

**Presbyterian Times**  
**November, 2018**

First Presbyterian Church  
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**A Message from Our Pastor**

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

As you enter the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, I hope you have taken the time to look at the posters hanging on the pillars. They are our "The Church Has Left the Building" posters, and the Mission Committee adds a new poster each month. These posters are a small glimpse of how the members of our congregation go out into our community and give of themselves in a wide variety of ministries. This month there are images from the Rolla Mission and Russell House, two entities in Rolla which receive our monetary donations as well as our time and energy. We have been given so much, and it is a blessing to see the church at work outside our walls.

This is also the time of year when our minds to turn giving and making pledges for our 2019 offerings. I invite you to prayerfully consider your monetary gifts going forward into the New Year. Our congregation engages in many ministries here in our community and through the larger church. We have been blessed with the opportunities to be the church together, to worship and study together, to hold up one another in prayer, to comfort each other in our grief, to celebrate with one another in our joys. We are a faith community which has a great purpose to nurture one another and to share the good news. Part of our discipleship is giving of ourselves and our money, not out of guilt, but out of thanksgiving and worship.

As we bring our individual gifts together, as we give as we are called, we see the ways in which God can do extraordinary things with what we freely give. It is part of the miraculous life we know as disciples. Believe it or not, we have always done it this way. The earliest disciples and followers of Jesus would give from what they had in order to support Jesus' ministry. The early church would rely on tithes and offerings to support ministries within their individual congregations as well as sending aid to congregations who were struggling. They supported ministries close to home and sent missionaries to carry the message of Jesus around the Roman world. It seems we have indeed always done it this way!

As you consider your giving pledges for 2019, I pray you give from a place of thanksgiving and blessing. I pray you also give with anticipation and faith, as we all await what God will do with us and through us.

Peace be with you all,

Pastor Lou Ellen

## **Deacons**

Cheryl Koederitz, Chair

The Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church would like to remind members who we are and how we can help. Your Deacons are: Dixie Finley, Marian Pruitt, Jan Roberts, Deanne Jackson, Cheryl Koederitz, Carlene May, Carrie Aswegan, Carol Bennett, and Bill Neely. If we can be of help with a funeral dinner, visitation, meal delivery, prayer chain, or transportation, please contact us.

## **MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS**

Thank you for stepping up to fill 7 disaster buckets. These will be taken to the November Presbytery meeting to be stored. They will be taken to disaster areas when the need arises as it did with the recent hurricanes.

The holiday season is upon us and we will adopt 6 families for Thanksgiving to give them the ability to have a Thanksgiving dinner plus some extras. The sign-up list is across from the office with the date of November 15<sup>th</sup> to have the food at the church for delivery the following Sunday. As always drivers to deliver the baskets are needed.



## **Fellowship News**

Bob May, Chair

**It's good to see new faces in the congregation.** Please, everyone greet them and invite visitors to join with us after worship for a time to visit and attend Sunday School.

Thanks for the good help to those who prepare for our weekly Fellowship Time. If you are interested in helping, we'll welcome your participation!

### Recent Events:

1<sup>st</sup> Friday Night Out, Oct.5<sup>th</sup> Carlene and Bob enjoyed dining at the Mandarin Garden. Please let Lee Bennett or Bob May know if you can attend by Wednesday of the "Night Out Week".

October 21<sup>st</sup>. a good number of us attended a Hike (some of us just enjoyed the scenery) and Hot Dog feed at Lane Springs Rec Area.

### Coming Events:

Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bonfire and Weenie Roast. (bring a side dish if you desire). Hosted by Britt and Amy Whitaker. Instruments welcome for some "Moonlight Music." Come as early as 4:30 for games. Look for sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

### From the Office

Katie Sands, Office Manager

Our *Birthday* wishes go out to:

4<sup>th</sup> Kelly Look  
10<sup>th</sup> Susan Bowles  
14<sup>th</sup> Jeff Sandquist  
17<sup>th</sup> Bill Neely  
23<sup>rd</sup> Chuck Bennett  
27<sup>th</sup> Janice Zanders



Our *Anniversary* wishes go out to:

15<sup>th</sup> Russell & Teressa Fox  
18<sup>th</sup> Bob & Jo Ann Anderson  
28<sup>th</sup> Bob & Carlene May

*Happy Anniversary*

### Events for the Month:

**November 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>**- Pastor Lou Ellen will be gone the on A Continued Education Retreat.

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** Daylight Savings time ends.



**November 22<sup>nd</sup>**- Office will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving. We will reopen Monday 26th at 8:00 am.