



FIRST FACTS



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THANK YOU NOTES!

Excerpts of a letter from Marjorie (Hirsch) Deimund, on the dedication of the Peace Park:

Dear Ellen and anyone who worked on this labor of love and peace,

This morning's worship service was such a wonderful experience in so many ways. Even though I had teary moments, especially when the Galatians Scripture was read, the service was absolutely beautiful and full of subtle messages of love, service and what brings peace, and full of straightforward calls to Christian outreach. You certainly know how to honor those who have answered those calls. I love that some of them were actually in the room and can know that their devotion to the church and the Lord is acknowledged by their community.

From the delicious, and perfectly presented brunch to the final fling outside in the wonderful park with the music of joyfulness, it was, as my dad liked to say, the "World's Finest." ... I hope you know that our family felt that, too.

There were so many other underlying ministries taking place. Our oldest Grandson, age 22, took the whole service in and we had a long discussion comparing services. He attends a Presbyterian church in Auburn, AL, where he attends college. He is the youth director for the seventh graders in the church and loves the community there... He really enjoyed the music, the message, and the readings... Your musicians that are coming from the River Campus is such a great way to give them experience AND expose them to the love of your community here at First Presbyterian Church.

All and all, thank you for a lovely gesture of kindness toward Mother and Dad. They really loved the church, and this is such a sweet deed for me as their daughter, their grandchildren and great grands to experience. It sends the message that God loves those who are faithful and love Him. After all, what gives us more PEACE than knowing God loves us and has our back.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!!

My love in Christ's mercy, Margie Deimund

From the family of Freck Shivelbine, on the dedication of the Peace Park:

Dear Members of the First Presbyterian Church,

Our family was so touched and pleased by the honor paid to our father, LJ "Freck" Shivelbine by his beloved church. The "Joyful Noise" playground is the perfect memorial for Dad. While peace and prayerfulness are important, those of you who knew Freck would more closely associate him with a "joyful noise."

We especially want to thank those who worked so hard to make the dedication meal and service so wonderful. Your congregation made our family feel very welcome.

Thank you again for your hospitality and for honoring our dad in such a meaningful way.

With love in Christ, The LJ Shivelbine Family

From the Gibson's and Family

One Sunday morning we were seating in church waiting for church to start. Mike Brown and Charles Wiles came in and sat down in the pew in front of us. They turned around and said to us, "We wanted to tell you something before someone else from the session did." We were to be honored in June for the work we have done for the church over the years when they dedicate the Peace Park. We both thought there were others that deserved this more than we did. I called our son in Illinois to tell him and he said, "Mother, we will be there." Both sons were very proud of us for this. Don has been a member of this church for over 70 years and I have for over 50 years. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this honor and we will continue to contribute our time and talent as long as we can.

Sincerely, Don and Shirley Gibson and Family

From the Ritter Family

Dear Ellen, Nancy, and Charlie,

I am so profoundly touched by the honor given to Ray & Me at the dedication and celebration of our wonderful Peace Park: the delicious brunch, the moving church service and the time in viewing the Peace Park. I so appreciate the time and labor you and others gave to this lovely Park and the love you gave to us. First Presbyterian Church has been so loving to my family and to Ray's family. I treasure this church & my church family.

Thanks so very much, with Love, Ann Ritter

From Steven J. Hoffman, on the US Colored Troops Memorial statue:

I am writing to personally thank you again for your support of the United States Colored Troops Memorial statue project in Ivers Square. Your support was critical to the success of the project, and we could not have done it without you.

Thank you again for your support.

Best, Steve

Steven J. Hoffman, Ph.D., Professor, Dept. of History & Anthropology; Coordinator, Historic Preservation Program: Southeast Missouri State University

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session June 24, 2019

1. Received Rev. Gurnon's Report of Activities from May 12 to June 24, 2019. Included were 4 visits/calls to members and 17 church/community/Presbytery meetings and activities that included the funeral service of member Harold Buxton.
2. Communications included notes of gratitude from Margie Hirsch Deimund and the L.J. Shivelbine family for the Peace Park Dedication and recognition of their family members. Also a note was read from Steve Hoffman, coordinator for the University's Historic Preservation Program and an Old Town Cape Board member, thanking our church for its sponsorship support of the Ivers Square statue.
3. Approved Rev. Gurnon's request for vacation days August 1-4 in order for her to officiate at a friend's wedding.
4. It was noted that the weekly E-News being sent out from the church office on Wednesday's is well-received and will cut down on the number of separate emails being sent out. The only exception will be separate emails about the death and funeral arrangements of members.
5. Approved the revised copy of a new brochure about the church that Rev. Gurnon and Donna Pikey have created.
6. Treasurer Wiles reported that as of this Session Meeting on June 24, the church checking account has in it \$40,061.29 although \$15,000 of it is an anonymous gift earmarked for additional Peace Park artwork.
He also noted that since the first of the year, Reserve Fund Investments are up by \$11,000, and presently that fund has in it \$158,647. In addition, the Endowment Unrestricted Fund is up by \$28,000 while the Endowment Restricted Fund is up by \$32,000 as of today. Our Total Assets to date are over \$1,000,000. The Treasurer also pointed out that our Total Income to Date is \$85,263.47, but Total Expenses are \$114,926,90 for a negative cash flow of \$29,663,43 in the 2019 Budget. Following the Treasurer's Report and a discussion about the need for additional equipment (such as swings, slide and/or jungle gym) in the Joyful Noise Playground, the Session voted to authorize the Treasurer to transfer from Reserve Fund Investments on June 30, any amount over \$153,000 (probably about \$6,000) and earmark it for playground equipment.
7. Session approved a gift of \$ 1,000 to be donated to the Chateau Girardeau Foundation in recognition of the Chateau's 40th Anniversary Celebration on July 2, 2019. Note: 22 of our church's 125 members reside at Chateau Girardeau in apartments or houses.
8. Approved a bid of \$ 17,950 from Foeste Masonry for completion of the sealing and tuckpointing needed on the exterior west side of the church and the exterior south and north sides that were not competed last year.



Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet for lunch and fellowship on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 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 no later than Sunday evening, July 7 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 on July 11th meeting at the home of Jean Cairns and the book is "The Transcription" by Kate Atkinson. The book for August 8 is "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens at the home of Jeanne Hirsch. The book for September 12, is "Before We Were Strangers" by Brenda Novak. We will meet at the home of Ruth Needle. All are welcome and the reading of the book is optional.



July Meal-a-Month

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



Pentecost Offering

First Presbyterian Church collected \$697.00 for the Pentecost Offering. Of this amount, 40% or \$278.80 stays here for local mission projects. Well done good and faithful servants



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE MISSION PROJECT

The Christian Education Committee has been working to put together "Pajama Boxes" for the children at The Women's Safe House. This time we collected new summer pajama sets for the children. We put together 44 individual boxes, 21 for girls and 23 for boys. Each box has a new set of summer pajamas, most with two pairs of pants, and a special stuffed animal for them to hug. The Women's Safe House has just moved to their new house location and are pleased to have these new boxes available for the children who come to the house. As we were preparing the boxes, we asked how they had worked in the past and if we needed to make any changes. We were very pleased to hear that the children loved getting new, clean pajamas that they could wear and keep. The stuffed animals were not just fun for the children to get but more importantly they helped the children to feel safe in their new surroundings. Each box also contains a small card with a "smiley face" sticker and the words " Blessings from 1st Presbyterian Church.



Memorials

A Memorial has been received in memory of:
Harold Buxton, from David Addison, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Cross, James & Beverly Hirsch, Nelson Kasten

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.

- 1st Presbytery of Missouri River Valley
- 2nd Mike Brown (birthday)
- 3rd Judy Wagoner, Caroline Manuel (birthday)
- 4th The Presbytery of Northern Waters
- 5th Presbytery of Prospect Hill
- 6th John Hirsch (birthday)
- 7th The Presbytery of South Dakota
- 8th The Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
- 9th The Presbytery of Winnebago
- 10th Synod of Lincoln Trails
- 11th Presbytery of Blackhawk
- 12th Presbytery of the Northern Plains
- 13th Presbytery of Chicago
- 14th Presbytery of Great Rivers
- 15th Presbytery of North Central Iowa
- 16th Presbytery of Ohio Valley
- 17th Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
- 18th Bekki Cook (birthday)
- 19th Midwest Hanmi Presbytery
- 20th The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley
- 21st Bob Parkinson (birthday)
- 22nd Wyn Hirsch Ward (birthday)
- 23rd Presbytery of East Tennessee
- 24th Holston Presbytery
- 25th Presbytery of the Mid-South
- 26th Dave Bengtson (birthday)
- 27th Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
- 28th North Alabama Presbytery
- 29th Presbytery of Mississippi
- 30th Dr. Mike & Kathy Brown (anniversary)
- 31st 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 2019

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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7 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service with Communion	8	9 11:00 am 2nd Tuesday at the Chateau	10	11 7:00 pm Book Club	12 office closed	13																																																																																																									
14 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service	15	16 2:00 pm SMO Meeting	17 2:00pm Exec/Personnel Meeting	18	19 office closed Coding Camp Open House 11:15 am & 3:15 pm	20																																																																																																									
21 10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service	22 6:30 pm Session Meeting	23	24	25	26 office closed	27																																																																																																									
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