



# FIRST FACTS



A monthly publication of **First Presbyterian Church** · Cape Girardeau, Missouri · August 2017



How quickly our thoughts turn from summer adventures to fall programming. It has been a full summer but our thoughts are already turning to what's ahead.

Our ecumenical Vacation Bible School was a big success. Held at First Baptist Church with children and volunteers from four congregations, it was a week of singing, playing, and learning with Christian friends from across our city. I hope it will prompt other opportunities for shared ministry with these congregations in mission, education, music, and worship.

Our Pastor Nominating Committee attended the Big Tent Conference in St. Louis. This national Presbyterian event included a Face-to-Face opportunity for the PNC to meet potential pastoral candidates. Keep the PNC in your prayers as they engage in the discernment process to identify the person God is calling as your next pastor.

This year the session has engaged in balancing our budget and that effort, plus very good investment returns, has been very effective. For some time the budget depended on annual withdrawals from reserves to cover expenses. As a result, funding for mission and some programs was reduced to cover personnel and administrative costs. You should be pleased to know that we've turned to corner on that.

With a staff that is much better suited to your current membership and needs, there is now room in the budget to expand mission giving. The Session has assembled a team to study and determine the best use of these mission resources. The team is currently meeting with community agencies and service organizations. Pray for them as they learn, think, dream, and plan for a more expansive mission engagement. You'll be hearing more as their work continues.

For some time we've recognized the importance of a positive presence on the Web and social media channels. These modern marvels are tools for evangelism for younger generations. They are our front door for people in our community who have never stepped inside our building. First Presbyterian is a church that should be more widely known. It should be the faith home for more people who share our values of quality worship, community service, and warm hospitality. If they only knew about us! The Session has authorized us to work with Rust Media to develop a new website and integrate that with our Facebook feed and other social media to get the word out. We are in the early stages of planning but expect to "go live" in a couple of months.

Planning for the fall is well underway. Expect a new adult Sunday School Class that I will lead to engage about the church's mission. I'm also planning a sermon series to expand on the class conversations. Our choir will begin rehearsals this month and our Choral Scholars will return to their worship leadership roles. Many adventures lie ahead!

I hope the summer pace has been restful and restorative for you. Even in the midst of the "summer slowdown" the church has been busy planning, dreaming, and serving. That's as it should be.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Terry



### **Fun Days of Learning at VBS**

By Melissa Harris

Vacation Bible School 2017 was a great success thanks to the combined efforts of five Cape churches. First Baptist hosted us and invited our church, Christ Episcopal, St. James -AME and Abbey Road Christian Church to participate. The theme this year was " Maker Fun Factory ," so our churches worked together to teach the children, ages preschool through sixth grade, that all of us are uniquely and wonderfully made. The kids had four fabulous days together learning Bible stories, playing water games outside, enjoying snacks and using their creativity in the imagination (crafts) station. The kids seemed to especially love the songs they learned. One evening there were as many as 54 kids! VBS wasn't possible without many volunteers, so special thanks to those volunteers from our church. I am pleased to report that those attending Bible School this year raised \$516.11 for Hope Children's Home. We are hoping to join together again for VBS next year.



### **SECOND TUESDAY AT THE CHATEAU**

The Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet for lunch and fellowship on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chateau dining room. If you would like to attend, please call Sharon Metcalfe at 651-5274 or Ruth Needle at 334-4515 so that arrangements can be made for a table to accommodate all of us. We will order off the menu with each person being responsible for their own lunch. All are welcome.



The next meeting of the book club will be at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at the home of Sandy Wilhelm. The book under discussion is "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls. On September 14, we will meet at the home of Sharon Metcalfe with the book being "All Together in One Place" by Jane Kirkpatrick. The October meeting will be on October 12 at the home of Jean Cairns. The book is "The Award" by Danielle Steele. In November on the 9<sup>th</sup> we will read "Our Souls at Night" by Kent Haruf and the discussion will take place at the home of Ruth Needle. There will be NO meeting of the book club in December, but we have picked a book for the new year. The January book is "Paris Architect" by Charles Belfoure. We will meet at the home of Jeanne Hirsch on January 11, 2018. All are welcome and the reading of the book is optional.



### **Please Remember**

As the Spring Cleaning bug hits you and you're in the mood to do some cleaning out, don't forget our Rummage Sale this fall.

The Mission Committee will be happy to pick up items you don't need or use anymore. No clothing. Just call Georganne Syler (450-0213) or Donna Pikey (335-8908) for more information.



### **August Meal-a-Month**

Velveeta type Cheese Food  
Package of Macaroni  
Can of fruit of choice (juice packed)

“I am the resurrection and the life”

C. Marlena Pind

January 23, 1944- July 22, 2017

“I am the resurrection and the life”

Mary Uline Potashnick Harrison

August 30, 1929-July 25, 2017



## Teen Challenge Choir Concert a Success

By Nancy Bray

Thanks to the special efforts of many of our members, the Adult and Teen Challenge Choir Concert Friday evening, July 21, was carried out successfully! Despite a heat index that day of 107 degrees and the necessary relocation of the concert from the Courthouse Park Gazebo to our sanctuary because of the heat, over 130 people grateful for the cool air of our sanctuary and the even cooler treat of Dippin' Dots chose to attend the concert. Prior to the concert, there was a steady crowd of people in our Fellowship Hall socializing and enjoying the Dippin' Dots flavors of Cookies and Cream, Banana Split or Chocolate plus vanilla ice cream.

At the start of the concert, our Treasurer Charles Wiles presented Teen Challenge with a check for \$2,500 from the Mission funds of our church. The choir director and the choir gave us a standing ovation in appreciation for this gift because it helps kick off the expansion of their programming that will require an expansion of their property to accommodate about 50 more men. At the present time, there are 170 teen and adult males at the Cape facility for addiction rehabilitation. At the end of the concert, those attending had the opportunity to participate in a free will offering, and it raised \$328.

The crowd enjoyed the choir's gospel singing but just wanted more of it! During the concert, several men gave their testimonials which were both thought-provoking and touching about the Christ-based transformation of their lives through the Adult and Teen Challenge organization. Many community guests who attended had never been inside our church and commented about its beauty as did the choir members!

This event gave our church members an opportunity to enjoy working together for a good cause and to get some much needed publicity for our church as we promoted the event with flyers, in the newspaper, on the KFVS website, the Southeast Missourian's website and our church Facebook page. It was a win-win for both First Presbyterian and Cape's Adult and Teen Challenge! The Session thanks and sincerely appreciates the 40 plus members and friends of First Presbyterian who helped greet our guests that evening, served refreshments, and were part of the concert audience.



### Memorials

A Memorial has been received in memory of:

**Pauline Cotner**, from Alice Breeze

**Rick Renfrow**, from John & Rebecca Cook, Ann & Paul Brinkopf

**Dick Thomas**, from Jerry & Marlana Pind

**Jack Lamkin**, from Jerry & Marlana Pind, Jeanne & John Hirsch

**Marlena Pind**, from Harry & Barbara Rust, Ann & Ray Ritter, Jeanne & John Hirsch, Michael & Gwenda Bennett, Charlotte Bess, Joyce & Charley Blattner, Lewis Bock, Carolyn Bock, Ed & Sue Burford, Jacklyn Clark-Otto, John & Bekki Cook, Carole Cozean, Ann Crites, Lulu Defelice, Margie & Keith Deimund, Noel "Riki" Erlbacher, Ronald & Edna Ruth Fischer, Gary & Barbara Gholson, Richard & Gail Giles, Joan Gohn, John & Jerre Hall, Fern & Wilma Harris, Richard & Kathleen Hartmann, John & Judy Jones, Marlana Jones, Lawrence & Alison Kasten, James & Georgene Kremer, Ken & Sharon Mueller, Ruth Needle, Charlotte Nenner, Bob & Ann Parkinson, Paul & Ruth Pautler, Joyce Rayfield, Neva Kay Ross, Ron & Phyllis Seabaugh, Betty Sewell, Charles & Mary Ellen Sharp, William & Charlotte Slinkard, Martha Stickler, Jerry Stone, Evelyn Stover, Bill & Georganne Syler, Susan Teichman, Irene Thomas, Charles & Suzanne Vaughn, Donna Wallace, James Waltz, Judith Wilferth, David Otto, Sarah Barks, Don & Betty Vogel, Alice & Paul Kabo

**Mary P Harrison**, from Anne Brinkopf, Fern & Wilma Harris, Thomas & Linda Schild, Joann Stevenson, Sally & James Laurentius, June Owen, Lilly Heyde Yount II, Richard Adams, Gary & Judy Johnson, Shirley Sharkey, Sarah Barks

**First Presbyterian Church  
Statement of Financial Position  
June 30, 2017**

**Current Assets**

Bank of MO Checking	\$55,378.51
US Bank Payroll Acct	485.00
Money Market-Reserve Fund	<u>32,562.02</u>
Total Checking/Savings	88,425.53

**Other Assets**

Cash Value Life Insurance	\$67,011.25
Reserve Fund-Investments	160,460.07
Endowment-Unrestricted Gen.	352,801.63
Endowment-Restricted Gen	284,110.38
Endowment-L. Sewell	<u>141,072.81</u>

Total Current Assets 1,093,881.67

Student Loan Receivable 27,400.00

**Total Assets \$1,121,281.67**

**YTD Income & Expenses**

Income	97,612.33
Expenses	<u>87,716.95</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b><u>\$9,895.38</u></b>

For any questions about this report, please call Charles Wiles, 573-225-5277, Treasure

**SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Stated Meeting of the Session July 25, 2017

1. Remembered with gratitude Marlena Pind, a member of this church since 1988, who died July 22, 2017, and Mary Potashnick Harrison, a member of this church since 194, who died today.
2. Approved transfer of membership for Deborah N. Oliver to LaCroix Church in Cape Girardeau. With the two deaths and this membership transfer, our Active Member Roll is now 147.
3. Approved request for nonmembers' use of the church parking lot at Lorimier and Themis on Saturday, August 5, 2017, for guests attending a 5:30 p.m. wedding at the Courthouse Park Gazebo. They will be advised to make a tasteful reserved sign to post at the lot, and it will be suggested in lieu of a fee, they might make a donation to the church.
4. Approved proposal from RustMedia for a fee of \$4,750 to develop a website business/marketing strategy for our church and redesign, upgrade, further develop our church website. Also approved a \$450 monthly fee for RustMedia to provide website hosting and consultation services to train church staff in maintaining the site, for whatever period of time these services are needed.
5. Rev. Epling explained his plans for a fall 5-week sermon series on fruitful congregations that will be related to an adult Sunday School class to begin Sept. 17. The class will be based on the book "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations."
6. Approved holding only one Christmas Eve service at the regular 10:30 a.m. time for worship since Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, and many families celebrate Christmas that evening.
7. Charles Wiles reported that the Pastor Nominating Committee is meeting twice a week to continue searching for a pastor and to have follow-up communication with good prospects.
8. The Treasurer has transferred to the church's Money Market account the \$30,348 from the church's Endowment Fund investments as authorized earlier by the Endowment Committee. Also transferred to the Money Market account is \$10,000 from Reserve Fund Investments (interest earned from investing money made by selling the Activity Building). The \$10,000 must be spent for mission projects, but the Endowment Fund amount may be used for any church expenditure the Session authorizes.



Pictured above are participants with art work they created during the Women United paint party held in our Fellowship Hall, July 16.

## AUGUST PRAYER CALENDAR

The Session hopes you will use this 'Prayer Calendar' as we daily pray for each other and some of the mission concerns of our church.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Presbytery of St. Andrew
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Merry Gay Lorberg, Marcia Williamson (birthday)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Lea & Harvey Hecht (anniversary)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Asia & Pacific
- 6<sup>th</sup> Nelson Kasten (birthday)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Linda Harper (birthday) John & Bekki Cook (anniversary)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Pakistan
- 9<sup>th</sup> India
- 10<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh
- 11<sup>th</sup> Fern Harris (birthday)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Shirley Sullivan, Missy Smith (birthday)
- 13<sup>th</sup> Sri Lanka
- 14<sup>th</sup> Tom Mueller, (birthday)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Harvey Hecht, Maybry Shaver (birthday)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Donna Parkinson (birthday) Dr. Raymond & Ann Ritter (anniversary)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Cherie Herbst, Melissa Harris, Dusti Miller (birthday)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Sam Bishop (birthday)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Indonesia
- 20<sup>th</sup> Judith Wiles (birthday)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Juanita Wyant (birthday)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> South Korea
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Janna Tuck, (birthday)
- 24<sup>th</sup> China
- 25<sup>th</sup> Charles & Judy Wiles (anniversary)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Ruth Jean Lange (birthday)
- 27<sup>th</sup> Japan
- 28<sup>th</sup> Taiwan
- 29<sup>th</sup> Philippines
- 30<sup>th</sup> Sue McNeely (birthday)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Charles Hirsch, Lauren Bishop, Ruth Pautler (birthday)

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

Lord, you know everything; you know that we love you! Help us to take care of your sheep. Help us to follow you to new places. Give us love for the lost and lonely. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# August 2017

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
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