

HAPPENINGS

First Presbyterian Church | 1601 Main St., Murray, KY 42071 | (270) 753-6460



Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer

Clerk of Session: Carol Allen

Treasurer: George Kipphut

Admin Assistant: Andrea French

Campus Ministry Director: Lisa Polivick

Music Director: Kate Tombaugh

Accompanist: Christy D'Ambrosio

Storyteller: Lucy Mitchell

Nursery Attendants: Mandy Brogan,
Lucy Mitchell, Lindsay Crafton

Custodian: Monte Fisher

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.;

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Memorial Fund

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer

Several years ago the session decided that any money given to the Memorial Fund, in memory of or in honor of an individual, would automatically go towards the building debt. Since we have paid off the mortgage, the session has decided to revert to previous tradition concerning this fund. Funds will remain in the memorial account and be spent via the session's discretion and approval. This current policy will only be relative to "undesignated gifts." Anyone who gives to the Memorial Fund for a specific designated project means that this contribution can only be spent in the way the donor has designated. It has been the longstanding policy of this church that designated funds are restricted funds that must be spent as the donor wished.

However, the session wishes to encourage folks who want to give to the Memorial Fund to seriously consider making their gifts the undesignated type. This gives the session freedom to use the gift to help fund projects or make purchases that it deems necessary and important at a particular point in time in the life of this congregation. The session takes very seriously its discernment of how and when to utilize undesignated money from the Memorial Fund.

The session wishes to thank you for the many ways you support ministry at First Presbyterian and is thrilled that debt retirement has enabled us to go back to a former tradition relative to the Memorial Fund!

Shalom,

Pastor Renee

Join Us!



Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday
Morning at 7 a.m.

May 1, Hih Burger

May 8, Martha's

May 15, Rudy's

May 22, Cracker Barrel

May 29, Crossroads



Lunch Bunch

Every Thursday at
11:45 a.m.

May 2, Applebee's

May 9, Panera Bread

May 16, The Garden Cafe

May 23, Mr. B's

May 30, Dumplin's

New Wednesday Night Church Night!

Submitted by Maribeth Crawford

On behalf of the Church Growth Committee, we are excited to announce a new Wednesday Night program starting in the fall of 2019. We have decided to move away from Wednesday Night Live with First Christian Church and try something new! After examining what other congregations do in our area throughout the week, we felt that this would be a great opportunity for members of our church community to come together for mid-week fellowship. The new Wednesday night program will start at 5:30 p.m. with a meal (catered), followed by break out groups: Youth group, Children, Young Adults, and Adult study from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Choir will continue to meet from 7:00-8:00 p.m. We need help from the congregation to name this new venture. It is time to get your creative juices flowing and start suggesting names! Please see the top-secret ballot box on the sign-up table. There you will find a voting card. Please fill out the information and place it in the ballot box to submit your entry. The Church growth committee will award a nice prize to the person who comes up with the winning name for our new Wednesday night church night!



Presbyterian Women

Submitted by Shirley Latto

Presbyterian Women will meet at Shirley Latto's home at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, May 6, for the "PW Salad Luncheon." This will be the last PW meeting until it resumes in August. Please remember to bring your favorite salad to share and dessert will be provided. All Presbyterian Women are welcome to attend!



Soup for the Soul

Submitted by Marcie Johnson and Ann Stanley

FPC prepared a satisfying meal for Soup for the Soul guests in March, when Marion O'Rourke led David and Ann Royalty, Patsy Chaney, and Marcie Johnson in preparing the meal, and Ann Stanley led the crew of Ralph and Cheryl Pittman, George Kipphut, Claire Fuller, and

visiting servers, Lisa and Ann Olsen, in serving and clean-up.

Our next opportunity to follow Jesus's example of feeding the hungry will be Monday, May 20. The 2:15-4:30 p.m. shift will prepare and begin serving the meal: Patsy Chaney, Marcie Johnson, Shirley Latto, and Marion O'Rourke. Ann Stanley is still looking for volunteers for the 4:30-6:15 p.m. crew!

New volunteers are always welcome, so if you would like to join this effort, please call Marcie Johnson at (270) 753-5531 or Ann Stanley at (270) 293-7049. We'll be serving again on July 15!

2019 Guatemala Mission Trip: Photos and More

Photos and slideshow submitted by Sarah Locke and Bryant Harrison

If you would like to view Sarah Locke and Bryant Harrison's photo and video slide from their recent Mission Trip to Guatemala, you may do so by clicking **HERE!**



MOTA May Calendar

May 7 End of Semester Celebration and Early Birthday Party for Sarah Locke

Follow MOTA on Facebook **HERE!**

Easter Sunday at FPC

Photos Submitted by Andrea French

You may view Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer's Easter Sermon [HERE](#), as well as the musical offerings from our FPC Chancel Choir and Guest Musicians [HERE](#).



Members of First Presbyterian Church Celebrated Easter Sunday on April 21, 2019. The festive morning began with an Easter egg hunt, hosted by Bill and Susan Stewart, at 9:30 a.m., followed by a delicious potluck breakfast, hosted by Joan Adams and the Church Fellowship committee, at 9:45 a.m., and praise music by Ascher-Taylor Schroeder and Tesla Like. The Worship Service featured: Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer; The FPC Chancel Choir; Dr. Steven Weimer, guest director; Christy D'Ambrosio, pianist; and a brass quintet with Haley Chappell, trumpet; Ryn Jenkins, trumpet; Anna Schaust, horn; Dr. Todd French, trombone, and Blake Lile, tuba.

Hymn Sing Service to be Held May 19

Submitted by Kate Tombaugh, Director of Music

Mark your calendars: On May 19, the final Sunday before summer schedule kicks in, FPC will be hosting another "Hymn Sing" service: a service mostly dedicated to music, featuring all of our musicians, young and old, and a lot of great hymns and sacred pieces! This is a great day to invite your friends and family to join us in worship.

Murray State University student and future music teacher, Mariah Smith, will be working with our youth to present a couple of pieces, as well as one choral anthem, in which our Chancel Choir and young singers will join forces. Mariah is very excited to be joining us, and will be volunteering her time as a part of a Leadership project for her degree requirements. Kate will be reaching out to parents and Sunday school-Worship and Wonder teachers soon to coordinate times Mariah can visit and teach the music.

There will definitely be something for everyone in this musical and uplifting service, with a couple of nice surprises in store, too!

Any questions can be addressed to our Director of Music, Kate Tombaugh.
kate@katetombaugh.com

Fellowship Potluck Lunch

Submitted by Kathie Fleming

There will be a fellowship pot luck lunch after church on Sunday, May 19, following the Hymn Sing worship service This is planned at the request of Kate Tombaugh, who thought it would be a special wrap-up to the Sunday morning of singing. We hope for a great turnout for this opportunity to fellowship together and get to know each other better. We encourage visitors to join us. Questions? Contact Kathie Fleming: (270) 759-1145 or kathie-fleming@att.net



You're Invited!

Hymn Sing Service

Sunday, May 19, 2019

10:45 a.m.

**Fellowship Potluck
Lunch to Follow**

April 26, 2019 Kids' Night Out: See You Next Fall!

Photos Submitted by Bill and Susan Stewart



Beth Belote Circle

The Beth Belote Circle will close the 2018-19 academic year with a meeting at Debbie Burgess's home from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2. As we enjoy wine, Debbie's hors d'oeuvres, laughter, and prayer, we will exchange ideas for our 2019-20 programs. Please join us if you would like to be part of a circle of faith next year.

McKenzie-Moore Circle

The Dorothy McKenzie-Moore Circle will meet on Monday, May 13, at 1:00 p.m. at Ann Stanley's home. Our study this year is, "Twelve More Women of the Bible," which includes a book and an accompanying DVD that we watch during our sessions. Newcomers are always welcome to attend! Refreshments will be provided.



Save the Date!
Our Next Blood Drive Will Be Held On:
Thursday, June 13, 2019
From 12:30-5:30 p.m. at FPC

Cafe Justo...Just in time for Mother's Day!

Psst! A new shipment of freshly-roasted coffee from Cafe Justo has just been delivered to FPC. Did you know? For just \$11 per pound, buying fair trade coffee directly from the Cafe Justo grower-roaster cooperative helps farmers earn a sustainable income - at home with their families - all the while providing us with a delicious cup of coffee. Stop by and pick up your coffee today! Please make checks payable to Presbyterian Women. Ground, regular and decaf.

Need Line Referrals

Submitted by Andrea French

Our church works in collaboration with other churches and non-profit organizations in the Murray community to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families who are experiencing a financial crisis. These folks are referred to us by Need Line, an organization we greatly depend on to help those in need. Some weeks we receive no referrals, yet other weeks we have received as many as ten. Thanks to the generosity of our loving congregation, we've been able to provide the following assistance to date this year:

January	\$821.18	16 Units of Service
February	\$905.50	17 Units of Service
March	\$1,608.58	24 Units of Service
April	\$1,672.16	22 Units of Service

Our Pastor's Discretionary Fund balance is currently \$654.65.



Church Clean Up Day: Working Together

Submitted by Ralph Pittman

We would like to thank everyone who showed up early on Saturday, April 13, 2019 to clean up the church grounds! We would especially like to thank the members of the Murray Areumdaun Woori Korean Church for their help; it was tremendous to see so many hands working together. We are thankful for all of you!



Head & Heart Update

Submitted by Ken Wolf

Dear fellow Head & Heart reader/seekers: We had another engaging and heartfelt discussion of Levy's, "Einstein and the Rabbi." We are now ready to talk about Part 2 of her connections/reflections. Join us on May 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the Session room at First Presbyterian Church. You will be glad you did!

You may check out my notes [here](#). Call Ken Wolf if you have questions: (270) 293-5502.



Graduation Reception

Submitted by Bill Stewart

We will honor our graduates, Jenny Rea, Chenu Iseko, and Lindsay Crafton immediately following service on Sunday, May 5, 2019. Please join us in the lobby for cake and punch!

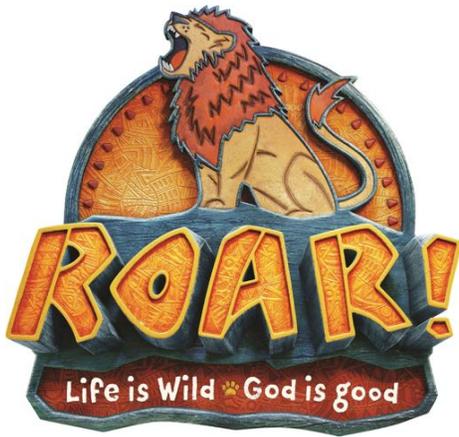
Financial Report

Submitted by George Kippbut

Financial Report

2019 General Fund Income as of April 24, 2019 - \$63,365

2019 General Fund Expenses as of April 24, 2019 - \$62,319



Vacation Bible School 2019

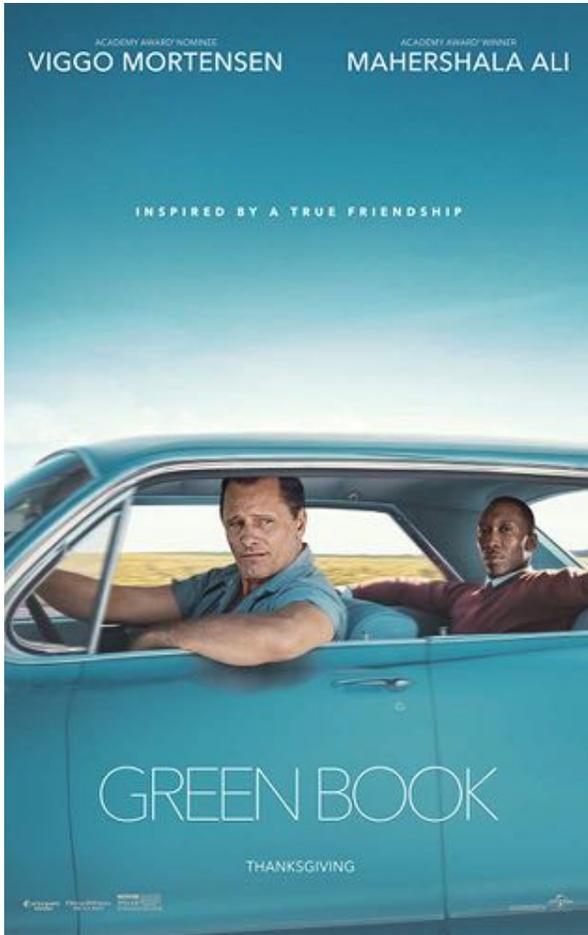
Submitted by Andrea French

Murray Cooperative Vacation Bible School is bringing "Roar! Life is Wild! God is Good!" to First Presbyterian Church in Murray, Kentucky, this June 17-21, 2019!

This free, week-long event is open to the public for children ages 3 (potty trained) through just-completed fifth grade. Children will have the opportunity to begin or deepen their faith by discovering that God cares for them personally--and is always there--through life's many ups and downs.

Each night will kick off with a free light meal at 5:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 6 p.m and ending at 8:15 p.m. Each evening will incorporate a different theme, packed with activities, games, music, leaning, and lots of fun!

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged, though folks may register the evening of the event. Follow this link to register for this event! Pre-Registration is strongly encouraged: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/murraycooperative> Paper registration forms are available at First Presbyterian Church. Questions? Contact Susan Drake: susanwdrake@yahoo.com or (614) 271-0275.



Faith & Film

Submitted by First Christian Church

Thursday, May 9, 6:30 p.m.

Faith and Film Viewing of

Green Book (2018)

Followed by discussion over snacks

The remarkable, Academy Award-winning film, "Green Book," portrays life in the Jim Crow South under segregation. The reason this film has been chosen to view at Faith and Film is that, while depicting race relations in the United States, it also might be simultaneously viewed as an example of the contemporary, misguided racism of the well-meaning white people who directed this film. At least, that is how numerous people within the African American community received it. As such, it will offer an opportunity to wade into a discussion of systemic racism as we ask ourselves why it has been perceived that way. The following is the description of the film given on Amazon:

“Academy Award nominee Viggo Mortensen and Academy Award winner Mahershala Ali star in Green Book, a film inspired by a true friendship that transcended race, class, and the 1962 Mason-Dixon line. When Tony Lip (Mortensen), a bouncer from an Italian-American neighborhood in the Bronx, is hired to drive Dr. Don Shirley (Ali), a world-class Black pianist, on a concert tour from Manhattan to the Deep South, they must rely on "The Green Book" to guide them to the few establishments that were then safe for African-Americans. Confronted with racism, danger as well as unexpected humanity and humor—they are forced to set aside differences to survive and thrive on the journey of a lifetime.”



Thank You:

I would formally like to thank the Church for your contribution toward my rent during my time of need. With your help, I was able to meet the total amount of my rent. Thank you, and may God bless First Presbyterian Church.

Sincerely,

Alicia

To our Church Family and Friends,

It is a beautiful spring day as I reflect back on my recovery from cancer.

In December of 2018 I was told I had breast cancer, and then on February 5 of 2019, surgery. Pastor Renee and Whitey Adams stayed at the hospital through the duration of my surgery and all day. They were there to offer prayer and reassuring smiles for Harry and my children.

Then on February 21, our Toby Cat passed away suddenly from heart failure. He was with us for eleven blessed years, and then he was gone. I was at a very low point in my life, and then the church family came, offering love and support. Harry and I want to thank you for all the prayers, beautiful and thoughtful cards, hugs, words of encouragement, and delicious food, especially Joan Adam's signature chicken soup. I would also like to thank Dawn Gaskin, for being with us during that critical time, and Pastor Renee, who has been so caring and thoughtful throughout.

I will never forget all the many words of hope, love, and encouragement you gave me.

At the time of writing this note, I am down to thirteen out of thirty-four radiation treatments, and as I look out at the sunshine, I think our Heavenly Father for my recovery, and for all of you at First Presbyterian Murray.

Blessings to all of you,

Barbara Conley

May Birthdays

Ronald Hoffman, May 1

Eric Frederick, May 1

Sue Cochran, May 5

Renee Meyer, May 7

Griffin Hoffman, May 10

Margaret Boone, May 15

Tonie Belcher, May 17

Maribeth Crawford, May 18

Victoria Holmes, May 19

Tom Lyford, May 23

Sarah Locke, May 28



May Anniversaries

Marcie & Michael Johnson, May 17

Robin & Terry Holmes, May 25

Prayer Concerns

"Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.

Jeremiah 29:12

Church Members and Regular Attendees

Judy Thomas	Passing of her husband, Warren
Dan Moore	Metastatic lung cancer, MCCH #2409
Patsy Chaney	Passing of her beloved pet, Josie
Carleen Belcher	Recovery, MCCH rehab #4332A
Eva Hopkins	Spring Creek rehab # 125
Tonie Belcher	Passing of her mother, Martha Earlene Clark
Chris Adams	Recovery from pneumonia
Mary Anne Broughton	Recovery from carpal tunnel surgery
Jerry Meyer	Blood clot
Tanner Jones	Passing of his grandmother
Deanna Wolf	Recovery from hip surgery
Marilyn Miller	Cancer treatment
Marcie Johnson	Breast cancer treatments
Barbara Conley	Radiation treatments are done
Bill and Susan Stewart	Passing of Bill's mother, Laura Stewart
Jo Martin	Recovery
Sid Martin	Recovery
Sue and George Cochran	Passing of Sue's daughter, Susie Taylor
Brittany Hesson	Passing of her boyfriend, Ron Denney
Kathy and Robin Stroud	Robin, stroke recovery
Morgan Randall	Loss of father, Greg Randall
Marcie Hobbs	Loss of father, Fred Blix
Margaret Boone	Medical issues
Sue Cochran	Health issues
Paul Shaw	Declining health due to Parkinson's Disease

Mary Lynn Christensen
Sal Matarazzo

Alzheimer's, Spring Creek #129

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Laura (Terri Long's sister)	Scleroderma
Baby Finn (Family friend of Hoffmans)	Stage 4 cancer, chemotherapy
Family of Baby Quentin (Pastor Renee's friends)	
Family of Baby Evan (Shirley Latto's friends)	
Pat Pittman (Ralph Pittman's son)	Kidney cancer
Darcy Hendricks (Tana Field's friend)	Recovery from brain stem stroke
Jim McCullouch (Maribeth Crawford's grandfather)	Recovery from mini strokes, adjustment to rest home
Jimmy (Don Fleming's cousin)	Recovery from leg surgery
Gene (Don Fleming's cousin)	Complications from Alzheimer's and stroke
Todd Goselin's mother	Mental illness
Mark Jones (Debbie Hixon's brother in law)	Leukemia and Non-Hodgkins disease
Bill and Anne Williams (Cindy Barnett's parents)	Care for Bill's Parkinson's disease and dementia
Danny (Liz Gillaim's cousin)	Inoperable brain tumor
Gwen Wolf (Deanna's friend)	Lung transplant recovery
Family of George Saunders	
Justine Ostlund	Health concerns
Joe (Jenny Rea's father)	Stroke
Rita Hendon (George Cochran's aunt)	Cancer
Beth Jones (Tanner's mother)	Breast cancer treatment
Debbie Maclin	Lymphoma
Sonia Fall (Pastor Renee's family)	Pulmonary fibrosis
Sherry (Sue Cochran's sister)	Health issues and loss of son, Troy
Sandy Cunningham (Pastor Renee's mother)	Severe macular degeneration