



FIRST FACTS



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ANNOUNCING: A NEW AND IMPORTANT MINISTRY!

Many of you have heard of The People's Shelter, an overnight cold-weather shelter for the homeless. This ministry was started by Rev. Renita Green, Pastor of St. James AME Church, nearly two years ago. The weather had turned terribly cold in late December of 2017, and Renita was concerned for the safety and

survival of several unsheltered people in town. She didn't waste any time in opening the lower level of her church and then going to look for people who needed to be rescued from the cold.

Since then, this ministry has recruited and trained hundreds of volunteers and collected thousands of dollars and items as donations. They have also expanded the ministry to include serving meals and providing community lunch boxes, as well as securing permanent, independent housing for several individuals. Other communities in southeast Missouri are striving to create similar programs modeled after The People's Shelter. God has blessed this work and inspired the faithful in Cape Girardeau and beyond.

A couple of weeks ago, Renita came to me and asked if our church would be willing to partner with The People's Shelter by **opening our doors to provide a WARMING CENTER during the late afternoon and early evening before the overnight shelter opens on dangerously cold days**. I took this request to the Session and we all felt compelled to answer this clear call from God to serve our neighbors in this way.

Here are the details:

- When the temperature is expected to drop **BELOW 32 DEGREES**, we will put out a sign that our fellowship hall will be open from 4:30-6:30 p.m. (after the Salvation Army closes and before The People's Shelter opens).
- 2-3 volunteers will be needed during these hours; at least one must be from our church.
- Guests will trickle in and out until 6:30 when they will leave to walk to St. James for a hot meal and a place to bed down for the night.
- An outdoor smoking area will be designated on the south side of our building.
- Coffee, water, and light snacks will be served. Cards, games, and TV will be available.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING please let me know. Soon, there will be a sign-up page online. Also, please go to www.thepeoplesshelter.com to sign up for volunteer training that will take place Saturday, November 9, 10:00 am OR Sunday, November 10, 1:00 pm AT ST. JAMES AME CHURCH.

The People's Shelter tagline is *"loving out loud."* This is a unique opportunity for us to LIVE OUT LOUD the charge we hear every week at the close of worship: "Let us go out into the world to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves."

Grace and peace,

Ellen

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session October 28, 2019

1. Received Rock Bock, through Reaffirmation of Faith, as a new member of our church. Rick has been attending regularly and singing in the choir. He has also been a liturgist.
2. Received Rev. Gurnon's Report of Activities from September 20 to October 25, 2019. Included were 6 visits/calls to members, 15 church/community/Presbytery meetings and activities. Also approved the Pastor's request for vacation days November 27 and December 26-January 5, 2020.
3. Rev. Gurnon provided Session members written copies of a letter from the Session at Westminster Presbyterian Church which was a positive response to our previously communicated suggestion that our two churches pursue a yoking arrangement. They suggested a six month trial yoking arrangement from January 1, 2020 until June 30, 2020, at which time both churches will evaluate the arrangement and continue it or make changes. The next step will be for the two Sessions to meet soon for discussion with Rev. Gurnon and the appropriate Presbytery representative.
4. Rev. Gurnon reported Nativity Scene figures, a star and a manger found in storage at the church are being refurbished and a new lighted sign saying Peace on Earth will be purchased for display purposes in the Peace Park.
5. It was reported that at a Called Session Meeting after church October 20, 2019, the Session approved a request from The People's Shelter asking that First Presbyterian Church serve as a Warming Center Satellite for people to gather when the temperature drops below 30 degrees. The Center would be needed from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. possibly any day of the week. At 6:30 p.m. the people in our satellite center will be welcome to go to the People's Shelter at St. James AME Church for dinner and overnight lodging. It was decided to use the Fellowship Hall for this mission project. Training for volunteers will be November 9 and/or 10.
6. The recognition of Rev. Gurnon's 25th Ordination Anniversary will take place on Sunday, November 17, 2019, and church members will be invited to congratulate her by bringing cards and notes to Gather, Share and Eat after church that day. An email with details about the celebration will be sent to members after November 1.
7. Treasurer Wiles reported that as of September 30, 2019, the church's Assets were a total of \$1,024,865.86. Income To Date was \$146,869.96, and Expenses were \$199,564.66 for a negative cash flow of \$52,694.70. He noted that the Assets total does not include the dollar value of all of our property.
8. Interviews with applicants for the Office Manager position are being conducted by Rev. Gurnon and members of the Executive/Personnel Committee.
9. On behalf of the Stewardship, Mission & Outreach Committee, Elder Wiles reported that the refurbished, refrigerated truck member Will Bahn and our church have donated to the SEMO Food Bank will be dedicated on Friday, November 1, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. and news media will be present. The truck will be parked beside our church on Lorimier Street.
10. Rev. Gurnon reported the Downtown Merchants Association has been wanting to donate something to our Peace Park, in appreciation for its beautification of downtown, and has offered to provide a doggie waste station wherever in the Park we want it located. The Session approved that gift idea and will find an appropriate spot.



Second Tuesday at the Chateau will meet in the Chateau dining room at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, November 12, 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 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 is on November 14th. We will discuss “The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell” by Robert Dugoni at the home of Jean Cairns. The club takes a break in December for the holidays. The January book is “Tangerine” by Christine Mangan and we will meet on January 9th at the home of Sharon Metcalfe. All are welcome and the reading of the book is optional.



November Meal-a-Month

- 2 cans of Tomato Soup
- Can of Evaporated Milk
- Box of Crackers
- Can of fruit

Please put in the box in the Narthex.



Flowers for Worship

Flowers for worship may be shared to celebrate your anniversary, someone’s birthday, or in memory of a loved one or friend. They can also just say “Thanks, God!” Please call the church office (335-2579) to sign up for flowers.



Gather Share & Eat will be on November 17th.

We will be serving chicken & dumpling / covered dish dinner.

We are asking everyone to bring a salad or vegetable.

We will be taking care of the dessert.



Ty Warren

Troop 4 has another Eagle Scout!
The Congregation is invited to the Court of Honor on November 17th at 2pm in the Sanctuary.



Memorials

A Memorial has been received in memory of:

Shirley Gibson, from Ed & Sue Burford, Pete & Peg Hirschburg, James & Beverly Hirsch



Warming Center Satellite Space

Warm space for people to gather when the temperatures drop below 30 degrees.
Hours for First Presbyterian to be available are 4:30-6:30

When weather is severe we will open early and not ask for the satellite space to be opened.

Guests will likely trickle in and out

They will not be expected to stay inside, they may hang out outside and come back inside (sitting still and cooped up is a challenge sometimes). A smoking area should be established. A bucket for cigarette butts will be needed. Also, advised to place a trash can outside. The guys are pretty good at picking up after themselves/each other.

Guests will leave First Presbyterian around 6:30 to go to dinner at St. James
St. James will be open from 7:00pm-8:00am

The People's Shelter will help coordinate volunteers, coffee, snacks if needed.
1-2 volunteers will be needed each evening
Impact should be minimal

Pastor Renita or Requi will be present in the initial launch and as needed

No programs/services will be needed at First Presbyterian—just a warm place to hang out after the Salvation Army closes and until The Peoples Shelter opens.

Elected at a Congregational Meeting on October 20, 2019

Nancy Bray, Ruling Elder, Class of 2022

Nancy is a lifelong member of this church having joined at age 10 after completing a confirmation class. As an ordained Elder, although not a voting member of the Session this year, Nancy is serving as Clerk of Session which she has done several other times. She is also a member of the Executive/Personnel Committee. Through the years, she has served as a Deacon, taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, served on our 175th Anniversary Steering Committee, an Interim Pastor Search Committee and the Pastoral Care and Evangelism Committees.

Prior to her retirement in 2007, Nancy was Marketing and Communications Director at Southeast Missouri Hospital for 29 years. Before that she taught English and Journalism at Southeast Missouri State University for 10 years and helped develop the Mass Communications Department. She is also actively involved in several community organizations.

Ron Johnson, Ruling Elder, Class of 2022

Ronald D. Johnson is the Criminal Investigator for the Federal Public Defender's Office (U.S. Courts). He has held this position for 26 years. From 1986 to 1993, Ron was the Criminal Investigator for the State Public Defender's Office. He was a Captain with the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Department from 1980 until 1985. Ron served with the United States Navy from 1970—1973. He was a Vietnam Veteran serving on the U.S.S. Coral Sea. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Cape Girardeau and a Master Mason with St. Mark's Masonic Lodge #93. Ron attended Southeast Missouri State University and lives in Cape Girardeau with his wife, Lana. They have one son, Andrew and three grandsons.

Charles Wiles, Ruling Elder, Class of 2022

Charles is presently serving on the Session and has served a term before. He also currently serves as Treasurer and has for several years. As an Elder, he has served several years on the Executive/Personnel Committee and is doing so now.

Charles is a retired professor and administrator from Southeast Missouri State University after working there for 40 years.

During the 1993-94 year he served as President of Optimist International. During the time he served as a Board Member, Vice President, President-Elect and President he traveled to all 50 states, 8 Provinces in Canada and 14 foreign countries.

Charles is married to Judy Wiles, who is the Chair of the Management and Marketing Department at the University. He has two grown daughters and 5 grandchildren.

Nominating Committee At Large Members, elected on October 20, 2019

Virginia Goodwin

Virginia was born in Flat River, MO, in 1930 to Rev. and Mrs. Walter Keisker. Her Dad was a Lutheran minister so Virginia was a lifelong Lutheran until about five years ago after joining our church. She feels very much at home here because she attended often with her husband Fred Goodwin who was a faithful member of this church. She met Fred during her college years at SEMO, and they married in 1951 following her graduation as a music major. They lived in Iowa City for two years while he worked on his master's degree. They returned to Cape in 1955 and have lived here since. Following his retirement from the SEMO faculty in 1988, they traveled extensively and had 21 happy years enjoying that and their family. Virginia has been a homemaker, piano teacher and mother of three children Mark Goodwin, Debbie Patterson and Nancy White. She now has three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She says, " Most of my family lives nearby, and I love keeping them in cookies and hugs. I feel truly blessed."

Ann Ritter

Ann has been a member of this church since November 1, 1970 when she and her husband the late Dr. Ray Ritter returned to their hometown of Cape Girardeau and transferred their membership from a Presbyterian church in St. Louis. Ann was raised Methodist and had been baptized by her maternal grandfather in the Methodist Church where he was the pastor. Ann and Ray had three sons August, John and Brian who have blessed them with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. When Ann was serving on the Session in 2000, son John was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died in 2005. Ann has also served our church as a circle leader, president of the Women of the Church, and a Deacon. She is presently on the Session again and serves on the Executive/Personnel Committee and co-chairs the Member Care & Fellowship Committee. This will be her second term on the Nominating Committee. Ann says, " I consider it a pleasure to serve my God and my church as He allows me to do so."



Music Director Hired As Office Manager

Jonathan Patterson is a northern-born Ohioan who has found himself living in parts of the South for the last decade. In 2006, Jonathan began his collegiate studies as a Piano Performance major at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA, and, later, completed his M.M. in music theory at the University of North Carolina, studying organ under Dr. Andre Lash. Since moving to Cape Girardeau in 2015, Jonathan has continued his work as a freelance collaborative pianist at SEMO and regional high-schools, piano teacher/technician, and local coffee artist

NOVEMBER 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 Beverly Hirsch (birthday)
- 2ND PC (USA) Agencies' Staff
- 3RD Europe
- 4TH Joyce Rayfield (birthday)
- 5TH Ireland/Northern Ireland
- 6TH United Kingdom
- 7TH Scotland
- 8TH Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel
- 9TH Portugal
- 10TH Italy
- 11TH Sue Burford (birthday)
- 12TH Germany
- 13TH Lithuania
- 14TH Czech Republic
- 15TH Sharon McCune (birthday)
- 16TH Sharon Metcalfe, (birthday)
- 17TH Russia
- 18TH Afghanistan
- 19TH Donna Farris
- 20TH Ellen Gurnon (birthday)
- 21ST Central Asia
- 22ND Sri Lanka
- 23RD Wilma Harris (birthday), Ron & Lana Johnson (anniversary)
- 24TH Dr. Ed Burford (birthday)
- 25TH Middle East
- 26TH Jim Logan (birthday) Rob & Sarah Ross (anniversary)
- 27TH Egypt
- 28TH Bill Syler (birthday)
- 29TH Israel/Palestine/Jerusalem
- 30TH Annabelle Spencer

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.

November 2019

Monthly Planner

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Oct 2019</p> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Dec 2019</p> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <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>31</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 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 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 | 31 | | | | | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">1</p> <p>office closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">2</p> |
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| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">3</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">4</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">5</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">6</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">7</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">8</p> <p>office closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">9</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">10</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service with Communion 9:15 am Adult Sunday School in Parlor</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">11</p> <p>6:30 pm Property Meeting</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">12</p> <p>11:00 am 2nd Tuesday at the Chateau 2:00 pm SMO Meeting</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">13</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</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>office closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">16</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">17</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service 2:00 pm Troop 4 Eagle Court of Honor 9:15 am Adult Sunday School in Parlor Noon Gather, Share, & Eat</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">18</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">19</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">20</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">21</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">22</p> <p>office closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">23</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">24</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee in Atrium 10:30 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Sunday School in Parlor</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">25</p> <p>6:30 pm Session Meeting</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">26</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">27</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">28</p> <p>office closed Thanksgiving Day</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">29</p> <p>office closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">30</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |