Pres-Bits Newsletter

The Presbyterian Church of Washington

Washington, Missouri (636) 239-3178

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"Listen! | am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, | will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me." - Revelation 3:20

Dear Friends,

You have probably read articles written by me in the past concerning "Radical Hospitality." You may have heard me mention that "Radical Hospitality" was going to be a focus during 2015. You may have heard me mention it in sermons, or during various committee meetings, or in casual conversation. "Radical Hospitality" is very important to me and I think it can further energize a church that is already experiencing growth in worship attendance.

I'm not suggesting that we are not a friendly church. That is not the case at all. We do a very nice job of welcoming our visitors. But, we can ALWAYS do more. We can ALWAYS improve and grow and challenge ourselves.

I believe PCW stands on the precipice of unprecedented growth. Momentum appears to be headed that way. Attendance and membership continue to rise without any sign of cresting. Soon and very soon, we could experience even more visitors and new faces. And, it is one thing to be ready to greet one or two new visitors a week. It is another to be ready for double or even triple that amount.

So, we need to be ready. We need to know how to maximize our hospitality to ensure all of our visitors feel served, filled with the Spirit and encouraged to return. I think we can all agree that we're in a good place right now...let's capitalize on that!

So, in order to prepare ourselves for a new level of visitation, the session of PCW would like to invite all members and regular attendees to a "Hospitality Dinner" on Monday, June 1st at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Session will provide the meal. Following the meal, I will lead the gathering in a Hospitality Workshop to train, share ideas and nurture our existing hospitality and outreach. If you are a member of a committee, you are particularly encouraged to attend.

This gathering is not required for anyone (other than session members), but you are highly encouraged to try your best to attend. Our church will benefit from strong participation. More information concerning menu, RSVP details and child care will be coming shortly.

Visitors and potential visitors are standing at the door and knocking. Will we hear their voice, open the door and have communion with them? No matter what they look like, believe or behave like?

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Pat

Our Church Mission Statement

Jesus Christ calls us to:

- Enliven our spiritual lives by experiencing God among us,
- Grow in love for one another as children of God,
- Invite all to share in our fellowship,
- Demonstrate God's love through service to others.



May Office Hours

The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. except Memorial Day, May 25.

Current Elders

| Karla Becker | 636-239-5370 | twotales@gmail.com | |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Luther Bierbaum | 636-432-1293 | emmettis@yahoo.com | |
| David Brunworth | 636-239-4102 | dbrunworth@hotmail.com | |
| Bill Kellermann | 636-239-7958 | wckellermann@gmail.com | |
| Joy Kopp | 636-432-1800 | joykopp54@gmail.com | |
| Vivian Marshall | 636-667-0013 | marshv1849@att.net | |
| Jenny Scheibe | 636-239-3765 | dandjscheibe@att.net | |
| Barbara Schofield | 636-390-4123 | barbara.schofield2003@gmail.com | |
| Sid Thayer | 636-239-7617 | sidneythayer@yahoo.com | |
| Paula Obermark | 636-239-5308 | paulaobermark@gmail.com | |
| Bruce Wiese | 636-432-1057 | ssswbw@charter.net | |

Worship Assignments for May:

Sound Tech:

5/3/2015 Allen Vogt

5/10/2015 David Brunworth

5/17/2015 Joe Hagan

5/24/2015 Bill Kellermann 5/31/2015 David Brunworth

Worship Leader: Ian McCracken

Greeters

1. Whip Schultz & Nancy Klingert

2. Tim & Gerry Urban

3. Don & Jenny Scheibe

4. Allen Vogt & Karla Becker

5. Tom & Sharon Fenner

Ushers

Shirley Coulter & Mauri Truesdell

Richard & Barbara Duemler

Luther Bierbaum & Barb Hagan

Laura Evans & Jane Bugele

Karen Gruber & Dan Greer

The Lord's Supper

The sacrament of Communion will be served on Sunday, May 3.

Save The Date!

The annual church rummage sale will be Friday & Saturday, July 24 & 25. Set up will begin Sunday, July 12. Mark your calendars!

Celebration of Aging Honoree - Joy Kopp

The Church Life Committee has nominated Elder Joy Kopp to be honored by the Presbytery of Giddings Lovejoy at the Celebration of Aging event to be held at First United Presbyterian Church in Granite City, II. on May 6th. Joy's leadership skills and infectious smile have indeed brought joy to many! Congratulations, Joy!

May Friendship Day

The annual May Friendship Day will be held Tuesday, May 5 at the Presbyterian Church in Union with a brunch and speaker starting at 9:30 a.m. Women from the Leslie United Methodist Church will be hosting. The speaker is Dr. Reinberg, PhD, a licensed clinical counselor/psychologist, who will be talking about caregivers. The program will end at 11:30 a.m. Contact Jean Van Der Kamp to arrange carpooling.

Pentecost Offering

The Day of Pentecost is May 24. Our Pentecost offering will be collected that day. Special envelopes will be available. This offering supports a broad range of programs that work to nurture young people. It provides opportunities for our young folks to forge deep-rooted connections to God and to the church. Our church gets to keep 40% of all Pentecost collections to support local programs. Please pray about how you may give.

SUPPORT EMMAUS-MARTHASVILLE

Please attend: Public Meeting Thursday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall, Emmaus Home, Marthasville

Why: The Board of Directors WILL LISTEN to advocates who wish to save the campus. A recommendation has been made TO the Board BY the Emmaus administration to close the campus by 2020. The Board will vote on this recommendation May 19, 2015.

Advocates are sure remediation can be fulfilled and the campus should remain open as it has for 120 years. Let's pack the Fellowship Hall to show this area's firm support of the Marthasville campus!

TOM AND SHARON FENNER

Boiler Fund

As of April 30, \$30,300 has been donated for the boiler. All contributions for the boiler fund received from this time forward will be deposited into the savings account.

Bible Presentation

Each Spring, the Christian Education Committee presents brand new Bibles to the 2nd grade students. This year, we will be presenting new, beautiful and child friendly Bibles to Brooke Tucker and Hailey Joyce. Brooke and Hailey will receive their Bibles during the Children's Message on Sunday, May 17th. Congratulations, Brooke and Hailey!

New Member Reception

On Sunday, May 17th, the Presbyterian Church of Washington will be receiving SIX new members! Please join us for worship as we celebrate our growing church and welcome six new wonderful disciples into our Covenant Family! Joining on this Sunday will be Tom and Mary Ellenberger, Jeff Pierce, Melissa Joyce, and Robert and Wilma Luker. Welcome to the family, New Members!

Pentecost Sunday

This year, for Pentecost (Sunday, May 24th), please remember to wear red, orange or yellow. These colors symbolize the tongues of flame at Pentecost. That morning, during worship, we will also be hearing liturgy in multiple languages similar to the many different languages that the disciples spoke when the Holy Spirit came upon them. We anticipate liturgy in Spanish, French and English. If you speak a language not listed above, please talk to Pastor Pat, we bet we can work you into the service as well!

All-Church Potluck



April's Pot Luck was held on April 8 at 5:30. There were 27 in attendance. A report was given by the United Way. The next pot luck will be Wednesday, May 13 at 5:30 with mostaccioli being served. The guest speaker will be Christy Foster, Director of Mound Ridge. Come for the meal! Stay for the mission!



Nichol LaVaughn Schofield September 10, 1969-January 19,2015

To all of you who sent prayers, cards, and condolences to me and my family for Niki over the last few years and months of her illness, a huge thank you for your thoughtfulness. My sister, Georgia, kindly wrote & placed her obituary in the Missourian, which I appreciated, but I wanted to share her prayer card that was given at her Memorial service:

Don't grieve for me, for now I am free. I'm following the path God laid for me. I took His hand when I heard him call. I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to work, or play. Tasks left undone must stay that way. I found that peace at the close of the day. If my parting has left a void then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss. Ah yes, these things I too will miss. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief. Don't lengthen it now with undo grief. Lift up your heart and share with me. God wanted me now, He set me free. Bagnell & Son Funeral Home

In August our family will gather to place Niki's ashes in the Presbyterian cemetery. It is close to where her grandparents, Leo & Karoline Curtright, and her aunt & uncle, the John Carters lived. She lived with a joyful heart, sweet smile, and infectious laugh and these are the things we will remember!

Covington, LA

Barbara Schofield

Harvest Table Mission - June 20th

Our next Harvest Table supper event is on Saturday, June 20th (we switched from a July date due to a schedule conflict), so please watch the Narthex bulletin boards mid-May for our entree, salad item and volunteer sign-ups. The Harvest Table is an ecumenical group that organizes a sit down warm meal every Saturday evening at St. Peter's UCC for ANYONE in need, social, financial or otherwise. Please plan on helping out in some way as our church prepares and serves the entire evening's meal that night and we expect about 80 people to attend. Any questions? Just ask any Mission Committee member.

A Big Easter Egg Hunt THANK YOU!

Many thanks to everyone that helped out with our 6th Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt where we had a record crowd, a record number of children hunting (136!) all for a record number of candy filled eggs (3750!!). We had SO many great comments on the event as we enjoyed cookies and punch, had face painting, coloring tables, prize eggs and even raffled off a family movie basket. We were blessed with a beautiful day, lots of smiles, and all our parking lots were filled! Thank you to all that helped, especially our Youth Group! Gretchen Farrell and Laura Conley













Book Sale THANK YOU!

Our Community Book Sale this year had a total sales amount of over \$1400 and we had an amazing estimated 12,000 items that were in our Fellowship Hall! Many thanks to all that helped organize the Book Categories that week as it can be tough work. And many, many thanks to the WHS Football Team that helped out immensely as they did most of the heavy work of carrying boxes to and from the storage shed!! We also were able to give 10% of our sales to the YMCA Literacy Council as our Mission this year. See you all next April! Book Sale Co-Chairs, Gretchen Farrell, Karen Ladd and Kathy Froning

Youth Group May meetings

Our Church Youth Group will be meeting on May 6th and 20th this month. We continue to meet on our regular schedule of meetings with the first and third Wednesday nights. The first Wednesday of the month we usually do a mission project and on the third Wednesday, we usually have a fun activity. We meet in the Church Youth Group room, the first room to the right off of the Fellowship Hall. All Youth from 6th – 12th Grades are welcome to come have some fun, snacks, a short Bible Lesson and a great time to be with other Christian Youth. Any questions? Just ask anyone on the Church Christian Education Committee, Pastor Pat, Laura Conley, Vivian Marshall, Heather Miller, Karla Becker, Bill Kellermann and Gretchen Farrell.

Adult Sunday School

Question: What do these 4 have in common?

- 1- A pro football player from New Orleans who carries the ball through and around the enemy with fancy footwork and skilled hands.
- 2- A large, long-haired breed of dog named Bernard who rescues the frozen and lost, and leads them to safety.
- 3- Simon Templar, a dapper 20th century fictional spy, who, working alone, courted danger to solve mysteries and to remedy injustice.
- 4- Every-day Christians, like you and me.

Answer: All of them are <u>Saints</u>. And they all have traits similar to those rare, unique persons throughout history who have been designated by the Roman Catholic Church as "saints."

What about the Catholic saints? What were they like? They were many things – inspiring, exasperating, greedy, generous, loving, unscrupulous, baffling and blessed, notorious, flawed, charming and fun. Collectively they were everything that humanity has come up with to be in cahoots with God. Everything except perfect. Not necessarily exemplary. Not always likeable.

Come to church for my "Summer Sunday Sizzling Study of Christian Saints", June 14th - August 30th - 9:00 a.m. No study guide or books! No homework! No class preparation! This is as laid back as it gets for adult Christian Education! Together as we learn lessons from some famous / some infamous saints we might learn some things about our own sainthood! Jocelyn VanBuskirk, Parish Associate

Thank You!

Thank you to all who attended the Boiler Fundraising Dinner on April 12. It was a very big success. Also thank you to everyone who stayed to help clean up. May God bless all of you. Anna Mae

Faith-Based Support Group - THE REFUGE

Founded and facilitated by Robbin Thayer, this group was formed in order to provide refuge to those experiencing sadness, grief, stress, anger, or any other negative feeling caused by life's endless obstacles. The Refuge is an open door support group. You may come once or as often as you'd like. An oath of confidentiality is expected by all who attend. Facilitator is not a licensed therapist. Group will meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, 7:00 P.M., in room 12 of the fellowship hall. This month's meeting will be January 8, 2015. For more information email RefugeWashMo@gmail.com or call the church office 239-3178.

Camp Experience 2015

Spread the word! Spread the word! SPREAD THE WORD! This summer, we will be hosting a very unique and special program similar to Vacation Bible School. This summer, the Presbytery's own camp, Mound Ridge, will be coming to our own backyard! And, they'll be bringing a typical week of Bible Camp with them! Staff of Mound Ridge, along with PCW volunteers, will be leading children in outdoor games, Bible lessons, campfire songs and other unforgettable fun! Camp Experience 2015 will be held in our backyard from Monday, July 27th through Friday, July 31st. Times will be approximately 8am to 2pm. All children from children entering Kindergarten through entering 5th grades are welcome to Camp Experience! Tell your family, tell your neighbors, tell your friends! We hope to be hosting dozens of children that week! For more information concerning Camp Experience 2015, check out our web-site www.presbywashmo.org or Mound Ridge's web-site www.moundridge.org or contact Pastor Pat or the Christian Education Committee.

Photos/Scrapbooks

Is there anyone out there who would be willing to put photographs in an album that have been accumulating in the office? Several empty albums are available to be filled. Contact Church Life Committee members.

For many years scrapbooks were kept with newspaper articles about the church and its members. There are over 20 albums from past years in the library. If someone would like to resume that practice, let someone on the Church Life Committee know about it. Church Life Committee: Vivian Marshall, Shirley Coulter, Anna Mae Boehmer, Jan Hardin, Karen Ladd and Judy Bierbaum.

| May | Birthdays | Honny Dinden |
|-----|----------------------|--------------|
| 5-2 | Paula Obermark | |
| - ^ | Lauria Darmanna atta | |

| 5-2 | Paula Obermark | 5-12 | Logan Struckhoff |
|------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| 5-3 | Louis Brunworth | 5-13 | Miles McCracken |
| 5-3 | Barbara Duemler | 5-14 | Haylee Struckhoff |
| 5-6 | Laura Evans | 5-17 | Scott McCracken |
| 5-7 | Martin Brunworth | 5-17 | Paul Struckhoff |
| 5-8 | Laura Lawson | 5-23 | Jane Stelzner |
| 5-12 | Lucas Struckhoff | 5-26 | Olivia Tucker |

A SECOND

Loving Hearts Outreach Please continue to remember this outreach mission. They can use canned vegetables, pastas, canned meats, cereal and cake mixes – basically anything non-perishable. Empty egg cartons can also be used. Please bring items and place them in the box in the Narthex and Jean Van Der Kamp will deliver them to Loving Hearts.



Bridge

Please join us on Fridays from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. to play Bridge. Everyone is welcome to come and play. Bring your friends.



Creative Hands Group

The group meets every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. except the third Wednesday of each month. The quilt frame is set up and quilting has begun! For information, please call Barbara Duemler.

Prayer for Life (PFL) meets Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.

Prayer can be the glue that holds individuals, couples, ministry teams, families, and churches together and the fuel that makes them soar. It is the means by which we can all engage in ministry to each other. Join us on Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m. We study and learn a variety of prayer methods, both as individuals and as a group, to connect people and their needs to God.



MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS

Heather Miller, Don VanBuskirk, Barbara Pierce, Whip Schultz, Don & Connie Conrad, Karla Becker, Janet Aaron, Boots Bonney, Roni Fowler, Elsie & Jack Truesdell, Scott McCracken, Laura Fenner, John Anglin.

GRANDVIEW: Christine Lewis

VICTORIAN PLACE: Beth Saunders

SOUTH POINTE: Joan Schultz HOMESTEAD: Mary Lais

CEDAR CREST: June Kleberger, Glenda Nagel, Dorothy Mutert

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:

George Peters (parent of Nancy Thater)

Vicky Vogel (sister of Karla Becker)

Cindy Demitroff (friend of Paul & Lya Struckhoff)

Jim Lebreton (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Jordon Creason (friend of Nancy Nolting)

Anna Roetheli (friend of the church)

Doug Holtmeier (friend of Karla & Mike Becker)

Laura Leigh Rhoades (daughter of Laura Evans)

Rose Pitman (friend of Elsie Truesdell)

Dixie Kottwitz (friend of the Bierbaums)

Jeff Pierce (son of Barbara Pierce, brother of Janet Aaron)

Macy Lynn Crecielus (friend of Sam & Boots Bonney)

Joan Archer (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Phil Colter (friend of Mauri Truesdell)

Rick Kresse (father-in-law of Mauri Truesdell's daughter)

Becky Lunsford (friend of Lya Struckhoff)

Sarah McGurthy & family (daughter of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)

Rosemary Phillips (friend of Pierce family)

Mary Bray Wheeler (friend of Barbara Duemler)

Larry Bernardoni (friend of Tim Culp)

Geri Waller (Gail Taubel's sister)

Ardis Harnagel (friend of Karen Ladd)

Paula Pursley (grandmother of Hailey Joyce)

Patti Mathews (sister-in-law of Joe & Barb Hagan)

Harmon Wright (husband of Helen Wright)

Linda Creech (friend of Carol Ramsey)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please call the office if you would like to add someone to the prayer list. Also please notify the office if you have made a prayer request for someone who should be removed from the list.