“In the Heart of the City. In the Heart of God”
September 2018 ● Volume 49, Number 9

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Mission Statement
In response to the love and grace of God, First Presbyterian Church of Wichita, Kansas, is a fellowship of believers bound together to glorify God and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through worship, spiritual nurturing, education and mission to all people.

FPC Information:
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Wichita, KS 67214
(316) 263-0248
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Sunday Worship—Summer Schedule
Coffee Fellowship 9:00 a.m.
(The Well)
Worship 9:30 a.m.
(Sanctuary)

First Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

BIG, BANG, BINGO!
.....and the not so Silent Auction

Sunday, September 9th
12 Noon – 3 PM
Church Dinner with a Bingo Card:
Adult - $10  Child - $5  Family of 4+ - $30
Dinner Tickets go on sale in August!

Don your Super Hero Cape
and join your church family for a fabulous afternoon of fellowship with a church dinner, playing Bingo for prizes, and, making bids on Silent Auction baskets. BRING FRIENDS!!
All proceeds of the event will go to support spiritual growth and renewal of our congregation as we approach FPC’s 150th Anniversary!! Contact Michelle Murray-Cline at 794-1195 if you have any concerns or would love to assist!
Let Us Focus Our Prayers on These Members:


Let Us Focus Our Prayers on These Members:

I thought you would like an update on my recovering from surgery to fuse my vertebrae at C5 to C7. As you can see from my picture, I am in a neck brace. I will be wearing this neck brace for six weeks and then rehab begins. It is day 11 since surgery as I write this article. I am now mostly pain free from the surgery (Yeah!). I am sleeping at nights for the first time in a long time (Double Yeah!). It feels great. I look forward to coming back in September ready to hit the ground running so to speak as the Fall program begins September 9. We go back to two services and our Wednesday night program begins later that week as well. Finally, thank you for your cards and prayers for my speedy recovery. It means the world to me to know that I have people praying for me. See you in September!

Grace and Peace,

[Signature]

World Communion Sunday, October 7
Peace and Global Witness offering received
A few words from Pastor Judy…

Just when I thought Presbyterian continuing education experiences couldn’t get any better – there was Synod School in Storm Lake, Iowa! An annual event held the third week of July, Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for laity, clergy, families, and individuals of all ages.

Six hundred Presbyterians gathered on the beautiful campus of Buena Vista University – about 200 of whom were children and youth. Seventy classes and activities were available for adults, youth, and children. Limited to four courses per person in the registration process, it was very hard to pick from that bounty of choices!

Liz Norris, FPC Children’s Director, drove with me to Storm Lake. It was an easy drive and we took turns at the steering wheel, watching as the scenery changed from the stubble of recent Kansas wheat harvests to endless miles of tall, growing Iowa corn.

From the moment we arrived on campus we began making new friends! BVU students were on hand to help folks with luggage and served as enthusiastic ambassadors for the college all week, eager to help make our stay a great experience.

The theme for the 2018 Synod School was “Dance Joyfully Where’er You May Be.” Liz and I must have taken that literally because both of us enrolled in “Liturgical Dance” class! Most of us felt clumsy and out-of-place that first day. However, under the patient and encouraging direction of our talented instructor, our “troupe” of thirteen “grew in grace” and we did indeed “dance joyfully” at the final evening worship service. The other three classes I attended were led by outstanding faculty and always included lively discussions and exchange of ideas.

We had generous amounts of free time – always a good opportunity for a nap! Or…. an exercise or craft class, an informal discussion group, music jam sessions. In the evening – games on the lawn for young and old, an ice cream social, movies for both kids and adults, and the popular “Coffee House” – a casual atmosphere and great musical entertainment for those who could stay up past 10:00 p.m.!

Evening worship always began with singing led by Hans Pedersen and an extraordinary group of musicians – guitars, violins, piano, and a trumpet – hymns and songs we knew and loved to a livelier beat and often with children joining them with bells, dance, and instruments. Jana Childers, dean of the San Francisco Theological Seminary, was the dynamic evening preacher.

Morning convocation, after breakfast each day, was led by Jason Santos, a young and gifted preacher who is the Mission Coordinator for Christian Formation at the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Because of his energy and commitment to the future of the church, he is in great demand as speaker and consultant nationwide. “The church must be an intergenerational body”, he says.

If children and youth are exposed only to the “fun” activities in church and are seldom engaged fully in worship, they will not learn the church’s community practices - patterns of worship that we learn in childhood that connect us as the body of Christ, and become a cherished part of our lives – keeping us engaged as adults. We need to do a better job of nurturing young families to find community –to find connection – within that body. We must develop practices of worship that meet the needs of our children and our children’s children, drawing them to the eternal where all are invited to drink from the eternal well of grace and love.

Grace and peace, Judy
So, what has caused this opioid crisis? There are many factors that may have caused the increase in opioid use, but we will just highlight a few. First, opioids are overprescribed to treat pain. There is a perception that pills should eliminate all pain and prescribers feel pressured to write opioid prescriptions. Secondly, there are not many effective non-opioid alternatives for treating pain. Agents such as NSAIDs (aspirin, ibuprofen), acetaminophen (Tylenol) are effective in treating mild to moderate pain but sometimes don’t work for severe pain. Other approaches are also used such as steroid injections, nerve pain medications (gabapentin, pregabalin, duloxetine), and procedures such as acupuncture. If we limit opioids, we need good pain treatment alternatives which just aren’t there. Lastly, there is weak federal oversight of opioid medication laws with much of the regulation occurring on the state level, which differs between states. All these factors (overprescribing, lack of alternatives and weak regulation) lead to opioids being overused and people becoming addicted. The addiction leads to attempting to obtain opioids in any way possible, including abusing opioid prescriptions, obtaining heroin on the streets, importing opioids illegally through other countries, buying fentanyl on the black market, forging opioid prescriptions, etc. There are now no oversight of the opioid use and people may use too much, overdose and become an opioid fatality.

The increase in opioid use has not only led to overdose and death of the users but there have also been unintentional consequences from the opioid epidemic. Due to the increase use of heroin, we have seen a dramatic increase in diseases spread through intravenous drug use such as HIV and hepatitis C. Specifically, the incidence of hepatitis C has risen by 350% between 2010 and 2016. There has also been an increase in neonatal abstinence syndrome in babies born to mothers addicted to opioids. Opioid addiction also leads to loss of productivity, an increase in criminal activity and strains the healthcare and criminal justice systems. We certainly have a crisis on our hands.

This sounds dire and it is. However, several strides have been made to combat the Opioid Crisis. Naloxone, the antidote to opioids, is now available without a prescription at all pharmacies. Naloxone comes as either an intranasal spray or an intramuscular injection and pharmacists can prescribe and dispense naloxone to anyone who asks for it. There are also many regulations at the state and national level to help curtail this epidemic. Nationally, there are over 30 opioid related bills before Congress right now which are collectively called the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2018 (or CARA 2.0). These bills attack the crisis from different angles including limiting physician prescribing, establishing federal monitoring programs, accelerating non-opioid drug FDA approval, eliminating barriers to sharing prescribing information, cracking down on illegal importation, funding recovery centers, etc. I am hopeful that many of these bills will be passed as any resource will aid in the relief of this epidemic.

As is evident, this Opioid Crisis is a daunting problem facing the United States today. It is complex, multi-faceted and will require the work of many to find sustainable solutions. However, there are some that need access to opioids to treat their pain and use opioids appropriately. So, the challenge is figuring out how to allow access of opioids to people who need them and use them safely while at the same time limiting the potential for misuse. Most importantly, while we work diligently to make strides in combating this epidemic, I believe it is imperative to keep in mind that we are treating people and not just pain.
Synod school was one of positive continuing education experiences to date. Judy has covered the basics as to what exactly Synod school is. One of my personal favorite things about Synod school was the sense of community. The morning and evening worship were very intergenerational. You had young and old all together in one big space. I loved the feeling of joy and love that was present. By using this method, you help foster the feeling of being a part of something important for God. The younger members of the church become more involved and excited about their own faith and future in our church community.

The school itself has us very excited for fall activities to start. We will be teaching liturgical dance this fall and working with the children on how to become more involved in worship and church activities. This year we will start each Wednesday night off with a worship time beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. in the East Dinning room. We will serve buffet style and any one can sign up to donate a portion of the meal and join us each week for a family style dinner experience. We will have choir/dance time, recreation (outside if weather is nice) and lesson time. We dismiss at 8 p.m. If you would like more information about how you can get involved with our very exciting and fun Wednesday programs please contact Liz Norris at childrendirector@firstchurchwichita.org or call (316) 214-4318.

Upcoming dates to remember.
September 5th  Volunteer training 6p.m.-8p.m. in the Well (childcare provided and snacks)  
September 9th  Worship 10:45a.m.  
Big Bang Bingo Silent Auction (following the service)  
September 12th.  Fall Clubs kick off 5:30p.m.-8p.m.  
September 15th.  First Aid/AED training 10a.m.-2p.m. (The Well)  
September 19th.  Kids Club 5:30p.m.- 8p.m.  
September 26th  Kids Club 5:30p.m.-8p.m.

The youth led worship for EPIC Sunday on August 12, their theme was F.I.S.H. Friends In Service & Help. The worship service is on our website if you missed it (or want to experience it again!) and we will have copies of the two meditations available on the information table.
Youth Activities for September and October 2018

September 1 (Saturday) - Community Breakfast the **Youth Group Volunteering** 7:30-7:45 a.m.

**Summer Splash for Young Adults** 2-6 p.m. @ Whispering Winds Camp

September 2 (Sunday) - (1) worship service at 9:30 a.m.

September 4 (Tuesday) – CE Commission meeting 5:30-7 p.m.

September 5 — CE Volunteer Training - in *The Well* starting at 6 p.m.

September 8 (Saturday) – Set up for Big Bang Bingo—time T.B.D.

September 9 (Sunday) – Back to 2 worship services @ 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

No Youth Sunday school (setting up for Big Bang Bingo)

**BIG BANG BINGO! And the not so silent auction—noon to 3 p.m.**

September 12 (Wednesday) - Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

September 15 (Saturday) – First Aid/CPR/AED Training-10-2 p.m. in WDR.

September 16 (Sunday) - 2 worship svcs. 8:30 & 10:45 a.m./Youth Sunday schl.9:30-10:30 a.m.

Youth Council Meeting @ FPC Wichita 3-7 p.m.

September 19 (Wednesday) - Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

September 23 (Sunday) - 2 worship svcs. 8:30 & 10:45 a.m./Youth Sunday schl.9:30-10:30 a.m.

September 26 (Wednesday) - Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

September 30 (Sunday) - 2 worship svcs. 8:30 & 10:45 a.m./Acolyte Recognition Youth Sunday schl.9:30-10:30 a.m.

October 2 (Tuesday) - CE meeting 5:30-7 p.m.

October 3 (Wednesday) - Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

October 6 (Saturday) – Community Breakfast

October 7 (Sunday) - 2 worship svcs. 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Crop Walk** 1-1:45 p.m. register, 2 p.m. walk begins.

October 10 (Wednesday) - Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

October 13 (Saturday) – Youth Council Meeting @ FPC Wichita 1-5 p.m.

October 14 (Sunday) - 2 worship svcs. 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school 9:30-10:30 a.m.

October 17 (Wednesday) - Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

October 20 (Saturday) – Fall Camp Work Day! 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

October 21 (Sunday) - 2 worship svcs. 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Fall Festival** 3-5 p.m.-games, 5 p.m.-Vespers, 5:30 p.m. dinner & chili cook-off!

October 24 (Wednesday)-Youth Club – 5:30-8 p.m.

October 28 (Sunday)-**Heritage Sunday**-No youth Sunday school. (1) worship service.

Youth cooking/serving arrive at 8:30 a.m., the breakfast is from 9:30-10:30a.m.

October 31 (Wednesday) – Halloween! No Wednesday Clubs.

Need to contact me?

Geri Doll-Youth Director-cell phone # 316-737-8855/doll@firstchurchwichita.org/Facebook.

*We are happy to give you a ride if needed.*
Economy Corner News

At this time we have a critical need for volunteers. Over the summer several of our regular volunteers have experienced significant health events. Our regular volunteers are working double/triple sessions to try and cover for them. We are holding our breath and praying that no one else develops any problems. As we have reminded you in the past, we cannot open unless we have three workers in the store. The increase in our sales this year indicate that The Economy Corner is a vital resource to our urban community. Please consider substituting (call 267-1432 or come in). This is a truly rewarding opportunity to help others.

July’s total sales were $9,882.49. This is an increase of $2,695.49 over July 2017 sales. FPC’s share was $8,824.36 and Grace’s was $958.13. We filled 119 vouchers in July for basic clothing necessities which were equivalent to $1,742.00. FPC’s portion of the vouchers equaled $1,370.00 and Grace’s was $372.00. We filled 27 more vouchers than in July 2017. We really appreciate your generous donations of goods but to keep serving the Community, we must have more Volunteer Help.

New Custodian

We have hired a new custodian. Her name is Katherine Meng. She has two boys and a baby girl on the way. She loves to clean and fits in with the other staff very well. She will be on maternity leave from September 17th through the end of October. Please help us make her feel welcome.

PW study circle meets September 12

The Presbyterian Women’s study circle will be using the Horizon’s materials again this year. The theme is “God’s Promise: I Am With You.” What does it mean: ‘God with us?’ We are all familiar with the Great Commission in Matthew 28:20 that ends with, “I am with you always to the end of the age.” Come and explore together ‘where is God?’ ‘where are we?’ and ‘what does this promise really mean?’ How do we know it, explain it, and most important--live it! The first lesson, lead by Pat Welker, will be on Wednesday, September 12, 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor. Study guides are $10.00 and available from Mary Knecht.
Friends University

Church members are invited to Friends University’s 2018 Distinguished Achievement dinner and ceremony on October 5. James Gross, FPC church member, has received the Achievement Award in the Fine Arts. Past honorees have included Earnest Alexander and Cecil Riney.

Gross is the first alumnus in the school’s history to be given the award in the Visual Arts.

Details may be found at <friends.edu/alumni>.

First Aid, CPR and AED Training

First Aid, CPR and AED Training will be held at FPC on September 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The first 2 hours of the training will be first aid and the next 2 hours will be CPR and AED training. FPC staff, nursery personnel, ushers, and any interested church member are strongly encouraged to attend. Please let me know if you are able to attend this valuable training. Funds are available in the Parish Nurse Program to cover all the costs.

Questions? Please call: Joan Aldrich, RN, Parish Nurse at (316) 409-7249 or email aldrich@firstchurchwichita.org. Thank you for your involvement and support!

September 30 is Acolyte Recognition Sunday

Mark your Calendars Now, and Plan to be Present!

Young people who have served God and our church during the 2017-2018 school year will receive Certificates of Recognition during the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service.

Certificates will be presented to the following: Griffin Barker, Zach Blessant, Bailey Bowles, Brandon Bowles, Carter Bowles, Bronwen Burch, Iain Cline, Isaac Cline, Sierra Coldwater, Meryt Ediger, Samantha Gales, Keaton Pedrino, Torre Rekoske, Aidan Schulte, Chase Skinner, Sailor Sulier, Kyah Van Es, and Katelyn Young.

Lectionary Bible Study

A Lectionary Bible Study will begin Friday, September 7, 2018, at noon in the West Dining Room. This study is based on the Revised Common Lectionary readings for the coming Sunday. This is a singular way to approach study of the scriptures coupled with the added benefit of often providing insight for Sunday’s worship experience.

The one-hour study meets every Friday at noon. Everyone is welcome. You may bring your own lunch and are encouraged to bring your own Bible. The study concludes with a time of prayer for the life and members of First Presbyterian Church.
Russ Davisson will facilitate the Journeys Class for six weeks – September 16th through October 21st. The class will seek to challenge participants to think about what they believe, starting from nine sermons preached in various churches and settings. The class meets in the West Dining Room from 9:30 to 10:30 Sunday mornings. Everyone is welcome.

9/16 – “A Royal Priesthood” – Why am I a Presbyterian?
   1 Peter 2:4-10

9/23 – “It’s Not That Simple” – A Christian theology in three words
   Jeremiah 31:31-34
   John 1:1-5, 10-13

9/30 – “The Heart of the Matter” – Reading the Bible
   Genesis 45:3-11
   Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

10/7 – “Why Trouble the Teacher Any Further” – Lessons from Jesus’ ministry
   2 Samuel 1:17-27
   Mark 5:21-43

10/14 – “The Scariest Words in the Bible” – Advent
   “Did You Get What You Wanted” – The day after Christmas
   Ephesians 1:3-14

10/21 – “This Jesus Must Die” – Palm/Passion Sunday (Atonement)
   Mark 15:1-15
   “The Path of Life” – Easter (Standing around in an empty tomb)
   Psalm 16

3rd Annual Back to School Bash for Refugee Families

On August 11, First Presbyterian Church hosted its third annual Back to School Bash for Refugee Families. About 260 refugee students were provided with backpacks and school supplies. Children also had the opportunity to play with activities provided by USD 259. Adults had the opportunity to pick up hygiene items and learn about adult ESOL and Early Childhood services from the school district. More than 400 enjoyed fellowship and food provided by the ladies of Wichita Refugee Congregation Church (WRCC), the Refugee congregation that worships at First Presbyterian Church, the Hindu Temple of Greater Wichita, and our own Cookie Crew. The Back to School Bash was made possible by the dedication of more than 100 volunteers, most of whom volunteered more than 3 hours of service each on the day of the Bash, and many who donated cash, supplies, and time in the weeks leading up to the Bash.

Our partners in this event included Grace Presbyterian Church, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hindu Temple of Greater Wichita, Pine Valley Christian Church, Presbytery of Southern Kansas, Economy Corner, WRCC, USD 259, International Rescue Committee, and St. Francis Migration Ministry. The day was financed by more than $5,000 in donations and grants. One of the goals of this activity is to ensure that every refugee child who moves to Wichita during the school year will be able to take their own new backpack and supplies to school on their first day. The generosity of our congregation and partners will make that possible again this year!
September 2018

First Presby News – 11

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Saturday, September 1
8:00 Community Breakfast (EDR, WDR, KIT)
8:00 Guadalupe Clinic (EDR)
2:00 Young Adult Splash (Camp)

Sunday, September 2
Communion
9:00 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)
9:10 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
9:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
10:45 Refugee Worship (Parlor)

Monday, September 3
Church Closed
Economy Corner Closed

Tuesday, September 4
11:00 Staff Meeting (The Well)
5:00 Camp Com. Mtg. (WDR)
5:30 Facilities/Stewardship Com. Mtg. (WDR)
5:30 CE&F/Evangelism Com. Mtg. (The Well)
6:00 Deacons (C109)

Wednesday, September 5
9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105)
6:00 Volunteer Training (The Well)
6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)
7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Saturday, September 8
9:00 Gardens & Grounds
9:30 Transportation Mtg. (C109)
11:00 Brent’s Bible Study (Hobbs)

Sunday, September 9
8:30 Worship (Chapel)
9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)

9:30 Stephen Ministry (C103)
9:30 Sunday School
10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)
12:00 Big Bang Bingo (EDR)
10:45 Refugee Worship (C201/C204)
12:00 Big Bang Bingo & Silent Auction (EDR)

Monday, September 10
4:30 Personnel Com. Mtg. (Hobbs)

Tuesday, September 11
11:00 Staff Meeting (The Well)
5:00 Finance Mtg (Hobbs)

Wednesday, September 12
9:00 Dorcas (C105)
10:00 PW Study Circle (Parlor)
5:30 Wednesday Clubs
6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)
7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, September 13
9:00 Economy Corner Bd. Mtg. (EC)
4:30 Promote the Growth (The Well)
5:00 Mission Com. Mtg (Hobbs)

Saturday, September 15
11:00 First Aid &CPR/AED Training (WDR)
11:00 Brent’s Bible Study (Hobbs)

Sunday, September 16
Prayers of the People
8:30 Worship (Chapel)
9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)
9:30 Sunday School & Luccock Class (Parlor)
10:00 Blood Pressure Check (The Well)
10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)
10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)
12:00 Worship & Music Com. Mtg (McComb)
3:00 Youth Council (YL)

Wednesday, September 19
9:00 Dorcas (C105)
5:30 Wednesday Club
6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)
7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, September 22
11:45 Theological Themes in Literature (RR)

Saturday, September 23
11:00 Brent’s Bible Study (Hobbs)

Sunday, September 23
8:30 Worship (Chapel)
9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)
9:30 Luccock Class (WDR)
10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)
10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)

Tuesday, September 25
11:00 Staff Meeting (The Well)

Wednesday, September 26
9:00 Dorcas (C105)
5:30 Wednesday Club
6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)
7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Saturday, September 29
11:00 Brent’s Bible Study (Hobbs)

Sunday, September 30
Yellow Bag Sunday
Acolyte Recognition

8:30 Worship (Chapel)
9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)
9:30 Luccock Class (WDR)
10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:45 Worship/Acolyte Recognition (Sanctuary)
10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)
Our Transportation Service is desperate for drivers right now, mornings or afternoons. We need YOU! If you’re looking for a meaningful and rewarding experience, this is it.
I’m Bruce Cole, a volunteer driver since 2005. People who can’t drive need to get to doctors, dentists, the beauty shop, the grocery store, and other places. We schedule rides 5 days a week in our comfortable cars, but we may need to cut services due to lack of drivers. We have morning and afternoon openings right now. We have subs for weeks you can’t drive. Come ride along with me sometime. You’ll see it’s not a difficult job, and the rewards are tremendous. Our riders truly appreciate getting out in the world. Ask any of our drivers to share their good experiences.
If you need more information, please call Bruce Cole at 316-250-5554 or write me at bpvcole@gmail.com. Make this good decision today. Thank you.