

First Presbyterian Times

July, 2014

First Presbyterian Church
919 E. Tenth Street, Rolla, MO 65401
Phone: 573-364-3852/ Fax: 573-426-5320
Email: presby1@fidnet.com / Website: www.rollapresby.org



Out of My Mind ~ for July 2014

Ponderings from Pastor John

Pastor Nominating Committee

& Future Process

From our *Book of Order*: G-2.0802: “The Session shall call a congregational meeting to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee that shall be representative of the whole congregation. The committee’s duty shall be to nominate a pastor for election by the congregation.”

I’m writing this on Thursday, June 19. I received an email last evening from our Presbyter, the Rev. Melana Scruggs, letting Cynthia Hobart and I know the Committee on Ministry of John Calvin Presbytery has authorized us to proceed to elect our PNC.

Our Session acted last Monday, June 16th in anticipation of a positive outcome, calling a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, July 6th, following worship. At that meeting, Cynthia will present the slate of folks who have said ‘yes’ to Session, that they would serve, if elected.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, here at Rolla FPC, it will be your duty and joy to elect this slate, or modify it according to your collective wisdom.

So that you may be thinking and praying about your action, the slate of persons who have said they would be willing to serve on the PNC are: Lee Bennett, Pam Cottingham, Rob Heberer, Ken Kwantes, Bob May, Susan Murray and Jan Roberts.

If elected, this Committee [or the one constituted by your vote] will begin working immediately. Presbytery will send a resource person to help them get working, and I’ve had some experience in coaching the beginning work of a number of PNCs. We will hold an orientation/training time to help them find their plan and process.

Their first major task will be to write and enter online our Ministry Information Form, or “MIF” in acronym. This will be our church’s ‘resume’ with which the PNC will search for your next, long-term, pastor. As soon as the MIF is active, the search begins.

Please feel free to bring any suggestions or thoughts to our PNC, preferably in writing. However, know from the beginning that they are to operate with autonomy and confidentiality until such time as they have a chosen candidate to present to our congregation to elect, or not, as your next, long-term, pastor.

Please be regular and passionate in your prayers for their discernment!

your temporary shepherd, John

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

Membership

Mary Kwantes

If you missed the Block Party you missed a great event. John Francis's group Dixie Union was well received. We canvassed 120 homes and had about 20 visitors. Thanks to those who came and interacted with those visitors. One family returned for youth fishing. Three visitors returned for Fired Up! Thursday the 19th. It is happening.. Evangelism works.. As we become better at publicity and planning, FPRC will have more chances to reach out and share our faith and the blessings of our church.

July 19th will be the canoe trip. Jonathan Kimball will have the details. Check your WG in weeks to come.

Youth Fishing Outreach will meet July 27 near the Ber Juan Dam area from 1-3 pm. Join us and help.

Our Adult theater event will be the O.A.T play "Drowsy Chaperone" on August 9th 7:30. Dinner will be at Britt and Amy Whitaker's home at 4:30. Come earlier to swim if you choose. Bring a side dish to share and your preferred beverage. Tickets are \$16. You may pay Britt or Nanette.

Our newest event will be **FIRST FRIDAY NIGHT OUT**. This is a dinner group, singles and couples are welcome. We will begin on August 1st at 5:30. Lee Bennett is in charge of selecting the restaurant. So contact him about this fun monthly fellowship activity. We will make reservations and need to plan.

Please continue to greet visitors warmly and invite them to join us for fellowship. If you are able to do fellowship, check the list and sign up. REMEMBER, snacks need not be extensive. Coffee, cold drink, and cookies, crackers, or pretzels are fine. Thanks to those who have helped thus far.

Mission Committee

Frank Jessop

It does not seem possible that we are talking about "Back to School", but the Back to School Fair is August 6th at Lions Club park. The Mission Committee has selected to do a box of 24 count Crayola's. Our goal is to collect 450 boxes of crayons. There will be a plastic tote in the hall across from the office. We will deliver them August 1st to Mercy Clinic. If you do not want to buy the crayons you can make out a check to the church and put in the "For" space at the bottom "Back to School" and we will give the money to Mercy to buy crayons.

Susan Murray

The mission committee is kicking off a new hands-on mission called "Yarning for God". The purpose is simple; we are going to make handmade items for the women and children at Russell House. Women and children served by Russell House are on a difficult journey from verbal, emotional, physical, and/or sexual abuse to a new life with hope and opportunity. As they make this difficult journey we want to wrap them in God's love and our prayers. We want to do this symbolically (and practically) by providing the women and children with handmade yarn goods and our prayers. The members and friends of the church are invited to knit, crochet, or sew handmade items such as hats, scarfs, baby blankets, stuffed toys, and mittens.

Since males and females of all ages are supported by Russell House, crafters can make items of varying colors, sizes, and styles. Crafters of all skills and techniques are welcome to participate. A written message of love and support, along with our prayers, will be attached to each handmade item.

We will have some crafting times at the church when folks can work on their projects and visit. If you would rather work on something at home that is fine too. More details will be announced later in the summer, but in the meantime, if you have questions please feel free to contact Susan Murray.

Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 3rd thru Thursday, August 7th from 6 pm – 8 pm

Our church will be hosting the annual Vacation Bible School for ages 4 through 11 ... with a BEACH (Beach Trekkers) theme. The stories, songs, and decor will focus on Water, Word, and Worship. WWW

A large yellow poster has been placed across from the office for signing up to help in several areas: Music, Story Time, Crafts, Recreation, and Snacks. (I noted on Sunday that the Registration spot has already been filled.)

Parents and children look forward to Vacation Bible School as a summer activity. What a blessing to share our faith about Jesus with them. We can't do it without you. Christian Education is thankful and grateful for all your help!!

Worship & Music Happenings

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Jonathan Kimball

We are now in the season of Pentecost, a time of growth in our faith and our relationship with God and with our church. Growth happens in many ways: through study, through mission service, through evangelism, and through worship. Many thanks to those who make our worship services meaningful year-round.

Services? Yes, we now have two services a week. Our traditional service is still 9:45am on Sundays. Our new service is FIRED UP! Held **Thursdays at 6:30pm**, this is an informal worship experience that lasts about a half-hour. We normally meet in the fellowship hall; in July, we will meet in the chapel on the 10th due to facility conflict with the Piece & Plenty Quilt Guild. Most likely, we will meet in the chapel twice in August due to facility conflicts. No matter—the service is the same, an informal time of music, prayer, and reflection on the Word. A member of the congregation gives a reflection on the same scripture that the pastor will use on the coming Sunday. If you would like to know more, please ask me, or just come join us and try it out.

In other news, we are **short on ushers**. As best I know, there are three (out of five) teams that are short. If you would like to get involved in this key aspect of our worship, please contact me, or contact one of the usher captains: Rob Heberer, Dean Sletten, Melba Read, Marilyn Schmidt, and Eugene Zanders. Each team serves once per month (except the fifth-Sunday team, which only serves quarterly when there are five Sundays in the month).

There are many other ways to get involved in worship. There are **sign-up sheets** outside the church office for some of them, to assist those responsible for filling the roles. Each Sunday, we need a worship leader (recruited by Dixie Finley) and someone to work the sound system (managed by Jan Roberts). On communion Sundays, we also need a six-person team to serve communion (also recruited by Dixie, choosing first among active elders but any ordained

deacon or elder may serve). During the summer, we have special music each week (coordinated by Jeff Sandquist). Come fall, chancel choir and bell choir will be starting up again. For FIRED UP! each Thursday, we need someone to play the music (usually me, but not always) and someone to give the reflection (coordinated by me). If you would like to get involved in any way, please contact the appropriate party. Thanks!

A Word From Michael Wilbanks

Hello! If you have not heard yet, I am working with Campus Crusade for Christ for one more year in campus ministry. My focus is to *win students heart for Christ* by sharing God's truths, promises, and commandments, *build Christians up in their faith* through discipleship and bible studies, and *send them out making disciples* and living a life pursuing a personal relationship with God globally and passionately for a lifetime. I have to raise my own support for my position through Cru and I am currently at 45% of my goal; I have \$1,100 monthly left to raise. I am looking for monthly financial and prayer partners that will help me change students' lives for eternity. I would love to meet with you and share more about my ministry. Thank you for your hearts that pursue the Lord. Feel free to email or call me for any questions.

Michael Wilbanks
Michael.wilbanks@cru.org
573-201-8021
give.cru.org/O725543

From the Office

Nanette Turner, Office Manager

Wow...Where do I start? I apologize there was no Newsletter last month. We felt that everyone was taking a break after all these past busy months and there wasn't a whole lot to talk about. I would like to thank everyone for welcoming me and helping me out when needed. This has not been an easy task but the whole Congregation has been wonderful. Thanks!! I look forward to the school year beginning again and seeing everyone as things begin to start back up and happen in the up and coming months.

Happy Belated Birthday to those of you in May: Linda Rose (4th), Ron Elliott (4th), Mary Alofs (8th) Sharlene Morgan (8th), K.M. Isaac (10th), Jan Sletten (12th), Russell Fox (14th), Caitlyn Sandquist (14th), Dean Sletten (17th), Rebecca Fox (20th), Horace Jeffery (26th), Pam Cottingham (31st).

Happy Belated Birthday to those of you in June: Jack Murray (4th), Carol Jessop (5th), Bob Mollenkamp (6th), Juanita Jeffery (14th), Ray Fox (16th), Cheryl Koederitz (16th), Lisa Matthews (16th), Samuel Kimball (18th), Pat Mollenkamp (20th), Joanne Zap (22nd), Julie Murray (23rd), Betty Pietsch (26th).

Happy Anniversary to those of you who had an Anniversary in May:

Ken & Mary Kwantes, Ardel & Christine Rueff

Happy Anniversary to those of you who are celebrating in June: Earl & Betty Pietsch, Ron & Denise Elliott, D.C. & Pat Look, Ed & Marilyn Schmidt, Steve & Jean Day, Darryl & Mary Alofs, Len & Vashy Rahaman, Bill & Pam Cottingham, Clayton & Melba Read, John & Jennifer Denbo, Britt & Amy Whitaker.

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