



# FIRST FACTS



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



It's official, we are in full summer mode now. As we welcome July with its dry sunshine and heat, the church enters a new season as well. At our session meeting last week we reflected on the life of the church. Things are slower now but everyone knows that the program year will be here soon and we want to be ready with meaningful worship, faith-enriching small groups, joyful community-building gatherings, and wider-reaching service.

One of the ways we're striving toward that goal is through the formation of a Mission "Dream Team." We're inviting a group of mission-minded members to gather to develop a mission strategy for the future of the church. We are blessed with resources to make a difference in our community and beyond. This group, which hasn't met yet, will commit to using our gifts wisely and creatively to advance Christ's mission. Please pray for their discernment and encourage them with your ideas.

This month we'll participate in a community Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church. The cooperative effort will bring together children Preschool age through Sixth Grade to learn, pray, and play together. Funds will be raised for Hope Children's Home. Pray that VBS will lead to new opportunities for the people of God to work together for common service in Jesus's name.

My family will be on vacation the first two weeks of July. We are going to New Hampshire and Maine for some adventure and rest. While I'm away Debra Tracy will fill the pulpit on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Many of you know Deb, a member of Westminster Church, and the former pastor of the church in Poplar Bluff. Deb is currently engaged in Clinical Pastoral Education through Care and Counseling. She brings many gifts for ministry and I'm sure will be a blessing in worship.

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Miriam Foltz will fill the pulpit again. Miriam is the Presbyterian Campus Minister at UKirk-St. Louis. She is a popular preacher and gifted musician. Although the colleges are officially in recess for the summer, Miriam's ministry continues among local students, who meet weekly at UKirk. Miriam enjoys the blessings and the challenges of a congregation that changes quickly. Here is how she describes it:

"A student reflected recently, "There really are a variety of UKirks!" There is technically only one UKirk - St. Louis, but the make-up of our community changes throughout the year. As UKirk sends off many of our school-year members to their respective summer adventures, UKirk welcomes back students returning home to St. Louis. During the summer, as Pastor Miriam plans and prepares for the upcoming school year, UKirk continues to meet - engaging SLU & WashU students remaining in town and also welcoming students back home from college. Over dinner, through worship, at game nights, and more, students relate in a myriad of ways. Stories from the school year are shared, summer jobs and travel adventures are described, and students connect to one another through prayer, through laughter, and mutual love of Swedish fish."

Thanks be to God for summer! I hope this season is a blessing to you.

Faithfully,

Pastor Terry

## Sunday School

**NURSERY:** Our nursery is open from 9 a.m. on Sunday morning through our worship service, for children birth through kindergarten. Children will be escorted upstairs from the nursery to the worship service for the “Kids” Message and then will return to the nursery. In the nursery they may participate in a brief Sunday School lesson and activity. Children are welcome to join their parents for the worship service at any time. **Parents come to the nursery after worship to pick up their children.**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL:** No Sunday School for the summer



This year we are going to be part of a community Vacation Bible School. First Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau has invited us, along with several other churches (St. James AME, Abbey Road Christian, and Christ Episcopal) to come together for VBS. The theme is **MAKER FUN FACTORY - CREATED BY GOD - BUILT FOR A PURPOSE.** It will be at First Baptist Church (1289 Lexington Ave). Monday, July 17 - Thursday, July 20 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., for PreSchool through 6th grade. Funds will be raised for Hope Children’s Home. We are looking for volunteers. Please contact Melissa Harris at 573-579-4977.



### Please Remember

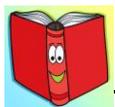
As the Spring Cleaning bug hits you and you’re in the mood to do some cleaning out, don’t forget our Rummage Sale this fall.

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.



### SECOND TUESDAY AT THE CHATEAU

Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet for lunch and fellowship on Tuesday, July 11, 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, July 13, 2017 at the home of Ruth Needle. The book under discussion is “I’ve Got Sand in All the Wrong Places” by Lisa Scottoline and Francesca Serritella.

In August, we will meet at the home of Sandy Wilhelm with the book being “The Glass Castle” by Jeannette Walls.

All are welcome, and the reading of the book is optional.



### Help Support UKirk

July 9<sup>th</sup> our pulpit supply will be the Rev. Miriam Foltz, the Campus Minister at UKirk-St. Louis. Miriam’s ministry is funded by donations from Presbyterians willing to contribute to ensure that university students receive pastoral care, service, worship, and learning opportunities to complement their academic studies. If you would like to assist this ministry, please write a check to “UKirk-St. Louis” and put it in the offering place on July 2 or 9.

### July Meal-a-Month

Box of ready to eat cereal or instant Oatmeal  
Box of raisins-children would love individual boxes  
Can of pineapple (juice packed)



### Camp Lewellen 2017

Boy Scout Troop 4 took 8 scouts and 2 adults to Lewellen this year. We also had 3 older boys working at 3 different camps, which will make a total of 11 boys at summer camp.

Tunes at Twilight was very successful, and we cleared \$1900 this spring. It will sure help pay on the utility bills at the activity center.

### Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Report

Our Ministry Information Form went online at PCUSA, Church Leadership Connection (CLC) on May 23, 2017. We received 29 responses from pastors who the computer matched to our needs and requests. After reviewing all 29, your PNC has selected seven pastor information forms (PIFs) to further investigate. We plan to interview each via a phone call by the end of June. Four of your PNC members will travel to St Louis, Washington University campus, on July 7, to a "Big Tent face to face" opportunity to interview pastors who are actively seeking a position. We will screen those attending (examine their PIFs) prior to interviewing as we attempt to discern who God has chosen for our church.

We are asking for your prayers and support as we continue in our quest. We ask you, also, to provide us with names of those you know and admire who may provide a contact for additional individuals who may become our pastor. Word of mouth (or networking in business jargon) may be the best way for us to find the one who God has chosen for our church. Without your help, we are limited in our search. We want all the members of FPC Cape Girardeau to be aware of your PNC's work, as well as, ask for your prayerful participation.

### SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session June 27, 2017

1. Moderator Rev. Epling led the Session through an educational activity about involving more of the congregation as well as the community in the life of this church and about shaping/reshaping our church's image in the community.
2. Approved donation of \$200 toward the expenses of a community Vacation Bible School in which our youth are participating at First Baptist Church July 17-20.
3. Approved a request from United Way's " Women UNITED " for use of our church Fellowship Hall for an event Sunday afternoon, July 16, 2017.
4. Approved cost of Medicare supplement and prescription plans for the church secretary effective August 1, 2017, to be a monthly budget savings of \$571.69 from her current medical coverage.
5. Approved awarding ServiceMaster Commercial Solutions the contract for cleaning our church at a cost of \$1,300 a month or \$15,600 a year. That bid was \$10,000 -\$15,000 lower than the other two bids submitted. The contract is for twice a week cleaning (Tuesday and Friday) during church office hours. If emergency cleaning needs arise, extra cleaning can be arranged. Hiring a cleaning service instead of an employee will be about a \$10,000 annual budget savings.
6. Approved scheduling a performance by the Teen Challenge Choir in July or August as a church-sponsored event for the community combined with an ice cream social.
7. Received from the Treasurer a very positive report on church finances and investments. Wells Fargo Investments are presently at \$964,422. There was more than a \$50,000 increase from April 30 to May 31. Regarding the church budget, YTD income is \$87,313.29, and expenses total \$73,241.97 for a net income of \$14,071.32. He also reported pledged income, nonpledged income and per capita donations are up from budgeted amounts.



### Memorials

A Memorial has been received in memory of:

**Rick Renfrow**, from Madge Ridings, James & Beverly Hirsch, Mary P Harrison,

**Robert Williams**, from Robert Phalen,

**Jack Lamkin**, from Alice & Paul Kabo, James & Beverly Hirsch

## JULY 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 Missouri River Valley
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Brown (birthday)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Judy Wagoner, Caroline Manuel (birthday)
- 4<sup>th</sup> The Presbytery of Northern Waters
- 5<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Prospect Hill
- 6<sup>th</sup> Jerry & Marlena Pind (anniversary); John Hirsch (birthday)
- 7<sup>th</sup> The Presbytery of South Dakota
- 8<sup>th</sup> The Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
- 9<sup>th</sup> The Presbytery of Winnebago
- 10<sup>th</sup> Synod of Lincoln Trails
- 11<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Blackhawk
- 12<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of the Northern Plains
- 13<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Chicago
- 14<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Great Rivers
- 15<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of North Central Iowa
- 16<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Ohio Valley
- 17<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
- 18<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Wabash Valley
- 19<sup>th</sup> Midwest Hanmi Presbytery
- 20<sup>th</sup> The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley
- 21<sup>st</sup> Bob Parkinson (birthday)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Wyn Hirsch Ward (birthday)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Randy & Karen Flowers (anniversary)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Don Fadler (birthday)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of the Mid-South
- 26<sup>th</sup> Mid-Kentucky Presbytery
- 27<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
- 28<sup>th</sup> Dr. Ray Ritter, Jr. (birthday)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Mississippi
- 30<sup>th</sup> Dr. Mike & Kathy Brown (anniversary)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Presbytery of South Alabama

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

O God, you created all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

# July 2017

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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