September 1, 2019

“Table Talk”

Rev. Chris Weichman

Our mission at First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant is:
To awaken all people to our need for a life-changing encounter with the living Lord Jesus Christ, and to encourage and equip each one to become His fully-devoted follower.

The Congregation, in ministry
We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant
The Caring Church in the Heart of the City!
250 West 7th Street, Erie, PA 16501 • Phone: 814-456-4243 • Fax: 814-454-3350
www.firstcovenanterie.org
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<th><strong>Gathering Music</strong></th>
<th>2 Chorale Preludes on ‘SIMPLE GIFTS’</th>
<th>Goemanne &amp; Wood</th>
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<td><strong>Welcome, Announcements &amp; Reading of Mission Statement</strong></td>
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<td>Rev. Chris Weichman</td>
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<td><strong>Prelude</strong></td>
<td>Variations on ‘Ode to Joy’</td>
<td>Hal H. Hopson</td>
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<td><strong>Call to Worship</strong> <em>(responsive)</em></td>
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<td>Bill Holmes</td>
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<td>I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord, the God who is and who was and who is to come. Let us give thanks for all that was, let us celebrate all that is, and let us imagine all that will be. Let us worship God.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hymn #611</strong></td>
<td><em>Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee</em></td>
<td>Hymn to Joy</td>
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| **Praying** |
| *Prayer of Confession* *(in unison)* | Bill Holmes |
| Though we have heard that the humble ones will be exalted, we live as if we did not know your Word. We seek power and privilege over humility and compassion. We climb ladders of success rather than humble steps of justice. We still wrestle for seats of honor, and we still try to limit the guest list at your table. Forgive us in Christ, our model of true humanity, and convict us to reflect the depth of your love. |
| *Words of Assurance* |
| *Passing of the Peace* | The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you. |
| *Gloria Patri #581* | Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end... Amen, amen. |

| **Listening** |
| **First Reading** | Romans 12:1-2 | Bill Holmes |
| | Page 922, Pew Bible |
| **Story Telling** | Rev. Chris Weichman |
| | After Storytelling, children will remain in worship. Activities are available to pick up from Art Gallery Hall’s “Kids’ Korner” |
| **Hymn #803** | My Shepherd Will Supply My Need | Resignation |
| **Second Reading** | Luke 14:1,7-14 | Rev. Chris Weichman |
| | Page 849, Pew Bible |
| **Sermon** | “Table Talk” | Rev. Chris Weichman |
Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Solo ~ How Beautiful Twila Paris
Soloist: Ms. Sophie Mintsiveris

*Doxology Hymn #609
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low...Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known;
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication Rev. Chris Weichman

*Hymn #515 I Come with Joy Dove of Peace

Holy Communion
Invitation to the Lord’s Table & Words of Institution
Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer
God is Good All the Time!
All the Time God is Good!

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever... Amen.

Distribution of the Bread
Distribution of the Cup

Prayer (in unison) Rev. Chris Weichman
Blessed are you, O Lord, our God,
creator and ruler of the universe,
for you have satisfied our souls
with the feast of your grace.
Keep us faithful in your service
until your realm of glory comes;
through Jesus Christ our Savior... Amen.

*Benediction Rev. Chris Weichman

*Postlude Movements I & II from Variations on ‘America’ Charles Ives

Liturgist ~ Bill Holmes Sound Tech ~ Tim McKinley

Attribution for music used in the service represents the name of the composer, arranger, or tune

“The Sanctuary flowers are in loving memory of Lewis & Nancy Klahr given by Mark & Beverly Wells.

At the conclusion of the 10:00 a.m. service, the Wells family invites you to take flowers from the sanctuary bouquets and distribute them to a shut-in, hospitalized friend or person you wish to reach out to in Christ’s name.
Welcome to Worship

Welcome to all, especially guests, newcomers to Erie & college students. Please silence all electronic devices upon entering the Sanctuary & McBrier Chapel. Our ushers are available to assist you with large print bulletins & hymnals, systems for the hearing impaired & directions to the restrooms.

Families with young children: during the summer months, we do not have nursery attendants during either service. However, the nursery is open & available to families with children ages 0-3. Children should not be left unattended in the nursery. The full worship service can be heard over the speaker system. As always, families with children of all ages are welcome & encouraged to stay in the Sanctuary! Just a reminder: there are crayons & books for all children to utilize during the service in Art Gallery Hall.

You are invited to the Parlor after each service for refreshments & fellowship. Interested in volunteering to host? Sign up in the Parlor by the clock.

Would you like to hear today’s sermon again? Today’s & past sermons are always available on our website www.firstcovenanterie.org

Interested in exploring membership within First Covenant? For more information, please contact Sheila Sweet at 814.898.3417.

Stephen Ministry is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus’ love & care to those who most need it. If you know someone who is going through a difficult time, contact Leader Diane Ream, 814.899.6762. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care ~ to help that person experience the healing power of Christ’s love.

Hospital Callers: Would you like to bring the love of God to those in the hospital? Interested in joining this wonderful ministry, call Sheila at 898.3417.

Planned Hospitalization? If you would like a visit from the pastor and/or Deacons, please call the church office with the dates of your scheduled hospitalization. Also, be sure to indicate “First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant” as your church when you complete your intake forms.

Looking for a few good drivers!! The Deacons are looking for church members to give other members a ride to church to experience FPCC worship & fellowship. If willing to help with this outreach please call Rick Bernardini at 814.323.1207 for more details.

Have a phone, mailing address or email change? Would you like to receive our monthly newsletter? Contact JoAnn Peters in the church office ~ joann.peters@firstcovenanterie.org or 814.456.4243 x110.

Faith Formation Hour

Join Us Every Week starting September 15th

Children, Youth & Young Adults… (Sundays @ 9:30)
Pre-K ~ Grade 5 ………. Jr. High Lounge & Reed Chapel
Grades 6 ~ 8 ……….. Sr. High Lounge
Grades 9 ~ 12 ………. Campus Ministry Lounge

Adults… (Sundays @ 9:30)
“Exodus: From Slavery to Covenant Relationship” with Bill Holmes … Rm 313
“Book of Revelation” with Rev. Chris Weichman… Fidelis Rm
“The Challenge of Paul” with Rob Baker … Rm 116
“Faith & Finance: Can’t AFFORD to Miss This” with Greg Cooper … Rm 119
“Dialogues ON: Refugee Crisis” with Seph Kumer … Coming in November

Weekdays for Adults…
“Texts of Terror” with Women & the Word … Parlor, Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm
“Book of Revelation” with Britney Knight … Rm 116, Wednesdays @ 10:30 am
“With” (Skye Jethani) with Men’s Group … Parlor, Fridays @ 7:00 am
Thank you for giving time, energy, creativity, strength, finances, prayer… to make the 2019 Block Party such a success! 750 of us gathered under bright sunshine & a great breeze for a very fun evening. Nearly 100 helpers from the congregation, staff, neighborhood, Gannon, Barber National Institute, Sarah Reed, Woman’s Club, Master Barber’s, Our West Bayfront collaborated to make it possible. Thank you. Thank God! And may your efforts have been a blessing to those who attended.

What a Difference a Dinner Makes! Sharing a meal seems a lost art in our fast-paced, device-saturated culture. But it is one of the best ways to get to know someone. To learn of others’ joys & concerns. To become “family”. Don’t miss the return of Covenant Connections dinners on Wednesday, September 11th. Dinner served: 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. From 6-7 p.m. there is hand bell class/activity for elementary-aged kids with Monty & Britney. For everyone else there’s an activity to draw us in to the life of the church: Guest speakers, road trips, hands-on projects, devotions/Bible study, service opportunities. Adult choir rehearsals have moved to Wednesday…come for dinner, stay for choir! $6 for adults, $3 for children & college students. Free: age 4 & under! Let us know you are coming: 814.456.4243 or anne.sauer@firstcovenanterie.org

Welcome back, Gannon friends! Welcome NEW Gannon friends! We want to be your church family & home, away from home. There are many ways for you to be cared for here & many ways to join in caring for the neighborhood with us. Have questions? Contact church (& Gannon) campus minister Rachel Kennedy at 412.849.7826 Be sure to add your name, email & cell number to the red “pew pad” in your row this morning so we can connect.

“Back to School” exhibit in the Community Gallery featuring artwork from our neighborhood school partner, Strong Vincent Middle School. Artwork from young people at SV will be on display throughout the month of September. First Covenant will offer a “Junior Chef” after school program for 6 weeks in October/November at SV. Each week students will prepare a different item for Thanksgiving dinner together. Students & their families will help create the dinner (at First Covenant) for 500 neighbors at the MLK Center on Sunday, November 23rd. Contact Seph Kumer at 814.566.0287 if you would like to know more or help.

Take Note ~ New Rehearsal Night for BOTH Adult Choirs! Covenant Choir rehearses on Wednesdays in the music room at 7:15 starting on September 11th. NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME! The Covenant Bells rehearse Wednesdays at 6:30 in the Sanctuary starting on September 25th.

Sunday Supper needs used sneakers that are in good condition as requests have exceeded our supply. Please do not donate shoes that are dirty or are beyond practical use. Sneakers can be left in the office with Pat’s name on the bag.
THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, September 1st
~ Communion ~
8:30 a.m. Worship ~ Sanctuary
9:15 a.m. Fellowship ~ Parlor
10:00 a.m. Worship ~ Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Praise Band reh. ~ Music Rm
11:15 a.m. Fellowship ~ Parlor
4:00 p.m. Sunday Supper ~ Knox Hall

Monday, September 2nd
~ Labor Day ~
~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday, September 3rd
10:00 a.m. Staff ~ Office
10:00 a.m. Big Event mtg. ~ Library
1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry ~ Library
7:30 p.m. AA ~ 313
7:30 p.m. NA ~ Sr. Lounge

Wednesday, September 4th
10:30 a.m. Bible Study ~ Library
4:30 p.m. Worship & Music ~ Library
5:30 p.m. NA ~ 116
7:00 p.m. Christian Ed ~ Library

Thursday, September 5th
8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast ~ Perkin’s
10:00 p.m. Lunch Prep ~ City Mission
12:00 p.m. NA ~ Knox Hall
4:30 p.m. YPC ~ Knox Hall
7:30 p.m. Women’s NA ~ Knox Hall

Friday, September 6th
10:00 a.m. Meet the Teachers ~ Pre-S

Saturday, September 7th
2:00 p.m. Private Funeral Luncheon ~ Sr. Lounge
4:00 p.m. N.A. Speaker Jam ~ Knox Hall

Sunday, September 8th
~ Fall Hours Return / Rally Day Brunch ~
8:30 a.m. Worship ~ Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Rally Day Brunch ~ Knox Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship ~ Sanctuary
12:00 a.m. Praise Band reh. ~ Music Rm
12:15 a.m. Fellowship ~ Parlor
4:00 p.m. Sunday Supper ~ Knox Hall

Sunday, September 8, 2019
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
~ Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~
~ Fall Schedule Returns ~
James 2
Britney Knight

2019 Year to Date Pledge =
( both pledge & non-pledge revenue )
Budget: $249,115 ………. Actual: $258,813
(amount includes Erie Gives donations)

August 25, 2019 Attendance:
8:30 a.m. Service = 41 people 10:00 a.m. Service = 102 people

If you wish to contribute electronically,
please use this QR Code
or go to firstcovenanterie.org
(GIVE NOW button)

FPCC STAFF
Ian Headley, Weeknight Host
Lisa Hiegel, Director, Covenant Preschool
Jackie K. Jones, Covenant Cook
Rachel Kennedy, Campus Minister
Britney Knight, Director, Youth/Family Ministries
Luba Kovalchuk, Custodian
Seph Kumer, Director, Community Engagement
Marsha MacKinnon, Webmaster

JoAnn Peters, Finance / Records Administration
Anne Sauer, Administrative Assistant
John Scepura, Building & Maintenance Mechanic
Mary Schmidt, Weeknight Hostess
Monty Service, Coordinator, Missional Music
Kevin Stevenson, Covenant Cook
Leslie Weber, Organist / Choirmaster
Rev. Chris Weichman, Pastor/ Head of Staff

When you wish to contact our Pastor, Rev. Chris Weichman,
he can be reached in the Church office from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
Tuesday through Friday, at 814-456-4243 ex.103
or anytime by email at chris.weichman@firstcovenanterie.org

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