



THE

Covenant

www.firstcovenanterie.org

CHIMES

September 1, 2018 | Volume 35, No. 9

September

Worship Schedule

Sundays

September 2nd ~ 8:30 & 10:00 am
~ Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~

~ Communion ~

Mark 7:1-8

Rev. Chris Weichman

September 9th ~ 8:30 & 11:00 am
~ Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~

1 Samuel 17:19-49

Rev. Chris Weichman

September 16th ~ 8:30 & 10:00 am
~ Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost ~

Mark 8:27-38

Rev. Chris Weichman

September 23rd ~ 8:30 & 10:00 am
~ Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~
Guest Preacher, Rev. Vincent Dagadu
Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ghana

September 30th ~ 8:30 & 10:00 am
~ Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~

Mark 9:38-50

Rev. Chris Weichman

*NO Faith Formation classes, Kids' Church or Nursery Care through Labor Day. The nursery will be open for **parents & guardians** to utilize during the services in the Summer.

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE COVENANT

The Caring Church in the Heart of the City!

LEARN. PRAY. DO. TOGETHER!

On September 9th we will kick-off our Faith Formation year with breakfast and fellowship in Knox Hall from 9:30-10:45. We will welcome one another back after a long summer and celebrate everything that happened last year during the Faith Formation Year. We will also take a look at our new theme for this Faith Formation Year: **Learn. Pray. Do. Together.** What faith practices are important for transformation? What faith practices can we explore together in community? Come and find out! Also, check out this year's Faith Formation Classes for all ages:

Pre-K through 5th Grade: Children will be singing, baking, experimenting, and crafting their way through the Bible starting with Genesis. Join us every Sunday, starting September 16th during Faith Formation hour (9:30-10:30 AM) in the Jr. High Lounge on the 3rd Floor.

6th Grade-8th Grade: Youth will experience hands-on investigative learning that leads to deep engagement with the Bible, faith, and what it means to be a Christian through **CoLABorate Bible Study** focusing on the New Testament. Join us in the Third Floor Lounge!

9th Grade-College: Youth and Young Adults will be participating in lively discussion with the new TBD (**Think. Believe. Do.**) Curriculum.

6th Grade-12th Grade: **B2SB2YG** (Back to School, Back to Youth Group) Join us every Sunday, 4:30-6:30 in the Third Floor Lounge beginning September 16th!! We will be having a meal, as a group every Sunday, so don't worry about grabbing dinner before you come!



More Classes
Continued on
Page 5.....

From Pastor Chris



This is the second year that First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant has participated in "Erie Gives," the Erie Community Foundation's non-profit fundraising day held on Tuesday, August 14th. The amount received compared to 2017 tripled to \$38,042 and fifty percent more people participated. The response from the church and our friends is very encouraging.

These great results would not have been possible without Nancy Irwin and Jen Koebe spearheading communication on Facebook, our webpage, bulletin, and announcements. A special thank you to both!

The matching amount from the Erie Community Foundation will be used for community ministry such as the Block Party, Sunday Suppers and Our Neighbor's Place winter shelter.

THANK YOU for participating in Erie Gives and helping to reach out and care for our neighborhood.

As exciting as Erie Gives day is, it is important to remember what our true hope is, Jesus Christ. I am reminded of a reflection written by Victoria Stafford entitled "Hope."

"Our mission is to plant ourselves at the gates of hope - not the prudent gates of Optimism, which are somewhat narrower; not the stalwart, boring gates of Common Sense; not the strident gates of Self-Righteousness, which creek of shrill and angry hinges (people cannot hear us there; they cannot pass through); nor the cheerful, flimsy gate of "Everything Is Gonna Be All Right." But a different, sometimes lonely place, of truth-telling about your own soul first of all and its condition, the place of resistance and defiance, from which you see the world both as it is and as it could be, as it will be; the place from which you glimpse not only struggle but joy in the struggle. And we stand there, beckoning and calling, telling people what we are seeing, asking them what they see."

*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 & equip each one to become His fully-devoted follower."*

2018 Year to Date Pledge Totals & Monthly Attendance:

Totals are both pledge & non-pledge revenue
(as of 08.19.18)

2018 YTD Budget: \$270,882
2018 YTD Received: \$221,910

July Average Attendance

8:30 a.m. = 32 people
10:00 a.m. = 107 people

Communion in September



The Communion Table
will be set by God
for you on ...

Sunday, September 2nd.

Canceled!!

The Marriage Retreat scheduled for this fall has been canceled due to a lack of registrations. The Christian Education Committee will meet to discuss the possibility of a spring event.

Fall Programming Starting Dates:

Sept. 9 ~ Fall Worship Hours begin (8:30 & 11 a.m.)

Faith Formation Kick-Off breakfast, Knox Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Sept. 12 ~ Covenant Connections (5:15 p.m.) & Junior Ringers begin (6:00 p.m.)

Sept. 16 ~ Faith Formation (Sunday School) classes begin, 9:30 a.m.

Youth Group starts at 4:00 p.m. / Youth Music begins at 5:45 p.m.

Congregational Concerns

*Please pray regularly for our ministry. We have listed below some of our congregational joys & concerns as *The Covenant Chimes* goes to press on July 24, 2018.



Prayer Concerns...

for God's healing presence for those discharged from hospitals since the last edition of *The Covenant Chimes*: Kenneth Anderson.

* If you know that you are going to be hospitalized & would like to be visited please contact the church office.

In Loving Memory...

of those who have joined the church triumphant:

~ Gordon A. Osborn ~
July 26, 2018

~ Catherine E. Amond ~
August 5, 2018

~ Charles J. Zebroski ~
August 8, 2018



The church office will be closed Labor Day, Monday, September 3rd, to enjoy the unofficial last day of summer.



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Mary Ann Sesler
Lina Thomas | 15 Ryan Sesler |
| 2 Seph Kumer
Xavier Stollatis
Caroline Estrich | 16 Joseph Kumer |
| 3 Andrew Spriegel
Jennifer Sesler | 18 John Leretsis |
| 4 Carol Beach | 19 Amanda Austin
Sophia Ginader
Mark Gorman
Charles McBrier |
| 5 Velma Gunselman
Richard Long | 21 Deanna Lindner
Kennedy Hildebrand |
| 6 Lynne Linhart | 22 Jennifer Koebe |
| 7 Alverna Jones | 23 Janet Coryell |
| 8 Madeline Robertson
Judy Stollatis | 25 William Cowell
John Gorman
Sandra Herman
David Young
Chelten Smith |
| 10 Shirley Nelson | 26 Marian Sundback |
| 12 Mary McDonald | 27 Margaret Herrod
Chad Vilushis |
| 13 Georgeta Bogdan | 28 Ava Eggleston
Patrick Headley |
| 14 John Kloss | 30 Kelli DeSanctis
Katherine McKinley
Debra Johnson |

If you notice an incorrect or missing birthday, or one that is listed that should be removed, please help us by calling the church office at 814-456-4243 so that we can update our records.

Thank you!



Gratefully Blessed!



Sincere appreciation to those who, when asked, were willing to help at funeral luncheons in the past few weeks. The families were grateful, and we could not function without your dedication to this ministry. What a blessing it is to be able to reach out at a time of need, to those who are mourning.

Blessings to you all, from the Bereavement Committee (a ministry of the Board of Deacons.)



Please Help Us... Help You!

If you have a maintenance or housekeeping suggestion please stop by the office & fill out a pink Housekeeping / Maintenance Request Form located to the right of the wall clock. This helps John & Luba keep track of & follow up with the many requests they receive.

Church Calendar



To all Elders, Heads of Committees & Groups: please keep Anne informed when planning or changing a meeting date, time or location. It is helpful for scheduling other church functions, outside meetings & our night host. Email any changes to anne.sauer@firstcovenanterie.org

~ Thank you!

Clerk's Corner

August 2018

There is nothing to report of the stated meeting
on August 20th from Session.

Please watch for highlights of September's Session meeting in next month's Chimes.



Connections Dinners Return September 12!



Add a midweek dinner—that you don't have to cook—to your calendar this fall. Covenant Connections dinners are Wednesday nights at 5:15 p.m. (served until 5:45), kicking off with a pasta meal in Knox Hall on September 12. After dinner, at 6:15 p.m., guest speakers and group activities are planned until 7 p.m.

NEW for 2018-19 is the addition of “Junior Ringers” at 6 p.m. Monty Service will provide instruction in chimes and hand bells for elementary-aged children.

Dinner is \$6 or \$3 for children (free age 4 and under) and college students. Make your dinner reservation by noon on the Tuesday prior to dinner by calling the church office or emailing anne.sauer@firstcovenanterie.org

Here's what is planned for September:

September 12 ~ *A Look Back/A Look Ahead...* We'll look at some photos from the church's “Very Best Summer” and look ahead at what is planned for the coming months.

September 19 ~ *A Sense of Place...* Meet Pat Bywater, an Erie-based writer, editor and photographer who lives close to the church. He enjoys helping “Our West Bayfront” and learning about the city's exceptional buildings and natural environment. His photos will be featured in the Community Gallery in September.

September 26 ~ *Ghana Week/Ghana Kitchen...* On Sunday we'll have a pastor from Ghana leading worship. Tonight we will sample some Ghanaian food prepared by Rosemond Anim Somuah from Ghana (and frequent FPCC worship attendee). Watch for details how you can sign up to help cook/learn to prepare.

Erie Philharmonic Bruce Morton Wright Chamber Series !

Daniel Meyer, Music Director for the Erie Philharmonic Orchestra, will lead a 20-person string ensemble for a **free concert** here on September 8th at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Selections include pieces by Bach, Rossini & Greig. Come & hear a wonderful concert!



Raj Remembers Church

Raj Patel hung out at First Covenant often for StudySpace, Friday night Hot Dogs, Block Parties and more during his Master's Degree studies at Gannon. Raj especially enjoyed playing dominoes and visiting with Mary Concoby, and helping Jack Jones in the kitchen. Around graduation time, Raj's parents visiting from India visited FPCC worship at Raj's insistence. Christianity was not Raj's family's religion. But Raj felt deeply loved and cared for by the church family at First Covenant. He told his parents they had to see this place and meet the people...



A job in Jacksonville, Florida called Raj away from Erie in June. One day in July another student from India showed up with \$100 for the church for its work among those with needs in our city. Raj had decided he would give \$100 to the church from his first paycheck once he received a job. He wired the money to his friend in Erie to deliver to the church. The student shared that many Indian students are so grateful for the welcome and care offered by the church family they want to give back.

Students have taken note of the ways the church cares for students, neighbors, those in need. They remember. God is at work. What a testimony to the tangible love shared by the church family. You were a part of this story! Keep welcoming and loving! See what God does with your ministry...

Learn. Pray. Do. Together!...Continued

~ Adult Faith Formation on Sunday 9:30-10:30 a.m. ~

"Future Faith" ~ (Room 116) Join Rob Baker's faith formation class, (still looked at as the book discussion class). Last years book was thick and written by a university professor and information dense. This year's book "Future Faith " is much lighter reading and written by a pastor and administrative leader in the reformed church of America. He focuses on current and upcoming challenges facing the US church in light of recent global changes in demographics of the world wide church. Rob expects this book to present much more discussion opportunities and there is an author provided discussion guide already included in the book. There will be a notebook provided for class with supplemental materials and an ongoing connection to recent religious news through the Pew foundation's religion news updates some of which will show up as handouts for class.

Pastor's Class ~ (Fidelis Room) Pastor Chris will be teaching on the parables in his Faith Formation Class this Fall. During Advent we will switch to a series called "The Advent Conspiracy." This class is not about how much or how little you know, but about asking questions and growing in faith. All are welcome!

"Daniel and Us" ~ (Room 313) Can a book written about Jews in captivity over 2500 years ago really have anything to teach us today? More than you might suspect. For starters, would you turn down the best food in the kingdom from the king's own table? Join Bill Holmes on the 3rd floor during the Faith Formation Hour starting on September 16th to find out.



~ Small Groups During the Week ~

Wednesday Morning Bible Study ~ (Library) We will finish our journey through First and Second Kings when Britney Knight returns in October. This class is at 10:30-11:30 AM every Wednesday beginning sometime in October. Keep your eye out for the announcement in the Bulletin and Chimes!

Wine & the Word ~ Beginning Tuesday, September 11th, the ladies of Wine & The Word will be meeting at the Cathedral of St. Paul from 7:00-9:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. This year we are kicking things off with a discussion on *Executing Grace: How the Death Penalty Killed Jesus and Why It's Killing Us* by Shane Claiborne. Books are available in the church office for \$12.00.

Children & Youth Protection Policy



We are a congregation that is dedicated and motivated to make this space a safe place for all people to feel welcome to have a life-changing encounter with our living Lord Jesus Christ. In order to make this space a safe place for all, the P.C. (USA) requires all churches and faith communities to implement a Child and Youth Protection Policy. Here is a reminder of our Child and Youth Protection Policy:

1. All faith formation classes for children and youth must have two adult teachers including the nursery. All teachers and leaders working with Children and Youth under the age of 18 will be required to complete all Child Abuse, State Police, and FBI clearances as well as complete Mandated and Permissive Reporter Training.
2. Parents will be required to sign-in and out when dropping off and picking up their child who is in 5th grade or younger.
3. Parents will be required to pick up their child within 10 minutes of any activity, faith formation, or worship service ending. If they are not picked up by then, teachers will bring the child to the front office and parents will be contacted. (Only applies to children in 5th grade and younger)
4. All classes and activities for children and youth must take place in rooms with observation window or door open.
5. All classrooms and rooms in the church not in use will be locked. After the Faith Formation hour, all doors on the second and third floor will be locked.

Erie County CROP Hunger Walk



On Sunday, September 23rd, First Covenant will once again participate in the CROP/Hunger Walk at Presque Isle. The walk's main purpose is to alleviate hunger locally and throughout the world as 842 million people still find themselves coping with daily hunger and malnutrition.

Locally, 25% of our donations are returned to Erie County to be distributed to agencies that combat hunger. Globally, CROP/Hunger Walk donations enable Church World Services to continue to invest in the right nutrition for children so they can grow strong and healthy. Communities are also empowered with skills and tools they need to make lasting changes that will feed them forever.

So why walk? In many developing nations, women walk an average of six miles each day to carry a five gallon jug of water on their head that weighs 42 pounds. Their family needs this water for drinking, cooking, bathing or watering the garden or livestock. **We walk because they walk.** Please consider joining Team FPCC in walking this year. This congregation has reached out in combating hunger through Sunday Suppers. Let's continue to show our concern and support for the hungry by walking and supporting walkers in the CROP/Hunger Walk. If you can't walk five and a half miles, a one mile walk is available. The walk is for everyone; young and old. If you cannot walk on September 23rd, you can walk at another time. Walker's forms are available in the Welcome Center.

First Covenant has a rich history of being a leader, thanks to the late Gordon Osborn, in supporting the CROP/Hunger Walk. Please help us keep this tradition alive by generously sponsoring those who walk on Team FPCC. Donations will be received in the Welcome Center, in the Church Office during the week or online at www.crophungerwalk.org. Tim Tracy, Derrick Sweet and Bill Tauber can address your questions regarding the CROP/Hunger Walk.



Sunday Suppers



August was a busy month at Sunday Supper with over 700 meals served in four Sundays. Many thanks to all who helped with the meal on August 5th & a special thanks to the cooks who prepared a great meal & brainstormed how to be prepared to serve on time when the big ovens wouldn't work. Thanks to John Scepora for coming in on a Sunday afternoon to rescue us and fix the ovens.

Meals in September will be prepared & served by Asbury United Methodist Church, New Hope Presbyterian Church, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, The Episcopal Cathedral of Saint Paul & Millcreek Community Church. Due to the Koinonia Weekend, the meal will be served at the Episcopal Cathedral of Saint Paul on Sunday, September, 23rd. We are always grateful for all of the congregations who partner with us, but we are especially for the partnership we have with the Cathedral of Saint Paul community as they host Sunday Supper on Koinonia weekends.

You are always welcome to come & help serve the meal on any Sunday. Please plan to arrive by 3:15 & stay until cleanup is complete at 6:00. The food is important, but the time spent in conversation for building relationship is very important. Please join us on a Sunday & enjoy a good time chatting & serving.

Youth Group Returns for Grades 6-12

Join us for Youth Group and music (Greater Than the Sum) together this fall starting September 16th with an offsite cookout! Youth Group will run from 4 -5:45 p.m. with Greater than the Sum following from 5:45-6:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings. All students would be invited to stay the whole time, but are also able to be picked up around 6 if they are not interested in music. We're planning on eating together each week and performing one service-oriented project each month.

Please contact Monty Service at 456.4243 x107 with any questions.



Make Music with Us!

Music opportunities for all ages begin again this September, come and join us!

Adults ~ Covenant Choir will meet for the first time on September 13th. The Choir rehearses on Thursdays in the music room at 7:15. Interested to see what choir is all about??! NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME! Come and find out! The Covenant Bells will rehearse Thursdays at 6:30 in the Sanctuary, with the first rehearsal on September 20th.

Youth ~ **Note the time change!** Greater than the Sum, for grades 6-12, **meets directly after Youth Group from 5:45-6:30 in the Sanctuary on Sundays**, beginning on September 23rd. All are welcome regardless of previous experience! Please feel free to come with suggestions for music that helps you to feel and explore your faith. This group will continue to sing, ring bells and explore a wide variety of genres and instrumentation as we together explore the music that the Spirit uses to speak to us.



Kids ~ Spiritual Formation/Music hour for ages 4 through 5th grade is from 9:30-10:30 on the third floor on Sundays. All are welcome!! The music will both reinforce the lessons taught and in October this time will be when the children learn and explore the message of Christmas by learning the Christmas Musical which will occur in December, more details to follow. Our first Sunday will be September 16th.

Junior Ringers ~ We will be starting a chimes group for kids younger than 6th grade on Wednesdays nights from 6:00-6:30 (directly following Connections Dinner) in the Music Room. All are welcome, we will meet for the first time on September 12th. Beginning with Britney's return there will be activities during this time for those who may be too young to ring for a full 30 minutes. We will begin with activities that all ages can participate in and work together to make a joyful noise!

Missional Music Opportunity ~ We have been using music to welcome our Sunday Suppers guests. Beginning on September 12th we will also use music to welcome Connection diners. If you are interested in sharing your gifts during these times, whether it be vocal or instrumental, one song or a set of music, a solo or group, please contact Monty Service.

Piano Lessons ~ If you are interested in piano lessons, child or Adult, taught here at the church, please contact Monty Service. Lessons are \$15 for 30 minutes, the money goes to the church. If you would like more information or to find out if this might be for you let Monty know!

Question? Contact Leslie Weber (Adult Music) (bachfan1956@gmail.com) or Monty Service (montgomery.service@firstcovenaterie.org) (children, youth, missional opportunities)

Prepare & Serve an Evening Meal for "Our Neighbors' Place"

Our Neighbors' Place, overflow homeless shelter, will return to FPCC for the seventh season beginning on Wednesday, November 21, 2018. FPCC will host the shelter from November 21- December 4, and again from February 13 - 26. Thirteen dinner meals are needed for November 21-December 4 and twelve dinner meals are needed for February 13 -26.

If your group or family would like to prepare and serve an evening meal for 50 shelter guests, please notify Pat Tracy, 864-6118, tptracy72@gmail.com. This is an effort to schedule meals from within our congregation first. The meal schedule will be offered to other churches beginning the third week of September.

Watch for additional news in the October and November Chimes for additional ways you can support this ministry.

Our Neighbors' Place will also take place in Knox Hall January 2 - 15 and March 13-26, and will be hosted by the United Methodist Churches.



HELP BE A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE!

411 on The Kirk House



Believe in the possibilities.

With the beginning of the school year right around the corner & students moving back into the neighborhood I thought it would be a good time to answer some frequently asked questions about our ministry with college students through the Kirk House.

*** What is the Kirk House?**

The Kirk House is an intentional discipleship house for Gannon students. This means that we are a community dedicated to living life according to the gospel. The students will be challenged to show their housemates & guests what it looks like to follow Jesus in every area of life. From studying for their exams to the way they wash dishes, we believe that God can be glorified in all that we do. The Kirk House is the perfect place for students to build relationships with other students, our neighbors, and our church!

*** Where is it?**

The Kirk House is located right behind the church, on the corner of 7th and Myrtle. We share the yard with the playground! Hopefully you had a chance to come visit us on Friday, August 24th for our annual Kirk House Cookout!



*** How many people can live there?**

We have enough room for 13 people to live in the Kirk House. This year we have a total of 11 students in our community!

*** Do you have to be a Christian to live there?**

No! We accept all students from different faith backgrounds and different walks of life. The structure of the Kirk House is based in scripture, but if they are willing to participate and be open to conversations about spirituality and faith then we would love to have them in our community!

*** How do students get to live there?**

Students fill out an application detailing their commitments on campus, their faith experience and why they want to live in intentional community! The director of the house reviews their application, asks them to meet for an interview & tour the house. Then if the director thinks that they will be a good addition to the community, they will extend an invitation to live in the Kirk House.

*** What are the responsibilities of the Kirk House?**

We ask that the Kirk House residents participate in 10 hours of house duties a week. This includes being a part of a local church, house cleaning, house meeting, weekly prayer/bible study, one on ones with the director, and house meals.

*** Can boys and girls live there?**

The Kirk House is co-ed! We have a women's hall and a men's hall. This year we have four male students and six female students in our community!

If you have more questions that aren't answered here, feel free to talk to myself or any of the students living in the Kirk House this year! We would love to talk to you about how God is using the Kirk House to bring His kingdom come in Erie!

Your Campus Minister,
~ Abby Blankenship



Sense of Place Coming in September



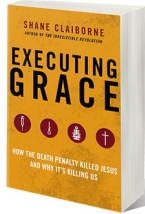
Pat Bywater, known throughout our region for his journalistic photographs and writing, is also a neighbor to the church! You may remember his beautiful photograph of the 6th Street doors of the church during the historic Christmas 2017 snowstorm? He snapped it on one of his frequent walks. Pat will present a photo exhibit (including the church's front doors) in the Community Gallery this fall.

Sense of Place - Erie Landmarks offers a photographic look at the city's historic Christmas 2017 storm as well as some of the interesting buildings that define our community. Pat will present this exhibit in collaboration with PreservErie and he will have prints available for sale. The exhibit opens September 9. The church will participate for a fourth time in the Erie Art Museum's Gallery Night on Friday, September 21, from 7-10 p.m.

Come, see what gives Pat a "sense of place" in Erie. If you can help welcome guests on Gallery Night for an hour or two (serving refreshments, greeting, answering questions), please contact Seph Kumer at 814.566.0287.

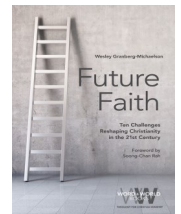
Books Available Still

Wine & The Word is a group of ladies that meet the 2nd & 4th week of each month beginning September 11th, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Cathedral of St. Paul. They will be discussing the book "*Executing Grace*" by Shane Claiborne this Fall. If interested in purchasing a book, they are available in the church office for \$12.



"Future Faith" ~ Come Get Yours

Future Faith: 10 Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century...is the title of the book that Rob Baker's Faith Formation Class will be discussing beginning September 16th during Faith Formation Hour. If you are interested in purchasing a book, they are available in the church office for \$16.



Learn. Pray. Do....Together!



Thank you to all who dedicated time last month to help *Serverie* with the work at Pfeiffer Burleigh & Booker T. Washington. Volunteers painted, cleaned, did landscaping & much more. The students will notice a dramatic difference when they return. *Great job!!!*

ERIE PHILHARMONIC CONCERT
Inaugural Bruce Morton Wright Chamber Series event
September 8, 7:30 PM Free!

LEARN, PRAY, DO, TOGETHER BREAKFAST
Discover ways to get involved in our church community
September 9, 9:30 AM

Faith formation classes for all ages begin September 16

WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS DINNERS

Starting September 12, 5:15 PM

\$6-Adults \$3-Children/Students

GALLERY NIGHT

"Sense of Place" Erie Landmarks photos by Pat Bywater
September 21, 7:00 PM

EERIE FALL FEST

Hayrides, pumpkin painting, trick or treating, & more!
October 20, Gridley Park

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Service of thanks & praise followed by pie & coffee!
November 21, 6:30 PM

WINTER EMERGENCY SHELTER

Prepare & serve a meal or help with an overnight shift!
November 21, - December 4, 7:00 PM

WORSHIP TIMES

8:30AM & 11:00AM starting September 9

National Night Out Sets Record?



The official numbers weren't in yet at the time of this writing, but it appears that the August National Night Out at Gridley Park broke attendance & collaboration records. A rainy day became beautiful just in time. Possibly over 1,000 attended. And more groups & businesses from the neighborhood than ever came together to promote a safe, healthy community.

A great team of workers from the church (& friends!) made the bounce houses, water balloon toss & potato sack races possible. (See photos.) Kids & families enjoyed everything & were introduced to FPCC. Your love & commitment to the neighborhood sur-

rounding the church is not going unnoticed! God, help us to keep sharing the love of Jesus that we have experienced. God, bless our neighbors.



West BayFit Family Says Thanks!

I just want to say, I appreciate you for coming every Wednesday and making an impact in my four kids life.

One year ago my four kids and myself came to Erie PA, we didn't have family or friends here and at first it was hard because as a single mom of four sometimes life gets hard but we never give up! Some days when summer came my kids got sad because we didn't know many people or where to go to.

One day after work I found on my door a flyer for West Bayfront events and my kids got so happy they rushed in their rooms and wrote it down in their calendars. They said, "Mommy we have an event to go to on Wednesday," and every Wednesday since then they have been coming.

My big son was shy of playing sports but always wanted to. This summer, with help of the program my son has opened up to try new sports. He is more happy because they gave him the opportunity to learn and get some good tips how to become better in each sport like basketball, baseball, tennis, etc.

Thanks to you my kids have had one of the best summers ever and we got the opportunity to spend more family time, learn together and meet new friends. Thank you for being a blessing in our life and for being a light to shine on my kids' path to keep trying and becoming better. From the bottom of my heart I appreciate every one of you all for your time in making this event possible.

Sincerely,
The Santiago Family



Pictured ~ Hazel & Hennessy

Volunteers Needed!



Interested in helping others? If so, contact Linda Holmes at 814.825.3889 to volunteer your time to prepare & serve the many guests they see daily at the City Mission Kitchen, 1023 French St. the first Thursday of every month between 10:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

The September date is the 6th!



Church Officers

Elders

Class of 2021

Matthew Allen
Michael Burns
Richard Sheasley
Tracey Townsend
Nancy

van den Honert

Class of 2020

Gregory Cooper
Nancy Irwin
Linda Majewski
Dale Shidemantle
Diane Sutton

Class of 2019

Patricia Bieber
Paul Diefenbach
Andrew Spriegel
Scott Wright
Vacant Seat

Deacons

Class of 2021

Carol Beach
Sue Evans
Mary Lou Neithamer
Sheila Sweet
Karen Weichman

Class of 2020

Linda Altof
Deborah Bernardini
Lorie Fritts
Melany Kramer
Scott Steva

Class of 2019

Julie Copen
Jason Fisher
Ronald Robertson
Cindy Kerchoff
LuAnn Shidemantle

Trustees

Class of 2021

Richard Bernardini
Margaret Matthews
Bill Tauber
Tim Tracy

Class of 2020

Charlotte Foresther
Charles Kibler
Allen Sheasley
Derek Sweet

Class of 2019

Bill Holter
Jennifer Koebe
John Marsden
Greg Sesler

Rev. Chris Weichman, *Moderator of Session*
William D. Holmes, *Clerk of Session*
Dale Sweet, *Associate Clerk of Session*

**www.
FirstCovenantErie.org**



Church Staff

Abby Blankenship, *Campus Minister*
Nsanbeh (Danté) Epizitone, *Sunday Host*
Ian Headley, *Weeknight Host*
Lisa Hiegel, *Director, Covenant Preschool*
Jackie K. Jones, *Covenant Cook*
Britney Knight, *Director, Youth & Family Ministry*
Luba Kovalchuk, *Custodian*
Seph Kumer, *Director, Community Engagement*
Marsha MacKinnon-McKinley, *Website Editor*
JoAnn Peters, *Finance/Records Administrator*
Anne Sauer, *Administrative Assistant*
John Scepora, *Building & Maintenance Mechanic*
Mary Schmidt, *Hostess*
Monty Service, *Coordinator, Missional Music*
Kevin Stevenson, *Covenant Cook*
Leslie Weber, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Rev. Chris Weichman, *Pastor/Head of Staff*

Check Us Out



Have you **liked** "First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant" or **friended** "FirstCovenantChurch" on Facebook? This is one way to share good news about God's work with FPCC. Also, if you take photos you think help tell our ministry story, be sure to *share* them to the church pages and/or *tag* the church!

Pictures of the Month

It's "Back to School" time. Here's Abby meeting with new Gannon students at the "igKnight" Activities Fair, telling them about activities offered through the church & the Kirk House.



**OCTOBER
CHIMES
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES
DUE BY:
SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER
15TH**

THE END

AMS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat						
September 2018						1						
2 ~ Communion ~ 8:30 Worship ~McB 9:25 Fellowship ~P 10:00 Worship ~S 11:15 Fellowship ~P 4:00p Sunday Supper ~KH	3 ~ Labor Day ~ ~ Office Closed ~ 6:30 NA ~KH 7:00 GU Pep Band ~MR	4 1:00 Stephen Ministry ~116 4:30 Personnel ~Lib 6:30 Mission ~116 6:30 K-Core ~D 7:30 AA ~313 7:30 NA ~Sr. L	5 10:30 Bible Study ~Lib 1:30p Staff ~P 5:00 Worship /Music ~ Lib 5:30 NA ~116 7:00 Christian Ed ~ Lib 9:00 Restore ~TKH	6 8:00a Men's Breakfast ~Perkins 10:00 Lunch Prep ~ CityMission 12:00p NA ~116 4:30 YPC ~KH 7:30 Women's NA ~116	7 7:00a Men's Bible ~P 6:00p Erie Phil Orc. Rehear ~S	8 12:00p Erie Phil Orc. Rehear ~S, MR & Bride's Lounge 7:30p Erie Phil Orc. Concert ~S						
9 ~ Fall Hours Return ~ 8:30 Worship ~McB 9:30 Pancake Breakfast ~KH 11:00 Worship ~S 12:00 Fellowship ~P 4:00p Sunday Supper ~KH	10 ~ Preschool Starts ~ 4:00 ICM Exec. ~116 6:30 NA ~KH 7:00 GU Pep Band ~MR	11 3:00 Urban University ~KH 5:30 H&M Committee ~119 7:00 Budget ~Lib 7:00 Wine & Word ~ St. Paul's Cathedral 7:30 AA ~313 7:30 NA ~Sr. L	12 9:00 Campus Ministry ~ CMO 10:30 Bible Study ~Lib 1:30p Staff ~P 5:15 Connections Dinner ~KH 5:30 NA ~116 6:00 Jr. Ringers ~MR 7:15 Deacons ~116 9:00 Restore ~TKH	13 8:00a Men's Breakfast ~Perkins 12:00p NA ~116 3:00 Urban University ~ 3rd flr 4:30 YPC ~KH 7:15 Covenant Choir ~MR 7:30 Women's NA ~116	14 7:00a Men's Bible ~P 4:00p Powell/Zelasco Rehearsal ~S	15 ~ Chimes Articles Due ~ 8:00a K-Core ~D & C 9:00 Kovalchuk Party ~ KH 3:00 Powell/Zelasco Wedding ~S						
16 8:30 Worship ~McB 9:25 Fellowship ~P 9:30 Faith Formation ~Various 11:00 Worship ~S 12:00 Fellowship ~P 4:00 Sunday Supper ~KH 4:30 Youth Group Cook Out ~ Off-Site	17 4:00 ICM Council. ~116 5:30 Session ~P 6:30 NA ~KH 7:00 GU Pep Band ~MR	18 5:15 Properties ~Lib 7:30 AA ~313 7:30 NA ~Sr. L	19 10:30 Bible Study ~Lib 1:30p Staff ~P 5:15 Connections Dinner ~KH 5:30 NA ~116 6:00 Jr. Ringers ~MR 9:00 Restore ~TKH	20 8:00a Men's Breakfast ~Perkins 12:00p NA ~116 3:00 Urban University ~ 3rd flr 4:30 YPC ~KH 6:00 Koinonia Set up ~ Various 6:30 Covenant Bells ~S 7:15 Covenant Choir ~MR 7:30 Women's NA ~116	21 ~ Koinonia (M) ~ 7:00a Men's Bible ~P 7:00p EAM Gallery Night ~ Community Gallery	22 ~ Koinonia (M) ~						
23 ~ Koinonia (M) ~ 8:30 Worship ~McB 9:25 Fellowship ~P 9:30 Faith Formation ~Various 11:00 Worship ~S 12:00 Fellowship ~P 2:00 CROP Walk ~ Pl, Beach 1 4:00 Sunday Supper ~ FUMC 4:30 Youth Group ~3rd Flr L 5:45 Greater than the Sun ~S	24 6:30 NA ~KH 7:00 GU Pep Band ~MR	25 3:00 Urban University ~KH 5:15 Trustees ~116 7:00 Wine & Word ~ St. Paul's Cathedral 7:30 AA ~313 7:30 NA ~Sr. L	26 10:30 Bible Study ~Lib 1:30p Staff ~P 5:15 Connections Dinner ~KH 5:30 NA ~116 6:00 Jr. Ringers ~MR 9:00 Restore ~TKH	27 8:00a Men's Breakfast ~Perkins 11:00 ICM (Budget) ~ Lib 12:00p NA ~116 3:00 Urban University ~ 3rd flr 4:30 YPC ~KH 6:30 Covenant Bells ~S 7:15 Covenant Choir ~MR 7:30 Women's NA ~116	28 7:00a Men's Bible ~P	29 6:00 Engagement Party ~ KH						
30 8:30 Worship ~McB 9:25 Fellowship ~P 9:30 Faith Formation ~Various 11:00 Worship ~S 12:00 Fellowship ~P 4:00 Sunday Supper ~KH 4:30 Youth Group ~3rd Flr L 5:45 Greater than the Sun ~S				<table><tr><td>C ~ Calvin Room CMO ~ Campus Ministry Office CG ~ Community Gallery D ~ Discovery Room F ~ Fidelis Room G ~ Garage TKH ~ The Kirk House Kit ~ Kitchen KH ~ Knox Hall</td><td>Sr. L ~ Senior High Lounge Lib ~ Library McB ~ McBrier Chapel MR ~ Music Room OLR ~ Office Lunch Room P ~ Parlor PL ~ Parking Lot PS ~ Pastor's Study RC ~ Reed Chapel</td><td>S ~ Sanctuary 116 ~ Room 116 119 ~ Room 119 313 ~ Room 313</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Legend</td></tr></table>			C ~ Calvin Room CMO ~ Campus Ministry Office CG ~ Community Gallery D ~ Discovery Room F ~ Fidelis Room G ~ Garage TKH ~ The Kirk House Kit ~ Kitchen KH ~ Knox Hall	Sr. L ~ Senior High Lounge Lib ~ Library McB ~ McBrier Chapel MR ~ Music Room OLR ~ Office Lunch Room P ~ Parlor PL ~ Parking Lot PS ~ Pastor's Study RC ~ Reed Chapel	S ~ Sanctuary 116 ~ Room 116 119 ~ Room 119 313 ~ Room 313	Legend		
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