



#### THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAMBERTVILLE First Presbyterian Church

#### Many voices with one faith, one heart. One family under God.

## From Our Elder ~ Phil McCloughan

#### 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2

As for other matters, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith.

#### Acts 1:8

The Holy Spirit will empower the Church to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth.

#### Acts 13:47

The Lord has commanded people to be a light to the nations and bring salvation to the ends of the earth.

#### Mark 16:15

People should go into the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation.

It is up to us to spread the Gospel of the Holy Spirit, Jesus and God. To read the Bible and learn the Word of God. God through Jesus, to the Disciples to the people it's up to us to share the gospel and the truth of Jesus to all. How do you start that conversation about the Greatest Story Ever Told? Can you imagine yourself leaving your family, home and country to sail to the "New World" and having to explain your faith in Jesus to People who you know don't even speak your language? But people did, it was their understanding of those scriptures. They did as instructed the apostles.

Sometimes in today's world it can be an issue talking about a Christian life outside. Understand there are many people who need help who might not even think about turning to Jesus. Be that disciple and pray for them and pray for yourself for the words from the Lord. Praying for God's People was on the forefront on the minds of the Apostles in the early church.

What have you learned from your own life that you can translate from the Bible? To be able to start a conversation about Jesus and the Greatest Story Ever Told. Open up from your heart and let the Holy Spirit lead you through the Bible. To find the courage to spread the word about the Gospel.

# "From the Office"

Happy November!! The Bell Choir will be coming back on Thursdays, starting on November 7th at 6:30 pm. If you would like to join us, please reach out to me. You don't have to read music to play, just bring your enthusiasm! Please email or call me at the Church Office: lambertvillepresbyterian@gmail.com or 609-397-0650.



Thank you for your continued input for the Newsletters, it is greatly appreciated! Have a blessed Thanksgiving!!

Sue

### **Church News:**



Riverside Symphonia will be in the Sanctuary on Saturday November 2nd. Their Concert is at 8:00 pm.

# Don't forget to turn your clocks *back* on Sunday Morning November 3rd at 2:00 am, for Eastern Standard Time.

Our Communion for this month is on November 3rd, and is also Veterans Day Sunday. Mt. Airy will be joining us. Pastor Gregory will be here. Session will be hosting the Care & Share this month.

# There is a box at the bottom of the Sanctuary stairs for the Christmas Toy Drive for the children of the parents at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility, Clinton NJ. The last day to bring your unwrapped gift is Sunday November 10th.

The Ladies Bible Study is continuing on Wednesdays, 2:00 pm in the Church Library. There will be no Ladies' Bible Study on Wednesday November 27th.

The Spanish Ministry will be meeting on Sundays at 3:00 pm

#### On November 17th it is "Bring Your Friend to Church." Sunday.

The gym will be in use on Sunday November 17th in the afternoon and evening for the Ramblers Banquet.

Roller Skating for Youth up to 6th Grade will be starting at 6:00 pm in the gym on Friday November 22nd.

During the week of November 25th, the Church will be decorated for the Christmas Season.

JOIN US FOR OUF

Women's Christmas Gathering

IN CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF OUR JESUS CHRIST!

GUEST SPEAKER, SINGING, FELLOWSHIP, AND DELICIOUS FOOD

COFFEE AND TEA WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING AN HORS D'OEUVRE, DESSERT OF A SIDE DISH TO SHARE

9TH MONDAY DECEMBER 2024 6:30 PM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LAMBERTVILLE, NJ

#### Proverbs 6:16-19:

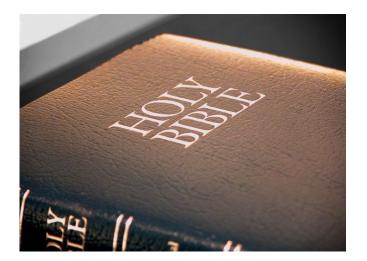
"There are six things the Lord hates-No, seven things He detests:

- Arrogant Eyes
- A Lying Tongue
- Hands that Kill the Innocent
  - A Heart that Plots Evil
- Feet that Race to Do Wrong
- A False Witness Who Pours Out Lies
- A Person Who Sows Discord in a Family."
- While it's all to common that non-believers often fall into these categories, let's be sure that as Christians we do not.

May the Holy Spirit Continue to fine tune each of our lives to conform to the Image of Jesus.

Blessings,

Joanne DiBlasi



# Ministry and Outreach:

#### News From Your Missions Team~

Please see the Bulletin Board in the back of the Sanctuary!

Your Missions Team: Addie Andino, Gail Armitage, Konni Sandford, Russ Topping and Donna Zambella

#### Deacon's Corner.....

Thank you to all who baked, helped and came out and supported our Bake Sale on Sunday October 27th. It was a great day!! The proceeds will be going to Samaritans Purse for Hurricane relief.

The Children's Christmas Pageant is on Sunday December 15th. Rehearsals for the Pageant are on 12/1, 12/8 and 12/15.

We appreciate all your help.

Heather, Dana, Terry, LaNelle, Heidi and Jen.



November Birthdays 9 Katie Vaccarino 10 James P. Buchanan 12 Antonia Pursell 13 Karen Armano 13 Tom Crews 14 Bob Pierman 15 John Desai 18 Patrick Durborow 18 Madison Hartpence 20 Danielle Fisher 25 Heather McIntyre 27 Joan Yannarella 30 Karen Thatcher 30 Debra Wiley-Geis



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Just for Kids .....



## **November Assisting Schedules:**

#### **Elder Schedule**

11/3- Communion/Phil McCloughan11/10- Phil McCloughan11/17- Karen Thatcher11/24- Joanne DiBlasi

#### **Deacon Schedule**

11/3- Communion/\*Heidi Danberry (Stair Glide), Dana Garrenger
11/10- LaNelle Gallagher
11/17- LaNelle Gallagher
11/24- Terry Peck

#### **Greeting Schedule**

11/3– Connie Fisher 11/10- Betsy Brown 11/17- Donna Zambella 11/24- Joan Yannarella

#### If you unable to serve your scheduled dates, please find a replacement and contact the church office.

#### Schedules are subject to change

Thank you!

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#### <u>Session Minutes</u> <u>First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville</u> <u>Westminster House</u> <u>September 23, 2024 6:30 PM</u>

Class of 2025 Joanne DiBlasi Heather McIntyre Class of 2026 Pat Durborow Phil McCloughan Class of 2027 Don Pidcock Karen Thatcher

Rev. Linda Gaden, Moderator

Susan McCloughan, Clerk of Session

**Present:** Joanne DiBlasi, Pat Durborow, Phil McCloughan, Don Pidcock, Karen Thatcher and Rev. Linda Gaden

Excused: Heather McIntyre

Welcome: Reverend Gaden, declaring a quorum, welcomed all to the September 23, 2024 Session Business Meeting and opened in prayer.

#### 6:30 PM-Devotion, Phil McCloughan

As I became more involved and interested in this church, my own faith I'm trying to find my work. As an Elder of this church, I'm learning more about my faith, but I also know that I need to find a better way to help others to find the Word of God. How do you start that conversation with someone who avoids religion?

#### Praying for Others: Based on "Good Morning Lord...Can we Talk? By Charles Swindoll

#### <u>Ephesians 6:19–20</u>

IF WE HAD THE unusual opportunity to spend a day talking to the apostles, men like Paul, Peter, James, and John, I think they'd emphasize an oft-spoken discipline—but one that's rarely deployed in our lives: praying for others. Most things in our lives conspire against such a commitment to prayer. Our busy schedules, our intense desire to give our kids the best education and life experiences, and simply forgetfulness. Yet praying for God's people was forefront on the minds of the apostles in the early church. They counted on it from those they served.

#### Here's another exhortation from Paul:

Pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

#### <u>2 Thessalonians 3:1–2</u>

Dear brothers and sisters, we ask you to pray for us. Pray that the Lord's message will spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes, just as when it came to you. Pray, too, that we will be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not everyone is a believer.

*Ever wonder how to pray for pastors who have been arrested for their faith? You just read it. Don't delay. Start praying that prayer immediately.* 

Start with a list . . . actual names of people and, in parentheses, you might write at least one need you are aware of. Be specific. Include in that list your pastors and their families. Missionaries who serve in cross-cultural locations many in perilous places of the world. Pray for persecuted Christians in the Middle East and Asia. Pray for your neighbors, your kids' friends, and their families. Make praying for others a high priority. You will join the mission of God and participate in unleashing God's mighty power in their lives.

#### Moderator Time - Pastor Linda Gaden

Everyone shared, and most had a good summer. Pastor Linda thanked Session for rescheduling this month's meeting.

#### Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box - Susan McCloughan

Review of Minutes: A motion was called to approve the minutes from June 10, 2024. All were in favor.

**Mail Box/Clerk Correspondence-** We have received a post card from Bob Heath and the Gideons that they will be praying for our church on 9/28. Pastor Linda sent an email to me regarding the "addendum to our by-laws." This was sent for information only and outlined that we can hold the Annual and Special Meetings by electronic means, and that the procedures need to be implemented by the Session. This goes for the congregational and corporation meetings. A thank you card was shared with Session from Terry Slemmer's group-New Life Riders, and that they had prayed for our church. "Board of Pensions Changes and Terms of Call 2025 sent by email. This is just for our information until we get a new pastor. Session is continuing to review the "Turn the Page" documents that were handed out previously in regards in looking for a new Pastor. The Mt. Airy Presbyterian Elders have shown an interest in meeting with our Elders in regard to the Discernment Process. This is continuing, more to come. An email was sent to the church regarding a picture

that came from Mary MacKubbin whose father Henry was a pastor here a long time ago. Once the picture arrives, it will be given to the church. The Elder Caring List will be updated and given out to Session at a later time. We have received our last Cert. of Inspection for one of the boilers that is in the Church Basement. The certificate is good until March 2025. Steve Emery will be coming to tune the Organ on Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup>.

I will check with the Chamber of Commerce to see if we can join their membership, then we may be able to advertise with them, and be in their Newsletter. We've received the renewal Commercial Umbrella Liability and the House of Worship Policies from Franklin Mutual for 2024-2025. They will be filed in the Church Office.

#### **Calendar Highlights from September-December 2024**

Communion was scheduled on 7/7 at the joint service at Holcombe-Jimison. The service was well attended. Worldwide Communion Sunday is October 6<sup>th</sup>, and Mt. Airy will be at First. Pres. Mt. Airy will also be here on Veterans' Sunday Nov. 3, with Pastor Gregory. The information will be in the bulletins for who is scheduled to give the upcoming Sermons and our Accompanists. The Ladies' Bible Study will be continuing on Wednesdays. The Session Prayer Meetings will take place on September 9, October 7, November 4, and December 2. Spanish Ministry will be continuing to meet at our church on Sundays at 3:00 pm. The ISI Garage Giveaway was held on Saturday 8/24 in Princeton. Members of our church were on hand to help out. On Wednesday 9/11 our church was open for prayer, and our chimes rang at times during the day. The Lambertville House Tour will be on 10/27, and our church will be open for tours after the worship service. The first week of Roller Skating is Friday November 22, and Steve Chernoski will be in charge of skating. The Church will be decorated for Christmas the week of November 25<sup>th</sup>. The First Sunday of Advent is Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>. There may be a Ladies' Christmas Gathering on 12/9-more details to follow. The Children's Christmas Pageant is Sunday 12/15, Jen Chernoski will be organizing the pageant. The LBL will be starting on Monday Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. On 12/24 Christmas Eve, the Service is at 4:00 pm and will also include the Candlelight Service.

#### Worship and Music/Church Life – Joanne DiBlasi/Karen Thatcher

**Insurance Review-** The polices of Commercial Umbrella Liability and House of Worship were gone over earlier.

Young Adult Time- This was referred to the calendar and notes in the bulletins.

**Church Life-** Pat has put oil lamps with fall decorations in the Sanctuary windows, and it was noted how nice it looks. There was a Revival at The Old Rocks Church on Sept. 6-8. A joint choir sang, Dave Errickson spoke, and it was well attended.

Accompanist/Music Director- We are following the Facebook Liturgical Musicians page, and we had gotten a response. Adri B. has started playing for us and she will be added to our Accompanist List. She has been working out well. We also have Ariana D. who was added to our Accompanist List. She will be playing for the service on October 13. The job description for the Accompanist/Music Director was discussed and there is a possibility that Lucia may come join us on a permanent basis. We are trying to find someone who works well with our groups, Ladies Ensemble, etc. Becky has been gone for almost 3 years.

**Spanish Ministry**- Joanne spoke about this and the Spanish Ministry will now be meeting on Sundays here at 3:00 pm.

**Communion and Joint Services-** Both our church and Mt. Airy are in the process of making a list for 2024-2025, that we'll have joint communion services and sharing Pastor Gregory, as well as alternating the churches for each month. Lambertville participated in the **July Joint Communion Service at Holcombe-Jimison**. Pastor Dave from Stockton oversaw the service, Russ gave the sermon, and Pat Masterson was the Accompanist. Heidi from First Pres. did the grilling for this year. Pastor Linda was asked if she would like her church to be included for next year's joint service. Also, Old Rocks Church was invited as well.

Building and Grounds - Pat Durborow/Phil McCloughan/Don Pidcock

The **new technology** for the Livestream is up, but has had a glitch or 2. This has now been fixed.

Church Organ- Was talked about earlier.

**Church Roof-** Phil talked about the replacement of the Church Roof, and it was decided that we are going with Rainmaster not Eiseman Roofing. Rainmaster is based out of Pipersville, PA. The

contract will need to be signed by Session, and there will have to be 1/3 of a deposit put down before the work can start. A **motion** was called to replace the Church Roof and to bring in Rainmaster to replace the roof. The **motion** was approved. Phil will talk to Rainmaster soon to find a starting date, and he'll also check to see if we will need permits. We are also getting scaffolding, which we may need a permit for.

Skating- Was discussed earlier.

**Martinez Landscaping-** Pat called them and they came to clean up the yard. Pat asked Martinez to give us a price of re-stoning of the wall. The gutter on the back of the gym, has been pushing water into the gym. Phil suggested placing drain guards in that area, since the pine needles have been getting caught in the gutters causing the water to back up. Maybe to ask Martinez to do a yearly check on the back gutters to make sure they are clear.

Hallway in Church/Bathrooms/Front Door/Chapel/Westminster House- The church hallway and bathrooms were not discussed tonight. Addie will scrape and paint above the outside front doors sometime this fall. Joanne and Addie have been painting the Chapel and it is almost done. The ceiling of the Chapel will be painted in the spring. Joanne ordered 4 new banners, and Pat will pick up a new American flag for the Chapel. Jim Meskill the electrician, updated the electrical in the Church Office, and a thank you to Addie, Joanne and Don for putting in the new updated lighting. Dana asked if she can have new lights in her Sunday School room. Pat and Don will look into getting this done.

**Church Heaters/Fire Extinguishers-** The heaters are working. The hanging fire extinguishers in the Church and Westminster House are being replaced in the boiler rooms. Tilly is coming this coming week to replace them. All 4 of them are being replaced. Don has been doing the monthly checks on the smoke detectors and Exit Signs.

Almira Holcombe Scholarship- They have been given out to our High School Seniors and is complete.

**Pastor Search Committee-** Karen talked about checking into Princeton Seminary and she and Sue going through what we have on file for the pastor application, and then to contact them. So we may be able to obtain a student seminarian.

**Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Highlands**- Phil wasn't able to zoom into the meeting that was held on Sept.10, but he was able to reach out and find that 3-4 pastors have come since the May meeting. Pastor Linda said that Chatham Presbyterian Church had a new senior pastor installed.

Budget and Finance – Heather McIntyre/Don Pidcock

Heather wasn't able to attend tonight's meeting, but she emailed Session the Year-to-Date Summary. It was given out and a visual review was done. The summary was from 1/1-9/23/24, and we are under in our Plate by \$5841.56.

Lowell Hunter Estate and Per Capita- Were not discussed.

**Boy Scouts-** Don checked with the Boy Scouts and they had no prayer concerns, but they are rolling ahead.

**Dominican Republic Mission Trip-**Don talked about the trip and he was thankful for all the donations. The trip is at the end of October 2024.

The LPS using the gym-Sue was going to reach out to Heather to see if another check came in over the summer for the last few months.

Sunday School/Junior Deacons – Joanne DiBlasi/Don Pidcock

Sunday School was addressed earlier. Jr. Deacons- when they attend church services they help during worship.

<u>Missions</u> – Joanne DiBlasi Nothing to report at this time.

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**Holy Communion**- Was on Sunday July 7 at Holcombe-Jimison Farm. August 4 was here at First Pres., and September 8<sup>th</sup> was at Mt. Airy Presbyterian.

Sight & Sound-Karen would like to discuss this for 2025 at our next meeting.

**ISI Garage Giveaway-** Was in August, Phil and members of our congregation attended. There was good weather, and bikes were taken out to the international students. This was well attended. The volunteers were able to talk to others from different parts of the world. Our church always looks forward to this every year.

**Continuing of Education-** Elders are encouraged to continue in and share the word of God through reading His Word, devotions, prayer and to be involved in education.

Elders-Are to continue Pastoral Care as needed.

**Prayer Meetings-** Will be held on the first Monday of each month. Members will be sharing His Word through readings, thoughts, scripture and prayer, and will be in person. For those who cannot make in person, a livestream will be available. If for personal reasons keep session members from attending, the session resolved to pray wherever they are during the 7 o'clock hour. **Session Devotion Rotation-** The devotion for October is Heather McIntyre, and November is Don Pidcock.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm and was closed in Session prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan McCloughan Clerk of Session