



The Presbyterian

February 2020

The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit

Clarks Summit Festival of Ice

February 14—16, 2020



Our church is a vital part of the Festival of Ice with an ice sculpture outside and a variety of activities inside.

Elaine Tweedy will organize an exhibit of artwork from local artists and congregation members, with a juried photography show sponsored by the Northeast Photography Club on Friday night. The exhibit will be open to the public on Friday from 6:00 to 7:30 pm and on Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm.



On Friday evening a Valentine's Day coffeehouse will be held in Fellowship Hall from 7 to 8 pm with an octet from the Arcadia Chorale singing a program of love songs, including selections

from their latest CD "Love Songs". Refreshments will be provided.

From 11 am to 2 pm on Saturday, our Chili Café will provide a place to warm up, grab a bite to eat, and listen to student musicians perform. Singers from the Jessica Hitchcock Vocal Studio will be the featured performers.

Other activities on Saturday will include a performance at 2 pm of "Honk, Jr" by students from the Creative and Performing Arts Academy's

Jr. Players division. The show, directed by Karl Barbee, with music direction by Sheri Melcher, and choreography by Cristina Sohns Williams, is a heartwarming celebration of being different that is sure to delight audiences of all ages with its sparkling wit, unique charm and memorable score.

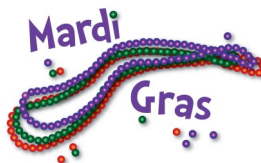


Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation

First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit has set the annual meeting for Sunday, February 2, 2020.



Following worship there will be a pot luck lunch and the meeting. Bring a dish to share, plates and utensils. Beverages and dessert will be available.



Don't miss **Mardi Gras Sunday** on February 23 at 10 am. Music will be provided by the South Abington Stompers, an outstanding jazz band of dubious reputation

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Notes from the Session Meeting on Sunday, January 12, 2020

1. Session re-elected Barbara Brown as the president of the corporation of First Presbyterian Church, Clarks Summit. Re-elected Beverly Bright as the clerk of session and secretary of the corporation of FPCCS. Re-elected Wayne Griffith as the church treasurer of the corporation of FPCCS.
2. The Nominating Team of the People in Ministry committee will begin the search for a new class of Session and Deacon members. If you have a church member in mind for one of the offices, please give it to Craig Smith and/or Chris Norton who members of the People in Ministry committee.

Beverly Bright
Clerk of Session

The Presbyterian deadline for the March issue is February 14.

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
Director of Chapel Choir	Kay Ten Eyck
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Sexton	John Conklin

Board of Deacons

Care Team Ministry **Coordinators are:**

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 DECEMBER 31, 2019

Thank you for your contributions to the 2019 budget. Having received over \$324,000 in pledge income, and considering the good stewardship of the committees, normal expenses only exceeded income by \$225. (These figures exclude the capital expenditures that were undertaken.)

Pledge Income	
Budget	\$325,000
Actual	<u>-324,303</u>
Difference	<u>(\$ 697)</u>

Per Capita received	
Budget	\$ 4,000
Actual	<u>\$3,933</u>
	<u>(\$ 67)</u>

Our bill for 2019 per capita, based on membership was \$18,665.

From the Pastor

February 2020

Winter has returned. With it, there comes a stack of books to read, a fireplace to tend, a pot of steaming soup. It is time to enter the cocoon, to rest and reflect, and to anticipate the promise of a far-off spring.

It is also time to reach for a favorite winter book, Martin Marty's *The Promise of Winter: Quickening the Spirit on Ordinary Days and in Fallow Seasons*. Here is his reflection on the topic of "security," based on the Bible verse, "He will raise me beyond reach of distress" (Psalm 27).



After snow is fallen, anyone who is pursued grows freshly alert. The escapee from a prison camp knows that guards will track best in new snow. Those who chase will find the one fleeing easy to follow. No hounded animal would seek more frantically for a place to hide beyond harm's way, whether in sun or shadow.

The running refugee yearns for slight drifts to cover the trails and traces he has left: "If only I had a lookout, a vantage from where I could see but not be seen. Yes, for a place to crouch unnoticed, so I could be free to observe. The pursuer would then tire or grow confused and leave me alone." that kind of dream is realized whenever a divine hand leads, whenever a loving guide provides a hiding place. Such a dream does not have to be a mere fevered fancy gone astray.

Serious persons need invest little imagination to see themselves not pursued but chilled by fear of forces or persons who will not let them come to and ever after enjoy secure places. Fears plague us daily, whether we are apparently succeeding or failing. Feeling assailed, we run away. Bt the experience of being moved beyond danger by God offers a new and daily ever more secure situation of safety and perspective.

Let me be moved to where I can gain a vantage of what is threatening; provide security while I elude the soul's assailants. Amen.

May this be a restorative season for you, sustaining your spirit and strengthening your resolve. Even in the bleak winter, we encounter the wild grace of God.

See you on Sunday,

Rev. Bill Carter



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE BIBLE STUDIES

Mary Ellen Lawlor

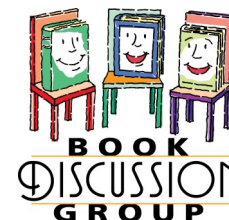
Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh look at the 10 Words

“Words of love: Hold your Marriage Sacred” will be our Seventh Word. We will explore the meaning of holding marriage sacred in ancient Hebrew culture and the root issue of worthy relationships. The author suggests that this is not only a personal issue but a community one as well.

Eugenia Gamble, wants us to “examine marriage to be sure that boundaries are clear and sacred, but also to see that this Word invites us to consider the many ways we adulterate the important relationships in our lives.”

Please join us on Tuesday, February 18 at the church for the Dorcas and Priscilla Circles at 10:00 a.m. or the Eunice Circle at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Barbara Pittman at 570-587-2050 or Bonnie Plantholt at 570-212-1566 for 10:00 a.m. or Kate Hopkins at 570-587-2390 for 7:00 p.m.

Becoming by Michelle Obama (400 pages)
February 27 @ Nancy Owens’ home, 7:00 p.m.



In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As first lady of the United States of America - the first African American to serve in that role - she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the United States and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way, she showed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare.

In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites listeners into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her – from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work to her time spent at the world's most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it - in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, *Becoming* is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations - and whose story inspires us to do the same.

Mission and Justice

REMINDER! REMINDER!



February is Black History month, so we will be holding a table talk after the service on Sunday Feb. 23, 2020 with Reverend Allyson Brundige on “White Privilege.” Allyson has a Master of Divinity degree from Yale University and presently is the chaplain at Choate Rosemary Hall. Allyson has worked both in New Haven and at Choate in addressing racism through community organizing and educating others about racism and white privilege.

In preparation for Reverend Allyson’s visit, we will be reading the book *White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo, PhD and holding discussions about the book following the service on the two Sundays preceding Allyson’s table talk (Feb. 9 and 16). We encourage anyone interested in taking part to purchase the book and come join us in meaningful discussions.

Description of the book *White Fragility*: “This New York Times best-selling book explores the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality....In this in-depth exploration, anti-racist educator Robin DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what can be done to engage more constructively.” (Goodreads.com)

White Fragility and other books on racism are available in our church library.



Help Wanted: New Volunteer Positions available

Bulletin Board Artist: The church bulletin board just inside the door (across the street from the parking lot) needs a new artist. There are some materials available in the church office. A talented person who can periodically create something welcoming would be an asset.

Eddie Suydam has been our bulletin board artist for many years, and we thank her for her service! It has been such a bright, welcoming addition to that entry area that I hate to see it disappear.

Memorial Fund Treasurer: Barbara Brown has been our Memorial Fund Treasurer for many years, as well. Barbara keeps a record of all memorial contributions, and acknowledges their receipt. Barbara needs to free up time in her schedule and would like to pass this task on to another willing volunteer. Would that be you? You can talk to Barbara to find out more of the details of this valuable volunteer.

Many of our volunteers are un-sung heroes to the church staff. Each and every one makes a difference!



New “Instant Church Directory” Progress Report

As you probably know, the Fellowship Committee has been working on a new “online” church directory which members can easily access anytime. For the online version, members can put an app on their iPhone, iPad, Android device or Kindle so that the church roster will always be at their fingertips. Members will then use the email address listed in the directory to create their own password. Directories can be printed for those who do not provide an email address or those who would prefer a printed copy.

Regarding security of the directory, Instant Church Directory states the following: “Your account is protected by a username and password that only you should know. Search engines do not crawl any of the directory data located within the password-protected portion. We take your privacy and your church members’ privacy very seriously.” There are flyers posted around the church entitled “Security Facts” which will further explain the details and hopefully allay any concerns of members of our congregation.

Chris Sekol and Jeanne DeVirgilis have been taking photos during fellowship hour following church so there’s not a pushy salesperson trying to sell you pictures that you really don’t want. If you have not yet had your photo taken, there’s still plenty of time. We can add photos as we receive them. We can change contact information easily so that the online version will always be up-to-date. You can also submit a photo to be downloaded into the program if you would prefer.

If you would like to have your picture included in the directory and have not been in church lately to get that photo taken, please contact one of the Online Directory Committee members listed below to make arrangements to have your picture taken. Or email your photo to JoAnn or Jeanne along with your contact information.

Forms are available on the table in the narthex asking for your contact information. Even if you don’t care to have your picture in the directory, we still need you to fill out a form. We will not include phone numbers or email addresses unless we have your permission so, by filling out the form, you are basically giving us the green light to include the information you have supplied.

Thank you for working with us on this project. You will be notified when the directory is online and ready for you to access with directions on how to do so.

Your Online Directory Committee:

JoAnn Hall at jodihall@nep.net or 570-806-1591

Jeanne DeVirgilis at westcollect@gmail.com or 570-479-7960

Briar Woodley at woodleyb@gmail.com or 570-575-1627

Karen White at whitekb1214@gmail.com or 570-945-0169

Christian Education



It's for life!

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

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

Supper 5:00 Classes 6:15

IMPORTANT DATE**Wed., February 26** - Ash Wednesday - classes will be held from 6:15-6:55, followed immediately by worship.**Classes Offered:**

Spark Nursery (up to age 4): A nurturing class for our youngest learners, our nursery class will hear Bible stories, sing songs, play, and participate in activities appropriate to their age.

Grace & Faith (4 years old - Grade 5) experience Bible stories through our curriculum *Growing in Grace & Gratitude*. This winter we will hear messages of hope and comfort as we welcome Jesus — first as a baby, then as teacher and savior. In February, we will learn that *You are Salt and Light*, that *God Cares for All*, hear about *Specks and Logs*, and discover the season of Lent in a special Ash Wednesday lesson.

We Believe (Grades 6 and up): This winter, students will go back to the beginning by exploring the Old Testament. We'll continue to discover the history and richness of the Bible as we discuss, ask questions, and dig deeper into familiar stories. In February, we'll explore Ruth and Kings.

Wednesday Classes for Adults

Meet Howard Thurman is the Adult class that we will offer on Wednesdays in February (5, 12, and 19). We will learn together about the Quaker mystic who influenced Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Thurman had a passion for integrating spirituality with the work for justice. Come and find out more!

Ash Wednesday is February 26. We will have an abbreviated class schedule, with all classes meeting at 6:15, and a meditative worship service taking place in the sanctuary promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Schedule

5:00-6:10 pm Light supper *

5:30-6:10 Chapel Choir Rehearsal

6:15-7:10 Christian Education classes for All Ages

7:15-8:25 Adult Choir

8:30-9:15 Bell Choir

*Please make a reservation for supper by filling out a slip found in the church office, the kitchen, or in pews and returning it in the offering plate or in the basket near the phone in the kitchen. You may also call the church office to make a reservation. Suggested donation \$3 per person.

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 28-29

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

Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 2 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.



Welcome to Our Adventures in the Bible Group

Adventures in
the Bible



Families with children ages 2 and older are welcome, and parents of younger children are invited to stay in the class to enjoy the lesson and craft or activity with their little ones. We look forward to seeing your family downstairs on Sunday mornings at 9:00!

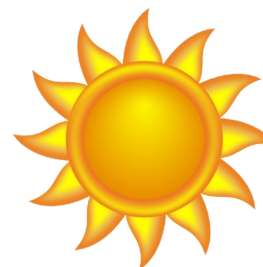
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karis Naeher at klnaeher@outlook.com or Tabbi Miller-Scrandle at tabbi.miller-scandle@scranton.edu.

Join us for this year's Adventure in the Bible!

Save the Date!

Attention all children,
families, and volunteers!

Mark your calendars...



VBS 2020

will be held

July 13 - 17

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.

IT'S THAT TIME! Time to frame up your work and once again be a part of the Ice Festival Art Show, which will run from Friday, February 14 through Sunday, February 16. Over 242 visitors walked through the Art Show last year. There were 49 individuals who attended the opening.



If Interested in being an exhibitor, please contact Elaine Tweedy, coordinator of the event, at 570-575-1705 (cell), 570-945-9894 (home) or elaintweedy@gmail.com (email). Three pieces may be submitted. These pieces must not have been shown here previously. **All submission titles must be emailed to Elaine Tweedy by January 31.** There will, once again, be a People's Choice Award.



Ice Festival Chili Café

Chilly Outside? Chili Inside! Do you have a good recipe for chili? Cook up a batch and bring it (in your own crock pot) to our Chili Cafe on Saturday, February 15. We will be serving chili and other refreshments from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Contribute your chili and/or volunteer to help on that day as we warm up the whole town with both food and fellowship!

See or contact either Karen White at 570-945-0169; or Barbara Pittman at 570-587-2050 (pitstop1964@comcast.net) to let us know how you will help or if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance!

Helpers Needed!

The W.A.Y. is looking for people to help with our meals. You are welcome to help once in a while, once a month, or whenever you are able!

You can help by:

- Cooking or helping to cook a main dish
- Providing a salad Providing a dessert
- Helping with setup Helping with cleanup

Contact Karen White or Tabbi Miller-Scandle to volunteer!



Joys

Sorrows

Thank You Notes



February 2	Jeff McLaughlin
February 4	JoAnn Hall
February 6	Bryan Shane
February 7	Jonathan Schillinger
February 10	SaraAnn Hosier
February 17	Holly Shane
February 19	Melba Fialko
February 21	Rev. Bill Carter
February 28	Diane Cole Gayle Hamilton Katie Taylor



Announcing the birth of Christian Stone Van Horn III on November 21, 2019. He is the son of Stoney and Amy Coyne Van Horn, grandson of Chris and Jane Van Horn, and great-grandson of Gail Van Horn. Blessings and good health to all!



On January 12, 2020, Evelyn Rose Koltis was baptized by Rev. Carter during morning worship. Evelyn is the daughter of *new members* Bethany and Andrew Koltis, and granddaughter of Susan Sill.

Lectionary Readings

February 2

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:181-31; Matthew 5:1-12

February 9

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

February 16

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

February 23

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9



Greeters


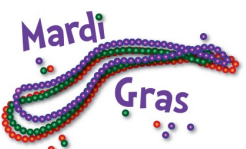
February 2	Myrna and John Diven
February 9	Lee and Mick Wirth
February 16	Jack and Barbara Pittman
February 23	Chuck and Maggie Woolever

Ushers

Anne Rich

Communion Servers

Heather Acker, captain; Warren Acker, Tabbi Miller-Scandle, Jack Pittman and Nancy Dennen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>First Presbyterian Church</p> <p>February 2020</p> </div>						<p>1</p> <p>7am-AA</p>
<p>2</p> <p>7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 3:00pm-OA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7am-AA 6pm-Girl Scouts 7pm-Mission and Justice</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7am-AA 10am-PW Executive Board 5pm-OA 5:30-Choral Society 7pm-Big Book</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7am-AA 11am-Prayer & Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Children's Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8 pm-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7am-AA 8:30am-Men's Breakfast 4:30pm-Staff Meeting 7pm-AIAnon 7pm-Building & Grounds 7pm-Christian Ed</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7am-AA</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7am-AA</p>
<p>9</p> <p>7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15-Worship, Music Arts 3:00pm-OA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7am-AA 6pm-Girl Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 5pm-OA 5:30-Choral Society 7pm-Big Book</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7am-AA 11am-Prayer & Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Children's Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8 pm-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7am-AA 7pm-AIAnon</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7am-AA Presbyter Deadline Ice Festival Begins Valentines Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7am-AA Ice Festival</p>
<p>16</p> <p>7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15-Fellowship Comm. 3pm-OA Ice Festival</p>	<p>17</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Presidents Day</p> </div> <p>7am-AA 6pm-Girl Scouts Church Office is closed.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7am-AA 10:00-PW Morning Circle 5pm-OA 5:30-Choral Soc. 7pm-PW Eunice Circle 7pm-Big Book</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7am-AA 11am-Prayer & Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Children's Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8 pm-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7am-AA 8:30am-Men's Breakfast 7pm-AIAnon</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7am-AA</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7am-AA</p>
<p>23</p> <p>7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship with a Mardi Gras Flair!  3pm-OA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7am-AA 6pm-Girl Scouts</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 5pm-OA 7pm-Big Book 7pm-Deacons</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7am-AA 9am-Presbyter 11am-Prayer & Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Children's Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8 pm-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7am-AA 7pm-AIAnon 7pm-FPC Book Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7am-AA</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7am-AA</p>
				<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>“Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you.” —Anne Lamott</p> </div>		


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


The 2020 Flower Calendar is hanging on the bulletin board next to Rev. Bill's office. It currently has many open dates. If you would like to contribute flowers for Sunday worship during 2020, please indicate your interest by signing up on this calendar.

Save the Dates!

Sunday, February 2

Potluck luncheon 11:00 AM
Annual Meeting 11:45 AM
Souper Bowl Sunday

February 14-16

Festival of Ice

Sunday, February 23

Table Talk on Racism

February 28-29

World Vision's
30 Hour Famine

Wednesday, February 26

Ash Wednesday

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Savings Time begins

Sunday, March 15

The Arts 4:00 PM
Sophie Till and Ron Stabinsky

Friday, March 20

First day of Spring

Sunday, April 5

Palm Sunday

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Easter Sunday