

First Presbyterian Church

“God is Still at Work and So Are We”

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Sunday, September 13, 2020 – 10:45 a.m. – Live Stream

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:	<i>“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”</i>	Kevin Norris
Hymns:	<i>“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”</i> (vs. 1, 2, 4) <i>“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”</i> (vs. 1, 2, 3)	No. 478 No. 281
First Reading:		Romans 14:1-12
Second Reading:		Matthew 18:21-35
Anthem:	<i>“Praise Ye the Lord!”</i>	Eugene Butler
Sermon:	<i>“On Forbearance and Forgiveness”</i> Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston	
Offertory:	<i>“The Greatest of These is Love”</i> Marilyn Heffner, Alto	Roberta Bitgood
Postlude:	<i>“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”</i>	Raymond Haan

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Praying for the Church Family

As a congregation we weekly focus our personal and corporate prayers upon a selection of church members and friends. Let us remember in prayer this week the following: Dennis Black, Bob & Dot Schneider, Kim Bahre, Beth & John Garrison, and Evelyn & Stan Koehn.

CHANGES IN JOURNEYS CLASS

Pat Welker has suffered an unfortunate fall and will not be able to lead the Journeys class as originally planned. Our prayers abound for her. Because of that, there will be **no Journeys Class during the month of September**. Her class on *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor has been postponed until further notice.

Journeys Class will begin on Sunday, October 4 at 9:30 via Zoom. Jeff Van Sickle will be leading a four-week session on Tod Bolsinger’s book, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*. The book outlines a strategy for addressing the issues facing our church as well as other mainline denominations. Bolsinger compares our current situation to the expedition of Lewis and Clark. These explorers, expecting to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean, instead encountered the Rocky Mountains. That was a real game changer! Canoes wouldn’t work. They had to find other ways to complete their journey. But they persevered, continued their mission of discovery, and completed the treacherous journey over the mountains to the ocean. We, too, need to embrace that spirit of discovery. Come join us as we all learn how to canoe the mountains!

ECONOMY CORNER CHANGE IN HOURS!!

The Economy Corner is open for **regular purchases, donation drop-offs and vouchers**. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 1 - 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

FALL SMALL GROUP STUDIES TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER-JOIN US AS WE CANOE THE MOUNTAINS!

As we pass through our 150th year, First Presbyterian Church can be proud of its rich history. And our church continues to provide its ministry through strong worship and numerous mission projects such as the Economy Corner, the backpack project, and the community breakfast. But our church, like so many mainline churches, faces challenges. Christians are becoming a minority. Many people do not claim, and do not want, church membership. Our downtown neighborhood is changing. Our congregation is getting smaller. To thrive and survive, what will our church do? An excellent book, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* by Presbyterian pastor Tod Bolsinger, outlines a strategy for addressing these issues. Several small study groups are being organized this fall to read and discuss this book. Please consider joining us! Out of courtesy to the leaders, please call or email the leader of the group that you would like to attend. You may also call the church office at 263-0248 and leave a message. Many of these will be virtual meetings via Zoom. The groups are as follows:

- **Sundays-Oct. 4-25 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Led by Jeff Van Sickle via Zoom. Contact info-jtvansickle@hotmail.com or ph. 680-0344. ****NOTE THIS CHANGE FROM MONDAY NIGHTS******
- Tuesdays-Sept. 29-Nov. 3rd from 2-3:00 p.m. Led by Alice Price at 807 N. Nims. Contact info-amariep7819@att.net or ph. 841-7942.
- Wednesdays-Oct. 7-28th from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Led by Cynthia Berner via Zoom. Contact info-ictbooks@gmail.com or ph. 641-7587.
- Wednesdays-Oct. 7-Nov. 4th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Led by Brent Johnston in *The Well* & Zoom. Contact info-pastor@firstchurchwichita.org or ph. 263-0248.
- Thursdays-Oct. 1-29th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Led by Melinda Sears via Zoom. Contact info-sj.ml.sears@att.net or ph. 993-2763.
- Thursdays-Oct. 8-29th from 7-8:00 p.m. Led by Stephanie Hutchison via Zoom. Contact info-stevie.bird2@gmail.com or ph. 409-4529.



CROP WALK 2020 INFORMATION

Our youth are participating in the Crop Walk on October 4, 2020. If you would like to support them with a donation, please send a check payable to CWS (Church World Service) to the FPC office. Due to COVID19 restrictions, the youth are not able to collect donations in person. Thank you for your support!

CAMP NEWS!!

Good News!!!! We have decided to allow limited use of the Camp. Buildings are closed, trails are open but limited. We are also offering 50-amp camper hookups (limited). These are limited to small groups, family groups, day use, picnics and over nights. Please contact Dave for availability and limits of use. We can only hope and pray that COVID19 will subside so we can get back in the business of camp life. Please call Dave to set up your visit at (316) 371-1050. **Please Note Buildings are closed until future notice.**

Kansas Leadership Center Books Available

The "Leadership Edge," "KLC Guidebook" and "Canoeing the Mountains" are available for anyone who would like a copy. We will be using them during our small group study in October. Members can get a head start by reading ahead. These books are no charge for those who wish to participate in the fall group study. We will also buy the "KLC Notebook" to be placed alongside "Canoeing the Mountains". The KLC Books are for your study and participation in becoming the change we envision. The books are in the office and available for pickup Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sunday Kids Connection-Kids Connection is prerecorded as part of the live stream worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. We hope to move to in person activities soon. We continue to monitor the health situation and will follow local guidelines to insure the health and well-being of all our family members. If you have questions on how to join or find the group, please call Liz at 316-214-4318 or contact me via email at Norris@firstchurchwichita.org.

"Walking with Jesus on Sunday Afternoons" Begins September 13

Beginning September 13th, 2020 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. children of all ages and their families are invited to join us at Whispering Winds Camp for "Walking with Jesus on Sunday Afternoons". This is an opportunity for children and families to gather in a safe environment and grow in their faith. If you plan to attend, please call Liz at 316-214- 4318 or contact me via email at Norris@firstchurchwichita.org.



YOUTH CLUB TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 16th

The Youth Club will begin meeting on Wednesdays from 6-8:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge starting on September 16th. Masks and safety precautions will be followed as required. Call Geri Doll at 737-8855 for additional information or questions.



OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Both Nancy Bishop, Bookkeeper and Michelle Edwards, Administrative Assistant will be in the office from 9 to 1 until further notice. Thank you.

CHURCH NEWS

- The church is open for meetings of **15 or fewer participants**. Requirements for the meetings: **face masks are required** in the building, practice social distancing and no shared food. In addition, due to the cleaning/sanitizing that will be necessary after a meeting, meetings must be scheduled through the office at least 2 days in advance of desired date/time.
- Members key cards are only active from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and for scheduled meetings. This will also allow the custodians to clean and disinfect all areas used prior to the next scheduled meeting.

COVID-19 Fund- A COVID-19 Fund has been set up to help those who are financially impacted by this pandemic. You may help by sending your monetary contributions to the church office. Please indicate that your donation is to be used for the COVID-19 Fund. Priority will be given to members and Staff of First Presbyterian Church and members. If you need help, please call Pastor Brent or Joan Aldrich with your concerns. Please note that if you are purchasing supplies to donate for our Pandemic Pantry and need to be reimbursed, keep your receipts, and send them to Nancy Bishop. She will issue a check to reimburse you for the supplies provided. Thank you for your help in reaching out in these difficult times.

RAISE FUNDS FOR FPC USING AMAZON SMILE-You can also help earn money for FPC when you make purchases from Amazon. Amazon Smile is a program that donates 0.5% of each purchase to the charity of your choice. When you are ready to shop, go to <http://smile.amazon.com>, choose FPC as your charity, then shop! Thanks for adding us as your charity! We have received some money from them. Every little bit helps!



DILLON'S COMMUNITY REWARDS-Did you know that by participating in the Dillon's Community Rewards program, you can help fund the programs at Whispering Winds Camp? It is easy to participate. At the bottom of your receipt from Dillon's, it should say "First Presbyterian Church." If not, **please enroll on-line at www.dillons.com and identify Organization BF935.** Once you are enrolled, you will not need to enroll again. **Thank you for your support!!!**

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 13

9:30 Deacons Mtg (*The Well/Zoom*)
10:45 Worship-Live Stream and Facebook Live (Sanctuary)
10:45 Refugee Worship-Live Stream
11:45 Worship & Music Committee Mtg (*The Well*)
4:00 "Walking with Jesus on Sundays" – Children & Families (Whispering Winds Camp)

Monday, September 14

4:30 Personnel Mtg (Hobbs/Zoom)
6:00 Mission Commission Mtg (Zoom)

Tuesday, September 15

10:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (*The Well/MS Teams*)
11:00 Staff Mtg (*The Well/MS Teams*)
6:30 Session Mtg (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 16

9:00 Dorcas (C105)
6:00 Youth Club (Youth Lounge)

Thursday, September 17

7:00 Alternative Gift Market Mtg (EDR)

Sunday, September 20

10:45 Worship-Live Stream and Facebook Live (Sanctuary)
10:45 Refugee Worship-Live Stream
4:00 "Walking with Jesus on Sundays"- Children & Families (Whispering Winds Camp)

If you need a Stephen Minister, or would like more information about the Stephen Ministry, please contact Rev. Brent Johnston or Louise Farmer at lfarmer4164@gmail.com.