

First Presbyterian Church

October 2022 PresbyNews

Congregational Care

Let Us Focus Our Prayers on These Members:

Dave & Kim Duncan, Sharon Hartsel, Russ & Linda Davisson, Mary Ellen Williford, Kathy Green, Brian & Sarah Geering & Family, Diane Nyberg, Alice Price, Teresa Lang, Dolores Grainger, Heidi & Scott Iwig & Family, Robert Heaton, Helen Steindler, Kadyn Franklin, Jack Mahan, Darryl Ott, Jeff & Janice Van Sickle, and Emma Johnston.

Welcome Rev. Dr. Diane L. Janssen Hemmen

Please join us this Sunday to meet our new Interim Pastor. The Reverend Dr. Diane L. Janssen Hemmen will be in the pulpit at our 10:45 a.m. service. Dr. Hemmen received her Master of Divinity from Duke University and her Doctor of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary. Dr. Hemmen was ordained on October 28, 2001. She brings a wealth of experience to our congregation and has just finished being the Transitional Minister for the First Presbyterian Church in Rapid City, South Dakota. Diane is married to the Reverend Dr. Gregg Hemmen, the Executive Minister of American Baptist Churches of the Central Region. They have two children in college. We extend our thanks to the Interim Pastoral Nominating Committee, Michelle Murray-Cline, Judy Davis, Phil Michel, and Dick Wieland for all their time and effort in bringing Dr. Hemmen to us. All are invited to meet and greet Reverend Dr. Diane Hemmen in *The Well* following worship service on Sunday, October 16, 2022.

October Journey's Classes

"As A Christian Does It Matter?"

The Journey's class starts at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays before worship service. This series is led by Pat Welker. No reading is required. You may participate in person in the Parlor or via Zoom.

DATES AND TOPICS ARE LISTED BELOW.

- OCTOBER. 16th DO I STAY A CHRISTIAN? 10 REASONS TO SAY YES
- OCTOBER. 30th HOW DO I STAY A CHRISTIAN? THE WAY FORWARD BY SEVERAL MODERN RELIGIOUS SCHOLARS

Please join us!



Children Activities

This year the Kid's Club ministry is working with the children on their basic understanding of the Bible and how to apply it to their daily lives. Our lessons are interactive and require our children to get up and move around. We hope you continue to choose to spend Wednesday evening with us while we grow in our faith in Jesus Christ.

- **October 19 (Wednesday)**- Kid's Club 6 p.m.-8p.m.
- **October 23 (Sunday)-Heritage Sunday** with a Special Kid's Connection in the Sanctuary.
- **October 26 (Wednesday)** - Kid's Club Fall party in *The Well* from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Youth Activities

- **October 19 (Wednesday)**- Youth Club – 6-8 p.m.
- **October 23 (Sunday)-Heritage Sunday**
- **October 26 (Wednesday)** – Youth Club – **Fall Party** - 6-8 p.m.
We are happy to give you a ride if needed.

Young Adult Activities (Ages 18-35)

- **October 20 (Thursday)** – **Project Laundry** – 5-7 p.m. @ Spring Clean Laundromat

Need to contact me? Geri Doll-Youth and Young Adult Director-cell phone # 316-737-8855, email doll@firstchurchwichita.org, or Facebook. More opportunities for fellowship will be posted on our Young Adult Facebook.



Scott Garrison
SheauKang Hew
Stephanie Howard
Marc Jones
David Miller
Diane Nyberg
Jolene Satterthwaite
Aidan Schulte
Jill Tanner

Bob Carriker
Tom Church
Eric Coldwater
Russ Davisson
Robin Gales
Terri Hawkins
Cade Howard
Roberta Johnson
James Lindsay
Bob Moler
Alice Price
Angela Savute
Gary Tanner
Elizabeth Workman

Stewardship Commission News

Time to Start Building

"...The God of heaven is the one who will give us success, and we his servants are going to start building..." --Nehemiah 2:20

Can you imagine anything more discouraging than returning to your homeland and finding everything in ruins? That is exactly where Nehemiah was, when after seventy years of captivity in Babylon, he and the people of Israel returned to Judah to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem.

Now, we as a congregation have not been exiled, and First Presbyterian Church is certainly not in ruins; yet we are facing discouragement and loss. Our membership and resources are declining, COVID has displaced our people, and health has forced our senior pastor to retire.

But what if we looked upon this time as the time to start building? Nehemiah declared to the people that God had been gracious to him and that the king had spoken favorably. "Let us start building!" the people said.

What if we decided that is the time for us to build? To build up ourselves and our church with more prayer and devotion? To build on the strengths that we have, such as our mission and outreach? To build up each other by committing to worship together more regularly?



During this Stewardship season, please consider generous support as we build up our church. Look for a stewardship letter in the mail. Let us start building! The God of heaven will give us success.

The Stewardship Commission

A Message from Our FPC Transportation Service

Our church's transportation service fills an important need for many seniors and others who need rides to doctors, grocery stores, beauty shops, etc. We are currently searching for another car. You may have a car in your garage that you no longer drive, and we might be interested in buying it. Our cars are easy to step into, comfortable, and have room for an occasional walker or load of groceries. A four-door sedan is our preference. If you or anyone you know has a car we could purchase or just have questions, please contact Bruce Cole (316-250- 5554). Thank you.

We are also looking for new drivers. Please consider and contact us if you or someone you know can drive one morning or afternoon a week! It's a rewarding experience and a great community service. We also need people to be substitute drivers at times. Contact us at the number above for details and/or questions.



Fall Social Events

Hosted by Evangelism and Hospitality Commission

The Summer Coffee Clubs were so successful, that Social Events are scheduled for October, November, and December. Some will be coffees, but the committee added some lunches and desserts, at restaurants and in homes. Everyone is invited. These are casual gatherings to visit with church friends. Feel free to attend only one or attend all of them. Please contact the host if you plan to attend a home gathering so they can prepare snacks and drinks accordingly.



Saturday, Oct 15th at 11:30 a.m. - Jose Pepper's Mexican East for Lunch

11423 E 13th N, 67206

Dutch Treat: Pay for your own lunch!

Hosts: Stephanie and Doug Hutchison (316-409-4529)

Please contact Stephanie if you plan to come.

Saturday, Oct 22nd at 7 p.m. - Milkfloat Dessert Shop

535 W Douglas Ave #150, 67213

Host: Cynthia Rekoske (316-992-9595)

Wednesday, Nov 2 at 9:30 a.m. - Coffee or Breakfast - BBQ Crutch & Biscuit (Dempsey's)

550 N Rock Road #105, 67206

Hosts: Bruce and Patty Cole (316-250-4577)

Saturday, Nov 12 at 7:00 p.m. - Cocoa Dolce (New Market Square)

2441 N Maize Road, Suite 123, 67205

Host: Cynthia Rekoske (316-992-9595)

Saturday, Dec 10 at 9:30 a.m. - Coffee with Bagels & Lox

25 S Hampton Rd., 67207 (Wieland Home)

Hosts: Dick and Margaret Wieland (316-833-6831)

Please contact Dick if you plan to come.

Monday, Dec 19 at 11:30 am - The Old Spaghetti Factory for Lunch

1421 Waterfront, 67206

Dutch Treat: Pay for your own lunch!

Hosts: Peggy and Tom Church (316-648-9705)

News from the Economy Corner

Economy Corner continued to have steady sales in August. Our monthly total was \$11,661.80 with Grace's share being \$726.81. The daily sales average was \$647.88.

We helped 120 people with vouchers for a total of \$2,181.50. FPC's share was \$1,582.00 and Grace's share was \$599.50. We saw a big increase in vouchers when school started and have helped 38 people from the McKinney-Vento Program with clothing. This program helps homeless families and is issued by USD 259. We need donations of children's clothing to be able to serve the growing number of families that need our help. We especially need boys clothing in all sizes and toddler sizes for both boys and girls.

We have a rather large amount of Christmas décor this year. Come shop with us and see all the treasures that come into our store!

Thank you for your continued support of Economy Corner. It enables us to help the growing needs of the underprivileged in the surrounding Wichita area.



Presbyterian Women News

PW to learn about *"Celebrating Sabbath-Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight"*

The second lesson in the PW study this year is *"Sabbath and Creation."* The key idea is that Sabbath celebration is something that God has built into the structure of creation. Scripture is Genesis 1:1-2:3. Receiving that gift is part of what deepens our friendship with God, others, and the rest of creation. The author of the lesson reminds us to *"abide with the Lord of the Sabbath and learn how to create."*

PW meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of the month from September through May via Zoom. Plan to log in or call in by 9:45 a.m. for "fellowship" so the lesson can start promptly at 10 a.m. Peggy Church will be the leader for the October 12 meeting on *"Sabbath and Creation."* For additional information or to purchase the \$10 guide for self-study, contact Mary Knecht at knechtmary@hotmail or 942-8068.

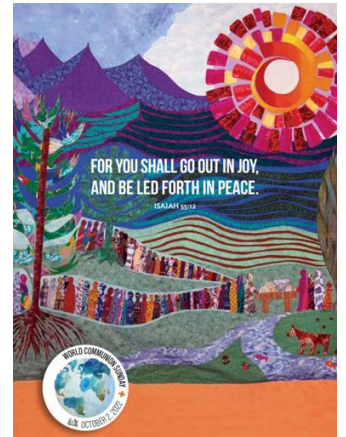
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS

“For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace.” Isaiah 55:12

Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we connect with each other to confront systems of injustice and promote reconciliation in places around the world — and right here at home.

- 25%** of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.
- 25%** of this Offering goes to our mid council and joins with other congregation gifts to support peacemaking work in our region
- 50%** of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.



God of Peace, we embrace your joy and go forth to connect with others in building a world where all can find compassion, peace, and justice. AMEN.

***Please give what you can. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!
Thank you!***

Parish Nurse News

The Benefits of FPC Prayer Chain

It has been a long-standing tradition at our church to share prayer requests and pray for one another through our prayer chain. A prayer chain is a committed group of people who pray daily for the needs of others as they arise. This is not to be confused with a chain letter which often is associated with promises of outlandish benefits or the avoidance of a curse. A chain letter or emails are hoaxes and has nothing to do with a prayer chain which simply alerts the persons who pray that it is time to pray for other persons' requests. There are no rewards promised for those who pray; they pray because of concern for others and the belief that God hears and responds. In scripture we are commanded to pray as stated in **Phil 4: 6-7: “Do not be anxious about anything; by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”** God wants to hear from us. An organized prayer chain informs God and God's people about matters of prayer and reminds them to pray.

Let's look at the importance and benefits of a well- organized prayer chain:

- **Communal prayer or praying with others invites the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.** Praying as a group fulfills our basic need to connect, both with a power greater than ourselves and one another. As we pray together, God will begin to 'show up' more and more.
- **Praying together increases the faith of a congregation to believe and even expect that God will do the miraculous.** When we pray together, we declare our faith in God and our belief that He answers prayers. Churches that pray together begin to see the miraculous power of God at work in their midst, especially as He works through His people.
- **Praying together is cooperating with God to bring about His plan.** Praying together unites us in mind and purpose, but it does not magically force God to act as we want Him to. Rather, it is a way for us to come together in humility and community entrusting ourselves to Him and seeking His will. Our prayers then can align with the will of God.

FPC's prayer chain consists of about 35 persons who have said "Yes" to pray daily for the needs of persons listed on our prayer chain. These "pray-ees" are ready to pray for whatever need develops. Their commitment creates a long and strong chain of praying saints. I have been a recipient of many healing prayers while listed on the prayer chain throughout the years, as well as my family members. Knowing that others are praying together for my concerns brought great comfort, support, and encouragement, hope and peace. If you would like to request prayers for yourself or others, please contact me at aldrich@firstchurchwichita.org or you can call me at (316) 409-7249. Please note that our prayer chain is confidential and not a gossip column. I share information according to your request in an email to only the prayer chain group. I encourage people who make requests to get back in touch with me when their situation improves or worsens, progress is made, or the crisis has been resolved. I do like to share good news because it encourages our "pray-ees" that their crucial work is making a difference in people's lives. If you would like to be a part of our prayer chain and lift up a daily prayer of encouragement and support for our prayer chain recipients, please contact me.

Joan Aldrich

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 16

- 8:30 A Time of Silence, Scripture, and Prayer (Chapel)
- 9:30 Journey's Class (Parlor & Zoom)
- 10:20 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)
- 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live
- 11:45 Meet and Greet (*The Well*)

Tuesday, October 18

- 1:00 Staff Mtg (*The Well*)
- 6:30 Session Mtg (Zoom/Parlor)

Wednesday, October 19

- 9:00 Dorcas (C105)
- 6:00 Youth & Kid's Clubs (YL/C208)
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, October 20

- 1:30 Book Chat (C109)
- 5:00 Project Laundry (Offsite)

Sunday, October 23

Heritage Sunday

- 9:30 Breakfast (*The Well*)
- 9:30 Journeys Class (Parlor & Zoom)
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)
- 10:20 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live

Monday, October 24

- 6:30 Bridge to the Future (Zoom)

Tuesday, October 25

- 1:00 Staff Mtg (*The Well*)

Wednesday, October 26

- 9:00 Dorcas (C105)
- 6:00 Youth & Kid's Fall Party (*The Well*)
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Friday, October 28

- 6:30 Bridge to the Future Team Mtg (Zoom)

Sunday, October 30

- 9:30 Journey's Class (Parlor & Zoom)
- 10:20 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)
- 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live