



JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fulton, Mo

Contents

- A Message from Our Pastor
 - Sunday Worship
 - Things To Be Shared
 - Committee Information
-

A Message from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy New Year! As we enter into 2018, I've been reflecting upon a hymn titled, "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" (Canticle of the Turning). This hymn, set to the tune of an Irish folk song, paraphrases the *Magnificat*, Mary's song of praise, as recorded in Luke 1:46-55. The song is a faithful response to the annunciation of the Christ child.

As Mary sings her song, there is a prophetic nature to the verses, which anticipate the changes that shall be instituted through the coming of Jesus into the world. For instance, consider these words from the fourth verse:

*Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.*

*This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around.*

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears,
For the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.*

In this verse, we are reminded that our faith is in the grace of God, which is realized for us in Jesus Christ. By God's grace, all who have faith in God's sun receive the promise of liberation from sin and from death.

At the same time, this hymn asks the question, where will we find ourselves "as God is turning the world around?" It might be easy to consider ourselves to be too unimportant or powerless to affect great change. But if we do so, then we underestimate the mighty power of our God, who brought salvation through a meek young woman, and dethroned every power of this world through a tiny child laid humbly in a manger.

As we celebrate this turning of the new year, I hope that we all might look for the ways that we may be the "axis" of God's work. May we search for the opportunities to share in God's revolutionary mission that began with the incarnation of Jesus Christ and continues through the servants whom the Holy Spirit has gathered in the Church. I pray that God will bless you throughout 2018!

Grace & Peace,
Aaron J. White
Pastor

Please feel free to visit me during my regularly scheduled office hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays from 9:00 to noon. To schedule an appointment for another time, or to arrange for home visitation, please call me at the church office, (573) 642-5541, or at my cell phone, (573) 590-3136. You may also email me at pastor@fultonpresbyterian.org.

Sunday Worship

Contemporary Worship 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Fellowship 9:30 am to 9:45 am
Sunday School 9:45 am to 10:45 am
Fellowship 10:45 am to 11:00 am
Traditional Service 11:00 am to noon

Things To Be Shared

January 28, ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND CARRY IN LUNCH

Our annual congregational meeting and carry in lunch will be held on Jan. 28.

Following the 11:00 worship service.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear the annual financial report and approve the pastor' s terms of call.

Meat and drinks will be provided for the meal.

Please bring one dish per adult to share.

The pastor's terms of call will be emailed to church members in the near future.

RECYCLABLE PLASTIC NO LONGER ACCEPTED AT OUR CHURCH

The church will not longer accept recyclable plastic.

The plastic recycling collector in Millersburg is no longer receiving plastics.

If you have been bringing recyclable plastics to the kitchen recycle bins please use other options (e.g. curbside pickup in Fulton).

We are searching for other recycle collection options and will inform the congregation if collection at the church resumes.

Thank you.

DID YOU KNOW

The Nativity figures that are displayed every Christmas Season at the altar of our church were made by Phyllis Dixon and given to our church in the late 1970's.

With loving hands Phyllis carefully molded each figure, kiln dried and then glazed them becoming the beautiful figures we so enjoy each Christmas Season.

Thanks again Phyllis.

SERVE Food Pantry Contributions

SERVE has received 92.40 pounds of food with a mix of school supplies from our church.

Estimated value is \$154.31.

Thank you to all who contributed.

SERVE Food Pantry

During the month of January, please bring soups for our collection for the SERVE Food Pantry. Any other item you may wish to bring will be appreciated as well. Please put your donation in the basket outside of the church kitchen.



Luke 3:11 (NRSV)

In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise."

Serve Food Pantry Monthly Schedule

January-Soup
February-Canned stews and chili
March-Canned meats
April-Canned fruit and juices
May-Canned veggies
June-Cereal and oatmeal
July-Healthy Snacks
August-Peanut Butter
September-Canned and nonperishable milk products
October-Canned and dried beans
November-Holiday Foods
December-Pasta, rice and pasta sauce

Committee Information

DECEMBER 2017 MISSION COMMITTEE MINUTES

[CLICK here to read Mission Committee minutes](#)

(See Below)

SESSION MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER 2017

Session would like to provide, for your review, minutes of our September STATED Session Meeting and November CALLED session meeting.

Please click on a button below to read meeting minutes.

[Click here to read SEPTEMBER 2017 STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES](#)

(See Below)

[Click here to read NOVEMBER 2017 CALLED SESSION MEETING MINUTES](#)

(See Below)

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P.O. Box 6037

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First Presbyterian Church of Fulton, Missouri · 718 Court Street · Fulton, MO 65251 · USA

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Mission

Member present-David Jatho, Tim Wilkerson, Mary Osburn, Bob Hansen

December 7, 2017

1. Souper Bowl
 - a. February 4, Needs to be put in next newsletter
 - b. Tim reported that last year we collected \$2,255 in cash donations and 234.6 pounds of food. The cash donations allowed us to buy almost 7 truckloads of food at \$325 a load
 - c. We will have a Minute for Missions on January 21 and 28 to promote the event.
2. Fair Trade Market
 - a. The event brought a lot of people in, worth doing regardless of the money brought in
 - b. Money
 - i. We need to begin with more change next year-this year \$80 in ones and fives
 - ii. Debit/cred card purchases amounted to about \$217
 - iii. Current total \$2,66.50 without expenses taken out and more items to be sold in Jefferson City
 - c. Items-
 - i. More of-coffee (less decaf), chocolate bars, tea, Christmas ornaments and crèches
 - ii. Less of-jewelry, scarves and most items over \$20
 - iii. Bob H will purchase baskets in Rwanda to sell next year
 - d. Publicity
 - i. Fabulous!
 1. Facebook, newspaper, Methodist church signs
 2. Next year-outdoor sign and items in bank window
 3. Bob H will get photos of basket makers to display. Promotional cards from vendors were very well received and those buying items as gift wanted them to include with gift
 - e. Work on the next Fair Trade market needs to begin next September
 - f. Other ideas
 - i. Offer a warm beverage to shoppers

- ii. Opening sanctuary was well received
 - iii. Have another event coincide
 - 1. Nativity scene display-or other
- 3. KIVA
 - a. There is over \$400.00 that was paid back and is ready to loan out to another individual
 - b. Bob H will connect with youth leaders to get that done as soon as possible
- 4. Other items
 - a. Joy Gift Boxes and materials are out in different parts of the church to encourage giving
 - b. Adopt a Family
 - i. All have been adopted, money is still welcome and will be given to SERVE to fulfill any needs they have for the holiday
 - ii. Shirley and Bruce will pick up all the gifts on December 15th (a change of date)

Meetings will be the first Thursday of every even month at 7:00.

SESSION STATED MEETING – September 19, 2017

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church in Fulton, Missouri met for a stated meeting in the Church library on September 19, 2017. Elder M opened the meeting with devotion at 7:00 p.m. and Rev. White led us in prayer. A quorum was present.

PRESENT: Moderator Rev. Aaron White, Clerk Ramona Dobson, Elders: Joe Davis, Michael Eibel, Angela Grogan, Barb Huddleston, David Jatho, Kathleen Jeffries, Fred Luther, Mary Osburn, Mary Van Orden. Elders excused: Betty Warren and Mike Warren.

OPEN FORUM: No one was present

TRIENNIAL VISIT: Rev. Terry Kukuk, who is our Committee on Ministry (COM) liaison, conducted the Triennial visit. She emphasized the desire of COM to serve as a proponent of being a connectional church by providing liaisons to each church. Her duties are to make connections with our church, learn about our ministry, and see what COM can do to support the church. She read the MUP mission statement. She said she wanted to keep the lines of communication open and that what Session had to say was confidential. She wanted to know about our moments of celebration, our needs, the words we would use to describe our church. Rev. White turned the meeting over to Rev. Kukuk and she asked us to describe Rev. White's ministry. At the conclusion of her questions, she called Rev. White back to the Session meeting and told him the affirming things that Session had to say about his ministry. There were no concerns expressed.

PASTOR'S TIME: Rev. White shared that he had to change his travel plans to Germany, due to the airline, so he will be gone from Monday, September 25 until Monday, October 9th. Rev. Helen Logan will be filling the pulpit on October 8th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion and 2nd to approve the minutes for the stated Session meeting on July 18, 2017.

ADMIT TO RECORD: None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Received from Vince Logan

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank you from Bill and Becky Beilschmidt and Carl and Arlys Kremer for the Bedell Awards

THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WERE MADE, SECONDED (if needed), AND CARRIED:

- Motion from the Administration Committee to invest the bequeath from Adeline Dixon into the same fund as OT Harris's bequeath.
- Motion from the Administration Committee to invest the bequeath from the Bell Trust into the same fund as the OT Harris bequeath.
- Motion from Spiritual Life Commission to approve the following curriculum, Sunday School Teachers, and Youth Group Leaders:
 - Kara White- PreK – 5th grade. Using the Deep Blue curriculum
 - Angela Grogan – Middle & Senior Highs – Collaborate Bible Study curriculum
 - Grace Craghead – Adult Bible Study – Feasting on The Word curriculum
 - Bob Hoell – Adult class – Living Our Faith – curriculum will be various DVD video-discussion series
 - Tom and Tammy Gillespie – Sunday night youth group – curriculum will be from the Resource room

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- MUP report was shared by Ramona Dobson
- Session meetings – there was discussion about the effectiveness of meeting every other month. It was decided to keep using this format for Session meetings and to give Session more time to adjust to the idea that not all committee work needs Session approval.
- It was suggested that a Communication Task force be organized by the Administration Committee to communicate with people who do not receive the church emails.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Committee moderators submitted their written reports.

BUSINESS LIFE COMMISSION (ADMINISTRATION & PROPERTY COMMITTEES):

- We opened with prayer and a scripture reading
- Terms of our "new" copier lease:

- Our lease will only last for the 23 months remaining on the lease. It will be \$390.13 per month
- they pay for toner, staples, maintenance, and service calls.
- We pay .015625 for each black and white copy. We use about 2,300 B&W copies per month, so this will cost us an additional \$36-ish a month.
- Color copies will be .11225 per copy. We had been using 1,200 to 3,000 color copies per month. It has been 0 for the last couple of months. Hopefully, we won't have many of these.
- No additional charge for the stapler or extra paper tray
- Our old lease was:
 - \$568 a month with the added expense of a stapler and extra paper tray of \$39 for a total of \$607 per month
 - B&W at .0117 and Color at .082
 - We contracted for 2,700 B&W copies per month and 2,200 color. We pay this whether we make that many copies or not...most of the time we've made more color copies and not the number of B&W we contracted for.
 - Due to overages in the number of copies we make, our monthly bill has ranged from \$621 to \$643 a month.
- Pastor's Proposed 2018 Terms of Call were discussed.
- Bequeaths to our Church:
 - Adeline Dixon gave \$10,252.44 to the church, per the family's approval, it is being invested with the OT Harris money. Thank yous were sent to the family. The family would like Adeline's gift to be mentioned during a worship service. Aaron is planning a time to do this when the family can be present.
 - We received \$1,680 in memorial gifts in memory of Adeline Dixon. Those went into the Money Market Account. Thank yous were sent to all donors.
 - Ovid Bell left a trust in the amount of \$15,000 which we inherited on Martha's death. Per the family's approval it will be invested into the OT Harris fund. They do want any public recognition. Thank yous were sent to the children.
 - In the case of both bequeaths, it will replace one year of their pledge from both individuals, so we will see a reduction of about \$20,000 in our yearly pledge income.
- Stewardship Season:
 - We are going to develop a narrative budget this year to share during minutes for Stewardship. A paper "numbers" broad category budget will also be shared, but it will not be discussed
 - October 1st – Joe Davis will share the stewardship history of our church
 - October 8th – Vince Logan will share how our current giving supports the work of the church
 - October 15th – Tim Baysinger will share how future giving can impact the work of the church
 - October 22nd – Robert Craghead will share why it's important to pledge to the church
 - October 28th – Stewardship Supper at 6:00 p.m. (Friday night). This will be a committee fair, so committees can recruit people to sign up to help with committee events
- Financial Statements were reviewed and discussed

LIFE OF FAITH COMMISSION (MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEES):

August 22, 2017

1. Crop Walk
 - a. October 8. Mary will give Minute for mission. A volunteer list will be posted outside the kitchen. Volunteers are needed to make chili or soup, cookies, walk and man the kitchen.
2. Earth Care Congregation Items
 - a. Looking into showing an Inconvenient Truth at Church
 - b. Several People have been asked to looked over the items to become an Earth Care Congregation
 - c. Other committees will need to help with the decision to participate as it involves a great deal of effort on their part.
3. Fair Trade Market
 - a. Proposed Dates-December 2nd and other dates after church. (1st-Special event Friday night? December 3rd-after church.
 - b. Unsold items must be sent back or paid for within 7 days of event
 - c. 1st Pres Jeff will share items with us, Purchase items through PJT and Equal Exchange
 - d. I need others on the committee to help as buyers and organizers
 - e. We need to order no later than September 29th.
 - f. Contact-Mustard Seed now Root?
4. Halloween Trick or Treating-Outreach is unable to do at this time
5. Festival of Sharing
 - a. Reading and writing packs. Missouri paper goods.
 - b. Westminster-Into the Streets?-this will be held too late in the month to help with this as was done last year.
6. Volunteer sign-up
 - a. Crop Walk ?
 - b. Earth Care
 - c. Free Trade Market
 - d. October

- i. Bread and Butter-ornament? Wool Hearts? Karen L?
- ii. Christmas Joy Offering e. Mission Sewing Group-ideas

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION (FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEES):

- Hosted the Stewardship Supper and Committee Fair on Saturday, October 28th. About 50 people attended
- Cards were sent to Jenna Young,, Fred Luther, Arlys and Carl Kremer, Delbert Hampton, Lori Covey, Joyce Epperson, Becky Beilschmidt, and Dick White
- Personal visits were made to: Clarice Metz, Jean Avra, Maxie Martin and Doug Fickess
- 2 Phone calls were attempted to Tim and Barbara Wilkerson, but no one was home.

SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMISSION (CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & WORSHIP COMMITTEES):

Reviewed concept of “Spiritual Life Commission” (Worship & CE) working together on area of discipleship.

To provide opportunities for our congregation and church community to enrich individual and collective spiritual journeys as we worship, rejoice, learn, and seek to follow Christ in word and deed.

Shared meeting dates: Tuesday, August 8; Tuesday, October 10; Tuesday, January 9; Tuesday, April 10, all at 7pm.

Discussed new time and talent process and reviewed various volunteer schedules to date.

Reviewed upcoming church events for the fall.

- Karen Dungan gave an update on VBS. Average attendance was around 75 with over 40 volunteers.
- Aaron and Angela will prepare some ‘back-pack’ tags that can be attached to back-packs, like a luggage tag, for the Blessing of the Back-Packs on 13th.
- On the 27th the fall S.S. kick off will take place during the Sunday School hour in the fellowship hall. Light breakfast will be available, S.S. teachers will be introduced and commissioned and Aaron will share highlights from the Hungarian mission trip.
- World Communion Sunday, Oct. 1st will include some take home material for Sunday School and a variety of breads for communion. Rev. Logan will be leading the service.

MOTION: Motion to approve the following leaders for this program year:

- Kara White, pre-k through 5th grade Curriculum: Deep Blue
- Angela Grogan, Middle & Senior High Curriculum: Collaborate Bible Study
- Grace Craghead, Adult Bible Study Curriculum: Feasting on the Word
- Bob Hoell, Living our faith Curriculum: various DVD video-discussion series
- Tom and Tammy Gillespie, Sunday night youth group Curriculum: utilizing materials in the Resource Room on the lower level.

More detailed discussion on youth group, confirmation class, and Bibles for the children were discussed. Angela will follow up on background checks for teachers and volunteers.

Mary shared an information flyer about a campaign to purchase the new Presbyterian Hymnal. A \$20 donation will buy one new hymnal, which can be plated in honor or memory of family or loved ones. Mary will announce the hymnal campaign on Aug. 20.

We will want to prepare an informational display and have volunteer sign-ups for our various areas for the committee fair at the Stewardship dinner on Sat. Oct. 28.

Angela and Karen Luther will coordinate another Advent devotional booklet to be distributed before Dec. 3rd.

Upcoming Worship Events Prior to the Next Meeting:

Blessing of the Backpacks – August 13

Fall Worship Schedule Resumes – August 27

World Communion Sunday – October 1

October 10 Meeting Focus Topics: Advent services & activities, Stewardship Dinner & Committee Fair

Adjournment at 9:20 p.m. with prayer by Rev. White

SESSION CALLED MEETING – November 5, 2017

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church in Fulton, Missouri met for a called meeting in the church library on November 5, 2017. Rev. White opened the meeting with prayer at 12:10 a.m. A quorum was present.

PRESENT: Moderator Rev. Aaron White, Clerk Ramona Dobson, Elders: Fred Luther, Barb Huddleston, Kathleen Jeffries, Mary Osburn, Mary VanOrden.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: To receive Jordan Walker into membership through re-affirmation of faith.

Session examined Jordan Walker, who answered the question “What in God’s world brings you joy and what are the gifts you can share with the church?”

THE FOLLOWING MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED:

- Motion to Jordan Walker into church membership by affirmation of faith.

Adjournment at 12:30 a.m. with prayer by Rev. White

Ramona Dobson, Clerk