



# FIRST FACTS



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

What began as a Session meeting devotion has – by the power of the Holy Spirit – evolved into a project beyond what I ever imagined.



For nearly two years now, the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy have been encouraging congregations to study the book, *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*, by Debby Irving. I found a copy of the book in my office when I moved in, but had not yet opened it. In early May, Nancy Bray and I attended a workshop (mandatory for pastors in this presbytery) titled, *Understanding Systemic Racism*. It was a powerful and eye-opening presentation.

Following my devotion on the subject, the Session decided that we should study the book together. Then someone suggested that the congregation be invited to participate. Another said to open it to the public. Then we thought it would be great to partner with One City. And they agreed!

One City ([onecityunite.org](http://onecityunite.org)) is a new faith-based, not-for-profit organization in downtown Cape with a mission “to create space and opportunities to unite our city through resources, relationships, and community development.” My goal for this book study matches perfectly with the purpose of One City. “We believe in a city where division disappears, people purposely connect and our community builds upon each other’s strengths and resources... We believe we are called to love one another and break through the barriers that separate us. Not only do we need each other, we need to truly know each other to understand the struggles of our neighbors.”

Their facility is an old warehouse located at 610 Independence (NW corner of Independence and Frederick), which will serve as a community center. “The Community Center is a place where we value the life and experiences of each person in our community. A place where we believe unity and collaboration for the betterment will begin.... It is a place where love unites and true change occurs.”

It's hard to love our neighbors when we don't understand them. *Waking Up White* will help us grow in love and understanding for our neighbors AND ourselves, and, I believe, will strengthen us spiritually and relationally as a community, as a church, and as individual disciples of Christ.

**I hope you will join us for this book study, THURSDAYS in August, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. We will meet at the One City Community Center, 610 Independence. Books will be provided and are available in the church office. (It is possible that we will also offer a daytime session – please let us know if you prefer this option.)**

*Seeking the heart of God in the heart of the city.* This statement can be seen in the halls of our church. God is calling us to make it visible outside our walls, too! Please lend your heart and mind to this important outreach.

Grace and peace,  
Ellen

## SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session June 12, 2018

1. Received Lana and Ron Johnson as new members by reaffirmation of faith. She is the Executive Director of Aging Matters, and he is an investigator with the Federal Public Defender's Office.
2. Received Betty Chasteen and Ed Kaiser, Chateau Girardeau residents, by transfer of membership.
3. Rescheduled July Communion from Sunday, July 1 to July 8 when Rev. Gurnon will be back in the pulpit.
4. Rev. Gurnon announced our church and the organization OneCity will co-sponsor a community book study on Thursdays in August at 6:30 p.m. The book to be studied will be "Waking Up White," and the sessions will be held at OneCity's location, 610 Independence. Copies of the book will be made available in our church office in early July.
5. Approved request from RustMedia to use our church parking lot Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018, for a community event they will sponsor.
6. Approved at a cost of \$28,805 a proposal the Session had requested from Bloomfield Rd. Landscape Co. to do the preparatory work for development of a "parkscape" on our east lawn area adjacent to Broadway and Spanish streets. Initial work will include broadstone steps for the west side next to the playground area because of the steep slope into the lawn area, boxwoods, hardwood mulch, seed and straw for all the " disturbed " areas.
7. Approved the purchase of musical playground equipment from Play and Park Structures at a cost of \$14,423 plus \$512.15 in freight in order to create " A Joyful Noise Playground " for children that would be unique to Cape and a downtown attraction. (Note: Both the parkscape and playground are budgeted, but donations will be welcome to help with future expansions of these projects.)
8. The Arts Advisory Subcommittee of Worship & Arts recommends the church become a First Friday Partner of the Arts Council for \$100 in order to be included in their First Friday event advertising so that First Friday events the church plans to sponsor in July, August and possibly Sept. can be well-publicized.



**Communion for July has been rescheduled from Sunday, July 1 to Sunday, July 8,** when Rev. Gurnon will be back in the pulpit. Also during worship on July 8, Lana and Ron Johnson will be received publicly as new members on reaffirmation of faith, and Betty Chasteen and Ed Kaiser will be received S new members on transfer of membership.



### ATTENTION FACEBOOK USERS!

Support our church at NO COST to you but a few minutes of your time.

- 1) Find our page: First Presbyterian Church of Cape Girardeau
- 2) LIKE the page (right under the picture of the church)
- 3) Invite your friends to LIKE our page (right hand column, scroll down to box titled "community")
- 4) Like, comment, and share our posts to spread our message far and wide!

Thanks, FRIENDS!



We are taking a trip to tour the Southeast Missouri Food Bank in Sikeston on July 2. The church van will provide transportation from our church leaving at 1:15 pm, Monday, July 2. The Food Bank is one of our mission projects where we share our time, talents and treasures. All are invited; please let the office know if you are joining us!



**Second Tuesday at the Chateau**

will meet in the Chateau dining room at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 10, 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 by noon on Monday, July 9 if you would like to attend so that arrangements can be made for a table to accommodate all of us. all are welcome.



**Books have been selected for summer reading for the Presbyterian book club.** The book selected for July is “I, Eliza Hamilton” by Susan Holloway Scott and the meeting on July 11 will be at the home of Sharon Metcalfe. For the August 8 meeting at the home of Jean Cairns, we will discuss “In the Midst of Winter” by Isabel Alende. Rounding off the summer on September 12 at the home of Sandy Wilhelm, we will read “Loving Luther” by Alison Pittman. All are welcome and reading of the books is optional.



**JOIN US IN PRAYER**

The Member Care and Fellowship Committee invites you to join our new **prayer chain**, to provide more personal and more immediate spiritual support for members in need.

It works like a telephone tree; one person gets the call and contacts the next person on the list, and so on. Guidelines with more specific instructions will be made available to participants.

If you feel the “call” to become a part of this important ministry, please contact Pastor Ellen or Jeanne Hirsch for more details. Once we have the prayer chain assembled, we will let the congregation know how to access it. Serving you through Christ, The Member Care & Fellowship Committee



**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)



Dr. Bruce Gentry has been our guest pastor while Reverend Ellen is on vacation and study leave in Montreat, NC. June 17, 24, and July 1. Bruce is the director of the Baptist Student Center on the Southeast Missouri State University campus and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Political Science, Philosophy and Religion. Bruce teaches courses in Old and New Testament, Religion in American and World Religions. Dr. Gentry is a graduate of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky with both Master of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. His wife, Rebecca, is the music teacher at Alma Schrader elementary school, and their daughter, Lydia, is a talented violinist who plans to attend Belmont University, Nashville, TN, this fall.



**VBS- Mark your Calendar- July 16-19-6:00 pm-8:00pm-First Baptist Church-1289 Lexington. All VBS Volunteers must complete a background check. See Pastor Ellen for forms to fill out.**



*"I am the resurrection and the life"*

*Leland J. 'Freck' Shivelbine*

*April 18, 1926-June 24, 2018*



The roses in the Sanctuary for worship Sunday, June 3, were from the Memorial Service of Robert O. Hirsch.



*"I am the resurrection and the life"*

*Floyd Fellows*

*October 19, 1929-June 7, 2018*



*"I am the resurrection and the life"*

*Robert Hirsch*

*August 14, 1927-May 26, 2018*



**Memorials**

A Memorial has been received in memory of:

**Ray Ritter**, from Willie Phillips, Jacklyn Clark-Otto, Sarah Holt, Sue Hunt, Margaret & Rickey Lents, Eric & Truly Mount, Judy Rueseler, Evelyn Stover, Narvol & Amy Randol, Judy & Terry Canupp, Martha Ann Smirl, Charles & Judy Wiles, Judy Brown, Seiji & Mary Yoshioka, Daryl Henry, William & Mary Alice Carrell,

**Geraldine Tuck**, from Evelyn Stover, Sarah Holt,

**Robert Hirsch**, from Judy Rueseler, Stephen & Marsha Limbaugh, Winifred Hirsch Ward, Oscar C. Hirsch Foundation, Charles & Jane Hirsch, Ralph & Lavern Hirsch & Family, Daryl Henry,

**Floyd Fellows**, from Robert & Norma Fulton, Barb Lankford, Sarah Barks, Terry & Melissa Hoehn & Family, Beck & Dan & Family, Mildred Renner, Martha Sue Reeder, Bob & Ann Parkinson, Daryl Henry,



**In Honor of**

**Lucy Hirsch**, from Kathi Travaglini, Margaret Brown,

## 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> 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> Bekki Cook (birthday)
- 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> North Alabama Presbytery
- 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 2018

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<b>1</b> 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service	<b>2</b> 1:00 pm Food Bank Tour Office Closed	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Office Closed Holiday	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>																																																																																																		
<b>8</b> 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Communion Worship Service	<b>9</b> Office Closed	<b>10</b> 11:00 am 2nd Tuesday at Chateau	<b>11</b> 2:00 pm Executive Personnel Meeting 7:00 pm Book Club	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>																																																																																																		
<b>15</b> 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service	<b>16</b> Office Closed	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm Session Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>																																																																																																		
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<b>29</b> 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jun 2018</th> <th colspan="7">Aug 2018</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Jun 2018							Aug 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2				1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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