

The Leaven

AUGUST 2019

SOULE SEARCHING

Dear Friends,

Earlier this summer Franklin Graham called for a “Special Day of Prayer for the President”, so that prayers would be said, that God would protect, strengthen, embolden and direct President Trump. Franklin stated: “Our nation is at a crossroads at a dangerous precipice. The only one who can fix our nation’s problems is God Himself, and we pray that God will bless our President and our nation for His glory.”

I believe it is our duty to pray for our President and all of our leaders, not just the President. As Presbyterians it is expected that we will do just that! In our prayers resources are prayers like this one. “Mighty God, Sovereign over the nations, direct those who administer and judge our laws; the President of the United States and other in authority among us...that guided by your wisdom, they may lead us in the way of righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen” I try to use a prayer like this one regularly in worship, though I have noticed of late, I have been a bit negligent in that practice. I confess as our politics as a nation have become more and more divisive I have less frequently brought our political leaders before God in our prayers. This is the opposite of what I know is needed. I will do better in the future.

Throughout my ministry I have sought to be an equal opportunity prayer, lifting up both those for whom I voted and for those whom I did not vote. In my nearly forty years of pastoral service each President has in his own way, needed much help with the way of righteousness, wisdom and justice and so I prayed for those correctives regularly. I pray this way because I believe those correctives are vital for those who have been given power over the lives of others. We need strong genuine Christian influence in politics. “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8) This is a very high standard for leadership and apart from divine guidance is unattainable. So we lift up our leaders beseeching God to direct their words and actions.

Genuine Christian influence lifts up the righteousness, wisdom and justice of God! Certainly we should pray for the President and not just one Sunday, but daily. Our President needs as much prayer as he can get. And, we should remember to pray for God’s sense of righteousness, wisdom, and justice be poured out upon the President, not for God to “bless the President” (meaning carry out his or his party’s agenda), but rather that God’s ways will guide and direct all that the President does to lead our nation and the world.

I am on my knees, Tim



DO YOU HAVE A TALE TO TELL?

The Faithful Discipleship Committee is always looking for individuals who are willing to stand up in front of the congregation on a Sunday morning and tell everyone why Leavenworth First Presbyterian Church is and has been an important part of their life and why they feel it is important to give to the ongoing work of the church. These Focus on Discipleship 'testimonies' are scheduled once a month from April or May through September, but beginning the third Sunday in October, there will be a Focus on Discipleship 'testimony' every Sunday through the third Sunday in November, which will be Stewardship Sunday. If your story is a story you are willing to share with the rest of the church, and you are comfortable with the idea of being up front behind the microphone at the lectern for anywhere from 2 to 4 minutes (believe me, the time will go by before you know it), then please get in touch with me as soon as possible and I will gladly put you on the October/November schedule. I look forward to hearing from you!

Rick Nichols, moderator, Faithful Discipleship Committee

PWC

OOOOOOOOOOOO The Circles are coming! OOOOOOOOOOOO



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Look in next months *LEAVEN* for more information

2019-2020 BIBLE STUDY

Love Carved in Stone:

A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments

By Rev. Eugenia Gamble

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Subject to Session approval, the Faithful Discipleship Committee will be organizing a special event to be held Sunday, September 29 during the regular morning worship service. On Heritage Celebration Sunday, we will be celebrating the rich heritage of this church as a place second to none where music praising and honoring God has been sung and performed by any number of talented musicians over the years, a place where groups such as the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor have flourished, a place from which community Sunday Schools have been planted and nourished, and a place from which more than a few children have gone on to enter the mission field.

Some thought has been given to the idea of having some of us "dress the part" to play the roles of individuals who had a significant impact on the life of the church in its earlier years, and there are

other possibilities that need to be discussed as well. Church historian Shirley Rockwell is working with the committee on this project, and if you, too, would like to become involved in the planning and implementing of Heritage Celebration Sunday, we would certainly welcome your input now and your participation both now and later.

In His service, Rick Nichols, moderator of the Faithful Discipleship Committee

I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM, WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!

It's ICE CREAM SOCIAL Time again at First Presbyterian Church
Come join us on August 18 at 5:00pm on the Front Porch and

Steps of the Church

Besides the delicious treats, we'll be serenaded by
Sally Azbill's Dulcimer Group

Claude Wiedower will be the game master for children
and young at heart

There will be plenty of shade but bring your lawn chairs

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex



SHEPHERDS

On the Deacons agenda every month is the item 'Shepherds'. I asked the question last month, "Who is your Shepherd" to which Pastor Tim promptly replied, "The Lord is my Shepherd". Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all answered so quickly? But that was not the answer I was seeking... "Who is your Church Shepard?", Did you know you even had one?

I checked the Bible Concordance when I got home and there were 31 references to the word *Shepherd* or *Shepherding* in the Bible. And even more if you reference the word *sheep*. The favorite and one we all know is Psalm 23 "The Lord is my Shepherd...." My favorite from the New Testament is from John, Chapter 21 where Jesus asks Simon Peter three times "Do you love me?" And when Simon Peter answers "Yes, Lord you know that I love you" to all the questions, Jesus says, " 1)Feed my lambs, 2)Take care of my sheep, 3) Feed my sheep..."

The Book of Order says, " The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, he lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures or anyone in distress."

First Presbyterian Church's Standard Operating Procedure says, "The Deacons are the foundation of FPC's efforts to provide care and support for members and friends of the church."

The Deacon's Standard Operating Procedure says, "Shepherding: Keep in contact with the persons on your list, especially if a health issue or family emergency is noted and/or if the member is absent for several weeks. When there are concerns please bring them to the Deacons attention."

I don't know how long Shepherding at FPC has been going on but when we joined in 1991 we were contacted by our 'Shepherd'. The name changed then changed back but the premise was the same- that each member had a member to check on them.

So the Question remains, "Who is your FPC shepherd?" Did you know you had one? Eight people have answered the call to be Shepherds. They are or have been Deacons or Elders, they are 'people oriented' and have your welfare in mind. They may email you, send cards or notes, call, or just see you in church and ask how you are doing. You may not want the phone calls or special attention and that is OK. But we are hoping that if you have need of a visit, a ride, prayers and or joys to share that you will contact your Shepherd. The list is posted on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. The list is reviewed every few months. If you **don't** see your name, please let Arlene or any of the Deacons or Shepherds know.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SUMMER SAFARI SPECTACULAR was a great success!

NEED A RIDE

Need a ride to church?



TO CHURCH

Call veterans cab company 913-682-7200. They will pick you up from anywhere in the Lansing-Leavenworth area and bring you to First Presbyterian Church at no cost to you. Cab fee will be paid by the Deacons. Please let someone know you have taken the cab to church and a member of the congregation will be happy to take you home following the service.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATIONS



Response for school supplies was incredible. We donated 18 3-inch notebooks, 628 #2 pencils, 15 notebooks, 308 colored pencils, 29 paper packs, 9 folder sets, 12 pencil sharpness, 5 protractors, 2 compasses, 6 glue bottles, 25 mechanical pencils, 154 erasers, 3 school planners, 7 copy paper reams and 112 crayons. Your donations support our local community of churches drive, led by our African American churches, in supporting our children.

Mission Committee

PRAYER CONCERNS

Immediate: Abby Wilder (Cindy Scircle), Laura Chapa (Linda Barry), Jeff Dewees (Cindy Scircle), Jayce Ward (Cindy Scircle), Martha Smartt (George Morton), Coleman Family (Ginnie Strand), Efen Majica Family (Deb Anderson), Sandy Bushman (Carolyn Tillotson)

Ongoing: Marilyn Ferbert (Judy Jahn), Joe Hudson, Judy Jahn, Mike and Susan Hill (Tim & Debbie Soule), Jack Thomas, Gladys Griffin (Maria Traynham), Barbara-Sue Rose, Maria Gordon (Carolyn Tillotson), Betsy Wakely (Cindy Scircle), Erin (Maria Traynham), Brianna Hoffman (Cindy Scircle), Twila Corley, Pat Long (Steve & Barb Finch)

AUGUST FELLOWSHIP TREATS

The schedule for providing treats for August:

August 4-Congregation A-M **August 11** – Please bring a treat if you haven't for awhile
August 18 –Circle 3 **August 25** – Circle 2 & 4

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2-Kum Cha Williams **3**-Steven Shade **12**-Dru Cox **14**-Keri Litewski **15**-Bill Geiger
19-Marti Auchard **23**-Carla Hathaway **23**-Rod Cox **24**-Gayle Zillman
25-Caitlyn Daniels **25**-David Anderson **26**-Howard Anderson

AUGUST ANNIVERSARYS

6-Gregg and Cindy Scircle **8**-Dennis and Keri Litewski **14**-Wally and Freda Proctor
15-John and Gayle Zillman **18**-Mike and Kathy Lemke **31**-Tom and Becky Stovall

AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 8:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:20 AM - 12:00 PM Fellowship Treats Potluck Dinner 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>29 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group</p>	30	31	<p>1 5:00 PM Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>2 Church Office Closed</p>	3
<p>4 Fellowship Treats - Congregation A-M 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>5 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group</p>	6	<p>7 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship</p>	<p>8 8:00 PM Session Meeting</p>	<p>9 Church Office Closed</p>	10
<p>11 Congregation G-P Fellowship Treats - Pot Luck 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM - 1:00 AM Pot Luck</p>	<p>12 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group</p>	13	<p>14 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship</p>	15	<p>16 Church Office Closed</p>	17 10:00 AM Leagues of Women Voters
<p>18 Fellowship Treats - Circle 3 Ice Cream Social in front of FPC 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:00 PM Deacons 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Christmas Education Committee Meeting</p> 	<p>19 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group</p>	20	<p>21 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship</p>	22	<p>23 Church Office Closed 8:30 PM - 8:50 PM Amateur Radio Testing</p>	24
<p>25 Congregation Q-Z Fellowship Treats - Circle 2 & 4 8:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting</p>	<p>26 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group</p>	27 8:00 PM - 8:00 PM Community Meal	28 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship	29	30 Church Office Closed	31