

THE LEAVEN

First Presbyterian Church
Leavenworth, Kansas

FEBRUARY 2017



SOULE SEARCHING

Our annual meeting was short and sweet. If you weren't there you missed the introduction of Maria Traynham as our new Clerk of Session. We thanked Gerald Carder's four years of service as Clerk of Session. We elected four members to the Nominating Committee for 2017; Joyce Kirk, Gerald Carder, Carol Beall and Linda Johnson. The 2016 Report of Session's Committees and Church Organizations was received. Dody Marsh and Dick Gibson were acknowledged for their service on session. Deacons who had completed their terms were also thanked for their dedicated service to the congregation; Elaine Carder, Jim Mathison, and Anna Hurt. There were no questions from the floor of the meeting. I took that to mean everyone read the materials and was pleased with the accomplishments of the year; and there was a good deal with which to be pleased. Thanks to everyone who wrote their reports and turned them in on time. Gerald Carder and Arlene Hansroth put the report together and distributed it in a timely manner. Thank you very much!

Our congregation grew by six members this year. Not spectacular growth but growth nonetheless. That is movement in the right direction. Working together, we can continue this movement in 2017. I am certain there are people in our county who will come to see what we are doing in ministry and mission who are also looking for a place where they can belong and grow in their faith. Our job is to help them see that there is an opportunity for them to grow in faith in this church and to find ways to live out their commitment to be a disciple of Jesus with us.

Your financial gifts to the church made it possible to pay all our bills, including the money to refurbish the organ, and to pay our per capita to the presbytery for last year and 2017. We also have established an Building Emergency Fund to help with big ticket items that always seem to arise, and we put some funds aside for the general operating of the church. All this is in addition to our regular support for the mission of the church. And, to top it off we will have a new elevator in and working before Easter, that is paid in full, with the exception of some unforeseen issue which arose during the project. Your commitment to the church is to be commended.

Speaking of Congregational Meetings, the Pastor Nominating Committee has asked the Session to call a Special Meeting of the Congregation following worship on Sunday February 12th in the sanctuary for the purpose of hearing a report from that committee and voting on the candidate they will present to you as the next installed pastor of the church. Everyone is encouraged to come and be part of this important day.

So, as we complete one year's business, the next year's work is moving ahead. One of my favorite hymns touches on this theme;

"God of our lives, through all the circling years, we trust in Thee;
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
We own Thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.
God of the coming years, through paths unknown We follow Thee;
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone; our refuge be.
Be Thou for us in life our daily bread,
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped."

It is a good prayer for the church in the year ahead.

God of our lives--With us abide,
Tim

ELEVATOR UPDATE

Everything is going well with the elevator for now. Yes, we had some hidden damage that needed to be repaired in the basement wall, plumbing, and stairs. All has been fixed and will last us for another 100 years or more. The fixes will cost us an estimated additional \$25,000. We also had to purchase Risk Insurance which was \$2860, which I purchased through Kaaz. To buy it through our Presbyterian insurance would have been about \$3,500. In addition, we had to conduct two asbestos tests which proved the tile in the office workroom and second floor restroom and classroom contained asbestos. Those tests were a total of \$550. All are part of the \$25,000 additional costs for now. I made the first payment to Kaaz last week which was for \$14,805.75. This is 90% of what was invoiced. We keep 10% as escrow until the final punch list is completed; then we pay the rest of what was retained from each invoice throughout the project. Right now we have about \$160,000 on-hand for the remainder of the elevator project. We continue to receive contributions each month which help to offset the hidden repairs or any future changes that are necessary. Whether we need all of the additional contributions or not, any leftover goes toward our next project and will be added to the sale of the tax credit certificate if the State of Kansas has any money to give us at the end of the elevator project. The shaft is almost complete, and will now start inclosing with sheet rock. The plumbing is about 75% done and electrical just starting but can't be completed until the elevator is actually installed. Still looks good for a new elevator by Easter.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The First Presbyterian Church has scholarship opportunities from two different endowments: the Boatright Scholarship Fund and the C Cory Community Scholarship Fund.

- The Boatright Scholarship is given to members of the congregation who have completed one or more years of college and will continue enrollment in 2017-2018.
- The \$850 Community Scholarship is given to assist a graduating senior from Leavenworth County with academic potential and financial need. It is for students who are not members of this church and who will enter college in 2017.

Applications forms (with specific application requirements) are available in the church office. Completed applications must be received by April 1, 2017. We encourage all interested students to apply. If you have questions, contact Judy Wiedower.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Immediate: Ron Bacquet (Cindy Scircle's father).

Ongoing: Bruce (Joyce Kirk's brother), Marilyn Ferbert (Judy Jahn's daughter), Al Pursell, Judy Jahn, Arlene Stovall, Norma Graham, Brianna Hoffman and Dorothy Streiner (Cindy Scircle's relatives), Gail Garrett, Steven Rickey (friend of Linda Barry).

FELLOWSHIP TREATS

Here is the schedule for providing treats for February:

February 5-Session

February 12 Potluck –

A,M-S – Salads, Sides, and/or Bread

B,D-L - Main Dish

C,T-Z – Dessert



February 19- Choir and Bell Choir

February 26-Congregation A-F

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2-Rev. Tim Soule 19-Paige Cox 26-Liz Williams 27-Joyce Kirk

COMMUNITY MEAL

We served 261 hungry folks last Tuesday at our Community Meal - and had enough food and barely enough volunteers. We worked hard, and we felt we served a need in our community. Price Chopper and Daylight Donuts were very generous which we greatly appreciate.

THANK YOU!

I wish to thank the men's group for helping me move to Twin Oaks Assistant Living. My new phone number is 565-9543. Norma Graham

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

A simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat" is inspiring a youth-led movement to help hungry and hurting people around the world.

This prayer, delivered by Brad Smith, then a seminary intern serving at Spring Valley

Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, gave birth to an idea. Why not use Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football and fun, to also unify the nation for a higher good: collecting dollars and canned food for the needy? Youth could collect donations at their schools and churches in soup pots, and then send every dollar DIRECTLY to a local charity of THEIR choice.

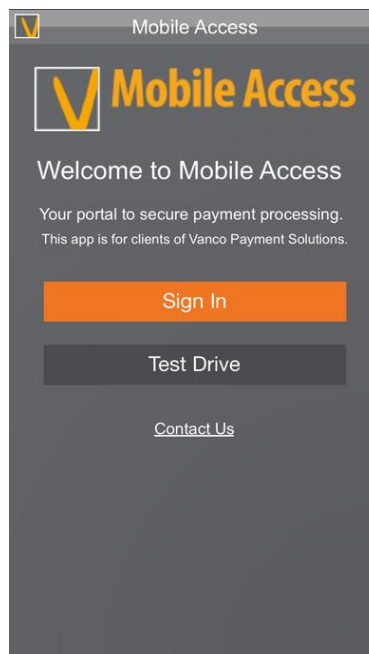
The senior high youth of Spring Valley Presbyterian liked the idea so much they decided to invite other area churches to join the team. Twenty-two Columbia churches participated that first year, reporting their results so a total could be determined, and then sending all \$5,700 they had raised to area non-profits.

That was 1990. Since then, ordinary young people have generated an extraordinary more than \$100 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other charities in communities across the country. In addition, hundreds of thousands of youth have experienced for themselves the joy and satisfaction of giving and serving, inspiring people of all ages to follow their generous example.

Bring your Souper Bowl Offering this week. We suggest at least one can of soup or one dollar per person. Put it in the bin with logo of the team you think will win the big game on Sunday. We will let you know the “favorite” as we exit worship. We will have some fun and fight hunger all at once. 100% of our donations of soup will go to the food pantry of The Salvation Army of Leavenworth. Join in the fun and help fight hunger all at the same time.

Mobile Church Donations APP

Our Online Church donations and automatic pledge system has been enhanced to allow giving from your iPhone or Ipad system by downloading the Mobile Access App. To use the app feature you must establish your account with our online payments system. The online payments system can be accessed by going to the church web page and then clicking on the Donate button on the task bar and then click on the online donation link. From your Iphone or Ipad go to the Apple App Store and search on Give+.



Register now at HeartlandCamps.org through February 13th to receive 10% off the cost for one of their overnight or day camps and get a week of summer they won't forget!

Hello from Heartland!

We're excited to tell you that we still have discounts for those looking to come to camp this summer. Until February 13th, there is a 10% discount on every camp, except for Traveling Camp. When informing parents let them know we need a small deposit of \$50, if registering for day camp, \$75 for overnight camp. Heartland understands that planning this far in advance is difficult; we don't have any fees for changing the week they registered for later on.

Your relationship is important to us and we would love to fill our camps with kids from your church. **Send an email, post on social media, and be vocal with your youth and encourage them to spend on a week at camp.** Let parents know we have ways to help cover the cost of camp and also express a bond between your church and this camp. Let them know it is a safe and loving place to send their child to grow in faith and community. Your church can help us get the information to parents so kids can be impacted for Christ this summer.

There is a Grandparent, Family, and an Overnight Camp. Please be sure to check out the bulletin board for registration, dates and deadlines.



Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope

January 9, 2017

Dear First Presbyterian Church Members,

Thank you very much for the \$419.00
donation to the shelter building fund from
F. Broctor's Benefit Concert. It is a big help.
I've written separate notes to the
donors who gave checks.
God bless you.

Gratefully,
Aunt Vickie

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Fellowship Treats Circle 5 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	30 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <i>Cody Choraliens</i>	31 6:30 PM PNC Meeting	1 9:00 AM PWC 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Choir Practice	2 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting	3 Church Office Closed	4
5 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Deacons 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting	6 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <i>Cody Choraliens</i>	7 6:30 PM PNC Meeting	8 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Choir Practice	9 6:00 PM Session Meeting	10 Church Office Closed	11
12 Congregation Q-Z 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM - 1:00 AM Pot Luck	13 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <i>Cody Choraliens</i>	14 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Circle 3 6:30 PM PNC Meeting	15 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Choir Practice	16	17 Church Office Closed	18
19 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Christian Education Committee Meeting 2:30 PM Circle 2 PWC-Kathie's Home	20 Holiday-Church Office Closed 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <i>Cody Choraliens</i>	21 10:30 AM Faithful Discipleship 6:30 PM Circle 5 6:30 PM PNC Meeting	22 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Choir Practice	23 Article for Leaven Due 6:00 PM Capital Campaign/Renovation Meeting	24 Church Office Closed 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Testing	25
26 Fellowship Treats Circle 2&3 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	27 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <i>Cody Choraliens</i>	28 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Community Meal 6:30 PM PNC Meeting	1 9:00 AM PWC 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Choir Practice	2 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting	3 Church Office Closed	4