**Presbyterian Times**

**June, 2018**

First Presbyterian Church

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**A Message from Our Pastor**

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

The Church has Left the Building…

As I wrote in my May newsletter, I have seen this phrase from time to time on different church’s web sites or Facebook posts to announce mission projects at various churches. This month as I declare, “The church has left the building,” I could add, “but only *just* outside the playground door. That’s where you will find our new garden project taking root. (Sorry, I couldn’t help myself.) We have four raised beds just outside the blue door next to the kitchen which contains a wide variety of vegetables.

Over the last few months Jessie Kimball, Jean Day, and I made plans for this first step in addressing issues surrounding food justice in our community. This small group of people has received a great deal of help from others in our church and community. The extension office provided free seeds and compost. Jessie raised the seedlings at home to prepare them for planting. The trustees built the beds. Jean Day led the preschool pre – k children in tasting and planting different vegetables. Others have donated soil. John Calvin Presbytery is even supporting us with a $600 peacemaking grant for our project. So as you see, we are not alone in our venture to start the garden.

The food we raise will be donated to the Rolla Mission so they may have quality fresh produce through the summer and into the fall. So pray our garden grows by leaps and bounds.

If you would like to help with our project by watering or monitoring the garden beds, please let Jessie Kimball, Jean Day, or Pastor Lou Ellen know. We would be happy to add you to our watering list.

Throughout the coming months, the Mission Committee will continue highlighting the many different ways in which we carry the good news into our community.

Peace,

Pastor Lou Ellen

Sermon Information for June and July – The Great Ends of the Church

In the coming weeks I will be preaching a series of sermons based on The Great Ends of the Church which were written in 1910. The great ends are a list of the broad purposes or goals of the church in every generation. This list has helped to guide the Presbyterian Church for over a century and will provide for us the opportunity to reflect on our congregation’s goals and purpose. Join us for this special series during our regular worship time, Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

**June 3, Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind**

**June 10 The Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God**

**June 17 Maintenance of Divine Worship –** Jonathan Kimball Preaching

**June 24 Preservation of the Truth**

**July 1 the Promotion of Social Righteousness**

**July 8 Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World**

**July 15 How They All Work Together**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS ALMOST HERE!**

The 223rd General Assembly of the PC (USA) will convene with worship at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 16, and adjourn by noon on Saturday, June 23. Throughout the week commissioners and delegates will meet to conduct the business of our national church, worship, fellowship, pray, and work together to seek God’s will for the future of our denomination. Assembly business meetings will be held at the America’s Center Convention Complex in downtown St. Louis and more information can be found at [www.ga-pcusa.org](http://www.ga-pcusa.org).

Pastor Lou Ellen will be taking some continuing education days to attend the GA and to volunteer in the on-site mission program.

**Membership / Fellowship**

Bob May, Chair

**Thanks** to all for being very inviting to visitors. Please let everyone know we’d like for them to come downstairs for Fellowship and Sunday School if they’d like.

The Fellowship Committee appreciates those who bring extra food items to complement the basic Coffee, drinks and Donut Holes.

**Coming events** include:

**First Friday Night Out**, -- June 1, 6 p.m. We’ll meet at Randy’s Roadkill Restaurant, Hwy E, about 5 miles from Jct. E and Y. Let Lee Bennett know if you can attend, 341-2130.

**Block Party** – Saturday, June 30, 5-7 p.m. on Church Parking Lot. We’ll have music by Dixie Union, games for the kids (and Big kids) and Gourmet Hot Dogs. You’re welcome to bring a side dish and a lawn chair. Neighborhood Canvas -- Wednesday, June 27, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. all are welcome to join with us in canvassing nearby neighbors to invite them to our party.

**Ice Cream Social** – Sunday, July 1 during Fellowship time. Please see Sign-up Sheet for bringing Ice Cream / Cookies / Fruit.

**Float** on the Current River. – Saturday, August 25, time – TBA

**Church Picnic** – Sunday, September 9th -- Noon to 2 p.m. Veterans Park, Southview Drive, Rolla. Fried Chicken provided. You are welcome to bring a dish.

**Hike** – October, watch for date/time

**Deacons**

Cheryl Koederitz

The Deacons of First Presbyterian Church would like to remind members who we are and how we can help. Your Deacons are: Dixie Finley, Marian Pruitt, Jan Roberts, Deanne Jackson, Cheryl Koederitz (Chair), Carlene May, Carrie Aswegan, Carol Bennett, and Bill Neely. If we can be of help with a funeral dinner, visitation, meal delivery, prayer chain, or transportation, please contact us.

**Thank You…**

Carrie Aswegan

Thank you to my wonderful church family for all the thoughts, prayers, and hugs offered for my mom’s passing on April 23rd.

The plant, donation to the Deacon’s fund in her name, Rae Craven, cards and calls were much appreciated.

**From the Office**

Betti Jo Pyatt, Office Manager

***Happy birthday***wishes go out to Adele Heller, Jack Murray, Carol Jessop, Bob Mollenkamp, Ray Fox, Cheryl Koederitz, Lisa Matthews, Samuel Kimball, Pat Mollenkamp, Joanne Zap, Julie Murray and Betty Pietsch.

***Happy anniversary*** *to* Ron & Denise Elliott, D.C. & Pat Look, Ed & Marilyn Schmidt, Steve & Jean Moran-Day, Darryl & Mary Alofs, Dwight & Kelly Look, Len & Vashy Rahaman, Bill & Pam Cottingham, Clayton & Melba Read, John & Jennifer Denbo, Britt & Amy Whitaker, and Susan & Julie Murray.

**Events for the month:**

1st – First Friday Night Out 6 pm @ Randy’s Roadkill

17th – 23rd Pastor Hartley out of the office

25th – July Newsletter articles due in the office

27th Canvass for the Block Party 5:30 - 7:30 pm

June 30th – Block Party 5 – 7 pm

**Our Church Officers**

**Elders:** Pam Cottingham, Lee Bennett, Bob May, Marilyn Schmidt, Melba Read, Ken Kwantes, Jonathan Kimball, and Nora Sandquist.

**Trustees:** Steve Day, Bill Cottingham, Eugene Zanders, Clayton Read, Ray Fox, Ken Kwantes and Steve Zap.

**Deacons** listed in previous article.