



The Turning of the Year

On August 11, 2024, I was commissioned to serve First Presbyterian Church of Rolla as a commissioned ruling elder, also called a commissioned lay pastor. My job is to preach twice monthly, lead worship at the Presbyterian Manor, lead our campus ministry (Sacred Paths), serve on committees, and generally provide spiritual leadership. I am also the default option for funerals, though I will never stand in the way of the family's wishes.

By now, I had hoped to have met with every member of the church. I'm about a dozen short. In most cases, the problem has been scheduling. I will try harder. If I haven't been able to connect with you, please feel free to reach out to me. And of course, I'm available to talk with anyone who has a need or something to share.

What is my goal in these meetings? Well, it is not to convince you of anything. I already preach my heart, so I'm happy to discuss anything theological on your mind, but won't push it on you. Mostly, I want to know where your heart is. What are your fears? What are your dreams? What do you think the church should be doing better or differently? How do you think I'm doing? What new things do you want to try that I can help you with?

I'm not necessarily the big vision guy, but I can get stuff done. Maybe you have a vision, but you don't know how to make it a reality. I can help you find partners, identify resources you'll need, work through logistics with you, and so forth. Or maybe I'll connect you with an organization that is already doing something like your vision, but who could use your special talents.

Or maybe you're concerned about the future. My role, like that of any pastor, is to help each person see God at work in their life. Remember that you are in the holy presence of God—always and everywhere. But often, God does not seem present, when we're overwhelmed by the busy-ness of life, or grief, or illness, or challenging relationships, or an uncertain future. Like everyone, I have walked through some dark valleys in my life. If you are in one now, let me shine God's light in your life.

The most tangible way I experience God's presence is through community. I love our church. I love Rolla. I love the many connections I've made. My hope and prayer for each one of you is that you too will experience God through worship and fellowship together with God's people.

Grace and peace to you always,

Jonathan

jonathan.kimball@gmail.com

Music & Worship Committee

By the time you receive this we will have weathered some hot temperatures. Hopefully all of us and our sanctuary systems survived. By the end of the month the choir will start rehearsals, and we will enjoy the gifts of special music. Please reach out to Jeff and Lorie and thank them for their hard work. Especially consider joining the choir this fall.

On October 5 we will celebrate World Communion with passing the elements.

The Worship and Music Committee is always seeking your input on in-person worship, sound and visual projection. Also let us know, if you still use streaming, if that service is still meaningful to you.

Worship committee members are Mary Kwantes (chair), Jeff Sandquist (music and liturgy), Jonathan Kimball (CRE and PowerPoint), Ming Leu (Worship leaders), Kristen Gutches (Production booth). If you can help as usher, worship leader, or booth technician, please let the appropriate member know. Thanks for your help in the past, and in advance if you can join these teams. Mary Kwantes

Communications and Logistics

Just a few reminders about items that were announced in our previous quarterly newsletter. First of all, remember that the newsletters are quarterly. The next one will be around the first of November. Each month, the session meets and, among other things, reviews and approves the preceding month's minutes. I will be distributing those approved minutes. That way, you will all have some idea what's going on behind the scenes in the church.

Each week, Jeff assembles the bulletin. I polish it up to include the sermon title and Lorie's music selections, and I add any announcements I know about. Generally, I print the worship leader guide and bulletins on Wednesdays before choir. If you have an announcement to share with the church, please send it to me by Tuesday, or worst case, Wednesday morning. Then on Friday, I send an email out to the congregation. Please read it! I include the bulletin and the link to the live stream, and also any important announcements like mission collections going on, upcoming potluck dinners and other events, etc.

Thanks to everyone who works to make our church function smoothly! It is my hope that broadcasting the session minutes and regular newsletters will help everyone know what's going on and perhaps see how they fit into the Body of Christ.

Peace,

Jonathan

From Your Administrative Committee

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who has continued their monthly contributions during this challenging financial season. Your generosity has made a meaningful impact, and we're especially grateful to a few that were able to increase their pledges and donations.

A particularly gracious donation allowed for the removal of a hazardous tree from the church/preschool grounds—an important step in keeping our members, preschoolers, and community safe and cared for.

As we look ahead, we respectfully ask each of you to consider the importance of sustaining the church through regular giving. Contributions have been lower than needed, and every donation—big or small—helps us continue the work we're called to do and maintain the spaces we all cherish.

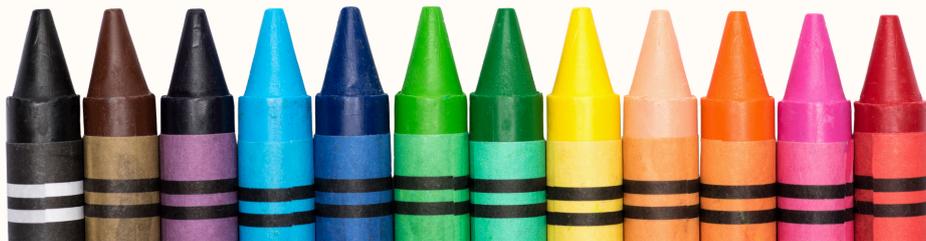
Thank you for the faith, care, and prayer you bring to our church. Together, we're building something enduring.

With gratitude, The Administrative Committee

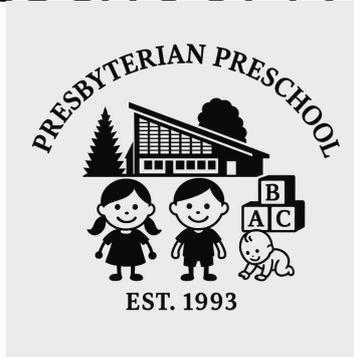
Mission and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach committee would like to thank you for your generosity. We received over 400 boxes of Crayola crayons which will be distributed at the Back to School Fair on August 6. We have also received toys for Christmas in July sponsored by G.R.A.C.E.

Your participation in both of these programs is appreciated.



Preschool News



Introducing...

Assistant Director, Lauren Daniels

Welcome Lauren Daniels as our new Assistant Director!

She brings a wealth of experience and we look forward to working together as Presby Preschool grows.

Lauren joins Tracy James on our leadership team.



Congratulations!

May 13 we honored our graduates and wished them well as they grow and move on to new adventures.

Play Day at the Park

We enjoyed a fun morning at Ber Juan park in June. It was a beautiful day.



Supporting our Community

Thanks to everyone who supported our Take A Stand Against Child Abuse lemonade stand. Many members of the church and community stopped by to help out.



Patriotic Picnic

We wore our tie-dye shirts and celebrated together outside on July 3.



*Birthday
Wishes*



September

28th Leslie Skelton

October

6th Judy Fox

25th Dwight Look

August

3rd- Steve Skelton

5th Darryl Aloff

10th Jonanthan Kimball

14th Susan Murray

20th Javier Valentín-Sívico

21st Lenn Koederitz

31st Nora Sandquist,
Connie Dewitt



September

15th Bob & Pat Mollenkamp

Prayer Request



Connie & Bob Dewitt - Continuing health care

Bill Neely- Headaches, Back & Hip pain

Cynthia Hobart- Recovering from

Pat Look- broken wrist

Kenny Sands- continued health concerns

Please pray for those named and their families as well as their caregivers. The prayer request will start over every two months. If you have someone that needs put on or taken off the list, Please contact Katie in the office.