



Among Friends

OCTOBER, 2023



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Greetings:

Everyone knows that I love football. I love the Pitt Panthers. I love the Penn State Nittany Lions. And I REALLY love the Pittsburgh Steelers! So, when my secret sister got me a t-shirt, she knew just which one to buy. On the front of the shirt it says, “Sundays are for Jesus and football.” What a great shirt! What a great message! And what I like most about the shirt is this; it got it right...Jesus came first...even before football. While I may watch two or three football games on Sunday, worship comes first.

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.
Matthew 6:33*

The Believer’s Bible Commentary puts it this way; “If you will put God’s interest first in your life, I will guarantee your future needs. If you seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, then I will see that you never lack the necessities of life.”

You see, when we put Jesus first and the things of God first, we are given many wonderful gifts. If we go on to Matthew 6:34, it begins this way: “Therefore do not worry...”

We do not have to worry; God will provide. We do not have to worry; God knows what we need. You see, when Jesus comes first in our lives, good things will come our way. Even cool t-shirts that say, “Sundays are for Jesus and football!”

Always put Jesus first and enjoy the game!!

In His love,
Diane



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Pastor’s Message
- 2 Online Worship Link
A Little History
- 3 What’s Happening at FPC:
Sunday School Update
Upcoming Events and Special Dates
- 4 Missions Updates
A Prayer for Pumpkin People
- 5 Joys and Concerns
- 6 Second Saturday Concert
Watch For the Sign
- 7 Just for Fun



NOVEMBER

**Newsletter
Deadline**

OCTOBER 25

*Worship
With Us*

(((ONLINE WORSHIP)))

Click Here

www.friendshippresbyterianchurch.weebly.com



Deadline for
NOVEMBER
submission of
information is
OCTOBER 25

Submit to:
Sue Datt via

“Snail Mail”
324 S. Main St.
Harrisville, PA 16038

E-mail:
suedatt70@gmail.com

Phone:
724-991-5863

A Little History....

Submitted by Ruth Keith
(Information from *Then Sings My Soul*
by Robert J. Morgan



Every Sunday we sing “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow,” also known as “The Doxology.” This was written in 1674 by Englishman Thomas Ken. As a youngster he attended Winchester College, an historic boys’ school. He was later ordained to the ministry and became a chaplain at Winchester.

Wanting to encourage the boys in their devotional habits, he wrote 3 hymns in 1674...a revolutionary event as English hymns had not yet appeared. Only Psalms were sung in public worship. The boys were to use these hymns privately in their rooms. There was a hymn to sing upon waking, one to sing at bedtime, and one to sing a midnight.

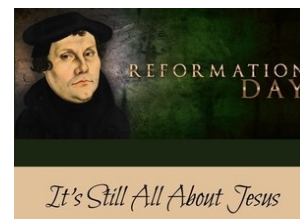
All 3 of these hymns concluded with a common stanza, the same one we sing every week in response to the offering. It has become the most widely-sung verse in the world. I wonder how many times I have sung these words in my lifetime.

*“Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.”*

Submitted by Ruth Keith
(Information from *Then Sings My Soul* by Robert J. Morgan)

The Protestant Reformation

Protestants recall the Reformation on October 31. On that day in 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany.



Ultimately, the following five statements of belief became central to Protestant Christians.

1. Scripture alone is the final authority of Christian doctrine.
2. Christ alone is Lord and Savior.
3. God’s freely given grace is central to salvation.
4. Sinners are justified by faith in Christ alone.
5. God alone is worthy of all the glory.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FPC?

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

All are welcome to join us before Sunday morning worship for a time of Bible study, discussion, and sharing. October lessons continue the theme of the role of God's law as it relates to our faith...that the law does not save us. A repentant heart does. We are to live by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Our lessons come from the letters of Paul, Romans 2 and 7, and Galatians 3.

The class meets at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday.

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY

SCHOOL: The class will be studying how to take a stand for God. They study the wisdom books of Ecclesiastes and Job. The lessons will help the teens apply God's Word to topics such as God's timing and how to handle difficult times. One lesson tells them how live a life through faith in Jesus Christ.

We meet at 9:45 a.m. each week.



OCTOBER EVENTS AND SPECIAL DATES

OCTOBER 1

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SERVICE

Worship begins at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School (for all ages) begins at 9:45 a.m.

OCTOBER 8

WORSHIP SERVICE: Worship begins at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School (for all ages) begins at 9:45 a.m.

OCTOBER 9

COLUMBUS DAY

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

OCTOBER 11

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will meet at 7:00 p.m., at the Community Center. The evening will include Bible Study, discussion, business matters and work on a project for "Meals on Wheels." Reminder: we will be studying Lesson 10

OCTOBER 14

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT featuring the return of Tom and Gina Toth of **Humble Ministries**. (See Page 6 for more Information.) Refreshments start at 6:30 p.m. followed by the program at 7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 15

WORSHIP SERVICE: Worship begins at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School (for all ages) begins at 9:45 a.m.

OCTOBER 22

WORSHIP SERVICE: Worship begins at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School (for all ages) begins at 9:45 a.m.

OCTOBER 23

SESSION MEETING: 7:00 p.m., at the Community Center.

OCTOBER 29

REFORMATION SUNDAY

WORSHIP SERVICE: Worship begins at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School (for all ages) begins at 9:45 a.m.

OCTOBER 31

REFORMATION DAY

MISSIONS

across the street & around the world



Feed My Sheep Food Cupboard: Pasta and sauce donations have been delivered. Thank you for your generous donations. For October, we are asking for Thanksgiving non-perishable items such as stuffing mixes, cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, canned pumpkin or anything else you think of. We will deliver these in early November. The food bank is appreciative of any and all donations.



All Good Things: Our clothing drive for All Good Things continues. Clothing items can be left in the containers in the vestibule for future deliveries. Items donated are sold at reasonable prices in the Grove City shop plus profits from the sales benefit area programs.



Operation Christmas Child is fast approaching. Watch for further information. *It's never too early to start packing a shoebox!*

FRIENDS
on a 
MISSION

A PRAYER FOR PUMPKIN PEOPLE

After Liz Curtis Higgs wrote the popular children's book *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, people began using her analogies to say a prayer while carving their Halloween pumpkins. The pumpkin prayer, a Christian alternative to Halloween traditions, reminds people of all ages what God has done for us. Use it this fall when your family makes jack-o'-lanterns.

- While cutting off the top of the pumpkin, pray, "Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you." (See Proverbs 1:7.)



- While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, "Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do, and help me forgive others." (See Matthew 6:14-15.)



- While making eyes, pray, "Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me." (See Psalm 104:24.)



- While making the nose, pray, "I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts." (See James 1:17.)



- While making the mouth, pray, "Let everything I say please you." (See Psalm 19:14.)



- While lighting the candle, pray, "Lord, help me show your light to others through the things I do." (See Matthew 5:16.)



After carving your pumpkins, display them as examples of how God's love transforms us into new creations.

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!"

2 Corinthians 5:17 (TLB)

Prayer List

“Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:16

Anne D.
April and Todd Bentley
Bonnie of Georgia Christy
Francine
The Alben Family
Micheal Adams
Lincoln Alford
Leslie Alford
Doris Allison and Family
The Family of Jane Allison
Carly Atkisson
Tammy Baker
Zachary Barto
Jan Bloom
Candy Boulanger
Joanne Campbell
Martie Cooper
Louise Corbett
Jeff & Cindy Cross
Heather Datt
Jim Dickey
Mark Doerr
Harold Eichholtz.
Jennifer Gilliland

Donna Grossman
Chris Hogg
Timothy James
Rev. & Mrs. Bill Jamieson
Graham Larimore
Landry Lawson
Joe Lowers
Will McCoy
Kevin Michael
Willard Morse
Randy Morgan
David Parker
Jon Richardson
Bernie Rihel
Bill & Chris Schroeder
George Sonnet & Family
Jane Spencer
Joe Vivelo
Seth Vogan
Benjamin Vukson
Joan West
Michelle Whitehouse
Megan Lind Zimmer (Joan West’s granddaughter.)
Woman from Michigan
Our military at home & abroad

Persecuted Christians around the world
Alpha Omega Center
Feed My Sheep Food Cupboard
Beaver Butler Presbytery
Cooperstown Church Family
Friendship Church Family
S. R. Community Nursery School
Trevor Wood’s Ministry

All those impacted by severe weather issues around the United States and around the world.

The people of Ukraine and Russia, their leaders, the world leaders and the world’s people.

Our political leaders.

Our country.

NO LONE-RANGER CHRISTIANS

World Communion Sunday, celebrated this year on October 1, reminds us there’s no such thing as solitary Christianity. “As Christians we’re called to belong, not just to believe,” writes Rick Warren. “We are not meant to live lone-ranger lives; instead, we are to belong to Christ’s family and be members of his body.”

After all, Christian fellowship can’t occur without fellow Christians. We can’t learn the intricacies of the Bible and theology without preachers and teachers. We don’t baptize ourselves. We don’t take Holy Communion alone; in fact, the sacrament’s very name refers to interaction with God and others.

The New Testament clearly states that one cannot be Christian all alone. We are members of Christ’s body (Ephesians 5:30). We belong to the family of believers (Galatians 6:10). We are “a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people” (1 Peter 2:9, NRSV).

So don’t be a lone ranger or a stranger — to worship or



OCTOBER



Benjamin Vukson, 10/3
Joan West, 10/6
Beth Frampton, 10/7
Robert Lagnese, 10/13

Shirlann Finch, 10/22
Jeff Cross, 10/23
George Natili, 10/26
Jennifer Gilliland, 10/31

Philip and Bethann Frampton
October 12



THE SATURDAY CONCERT

We welcome the return of Tom and Gina Toth of **Humble Music Ministries**. Tom and Gina are dedicated to serving God's People and reaching out to the unbeliever. Their goal is to reach as many people as possible, to uplift spirits and heal the broken-hearted through a musical mix of Southern gospel, folk, hymns, original tunes, and fun participation songs.



Their music and message are inspirational and Gina's personal testimony is touching because it expresses how God has used her to bless others through severe visual challenges and health issues. Tom and Gina minister in various locations in a five county region in the Penn-Ohio area at nursing homes, churches, and other venues.

As always, refreshments start at 6:30 p.m. and the concert will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. (Members are asked to bring along a dessert or snack to share.)

Attention Facebook users: please share with your friends the FB announcements that come out so we can broaden our reach.



Our **November** concert will feature the return of Alan and Mary Kitchen and the Gospel Garage Band. They will be presenting a program of folk and gospel music. We look forward to an uplifting and entertaining evening...plan to join us!!!

NOTICE: November will be the last concert of this season. We will be off for December, January, February and March. We'll see you in APRIL 2024!!!



LOOK FOR THE SIGN!

Submitted by Evelyn Vargo

When driving past the Community Center don't forget to look for the sign!

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY CENTER

DON'T BE HAUNTED

BY YOUR PAST

JESUS SAVES

To Book Call: 724-738-0953

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY CENTER

DON'T BE TRICKED

BY THE DEVIL

BE TREATED BY JESUS

To Book Call: 724-738-0953

And something you'll never see on OUR sign...



"This isn't exactly what I had in mind!"

THANKS Evie!!!



FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
877 Franklin Road
Slippery Rock, PA 16057



Submitted by Heather Datt