



The AUGUST Leaven *2022*

Dear Friends,

THANK YOU – our time away on vacation was wonderful and refreshing. I know that in many secular places of employment, vacation is limited. And I also know that as part of the covenant between a pastor, a church, and the Presbytery, you are required to offer four weeks

paid vacation. But you are generous in your support of that time off and in keeping things hopping while I was gone. And I am grateful to you and to God.

As I begin my seventh month with you, we are beginning to see the next step of your journey to a new pastor. Around mid-August, you will receive an invitation to participate in a survey. The survey is not short – it will take around 30 minutes to complete, longer if you want to take more time to think and pray about your responses. It is especially important for all members and friends of First Presbyterian, Leavenworth to fill out this survey. It will allow everyone an anonymous way to respond to some deep questions about our church and its ministry. Anonymous is the key word. The Session will not receive any individual results, we will only receive the cumulative results. The questions being asked will give us insight into where our congregation wants to go in its ministry future and will help create a profile of what kind of pastor you seek to work with you in the next season of this church's life. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE.... TAKE TIME TO FILL OUT THE SURVEY.

You will be able to take the survey in one of two ways – online (through a link that will be available) or through a hard paper copy whose results will be inputted online. We are using a survey form created by The Hartford Institute of Religion (an affiliate of Hartford Seminary) and the survey was vetted and edited by the Transition Team.

In the meantime, I hope you will find The Gospel Reading Project spiritually helpful these next three months. You will find the schedule of small groups later in the Leaven.

Peace - Krista

Gospel Reading Project Small Group Meeting Times

Our small groups are set for the Gospel Reading Projects. You are welcome to join any of the groups – or be a part of two or more.

Sundays: 9:00am in classroom 8

Wednesdays: 7:00pm – via zoom (zoom link will be emailed out every Monday)

Thursdays: 10:00am – In Classroom 8

WHY I GIVE TO THE CHURCH

I give to the church because despite all of the factors that seem to be working against organized religion these days, especially among the mainline denominations, I still believe in my heart of hearts that God has big plans for this old building on the corner of Fourth and Walnut to use it in new and exciting ways to transform the lives of many people here in the Leavenworth/Lansing area.

I give to the church because it is an investment in people and possibilities, in programs and projects, and in dynamic plans with a Spirit-driven purpose.

I give to the church because I believe in the wonderful people who comprise this congregation and their ability to accomplish great things in the name of the Lord.

I give to the church because here I find words of hope and encouragement when I am feeling down, here I am prayed for when I am experiencing a personal crisis, and here I am accepted as I am, warts and all, so to speak.

And I give to the church because the church is a force for good and an agent for change in a fallen world that desperately needs to hear the Good News of Jesus.

This is why I give to the church. Why do you give to the church? I'd love to hear your story during the worship hour some Sunday morning in September, October or November. Please get in touch with me if you are interested in sharing your Faithful Discipleship "testimony" with the rest of the congregation. Thank you for 'listening' to mine.

Rick Nichols

Moderator, Faithful Discipleship Committee

WE ARE PREPARING FOR PAIR DAY

Earlier this year the Session decided that our church would be participating in the 2022 version of Post Activities Information & Registration Day, or PAIR Day, at Fort Leavenworth.

This event is scheduled for Saturday, August 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be held at Harney Sports Complex. More important, of course, it will afford us a golden opportunity to let military personnel who are new to the fort and their families know that, yes, there is a Presbyterian church in Leavenworth and, yes, it is a welcoming place where they will feel loved and accepted and can grow in their knowledge of God and deepen their faith as believers.

If you are aware of appropriate items at the church we can pass out to PAIR attendees (adults and children) or have suggestions regarding such items, please get in touch with Krista or Arlene as soon as possible. Also, if you would like to help man our table for a couple of hours, please let Krista know as soon as possible.

Finally, please pray about PAIR Day, specifically that it will be well attended and that at least some of the attendees will be led to drop by the church some Sunday just so they can check us out for themselves.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

After two years of learning to navigate living with COVID-19, we ventured out and had a successful Knights of North Castle Vacation Bible School! There were 40 kids of all ages who attended. A great time was had by all! There were 45 volunteers who contributed to the success of this VBS this year. It takes a village to combine our time and talents to further God's word! Ann Keeling for First Presbyterian Church assisted in the VBS at First Methodist (mornings) and First Christian (evenings) Churches was the week of July 11-15.



YOUTH SHARE THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS

On at least two occasions now the choir has included the young lady who recently became part of Chris and Jessica Flynn's family, a family that already included the couple's popular dog Mello, of course. In the photograph above, which was taken the morning of Sunday, July 3, this musically-inclined young lady is pictured as she joins some familiar faces "down front" in the sanctuary in singing Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" for the offertory anthem.

Visible in the background is Nathan Proctor, Music Director Freda Proctor's grandson, who played the trumpet during the service in teaming up with Freda, at the organ, for Handel's "Rejoicing from the Royal Fireworks Music."

PWC

We WELCOME all women attending First Presbyterian Church to join in the activities of Presbyterian Women of the Congregation.

Presbyterian Women's predecessor organizations began more than 200 years ago when women had no role outside the home. In spite of numerous societal restrictions, the women's organizations gained respect, especially that of missionaries in the field who requested women's donations and prayers. Two centuries after Presbyterian women first gathered to pray and give their money to the church, women have voice in the church and in the world. A legacy of devotion to the church and dedication to God are a strong foundation for continuing mission and taking Christ into every area of life in Presbyterian women's third century of organization. Presbyterian Women exists today because women are adaptable, determined, proactive, charitable, generous and dedicated to God.

Presbyterian Women meet monthly at 1st PC for Bible Study, Fellowship and Mission Opportunities. Our Bible Study this year is

Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight

by Carol M. Bechtel

We host three "Circles"

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Circle 3 | 10 am the Second Tuesday | Leader: Marti Auchard |
| Circle 4 | 10 am the Third Monday | Leader: Pam Crume |
| Circle 5 | 6:30 pm Second Tuesday | Leader: Cindy Scircle/Chris Aus |



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR KICKOFF GATHERING

A light dinner

August 31

5:30--7:30

Strand's

29303 183rd Street Leavenworth

RSVP Call Church Office or Sign Up Sheet

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 21 right after church on the Front Porch and Steps of the Church
Treats will be provided but bring your own lawn chairs
Who doesn't love Ice Cream for Lunch! You can eat a Healthy Supper!

I hope you live louder .

I hope you laugh more . I hope you sing at
the top of your lungs . I hope you drive
with the windows down and let the wind
rustle through your hair . I hope you hug .

I hope you kiss . I hope you surround
yourself with people who make you feel
alive . I hope you become the type of
person that brings good energy wherever
you go , and the type of person people want
to be around . I hope you speak what's on
your mind , that you raise your voice for
injustice , that you tell others that you
love them , instead of waiting until it's
too late . I hope you live louder , shine
brighter . From this moment on .

Marisa Donnelly

wordables.

BUFFET FOR NEW GENERATION SINGERS

Thanks to the Deacons and Circle 5 for providing a delicious buffet (pictured below) for the New Generation Singers!



PRAYERS

Immediate: Holly Allen and Family, Lorna Mathison, Katie Scircle, Geri Malle (L. Barry), Diann Wooley (Cindy Scircle), Families in Uvalde, Ukraine-Russia, Mike Ray (Esther), Mary Lou (Ann K.), Bernice Johnson, Steve Finch, Ed Bristow (Chris Aus), Grandfather Marshall (Chris and Jessica Flynn), Kristen Miller (David Miller's wife), Erika Johnson, Maggie, Hope Austen, and Daisy Ryan (Chris Aus), Anna Hurt, Margie Holland, Ron Kenton, Elaine Carder and family

Ongoing: Joe Hudson, Barbara-Sue Rose, Maria Gordon (Carolyn Tillotson), Le Thomas, Al Pursell, V. Williams (Barbara-Sue Rose), Judy Jahn, Michael Brock (C. Scircle), Mike Graham (Pam Crume), Dana Guanciale (John and Ginnie Strand), Jeanie (Barbara-Sue Rose), Rick Nichols, Greta Sharp, Cindy Scircle, John Garner (Carolyn T.), Richard and Linda Cooper (Darrell and Margie Holland's daughter and son-in-law), Brianna Hoffman and Family (Cindy Scircle)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

We are sad to share the news that Gerald Carder died on Sunday, July 31. Gerald was a dear member of First Presbyterian and was a friend to many. We give thanks to God for Gerald's life and ministry, we hold Elaine and her family in prayer, and we trust that Gerald is now free of pain and enjoying the fullness of God's love in eternal life. A celebration of Gerald's life will be held at the church likely in September.

AUGUST FELLOWSHIP TREATS


August 7 –Session **August 14** –Choir and Bell Choir
August 21-Deacons **August 28**-Circle 3

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| 31 Fellowship Treats-Circle 5 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am –11:30am Worship | 1 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm – 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 2 | 3 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 7:00pm GRP-Small Group Zoom | 4 10:00am GRP-Small Group 1:30pm – 2:30pm ESL | 5 Church Office Closed | 6 |
| 7 Fellowship Treat-Session Worship Committee Meeting 9:00am GRP-Small Group 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am –11:30am Worship | 8 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm – 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 9 1:00pm ESL | 10 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 11:00am Deacons Meeting 7:00pm GRP-Small Group Zoom | 11 10:00am GRP-Small Group 6:00pm Session Meeting | 12 Church Office Closed | 13 |
| 14 Fellowship Treats-Choir and Bell Choir Mission Committee Meeting 9:00am GRP-Small Group 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am –11:30am Worship | 15 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm – 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 16 10:30am Faithful Discipleship 1:00pm ESL 5:00pm – 6:00pm Community Meal | 17 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 7:00pm GRP-Small Group Zoom | 18 10:00am GRP-Small Group | 19 Church Office Closed | 20 10:00am League of Women Voters |
| 21  Fellowship Treats-Deacons 9:00am GRP-Small Group 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am –11:30am Worship | 22 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm – 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 23 1:00pm ESL | 24 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 7:00pm GRP-Small Group Zoom | 25 10:00am GRP-Small Group | 26 Church Office Closed 6:30pm – 8:00pm Amateur Radio Testing | 27 |
| 28 Fellowship Treats-Circle 3 9:00am GRP-Small Group 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am –11:30am Worship | 29 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm – 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 30 1:00pm ESL | 31 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 5:30pm PWC Cook Off at Strand's Residence 7:00pm GRP-Small Group Zoom | 1 10:00am GRP-Small Group | 2 Church Office Closed | 3 |