FPC CONNECTIONS

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

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer

Clerk of Session:

Treasurer: George Kipphut

Admin Assistant: Andrea French

Campus Ministry Director: Lisa Polivick

MOTA Intern: Natasha Purcell

Children & Youth Ministry Director: Kelly Holland

Music Director: Emma Whitt

Accompanist: Christy D'Ambrosio

W&W Storyteller: Lucy Mitchell

Nursery Attendants: Mandy Brogan, Lucy Mitchell, Lindsay Crafton

Custodian: Monte Fisher

Office Hours: Monday-Friday:

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Alternative Christmas Gift Market: That's a Wrap!

Submitted by Deanna Wolf

Dear friends, the Outreach Committee is very happy to report on the success of our sixteenth Alternative Christmas Gift Market. Your generous gifts have provided our chosen charities with the ability to do more of the work that we believe helps those in need. Here is a look at your wonderful results:

1. Lost But Loved Animal Rescue	7 donors	$115.00
2. Pastor's Discretionary Fund	10 donors	$275.00
3. Soup for the Soul	6 donors	$145.00
4. Medical Benevolence Found.	1 donor	$20.00
5. Living Waters for the World	4 donors	$75.00
6. Main Street Youth Center	4 donors	$55.00
7. Laundry Love	6 donor	$260.00
8. Neartown Addiction Recovery	4 donors	$90.00
9. Murray-Calloway Homeless Coal.	5 donors	$100.00
10. CASA by the Lakes	3 donors	$120.00
11. Doctors Without Borders	2 donors	$40.00
12. Heifer International/Honeybees	5 donors	$150.00
Grand Total:		**$1,445.00**

Join Us!

Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday Morning at 7 a.m.

Feb 5, Hih Burger

Feb 12, Martha's

Feb 19, Rudy's

Feb 26, Cracker Barrel

Lunch Bunch

Every Thursday at 11:45 a.m.

Feb 6, The Keg

Feb 13, Tom's Grille

Feb 20, Culver's

Feb 27, Cracker Barrel

February FPC Service Activities

February 11 Friends-In-Faith Communion, Hickory Woods

February 11 PW's Share the Love Charity Dinner

February 13 American Red Cross Blood Drive at FPC

February 24 FPC Hosts Laundry Love at iWash

Youth Group News

Submitted by Kelly Holland

Our Youth Group is coming along pretty good! We have youth from our church who participate regularly, and about five from First Christian Church who join us. On January 26, 2020, my husband, Chris, and I hosted a Youth Group dinner at our house. We made gyoza, fried rice, steamed rice, and stir-fried vegetables. The youth were able to help with the preparation of dinner and then enjoyed eating dinner together. The picture at left shows the group hanging out and having fun!

And now for an exciting change: We are starting another youth group for students who are in first through eighth grade. This will allow our younger youth the opportunity to hang out and get to know each other even more.

Each group will meet once a month.

Youth Group Schedule:

February 9, 3-5:00 p.m. First through Eighth Grade Youth Group at First Christian Church for icebreakers and games.

February 16, 9:00 a.m. High school youth group will meet at McDonald's for breakfast.

February 21, 5:30-8:00 p.m.	Kids' night out! Please sign up at church.
March 1, 3-5:00 p.m.	FPC High school youth group cooking at Holland's house.
March 29, 12-2:00 p.m.	All Groups meet at First Christian Church.
March 27, 5:30-8:00 p.m.	Kids' Night Out! Please sign up at church.

Friends-In-Faith

Submitted by Roger Weis

Friends-In-Faith is a communion ministry that started over 10 years ago by Presbyterian elders and one minister. Friends-In-Faith has grown, consisting of First Presbyterian Church, First Methodist Church, and First Christian Church. Friends-In-Faith offers communion to residents of Hickory Woods on the second Tuesday of every month at 3:00 p.m. If you would like to participate, you may contact Roger Weis at rogerweis1946@gmail.com or call (270) 227-3700. The residents love having lots of visitors! Another easy way you can help with this ministry is to provide small Christian gifts for the residents, such as a Christian book mark, pin or anything you think they might like. Most anything can be purchased at the Christian book store on the square. All denominations are invited to the Lord's Table and we average around 10 folks a month. Preceding communion, the residents tell stories relating to the season. We're talking "horse and buggy" stories: getting out of school to pick cotton, and on and on. The residents are typically in their 80-s,90-s, and sometimes 100-s. And for some folks, this is the only opportunity they have for communion, so please consider giving either of yourself and/or a small gift.

Beth Belote Circle

The Beth Belote Circle will meet Thursday, February 6. Named for a beloved member of First Presbyterian Church, who was a French teacher, this circle was founded for working women who might be able to meet more easily in the evening rather than during the day. All women are welcome to join us the first Thursday of each month, 6:00-7:30 p.m., at Debbie Burgess' home, 1710 Audubon Dr., for take-a-turn presentations, refreshments, and steady support. Lisa Polivick will lead our contemplation of faith this month.

McKenzie-Moore Circle

The McKenzie-Moore Circle will meet at church in the Session room at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, February 10. Joan Adams will be our hostess. All women are welcome to join us!

PW's Share the Love Dinner

Submitted by Cheryl Pittman

Ladies of First Presbyterian:

Let's get together ... and give to others.

PW'S Share the Love Dinner

6:00 - 7:30 p. m.

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

FPC Fellowship Hall

Our evening will include a meal you don't have to prepare! A few good cooks will serve you dinner and dessert, so don't bring any food items. But -- if you have time and resources -- bring something to ease other women's lives, such as:

- Shampoo, conditioner, body wash or soap, Poise or Depends products or
- A cash donation to Laundry Love.

Over dessert you will hear a brief description of Laundry Love and learn the importance of this project to families in our community.

Soup for the Soul

Our hard-working volunteers paused to take a picture at Soup for the Soul on Monday, January 20, 2020. Pictured: Tom Lyford, Ann Stanley, George Kipphut, Sue Lyford. Not pictured: Claire Fuller. Our next time to host Soup for the Soul will be in March. If you would like to serve in this important ministry, please let Ann Stanley know: (270) 293-7049.

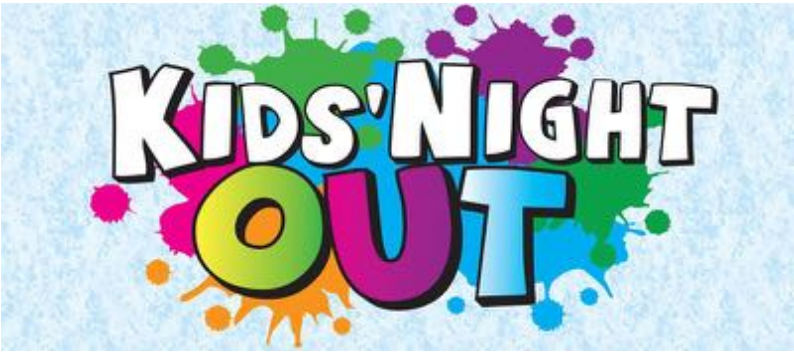
GIVE BLOOD
You can make a difference.
American Red Cross

Save the Date!

Our Next Blood Drive Will Be Held On:

Thursday, February 13, 2019

From 12:30-5:30 p.m. at FPC



Kids' Night Out: February 21, 2020

5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Our next Kids' Night Out, for kids in grades nursery through fifth grade, will take place at FPC on Friday, February 21, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. We will have pizza and juice for supper. A sign-up sheet will be available in the lobby on the sign-up table. Questions? Please contact Kelly Holland at (618) 980-5059 or kholland59411@gmail.com.

2020 Guatemala Mission Trip

Submitted by Sara Locke

Hi FPC Friends!

Who wants to go on a mission trip to Guatemala in June?

The group that Bryant Harrison and I travelled with last March will be returning to Guatemala the week of June 6-13, 2020. Unfortunately, I am unable to return this year due to school, but we do possibly have one MOTA student going. This is a great trip for anyone interested in international missions, as the group has been returning to the same area for MANY years and coordinates the trip with an established mission there in the

village. So, you are never left to fend for yourself!

If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me, and I can answer your questions and/or put you in contact with the leader of the team. You can email me or text/call me at (270) 205-7580.

Thanks,

Sarah Locke

If you would like to view Sarah Locke and Bryant Harrison's slide show from their 2019 Mission Trip to Guatemala, you may do so by clicking **HERE!**

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Tuesday, February 25 6:00 p.m. *at* FPC

Submitted by Andrea French

Bring your biggest fork and your stretchiest pants: This is your last chance to get stuffed before the lean days of lent! Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will feature mouth-watering pancakes with the fixin's, bacon, sausage, coffee and juice. Please sign up at the sign-up table if you are able to bring something and/or volunteer to help serve that evening. Note, there will be no Midweek Oasis the following evening on Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 26 at 12:00 p.m.

We will be offering a mid-day Ash Wednesday service at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26. This service will be held at Noon and will take about 20 minutes.

MOTA Campus Ministry
Ministry Open To All

Dear Friends of FPC,

MOTA students are excited about the coming semester. Elise Eaton is no longer serving as a MOTA intern, so Natasha Purcell will be assuming all of the duties of that position. I am thrilled to have her serve in this capacity. You will be blessed if you get to know this remarkably talented young woman.

Jenna Goggins and Jennifer Demauro are leading another medical mission trip back to San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala from June 6-13th this summer. If you are interested in going, please let me know. I have to make a $100.00 nonrefundable deposit at the beginning of February for anyone who plans to attend. I am excited that Natasha is going. Since she speaks Spanish fluently, she will be able to communicate with the native populations. She will also be wonderful with the children. This will be her first time to travel outside of the country and her first time to fly, so pray for her to have the courage to launch out for this life-changing experience. We appreciate so much the church's support of our mission trips over the last two years. As a token of our thanks, we will be serving a free lasagna meal after worship on March 8. The dessert auction will be held after the meal. MOTA is also hosting a free Parents' Night Out on Saturday, February 15 as a service to our congregation.

Natasha and I attended the Montreat College Conference at the beginning of January. It was an amazing experience. Natasha will be telling you more about our trip during an upcoming Moment for Mission. She is also attending the PCUSA General Assembly in June with Renee, where she will serve as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate. In addition, she is designing a prayer room for the Easter season in the social hall. It will be open before and after the Maundy Thursday service on March 26 and on April 9 from 6:00-8:30. I am so proud of her for taking advantage of all of the opportunities our church affords her. We will end the semester with a trip to the Garden of the Gods in Illinois.

In Christ,

Lisa Polivick

Here is the MOTA Calendar for the spring semester:

Jan	29	Meeting at the MOTA House/ Natasha has devotion
Feb	5	Meet at MOTA House and go to coffee shop together
	15	Saturday Parents' Night Out
	19	Meet at the MOTA House/Sarah has devotion/work on prayer room
	26	Meet at the MOTA House/Natasha has devotion/work on prayer room
Mar	4	Meeting at MOTA House /Make lasagna
	8	Sunday MOTA's Free Appreciation Meal followed by the Dessert Auction to raise money for missions

	13	Friday Lauren Daigle Concert in Evansville, Indiana
	18	MSU Spring Break
	25	Set up prayer room in the Social Hall
	26	Prayer Room open before and after Maundy Thursday Service
April	1	Meeting at MOTA House/ Lisa has devotion
	9	Prayer Room open from 6-8:30
	5-11	Lisa's Spring Break
	12	Easter Sunday
	15	Activity with Episcopalian College Students
	25	Garden of the Gods

Head & Heart Update

Submitted by Ken Wolf

Head & Heart will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 13. Once again we will see where the thoughts of Richard Rohr in "Immortal Diamond",chapters 5-6, might lead us. Newcomers are always welcome to attend. Q? Ken Wolf: (270) 293-5502 or wolken43@gmail.com.

Financial Report

Submitted by George Kipphut

Stated Session Meeting

2020 General Fund Income as of January 31, 2020 - $14,821

2020 General Fund Expenses as of January 31, 2020 - $17,065

Statements of 2019 Contributions will be available in early February. If you have questions about your Statement, please contact the Church Office or Church Treasurer.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to any of our three special Outreach opportunities during the recent Holiday Season. Donations amounts were:

- Alternative Christmas Gift Market - $1,445
- Christmas Joy Offering - $300
- Buckhorn Children's Home - $191.63

The Stewardship Committee is excited to announce that members and friends of First Presbyterian Church will soon be able to make financial contributions to FPC either on-line or through a Cell Phone App. Information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Women's Retreat

Submitted by Mary Swartz

You are invited to a Spiritual/Wellness Women's Retreat at Penuel Ridge Retreat Center May 1-3, 2020. The retreat center is in a peaceful, serene, natural setting located on 135 acres 30 miles northwest of Nashville, TN.

The cost of the retreat will be $275-$325 per person and includes a healthy dinner Friday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. The group will dine out together on Saturday evening at Riverview Restaurant overlooking the Cumberland River. The expense for dining out is not included in the cost of the retreat. Accommodations and workshops are included in the cost.

Each day will begin with movement and meditation. Saturday will include two optional workshops, focused on improving your health and nourishing your spirit, led by Mary Swartz, Physical Therapist, or Elle Rose, Personal Trainer. We will gather around the fire pit on Saturday night to connect and we will leave plenty of time to explore the hiking trails, walk the labyrinth, and reflect by the lake. If you are interested in attending, please check out the Penuel Ridge Retreat Center website at penuelridge.org and please also email Mary Swartz at harmonyptwellness@gmail.com to reserve your spot!

February Birthdays

George Cochran, February 4

Todd Wright, February 6

Kathy Stroud, February 9

Valerie Heath, February 11

Tim Belcher, February 13

JoAnn Martin, February 15

Katie Hodge, February 22

Cheryl Pittman, February 24

Charlie Byrd, February 26

February Anniversaries

Renee and Jerry Meyer, February 5

Kelly and Chris Holland, February 16

Prayer Concerns

Church Members and Regular Attendees

Marcie Johnson	Passing of her brother-in-law, David
Shirley Latto	Surgery recovery
Carol Allen	Home
Andrea Howe	Testing
Sue Cochran	Recovery at home
Dennis Mills	Passing of his friend, Brian O'Neil
Kathie and Don Fleming	Passing of their grandson, Adam Seo
Cheryl Pittman	Foot and hand nerve pain
Chris Holland	Recovery from shoulder surgery
Marilyn Miller	Recovery
Jamie Helton	Passing of her husband, Roy
Sal Matarazzo	At Brookdale
Terry Holmes and family	Passing of Terry's brother, Greg
Judy Thomas	Passing of her husband, Warren
Eva Hopkins	Home
Deanna Wolf	For continued strength & recovery
Marcie Johnson	Breast cancer treatments
Sue and George Cochran	Passing of Sue's daughter, Susie Taylor
Paul Shaw	Declining health due to Parkinson's Disease
Mary Lynn Christensen	Alzheimer's, Spring Creek #129

Family and Friends of the Congregation

David Schaaf & Family	Andrea French's friend, Hospice Care
Family of Logan Phillips	Laynie Mitchell's former student
Family of Maggie Morgan	Kaycee Byrd's friend
Bruce Pittman	Heart attack
Dennis	Jerry Meyer's brother, recovery
Caitlin Comstock	Kelly Holland's friend, passing of husband
Pat Pittman	Ralph Pittman's son

Angela Locke	Sarah's mother, surgery recovery
Emilia Montgomery	Philip's daughter, recovery
Kevin Wolf	Surgery recovery, new diabetes diagnosis
Sherry Willits	Surgery recovery (Sue Cochran's sister)
Mickey Alba	Dialysis (Laynie Mitchell's brother)
Eddie DePauw	Pneumonia (Wolf's friend)
Melissa	Emma Whitt's mother, health concerns
Barbara Bush Meier	Cancer
Marcia Beam	Debbie Hixon's friend
Jacob Brown	Emma Whitt's friend
Family of Margaret Boone	
Family of Rita Hendon	
Employees of Briggs & Stratton	
Jim McCollouch (Maribeth Crawford's father)	Prostate cancer treatments
Baby Finn (Family friend of Hoffmans)	Stage 4 cancer, chemotherapy
Pastor Ruth Ragovin's Stepfather	Cancer
Darcy Hendricks (Tana Field's friend)	Recovery from brain stem stroke
Jim McCullouch (Maribeth Crawford's grandfather)	Recovery from mini strokes
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