

THE LEAVEN

January 2014



As we welcome a new year, we also welcome our new administrative assistant, KELLE BRUCKER. When asked to tell us a little about herself, Kelly said, “ My family decided to make Leavenworth our permanent home when my husband retired last year after 21 years in the Army. We have a 21 year old son, Garrett, who is a senior at UCM and is studying to become a professional pilot. We also have a 15 year old daughter, Meagan, who is a sophomore at Leavenworth High School and loves to play tennis. I started a big garden last year and am learning to grow in this humidity! I have learned from my mistakes and am looking forward to planting season this spring. I love the winter weather and snow, and the four seasons that we get here. I am very excited to be working here and feel like this is “home” to me.”

Welcome, Kelle. We’re excited to have you.

NOTE

Kelle will be taking her lunch hour from 11:30 to 12:30 and will not be in the office during that time.

2014 – 2015 ELDERS AND DEACONS

Our church officers for the coming year were elected during a congregational meeting, December 1, 2013. We thank all of the following for agreeing to share their time and talents with us during 2014.

Elders

Dody Marsh	Class of 2016
Jim Hendrickson	Class of 2016
Tom Stovall	Class of 2016
Claude Wiedower	Class of 2014

Deacons

Elaine Carder	Class of 2016
Anna Hurt	Class of 2016
Sally Graham	Class of 2016
Benita Hendrickson	Class of 2016

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Our annual PROGRESSIVE DINNER went off without a hitch on December 14 as 35 of us braved the weather and enjoyed a wonderful evening of delicious food, caroling and fellowship. Thanks again to the families who hosted the evening: Chris Aus, Becky and Tom Stovall, Lorna and Jim Mathison. Thanks also to Elaine Carder for the song sheets and piano accompaniment for our traditional caroling.

Many thanks to the families who participated in the readings and candle lighting of our ADVENT WREATH: the Duque family; Sally and John Graham; Drew, Rod, and Paige Cox; Joyce and Howard Kirk; the Aus family.

Circle 5 coordinated the ANGEL TREE project this year, and Joyce Kirk coordinated the coordinators! They also contacted the participating families to determine gifts the fathers would like their children to receive. Twenty-one children and 6 families were served. Both men's groups helped deliver the gifts: Howard Kirk and John Graham, Jim Mathison and Carl Johnson. Maria and Jerry Traynham, Diane and Steve Becker, and Joyce and Howard Kirk also helped with the deliveries.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Marti Auchard reported for the Presbyterian Women that 53 boxes were filled and shipped for OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD.

Circle 4 will meet at the church at 10 AM on the 4th Monday of the month, instead of the 3rd, for both January and February.

Heartland Presbytery is having a Spring Gathering for all women of the presbytery on April 26 at Parkville Presbyterian Church. This will take the place of our own gathering this year, and Marti encourages all of us to put this date on our calendars now and plan to attend. Parkville is Marti's home church and is north of the river, so it is much more convenient for us. Let's support this with a large turn out from First Pres. in Leavenworth!

MONTHLY POTLUCK

The Deacons welcome everyone to the monthly potluck Sunday Jan 12th. Feel free to bring any dish you can, but if you want you can follow this guideline:

A, M-S: Bread, Dessert or Side

B, D-L: Salads and sides

C, T-Z: main dish

We always have plenty so please come even if you didn't bring a dish!

**Valentine Dinner
Mark Your Calendars**

Subject to approval by the Session, the Deacons are planning a dinner at 6 PM on Saturday, February 15. Details and a sign-up list will be forthcoming shortly.

YOUR TURN FOR TREATS? CHECK OUT THE LIST!

January 12 – Potluck and “undecorate” the church!
January 19 - Choir and Bell Choir
January 26 - Congregation A - F
February 2 – Congregation G - P
February 9 – Potluck

ELAINE ROSE HOFSTRA

Life long member of First Presbyterian, Elaine Hofstra passed away December 16, 2013 at Twin Oaks in Lansing. Robyn officiated at her service at Leintz Funeral Home on December 27th. Her family requests memorial gifts to the Capital Fund of the First Presbyterian Church or to a charity of choice.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee will be collecting cans of soup in January again. Our “Souper Bowl” coincides with the NFL Super Bowl. Last year we collected 193 cans and packages of soup. Let’s see if we can beat that number in 2014! There will be a collection bin in the west entrance.

Check out the bulletin board in the hall behind the living room. Among many items of interest are thank you notes from local agencies appreciating our donations, i.e. Alliance Against Family Violence, Lambs’ Inn.

Joyce Kirk

A warm, First Presbyterian welcome to.....

LIZ AND DAN WILLIAMS

who officially joined our congregation on December 1, 2013! Baby Alice K. was baptized on that day also. We are delighted to have Liz and Dan as part of our church family and are especially thrilled with “our” new baby!

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC!

Karen is delighted to announce that the BELL CHOIR will resume practice on Wednesday, January 23, at 6:00 in the sanctuary. Seven ringers have expressed interest, but the more we have, the better music we can play. Please come join us. Rehearsals last 1 hour and, if you choose, you can even stay for the Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:00!

There will be no January concert. The series will resume in February.

Robyn and Karen are planning a special worship of lessons and hymns for January 19th (MLK Jr. birthday).

CONGRATULATIONS to FRAN AND CALEB GARDNER.....

on the birth of their baby girl, ALISON ROSE. Alison was born January 2nd at Overland Park Medical Center and weighed 7.2 #. She is in NICU due to complications. The family is happy to report that Alison was able to take 1 oz. of food by mouth on Saturday. Caleb and Fran will be lodging at the hospital until Alison can go home. Robyn took Ellen to see her on Saturday and reported that she “is a very cute girl with a head full of black hair.” Our prayers remain with this family.

UPCOMING!

Come join us on January 12 as we “undecorate” the church. That is also the day of our monthly potluck, so we hope everyone will stay to help. As our mothers used to say, “Many hands make light work!”

POINSETTIAS

Annette Allen & Alexa, Chase and Drake	In honor of family
Howard & Carolyn Anderson	In memory of our departed fathers and family members
Marti Auchard	In memory of those who have gone before us
Chris Aus	In memory of Bob & Barbara Tank In memory of Millard & Margaret Aus In memory of Gary L. Aus - Aus Family
Linda Barry	In memory of Tom Barry, Mary & Darrel Mishler & Darrel Mishler, Jr.
Dick & Tera Cameron	In memory of Dick & Ellen Cameron and Jane Cliff
Eugenia Cloud	In memory of Maurice Cloud and loved ones
Steve & Barbara Finch	In memory of Glen Finch In memory of Dorothy & Leo Malley & Catherine Malley
Roger Frazer	In memory of family and friends
Dick Gibson	In memory of Harold & Mary Gibson In memory of Josephine Ireland & Salley Jo Ireland
Sally & John Graham	In memory of John Weir Graham In memory of Mary Jane & Don Choice

Jim & Benita Hendrickson	In honor of our grandchildren: Cadance, Robby, Dylan, Madalynne, and Isabella
Darrell & Margie Holland	In memory of Mary L. Budden
Anna Hurt	In memory of departed family members
Bill & Barbara Katzenberger	In memory of parents and siblings
Joyce & Howard Kirk	In memory departed parents
Keri & Dennis Litewski, Jacob, Emalee, & Ryen	In memory of Lorelei Jae Litewski
Lorna & Jim Mathison	In memory of parents Millie & Ralph Willard and Helen & Jakie Mathison
Al & Betsy Pursell	In memory of the Pursell & Nelson families
Jim & Merna Roe	In memory of Parents, C. A. & Lucille Roe, Ernest & Jane Nagely In memory of Sharon Smith
Thomas & Rebecca Stovall	In memory of Wayne Stovall, Dustin Stovall, Lois Jimenez, Michael & Barbara Jimenez
Jack & Le Thomas	In memory of Steven Thomas & Zachary Marion
Claude & Judy Wiedower	In memory of our departed parents