

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: Ken Wolf

Treasurer: George Kipphut

Admin Assistant: Andrea French

Campus Ministry Director: Lisa Polivick

MOTA Intern: vacant

Children & Youth Ministry Director: Kelly Holland

Music Director: vacant

Accompanist: Julie Park

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.

From Pastor Renee's Desk

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer and Andrea French

This is the time of year when we usually begin to plan for Holly Berry. An important annual event that raises funds for the Need Line's Back Pack Program, Holly Berry has become a pre-holiday tradition for our community members. Folks eagerly wait outside in the cold, early morning, anxious for our church doors to open. They are greeted by the delicious smells coming out of the kitchen and can't wait to pile their plate high with the best homemade breakfast their money can buy. They then make their way to the bake sale and load up on Christmas goodies to be enjoyed later at special gatherings with friends and family. Then, the whole experience would not be complete without a visit in the Attic Treasures room and Garage Sale hallway. People get excited about the treasures they find; they usually need help bringing everything to their cars when they are finally ready to leave, feeling full, festive, and ready to start the holidays.

During this time of pandemic, we have been challenged to find new ways of doing old things. While gathering large groups of people indoors is not possible, we might be able to have a modified Holly Berry event, while at the same time continue to raise the necessary funds for the Back Pack Program. Here are some ideas to consider:

- Have Holly Berry in mid October so we can host it outside in the parking lot
- Start making rolls now! Have fewer people in the kitchen but have more frequent roll making sessions.
- Create an online Holly Berry order form and share it on Facebook, email, etc. We can take pre orders for :

Join Us!



Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday

Morning at 7 a.m.

Sept 2, Rudy's

Sept 9, Cracker Barrel

Sept 16, Hih Burger

Sept 23, Martha's

Sept 30, Rudy's



Lunch Bunch

Every Thursday at

11:45 a.m.

Sept 3, August Moon

Sept 10, Don Sol

Sept 17, The Keg

Sept 24, Tom's Grille

- 1) Rolls
- 2) Variety cookie box
- 3) Cakes
- 4) Pies
- 5) Whatever else

• We could feature the following Outdoor Booths:

- 1) Attic Treasures
- 2) Garage Sale Items
- 3) We could even charge booth spots and bring in local vendors!

• Have a Virtual Silent Auction—like our dessert auction but via Zoom or Facebook Live (maybe get a famous person like Bob Valentine?)

What other creative ideas do you have? As us usual, Holly Berry requires a lot of volunteers, so we will be counting on everyone's help in one form or another!

What do you say? Do we want to try this? I would love to hear from you, and soon!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Renee

Worship Services in September: A Tentative Schedule

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer

- Sept 6: Recorded Virtual Worship Service with Communion (you provide the bread and juice)
- Sept 13: Recorded Virtual Worship Service
- Sept 20: Live Zoom Worship
- Sept 27: Live Zoom Worship
- Oct 4: Drive Through Parking Lot Service with Stations

If you would like to help me with planning Worship Experiences during this time of pandemic, please contact me at rev.reneemeyer@gmail.com or call me on my cell phone. Your help would be so very much appreciated!

Laundry Love

Submitted by Shirley Latto

August 31 was First Presbyterian Church's day to host Laundry Love. Sadly, we were not able to do this in person due to the increase in Covid-19 numbers. We did contribute \$250.00 from the Laundry Love account toward the purchase of laundry cards that can be used at the I-Wash laundromat. Once again, these cards will be distributed to the Family Resource Centers in each of the schools in both the Calloway County and Murray Independent school districts. The families who receive these cards are identified by the administrators of each center.

We are hopeful we will be able to participate in a modified, in-person event when it is our turn to host again in November. This will, of course, depend on the situation with the pandemic. Unfortunately, our Laundry Love account was completely depleted with our recent August contribution. Because of this, Laundry Love is in need of monetary donations to provide funds for our November hosting. Our church members have demonstrated a strong commitment to this program through traditional collection plate offerings. At a time when we are unable to gather in person for worship, our ability to participate in November's event is at-risk. Please pray for this desperately-needed community ministry to continue. If you are able to make a contribution, please leave a note with your donation in order to designate it towards Laundry Love.

Here are the expenses for each Laundry Love Event that we have hosted to date:

August 2018:	41 families served	Cost: 319.70
November 2018:	25 families served	Cost: 243.55
February 2019:	26 families served	Cost: 275.10
May 2019:	33 families served	Cost: 300.02
August 2019:	36 families served	Cost: 352.00
November 2019:	35 families served	Cost: 343.70
February 2020:	Cards purchased	Cost: 250.00
May 2020:	Cards purchased	Cost: 250.00
August 2020:	Cards purchased	Cost: 250.00

As you can see from the above information, there are many families and community members who are not being served by this ministry during this worrisome time. We sincerely hope to continue with the in-person events as soon as possible, but we need your help and your prayers. On behalf of the Outreach Committee members, I wish to thank everyone who has given to this effort and send blessings to all.

Shirley Latto

Outreach Committee Chairperson



MOTA Campus Ministry
Ministry Open To All

Dear Members,

As you well know, we are living in difficult times and many people are struggling.

This year MOTA has established the goal of supporting First Presbyterian of Murray in its role as a Matthew 25 Church in fighting to end systemic racism and alleviate poverty in our community. Initiatives we are undertaking this semester include:

- Continuing to provide fresh vegetables to Need Line from our community garden. So far, we have donated approximately 170 pounds of food through this project.
- Hiring a MOTA Intern of color to work toward reaching these two goals. Lisa Polivick, the Campus Ministry Director has hired Asia Blanton, a sophomore at Murray State as the new intern. She is a fine young woman who will serve as a liaison to the black community in our city and on campus.
- Joining protests on Saturday mornings asking for the removal of the Confederate statue on the court square. Asia and Lisa participated last Saturday when Sandy Forrest, the leader of the “Sons of Confederate Veterans” and a proud descendant of Nathan Bedford Forrest, got a water hose from the courthouse to spray away chalk graffiti that was written in support of Black Lives Matter. Although the police had approved the use of chalk on the sidewalk, he sprayed the graffiti and three young women who were protesting. MOTA is planning to attend this Saturday again.
- PCMB organized a week-long free screening of the documentary *The Long Shadow* about the development of racism in the United States and arranged a one hour Zoom meeting to talk with the director along with 3 other panelists.
- PCMB and MOTA will offer the same documentary free screening and Zoom discussion forum with the director and 3 new panelists for the MSU campus in October.
- Lisa Polivick is also going to show this documentary and arrange a Zoom meeting with the director for the Advanced Placement students of Murray High School.
- MOTA is organizing a drive to collect Calculators that MSU students are no longer using to donate to students who cannot afford to buy one.
- Our vision is to convert part of the MOTA house into a Resource Center to help meet the needs of MSU students who are struggling financially. We want to develop a food pantry and a stock of school supplies to donate to needy students. This initiative will require substantial financial sourcing to get off the ground. We are meeting with other resource centers in Murray to find out about how they obtain their materials and at what cost.
- We want to work in partnership with the Main Street Youth Center to help young people who are at risk in our community. This might be in the form of a big-sister, big-brother program.

- We hope to partner with the black sorority on campus to gather donated goods for our Resource Center.
- Join a weekly Zoom Bible Study with the Episcopal College Fellowship.
- MOTA leadership signed an historic ecumenical letter supporting the removal of the Confederate Statue that was published in the local newspaper.
- We will continue to financially support the community in Guatemala whom we have helped the last few years, even though we cannot travel due to the pandemic.

As you can see, we feel that this pandemic, along with the racial strife in our country, compels us to do more not less than in past years. Last year, the Presbytery of Western Kentucky generously gave MOTA \$10,000 to fund ministry.

For 2021, we have asked our Presbytery for \$22,000 to fund ministry to open a Resource Center for MSU students who are struggling financially. Our vision is that this Center will have supplies like they would find in the university bookstore necessary for their academic work as well as personal hygiene and pantry items. There is no ministry like this anywhere in Murray. If ever there was a time and a need for it, it is now.

Thank you for the many ways you have supported the ministry and mission of MOTA over the years. This vital work would not be possible without you.

Dr. David Pizzo

Moderator, Presbyterian Campus Ministry Board

FPC Outreach Service Activities for September

FPC Donates \$500 to Main Street Youth Center

FPC Donates \$84 to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Financial Report

Submitted by George Kipphut

2020 General Fund Income as of August 31, 2020 - \$114,432

2020 General Fund Expenses as of August 31, 2020 - \$121,440

Thank you to all members and friends who have continued their financial support of First Presbyterian Church through the mail and through our Online Giving portal.



Meals for Eva Hopkins

Submitted by Laura Ken Hoffman

Hello everyone I spoke with Eva's daughter and she confirmed with Eva that she would love to have meals delivered again. Everyone was so generous last time, so if they would like to reply to me (lauraken.stewart@gmail.com), I can get another meal train going for Sundays. Just a quick reminder that it's just food for one, which should hopefully make it easier! Please keep this in mind: Eva told Renee she likes her food delivered by 4:00 p.m. if able (since she eats

early). Also, she has some dietary restrictions in that she can't handle seeds or red sauce/ tomatoes. She lives at 1500 Cardinal Drive here in Murray and the garage door is always kept open. She is always so appreciative of the meals!

Thank you!

Laura Ken Hoffman

September Birthdays

- Lucy Mitchell, Sept 1
- Dawn Gaskin, Sept 8
- Trenton Holland, Sept 9
- Barbara Conley, Sept 10
- Sid Martin, Sept 10
- Luke Crawford, Sept 12
- Kathie Fleming, Sept 13
- Paul Shaw, Sept 23
- Skylar Swartz, Sept 23
- Ethelyn Loberger, Sept 26
- Cindy Barmett, Sept 26
- Carol Jean Lewis, Sept 27



September Anniversaries

- Ann & Bill Wells, Sept 3
- Cheryl & Ralph Pittman, Sept 6
- Maribeth & Luke Crawford, Sept 8
- Janine Kruger & Tom Jenkins, Sept 15
- Tana Field & Todd Goselin, Sept 18
- Kathie & Don Fleming, Sept 29

Prayer Concerns

Church Members and Regular Attendees

Baby Daniel	Albert and Julie Park's child, born early
Emma Whitt	Covid-19, in Lexington
Corky Broughton	Recovery from hip surgery, physical therapy
Reba Vogel and Family	Passing of her husband, Bob Vogel
George Cochran	Passing of his aunt, Berta
Sue Cochran	Passing of her sister, Sherry
Steve Rayburn and Jeri Lake	Passing of Steve's uncle Jim Rayburn
Jerry Meyer	Healing from phlebitis
Maribeth Crawford and Family	Passing of her grandfather, Jim McCullouch
Eva Hopkins and Liz Gilliam	Passing of their brother, James Woods
Jamie Helton	Broken leg, recovery
Marion and Pete O'Rourke	Passing of their son, Peter Francis O'Rourke III
Marilyn Miller	Passing of her husband, Cary Miller; Recovery
Joan and Whitey Adams	Passing of their nephew, Ruben Adams
Cindy Barnett	Passing of her father, Bill Williams
Cheryl Pittman	Foot and hand nerve pain
Sal Matarazzo	At Brookdale
Eva Hopkins	Home, providing meals
Paul Shaw	Declining health due to Parkinson's Disease
Mary Lynn Christensen	Alzheimer's, Spring Creek #129

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Essential Workers and Families affected by Covid-19

Jace Legend Rivera Cepeda	Cheryl and Ralph Pittman's Great Grandchild, born early
Marilyn	Dewayne Polivick's mother, breast cancer
Debbie Burgess' Mother	Recovery from surgery
Family of Rev. Dr. Steve Montgomery	
Courtney Fall	Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer's daughter, prayers for a healthy pregnancy
Elysa	Rev. David M. Montgomery's sister in law, neck surgery recovery
Julie Wallace	Jerry Meyer's daughter, recovery from parathyroid surgery
Patricia Messick	Barbara Conley's sister, stage IV lung cancer
Russ Clendenin	Finding a new service dog for his diabetes
Family & friends of Bob Broyles	

Ryken Stenberg	Great Grandson to Deanna and Ken Wolf, home
Jeannine Thelen	Continued recovery from Covid-19
Hannah Rayburn-Lake	Recovery after back surgery
Kent McCammon	Friend of Kelly and Chris Holland, stage IV pancreatic and liver cancer
Sonia Fall	Renee's son-in-law's mother, pulmonary fibrosis of lungs
Nancy Goselin	Todd Goselin's mother
Bruce Pittman	Hospice Care
Pat Pittman	Ralph Pittman's son
Employees of Briggs & Stratton	
Jim McCollouch (Maribeth Crawford's father)	Prostate cancer
Baby Finn (Family friend of Hoffmans)	Stage 4 cancer, chemotherapy is finished.
Darcy Hendricks (Tana Field's friend)	Recovery from brain stem stroke