

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

Summer Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.;

1:00 - 3:15 p.m.

From Pastor Renee's Desk

It is hard to believe, but this month I am celebrating being here in Murray for 5 years! So far the time has been filled with members expressing kindness in so many ways: handwritten notes/cards, surprise muffins or candy, words of encouragement, expressions of thanks and praise. I have experienced words of challenge and words of resistance. There have been disagreements and even some lively conflicts. There have been difficulties and pain as I've watched people I care deeply about suffer from illness, and too often, I've experienced the void that death brings from their loss. I've laughed with regularity, and cried on some solemn occasions. I've expressed frustration and I've expressed jubilation. At the end of the day, I can say most confidently that God has indeed called me to this congregation for any number of reasons—some I've fulfilled, some are in process, and some are yet to be on the horizon.

As a pastor I am constantly reviewing what has been accomplished during my tenure and what remains unfolding. I take very seriously the need for visioning the future in tandem with a prayerful mindset that seeks to follow where the Spirit is leading this congregation. The session, Church Growth Committee, and Task Force for the Future are working hard to discern our future. These three entities have centered their work in prayer, knowing that with God, all things will be well, no matter where the Spirit leads us.

I want to share this great news: Session has approved the hiring of a Director of Children's and Youth Ministry. This will be a flexible position as far as the hours are concerned. This person will plan and implement the part of the new Wednesday evening

Join Us!



Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday
Morning at 7 a.m.

June 5, Hih Burger
June 12, Martha's
June 19, Rudy's
June 26, Cracker Barrel

July 3, Crossroads
July 10, Hih Burger
July 17, Martha's
July 24, Rudy's
July 31, Cracker Barrel



Lunch Bunch

Every Thursday at
11:45 a.m.

June 6, Sirloin Stockade
June 13, August Moon
June 20, Don Sol
June 27, The Keg

July 4, No Meeting
July 11, Culver's
July 18, Cracker Barrel
July 25, Mugsy's

programming that centers on the children and youth. (This is a new church wide initiative that has weekly programming for children, youth, and adults) This new staff member will help teach Sunday school, assist in leading the Cooperative Youth Group with FCC, go to youth retreats sponsored Presbytery, as well as be a chaperone & participant at Camp Loucon every November (Fri-Sunday), organize and lead Kid's Night Out at least 4 times a year, and be our point person as well as be present for our Cooperative VBS every summer. They will also pick out curriculum as the need presents. We do not anticipate that this position will take more than 10 hours per week. This position will be concentrated in the fall and spring, with summer being relatively slower, except for the time necessary to prepare and lead VBS. This person will also be expected to attend our worship service and become an integral part of our church family. The Christian Education Committee and session will have oversight of them. It will be a salaried position of \$6,000/year. If you know anyone who might be qualified and interested, please pass this along. The job description is being worked on right now and we should have the position posted on our website at fpcmurray.com by next week. Candidates may apply by sending their resume to the church via fpcmurray@hotmail.com. We will accept resumes from MSU students as well as any other qualified candidate.

I am so excited about First Presbyterian's future! God is working in wonderful and dramatic ways. May we continue to walk out in faith, trusting that God is with us, even if that future seems somewhat scary. God will provide, my friends; God will provide! Trust this as gospel truth!!

I am so excited to be on staff as various ministries are blooming and new folks are walking through the doors—looking for what First Presbyterian is uniquely equipped to offer. Thanks be to God. May we continue to be guided by the Spirit in all that we do.

Shalom,

Pastor Renee

And We're Off! VBS 2019

Submitted by Andrea French

As we start our week of Vacation Bible School, I want to take a moment to pause and reflect on all of the wonderful things that have been happening around our church lately. As we

already know, VBS is a big undertaking. We knew we were going to need plenty of volunteers in order for this year's week-long event to be successful. With a hopeful heart, we put out on the sign up table the biggest set of sign up sheets I think our church has ever seen, only to be remarkably filled up by our many generous members who were willing to donate items, time, and talents to VBS. Thank you!

On the night of one of our volunteer training sessions, our Session room was full--truly full--of volunteers coming together from four churches, all willing to learn what it takes to run VBS. A variety of donations have been brought in from our members--everything from Ranch dressing to magnetic toys to a personal collection of legos--all of which will be used for a specific purpose, I promise. Volunteers gathered on Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon to transform our church into an African Safari. If you haven't seen our church yet, please stop by sometime this week. Better yet, stop by during the evening so you can see VBS in action! You won't regret it.

This week will certainly test our endurance, and more than likely, our patience a time or two, but it will also be a testament to God's love, as demonstrated throughout the week in the many fun activities, stories, fellowship, and meals that we will provide for these precious little children. Thank you! We truly couldn't do this without you.

Presbyterian Women

Submitted by Cheryl Pittman

Presbyterian Women will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, August 26, in the session room at FPC. We will discuss the upcoming year and look at ideas for projects. ALL women in the church are welcome. Bring a brown bag lunch and join us!

The new slate of officers for 2019-2020 are:

Moderator - Cheryl Pittman

Secretary - Kathie Fleming

Treasurer - Marcie Johnson

Soup for the Soul

Submitted by Ann Stanley and Marcie Johnson

We are thankful for our Soup for the Soul volunteers. In May, George Kipphut and Claire Fuller, who have been regular workers, became a dishwashing duo! Eleanor Rivera and her fiancée, Ben Post, joined us and Ben really worked the mop for us! Ben told us that he had experience with the mop from his fraternity days, and he has certainly retained those skills well!

Our next opportunity to offer a comforting meal from Soup for the Soul will be Monday, July 15. We serve in two shifts: from 2:15-4:30 p.m. to prepare, set up, and begin greeting diners; from 4:30-6:15 p.m. to finish serving and clean-up. Please let Marcie Johnson (270) 853-0128 or Ann Stanley (270) 293-7049 know if you are able to join us. The chance to work together is fun; the project is satisfying; and it is humbling to have this reminder of Christ's teaching to love our neighbors.

June-July Fellowship Opportunities at FPC

Photos Submitted by Kathie Fleming



FPC Church Picnic At the Park

Church Wide Fellowship Activity

Picnic, Cookout, Games, Fellowship!

Saturday, June 22, 2019

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Playhouse in the Park Deck

We will gather at 3:00 p.m. for games. If you have lawn games you enjoy, please bring them. In addition, the pool and spray park will be open. We will have a picnic dinner and we will provide and grill hamburgers and hot dogs for the main dish. Drinks will be provided. Bring a dish to share. (salads, chips/dip, desserts.) We will wrap up by 6:00 p.m. because there is a play that evening at the Playhouse.



June and July Fellowship Coffee

Sunday, June 16, 2019

Sunday, July 21

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

We will have a Fellowship Coffee at 9:30 a.m., prior to worship on June 16 and July 21. Let's get the word out to visitors who may not receive the newsletter. It will be light...cookies or doughnuts and coffee and juice.

Hymn Sing Outreach to be Held June 29, 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by Kate Tombaugh, Director of Music

Join us for our goodwill Hymn Sing Outreach Tour for the folks who are unable to worship at church with us! We'll plan to visit around six homes, sharing God's love through fellowship and familiar music. All ages are welcome. We'll meet at FPC at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 29, to pick up hymnals and pass out the route and schedule. Please email Music Director, Kate Tombaugh, (kate@katetombaugh.com), subject heading "Hymn Sing," with your questions, location suggestions, or hymn requests.

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
May	\$442	10 Units of Service
June (to date)	\$350	7 Units of Service

Our Pastor's Discretionary Fund balance is currently \$129.29.

Nursery Helpers

Submitted by Andrea French

We are looking for a group of volunteers who would be interested in covering our nursery on Sundays when our nursery attendant is unable to be here. Sickness and emergencies will happen, and we want to ensure the nursery will always have an attendant for our youngest children! This also brings peace of mind to our parents and caregivers. If you are interested in helping out in this capacity, please see the sign up table and write your name and phone number down. You might receive a call on a Saturday evening, asking if you might be able to help fill in. Or, there might be a Sunday or two when you show up to worship, but you will be asked to help cover the nursery instead. Thank you for your willingness to help us continue this important resource for our families.

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 and possibly Part 3 of her connections/reflections. Join us at our next meeting: July 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Session room at First Presbyterian Church. You will be glad you did! Q? Ken Wolf: (270) 293-5502.

Financial Report

Submitted by George Kipphut

Financial Report

2019 General Fund Income as of May 31, 2019 - \$79,596

2019 General Fund Expenses as of May 31, 2019 - 79,864

A special offering was collected on June 8 during Brittany Hesson's Ordination. At Brittany's request, the offering was given to MOTA in honor of her former connection to our College Ministry. \$476 was collected.

Clerk's Corner

Submitted by Carol Allen

Stated Session Meetings

May 9, 2019

- Session voted to purchase stoles for Brittany Hesson's ordination on June 8, 2019 at FPC and will host a reception following the ordination.
- Bill Stewart reported on a risk assessment with the insurance company, and liability concerns are already being addressed by Building & Grounds.
- Session approved the hiring of Emma Witt as music director for July 2019 through June 2020.
- Ross Meloan and Tom Lyford reported on their meeting with the Murray Police Chief regarding church safety.

June 13, 2019

- Session voted to obtain estimates for a new church sign on Main Street.
- Session approved the hiring of a children and youth ministry director with an annual salary of \$6,000.
- Session approved Andrea French's request for family leave of two weeks unpaid to care for her mother after surgery in late July.

Beth Belote Circle

All of us in the Beth Belote Circle offer a prayer of thanksgiving for Debbie Burgess's generous and delicious hospitality all academic year! After a summer break, we will start the 2019-20 academic year with a meeting on August 1, when Annie Wells will deliver a presentation on faith. Please join us at Debbie's, 1710 Audubon, for a welcoming, thought-provoking, and engaging evening.

McKenzie-Moore Circle

McKenzie-Moore Circle met at Ann Stanley's home for its wrap up meeting May. We will start the 2019-20 academic year at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, August 12, at the home of Ann Stanley. We'll be doing Chapter 10 and 11 in our current book, "Twelve More Women of the Bible". Everyone is welcome to join!

June Birthdays

Stephanie McClain, June 2
Elizabeth McClain, June 2
Laynie Mitchell, June 5
Russ Wall, June 6
Harry Conley, June 8
Melinda Wall, June 14
Dewayne Polivick, June 16
Greyson Crawford, June 16

July Birthdays

Ian Holmes, July 2
Shirley Latto, July 4
Roy Helton, July 6
Gail Larson, July 6
Lloyd Lewis, July 11
Bonnie McNeely, July 16
Elizabeth Wall, July 19
Grace Weimer, July 22
Steven Weimer, July 24
Duncan Hoffman, July 25
Sam Mitchell, July 29
Susan Lyford, July 30



June Anniversaries

Susan & Bill Stewart, June 4
Deanna & Ken Wolf, June 4
Laura Ken and Ronald Hoffman, June 5
Lisa & Dewayne Polivick, June 6
Terri & Rocky Long, June 20
Valerie & Gregg Heath, June 22

July Anniversaries

Carol Jean & Lloyd Lewis, July 6
JoAnn & Sid Martin, July 18
Christy & Eric Frederick, July 20
Andrea & Todd French, July 22
Juli & Keith McClain, July 27
Susan & Tom Lyford, July 29

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."

-Audrey Hepburn



Save the Date!
Our Next Blood Drive Will Be Held On:
Thursday, August 15, 2019
From 12:30-5:30 p.m. at FPC

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
Family of Dan Moore	
Carleen Belcher	Recovery, MCCH rehab #432A
Eva Hopkins	Spring Creek rehab # 419
Tonie Belcher	Passing of her mother, Martha Earlene Clark
Deanna Wolf	For continued strength & recovery
Marilyn Miller	Recovery from surgery
Marcie Johnson	Breast cancer treatments
Barbara Conley	Radiation treatments are done
Bill and Susan Stewart	Passing of Bill's mother, Laura Stewart
Jo Martin	
Sid Martin	
Sue and George Cochran	Passing of Sue's daughter, Susie Taylor
Brittany Hesson	Passing of her boyfriend, Ron Denney
Margaret Boone	Medical issues
Sue Cochran	Health issues
Paul Shaw	Declining health due to Parkinson's Disease
Mary Lynn Christensen	Alzheimer's, Spring Creek #129

Sal Matarazzo

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Baby Finn (Family friend of Hoffmans)	Stage 4 cancer, chemotherapy
Pat Pittman (Ralph Pittman's son)	Kidney surgery
Darcy Hendricks (Tana Field's friend)	Recovery from brain stem stroke
Jim McCullouch (Maribeth Crawford's grandfather)	Recovery from mini strokes
Jimmy (Don Fleming's cousin)	Hospice care with lymphoma
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, dementia
Gwen Wolf (Deanna's friend)	Lung transplant recovery
Sandy Cunningham (Pastor Renee's mother)	Severe macular degeneration