Vacation Bible School

First Presbyterian Church
525 N Broadway, Wichita KS 67214
(Pre-K- 5th grade children must be toilet trained)

June 4th-8th 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Snacks will be provided.
Please have children wear comfortable shoes and bring sunblock as some of our day is outside. ALL registrations are due by May 20, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact
Liz Norris (316)214-4318
childrendirector@firstchurchwichita.org
Let Us Focus Our Prayers on These Members:


Sympathy: Sympathy to the families of Christine Rule, Don Howard, Dorothy Helsel, Dale Wallace and Bill Gross on their recent deaths. Please keep these families and friends of these in your prayers as they grieve these recent deaths.

May Birthdays

1 Samantha Inman
3 Isaac Cline
4 Aleya Skinner
5 Ryan Skinner
6 Cooper Stueven
7 Stacy Goldwater
8 Isabel Schulte
9 Denise Taylor
10 Rebecca Blanford
11 Dean Wallace
12 Andrew Howard
13 Emily Howard
14 Charles Sloan Jr.
15 Katelyn Young
16 Christina Hibarger
17 Tyler Duncan
18 James Kincaid
19 Carol Seek
20 Glenn Zeigler
21 Lorena Kite
22 Sheli Blessant
23 Robert Heaton
24 Linda Robinson
25 Helen Steindler
26 Carter Bowles
27 Paul Crittenden
28 Mayme Pearl
29 Linda Boyle
When I was part of the group from this church that went to Scotland and Ireland back in 2014, a highlight of our trip was a chance to worship in St. Giles Cathedral on Sunday morning. After the sermon, we were invited to the Communion table to stand around it in a circle in groups of 20, in which we passed the bread and the cup as we said, “Christ’s body given for you.” And “Christ’s blood shed for you.” It was a deeply moving experience, if you could get past drinking from the common cup. I almost did not partake out of fear that I might catch a cold or something as we were just starting out on our 10-day trip over Scotland and Ireland. Thankfully, I did not catch something, but I can understand why many would not want to take that risk. For this reason, the Worship and Music Commission has decided that we will do a modified version of communion in St. Giles, our Mother Church.

This modified version will have three tables instead of one so as not to take too long inviting groups of twelve around the table and we will pass the bread tray and then the cup tray as we say to one another “Christ’s body given for you” and “Christ’s blood poured out for you.”

The first chance we get to do this will be May 6th at the 10:45 am service. By then, the removal of the pews along the side and front will be complete. Many thanks to J.D. Page, Mark Jones, Roger Lyons, Roy Yarborough and Promote Growth Task Force for making these changes to the front of the sanctuary possible to allow for creative worship. Besides being able to celebrate communion that fosters Community, we look forward to having more room up front for weddings without removing the communion table, for College Choirs and Wichita Chamber Chorale to perform on risers down below when their number exceeds what the choir loft can accommodate, and for dramatic reenactment of the biblical stories. These little changes will enhance our worship without taking away from the aesthetic beauty of the sanctuary. I look forward to sharing communion with you on May 6th.

Grace and Peace,

From the Pastor’s Desk

Communion that Fosters Community

St. Giles Cathedral Church of Scotland in Edinburgh.
Waiting.................it’s something we all do. Most of the time we wait for “ho-hum” kinds of things – in line at the grocery store, at a traffic light, at the post office, for our appointment with the doctor or dentist, etc., etc., etc. Randy Brown, the former editorial staff editor for the Wichita Eagle, once said, “I always keep a good book in the car to read when I wait for a train to pass, and I’ve read three, cover to cover, in the past year!” Not a bad idea to have a book or Kindle handy no matter where you wait.

Aside from the humdrum stuff, there are generally two kinds of waiting: for good news, such as – the birth of a baby, a check coming in the mail, a successful surgery and recovery and birthdays (unless you’re over 65)! Then there is waiting for bad news: the kind of news we dread but have all experienced throughout our lives.

The most difficult part of any kind of waiting is patience. In our American culture, we don’t have time for patience. We tend to want answers NOW – to everything. We have a hard time waiting very long for anything. It’s just not in our DNA.

I tend to be an impatient person, and my response is sometimes, “Lord, grant me patience, and I need it right now!” I know that the God who loves and cares for me also hears my prayers, but what I often fail to remember is that God’s timeline is not the same as ours. He does not work like our electronic devices which give us “instant gratification.”

Look at Scripture and you find countless pleas from God’s people for help in times of suffering: ”Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place.” As Jesus, God’s only Son, hung on the cross he cried: “My God, my God, why have your forsaken me?”

Do we sometimes feel that God has forsaken us? Yes, sometimes we do. For ten years I had been estranged from a member of my family. During those years seeking reconciliation, in prayer I always remembered the words from I Cor 13: 4- “Love is patient...Love never fails.” But it was so hard to wait! I am grateful that we have finally been re-united and together we are building a new relationship of love and trust.

Why does God wait so long sometimes to answer our prayers? Perhaps we are not ready for those answers. Sometimes we don’t get the answers we want. Perhaps God has a different answer for us. Jesus didn’t miraculously come down from the cross, but his death brought resurrection and salvation to the world. When we don’t get the answers we want, God, in his merciful love and care, leads us down new paths of hope, courage, and patience.

Reinhold Niebuhr, the great American theologian, who is currently the subject of Pastor Brent’s study group, wrote this prayer, familiar to many of us.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can, And wisdom to know the difference.

And, have patience... spring eventually WILL arrive! (Hopefully before you receive this edition of the PresbyNews)

Blessings,

Pastor Judy
GOOD HEALTH STARTS WITH CLEAN HANDS

While the last 100 years have seen great advances in medicine, the best way to keep from getting sick or spreading germs is the same as a century ago: regularly washing your hands with soap and water. Because so many of our contagious diseases are transmitted through our hands, handwashing is the cornerstone of sickness prevention.

Using soap and warm water is the best way to reduce the number of germs on your hands; however, there is another method that continues to grow in popularity. It seems like wherever you go these days, there is a big dispenser of hand sanitizer hanging on the wall—hospitals, grocery stores, shopping malls, airports, and even in our church. Recently, we have purchased and placed several free-standing hand sanitizers throughout our church to help in preventing the spread of illness and disease. These alcohol-based sanitizers are effective at killing many harmful bacteria and viruses, including the flu viruses, and they’re a great option when soap and water aren’t conveniently available. When using hand sanitizer, apply at least a dime-sized amount and rub your hands together for about 15 seconds or until they feel dry. Keep in mind that hand sanitizer doesn’t kill every type of germs. It does not kill norovirus, which causes stomach pain, nausea, diarrhea and vomiting. Norovirus is highly contagious and spreads from person to person through contaminated food, water, and objects that come in contact with the mouth. Handwashing with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds is still your best weapon against norovirus.

Wash your hands often and especially after going to the toilet, before eating or preparing food, and after changing diapers. Also wash your hands:

- Before and after visiting or caring for someone who is sick at home or in a care facility
- Before and after treating a wound or cut
- After blowing your nose, sneezing, or coughing
- After touching an animal, animal food, or animal waste
- After touching garbage

Remember to not touch your eyes, nose and mouth until you have washed your hands to prevent infections.

Even though handwashing with soap and water is the best, hand sanitizer is still a great tool to protect yourself. Hand sanitizer is portable and can easily fit in your purse or jacket when you’re on the go. Also, hand sanitizer does not dry out your hands as much as soap and water. Hand sanitizers are not a substitute for washing with soap and water, but they’re a good supplemental tool to the old-fashioned method that has worked for hundreds of years.

Joan Aldrich
Summer camp information.
We need volunteers, counselors, and supplies for summer camps. Please watch the children’s board next to the nursery for more information. Camp forms are now available. Please keep the top page and return the registration form to the main office. This year we will not have latchkey. We will have an option for church members’ children. Please contact Liz Norris for more details.

Vacation Bible School- Rolling River Rampage
@First Presbyterian Church
June 4th-8th 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Snacks will be provided. Please have children wear comfortable shoes and bring sunblock as some of our day is outside. ALL registration is due by May 20, 2018. If you have any questions, please call Liz Norris at 316-214-4318 or email at childrendirector@firstchurchwichita.org.

Games Camp
@ Whispering Winds Camp
June 18th-22nd 9:30-4:00 p.m. @ Whispering Winds camp. Parents are responsible for transportation to church camp unless they make other arrangements with the Director of Children’s Ministry.
Cost of camp $40 for the week. (scholarships are available upon review)
This camp is centered around team building and sharing God’s love for one and other. This year’s theme will be, “Together everyone achieves more.” The camp offers energizers, a variety of games we will play each day indoors and outdoors, a scripture lesson each day, provided snack, and swimming each afternoon. Please bring a plastic sack, bug spray, sunscreen, hats, sun glasses, and pool toys to share. Each day children will need to bring a sack lunch, swimsuit & towel. Questions or concerns please contact Liz Norris (316)214-4318 or Cynthia Rekoske (316)992-9595. We will be having a lock-in for 4th & 5th graders on June 21st. Kids need to bring clothes to change into, and bedding. On Friday the 22nd we will have a camp cook out provided by the children’s ministry team. Snack and food donations are welcome.

As we celebrate our grads! The congregation is invited to celebrate the graduation of Christopher Gales, Zach Blessant, Khyah Van Es, Sailor Sulier, and Samantha Gales
Saturday, May 19, 1:00-4:00 p.m., The Well.
May 1 (Tuesday) – CE Commission meeting in The Well 5:30-7 p.m.
May 2 (Wednesday) – Faith in Films: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2, 6-7:30 p.m. in The Well
May 5 (Saturday) – Try volunteering at the Community Breakfast. The community breakfast is an ongoing mission of our church. We encourage you and your family to volunteer.
May 6 (Sunday) – (2) worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school is in the Youth Lounge from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
May 9 (Wednesday) – Faith in Films: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2, 6-7:30 p.m. in The Well
May 13 (EPIC Sunday) – Mother’s Day-(2) worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school is in the Youth Lounge from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Recognition of graduates.
May 16 (Wednesday) – Faith in Films: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2, 6-7:30 p.m. in The Well
May 20 (Sunday) - (2) worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school is in the Youth Lounge from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Last Sunday school until the fall semester begins.
May 27 (Sunday) - (1) worship service at 10:45 a.m. No Youth Sunday school.
May 30 (Wednesday) – Summer Splash! 1-5 p.m.

Questions? E-mail Geri Doll doll@firstchurchwichita.org, call or text 316-737-8855.
We are happy to give you a ride if needed.

Faith in Films Presents: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2
May 2, 9, & 16 from 6-7:30 p.m. in The Well
Join Pastor Brent & Geri Doll for movie viewing and discussion. Bring your own dinner; snacks will be available.
Movie is rated PG13.
There will be choir, recreation, and other fun activities for the children All ages are welcome!

A group of youth and adults from FPC and Covenant Presbyterian Church worked together at the Kansas Food Bank during spring break.
March’s total sales were a tremendous $12,677.68. This is a record for single month’s sales. FPC’s share was $11,550.03 and Grace’s was $1,127.65. This is an increase of $4,624.25 in sales over March 2017 sales. We filled 118 vouchers for basic clothing necessities which were equivalent to $1,569.47. FPC’s portion of the vouchers equaled $1,183.34 and Grace’s was $386.13.

When you begin organizing for warmer weather, please remember that you can drop items at the Corner or at FPC in room 109 rather than at The Well as stated last month. The Corner is in need of men’s jeans, pots, pans and other kitchen equipment.

We rely on and appreciate your help in assisting our urban community with daily necessities.

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**First Presbyterian Church**
**Quarterly Report**
**January 1 - March 31, 2018**

<table>
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<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<td>$19,249.86</td>
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<td>$157,522.64</td>
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<td>$155,733.73</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>$237,643.46</td>
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A total of 134 pledges totaling $420,057 have been received, which is within 2.5% of our projection of $430,000. Contributions totaled $121,915.05 during the quarter, 24% of our projected budget. We ended the first quarter with expenses exceeding income by $80,120.82. However the Church will receive $249,937 from the Foundation this year, with the first gift being in April. We still expect to finish the year with a projected shortfall of $76,697.68. Thank you for your continued support.
Calling All Graduates

We need your help! If you or anyone you know is graduating this spring, from high school, college, or any other school, please let us know so they can be recognized on Sunday, May 13 during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. This information will also be helpful in updating our college-age student list. Please contact Geri Doll 316-737-8855 or doll@firstchurchwichita.org.

EARTH DAY FUN

A large group of FPC members and friends gathered at Park Villa for our annual Earth Day celebration and potluck. Even though it was breezy and cool, the food was plentiful, and the kids had lots of activities to keep them busy. Thank you to Stewardship Committee for all

Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to Cynthia Rekoske who received the Volunteer of the Year award from the CE Commission. She has spent many hours volunteering with the children and youth. We don’t know what we’d do without her energetic and cheerful attitude. Thank you Cynthia!

Theological Themes in Literature

Thursday, May 17

Theological Themes in Literature meets the third Thursday of every month at 11:45 a.m. in the Reception Room. Questions? Contact Anne Watson: 685-2981

May’s Book:
The Persian Pickle Club by Sandra Dallas
Pentecost Celebration, Sunday May 20

Pentecost, celebrated on the seventh Sunday (49 days) after Easter, commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. This event is described in Acts 2:1–31 and is celebrated as the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the church of the past, continuing to inspire the church of today, and pointing us to the church of the future.

One of the four major offerings of the PC(USA) is the Pentecost Offering, a churchwide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Studies show that a foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood, helps ensure lifelong faith and service. Psalms 71:17 testifies to this truth, “O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.” The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person’s life.

Presbyterian congregations are finding new ways to minister to children at-risk in their communities. General Assembly programs are advocating for children and developing youth and young adult leaders. By giving to the Pentecost Offering we are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come: children, youth, and young adults. Our church keeps 40% of the offering, 25% goes to the Young Adult Volunteer program, 25% goes to “Guiding Youth” for ages 12-18, and 10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” a national initiative.

Please join with the worldwide Presbyterian church in building for our future, in building individual lives of faith with a special gift to the Pentecost Offering received on Sunday, May 20th.

The final lesson for PW in their study of Hebrews will be on Wednesday, May 9. Brunch will be served at 9:30 a.m. in the West Dining Room with the lesson to follow. PW circles from area Presbyterian churches have been invited to the event. Rev. Dawn Flippin, pastor of the Kingman church, will present the lesson “In Community with All the Saints.” Reservations are needed by Friday noon, May 4 to Mary Knecht, 942-8068 or knechtmary@hotmail.com. The $6.00 for the cost of food will be collected from each guest at the door. The annual Birthday Offering will be received.

Cookies for The Well

I hope you all have been enjoying the delicious cookies and treats in The Well each Sunday. You may wonder where these great treats come from! We have a group of about 15 people who bring treats on a rotating schedule. Some people have needed to retire from their cookie baking and some have moved. So, we are in need of additional individuals to bring Cookies for The Well. You can bake or you can buy treats! You would be asked to bring treats once every six weeks or so. We ask you to bring 3 dozen cookies or treats or some loaves of sweet bread. I send out a schedule as well as reminders. If you would be available to assist in this ministry of welcoming, please let me know (pattyc1@gmail.com or 316-250-4577) and I would be happy to schedule you in the next rotation. Patty Cole.
### Calendar-cont’d.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 1</strong></td>
<td>1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs) 5:30 All Committee Night 6:00 Deacons (C103)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 2</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas (C105) 6:00 Faith in Films (The Well)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 3</strong></td>
<td>8:30 Sr. Men’s Breakfast (WDR) 5:00 Mission Meeting (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, May 4</strong></td>
<td>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR) 7:00 Kell First Friday (Phil Michel)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, May 5</strong></td>
<td>8:00 Community Breakfast (EDR, WDR, KIT) 9:00 Guadalupe Clinic (EDR) 11:00 Brent’s Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, May 6</strong></td>
<td>Communion 8:30 Worship (Chapel) 9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well) 9:30 Journey Class (WDR) 9:30 Sunday School &amp; Luccock Class (C109) 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) 10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201) 12:00 Camp Counselor Training (The Well)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 8</strong></td>
<td>1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs) 5:30 Finance &amp; Admin. Com. Mtg. (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 9</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105) 9:30 PW Brunch 6:00 Faith in Films (The Well) 6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, May 10</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Economy Corner Board Meeting (EC) 5:30 Promote the Growth (The Well)</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, May 11</strong></td>
<td>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, May 12</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Gardens &amp; Grounds 9:30 Transportation Mtg. (C109) 11:00 Brent’s Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, May 13</strong></td>
<td>Mother’s Day 8:30 Worship (Chapel) 9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well) 9:30 Journey Class (WDR) 9:30 Stephen Ministry Supervision (C103) 9:30 Sunday School &amp; Luccock Class (C109) 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) [EPIC Worship &amp; Graduation Recognition] 10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201) 11:45 Worship &amp; Music Mtg. (McComb)</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, May 14</strong></td>
<td>4:30 Personnel Meeting (Hobbs)</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, May 15</strong></td>
<td>1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs) 5:30 Session (Parlor)</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, May 16</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas (C105)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 17</strong></td>
<td>8:30 Sr. Men’s Breakfast (WDR) 11:45 Theological Themes in Lit. (RR)</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, May 18</strong></td>
<td>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday May 19</strong></td>
<td>11:00 Brent’s Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, May 20</strong></td>
<td>Prayers of the People 8:30 Worship (Chapel) 9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well) 9:30 Sunday School &amp; Luccock Class (C109) 10:00 Camp Com. Mtg. (The Well) 10:00 Dillon’s Rewards Enroll (The Well) 10:00 Blood Pressure Check (The Well) 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) 10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, May 22</strong></td>
<td>1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs)</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, May 23</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas (C105) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, May 26</strong></td>
<td>11:00 Brent’s Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, May 27</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Weekend 9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well) 9:30 Journey Class (WDR) 9:30 Sunday School &amp; Luccock Class (C109) 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) 10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 29</strong></td>
<td>1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 30</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas (C105) 1:00 Summer Splash (Camp)</td>
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2018 Christian Fellowship Groups - Huge success!

Nearly 70 people participated in the Spring Christian Fellowship Groups, which met monthly for four months. A big thank you to the hosts and hostesses, who set up the groups and found the various venues: Judy Davis, Alice Price, Dale & DJ Spaeth, Tom and Peggy Church, Richard and Margaret Wieland, Bruce & Patty Cole, Mary & Jack Hollowell. Every person who participated noted positive experiences of sharing and gaining new appreciation for fellow church members. Thank you to the Evangelism and Hospitality Committee for initiating this spring program.