AM-Men's Breakfast
20 10AM-Worship
11:15-Fellowship
3PM-OA



21 6PM-Weight Watchers

22 6PM-OA
7PM-Big Book

23 9AM-Presbyter Mailing
11AM-Prayer and Share
8PM-AIAnon

27 10AM-Worship
3PM-OA

28 6PM-Weight Watchers

29 6PM-OA
7PM-Big Book

30 11AM-Prayer and Share
7:15PM-Adult Choir
8PM-AIAnon

AA meets each morning at 7AM, including holidays.



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



Food Pantry Needs

AEM Food Pantry has an URGENT NEED!

By Greg Matthews, Board of Deacons

The Food Pantry inventory is very low. There are 70+ families needing assistance, up from 55 families just a few years ago.

- * Canned fruit (they have plenty of green vegetables)
- * Soup * Pasta Sauce * Tuna * Powdered Milk
- * Canned meat (including chili, raviolis, SpaghettiO's)

The need is great. Donations are down. Can you help?

Please bring items to the narthex any time during the month of July.

Thank you for your continuing generosity.