

First Presbyterian Times

August, 2014

First Presbyterian Church
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Out of My Mind ~ for August 2014
ponderings from Pastor John

Pastor Nominating Committee
... working ... !

At our called Congregational Meeting of July 6, you all elected Pam Cottingham, Susan Murray, Jan Roberts, Lee Bennett, Rob Heberer, Ken Kwantes and Bob May. These seven, embodying the variety of our congregation well, I believe, will seek out your next, installed, pastor.

I will write about two things this month: first, the expected sequence of actions and events ... and second, what you might do that will help this process move forward.

Sequence:

- ~ Election of the PNC = July 6
- ~ PNC meets: July 7

The PNC will continue to meet weekly for quite some time.

~ PNC met with our John Calvin Presbytery Liaison, the Rev. Diane Cooke, who may be able to continue as support and guidance in the coming months, on July 14th.

~ **FIRST TASK:** the PNC will write and fill out the **Ministry Information Form** [hereinafter: MIF], which is our church's "resume," with which the PNC will seek the pastoral Candidate.

~ **Next Step:** the PNC will present the MIF to our Session for authorization.
(if the Session likes or recommends changes, the)

~ **Second STEP** is for the Session to call a **Town Hall Meeting** for all of us to interact around the MIF, which will include the salary for the installed pastor, and the total cost to FPCR to have a pastor, and the various questions and statements that the PNC has written to engage potential pastoral candidates.

~ When the MIF has reached 'maturity' the PNC will send it along to our Presbytery's Committee on Ministry and our Stated Clerk, and they will [hopefully] give us permission to take it online and commence the search.

- ~ The PNC will **search** ... this may take a long time.
- ~ John Calvin Presbytery will vett the candidates we are serious about.
- ~ When several final candidates are selected, the PNC will conduct face-to-face interviews, and hear the candidates preach. Committee on Ministry will meet with the candidate also, usually at this time.
- ~ The PNC will select their candidate and present her or him to our congregation.
- ~ Your next, installed, pastor will arrive and begin joint-ministry with you all.
- ~ I will exit sometime prior to the pastor's arrival.

Your part:

- ~ **Pray**
- ~ Feel free to talk with any of the PNC members. The PNC, generally, will make themselves available to our congregation for conversation. You are free to ask questions, make recommendations for style and such, and even suggest a possible candidate whom you think might serve us well.

NOTE: the PNC is not free to talk to us about anything other than what their process is. They will not talk about who they are interested in, have contacted, or are talking with.

- ~ Encourage your PNC!

... did I mention that your ongoing prayers are needed?

So, for the next period of time ... 6 months to a year ... let's continue worshipping and serving in this community as we have recently. May we continue to see God's leading and future, together!

your temporary shepherd, John

Work for our common good; love openly; and, get to know God better this month!

John Calvin Presbytery
Message from Rev. Susan Rosenbaum

Wow! School will be starting soon. Where has the summer gone? As we look at August, we see the start of school and all that entails. It makes me wonder how many churches in JCP are involved in some type of mission for school children. I know that First Presbyterian Church Columbus, KS uses the summer to host a free lunch program for the children and some adults who do not have resources during the summer. The First Presbyterian Church Mountain View has a Back to School Fair right before school starts where they offer school supplies, haircuts and other services. Many churches participate in the backpack program in their local schools where children at risk are given backpacks of food to take home over the weekend. Other churches offer free school supplies to incoming students. I would like to know exactly how many churches are involved in a mission to school children in JCP. If your church has such a mission project, please contact me at pastoralpresbyter@gmail.com. Touching lives by living out our faith is one of the things that we do well together. It is a reminder of the Greatest Commandment - to love God and love your neighbor as yourself. God bless all of you for being involved in the ways that touch the lives of others for God.

Rev. Susan Rosenbaum
 Pastoral Presbyter
 John Calvin Presbytery





Stewardship & Finance Rob Heberer

Your stewardship and finance committee has been busy and having a lot of fun! Here is a brief update on how we have been serving the church's interests of being good stewards of the financial gifts that the church has been given.

June giving of \$16,460.00 has been met with expenses of \$18,937.00 meaning that we spent \$3,477.00 more than we took in. Fortunately, and thanks to the generosity of the congregation and bequeathed gifts, we have a Reserve Fund to help us through deficit spending times, such as these. At this point we have spent \$10,000.00 from the Reserve Fund, but also took in \$5,000.00 of interest. We have approximately \$290,000.00 in this account. Projecting forward, at present levels of giving and expenses, this fund will be exhausted in 7 years. In short, with the Reserve Fund, the church is in not too bad of shape. Yet, judicious spending will continue to be our watchword and guide.

The following illustration will enlighten the congregation of as to where we are. At present, we have 79 Total Giving Units with their average annual gift being \$2,169.00. Thus, moving forward to meet budget goals without further depleting the Reserve Account we need to either:

- #1.) At the above Annual Giving Rate, increase the number of Giving Units to 100
OR,
- #2.) At the present number of Giving Units increase their annual gift to \$2,705.00
OR,
- #3.) A combination of the above!

Please note that the above illustration does take into account spending for calling an installed Pastor.

In addition to the above, we made a recommendation of the compensation package to the Pastor Nominating Committee to approve and send to the Session. We also discussed the upcoming Fall Stewardship Campaign.

As you can see we have been having plenty of fun. Members include Pastor John Oerter, Moderator, Rob Heberer, Chairperson, Clayton Read, Barb Ford and Mary Williams. We are in search of an additional member, so anyone wanting to fill the fun void in their life will want to consider joining us. Our next scheduled meeting is at 6:00 PM, Wednesday, August 13, in the Sadler Lounge – Be a part of our joyful committee!!

Presbyterian Women Eleanor Van Horn



Presbyterian Women's Circle meetings will resume in September and all women of the church are invited to join a circle if not already a member. We have 3 Circle Groups – Circle III moderated by Mary Kwantes, Circle IV moderated by Pat Look and Circle V moderated by Katherine Cook.

These circles meet once a month for bible study and also participate in activities with other circles such as fund raisers and general meetings. These groups are a great way to get to know other women in the church as well as to study the bible. You can contact me (Eleanor Van Horn) or the office if you want to join.



Membership
Mary Kwantes

Lots of stuff going on this Summer. Thanks to Jonathan and Mound Ridge for a memorable if not comfortable canoe trip in July.

Coming Up We Have:

August 1st @ 5:30 pm First Friday Night Out Dinner at Colton's. Give Lee Bennett your ideas for next month (Sept 5th).

August 3rd thru 7th – VBS @ 6-8pm. No Fired Up! on the 7th.

August 9th @ 4:30 - Dinner at Whitakers and 7:30 pm O.A.T Theater to follow. Bring a side dish and come early if you would like to swim.

September 14 @ 6:30 pm – Ice Cream Social Outreach. Membership will invite students and neighbors.

Finally, remember 5 finger Evangelism:

- 1.) Get the visitor's name and address them by it.
2. & 3.) Introduce them to 2 other people
- 4.) Invite them to Fellowship. If the guest is at Fired Up, invite them to Sunday Worship or any of our activities.
- 5.) Membership will follow up with a letter.

Continue to pray for growth, good will and Christ's Kingdom on Earth, in Rolla.



Mission Committee
Cynthia Hobart

I read this Minute for Mission at the July 13 worship service. Since it includes information that I'd like to share with everyone in the congregation, I've submitted it for the church newsletter.

A Minute for Mission – Memorial Garden

As I recall, the Memorial Garden was established in the late 1990s. However, the earliest record I have of Committee activity is in May of 2006, when Gerre McKay was chair of the Committee. Around this time the layout of the Garden, a budget, and a plan for memorial bricks were approved by the Trustees, who oversee all major expenses and landscape plans for the Garden.

Not long after that, the Committee established policies for the Garden, the primary one being that the purpose of the Garden is to provide a sacred place for the deposition of ashes of loved ones and to be a quiet place for meditation and prayer. Since then remains of five church members have been scattered in the Garden: Ralph Carson, John McKay, Helen and Larry May, and Jeanne Christensen. More commonly, however, memorial bricks engraved with the name, birth year and death year of loved ones have been placed in the Garden. Over the past five years 59 memorial bricks have been placed and subsequently dedicated with a prayer. Three recently ordered bricks are now on the table in the hall; later this summer they will be placed in the Garden and dedicated after a worship service this fall.

Other donations to the Garden include: a plaque and a tree in memory of John McKay, a tree in memory of Helen and Larry May, a tree in memory of Ralph Carson, a concrete bench in memory of Chris McKay, a concrete bench in honor of Bud Pumfrey's extensive work in the Garden, and, most recently, a concrete table and two benches in memory of John Van Horn. Various other shrubs and perennials have also been donated.

Those currently serving on the Memorial Garden Committee include Janet Brown, Bud Pumfrey, Robert Rogers, Eleanor Van Horn, and Mary Williams. Please feel free to communicate with any of us regarding the Memorial Garden.

Worship & Music Happenings **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!** **Jonathan Kimball & Jeff Sandquist**



Bells and Choir will be starting up again on August 27th so come one, come all and bring your signing voices. If you are interested in joining, please contact either Jeff Sandquist or Jonathan Kimball.

**From the Office
Nanette Turner**



As you may know, Betti Jo will be back September 1st, so this may be the last time I have the chance to say **THANK YOU** to everyone for all of your assistance and making me feel so welcome here.

In July, some of you may have noticed that my two children and I did Fellowship and we had a **BLAST**. They truly enjoyed meeting each and every one of you and commented of how it was something they would do again. (To hear that from a teenager is a miracle! 😊) We will also be helping out in VBS on Sunday the 3rd of August so if I haven't met you yet, please stop by and say hello.

I have tried to meet as many of you as possible and I'm not the best with names but I can tell what each of you bring to this church that makes it so welcoming and warming to join.

Thank you again for the opportunity to work as your temporary Front Office Manager and I hope to see all of you again whether here at the church or out in the big city of Rolla!



Happy Belated Birthday to those of you in July: Ann Winch (1st), Ken Kwantes (5th), Mary Kwantes (6th), Clayton Read (7th), Ed Schmidt and Ruby Malone (9th), Robert Garcia (10th), James Drewniak and Steve Day (13th), Nancy Marlow, Vashy Rahaman and Morgan Long (15th), Sophie Denbo (18th), Janet Brown (21st), Jessica Kimball (24th), Christine Rueff (27th).

Happy Birthday to those of you in August: Larry Roberts and Kathleen Dean (1st), Robert Rogers (2nd), Steve Skelton and Lucas Day (3rd), Darryl Alofs (5th), Michael Wilbanks (6th), Jonathan Kimball (10th), Ephram Huscko (11th), Marian Pruitt (12th), Susan Murray (14th), Frank Jessop (18th), Ardel Rueff (19th), Lenn Koederitz and Lee Malone (21st), D.C. Look (25th), Nora Sandquist (31st).



Happy Anniversary to those of you who had an Anniversary in July: Dean & Jan Sletten (1st), Robert Rogers & Linda Rose (6th), Jonathan & Dana Blake (7th), Lowell & Sondra Crow (9th), Lee & Ruby Malone (16th), Steve & Susan Bowles (26th), Janet & Joe Brown (28th).

Happy Anniversary to those of you who are celebrating in August:
Bob & Pat Mollenkamp (15th), Larry & Jan Roberts (15th), William & Karen Hudson (24th)

Church Staff

John Oerter, **Pastor (Interim)**
Nanette Turner, **Office Manager**
Candace Ludden, **Preschool Director**

Jeff Sandquist, **Music Director**
Lorie Francis, **Accompanist**
Robert Garcia, **Church Sexton**