**Presbyterian Times**

**April, 2018**

First Presbyterian Church

919 E. Tenth

Rolla, MO 65401

Telephone: 573-364-3852 / Fax: 573-426-5320

**A Message from Our Pastor**

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

April showers bring May flowers and vegetables and fruits and bugs and seasonal allergies. This year we, at First Presbyterian Church, are going to do what we can to jump right into what spring has to offer. We are going to build and plant and harvest a container garden. Last summer Jessie Kimball attended a two week theological conference about food justice and the value of community gardens. For a couple of months, Jessie, Jean Moran-Day and I have been laying some ground work for the garden.

Our purpose: To provide an elevated container garden which will provide vegetables for donation to Grace, the preschool, The Rolla Mission, etc?

Our plan: To build three large elevated container gardens near the fellowship hall windows on the west side of the building.

Our hope: That people who love to garden or who want to learn to garden will join us as we jump in with both feet.

Our wish list:

Garden gloves, hand held garden tools, hoses, help building the container stands, help watering the garden throughout the summer (we will make a sign up list), wheel barrow, and anything else we have forgotten!

We are looking forward to the coming spring and summer to see how our garden grows.

Peace!

Pastor Lou Ellen

Sermon information for April

**April 8 John 20:19-31 Christ is Risen**

**April 15 Luke 24:36b-48 Things We Say at the Table**

**April 22 John 10:11-18 The Depth of Love**

**April 29 1 John 4:7-21 Love One Another**

**Preschool News**

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

It is with deep regret that we announce that our preschool director, Kyla Gavura, will not return as director in the fall. Kyla has done a wonderful job, taking over the job mid-stream. We appreciate her dedication and devotion to the preschool. We will miss her leadership as director.

The Preschool Management Committee will begin a search this month to have in place a director as soon as possible. Please keep the preschool ministry in your prayers as we move forward through this transitional time.

**Mission Committee**

Melba Read

A BIG Thank You for your contributions to the Basket of Hope. Boxes were delivered on Monday to GRACE, The Mission and Russell House.

**PALS**

Cheryl Koederitz

PALS will meet for lunch on Monday, April 2 at 11:45 am at Cupcakes and Cravings.

**MISSING**

Marilyn Schmidt

The Presbyterian Women are missing one of the two heavy large stainless steel soup pots. They were purchased a couple of years ago and donated by two members.

If you know where it is or have it, please return to the kitchen storage area.

Thank you.

**Presbyterian Women**

JoAnn Anderson and Melba Read

**Spring Gathering “Welcome to this Place”**

Join us as we review our year and enjoy fellowship with each other.

 Who: All women of First Presbyterian

 When: April 21, 2018

 Where: First Presbyterian Fellowship Hall

 Time: 11:00 AM

 What: A Salad Lunch provided by the Presbyterian Women’s Board

 Program: The Mission of Presbyterian Woman through the Birthday Offering

Sign-up sheet in hallway outside the office door, but, if you forget come anyway. We would love to have you.

Tina Pridgeon, Director of Volunteer Services at PCRMC will be our speaker. The Birthday Offering began in 1922 by giving a penny for each year of age or if you did not wish your age known, you could give one dollar. This offering is taken at the Spring Gathering and there are three recipients.

Cottage Village, a Tiny-house Community for Low-Income Residents in Cottage Grove, Oregon. The Birthday Offering Grant will be used to build 13 tiny houses and a central shaded-use area that will serve as a compassionate and protective community for vulnerable rural citizens.

Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The Grant will make it possible to purchase this center. This retreat will be managed by Presbyterian women in Honduras. It will offer hospitality for retreats, workshops and mission teams from the PC(USA), Solar Under the Sun and Living Waters for the World.

The Dwelling Place, Minneapolis and St. Paul Minnesota. Established in 1998 to provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of women and their children following their escape from a violent partner…The Grant will allow the purchase of a vacant lot to construct a multi-use building to be used for small group programming, one-on-one case management, safe living space and staff offices.

**Member Update**

Adele Heller has moved to an assisted living facility near Kansas City to be closer to her daughter, Ruth Johnson. Contact information for Ms. Johnson is 816-309-6169 or 1040 NE Serenity Circle, Lee Summit, MO 64064.

**Presbyterians Cook**

Carol Jessop

Pam Cottingham served the Italian Sausage Soup on Ash Wednesday. If you like Italian Food you will love this soup.

**Italian Sausage Soup**

Makes 10 to 12 servings

One 1.24 lb. package hot Italian sausage, casings removed (I may have used mild)

2 carrots, diced

Bell pepper, chopped

1 onion, chopped

3 cloves garlic, minced

2-32 ounce boxes low-sodium chicken broth

One 15 ounce can tomato sauce

2 medium zucchini, cut in half lengthwise and thinly sliced

1 teaspoon dried crushed rosemary

One 20 ounce package refrigerated 3 cheese tortellini (I have used frozen if you can’t find refrigerated)

Garnish: chopped fresh parsley

In a large Dutch oven, combine sausage, carrots, onion, bell pepper, and garlic; cook over medium heat until sausage is browned and crumbles. Drain well.

Stir in chicken broth and tomato sauce; bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer 5 minutes. Add zucchini and rosemary; simmer 20 minutes. Add tortellini; simmer 5 minutes, or until tender.

Serve immediately,

Garnish with chopped fresh parsley, if desired.

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The Southwest Salad comes from JoAnn Anderson and she is a great cook.

As many of you know, I am an only child, but, I didn’t want for playmates. My mother was one of nine siblings. My cousins and I stayed with our grandmother when we were little. Each June we take a Saturday to spend together. One of my cousins’ wives makes a Southwest Salad that is a hit and requested each year. This year it will be served at the PW Spring Gathering. Enjoy making it yourself or come to the Gathering and let me make it for you.

**Southwest Salad**

**Ingredients:**

1 pound Hamburger – Cooked and drained

1 package Taco Seasoning

1 large head of Iceberg Lettuce

6 Green Onions

1 Can Red Kidney Beans – Drained

1 Small can Sliced Black Olives

1 pound split Cherry Tomatoes

Regular size bag of Doritos

1 bag of shredded cheese

Kraft Creamy French dressing as needed.

**Directions:**

Brown and crumble hamburger. Drain. Mix with the Taco Seasoning.

Rinse and drain kidney beans

Finely chop lettuce

Drain olives

Chop green onions

Split tomatoes

Crush Doritos in the bag.

Mix all together with the exception of the shredded cheese, Doritos and Kraft French Dressing in a large bowl.

Right before you serve add shredded cheese, Doritos and French dressing.

**From the Office**

Betti Jo Pyatt, Office Manager

*Happy Birthday wishes go out to Deanne Jackson, Cynthia Hobart, Bruce Russell, Mariesa Crow-Drewniak, Marilyn Schmidt, Britt Whitaker, Rhonda Kimball, Amy Whitaker, Carrie Aswegan and Ming Leu.*

*Happy Anniversary wishes go out to Frank and Carol Jessop; Jim and Deanne Jackson; and Bob and Earline Morrison.*

**Newsletter deadline for articles for May is April 30.**

Events for the Month

April 1 – Easter Sunday

April 2 – PALS lunch at 11:45 at Cupcakes & Cravings

April 6 – First Friday Night Out at Matt’s Steakhouse

April 14 – RAMTA evaluations

April 16 – Interfaith Dialogue @MST Campus

April 21 – PW Spring Luncheon and General meeting

April 22 – Mary Kwantes’ recital

April 24 – RAMTA recital

April 25 – Cardinal ballgame in St. Louis

April 28 – RCAS rehearsal

April 29 – RCAS concert