

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MOUNT JOY, PENNSYLVANIA
11:00 AM Morning Worship – April 27, 2014**

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE “Harbinger of Spring” – Rob Roy Peery

WELCOME - LIFE IN THE CHURCH Announcements & Concerns

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

P: The whole creation rejoices;
the birds sing from every tree.

L: Alleluia! Christ is in our midst!

P: Babies babble with sounds of joy;
words cannot express our overflowing hearts.

L: Alleluia! Christ is our light forever!

P: Breathing peace on us in these moments;
surrounding us with grace and hope.

***HYMN** 47 All creatures of our God and King (Renew! hymnal)

WE APPROACH GOD

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Hear the echoes of our locked hearts, Path of Life. We cross the borders into temptation and never seem to find our way back. We multiply the sorrows of others by our hurtful words and the harmful deeds we do. We see the ones you would give us to serve, but believe we do not have the abilities to care for them. Have mercy on us, God whose Breath gives us life. Walk through the closed doors of our worries and doubts to stand in our midst, offering us that grace which can heal us, that hope which can enliven us, and that faith which enables us to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

L: It is God's great mercy through the resurrection of Jesus which gives us that hope which lives within us.

P: Thanks be to God for this precious gift by which we are able to believe and rejoice in our inheritance. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

***AN AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH** (From A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, TEACHING BY WORD AND DEED AND BLESSING THE CHILDREN, HEALING THE SICK and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

WE SHARE OUR LIFE AND GIFTS

ANTHEM “Through the Waters” – Don Wyrzten

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
(Using Debts and Debtors)

***PRAISE HYMN** 273 Jesus Paid it all (blue hymnal)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 16 pg. 495-496

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “A Quiet Blessing” – John Weston

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Gospel Lesson	John 20:19-31	pg. 115
New Testament Lesson	1 Peter 1:3-9	pg. 232

SERMON “The Cycle of Freedom”

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

***HYMN** 275 Blessed Redeemer (blue hymnal)

***THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION**

***ORGAN RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE Grand Chorus on a Welsh Tune – L. N. Porter
Tune: Ton-Y-Botel”

***Those who are able may stand**

We welcome Sarah A. Kneier, M.Div

Sarah A. Kneier is a class of 2013 graduate from Lancaster Theological Seminary and a fall 2013 graduate of the Clinical Pastoral Education internship at Lancaster General Hospital where she served as chaplain. Sarah was the 2012-13 Seminary Intern at Chestnut Level Presbyterian Church, in Quarryville. She was recognized with the Rural Church Prize by the faculty of Lancaster Theological Seminary for “notable achievement in the field of rural church” at Chestnut Level Presbyterian. Sarah has also served as a seminary intern at Kreutz Creek Presbyterian in Hellam and has also served in the many ministries of her home church, Wayside Presbyterian, in Landisville. A Candidate for Ordained Ministry, Sarah does Pulpit Supply for the Presbytery of Donegal and preaches at various churches in the area. Sarah looks forward to the day when she will be ordained as a Teaching Elder. When she's not leading worship, she attends Wayside with her husband David and her son Ansel. She also enjoys gardening, needlework, cooking and the many parks in the area. Sarah and her family reside in Columbia, PA.



Welcome to all in the name of Jesus Christ. We welcome our visitors and hope you will come back and visit with us again. There is information about our church at the back of each pew and Visitors' cards for your use. Please Note: Calendars and Weekly items of interest are now placed at the back of the Sanctuary on the Usher's tables. Please take one per family.

Flowers today are provided by Gerry and Buzz Bowman, in memory of Dr. Mary R. Bowman.

Ushers for April are Deborah Hoffman and Barbara O'Neal.
Ushers for May are Ron and Dan Cramer

Greeter for April is Jean Shelly
Greeter for May is Janet Stirling

Nursery for Today – Nancy Duquette and Sandy Homsher
Nursery for May 4 – Dee Neese and Nancy Duquette

Counter for Today – Nancy Duquette
Counter for May 4 – Joy Bouchard

Church Opener – Barb O'Neal

Church Closer for today – Nancy Duquette
Church Closer for May 4 – Joy Bouchard

Strength for Today – April 28 – May 4 – Barb O'Neal
Strength for Today – May 5 – May 11 – Joy Bouchard

Flowers for April – April Leggore
Flowers for May – Janet Stirling

Are you interested in participating in the Strength for Today program?
It involves reading a brief message (no more than two minutes). It can be a devotional reading, "Our Daily Bread", a favorite Scripture passage or even verses of a hymn. It can be done from the comfort of your own home using our remote telephone procedure. **Call Tim Nolt at 278-5423 or email him at timnolt@gmail.com.** Each person is responsible for one week of messages beginning on Monday and ending on Sunday. The week starts with Monday's message and ends with Sunday's message. Messages can be recorded the night before, i.e. Monday's message can be recorded Sunday night.

MISSION: “The energy of the Holy Spirit equips us to reach out joyfully in Jesus’ name to meet human needs in the community and in the world.”

VISION: “We will nurture people physically and spiritually, showing them the transforming love and grace of Jesus Christ.”

Minister:	Rev. Joyce Rowles
Organist:	Mary Ann Ober
Secretary:	Barbara O’Neal
Treasurer:	Deborah Hoffman

Elders:

Tim Nolt	Membership/Mission
John Leggore	Property
Joy Bouchard	Christian Education
Deborah Hoffman	Treasurer/Finance & Stewardship
Meagan Nolt	Clerk of Session/ Youth & Young Adults
Jean Shelly	Worship and Music
Barbara O’Neal	Fellowship/Outreach

Deacons:

Nancy Duquette	Moderator, Ushers, Greeters, Coffee Hour
Laura Weber	Treasurer, Visits & Calls
Janet Stirling	Prayer Chain, Transportation
Jeff Weber	Flowers, Nominating Committee
Dee Neese	Secretary, Greeting Cards, Audio Ministry
April Leggore	Nursery, Food Bank

Church Telephone: 653-5888
E-mail Address: fpcmj@embargo.com
Pastor email: pastorjoycer@gmail.com
Website: firstpresmountjoy.com
www.facebook.com/firstpresmountjoy

Strength for Today: 653-4636

The First Presbyterian Church of Mount Joy was organized on December first, 1839 but began holding services in the Mount Joy vicinity as early as 1746. This church is a thoroughly evangelical church in the historic sense of that word and our basic purposes are to bring people to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, to build them in the Christian faith and life, and to enlarge missionary participation to the extent that all may come to hear of and believe in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior. Friend and stranger, to such a church as this you are welcome.

News of the Week

ASK US/TELL US/GIVE US GOOD NEWS



Renovations to our property are continuing. The narthex and front bathrooms are complete. The fellowship hall has a fresh coat of paint and will soon have window treatments. On May 3 our painting party will do the upstairs hall. All of this work has been paid for by a generous donor.

The next major item on the list is the parking lot repair with proper relining and fence replacement. An estimate for this work is \$10,000 and we are still looking for contributions toward this. If you wish to help, make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and mark it “Renovation Fund.” If you have any questions, speak to Deb Hoffman or John Leggore.

The “Second Chances Fellowship Lunch” still welcomes anyone who wants to join them for lunch on Tuesdays at Noon. Bring a bag lunch and join in the laughter and fellowship around the tables.

Painting Party – May 3rd - On May 3rd, painting will take place upstairs. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Breakfast and Lunch will be served to all helpers. This will take place from 8 am to 1 pm.

Please note the Interest Survey in the News this week. If you would like to help out in any of the categories on the Survey, just check which ones and return the survey to any Elder or put it in the box in Fellowship Hall.

May 18th – Light Lunch after Worship and a presentation by Vera Albert from the Mount Joy Historical Society. Vera has quite a few items of interest about our church and its history. Lunch will be furnished by the Fellowship Committee.

If you are in the church alone, please do not use the elevator.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Those of you who work with the children in our church signed a Child Protection Policy before you began. The policies have now changed and we are mandated to prepare and complete forms which comply to the new Child Protection Laws. Everyone in the church who works with children will have to do this. John Leggore is the coordinator; please get in touch with him if you have not done this.

“Don’t forget the Deacons”

Every week the Deacons pay the postage to have bulletins mailed to our shut-ins and everyone else who normall-*y attends but was not in church, unless they can access the bulletin online. We also mail cards to our members. The cost of this is reducing our funds so we are asking you to please remember to donate to the Deacons. There are envelopes in your boxes for that purpose. Thank you!

The Deacons always need big cans for flowers. Please give them to any Deacon or put them in the bathroom nearest the elevator. **We appreciate your help. Second Chances could use some paper bags (with handles) if you have any to spare.**

HERE IS SOME INFORMATION ABOUT CAMP DONEGAL TO GIVE TO SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY OR A FRIEND WHO HAS CHILDREN THAT MIGHT BENEFIT FROM THIS. Want to experience Camp Donegal but not ready for a full week away from home? Camp Donegal offers Day Camp and half-week Adventure Camps for our youngest campers. Get a feel for camp without the commitment of a full week away from home. For more information on Camp Donegal’s exciting summer programs, see the 2014 summer brochure. Camp brochures are available. If you have any questions, please call the Camp Donegal office at (717) 862-3722 or visit us online at 222.CampDonegal.org.

PLEASE NOTE --- FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE. SEE PASTOR JOYCE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

WEBSITE

Remember to check out our website and facebook. The bulletin and News of the Week is posted on the website by Friday. We are going to start emailing both to those people on our Directory list with email addresses.

www.facebook.com/firstpresmountjoy
www.firstpresmountjoy.com

Anyone who wants to arrange for flowers for the Sunday services can call Jeff Weber. He will be glad to let you know what dates are open. The current price for flowers is \$40.00. His phone number is 361-9065.

National Day of Prayer Breakfast – May 1 - The Gathering Place at 6:30 am to 8:00 am. Tickets can be obtained at Darrenkamps, Hostettters, Pies Galore and Crossroads Brethren in Christ Church.

The Deacons thank all who donated supplies for the Columbia Presbyterian Church. Now that the weather is warmer the need is less so we will resume this in late fall if needed.

CALENDARS FOR MAY AND JUNE ARE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

Coffee Hour – Today after Worship Service

Hosts – Lonnie and Larry Nolt

Cookies – Barb Bair, Nancy Duquette, Gerry Bowman

Leota’s Garden – Check it out in the Church Library

This book will touch everyone in a different but wonderful way. Leota is 84 and alone, ignored by her son and estranged from her daughter. She lives from day to day in the house she has lived in since she was a young woman, which is now in need of repairs, her garden overgrown with weeds. She prays to God every day that her family will someday be reunited. Then comes Corban, a grad student seeking her as a subject for his thesis on senior care; Annie, the granddaughter she has hardly ever seen; neighbors she has never known and an array of other people who move into her life with surprising results. Day by day, her life changes and the journey she takes will make you not want to put the book down. Leota, her garden and her life story will touch your heart and bring you closer to God.

Barb

O’Neal

Next Sunday – May 4th – The Deacons and Session will each hold their monthly meetings after worship. Bring your lunch.

Also at 5:30 pm the Spirit Rising service will be held in Fellowship Hall. Plan to attend – this is a casual, relaxed service with music and messages for adults and children. Refreshments will be served.

Don’t forget the Senior Breakfast held by Donegal School District on May 16th. Call 715-4483 to register and for more information.