



FIRST FACTS



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

At my installation on February 11 (which, regrettably, many of you could not attend due to ice), my dear friend Rev. Amy Busse wrote and sang a song as the "Charge to the Pastor." I share it here, as it has a wonderful message for all of us.



"The Church, It Is a-Changin'"

(Sung to the tune of *The Times, They Are A-Changin'* by Bob Dylan)

Come, listen dear Ellen,
Heed the words that I sing.
'Cause being a preacher
Is no easy thing.
The people are hungry
For the good news you bring
In this world of sorrows prevailin'.
Sickness still lurking, death still has its sting,
And the church, it is a-changin'.

Remember, my friend,
You'll have to be strong
To stand up to those
Who say some don't belong.
For God welcomes all and the table is long.
The battle for justice still wagin'.
And our sisters and brothers
Keep crying, "How long?"
For a church that is a-changin'.

Don't worry sis,
It's okay to be scared.
When it comes to this life
We are never prepared.
The church that once was is no longer there,
Yet God's future is surely amazin'.
But one thing that's sure
Is God's unfailing care
In a church that is a-changin'.

Come listen, dear Ellen,
It's not all up to you.
For God calls you and God calls us all too.
It's good to know, God's making everything new,
And through love, the world rearrangin'.
It's love that's the answer, it's love that is true,
In the church, God is a-changin'.
In the church, God is a-changin'.

Grace and peace,
Ellen

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session February 20, 2018

1. Session received the Pastor's Report of Activities for 1-16-18 thru' 2-19-18, and they included five visits/calls with members, 15 meetings/events in addition to giving the invocation at City Council Meeting and being elected to the Board of Directors of the Community Counseling Center Foundation.
2. Approved request from a Minnesota church for overnight lodging at our church for 14 adults from 7:00 p.m. Saturday, April 7, 2018, to 6:00 a.m. Sunday, April 8, 2018. No kitchen or shower facilities needed, just access to restrooms and space to spread out their sleeping bags.
3. Approved, as had the Christian Education Committee, a Child Protection Policy for our church prepared by Rev. Gurnon. It is to be included with other policies in our Church Operations Manual.
4. Approved a background check package available for \$31.50 each through our insurance provider to be used with any prospective employee and anyone, present or future, who volunteers to work with children in our church youth activities. Cost will be covered by the church.
5. Discussed necessary revisions to the church's Facility Usage Policy to be in compliance with our church insurance policy and also necessary changes in the form requesting use of the church by any organization, business or individual.
6. Elder Joyce Rayfield was elected our Commissioner to Presbytery in Webster Groves, MO, on Saturday, February 24, 2018. That same day, members Nancy Bray, Dave Bengtson, Mike Brown, Jean Cairns, John Hirsch and Sarah Ross will represent the church at a Safety and Security Training Program offered by the MO Highway Patrol at First Baptist Church in Cape.
7. Treasurer Wiles noted in giving the monthly Financial Report that our Money Market-Reserve Fund Cash now totals \$ 138,240.54 because of the Endowment Fund transfer from investments in the amount of \$ 91,810.02. He also reported the total of Per Capita donations from 22 church families to date is \$ 1,291 toward the total assessment we owe of \$ 4,495. (\$31 for each of our 145 members). Per Capita payments are still being accepted and are much appreciated.
8. Session Members who are to serve as liaisons for the newly reorganized church committees are to begin contacting prospective members and acquainting them with the committee's purpose and asking if they wish to serve. Newly reorganized committees include: Stewardship, Mission and Outreach; Member Care and Fellowship; and Worship & Arts. Committees continuing as they have been functioning include: Executive/Personnel, Property and Christian Education.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP), and Self-Development of People (SDOP) – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received every year during the season of Lent, each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

The offering will be dedicated in worship on Easter Sunday, April 1, or you may mail a check made out to the church with OGHS in the memo.

Our new website is LIVE! Check it out at www.firstpccape.org and let us know what you think.



Friends of Troop 4 Trivia Night

The group from the First Presbyterian Church won first place at the trivia night. Friends of Troop 4 made \$915.25 to go toward the building expenses. It was a fun night.



The next meeting of the Book Club will be at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 14th at the home of Jean Cairns. The March book is "A Spool of Blue Thread" by Anne Tyler. All are welcome and the reading of the book is optional.



Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet for lunch and fellowship on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 11 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 no later than noon on Monday, March 12, 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 Gather, Share & Eat will be a Fish Fry and all the trimmings on March 18th.



March Meal-a-Month

- Can of tuna
- Can of Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Package of Noodles
- Can of fruit



Don't forget Daylight Saving time begins March 11, next Sunday.
Turn Clocks forward 1 hour.



We contributed through the Souper Bowl of Caring **236** cans and **\$639.00** to our local FISH food pantry. Your generosity will help our neighbors who need our support and love. "Thou shall love your neighbor as yourself", Mark 12:31.



CHILDREN'S MISSION PROJECT
Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a Children's Mission Project with our children and families to put together pajama boxes for the children at the Women's Safe House. They are in need of children's pajamas, socks, and underwear. Our committee has already purchased the specific items that they requested and have put together over 30 boxes with a pair of pajamas, socks, underwear, a stuffed animal and a book in each one. You can support our project by paying for one or two of our items for \$5.00 each or you can pay for a whole box for \$25.00. Our children will be collecting money from the community as well as our church members. You can purchase items from any of the children at church or you can send a check made out to First Presbyterian and mark it for "CE Mission Project". All of us are excited about our project to help our kids do something fun for the kids at the Safe House. We would appreciate any support you can give to them.



EASTER LILIES:

Easter Lilies will be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 1st. They may be purchased for \$10.00 each (includes \$1 for Pot cover) in memory or honor of a friend or loved one. The deadline for ordering is Monday, March 26th. Please save pot covers and return to church.

Please complete this form and return it to the church along with your check or cash.

I/We wish to purchase an Easter lily. Please print clearly, so we can get the correct spelling of the names.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

From _____

Enclosed \$ _____ For _____ Lilies

MARCH 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 Gina Thomas
- 2ND Cuba
- 3RD Nicaragua
- 4TH Costa Rica
- 5TH Honduras
- 6TH El Salvador
- 7TH Guatemala
- 8TH Betty Sewell (birthday)
- 9TH Judy Rueseler, Jo Renfrow (birthday)
- 10TH Bryan Harris, Rachel Knapp (birthday)
- 11TH Judy Brown (birthday)
- 12TH Presbytery de Cristo
- 13TH The Presbytery of Grand Canyon
- 14TH Presbytery of Sierra Blanca
- 15TH Presbytery of Sante Fe
- 16TH Judith Farris (birthday)
- 17TH Synod of the Sun
- 18TH Dusti & Tami Miller (anniversary)
- 19TH Cimarron Presbytery
- 20TH Phillip & Joanna Shaver (anniversary)
- 21ST Grace Presbytery
- 22ND Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery
- 23RD Sheri Mitchell (birthday)
Bob & Donna Pikey (anniversary)
- 24TH Ann Bartlett (birthday)
- 25TH Ruby Rice, Ricky Ruditys (birthday)
- 26TH Palo Duro Presbytery
- 27TH Presbytery of the Pines
- 28TH The Presbytery of South Louisiana
- 29TH The Presbytery of Tres Rios
- 30TH Synod of the Trinity
- 31ST Byron & Wyn Ward (anniversary)

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

March 2018

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #ffffcc;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Feb 2018</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #ffffcc;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Apr 2018</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">1</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">2</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">3</p>
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
				1	2	3																																																																																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																																																																																				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																				
25	26	27	28																																																																																							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																																				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																																				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																																				
29	30																																																																																									
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">4</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Communion Worship Service 9:30 am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">5</p> <p>6:30 pm Property Meeting Office Closed</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">6</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">7</p> <p>2:00 pm Executive Meeting</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">8</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">9</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">10</p>																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">11</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">12</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">13</p> <p>11:00 am 2nd Tuesday at Chateau</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">14</p> <p>7:00 pm Book Club</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">15</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">16</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">17</p>																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">18</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Adult Sunday School Gather, Share, & Eat</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">19</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">20</p> <p>6:30 pm Session Meeting</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">21</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">22</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">23</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">24</p>																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">25</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">26</p> <p>Office Closed Lilies orders deadline</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">27</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">28</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">29</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Supper & Service</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">30</p> <p>7:00pm Service with First Baptist Church at First Pres. Good Friday</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">31</p>																																																																																				