

The MAY Leaven 2023

Dear Friends,

First of all, thank you for helping me celebrate my birthday. It was a blessing. Secondly, Mindy, the kids and I are spending a week at Table Rock Lake in mid May so I will be gone from May 15 through May 21. Rev. Terry Woodbury will be our guest preacher. I will be gone an additional two days – May 22 and 23rd because both kids will be having their tonsils taken out. Prayers accepted. 😊

We will begin a new Adult Study in June entitled “Planning Your Funeral”. Now, I am not asking for you to plan a date for the funeral, but what we will explore in this class is

why funerals are important, the funeral as a worship service, we will explore estate planning, what it’s like to work with a funeral home, and I will ask you to “plan your funeral”. What I have found helpful is when folks at the church have thought about their funeral – scripture passages, hymns, music, it helps to create a worship service that is healing for family, church folk, and friends. I am going to offer this class three different times to allow as many people to attend. It will be four sessions.

Sundays: June 4, 11, 18, and 25th at 9:00am in Classroom 8

Mondays: June 5, 12, 19, and 26th at 10:00am in Classroom 8

Tuesdays: June 6, 13, 20, and 27th at 7pm via zoom.

I continue to be blessed to be a part of this congregation. Keep the Pastor Nominating Committee, the Session, the Deacons, and the staff in your prayers. Peace – Krista

NEW ADULT CLASS – PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL

Join us as we take a funny and serious look at funerals – and you will be invited to think about your own funeral. Classes begin in June and will be offered three different times:

Sundays: June 4, 11, 18, and 25th at 9:00am in Classroom 8

Mondays: June 5, 12, 19, and 26th at 10:00am in Classroom 8

Tuesdays: June 6, 13, 20, and 27th at 7pm via zoom.

THANK YOU CHRIS AUS!

During the Apr 16th worship service, one of the many 1st Pres family was recognized for serving “above and beyond”. The Deacons chose to thank Chris Aus for her leadership of our monthly Community Meal. Major responsibilities include obtaining free food items from gov’t sources and shopping for other needed items, setting the menu, and coordinating the volunteer teams who prep, cook and serve.

1st Pres serves the carryout meals the 3RD Tues of each month from 5-6 pm. There are roughly 10 other churches and charitable organizations who serve a lunch or dinner on other days of the month.

If you can spare two hours or so to help in some way, contact Chris Aus.

Next quarter another “above and beyond” volunteer will be recognized by the Deacons as a way to say “thanks” and to remind us all about the good happening with our church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – AVAILABLE CAMPS

Heartland Center (heartlandcamps.org) has several camps for children and families. Christian Education will help pay some of the cost for a youth camper from this congregation this summer. Let Rick Nichols, Jim Garrett, Rev. Kiger, or Ann Keeling know if your child is going to a camp at Heartland Center this summer. Day Camps are for youth who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade. Overnight camps are for youth who have completed 2nd through 12th grade which range in cost from \$240 to \$735. There are also camps for grandparents and grandchildren (June 17-18) and family camp (June 23-25). There is also an intergenerational handbell camp (handbellcamp.org) July 9-13 for youth who have completed 6th or older and adults. The cost ranges from \$550 to \$580 for double occupancy. New handbell campers can apply for a \$75 scholarship. In the past commuters pay slightly less because they will not be sleeping at the camp for four nights.

We will not be doing our own VBS, but will be helping First Methodist in the mornings during the week of July 17-21 and in the evenings that same week at First Christian. This is an opportunity to get to interact with children and help our neighbors. Contact Ann Keeling if you are willing to help.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO CHURCH MEMBERS!

If you're a granting high school senior, or know of one, or a college student continuing higher education, there is a \$1,000 scholarship available to you – thanks to the generosity of previous members who established scholarship endowments for First Presbyterian members. **Please contact Debbie Anderson for details. The deadline for applying is May 5, 2023.**

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Photo from Medlineplus.gov



To celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month, join us after church service for lunch and a movie on May 21, 2023. We will be viewing the movie "The Soloist". This movie is based on the true story of Steve Lopez, LA Times columnist, and his relationship with Nathaniel Ayers, a homeless man with schizophrenia. This movie is relevant to our community as the Shelter of Hope and Sister Vicky endeavor to acquire housing that can provide structured residences for our homeless and those in our community who are coping with mental illness. Steve Lopez states, "When you see someone living on the street, a "hello" or "how are you" might help more than spare change.....Each of these people have a story. They are our sons and

daughters, our brothers and sisters. Despite their circumstances, all of them deserve better." A Matthew 25 church is tasked with raising awareness of prejudices and poverty. The mentally ill are often the misunderstood, mistreated and forgotten. Note: This movie is rated PG13 because it contains scenes of violence, drug use, and cussing that some may find offensive. **PG13 means parents strongly cautioned content may not be suitable for children under 13.** Run time 1 hr 57 min.

You can help support the homeless in our community by participating in an ongoing Mission to support Leavenworth Attainable Housing, a new non-profit organized by Sister Vicky (board members include Carolyn Tillotson and Chris Aus). Leavenworth Attainable Housing (long term residential placements) is a separate agency from the Interfaith Shelter of Hope (temporary homeless shelter). Leavenworth Attainable Housing seeks to place individuals and families in long term housing accommodations. Leavenworth Attainable Housing is working to provide affordable, attainable, and (if needed) structured housing for the homeless in Leavenworth County. Structured housing provides additional services including financial planning and assistance with coordination and transportation for medical/mental health care. They have several family homes and are looking to acquire some smaller homes for single occupancy. In this regard, they are in need of twin bed sheets, full size bed sheets, and bath towels for the homes. Watch for those sales on bed & bath items and help us support this much needed service in our community. Collection of sheets, towels, or cash donations will be accepted in the church office. A collection box can be found next to the west entrance of the church. Thank you for your support!



STUFFED ANIMALS

During April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, the church collected new stuffed animals for the Child Advocacy Center of Leavenworth and Atchison counties. A non-profit organization, CAC operates under the First Judicial District CASA Association.

The stuffed animals are to be given to children who need to be interviewed because they either are victims of violence and abuse or have witnessed violence and abuse.



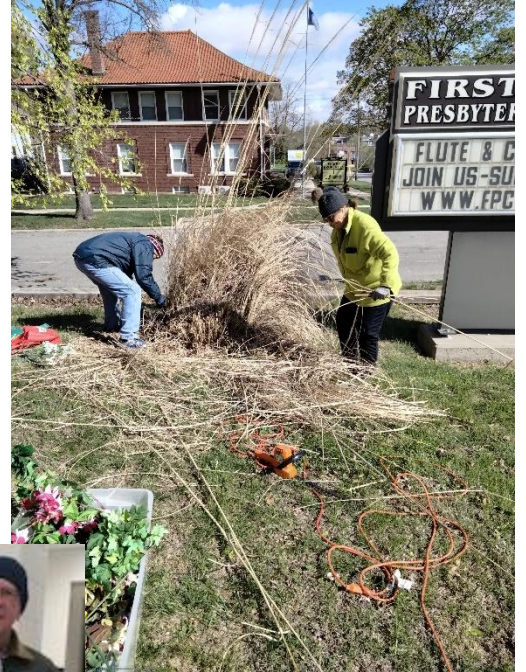
CLEAN UP DAY

Left: Pam Crume, Esther Ray, and Jim and Merna Roe help with downsizing in the second floor storage room at the southeast corner of the church.

Right: Tom and Becky Stovall drastically reduce the size of the grass bush near the northeast

corner of the church property.

Thanks to these First Presbyterians for helping pick up trash for Earth Day.



PWC NEWS

A couple of years before "Covid" PWC decided to ask members to donate new 'lap robes' or small blankets to give to local police and firemen for use in emergencies. Many were collected, put in a box, and forgotten when "Covid" hit. Ginnie was cleaning out her basement, opened a box and VOILA there were 24 blankets!

Leavenworth Police and Fire Stations were contacted and we were told that since Covid they could no longer take the donations. Mindy and Krista were happy to put them to use at the Eudora Fire Station and Heather at CASA was pleased to have some for their program. PWC was delighted to donate 24 blankets to these worthy causes.

Congratulate Carolyn Anderson! She is now a member of the PWHP (Presbyterian Women of Heartland Presbytery) Coordinating Team as Member at Large. We will be ordering Study Books for next years Bible Study this summer. Be on the lookout for more information in following Leavens!



HAPPY EASTER

Pat Domann made this delicious coconut-flavored Easter bunny cake for those who showed up for church on Easter Sunday. The cross was decorated on Easter by the congregation.



CONCERT

The sanctuary at Leavenworth's historic First Presbyterian Church will provide the setting for a free concert featuring the First City Flute Choir on Sunday, May 7.

Under the direction of Freda Proctor, the church's Music Director, the choir will be performing an excerpt from "St. Matthew's Passion" by Johann Sebastian Bach, the Serenade from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" and Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus," "Passacaglia" by George Frideric Handel, Georg Philipp Telemann's three-movement "Concerto in D," the five-part "Capriol Suite" by Peter Warlock, and Randall Thompson's "Alleluia," among other selections.

The choir is made up of musicians from Leavenworth, Lansing and the greater Kansas City area. They will be playing traditional C flutes, alto flutes, bass flutes, and piccolos, according to Proctor. The concert at 407 Walnut will be getting underway at 7 p.m.



CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

Judith Jahn

Judith Jahn passed away on April 20 one day after her 101st birthday.
Celebration of life will be **May 5, 2023**

Visitation at 10:00 and Service: 11:00am – First Presbyterian Church

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KRISTA!





Easter Choir

PRAYERS

Immediate: Families of Church and School in Nashville, Eric Jourdan, Gun Violence in our Country, Michael Brock (Cindy S.), Patricia Sibblee (Cindy S.), Lisa Rees, Dale (Cindy S), Cathy Tillotson, Sam Sanford, Erika Johnson, People of Turkey, Syria, Ukraine and Iran, Dana Guanciaie (Ginnie S.), PNC, Sidney, Elaine Coffman, Brianna Hoffman and Family (Cindy S)

Ongoing: Holly Allen (Peg Nichols), Margie Holland, John Clinton (Linda Barry), Jim and Lorna Mathison, Maria Gordon (C. Tillotson), Shirley Rockwell, Barbara-Sue Rose, Le Thomas, Mike Graham (Norma Graham), Greta Sharp, John Garner (Carolyn T.)

MAY FELLOWSHIP TREATS

May 7 - Session **May 14**– Circle 3 **May 21** –Pizza and Movie **May 28** – Circle 4

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2- Le Thomas **3-**Carolyn Tillotson **5-**Tom Thompson **11-**Riley McEvoy
12-Norma Graham **21-**Cindy Scircle **24-**Becky Stovall

MAY ANNIVERSARY

23- Gary and Marti Auchard

May 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|-----------|---|---|
| 30 | 1 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 5:30pm - 7:00pm OISS 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 2 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Zoom Matthew 25 | 3 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 11:00am Deacons Meeting 4:45pm Flute Choir | 4 | 5 10: 00 Judy Jahn's visitation followed by service at 11:00 a.m. 1:00pm ESL | 6 10:00am Flute Practice |
| 7 Fellowship Treats-Session Mission Committee Meeting 9:00am Adult Study 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship 7:00pm Concert | 8 Church Office Closed 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 9 10:00am Circle 3 5:30 Finance & Admin. Mtg. 6:00pm Circle 5 7:00pm Zoom Matthew 25 | 10 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 11:45am Endowment Committee Meeting 4:45pm Flute Choir 6:00pm Special Needs Meeting | 11 | 12 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL | 13 10:00am Flute Practice 1:30pm - 4:30pm Book Club |
| 14 Fellowship Treats-Circle 3 9:00am Adult Study 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship Happy Mother's Day! | 15 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 16 5:00pm - 6:00pm Community Meal 7:00pm Zoom Matthew 25 | 17 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir | 18 | 19 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL | 20 10:00am Flute Practice 10:00am League of Women Voters 5-9 p.m. Special Needs Party |
| 21 Worship Committee Meeting 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship Pizza & Movie | 22 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 6:00pm Building and Grounds Committee Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers | 23 7:00pm Zoom Matthew 25 | 24 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir | 25 | 26 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL | 27 10:00am Flute Practice |
| 28 Fellowship Treats-Circle 5 9:00am Adult Study 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship | 29 Church Office Closed | 30 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Zoom Matthew 25 | 31 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir | 1 | 2 | 3 |