



FIRST FACTS



A monthly publication of **First Presbyterian Church** · Cape Girardeau, Missouri · January 2018

Dear Friends,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Here's to new beginnings!

I am grateful to God and to all of you for the wonderful new beginning that I have experienced so far in Cape and at First Presbyterian. You have been so warm and welcoming, and I appreciate all your kind words, cards, hugs, lunch invitations, goodies, prayers, and offers of help. I also want to thank the Session for the gift card to Schnuck's; it will help me stock my refrigerator and pantry!



I have already hit the ground running with meetings of the Executive/Personnel Committee and Session, the Ministerial Association, and several visits – with communion – to some of our homebound members. It has been an honor and a joy. I look forward to becoming better acquainted with all of you and I'd be glad to meet for coffee or lunch, a visit in your home or at the church.

I have learned already that you are very mission-minded and eager to find more ways to serve your church and community. I encourage participation from everyone, as you are able. Whether you are homebound, or limited in time, energy, or ability, you can participate with your prayers for the church – and that is NOT a small thing! Additionally, the Session and I will be taking another look at the committee structure to adequately cover all that needs to be accomplished and allow for greater involvement of our membership.

Finally, I know that everyone wants to see their church grow and thrive. Of course, I do, too! I hope that we can draw people IN for worship and other events and activities. But even more important than that is to inspire and equip disciples to go OUT – to serve God and share the love and peace of Christ in the world.

Let's join in ministry together, with the acknowledgment that this is GOD'S CHURCH, not our own. Let us strive to listen for God's leading and to grow God's kingdom – not only here at First Presbyterian – but wherever God would have us go.

Grace and peace,
Ellen



2018 Mobile Food Pantry Dates

The donation of \$9,000 our church has made to the SEMO Food Bank for 2017-18 provides for 12 mobile food pantry appearances at the Cape Girardeau Public Schools, and four took place this fall. The dates and school locations coming up are as follows, but some times of day are still to be determined.

Friday, January 12, Alma Schrader Elementary

Thursday, February 1, Blanchard Elementary, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 15, Central Middle School and Central High School

Saturday, April 21, Jefferson School, 6:30-10:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 21, Jefferson School, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

To be determined: Clippard Elementary and Central Junior High School

If you are interested in helping hand out food products at any of the pantries, contact Donna Pikey who is coordinating our church volunteers. Her home phone number is 335-8908.

Congregational Meeting



The Session has approved the date for our church's Annual Congregational Meeting as January 28, 2018. Following the meeting, a dinner will be held in the Fellowship Hall. That dinner will take the place of Gather, Share and Eat which is usually the second Sunday of the month. During dinner, members will have an opportunity to ask questions and further discuss the Annual Report and the Congregational Meeting highlights.

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session December 17, 2017

1. Session approved January 28, 2018, as the date for the Annual Congregational Meeting. A dinner in the Fellowship Hall will follow. Deadline for submitting copy for the printed Annual Report will be January 12.
2. Tentative dates discussed for Reverend Gurnon's installation are January 14 or February 11. The final date will be worked out between Reverend Gurnon and the Presbytery Moderator.
3. Session received the Pastor's Report on 7 Visits/Calls, 6 Meetings and 5 Home Communion Services between December 5 and 19.
4. Session approved an annual Family Dental Plan for the Pastor.
5. Approved the purchase of Schnucks gift cards (\$75 each) for Christmas gifts for church staff members.
6. Treasurer Wiles reported on the Stewardship Campaign. A total of \$ 129,076 has been pledged so far by 35 pledging units. A letter will be prepared by the Treasurer and Pastor to be sent to the congregation as a reminder about the need to turn in pledges so the 2018 Budget can be finalized. He also reported to date the church's Total Assets are \$1,114,295.21.





Our new Pastor, Rev. Ellen Gurnon's new address is 2620 Maria Louise Lane, Cape Girardeau, Mo 63701. Her cell phone is 417-234-4199.



January Meal-a-Month

- 2 Boxes Macaroni & Cheese Mix
- 1 Can of Evaporated Milk
- 1 Can of fruit of choice
- 1 Can Peaches



Memorials

A Memorial has been received in memory of:
Mary P Harrison, from Lisa A. Smith



Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet in the Chateau dining room at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 for lunch and fellowship. We will order off the menu with each person being responsible for their own lunch. Please call Sharon Metcalfe at 651 - 5274 or Ruth Needle at 334 - 4515 if you would like to attend so that arrangements can be made for a table to accommodate all of us. All are welcome.



Church Safety and Security Training

On Saturday, January 13, at First Baptist Church in Cape, a training course will be offered on Church Safety and Security by Sergeant Clark Parrott of the MO State Highway Patrol. It will begin at 10 a.m. and last about 90 minutes or less. Members of our church are invited to attend, and several Elders and Reverend Gurnon plan to do so. If you are interested, please call our church office (335-2579) by January 6 to sign up.

Churches today are facing the challenge of protecting people and property without sacrificing hospitality. Our Session at First Presbyterian is committed to providing a welcoming church but also the safest possible place in which to work and worship.



Heifer International—Our goal for 2017 was to raise enough money to purchase a heifer-\$500. Our birthday gifts totaled \$623.60, meeting our heifer goal with enough left over to also purchase a goat (\$120) and change (\$3.60). Let's look forward in 2018 to another great year for Heifer International.



The next meeting of the Book Club will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at the home of Jeanne Hirsch, 2808 Gordonville Road. The January book is "Paris Architect" by Charles Belfoure. All are welcome and the reading of the book is optional.



POINSETTIAS HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY

IN MEMORY OF

Mr & Mrs A.P. Rueseler (her parents), from Ruth Knote

Charles Knote (husband) & Barbara Knote Head (daughter), from Ruth Knote

Charles, Sam & Mark Hopkins, from Dixie Hopkins

Austin & Martha Cairns, (her parents) from Jean Cairns

Mary Lou and Paul Bray, from their daughter, Nancy Bray

John L Ritter, M.D. (son), from Ann Ritter

Our Parents, Harry & Wanda Hecht, Byrl & Clelda Jarrett, from Harvey & Lea Hecht

Our parents, from Don & Shirley Gibson

Tom Phillips, from Willie Phillips

Jeanne Beaty, (her mother), Dorothy Scott, (his mother), from Sam, Lisa & Lauren Bishop

William Stover, from Evelyn & Family

David O. & Esther Benstson & Robert & Rogene Stroup, from Dave & Stephanie Bengtson

Betty Whitelaw Turner & Bruce Turner and parents Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Whitelaw

Lou Sewell, from Betty Sewell

Fred (father), Marcella, (mother), and Dwayne Henry (brother), from Daryl Henry

Janet (wife), from Leland Shivelbine

Gerald McDougall, from Karen McDougall

Bill Miller (who loved Xmas & this church), from Jean Miller

My parents O'Quinn, from Brucee Woods

Our parents (Peter & Ronnie Hirschburg, Mike & Alice Michael), from Peter & Peggy Hirschburg

IN HONOR OF

Sarah and Gregg Hopkins, from Dixie Hopkins

Our families, from Paul & Ruth Pautler

My Family, from Brucee Woods

Dr. Ray & Ann Ritter, from Judith Farris

Raymond Ritter (husband), R August Ritter, & Brian W Ritter (Sons), from Ann Ritter

Lauren Syler Weedon's Birthday (Dec. 24), from Bill & Georganne Syler

Ellen Gurnon, from Jean Cairns

Shirley & Don Gibson, from Charles and Judy Wiles

Dr. Georganne Syler, from Chrissy & Kenny Mayberry

The Herbst/Smith Family (Bob, Gigi, Lee, Missy, Emma, Cooper), from Chrissy & Kenny Mayberry

JANUARY 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.

- 1ST Synod of Rocky Mountain
- 2ND Presbytery of Denver
- 3RD Presbytery of Glacier
- 4TH Yellowstone Presbytery
- 5TH Presbytery of Plains and Peaks
- 6TH Presbytery of Pueblo
- 7TH Bill Port (birthday)
- 8TH Presbytery of Western Colorado
- 9TH Georganne Syler (birthday) Oliver & Caroline Manuel (anniversary)
- 10TH The Presbytery of Utah
- 11TH Cherokee Presbytery
- 12TH Synod of South Atlantic
- 13TH Central Florida Presbytery
- 14TH Charleston Atlantic Presbytery
- 15TH Ruth Needle, Lisa Bishop (birthday)
- 16TH Flint River Presbytery
- 17TH Presbytery of Florida
- 18TH Lizbe Knot (birthday)
- 19TH Christian Unity
- 20TH Presbytery of Lake Huron
- 21ST Horton Miller
- 22ND Presbytery of New Harmony
- 23RD Synod of the Living Waters
- 24TH Peace River Presbytery
- 25TH John & Jeanne Hirsch (anniversary)
- 26TH Kate Broeckling (birthday)
- 27TH Savannah Presbytery
- 28TH Presbytery of St. Augustine
- 29TH Presbytery of Tampa Bay
- 30TH Trinity Presbytery
- 31ST The Presbytery of Tropical Florida

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.

January 2018

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
	<i>1</i> Office Closed	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 7:00 pm Choir Practice	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>																																																																																																									
<i>7</i> 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Communion Worship Service	<i>8</i> Office Closed	<i>9</i> 11:00 am 2nd Tuesday at Chateau	<i>10</i> 7:00 pm Book Club	<i>11</i> 7:00 pm Choir Practice	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 10:00 am Church Safety and Security Training																																																																																																									
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