

# FPC CONNECTIONS

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



## Church Staff

Pastor: Seeking Interim Pastor

Office Administrator: Andrea French

Campus Ministry Director: Lisa Polivick

MOTA Intern: Asia Blanton

Youth Ministry Director: Kelly Holland

Music Director: Vacancy

Accompanist: Julie Park

W&W Storyteller: Hannah McKibben

Nursery Attendant: Lindsay Crafton

Custodian: Monte Fisher

Clerk of Session: Ken Wolf

Treasurer: George Kipphut

Office Hours: M-F 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## An Elder's Reflection

*Submitted by Shirley Latto, FPC Session Elder*

While considering what to write in this article for our May Newsletter, so many ideas came to mind it was difficult to choose just one. In addition, the previous articles written by fellow session members have set the bar pretty high so the pressure was building. As I began to think about those messages, the memory of Laura Ken telling us her mom had suggested an idea brought my mother to mind. So many memories instantly wrapped me in such a sweet embrace it was clear my subject had been chosen: Mother's Day!

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson lobbied congress to recognize the second Sunday in May as a national holiday to celebrate America's Mothers. (Yes, I Googled that) On May 9, 2021, we will again celebrate the mothers we know and cherish. These women do not necessarily have to be our own birth mother, they can be women who have helped shape our lives through teaching us, modeling for us how to be honorable through the way they lived their lives. Personally, I have been blessed with many women who have "mothered" me simply by being my friend and mentor. Teachers, whom I clearly remember from first grade through graduate studies, and the mothers and grandmothers of friends whom I still love dearly, come to mind when I consider all of all the people who have contributed to my life. Betty Shepperson, Margaret Boone, and Beth Belote are some of the beautiful spirits who have supported and guided me in the past and now friends near my age offer the same support and compassion as we continue this blessed tradition of taking care of each other.

Mothers have a God-given source of unconditional love that has kept most of us alive during the times we tried their patience. God's wisdom shines through all those

# Join Us!



## Men's Breakfast

*Every Wednesday  
Morning at 7 a.m.*

**May 5, Martha's**

**May 12, Rudy's**

**May 19, Cracker Barrel**

**May 26, Hih Burger**



## Lunch Bunch

*Every Thursday at  
11:45 a.m.*

**May 6, Tom's Grille**

**May 13, Culver's**

**May 20, Cracker Barrel**

**May 27, Mugsy's**

seemingly endless promptings such as:

•Always wear clean underwear (in case you are in an accident).  
Meaning - Be Prepared! How often do we read that in scripture? However, I don't remember underwear being mentioned. It's a mom thing.

•If something is worth doing it is worth doing right.

Check scripture for this bit of Mother's wisdom (think of Paul and Silas when they could have made a break for it after the earthquake freed them from jail. Yes, the opportunity was open for them to run away but they stayed and faced the people who were determined to defeat them.)

•Judge not for as you judge you shall be judged.

Ooooooh.....we can just think about that one for a while!

My youngest son, his wife and three daughters were visiting while I was writing this article and we had a fascinating conversation about the clean underwear warning. Both adults and all three girls, ages 15 to 20, still remembered this coming from their mom and my daughter in law remembered this from her mother. This is another example of a "mom thing" that grew from God's wisdom.

Many times, I have heard and continue to hear my mother's voice prompting me to pay attention to God's teaching through her ability to apply these simple bits of advice to everyday life. Not all my memories of her techniques are sweet and gentle. There were times when I felt the sting of being corrected for some behavior that did not meet with her approval. Her attempt at correcting these (and I gave her plenty of opportunities) can be compared to Jesus correcting his disciples for their lack of faith during a boat ride on a stormy sea, and even chastising his mother at the wedding feast. As we study these passages there is a great deal of tenderness and patience being given along with the scolding. This is an example of unconditional love, which is a gift from God to mothers and all who step into that role.



No matter how old, we are still our mother's child and always carry her in our hearts. The mother-child relationship does not end with death, but continues generation after generation. The ultimate goal of a mother is to rear children who will one day become adults with the capacity to lovingly parent their children spiritually and physically.

Happy Mother's Day to all who have loved and cared for others. May the Lord bless you for being a blessing yourself.

## Clerk's Report: 4-12-21 Session Meeting

*Submitted by Ken Wolf, Clerk of Session*

After the April 12, 2021 Session Meeting, our Clerk of Session, Ken Wolf, has prepared the following updates for us in his Clerk's Report:

- Treasurer George Kipphut reported that church general fund income increased from the previous month due in part to stimulus money received from the federal government and in part due to the success we have had with online giving.
- The Session reviewed the Ministry Information Form (MIF) and made final changes and corrections suggested by Moderator Rev. Kenneth Dick. The MIF has been approved by Presbytery and entered into the national Church Leadership Connection (CLC) database. This will allow us to receive applications for our interim minister position nationally. Elder Todd Wright volunteered to be the contact person for the Session in this effort.
- Pulpit supply has been secured through the end of May: May 2, Rev. Dr. Jenna Goggins; May 9, Rev. Dr. Jenna Goggins; May 16, Rev. Kenneth Dick; May 23: Bob Valentine; May 30: Bob Valentine.
- Session members heard a report by videographer Cameron Witte on camera equipment that the church might consider purchasing for on-line worship in the future. Elder Eric Frederick will meet with treasurer, George Kipphut, to get more information and report back to Session.



- Session approved a 10:00 a.m. start time for worship beginning on Sunday, May 30. There was some discussion of making this earlier time permanent and/or adding a second contemporary service in the Fall.
- Elder Eric Frederick will contact the MSU Music Department to begin the process of finding and hiring a Director of Music, with the hopes that Choir can begin this fall.
- Building and Grounds reported that exterior door locks were being changed and that all Session members and others requiring access to the church outside of office hours will be issued new keys. Members who have the old keys will need to keep them, as they will be used to unlock interior/classroom doors inside the church. The new exterior keys will work in the kitchen doors and remaining exterior doors. Please remember, only the white electronic key cards are to be used on our main front doors, which use a magnetic door lock system.

## Seeking Liturgists and Ushers

*Submitted by Todd Wright*

As we have started coming together for in person worship again, we need volunteers to serve as Liturgists and Ushers for our worship services. If you are interested in serving in this important worship ministry, please sign up for a Sunday or two at the Sign Up Table in the narthex. If you have any questions about being a liturgist or usher, please contact Session Elder, Todd Wright: [eaglesii@bellsouth.net](mailto:eaglesii@bellsouth.net).

## Outreach

*Submitted by Shirley Latto*

The Day of Pentecost is May 23, 2021. We will collect our PC(USA) special Pentecost offering on this day. According to the Presbyterian Mission, the Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. To learn more about how the Pentecost Offering makes a difference, you may visit <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/pentecost/>.

### FPC Outreach Service Activities for May 2021:

- FPC Donates \$200 to the Presbytery Theological Education Fund
- FPC Donates \$83 to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- FPC holds Pentecost PC(USA) Special Offering on May 23

**GIVE BLOOD**  
*You can make a difference.*



American  
Red Cross

### Save the Date!

Our Next Blood Drive Will Be Held On:

Thursday, June 10, 2021

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

## May Birthdays

Ronald Hoffman, May 1  
Eric Frederick, May 1  
Sue Cochran, May 5  
Griffin Hoffman, May 10  
Tonie Belcher, May 17  
Maribeth Crawford, May 18  
Victoria Holmes, May 19  
Tom Lyford, May 23  
Sarah Harrison, May 28



## May Anniversaries

**Marcie & Michael Johnson, May 17**  
**Robin & Terry Holmes, May 25**

## Summer Worship Schedule

Our summer worship schedule will resume on Sunday, May 30, 2021, with our church service starting at **10:00 a.m.** instead of 10:45 a.m.

## Memorial Day

The office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on May 31, 2021.

## Guest Pastors for May

May 2, Rev. Dr. Jenna Goggins; May 9, Rev. Dr. Jenna Goggins; May 16, Rev. Dr. Kenneth Dick;  
May 23: Bob Valentine; May 30: Bob Valentine

# Prayer Concerns

## Church Members and Regular Attendees

Aaron Polivick	Recovery and therapy, home
Sue Cochran	Recovery and therapy, home
Ralph and Cheryl Pittman	Passing of Ralph's brother, Bruce Pittman
JoAnn Martin	Uterine Cancer, recover from hysterectomy
Layne Mitchell and Family	Passing of Layne's brother, Mickey Alba
Barbara Conley	Strength and recovery, Hickory Woods
Family of Russ Wall	
Marion and Pete O'Rourke	Passing of their son, Peter Francis O'Rourke III
Reba Vogel	Passing of her husband, Bob Vogel
Marilyn Miller	Passing of her husband, Cary Miller
Terry Foreman	Recovery at home
Sal Matarazzo	At Brookdale
Eva Hopkins	Home, cracked spine
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

Nancy Goselin	Todd Goselin's mother
Brandon Bethune	Whitey Adams' good friend, undergoing series of back surgeries
Sheila	George Cochran's sister, COPD
John Cooper	Kaycee and Zach Byrd's grandfather, continued strength and recovery, improved appetite
Marilyn	Dewayne Polivick's mother, breast cancer
June Burgess	Debbie Burgess' mother, Hospice Care
Pat Pittman	Ralph Pittman's son

