



FIRST FACTS

A monthly publication of **First Presbyterian Church** · Cape Girardeau, Missouri · August 2019



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Together, with many generous donations, **we will feed OVER 100 PEOPLE this month** through bag lunches given to the Community Lunch Boxes in the area.

You're probably familiar with the "little libraries" that are now in many towns, filled with books. The idea is to "take a book, leave a book." Now, the trend is to use similar structures, but to fill them with food for the hungry. We now have three Community Lunch Boxes in Cape Girardeau: at The People's Shelter (St. James AME Church), at Old Jefferson School (between Sprigg and Ellis), and at Eden Spa (corner of Spanish and William).

The People's Shelter has been promoting these since the Spring, and they have put sign-up calendars on-line for individuals and organizations to choose a date to fill them with sack lunches. These lunches – filled with non-perishable, single serving foods like peanut butter or cheese crackers, fruit/pudding/jello cups, raisins, Vienna sausages, beanie weenies, tuna and chicken snack kits, chips, cookies, bottled water, plastic utensils, and paper napkins – are available at any time to anyone who is hungry.

In the summer, it is often children who need them, because they're not in school to get a meal. And, of course, our unsheltered friends are also hungry and rarely get a good meal.

Here's a testimony that was shared on Facebook:

"So, around noon today we put out 6 lunches and 6 personal hygiene bags and by this evening it was gone. My little guy wanted to 'make sure there was food in there before bedtime just in case people were hungry before bed.' So, we went back over and stocked the box with more lunches and water and fruit. About 30 minutes later I was looking outside and saw a mom and her son who appeared to be about the same age as Isaiah getting food from the box. I cannot explain the emotions that went through my heart... a little boy in our community the same age as MY CHILDREN will not go to bed hungry tonight. His mama will be able to rest a little easier... All because of what we are doing together."

This is ministry. As empty stomachs are filled, may lonely hearts feel loved.

Well done, good and faithful servants!

Ellen

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session July 22, 2019

1. Met with Shelby Brantley, the daughter of Rev. Ellen Gurnon, and approved her request to become a member of our church by transfer of letter from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Springfield, MO.
2. Received Rev. Gurnon's Report of Activities from June 21 - July 18, 2019. Included were 9 visits/calls to members, home communion served to two members, and 12 church/community/Presbytery meetings and activities and the funeral service of member Ed Kaiser.
3. Received thank you letters from Chateau Girardeau Foundation for the church's gift of \$1,000 in honor of Chateau's 40th Anniversary and from PCUSA's Special Offerings for our church's donation of \$1,675.61 to One Great Hour of Sharing. Also received a certificate of gratitude from Heifer International for our church's monetary gifts to end poverty and hunger and help families throughout the world become self-reliant.
4. Rev. Gurnon reported she has been selected to participate free of charge in a Pastoral Leadership Revitalization Program consisting of retreats and educational activities/ materials beginning this September and continuing through 2021.
5. Approved changing Communion from August 4 to August 11, 2019, since Rev. Gurnon will be out of town the first Sunday in August and Reverend Jeff Long will be our pulpit supply.
6. Treasurer Wiles reported, as approved at the June Session Meeting, the withdrawal of \$7,000 from Reserve Fund Investments at Wells Fargo to deposit into the church's checking account to assist with the purchase of additional playground equipment. He reminded us we will also be paying out of the checking account the \$17,950 approved at the last Session Meeting for necessary Foeste Masonry sealing and tuckpointing work. He noted as our building ages these kinds of maintenance expenses will continue while membership and revenue from pledges are declining. Additional sources of revenue are being explored. He further reported that as of June 30, 2019, our Total Assets were \$1,040,064.36. Income to Date was \$97,680.31 and Expenses were \$132,431.09 for a negative cash flow of \$34,750.78.
7. Elder Ritter reported for the Member Care and Fellowship Committee that personal visits were made to those on our Prayer List.
8. Elder Holt reported for the Stewardship, Mission & Outreach Committee on two new projects in which members will be asked to participate. These will include collecting non-perishable items to fill lunch bags for the People's Shelter Community Lunchbox at St. James AME Church and collecting used women's purses to be filled with feminine hygiene products for the Safe House and for homeless women.



Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet in the Chateau dining room at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 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 NO LATER than Sunday evening, August 11 if you would like to attend so that arrangements can be made for a table to accommodate all of us. All are welcome.



The next meeting of the book club will be on August 8 and the book is “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens. We will meet 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



August Meal-a-Month

Velveeta type cheese food,
Package of macaroni,
Can of fruit of choice.

Please put in the box in the Narthex.



“I am the resurrection and the life”

Edward McKinley Kaiser Sr.

March 23, 1924-July 15, 2019



**PLEASE READ:
IMPORTANT
MESSAGE**

If you are not receiving emails from the church (Wednesday’s e-news, first facts, etc...) Check your spam or junk folder and your security settings. If you still can’t find it please call the office 335-2579



Memorials

A Memorial has been received in memory of:

Harold Buxton, from Daryl Henry.

Ed Kaiser, from Daryl Henry, Lewis Bock, Ruth Needle, Sharon Metcalfe, Paul & Alice Kabo, Ruth Knotte.



Dear Partners in God's Mission,

We give thanks to you for your support of Special Offerings, our collective witness to the love of Jesus Christ. By participating in Special Offerings, your congregation joins other churches to change lives around the world through ministries of compassion, advocacy, development, peacemaking, Christian Formation, education and witness.

On June 10, 2019, we received \$1,675.61 for One Great Hour of Sharing. Your congregation's giving, when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need.

Again, thank you for giving to enable all people to know God's life-giving welcome in Jesus Christ. Please let me know how we can support your efforts.

With gratitude to God for our shared mission.

Bryce Wiebe
Director, Special Offerings and Appeals

Dear Members of the Church,

I am writing to express our deepest thanks for your recent donation to The Chateau Foundation. Generous gifts from donors like you provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission to enhance the enjoyment and well-being of The Chateau residents.

As you know, your donation went straight towards upgrading our sound system. This upgrade was much needed and will benefit all of our residents. I would also like to offer my personal thanks to Reverend Ellen Gurnon and Nancy Bray for their efforts in supporting The Chateau Girardeau's 40th Anniversary. We will always be grateful to the First Presbyterian Church for their support over the last 40 years and hope to continue to grow this relationship.

With sincere appreciation,

Harry Rediger
President, The Chateau Foundation

AUGUST 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 St. Andrew
- 2nd Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
- 3rd Marcia Williamson (birthday)
- 4th Lea & Harvey Hecht (anniversary)
- 5th Asia & Pacific
- 6th Nelson Kasten (birthday)
- 7th John & Bekki Cook (anniversary)
- 8th Pakistan
- 9th India
- 10th Bangladesh
- 11th Asia and the Pacific
- 12th Shirley Sullivan, Missy Smith (birthday)
- 13th Sri Lanka
- 14th Tom Mueller, (birthday)
- 15th Maybry Shaver, Harvey Hecht (birthday)
- 16th Donna Parkinson (birthday)
- 17th Cherie Herbst, Melissa Harris (birthday)
- 18th Sam Bishop (birthday)
- 19th Indonesia
- 20th Judith Wiles (birthday)
- 21st Jonathan Patterson (birthday)
- 22nd South Korea
- 23rd Janna Tuck, (birthday)
- 24th North Korea
- 25th Charles & Judy Wiles (anniversary)
- 26th Ruth Jean Lange (birthday)
- 27th Japan
- 28th Hong Kong
- 29th Philippines
- 30th Thailand
- 31st Charles Hirsch, Lauren Bishop, Ruth Pautler (birthday)

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

Lord, you know everything; you know that we love you! Help us to take care of your sheep. Help us to follow you to new places. Give us love for the lost and lonely. In Jesus' name, Amen.

August 2019

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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