

FPC Messenger

JUNE 2022 | VOLUME 84 ISSUE 6



Dear Friends,

June will be an eventful month here at FPC! We will celebrate Pentecost (my favorite! DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR RED, please), ordain and install new officers, celebrate Father's Day, welcome our new office manager, Melissa Ashwill, send our youth to camp at Heartland Center, and last but not least, host an evening Vacation Bible School for all ages! We are kicking off "Knights of North Castle" with dinner at 5:30 p.m. in Willard Hall on Sunday, June 5, and gathering each evening through Wednesday, June 8.

Here is your invitation to our VBS ADULT BIBLE STUDY, which I will lead each evening. We will look at the same stories as the children, but in greater depth and with the opportunity to bring our own questions, insights, and life situations to the stories. If the phrase "Bible Study" sounds scary . . . don't let it bother you. Whether you are a lifelong Bible Scholar or you've never cracked open a Bible in your life, there will be something juicy in there for you.

Join me for an exploration of the stories of David and Goliath, Mary the mother of Jesus, Jesus walking on water, and Paul and Silas praising God from prison. Please do help me out by signing up to come, so I can make sure we pick the best possible space in the church for our time together. Bring a Bible if you can—if you don't have one and need one, we've got you covered. Plan on being with me from 6:15 p.m. (after VBS dinner) to 7:45 p.m.—the time will FLY.

Psalm 119 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Let's light up our world with the study of scripture this month!

Yours in Christ,



Sandra Brown

P.S. Thank you to everyone who read last month's "From the Heart" and started sitting closer to the front of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings as a result. You are seen and appreciated!

Daily Prayer with First Presbyterian Church

Pause for Prayer each day at 4:00 p.m.

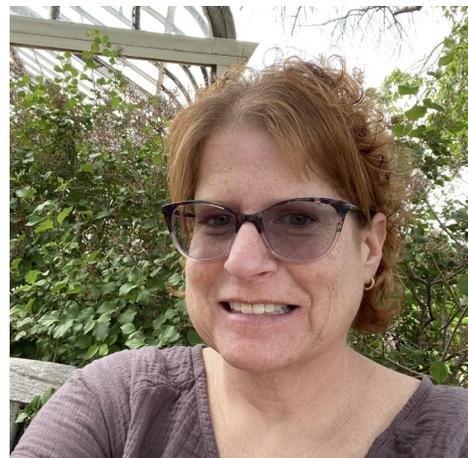
"Gracious God, thank you for the beauty of this day and the gift of being alive in it. Thank you for loving me, guiding me, and protecting me wherever I go. Search my mind and heart, and clear away anything that hinders your Spirit from working in my life. Forgive me when I lose sight of all the blessings you have given me. Bless our church and show me today how you would have me feed the hungry, give a drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit those in prison. Teach me to love as you have loved me, that I might shine your light everywhere I am. I ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Cover photo: May 8, 2022, was confirmation Sunday and we welcomed four new members to FPC. L to r: Beth Johnston, confirmation mentor; Sophia Carlucci, Jeramiah Carlucci, Antony Carlucci, and Trinity Carlucci, and Associate Pastor and confirmation leader, Patrick Yancey.

FPC's New Office Manager: Melissa Ashwill

Hello! My name is Melissa Ashwill and I'm so excited to be working at FPC Topeka! I encourage you to stop by the office to say hello. Here's a little background information to help you get to know me, and I look forward to meeting all of you!

- I live in Richmond, Kansas (yes, it's in the middle of nowhere!).
- My two children are grown and on their own (sort of): Marissa is 25 and lives in St. Charles, Mo., with her husband. They are both working on master's degrees in engineering. Matthew is 22 and is moving to Lincoln, Neb., He graduated from Kansas State University in May and is an officer in the Kansas Army National Guard.
- I have worked in education for the past 12 years. The time had come, though, to move on to brighter horizons.
- I attend church at Westminster Presbyterian in Ottawa, where I sing in the choir and will become a session member this month.
- My hobbies include reading, walking, reading, crocheting, and reading.



Session Highlights for May

On May 23, the Session met jointly with the Board of Deacons to examine and approve newly elected officers while enjoying a meal together. The Session enthusiastically approved all the new officers and welcomed them to the work of the church.

Before adjourning to separate business meetings, the two boards heard from Jane Owen regarding the church's Stephen Ministry. Everyone was encouraged to be a "lookout" for those who might need a listening ear during crisis. She emphasized the strong confidentiality of the program.

The following business was conducted during the Session's meeting:

- Pastor Brown alerted elders that she will be determining new committee/team assignments in the next few weeks.
- Herman Jones was appointed commissioner to a called meeting of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas on May 31, with Jim Owen as alternate.
- A task force was appointed to review the needs of the church's archives regarding both space and security.
- The Property Committee reported that they are soliciting bids for extensive work on the Harrison St. doors to the sanctuary.

Please Thank These Church Leaders

Thank you to these elders who have finished their term of service:
Bruce Cooper, Gary Nantz, and Marty Snyder.

Thank you to these deacons who have finished their term of service:
Kevin Kersting and Mary Nichols.

Thanks be to God for your ministry! Well done, good and faithful servants.



Children's Sunday School Summer Break

Thank you for participating in Sunday school this school year! We are on break over the summer and will resume this fall.

FIRST Families Summer Fun

Mark your calendars for these dates to enjoy summer with friends from the church. On Sunday, June 12, we will gather with the whole church to celebrate VBS with lunch and activities after worship. We will also have fun, family meet-ups on July 17 and August 7. Watch for details coming soon!

Third Grade Bibles

On May 8, Charlotte Brewer and Evan Roberts received their 3rd Grade Bibles. We present personal Bibles as a statement of their growing faith development and as recognition of their being old enough to study scripture on their own. It is our prayer that this gift will be a starting point for a deeper relationship with God.

Thank You VBS Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who signed up to help with Vacation Bible School! Your time and talents will ensure children and their families have a fantastic week of having fun, learning about God, and making new friends.



Photos: Charlotte Brewer and Evan Roberts receive their 3rd Grade Bibles.



ALL-CHURCH LUNCH & VBS CELEBRATION

JUNE 12 - 11:30 AM

Come celebrate a fun and successful VBS! Pizza and soda pop ice cream floats will be served. Don't miss the fun!

The Stephen Ministry is everyone's ministry. There are people all around us, both inside and outside our Church family, dealing with a variety of challenges. People who are hurting are often reluctant to reach out for or accept help, so they end up suffering alone. I am sure you have heard someone you know who is dealing with a challenge say, "My struggles are not bad enough to need help. There are others who are much worse off." There are always worse situations, but this does not substitute for caring for others no matter how large or small the struggle is perceived to be. We are all Christians charged with caring for one another.

What does it mean to be Christian? Here is what the Bible tells us:

Love one another as I have loved you - John 15:12

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ - Galatians 6:2

Be kind and compassionate to one another - Ephesians 4:32

Pray for each other - James 5:16

I hope you see how you, and every member of our Church family, is part of this caring ministry. Stephen Ministers are here to help. To request a Stephen Minister, please contact John Dorsey at jwdorsey_48@yahoo.com or (785) 845-1177, or Jane Owen at jwowen54@gmail.com or (785) 224-7028.

Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to our recent graduates! L to r: Becky Foster, with a Bachelor of Health Service Administration degree from Washburn University; Mitchell Lady, son of Richard and Julie Lady, with a Bachelor of Business Administration—Management and Marketing degree from the Washburn University School of Business; and Kathryn "Kat" Githinji, daughter of Winnie Kimata, from Lake Forest Academy in Lake Forest, Ill. Kat will attend Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., and double major in biochemistry & molecular biology and Spanish, and minor in business on the premed track. Rhodes College is historically affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Not pictured is Amy Rhoads, Marguerite Underhill's granddaughter, who graduates from Washburn University with a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction—Literacy degree. Congratulations Becky, Mitchell, Kathryn, and Amy—our prayers and blessings are with you!



Volunteers Needed for June 29 FoodShare Ministry Distribution

Our next 5th Wednesday FoodShare with Harvesters is June 29 and **we need an additional 15 volunteers** to help distribute the food items (mostly produce) from pallets, directly into the vehicles of our friends and neighbors who receive the food. We will not be pre-bagging food on June 29. All food will be unloaded directly off of pallets. Volunteers will need to arrive no later than 4:15 p.m. to help with distribution which begins at 5:00 p.m. Please let Leah Gabler-Marshall know if you can volunteer to help on that day (by email at leahmarshall@kirkandcobb.com or phone at (785) 221-8424).

Doorstep Seeking Volunteers

Doorstep is seeking volunteers for their food room, clothing room, sorting room, and front desk. They are also looking for volunteers willing to do pick-ups of items such as bread, dog/cat food, and other miscellaneous items.

Most volunteer hours are Monday – Friday, from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Visit <https://DoorstepTopeka.org> for a volunteer application, or stop in the office to pick one up. The volunteer coordinator will contact you after reviewing your application.



Faith & Flour

Portuguese Sweet Bread

Saturday, June 25
9 a.m. to Noon
all ingredients supplied

Reserve your spot by 4 p.m., June 22
Call (785) 233-9601, ext. 101 or email
pyancey@fpctopeka.org.

June Tasty Tuesday

June 14 - 11:30 a.m.

Black Dog Café

(Harley Davidson Building)

2047 SW Topeka Blvd.

785-845-9559

Come have a fun
and tasty lunch
with friends!



**HAVE FUN WITH THE
FPC CYCLING GROUP**

DERAILLEUR DISCIPLES

We enjoy an easy, family-friendly ride every
Wednesday from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Each ride ends at an
ice cream shop!

Cyclists of all ages and abilities are welcome! Contact
Pat Yancey for more information at (785) 233-9601 or
pyancey@fpctopeka.org.

Save the date!

Silver Wings Summer Supper

Wednesday, July 13

5:30 p.m.

Disciples Hall

Mailed invitation to follow

JUNE 2022

29		30	31	1	2	3	4
				Gideons - PM Vols Pat Glidewell - AM Vol Pat on vacation 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5 pm FoodShare Ministry	Lorraine Hyle - PM Dan Pauls -AM Pat on vacation 9am Property Committee Mtg 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Marty Snyder - AM Pastors' Day Off Pat on vacation 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Pat on vacation 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer
5	Pentecost Sunday Communion Nursery & Childcare Open Usher Team V Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 10:30am Worship Service, in Person & Online 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5:30pm Vacation Bible School	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Jerry Foster-AM Sue Ohlde-PM Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5:30pm VBS	Marguerite Underhill- Volunteer Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 10am Staff Meeting 12pm Fellowship Team 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 4pm Worship Team Mtg 5:30pm VBS	Gideons - PM Vols Pat Glidewell - AM Vol Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5pm FoodShare Ministry 5:30pm VBS	Lorraine Hyle - PM Vol Melanie McQ-AM Vol Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 3:30pm Adult Education Team Mtg 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Marty Snyder - AM Vol Pastors' Day Off Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Youth at Heartland Camp - Pat Out 4 pm Pause-FPC Prayer
12	Nursery & Childcare Open Usher Team I 10:30am Worship, in Person & Online 11:30am All-church lunch & VBS Celebration 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Sue Ohlde-PM Volunteer Susan Rowell-AM Vol 12pm Personnel Committee Meeting 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Marguerite Underhill-Vol 9am KYC Auditions - Choir Room 10am Staff Meeting 11:30am Tasty Tuesday - Black Dog Cafe 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 7pm Stephen Ministry Mtg	Gideons - PM Vols Pat Glidewell - AM Vol 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5pm FoodShare Ministry 5:30pm Neighborhood Ministry Team Mtg	Lorraine Hyle - PM Vol Susan Rowell-AM Vol 9am CrossForm, Library 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Marty Snyder - AM Volunteer Pastors' Day Off 4pm Pause for FPC Prayer	4pm Pause-FPC Prayer
19	Nursery & Childcare Open Usher Team II 10:30am Worship, in Person & Online 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Jerry Foster-AM Vol Sue Ohlde-PM Vol 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 6pm Session Mtg	Marguerite Underhill- Volunteer 10am Staff Meeting 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Gideons - PM Vols Pat Glidewell - AM Vol 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5pm FoodShare Ministry	Lorraine Hyle - PM Vol Melanie McQ-AM Vol 9am CrossForm, Library 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Allison Out at FIRST Family Camp John Conlee-PM Vol Marty Snyder - AM Vol Pastors' Day Off 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Allison Out at FIRST Family Camp 9am Faith & Flour 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer
26	Allison Out at FIRST Family Camp Nursery & Childcare Open Usher Team III 10:30am Worship, in Person & Online 12pm Youth Group 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	27	28	29	30	1	2
		Jerry Foster-AM Vol Sue Ohlde-PM Vol 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Marguerite Underhill- Volunteer 10am Staff Meeting 3pm Widows, Tea & Fellowship - Library 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	Gideons - PM Vols Pat Glidewell - AM Vol 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer 5pm FoodShare Ministry	Lorraine Hyle - PM Vol Melanie McQ-AM Vol 9am CrossForm, Library 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	John Conlee-PM Volunteer Marty Snyder - AM Volunteer Pastors' Day Off 4pm Pause-FPC Prayer	4pm Pause-FPC Prayer

The most recent and up-to-date church calendar can be found on the church website under the News tab.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

Proverbs 3:5

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA
Loving God, loving neighbors and living with purpose

Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors

Sandra Brown, *Pastor*
Pat Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*
Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Program Staff

Allison Brewer, *Director of Family Ministries*
Carrie Riordan, *Director of Communications*

Music Staff

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*
Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Organist*
Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*
Dr. Mark Pudwill, *Assistant Organist*

Administrative Staff

Melissa Ashwill, *Office Manager*
Trevon Broxterman, *Videographer*
Will Hartner, *Videographer*
Mark Ingle, *Director of Maintenance*
Steve Johnson, *Part-time Custodian*

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE

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The deadline to submit items for the July 2022 Messenger is June 20, 2022.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Terry Hafling—2	Virginia Kaufmann—24
Jon Blake—2	Linda Nantz—24
Webb Garlinghouse—3	Jerry Viera—24
Linda Kaufman—4	Carolyn Fitzgerald—25
Chris McGee—4	Dan Johnson—25
Joan Knoll—5	Carolyn Frye—26
Sue Ohlde—8	Melvin Fritz—26
Marlou Wegener—8	Claudia Perney—26
Melanie McQuere—13	Carmen Martinez—26
Renee Messer—15	Patty Riley—27
Julie Hejtmanek—16	H.B. Marshall—29
Jacksyn Glidewell—20	Nancy Brier-Liesmann—29
Judy Gooch—21	Casey Kidder—29
Rachel Snyder—21	Robert Baer—30
Jessica Roberts—23	

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Bill & Mary Nichols—7
Hank & Eileen Ernst—8
Warren & Beth Watson—8
John & Jan Benson—10
Bruce & Claudia Perney—11
Mack & Leslie Mondesir—14
Vernie & Ruth Covert—19
George & Nancy Brier-Leismann—21
Dan & Kathy Pauls—21
Mark & Deanna Heilmann—23
Dennis & Tara Habiger—29
Don & Renee Messer—29
Ron & Linda Kaufman—30