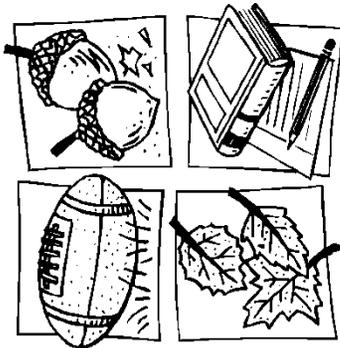


FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
110 ROUTE 61 SOUTH  
SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PA 17972  
Rev. Ms. Shawn D. VanDyke, Pastor  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Serving God through Christ; Serving Others with Love*

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**Information Deadline for the FALL (OCTOBER/NOVEMBER) 2017 NEWSLETTER is Sunday, September 10!**



And be not conformed  
to this  
**World** but be  
**TRANSFORMED**  
by the  
**Renewing**  
OF  
YOUR **MIND**

ROMANS 12:2



**FIRST CHURCH HERALD**

Vol. 36, Issue 3

Newsletter of First UCC

Sch. Haven, PA

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST**  
*Serving God through Christ; Serving Others with Love*  
110 Route 61 South, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

**PHONE** – (570) 385-2049      **FAX #** – (570) 385-3019  
**OFFICE HOURS** – 9 AM - 1 PM (Monday-Friday)  
**EMAIL** – [firstuccschuylkillhaven@verizon.net](mailto:firstuccschuylkillhaven@verizon.net)  
**WEBSITE** – [www.firstucc-haven.org](http://www.firstucc-haven.org)

**If we are not in the office or have stepped away from the phone,  
please leave a message on the answering machine  
and we will get back to you as soon as possible.**

**Rev. Ms. Shawn D. VanDyke, Pastor**  
25 S. Margaretta St., Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972  
(570) 385-5425      [firstuccpastor@verizon.net](mailto:firstuccpastor@verizon.net)      Cell 570-617-7185

**OTHER STAFF**

**Minister of Music** – Chris Evans  
([ChrisEvans838@gmail.com](mailto:ChrisEvans838@gmail.com) or 717-329-6904)  
**Church Secretary** – Jen Semanco  
**Sexton** – Dale Mordosky

**WORSHIP** – Sundays, 9:30 AM  
**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** – Sundays, 9:30 AM

**2017 CONSISTORY MEMBERS**

**Elders**- Harris Bradley (385-1494), Brian Edling (385-7343), George Hosler (366-1400), Kim Quinn (622-8650), Kelly Schaeffer (385-0953) & Rusty Searle (385-2533)  
**Deacons**- Delia Edling (385-7343), Keith Edling (385-1199), Carrie Ann Klinger (385-5979), Kenny Klinger (385-5979), Kris Sonon (294-1243) & Peggy Zechman (366-1400)

**2017 CONSISTORY OFFICERS**

**President** – Keith Edling      **Vice President** – Kim Quinn  
**Recording Secretary** – Delia Edling  
**Treasurer** – Carrie Ann Klinger ([firstucctreasurer@verizon.net](mailto:firstucctreasurer@verizon.net))  
**Special Funds Treasurer** – Jen Semanco

**SALUTATIONS FROM SHAWN**

**Conforming, Reforming, Transforming**

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. –Romans 12:1-2*

Change is nothing new to the church. The life of Jesus led to a dramatic shift in the Jewish community and a new religion emerged. After an extended period of persecution by Rome, Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity, signaling a major transition as Christianity became a state religion. In 1054, the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Holy Roman Catholic Church split in the Great Schism. Roughly 500 years later the Protestant Church separated from the Catholic Church in the Great Reformation. Now it seems that yet another era of change is with us as distinctive cultural shifts impact the church, leading to what church historian Phyllis Tickle described as the "Great Emergence." She said, "Christianity is in the midst of a new reformation that will radically remake the faith."

We no longer live in Christendom, where Christianity is the dominant, influential religion. That may be a blessing as we can no longer assume people know about Jesus' message. Our witness to the joy of following Jesus is more important than ever, shining like a light on a hill, as we offer our service to God.

The 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Church at Rome teaches us how to live in God's service. When we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice to God, we engage in true worship. Instead of conforming to the world's standards, we allow God to transform us into the image of Christ.

As Jesus transforms us, we are empowered to transform the world. With sincere love, when we serve God with a heart full of devotion, hope will keep us joyful. Through faith, we can conquer evil with good as God reveals heaven on earth.

This spring, the First United Church of Christ celebrated 195 years of serving God. This fall Protestantism will celebrate its 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Through the thousands of years since Jesus Christ walked this earth, the power of the Holy Spirit has been working through us, as the Holy Spirit will continue to work through us for thousands of year to come.

We need not fear change for through it God transforms the world.

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor Shawn*

## WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

### **Transformed: A Witness to the World**

The early Christian Church in Rome had plenty of problems: beyond the persecution from Rome, Jewish and Gentile believers came from different backgrounds and had to learn how to understand one another. In the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans, Paul explained Christian character, detailing how we can worship God and love one another despite our differences.

#### **September 3                      Transforming Conformity**

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Communion  
 Exodus 3:1-15                      Moses and the Burning Bush  
 Romans 12:1-21                      A Living Sacrifice  
 Matthew 16:21-28                      Jesus Predicts His Death

#### **September 10                      No Cross Talk**

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Spirit Sunday; New Members; Rondeau Baptism  
 Confirmation Organizational Meeting; Oct/Nov Newsletter Information Due  
 Exodus 12:1-14                      The Passover  
 Romans 12:1-3                      A Living Sacrifice  
 Matthew 18:15-20                      Dealing with Sin in the Church

#### **September 17                      Give It to Me**

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Acolyte Training  
 Exodus 14:19-31                      Crossing the Red Sea  
 Romans 12:1-8                      Humble Service for the Body of Christ  
 Matthew 18:21-35                      The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

#### **September 24                      Love Hate**

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Exodus 16:2-15                      Manna and Quail  
 Romans 12:1-10                      Love in Action  
 Matthew 20:1-16                      The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

#### **FALL PREVIEW**

October 1                      World Communion Sunday; CROP Walk  
 October 8                      Disabilities Awareness Sunday; Blessing Animals  
 October 15                      Mental Health Awareness Sunday  
 October 22                      Praise and Healing Worship  
 October 29                      Reformation Sunday; Children's Sabbath  
 November 5                      All Saints, Totenfest, Communion  
 November 12                      Veterans Recognition  
 November 19                      Thanksgiving Sunday  
 November 26                      Reign of Christ Sunday

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

### **Communion & Food Pantry Donations**

**September 3**

As we come to be fed at the Lord's Table, we remember those in our community who have difficulty feeding themselves. Our donations of non-perishable foods to the SH Food Pantry are much needed and appreciated.

### **Meat BINGO**

**September 10**

The envelope offerings collected for the Meat BINGO will go to the general budget to supplement the efforts of those who spend a lot of time and energy in making each fundraising event a success.

### **Christian Education**

**September 17**

The future of Christianity depends on how well we know the scriptures and how well we apply them to our lives. Our support of the Christian Education program for all ages at First Church is crucial to our service to God.

### **The Compassion Fund**

**September 24**

This Special Offering is placed in an emergency fund where 90% helps church members in need and 10% may be used for emergency community needs.

### **Church Change Special Offering**

During September our Church Change offering will be donated to the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches Community Ministries.

## EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP

The following totals are up to and including the end of July 2017  
 plus a comparison to July 2016 & 2015.

	<b><u>July 2017</u></b>	<b><u>July 2016</u></b>	<b><u>July 2015</u></b>
TOTAL EXPENSES –	\$105,534.42	\$119,481.06	\$127,917.29
REVENUE –	\$ 39,916.29	\$ 46,480.69	\$ 48,791.11
Resources from Kline Fund –	\$ 63,907.85	\$ 73,891.00	\$ 77,950.00
TOTAL REVENUE –	\$ 103,824.14	\$120,371.69	\$126,741.11
Gain/Loss –	\$ -1,710.28	\$ 890.63	\$ -1,176.18

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CONSISTORY MEETING: 6:30 PM**

***Thursday, September 14***

\*\*\*\*\*

## ACOLYTE TRAINING

**Sunday, September 17, 9 AM or 10:30 AM**

**Any youth** who is grade 5 through confirmation age is asked to be an acolyte. Training is held for those who have not been an acolyte in previous years. Linda Deatrich will train all new acolytes on Sunday, September 17 in the Sanctuary. Please let the office know if you would prefer before or after worship. ***Make a note on the Friendship Pad or call the church office (385-2049) to sign up your child for acolyte training.***

## ADULT SMALL GROUPS

**Bible Study, The Book of Acts, Thursday Mornings, 11 AM  
Starting Thursday, September 14**

The history of the early church is recorded in the Book of Acts. The stories of Peter, Paul and the other disciples reveal the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the world to further God's mission of salvation for all people. We are an informal group and occasionally cancel class at the last moment. If you are joining Bible study for the first time, please call the church office at 570-385-2049 to make sure we are meeting.

**Women's Fellowship Sunday, September 17, 4 PM**

All women in the church are invited to gather for a time of fellowship and food with no set agenda: we'll simply talk about whatever comes to mind and enjoy our time together as sisters in faith. Bring a snack to share.

If you have an idea for a small group, please talk to Pastor Shawn.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Call the church office 570-385-2049 when:**

- **Someone is admitted to the hospital**
  - **You plan a meeting**
  - **You are moving**
- **A new baby arrives or a death occurs**
- **Your telephone number or address has changed**

**If you reach the answering machine, please leave a message.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational meeting to approve the 2018 Proposed Budget, 2017 Committee Reports, and 2018 Consistory members is scheduled for:

**Sunday, November 12, 2017**

Please plan to attend and participate in the important issues to be addressed.

### ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

If you are planning to submit a committee report for the Annual Meeting (covering the time period from October 2016 thru September 2017), please have it typewritten and submitted to the office (preferably by email) no later than **Sunday, October 15**. Annual Reports will then be available to the congregation on **Sunday, November 29**. (2 weeks before the meeting).

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**BCE Meeting, Tuesday, September 5, 6 PM**

We'll be finalizing plans for Spirit Sunday, September 10, and looking forward to fall activities. Our meetings are open; please join us.

## CHRISTIAN PASSAGES / SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS

**Births** – **Claire Elenor** was born May 12, 2017 to parents **Christopher & Justene Frushon**, big brother **Marshall**, grandparents **Jay & Diane Newswanger**, and aunts **Danielle Guldin & Meghan Cherry**.

**Finnegan Matthew** was born July 22, 2017 to parents **Adam & Sarah DeCaluwe**, grandmother **Gail Kershner**, and aunt **Amy Storm**.

**Baptisms** – **Landyn Matthew Schnell** was baptized on Sunday, June 18, 2017. Landyn, born January 12, 2017, is the son of Andrew & Samantha Schnell. His sponsors are Tyler Schaeffer & Lionel Schnell.

**Claire Elenor Frushon** was baptized on Sunday, July 16, 2017. Claire, born May 12, 2017, is the daughter of Christopher & Justene Frushon. Her sponsors are Gregory Guldin & Meghan Cherry.

**Deaths** – **David Nye** passed away on August 8, 2017. His funeral service was held on Tuesday, August 15. David is survived by his son **Eric** and grandchildren **Mackenzie & Malaki Nye**.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

### Serving Jesus

We serve Jesus when we put our love for God and others into action. The Book of Romans Chapter 12 shows us how we can be more like Jesus.

9/3	Romans 12:1-2	Worshipping God Every Day
9/10	Romans 12:3	God's Grace
9/17	Romans 12:4-8	God's Gifts
9/24	Romans 12:9-10	God's Love in Action

### Thank you to our Children's Church Teachers!

Delia Edling, our lead teacher, who often creates the curriculum, Lisa Edling, Linda Lopez, Linda McDonald, and Malaki Nye.

Teachers affect eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops.

~Henry Brooks Adams

### Live in Harmony, Rejoice with Hope

#### Prayer Vigil for Children; September 17 – October 29

During the annual Prayer Vigil for Children you are invited to pray for:

- Children who are alone; afraid; disabled; ill; bullied; and poor.
- Children in our church and community; this nation; and God's world.

The teens and children of our congregation will lead us in worship on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 29, to conclude the Prayer Vigil for Children. If you would like to share a specific concern for children, please see Pastor Shawn.

### Preparing Children for Communion: Sunday, Sept. 24

As a church we want to encourage our children to walk by faith. Often we learn about our faith by experiencing it. None of us know exactly what happens when we receive communion but we do know that we receive a blessing from Jesus Christ. This blessing is extended to everyone who is baptized into the Christian faith. Through conversations about faith and communion, parents know when their children come to believe in Christ as their Savior. At First UCC, parents decide when their children may receive communion. Children are strongly encouraged to participate in Children's Church to learn more about the Christian faith and sacraments in preparation for confirmation class in seventh and eighth grades. Pastor Shawn will talk with children about receiving communion on September 24. Children are invited to receive their first communion on World Communion Sunday, Oct. 1.

## COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

### Al-Anon Meetings, Wednesdays and Fridays

Two meetings are offered weekly in Schuylkill Haven for families and friends of alcoholics: Wednesday evenings here at First Church and Friday evenings at Grace EC Church. For info call Sara 570-449-1830 or Tanya 570-497-0356.

### GriefShare, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 1:30 PM, Bethesda EC Church

GriefShare is for people mourning the death of a loved one, even if that death happened years ago. For more information call 570-739-2241.

### September is National Preparedness Month

Natural disasters are affecting more and more people throughout the world. From devastating earthquakes, floods and other emergencies, it is important to have a game plan of preparedness. For details, visit "National Preparedness Month" online. Also visit [fema.gov](http://fema.gov); [ready.gov](http://ready.gov); and [ready-schuylkill.org](http://ready-schuylkill.org).

## NEW MEMBERS

### New Members Welcome, Sunday, September 10

New members will be welcomed into the Christian fellowship of the church on Sunday, September 10, during worship. If you are interested in becoming a member of the church, please talk to Pastor Shawn.

## PROPERTY

### FREE Kidney Tables and Wooden Chairs:

Five kidney shaped tables (solid wood, metal legs) once used in Sunday School and many wooden chairs of various sizes are available free to church members if you haul them away. If you are interested call the church office.

### Fall Yard Work, Saturdays, September 2 and 23, 8 AM

Weather permitting, join Pastor Shawn on the Saturday mornings listed above to weed the church grounds. She will treat you to breakfast at 9 AM.

### Attempted Break-in

Thursday, August 17, around 10:30 PM, someone tried to gain access to the building by prying open a window into the Fellowship Hall. The alarm activated preventing any theft. Consistory is reevaluating building security.

## CONFIRMATION

### Confirmation Organizational Meeting Sunday, September 10, after Worship, Weiser Board Room

A new format is planned for Confirmation Class this year as church members share their knowledge and interests with the confirmands, joining Pastor Shawn in guiding the class.

First Church invites young people in seventh grade and older to affirm their baptism through the Rite of Confirmation. Through baptism, they were welcomed into the worldwide community of the Christian Church. Through confirmation, or catechism, young people are invited to grow in faith in God, seeking God through the teachings of Jesus Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, knowing they are loved, not just by their parents and grandparents, but by their brothers and sisters in Christ and, most importantly, by God.

An organizational meeting for confirmands and their parents will be held Sunday, September 10, in the Weiser Board Room after worship. Please bring your school and special activities schedule so that we can select a weekly meeting time.

The confirmation process at First Church is a two year program. Confirmands are required to: attend worship on a weekly basis, attend weekly confirmation class, and participate in periodic service projects. If you have questions about confirmation, please talk to Pastor Shawn.

### Pastor Shawn's Annual CROP Walk Challenge to the Confirmands

Pastor Shawn challenges the confirmands to see who can raise more money for the CROP Walk against hunger on Sunday, October 1. Consequences for the loser(s) have yet to be determined but a cream pie facial has been employed in the past. Information will be provided at the organizational meeting on September 10. For more information on the CROP Walk, see the information under "Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches."

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Facebook***

If you are a Facebook user, please "LIKE" the church's Facebook page. This will allow you to receive regular updates and messages from the church office.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONSISTORY

### 2018 Consistory Members

Would you be interested in serving on Consistory? **Consistory** is the executive **body** of the church. It oversees property, personnel, worship, Christian education, stewardship, spiritual growth, evangelism, memorials and planning. As the policy-making body which transacts the business of the church, Consistory's actions are subject to the will and revision of the **congregation**, which is the **governing body**.

New Consistory Members are needed for 2018. Please prayerfully consider whether God has given you the gifts that are needed to serve on Consistory and to further the purpose of Christ's Church through worship, spiritual growth, mission and service to others.

## EVANGELISM

### "Reaching New People" Coaching Event, September 15-16 St. Paul's UCC, Douglassville

With fewer and fewer people simply walking into our churches, how does the church meaningfully connect with people outside its walls? In this two day workshop, we will learn how to reach new people and further the mission of Christ's church. Talk to Pastor Shawn if you are interested in learning more about this workshop. Registration deadline: August 31

### Welcoming God's Guests

With Penn State back in session, students may be joining us for worship, along with other visitors. God draws people into the church, so our effort to welcome and include God's guests is part of Christian hospitality as we share the joy of the Lord.

What makes people feel welcome? Being noticed, smiling at them, showing them where to find the hymnal, introducing yourself, respecting their boundaries without pushing for information, and welcoming children to be children.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Hospitalization***

When someone in your home is hospitalized, please call the church office to let us know. Most hospitals DO NOT call the church office when members are admitted.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FELLOWSHIP

### Eagle Watch, Hawk Mountain, September 3 after Worship

Bald eagles migrate south in the greatest numbers in early September. To see these beautiful birds, bring the appropriate clothes, walking shoes and binoculars to worship September 3. After worship we will drive to Hawk Mountain, grabbing lunch on the way. An ADA accessible path is now open to the South Lookout. Adults \$9; Seniors \$7; Children 6-12 \$5; Under 5 free.

### Spirit Sunday, September 10, 9 AM Fellowship

As we return to our regular fall schedule, we're offering fellowship earlier in the morning so that we can visit with one another. Join us for fresh fruit and pastry, coffee and other beverages. We are looking forward to a wonderful time to catch up on summer adventures. Please stay after worship as well for continued conversation and refreshments.

### SOUL (Seniors Out to Lunch)

### Second Tuesday, Noon

SOUL consists of senior members of the congregation who like to get together at local restaurants. If you would like to join SOUL for any of their upcoming luncheons, call Iris Weller (366-0897) so that they can save a seat for you!

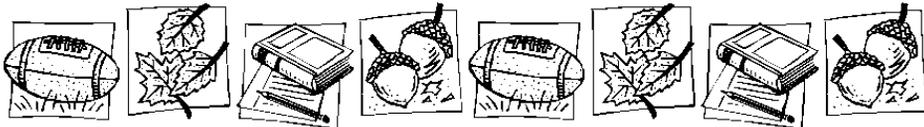
**Tuesday, September 12, Noon – Perry Restaurant, Shoemakersville**

## MEAT BINGOS

**Our next Meat BINGO is scheduled for Saturday, September 9.** Doors open at 11 AM; games begin at 1 PM. The prizes will be packages of meat. There will be 20 games for \$15. Specials & Raffles are extra. Food and refreshments will be available. We are also looking for helpers age 13 and older. Please call the church office if you are able to volunteer.

**2018 BINGO dates:** Will be announced at the November 11 BINGO

**PARKING:** When parking for our fundraisers, we ask that all workers park in the upper lot so the spots in the lower lot are available for our patrons.



## MISSION

### Hillside SPCA Donations to Bless the Animals

During the month of September we will gather items needed at Hillside SPCA to care for the animals there, including: non-clumping cat litter, cleaning supplies, mops, brooms, laundry detergent, wet and dry dog/cat food, dog and cat toys, chew snacks, dog leashes and collars, dog bowls (metal only), dog and cat beds, office supplies and equipment. Monetary donations may also be made to "Joe's Fund." Place your donations in the box in the Narthex. Tentative plans are to visit Hillside on Saturday, October 7, to deliver our donations and bless the animals.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### Chime Choir Rehearsal Starting Soon

Recognizing that people can't always make long-term commitments, three or four practice sessions will precede each presentation of the Chime Choir in worship. Read the September worship bulletins and October-November newsletter for details on rehearsal times. If you have questions about the church's music program, you can contact Chris Evans, our Minister of Music, at 717-329-6904 or email him at [chrisevans838@gmail.com](mailto:chrisevans838@gmail.com).

## THANK YOU NOTES!!

**"Thank You" notes** were received over the last few of months. All of the notes/letters are posted on the bulletin board by the offices. Messages of thanks were received from: Servants to All and Jane & Jim Madenfort

**Thank you** to **everyone** for your wonderful support over the summer for the June Ham & Turkey Dinner, Church Picnic, and Vacation Bible School!!!! Your help was greatly appreciated!!!!

**Special Thank You** extended to **Kenny Klinger** and **Rusty Searle** for repairing and replacing the lights at the Nice Pavilion; **Darrell Spotts** for trimming the trees along Route 61; and to **Keith Edling**, **Kenny Klinger** and **Bobby Riegel**, our lawn mowers.

## PSEC

### **Proposed Pennsylvania East Conference Merger**

The Penn Northeast Conference and the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ are working together to share staff resources, to create education opportunities for clergy, and to join in ministry that is stronger together than apart. Small group meetings will be held in both conferences to present the vision, invite feedback, and continue to develop a new understanding of ministry, purpose, and mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **PSEC Fall Meeting, Saturday, November 18, Here at First UCC**

We have been asked to host the one-day fall meeting of the Conference, hosting close to 300 people. Members gather for worship, workshops on church life, and to plan for the future of the church. A report on the proposed conference merger will be one item of business. Please consider attending in order to interact with our brothers and sisters in faith.

### **Thank You for Your OCWM Offerings**

Conference Minister the Rev. Bill Worley wrote to thank First Church for your support of Our Church's Wider Mission. Your offerings supported Leadership and Congregational Vitality Training, supported 24 Members in Discernment preparing for ministry, sponsored more than 130 youth and adults at the UCC National Youth Event, guided 43 churches through the search and call process, strengthened global ministry partnerships, and called a new Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Development. In addition, First Church was one of 29 churches which increased OCWM giving by 2%.

## SCHUYLKILL ASSOCIATION

### **Schuylkill Association Fall Meeting, Sunday, October 15, 3 PM**

The Schuylkill Association of UCC Churches meets bi-annually and will gather on Sunday, October 15 at St. Paul's UCC in Mahanoy City. All are welcome!

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

### **Three Great Loves**

The UCC launched a new mission at General Synod 2017. Named, "Three Great Loves," the mission project will run until General Synod 2019. The Three Great Loves are: Love for Children, Love for Neighbor, and Love for Creation. In the next few months First Church will explore how we embody love for children, how we share the love of Jesus as we love our neighbors, and how we demonstrate our love for God's creation through stewardship of the earth. God's love shines through us to light the way to a better world.

## SCHUYLKILL HAVEN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

### **Bloodmobile Thursday, September 14, 12:30-5:30 PM**

Every two seconds someone in America needs blood. Council holds a Bloodmobile for the American Red Cross every other month at Jerusalem Lutheran Church. You must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and be healthy in order to be able to donate blood.

### **Monthly Food Pantry Third Friday, 1 PM, September 15**

About 170 households in our area receive food every month through the Council of Churches Food Pantry. Food donations are needed to restock the Pantry shelves prior to Friday, September 15, when the food will be distributed to people in our community. The Food Pantry is located on Market Street, behind Evans Delivery on Columbia Street (the old Walkin Shoe Factory).

### **Bi-Monthly Council Meeting Tuesday, September 26, 7 PM**

The meeting will be held at Bethesda Evangelical Congregational Church, Rt. 183, Reedsville. The Council of Churches provides emergency assistance for homeless people, assists with utilities for families in need, and organizes a monthly food pantry in our community. First Church is in need of lay representatives to serve on the Council. Talk to Pastor Shawn if interested.

### **World Communion Sunday CROP Walk Sunday, October 1, 1 PM, Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry**

Enjoy a beautiful walk through the Schuylkill Haven Borough with friends AND raise money to feed hungry people at the same time. Receive a participant's envelope from Pastor Shawn. Registration begins at 1 PM, with worship at 1:15 PM and the walk kick-off at 1:30 PM.

## YOUTH AND TEENS

### **YT3P Event (Pizza, Planning and Play)**

#### **Sunday, September 10, after Worship**

Youth and Teens, grades 5-12 will gather for **Pizza** and **Planning** for fall activities. Bring your appetites and ideas! What would you like to do for social activities and for service projects? Then we'll enjoy some **Play** time indoors and outdoors. Sign up in worship or on Facebook.

### **CROP Walk Service Project**

#### **Sunday, October 1, 1 PM, Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry**

Ask Pastor Shawn for a participant's packet. Earn Community Service hours and feed hungry people! Please God and make yourself feel good as well!

## STEWARDSHIP – CHURCH FUNDRAISERS

### Meat BINGO, Saturday, September 9

Please sign up to donate food items to sell and/or donate your time to help with the event. Doors open at 11 AM.

### Borough Day Community Outreach and Fund Raiser

#### Saturday, September 30, 8 AM – 4 PM

Baked Goods, Pierogis, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Beverages  
Baked good donations are needed. Volunteers are needed for two hour shifts to sell food. Please sign up in worship or call the church office at 570-385-2049. (We'd love to serve haluski but need volunteers to make it.)

### Friends Helping Friends, Boscov's, Tuesday, October 17

Buy a 25% discount card for \$5 to use on most purchases at Boscov's Tuesday, October 17. The church will keep the \$5 for every ticket sold. The day includes refreshments, entertainment and prizes. See Carrie Ann Klinger to buy a ticket.

**Shank's Vanilla.** 8 oz. bottles of vanilla are being sold for \$6 per bottle. The vanilla is a great ingredient for baking.

**Boyer's Tag.** Boyer's SKU Tags are available in the Narthex. When you purchase groceries at Boyer's, ask to have your tag read. Periodically, Boyer's will tally the readings and send a check to the church. (No need to hand in Boyer's receipts.)

**Redner's Save-A-Tape.** Pick up a Save-A-Tape card at Redner's and use it whenever you buy groceries. Hand in your Redner's receipts by placing them in the box in the Narthex. Totals of the tapes will be submitted to Redner's who will then provide the church with a check.

### **NURSING HOME PARISHIONERS**

**Pinebrook Personal Care Center, Orwigsburg PA 17961**

2 Woodbridge Drive Bernice Roberts (Room 26)

### **HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

Jim Madenfort; 2240 Tonto Drive; Auburn, PA 17922  
June Schoffstall; 285 Blue Mountain Road; Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

**\*\*Please note:** If you are homebound and wish to receive home communion, please contact the church office. If you know of someone not on either the Nursing Home or Homebound list, please notify the church office.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

- |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9/2- Heather Corby (1980)<br>Chris Evans (1986)<br>Dwayne Reichert Jr. (2005)<br>Tom Stewart Jr. (1974) | 9/13- Bill Harp (1963)<br>9/14- Sean Spotts (1993)<br>9/15- Becky (Sikora) Klimas (1983)<br>9/17- Alesse Coover (1984)<br>9/18- Braylon Ludwig (2012)<br>9/19- Rusty Searle (1955)<br>Pastor Shawn (1958) |
| 9/3- Eric Heck (1988)<br>Suzanne Schrader (1943)<br>Quinlan Spotts (2003)                               | 9/20- Jeff McCormick<br>Billy Schaeffer (1990)                                                                                                                                                            |
| 9/6- Meghan Cherry (1985)<br>John Pritiskutch (1961)                                                    | 9/21- Jim Haeseler (1972)<br>9/23- Lilly James (2013)                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9/7- Beth Fryer (1951)                                                                                  | 9/26- Lily Fenstermacher (2007)<br>Grayson Fessler (2008)<br>Marcia Harp (1964)                                                                                                                           |
| 9/9- Bill Corby (1970)<br>Mary Stewart (1978)                                                           | 9/26- Aaliyah Schnell (2013)<br>9/29- Corey Mentzer (1981)<br>Kelsey Shappell (1992)                                                                                                                      |
| 9/10- Stacey Bucolo (1974)<br>Beth Eckert (1958)<br>Helen Kimmel (1963)                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9/11- Ed Henninger (1963)                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9/13- Brian Harp (1963)                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9/4- Todd & Sabrina Sterner (1993)  | 9/17- Ed & Cheryl Henninger (1988) |
| 9/5- Greg & Alicia Stewart (2015)   | 9/18- Bill & Jane Ellinger (2004)  |
| 9/11- Gary & Gloria Ebling (1976)   | 9/20- Harris & Joan Bradley (1969) |
| 9/12- Brandon & Becky Devlin (2015) | 9/26- Brian & Marcia Harp (1998)   |
| 9/12- Bob & Carole Lee (1997)       |                                    |

*If we missed a birthday or anniversary, listed an incorrect date or do not have the year, please call the church office so that we are able to correct and/or update our records.*

## MEAT BINGO

**Saturday, September 9, 1 PM**

**Doors open at 11 AM**

**Tickets - \$15**

**Raffles & Specials are extra  
Food & Drinks are available**

