



# FIRST FACTS



A monthly publication of **First Presbyterian Church** · Cape Girardeau, Missouri · June 2016

To the Faithful Followers of Christ,

This is the last time I will be blessed to write the Pastor's Page to you. I am sure Rebecca and I will share our greetings and best wishes to you with notes and an occasional letter about our adventure into the Land of Retirement. But those notes and letters will no longer be as your pastor, just as a brother and sister in Christ.

Planning for my retirement also includes planning to 'pass the baton' of pastoral and ecclesiastical duties. The recent visit by the Stated Clerk of our Presbytery, the Rev. Terry Epling and Commissioned Ruling Elder Debra Ann Tracy outlined to our Session the next important steps in the process for the congregation. The Session agreed that regular communication to the entire congregation was a high priority. Although the specific format was not decided upon, monthly updates in the First Facts, articles in the weekly bulletins and Moments for Mission during worship were discussed. The Presbytery has designated the Rev. Grant Gillard will be the moderator of Session until such time that an interim pastor is selected. The questions asked by the members of Session were excellent and the answers provided by the Rev. Epling and CRE Deb Tracy were very informative. Committees of the Session are focused upon their ministries from visitation of the home bound and sick, to the ministry of Christian Education and Mission as well as all the other important ministries. The administrative portion of the congregation is in excellent condition to carry on the important presence of Jesus Christ to our church members and community.

The Christian Outreach Committee, chaired by Ruling Elders Nancy Bray and Jeanne Hirsch, has stepped forward with a commitment to begin a new and critically important ministry. The Committee will be forming a Prayer Team. This new Prayer Team will meet periodically and communicate with whatever means available to pray for those who request prayer as well as the entire church's ministry during this time of pastoral transition. I truly appreciate the sincerity in which this idea was germinated within their committee. Apparently several years ago a prayer list, primarily for the sick, was composed on Monday morning and was sent out to members of the prayer team. This new Prayer Team will expand its ministry to include much more. I am sure that Nancy and/or Jeanne would welcome your call if you are interested in finding out more about this new and expanded ministry. I guarantee you that the effort and faith put into a ministry will reap huge spiritual benefits in the weeks, months and years ahead.

One item I encourage each member to pray for is your new pastor. God has already put His Hand on your new pastor. In the next few months, your discernment process will be to determine who that chosen one is. I will join you in those prayers as my pastoral duties with you conclude at the end of June. "God is Good, All the Time; All the Time, God is Good!" This responsive affirmation has echoed through the halls of every General Assembly of our denomination. It becomes a spiritual reminder that God is with us through every transition of life.

In thinking of God's presence, I went to "Church" today. That may sound funny for a pastor to say. Of course, I went "to" our church this morning. But this afternoon, I represented our congregation at the funeral of Andre Dolpin. He was the seventeen year old shot and killed less than 100 yards from our church on Lorimier Street. On Sunday, May 22, after worship several of our congregation and our bus passengers went up Lorimier to pray with his family, present our sanctuary flowers, and give a condolence card containing a small and impromptu offering. The family was sincerely moved. Today, May 26, the funeral took place at the Green Memorial Church of God in Christ located on Clayton Street in Sikeston. It was there where "I really went to CHURCH!" Their worship liturgy and style was much different from ours but one thing was perfectly clear, God's Holy Spirit was there to minister to every single person present. I met Andre's mom, step-father, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts and uncles, friends and former Sunday School teachers. Andre knew and loved God and even though his life was much too short, it was filled with the love of God, his family and friends. Andre's Uncle Walter Scott is an Elder in the Church and assisted in the service which was led by Bishop Green. There was loud singing, standing, raising of our hands unto God, long prayers and it was punctuated with the unshakable reminder that God Loves Us FOREVER! I tried to be a good Presbyterian and sat in the last pew next to a few people from Cape. But, I must admit, I found myself moved by the Spirit and shared in affirming the Love of God for all people. I departed knowing that Andre was in the very presence of God as his family and friends gathered for his funeral.

I am convinced that healthy and growing congregations are ones that are involved and committed to their communities. The outpouring of your love and compassion to the family of Andre Dolpin expressed visibly to me and our community of your commitment to being such a church. As I prepare to depart as your pastor, God will do even greater things through you in the future. I consider it to be a great honor to have been your pastor these past three years. May God continue to grow in your hearts and minds as you continue to minister in the Name that is above every name, Jesus Christ.

In the Grace and Peace of Christ,

Pastor Kim



## Adult and Youth 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:** Both Children’s Sunday School Classes will begin their new studies on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. They will continue to meet after the Kid’s Message in worship. The Lower Grade’s Class will meet in their classroom next to the Nursery, Kathy Woodfin and Cherie Herbst will be teaching this class. The curriculum will focus on “The Stories of the Old Testament” based on the *Read and Learn Bible*. The Upper Grade’s Class will meet in their classroom on the second floor. Their curriculum will focus on “The 12 names of Jesus”. This class will be team taught by Kathy Brown, Melissa Harris, Sandy Wilhelm, and Julie Harrison.

**Sunday School-9:30a.m.  
Sunday Service of Worship- 10:30a.m.**

### Treasurer’s Report As of April 30, 2016

**General Fund**

Year to Date Income	\$59,860
Year to Date Expenses	80,971
Expenses Greater than Income	21,111



### FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

Flowers for worship may be shared to celebrate your anniversary, someone’s birthday, or in memory of a loved one or friend. They can also just say “Thanks, God!” Please call the church office (335-2579) to sign up for flowers.

The flowers on May 8 are from Wayne Stickler in honor of his parents, Martha and Bill Stickler, and for all the mothers in the congregation on Mother’s Day.

The flowers on May 29 are in memory of Mr. & Mrs. R.E.L. Lamkin, Jr. from their children and grandchildren.

### Worship Attendance

<b>May 1</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>May 8</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>May 22</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>May 29</b>	



Maybry Shaver performed as one of the orphan girls in “Annie, Jr” at The Venue in May.



### June Meal-a-Month

- Package of pancake mix (add water only)
- Bottle of pancake syrup
- 2 Can of Fruit of Choice



### Daytime Circle

Although the Daytime Circle formally ended at the May meeting, the ladies in attendance expressed a desire to continue to meet for lunch and fellowship. Since we are accustomed to meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, our first "Fellowship Luncheon" will be on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 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.

### Memorials

Memorials have been received in memory of:

**Don McNeely**, from Martha Stickler

**Becky Parkinson**, from Sharon Metcalfe, Shirley & Don Gibson

### In Honor of

**Don Gibson**, from Karen Hendrickson



**The Book Club** will meet on Thursday, June 9 at 7:00pm at the home of Sandy Wilhelm. We will discuss the book ***Enemy Women*** by Paulette Jiles. For July we will meet on Thursday 14 at 7:00 pm at the home of Jean Cairns. The book for discussion is ***The Elephant Company*** by Vicki Croke.



Please Stay in Touch with Church Office The members of our church's Christian Outreach Committee of the Session are always on call to help meet your pastoral care needs, but your help is essential for us to do that especially after Pastor Kim retires and while we are without a pastor on staff.

If you or a family member is dealing with an illness, injury, hospitalization or a family crisis such as a death, please call the Church office at 335-2579 to let us know. Also, please tell us if you want a pastoral visit, prayers, support in any way. Our Committee and Church staff won't know unless you help us know that we need to send a pastor or church members to visit, to offer prayer support, bring meals or provide transportation. There will always be an area pastor on call for us.

Also, help keep us informed about other church members or regular visitors who may have special pastoral care needs if you are not violating a confidentiality. When you call the Church staff, then our Committee chairpersons will be contacted to begin the process of providing the assistance needed.

Our Christian Outreach Committee includes the following church members: Nancy Bray and Jeanne Hirsch, co-chairs; Jean Cairns, Melissa Harris, Sharon McCune, Ann Parkinson, Bob Parkinson, Ruth Pautler, Neva Kay Ross, Kitty Rueseler, Vonda Slinkard, Evelyn Stover, Sandy Wilhelm, Kathy Woodfin.

## Stated Meeting of the Session May 22, 2016

The Session met with Rev. Terry Epling, Stated Clerk of Presbytery, Rev. Grant Gillard, pastor of Jackson First Presbyterian and who will serve as Moderator of the Session, and Debra Tracy, member of the Presbytery Transition Team., regarding the process toward calling a new pastor.

Approved requests from Dale Watkins to resign from the Session and from Dale and Sue Watkins to be removed from the church rolls. Also approved a request from Amanda and Jesse Frederick Geske to be removed from the church rolls.

Approved a request from non church members, for a Gazebo wedding, using the church as a dressing area and the sanctuary to be used in case of inclement weather, on October 15, 2016.

Heard a report that the \$5,000.00 down payment on the Activities Building has been received and the contract for sale has been signed.

Appointed John Folwell as acting chair of the Property Committee.

Approved a letter to be sent to persons currently on the Active Rolls of the church but who have not attended or supported the church for over two years, asking if they wished to remain on the Active Rolls.

Approved a request from the Semo Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA) to use our east lawn for a living camp from September 28th to October 4th.



The Mission Committee and the Safe house need your help! Mission would like to help the Safe House with supplies for the summer. They have a great need for cleaning supplies, office copy paper and manila envelopes to help process their clients. We will be collecting supplies until the July Fourth holiday. Here's a list of cleaning products they would love to have: disinfectant wipes and sprays, hand soap, all-purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, dish liquid and dishwasher soap and laundry detergent.



### UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The Christian Education committee would like to invite you to join us for vacation Bible school Sunday, June 26 through Wednesday, June 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We are joining with Christ Episcopal Church and will be meeting at our church. We have chosen a Bible school curriculum that has a focus on a mission. This year's curriculum will be "Under Construction: A Habitat for Humanity VBS". "Under Construction" uses a construction theme to create an environment which provide children the opportunity to participate in Christian community, teaches the value of Christian service and introduces children to the Ministry of Habitat for Humanity International. There will be opportunities for children ages four through high school to participate. We look forward to having all of our church family join us for the fun and we encourage you to invite a friend. Don't forget to invite your grandkids too!

## JUNE 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> Mozambique
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Hargrove (birthday)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jerry Pind (birthday)
- 4<sup>th</sup> South Africa
- 5<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Covenant
- 6<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Cincinnati
- 7<sup>th</sup> Scott & Julie Harrison (anniversary)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Detroit
- 9<sup>th</sup> Eastminster Presbytery
- 10<sup>th</sup> Dr. Ed & Sue Burford (anniversary):  
Sandy Wilhelm (birthday)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Jack Lamkin (birthday)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Mackinac
- 13<sup>th</sup> Maumee Valley Presbytery
- 14<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Lake Michigan
- 15<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of the Miami Valley
- 16<sup>th</sup> Jim & Beverly Hirsch (anniversary)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Scioto Valley
- 18<sup>th</sup> Mary Beth Ross (birthday)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Ashley VanGorkam (birthday)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Synod of Lakes and Prairies
- 21<sup>st</sup> Charles & Jane Hirsch (anniversary)  
Julie Harrison (birthday)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Horton & Carol Miler, (anniversary)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Presbytery of Central Nebraska
- 24<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of Des Moines
- 25<sup>th</sup> Presbytery of East Iowa
- 26<sup>th</sup> Bill & Georganne Syler (anniversary)
- 27<sup>th</sup> John Knox Presbytery
- 28<sup>th</sup> Betty Dunklin (birthday)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Pete Hirschburg (birthday)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Sam & Lisa Bishop (anniversary)

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

God of all creation, teach us to protect and preserve; teach us to love our neighbors as ourselves; teach us humility before all you have created. Teach us to treat our food and the land from which it comes with reverence. In the name of Jesus, who is the true bread of life. Amen.

# June 2016

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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