

THE LEAVEN

First Presbyterian Church

Leavenworth, Kansas

November 2014

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 a.m. to 11 a.m. and Noon to 4 p.m.

FROM THE PASTOR

At the October Stated Session Meeting the following devotion was offered by Jim Garrett. As First Presbyterian Church continues to seek effective ways to move into her future, Jim's call to consider "shuffling" is a thoughtful suggestion.

Lately I have gotten caught up in the Words with Friends game on my phone and computer through Facebook. Basically it's a SCRABBLE game where you go head-to-head against one opponent. I thought that playing it would be a good way to exercise my mind; keeping all my brain cells firing, so to speak.

I have to say, though, when I first played a few games, I found it frustrating, and not just due to really bad luck when the computer draws letters for me! Having had issues similar to dyslexia, it can be hard to focus on words in different directions and to unscramble the letters in my tray to make my next word. I can easily get stuck on how something looks and not be able to see other options. Then I noticed a button on the game and it changed my whole approach. It's the "shuffle" button. It quickly rearranges the letters I have to use in a new way that I hadn't (and probably wouldn't have) thought of.

Many times I have had an "A-ha!" moment after seeing the letters in a different order and then finding a good place to put a word. I still lose about half the games, but knowing that there may be an option I had not considered makes it at least worth an effort by someone who is normally not excited about playing word games.

The "shuffle" button had me consider another idea as well. How often do we get fixated on the way we have always thought about something and not take the time to have a fresh look at it? Maybe it is how to re-arrange furniture in a room, or a different way to approach a daily task to make it less routine, or even a different way of thinking about the things God has in mind for us. It can even extend to re-reading a verse or passage of Scripture and getting a new idea from it that we hadn't considered. There are so many things we can learn from this life, but one of the main lessons is how important it can be to stop and take a fresh look. Our growth and success as believers who were charged by Jesus with the Great Commission might very well depend on it.

Let's pray:

Lord, in our busy times and hectic lives, please come to us and help us remember that every now and then, it's a good idea to stop and hit "shuffle", so that we can see things with fresh eyes and focus on how you want us to do your work in the world you created. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ALL SAINTS' DAY WORSHIP AND COMMUNION

NOVEMBER 2

This annual worship emphasis provides the opportunity to remember the ones within our congregation who have died during the previous year. This year, during the worship service, the congregation will be given the opportunity to come forward to tables bearing candles so they may light a candle in memory of someone in their life who has died. This is an opportunity to remember the Saints who have gone before us and their light which still burns brightly in our hearts.

E-MAIL TEST RUN

NOVEMBER 9 3:00 PM

There will be an e-mail test run for calling off church at 3 PM on Sunday, November 9. If you don't get an e-mail please contact Tom Stovall so when the real time comes around you will be sure to get the notice.

NOVEMBER 9 POTLUCK

The Deacons invite you to the potluck next Sunday November 9th immediately following worship. We remind you that ALL are welcome, whether you bring a dish or not. We always have plenty so please join us! We suggest the following plan as a guideline only:

A, M-S: Dessert

B, D-L: Salads, Bread and/or Sides

C, T-Z: Main Dish

The Loose Offering will go to the Deacon's Love Fund this week.

2014 Veterans Day

For Veterans Day 2014, the Deacons are collecting anecdotes and stories about our members and their loved ones [brother, mother, grandfather, husband, aunt, etc] who have served a tour, or a career, in the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard or Air Force.

These brief stories will be put into a booklet for our church family members to take home.

The stories you submit can include approx. dates of service (WWII, 1968-1971, or such); some places where the person served; something about the service time - funny, interesting, touching; why the person made you proud. Of course we need the person's name, branch of service and relationship to the submitter. Need ideas? Previous booklets will be available at the church.

You can share your information in 3 ways. Provide information on paper (ask an usher for a form) OR email OR let a Deacon take notes during a chat with you. If you want to email or chat, contact **Cathy Corley, Tera Cameron or any other Deacon**

“BELIEVING IN TOMORROW” AND STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENT AND RESOURCES

By now you have received information in the mail about the Asking Budget for 2015 and pertinent information concerning the status of our finances and the impact for the tomorrows of First Presbyterian Church. Pertinent information includes the following:

- Our monthly giving averages between \$10,000 and \$12,000.
- The level of our pledges has remained the same the last two years--about \$125,000 per year.
- Our costs have been greater than our income. We are short between \$5,000-\$6,000 per month. Restricted and endowment funds have been used to meet this shortfall.
- We have and continue to cut back on expenses--what you see in the asking budget is critical to maintaining the life of the church.
- To continue as a vibrant church we need to renew our endowments and major gifts as well as increase our pledges and membership.
- The session encourages your thoughts, prayers, and constructive input as we continue as the vibrant body of Christ serving the Lord in our community.

Once pledges have been received and the anticipated income for 2015 is known, the Asking Budget will be adjusted accordingly.

While a pledge card for Time, Talent and Resources was mailed to you, extra cards are available at the church. **Commitment Sunday is November 16 during the worship service.**



HANGING OF THE GREENS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 AFTER WORSHIP

Please help us make the church festive for the Christmas Season by helping to decorate the sanctuary and living room. We will be decorating on November 23 after the church service. You don't need any experience or know "where they were placed last year" to help. Even if all you can do is motivate the rest of us, please stay after church and help us. **Thank you. The Worship Committee**



ADVENT CANDLELIGHTERS ARE NEEDED

Each of the Sundays of Advent and on Christmas Eve we light a candle on the Advent Wreath. The pastor provides the Scripture and reading along with instructions in advance. If you would like to be a part of this sacred Advent tradition please call the church office. The dates on which candles will be lit are the following: November 30 December 7 December 14 December 21 December 24



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Worship Service on November 23 will be focused on Thanksgiving. We will sing Thanksgiving hymns and pause from plans for the impending holidays to give thanks for what God has given to us. On this Sunday, during the service, we will re-dedicate the stained glass windows that have been refurbished and be blessed by the music of Harpist Pam Block. After worship we will have the annual Hanging of the Greens.

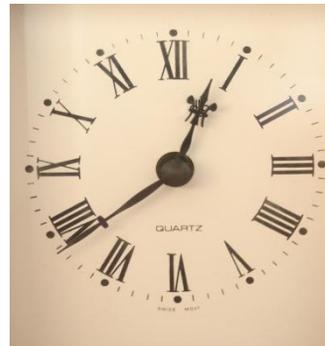
NEW ANGEL TREE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Time to start thinking about the Angel Tree Mission this year. Linda Huggins will have Angels at church service each Sunday in November for people to pick up. This gives people extra time to pick up a gift (value \$25 or less) for the child. Wrapped gifts will be collected at the church 11/30/14 to 12/12/14. Please be sure to attach the angel sticker to the wrapped gift so they can be delivered. A special thank you to the Men's Group for volunteering to deliver the gifts on the afternoon of December 14, 2014. If anyone has any questions, you can contact Linda Huggins at 913-684-0756.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 2nd.

Set your clocks back one hour



First Presbyterian Church Leavenworth, KS Snow Policy

The Snow Policy for the First Presbyterian Church, Leavenworth, KS will be as follows:

In the event of heavy snow or other event the decision to cancel church services/activities will be determined in the following manner: The Pastor and the Clerk of Session will confer and will confer with Building and Grounds. If these three deem it wise to cancel services/activities a polling of a sampling of Session members make a decision as to the advisability of canceling that day's church activities. Once a decision is made the following television stations in Kansas City, NBC, ABC, CBS, and FOX, will be notified to carry the announcement of the canceling of activities.

Additionally, an attempt will be made to send an e-mail to the congregation.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BERNICE BUCHANAN

Bernice Buchanan went to be with her Lord and Savior on October 26. Visitation will be Saturday, November 1 from 1:00 – 2:00 PM followed by the service held at Davis Funeral Chapel.

Memorial was received in memory of Catherine Morgan.

— ORIENTATION FOR GREETERS AND USHERS

You may have noticed that the order of worship has become more streamlined. Perhaps you noticed the West Narthex entry has been spruced up and the East entry has been painted and bears new tapestry.

Along with these changes is the addition of Worship Greeters and some changes for ushering.

Beginning in November, the Session will rotate responsibility for acquiring 4 Ushers and 2 Greeters for each worship service. This takes effect in December – just in time for Advent and Christmas observances!

If you are interested in becoming an Usher (or continuing) or would serve as a Greeter, please contact Merna Roe of the Membership and Outreach Committee, or the church office.

Ushers and Greeters orientation will be November 10 at 6:30 in the sanctuary.

RE-DEDICATION OF WINDOWS

The refurbishment of the sanctuary's stained glass windows has been completed and the windows will be re-dedicated during the worship service on November 23. Harpist Pam Block will provide music for the service and the re-dedication. The refurbishment was made possible by a gift from Jim Schroeder and family and the Linda Schroeder memorial fund.

EAST WALL

The Nativity (close to chancel)

Christ Calling the Little Children (center)

The Resurrection (by entryway)

(all are given in memory of Col James Logan Abernathy who served as an elder and Sunday School Superintendent)

WEST WALL

The Transfiguration (close to chancel) dedicated to William Small by his widow

Come Unto Me (center) dedicated to longtime parishioner John Wilson (1906 DOD)

The Rich Young Ruler (by entryway) gift of John C. Lysle, elder and deacon

TIME, TALENT AND RESOURCES

“On the journey, God provides the scenery and everything needed.”

This was the information shared with you last Fall as the Session continued to seek ways to broaden the church’s program and ministry. Over the summer, our financial resources have fallen. With Fall upon us and as our thoughts and plans turn to the church programs, missions and special worship opportunities on the horizon, we are in need of everyone getting caught up.

“Who hopes for what is seen? If we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.” (Romans 8:24-25)

Community Concert Series

2014-15 Season

Sunday November 16th – 4:00 p.m. Jacomo Chorale with the Bountiful String Quartet

From the Deacons

NEED A RIDE TO OR FROM CHURCH?



The deacons maintain an account with the Veterans and Yellow Cab Company that can help you get to church or get home from church. All you have to do is call the company at (913) 682-7200, tell them to bring you to 407 Walnut, and charge it to the First Presbyterian Deacons. If one of us can’t give you a ride home, just call them again.

Membership and Outreach Committee

On October 5th at 4:00 church members and friends gathered in the sanctuary for the viewing of the movie "God is Not Dead". Following the movie the attendees gathered in the living room for snacks and discussion lead by Pastor Robyn and Pam Crume. There were hand outs of scriptures, famous quotes, and definitions from the movie. A thought provoking evening!

New Address

Lydon Drury’s new address is Heritage Village Room #108, 15 Wallingford Drive, Platte City, Missouri 64079. He has a cell phone (816-560-9903) but has difficulty hearing the facility number can be called 816-858-2804.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the September Session meeting the date was set for December 14. Last year the By-Laws were changed to move the dates to December.

Deacons and Elders will be installed during the worship service on December 21.

Annual Reports will be due in the Church Office November 1.

YOUR TURN FOR TREATS? CHECK OUT THE LIST!

Here is the schedule for providing treats for NOVEMBER:

November 2 – Circle 2 & 3 **November 9** – POTLUCK **November 16** – Circle 4 **November 23** – Circle 5 **November 30** – Session

November Anniversaries

8 – Bob and Carol Beall

11 – Jim and Gail Garrett

30 – Howard and Joyce Kirk

November Birthdays

1 – Twilla Corley

3 – Tera Cameron

7 – George Morton

10 – Jim Williams

10 – Kathy Kenton

13 – Ginnie Strand

18 – Alexa Allen

18 – Ellen Carter

18 – Emalee Litewski

23 – Elaine Carder

30 – Jim Mathison

HEARING HELP AVAILABLE

Just a reminder that the church is equipped with an oval window audio induction loop assistive listening system. You will need to please switch your hearing aid to “T” (TELEPHONE) or request assistance.

PRAYER CONCERNS – Roger Frazer, Jack Fulton, Marilyn Ferbert, Judy Jahn, Howard Walker, Eugenia Cloud, Taylor Dearing, Jim Miller, Gayle Zillman,

Bob Ketter, Ellen Carter, Judy Fulton, Bill Kendall, Barbara Fillucco, Sally Graham, Becky Stovall, Mark Mathison.



NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 2	10:30 AM	All Saints' Celebration
Nov. 3	4-8:30 PM	Music Lessons, Sanc. & Room 8
	6:45 – 9:45 PM	Cody Choraliers
Nov. 5	Noon – 7 PM	Music Lessons, Sanc. & FH
Nov. 6	8:15-3:15 PM	Classical Conversations Classes
	3:30-6 PM	Music Lessons, Room #3
	6:00 PM	Deacons
Nov. 7	10:00 AM	PWC
Nov. 9	3:00 PM	E-Mail Test Run(If you don't get an e-mail contact Tom Stovall)
Nov. 10	6:30 PM	Ushers & Deacon Training
	4-8:30 PM	Music Lessons, Room 3
	6:45 – 9:45 PM	Cody Choraliers
Nov. 11	Veterans Day	Church Office Closed
	9:30 AM	Circle 3
	6:30 PM	Circle 5
	6:30 PM	Compassionate Friends
Nov. 12	Noon – 7PM	Music Lessons, Sanc. & FH
Nov. 13	8:15-3:15 PM	Classical Conversations Classes
	3:30-6 PM	Music Lessons, Room #3
	6:00 PM	Session
Nov. 14		Annual Reports Due in Office
Nov. 16	2:30 PM	Circle 2 Kathie Wagner's Home
	4:00 PM	Concert Series – Jacomo Chorale
Nov. 17	10:00 AM	Circle 4 at Church
	4-8:30 PM	Music Lessons, Room 3
	6:45 – 9:45 PM	Cody Choraliers
Nov. 18	6:00 PM	Renovation/Capital Campaign Meeting
Nov. 19	Noon – 7PM	Music Lessons, Sanc. & FH
Nov. 20	8:15-3:15 PM	Classical Conversations Classes
	3:30-6 PM	Music Lessons, Room #3

Nov. 23	10:30 AM	Thanksgiving Observation - Dedications
	11:30	Mission Committee Meeting
Nov. 24	4-8:30 PM	Music Lessons, Room 3
	6:45 – 9:45 PM	Cody Choraliers
Nov. 25		Articles for the December Leaven Due
Nov. 26	Noon – 7PM	Music Lessons, Sanc. & FH
Nov. 27	Thanksgiving	Church Office Closed
Nov. 28		Church Office Closed
Nov. 30		Advent
		Annual Booklets Out

OUR OCTOBER MISSIONS

The CROP Hunger Walk was Sunday, October 12. This is a community-based and interfaith effort to help fight hunger locally and globally. Why do we walk? Hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as 6 miles a day to get food, water, fuel and to take their goods to market. We walk in solidarity with their struggle for existence. From the First Presbyterian Church 9 walkers and a dog walked and 18 families donated a total of \$575 because we want to end hunger one step at a time. 25% of all the local funds will be split between Backpack Buddies and Trinity House.

Food collected at church in October will be split between Salvation Army and Leavenworth Assistance Center. We have made a step in combating hunger.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Right on schedule a book that includes five photographs of the lovely stained-glass windows in our church sanctuary has been published by Kansas City Start Books.

The 216 page book “Window of Kansas City As Art, History and Inspiration”, was written by Bruce Mathews, who also took all of the many pictures. Readers will encounter between the covers, Mathews is a professional photographer and a Zoll recipient of the prestigious Kansas City Spirit Award.

The photographs Mathews snapped here in June of last year appear in an eight-page section devoted entirely to windows found in Leavenworth. It includes windows visitors to Fort Leavenworth will see.

The largest photo shows the three windows along the east wall of the sanctuary. The next in size shows the upper portion of the “Come Unto Me” window, the middle window along the west wall. The remaining three are of the “Christ and the Rich Young Ruler” window the upper portion of “The Resurrection” window and the upper portion of “The Nativity” window.

In the text the author also mentions five other art glass windows located within the church: the window in the Chapel of Inspiration honoring Eliza C. Fitzwilliam, the window in the east vestibule, the window in the east staircase

honoring Dr. William N. Page, the window in the nursery honoring William Dreschel and the window in classroom 8 honoring Alexander Kirk.

Copies of the book can be ordered by calling The Kansas City Star at 816-234-4636, or on line at www.TheKansasCityStore.com

Any questions call Rick Nichols 913-440-0513.

DECEMBER BELL RINGING

Be sure to sign up for bell ringing for the Salvation Army at Dillons for the following dates:-

1. Saturday, Dec 6th from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm
2. Wednesday Dec 10th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
3. Friday Dec.19th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
4. Thursday Dec. 11th from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm



If anyone wants to ring more, there are a lot of available spaces at K-Mart. A sign-up sheet will be available after November 4 on the bulletin board.

BACKPACK CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE



Saturday, December 6 will be the Christmas Cookie sale for the backpack buddies. Each group is asked to provide 24 dozen cookies. More information will be provided next month.

EUGENIA'S THOUGHTS

As I write this Halloween soon will be over and then we have Thanksgiving to plan for. Special meals are being planned and invitations are being sent. But we don't want to forget to thank our Lord for all he has given us.