

The Somerset Christian



April 2019

First Christian Church

139 E. Main St., Somerset, PA. 15501

Phone: 814-445-8112

Email: fccsomerset@comcast.net

Website: www.somersetfirstchristian.org

Elders: elders@somersetfirstchristian.org

Chase's Corner

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."-John 14:6

The Easter season is upon us. Two things happen during this season in the church. First, we truly make our worship focus about the last week of the life of Christ. Second, it means the church will be going into a busier season with more options and resources for the entire family. So let me highlight a couple of things that I think you should consider doing.

Good Friday Night Worship Experience (April 19th 8:00-9:00pm)

This is an evening of worship that will have both traditional and contemporary elements. There will also be the chance to take communion as we spend the evening looking at the Cross of Christ.

Small Groups Are Relaunching

If you've never experienced life in an FCC small group you're missing out. Starting the week of Easter new groups are relaunching. This time it is a small commitment of four weeks, as I know we are all busy. Make sure you join a group after church service on Easter Sunday.

New Classes Start April 28th

Our Sunday morning 9:00am classes are a great way to grow in your spiritual life. These classes will run for 5 weeks. Here is what will be offered.

1. Intentional Parenting taught by John and Tammy Schrock (Class size is limited so make sure to sign up)
2. What is Church taught by Pastor Chase
3. The book of Esther taught by Jim Moon
4. Unexpected Women's Study taught by Anne Onstead (Women Only)

Haiti Food Packing

On Saturday May 18th we as a church will be packing meals for Haiti. This will be our third time doing this and it's always a fun time of serving while getting to fellowship with each other. For this project we want as many people as we can get to help. If you want to help us in this endeavor please sign up at the Information Station. The meal packing will be done at the Somerset Junior High Cafeteria.

Shepherd's View

The Resurrection and Us

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.”- 1 John 3:1

The hope of the resurrection radically changed the way Paul lived. It freed him from materialism and consumerism. It gave him the power to go without things that many people feel they must have in this life. For example, though he had the right to marry (1 Corinthians 9:5), he renounced that pleasure because he was called to bear so much suffering. This he did because of the resurrection.

This is the way Jesus said the hope of the resurrection is supposed to change our behavior. For example, he told us to invite to our homes people who cannot pay us back in this life. How are we to be motivated to do this? “You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just” (Luke 14:14).

This is a radical call for us to look hard at our present lives to see if they are shaped by the hope of the resurrection. Do we make decisions on the basis of gain in this world or gain in the next? Do we take risks for love's sake that can only be explained as wise if there is a resurrection?

Do we lose heart when our bodies give way to the aging process, and we have to admit that we will never do certain things again? Or do we look to the resurrection and take heart?

We do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison. (2 Corinthians 4:16)

So please take this month of April and look inward. Ask yourself how the resurrection affects your daily life. Is Christ the center of your life? As Pastor Chase has said the vision for 2019 is **Know God: Loved By Him**. Are we truly striving to know God more through study, prayer, and worship? A good place for us to start might be Easter as there is no greater symbol of God's love for us than the cross.



By: Anne Onstead

I was standing at the window in my living room watching the snow fall. Ughhh! Just a few days earlier Jeff and I had taken the Harleys out on the first ride of 2019. Spring, where are you? Well I guess it is right here. This is spring in Somerset County. Sunny one day, snowing another day, windy the next day and a combination of rain and sun yet another day. Standing groaning and looking out the window was not going to change that. But I did wonder if it was going to affect the attendance at our game night scheduled for that evening? All I felt like doing was cuddling under a blanket with my book and coffee.

Soon I was reluctantly on my way to Somerset. Yes, it is true – sometimes our excitement for an event wanes even if it was our idea. Before long we were set up and the event was in full swing. Then before I knew it, it was 9:00 and time to begin to wrap it up. Getting out was so good for my heart and attitude. Yes, it was still snowing when we all left the church, but my steps were lighter, and I had a smile on my face.

So, what if I had cancelled and stayed home? Would I feel the same? Would I have the stories to share with the other ladies who attended? Would I have laughed as hard? Would I have had such awesome snacks? Humm...

So, what is the point? Sometimes we need to step outside ourselves and risk it. Push ourselves to do something we don't feel like doing. Mark Batterson, in his book called "All In" calls it making a decision against ourselves. I had to make a decision against what I felt like doing. And in this instance, it paid off. But I do need to admit making a decision against myself doesn't always pay off. Sometimes it does backfire. But I always feel better having tried something and learning from it then never trying in the first place.

I have no idea where you are in life right now. But I do know this – if you are wondering what your place is in church, or if you want to grow more or if you want to meet more people and find an area to become involved - if you are seeking for more in any area of your life – it is going to take risk. You will need to step out and you will probably have to make a decision against yourself.

We have had great attendance at our women's events but maybe you have not given it a shot yet. Well, I encourage you to give it a chance and see what happens. It will not be perfect or go just the way you want it to, but it will be a start.

Here are some of our upcoming events:

- Friday April 26th Passion and Pursuits 7:00PM
- Friday May 17th. Let's Celebrate – Mexican Fiesta 7:00PM

The new summer schedule is available to pick up at the information station.

If you are looking to take your spiritual life to the next level or looking for something to read to address a particular area please give me a call and let's have a chat.



From the desk of Anne Onstead

- Haiti Food Packing – Saturday May 18th
- Forms are available in the church office if you have a local project that you would like the GO team to consider.

Missionary Update

Corby & Ashley White
Missionaries to Poland

Earlier this month I got a chance to sit down with Corby White over breakfast at Summit Diner and catch up on all that is happening in Poland. Currently Corby is stateside while his wife Ashley and their two kids, Marshall who is eight, and Evelyn who is six, are still in Poland. Ashley and the kids will be joining Corby in the US in late May. They are required to travel back home for several months every five years to keep up their VISA status in Poland.

While in the US they will be catching up with family and visiting the churches and individuals who support them. They will be part of our June 23rd service.

I asked Corby to update us on the growth areas in their ministry in Poland. Their family ministers through a local church. He told me that they are seeing the greatest growth and success in three different areas. First, the street church and ministry to the homeless. They have established quite the rapport among the homeless in their area. They have found that this group is much more open to listening to the message of Jesus. Second, is the afterschool mentoring program that Ashley is involved in and reaches children in the area surrounding their church. Third, a door has opened for Corby to engage and interact with students at the university level.

I also asked Corby what the greatest barrier was they faced with presenting the gospel? He told me it was the idea of grace. Poland is predominately Roman Catholic and the focus of many is working to earn their salvation.

Lastly, I asked Corby how we at FCC could be praying for their family. He asked us to keep Ashley and the kids in prayer as they are in Poland till May and then as they travel to the US. He also asked we keep the various ministries in prayer as well as the hearts of those they come into contact. Lastly, he asked that we pray for them as family as they need to raise additional financial support this summer.

APRIL
13



SPRING FLING & EASTER THINGS

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Kids can come and enjoy a bounce house, do an Easter craft, play some games while parents sit and enjoy some free coffee or tea and a snack while you fellowship with other parents.



April will have two events apart from our regular youth group for Thrive student ministry. The first event will be a junior high exclusive event where we will go to Terrance Lanes for a night of bowling! The second event will be a senior high game night. Details and sign-ups will be available within the coming weeks. Also, Sunday March 31st Thrive student ministries will be serving specialty coffee drinks before and after Sunday school. All donations will go to benefit the youth group and scholarship students for trips. Thank you for your continued prayers!

Deaconess News

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS!

We would like to support Somerset Birthright with a baby shower. Birthright is an organization that gives women love, friendship and support with unplanned pregnancies. Birthright's focus is on loving the mother, reminding her that there is hope and ensuring she is not alone. We at FCC would like to fill bags with baby items to be distributed to these mothers. The bags can be filled with baby shampoo, diapers, diaper rash cream, newborn sleeper, teething ring, baby lotion, hairbrush, wash cloths, bibs, card of encouragement or any other items that you can think of for a new born. You can pick up your bags from the ministry table in the Café area on Sunday, April 28 or Sunday, May 5 and return them filled to one of the bins in the Café' area by Sunday, May 19.

MONETARY DONATIONS FOR GRUNDY MOUNTAIN MISSION SCHOOL

In January, we collected \$122.00 and were able to purchase 7 bottles of laundry detergent to send to the Grundy Mountain Mission. Thank you to all that donated money. We will be continuing this project throughout the year.

Member News

IT'S A GIRL!

- Yasmine and John Sommers welcomed Deyjah Eris born on Feb. 28th. She weighed 7 lbs. 6oz. and was 19 inches long. Grandparents are Deb & Dave Barndt. Sisters are Shantell and Avantae.

CALLED HOME

- Ruth Dice: March 15th.
- Tom Hendershot: March 15th.
- Dean Hoffman: March 15th.
- Verna Mitchell: March 19th.
- Donna Atchison: March 26th.

Church News

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am

WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00am

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ON EASTER SUNDAY (4/21)

EASTER ACTIVITIES AT FCC

- **Spring Fling & Easter Things**, Saturday, April 13th. Parents bring the kids to FCC from 2:00-4:00pm for an afternoon of fun. There will be a bounce house, Easter crafts, games, snacks and more. Invite your friends. This event is FREE to all and a great opportunity for fellowship with other parents.
- **Palm Sunday Service** will feature the children of FCC and the Easter Cantata presented by the Church Choir on Sunday, April 14th at 10:00am.
- **Good Friday Service**, April 19th at 8:00pm.
- **Easter Sunday Service**, April 21st at 10:00am.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN APRIL 28TH

- **What is Church?** Taught by Pastor Chase
- **Unexpected (Women's Class):** Taught by Anne Onstead
- **Parenting Class:** Taught by John & Tammy Schrock
- **Study of Esther:** Taught by Jim Moon
- Sign up to attend a class at the information station beginning April 7th.



Church News

SATURDAY NITE OF WORSHIP

- April 6th at 7:00pm. Join us for a time of worship and devotion.

DONUT SUNDAY

- Join us for donuts and fellowship on Sunday, April 7th at 8:30am in the fellowship hall.

CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

- Resources for Men, Women and couples are available at the information station. Cost is \$10.

BACKPACK MINISTRY

- Recycle your grocery bags by donating them to the Backpack Ministry. You can drop them in the elevator. Thank you.

MONTHLY LEADERSHIP MEETING

- Tuesday, April 9th at 6:00pm for Elders, Deacons & Deaconesses.

T.N.T. RESUMES

- The Dynamite Seniors resume meeting on Wednesday, April 17th at 11:00am. Director: Sandy Pyle

MENS GOLF SCRAMBLE

- Saturday, April 27th at Middlecreek Gold Course. Cost: \$25 per person. Food provided. Times available soon.

ONLINE GIVING AT FCC

- Go to www.somersetfirstchristian.org
- Click: Online Giving
- Enter the amount you want to give to the church
- Enter the frequency you want to give
- Enter the date your offering is to be withdrawn from your checking or savings account
- Click continue and set up your online giving information (bank, bank acct. #, etc.).

Called to Serve

NURSERY: SUNDAY SCHOOL

4/7 Megan Hill, Ann King
4/14 Tom & Tammy Minnick
4/21 Tammy Schrock, Hannah Slope
4/28 George Perras, Teckla Miller

KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

4/7 Tammie & Bill Gerhart
4/14 Denise Ferris, April Morocco
4/21 Becky Knopsnider, John Bollman
4/28 Chris Mowry, Stan King

NURSERY: WORSHIP SERVICE

4/7 Matt & Sarah Rouch
4/14 Teresa Baker & Donna Kern
4/21 Tiffany St. Clair, Barb Kleinert
4/28 Georgiann Blazin, Sue Slope

TINY TOTS NURSERY

4/7 Rachel Davis, Lori Miller
4/14 Jody Jurgevich, Jen Miller
4/21 TBD, Lauren Baker
4/28 Karamie & Dylan Johnson

WEE WORSHIP

4/7 Melissa Wilson, Deb Barndt
4/14 Molly Meekins, Beth Benedict
4/21 Mary & Steve Gerhard
4/28 Tracey & Roger Baer

JUNIOR CHURCH

4/7 Rick Marker, Tim Baker
4/14 Christy Hay, Erin Baker
4/21 Jesse & John Landis
4/28 Shae Frazier, Anna Meyers

INFORMATION/CAFÉ

Sandy Knepper, Eve Shaulis

GREETERS

Sandy Pyle, Kim Flick

PARKING LOT GREETERS

Dave Barndt, Bill Kaufman

SERVING AT THE TABLE

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Communion</u>
4/7	Terry Fisher	Tim Thompson
4/14	Doug Huston	Terry Fisher
4/21	Tim Thompson	Doug Huston
4/28	Dave Ferris	Matt Rouch

HOMEBOUND VISITATION

	<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>
4/7	Sherbine's	Meekins
4/14	Meyers family	Shae Frazier
4/21	Pyle's	Schrock's
4/28	Elder	Costea's

MEDITATIONS

4/7 Bill Richardson
4/14 Bill Kaufman
4/21 Shae Frazier
4/28 Anne Onstead

PRAYER TEAM

4/7 Karen Walters, Chris Mowry
4/14 Mike & Karen Costea
4/21 Matt & Sarah Rouch
4/28 Jim Moon, Cheryl Clementi

COMMUNION PREPARATION

4/7 Mary Ann Riggs
4/14 Kim Flick
4/21 Jeff & Christy Hay
4/28 April Morocco

5:15 TEAM

4/7 Cheryl Clementi
4/14 Bill & Tammie Gerhart
4/21 Chase Hill, Anne Onstead
4/28 Mark & Molly Meekins

VAN MINISTRY

4/7 Brandon Lambert
4/14 George Perras
4/21 Rick Marker
4/28 Terry Fisher