

The MARCH Leaven 2023

Dear Friends,

First of all, thank you for the time away. I am writing this a day before I travel to a beautiful part of Arkansas (near Little Rock) to a beautiful conference center to attend a Presbyterian Church Board of Pensions retreat for pastors who are 8-10 years away from retiring. Hard to believe. I will turn 60 in April and will probably “retire” at 67 or 70. A friend of mine once said that with God, it isn’t “retirement” it’s “recommissioning”. God is giving you a new path to serve. Which is true. Many members of First Presbyterian are retired, and you spend a good chunk of your time serving the church – which is a great gift and we thank you (and so does God. 😊). My observations about retired pastors are that they keep on being pastors. But in new ways. This conference I am going to is to help me think about the next ten years and how to assess where I am vocationally, spiritually, physically, financially – and it’s a gift from the Presbyterian Church to be able to do that. We are in Lent and if you were in worship on zoom for worship, you heard that we are spending Lent with the Psalms. The Psalms were Jesus’ prayer book so perhaps we will get some insight of how Jesus used the Psalms in his ministry. I am also leading a class on the Presbyterian Book of Confessions. You can come in person on Sundays at 9am, or you can zoom in on Tuesdays at 7pm. Also, there is a Lenten Devotional available to you. Take time each day and use the devotional and experience where God is leading you in this season.

Finally, keep praying for the Pastor Nominating Committee. They are beginning to get resumes and it can be a little overwhelming. Keep encouraging them and holding them in your prayers. May this Lenten season open us to new avenues of connection with each other and service to God. Peace -
Krista

A LENTEN STUDY OF THE BOOK OF CONFESSIONS (In person and on Zoom)

If you are ordained in the Presbyterian Church, you agreed to be “guided by our confessions”. What confessions? Well, one half of the Presbyterian constitution consists of the “Book of Confessions”. We will be studying those confessions during Lent. We will have a Sunday morning, 9am, in person class; and we will have a 7pm Tuesday evening Zoom class. The schedule has an orientation week, one week away (because Krista will be on study leave) then a weekly class during Lent. Zoom link will be sent out every Thursday and Monday. Here's the schedule:

Orientation Class: Sunday, February 26 - 9am in classroom 8

Tuesday, March 7 - 7pm via zoom

Session 1: The Ecumenical Confessions

Sunday, March 12 - 9am in Classroom 8

Tuesday, March 14 - 7pm via zoom

Session 2: The Sixteenth Century Confessions

Sunday, March 19 - 9am in Classroom 8

Tuesday, March 21 - 7pm via zoom

Session 3: The Seventeenth Century Confessions

Sunday, March 26 - 9am in Classroom 8

Tuesday, March 28 - 7pm via zoom

Session 4: The Twentieth Century Confessions

Sunday, April 2 - 9am in Classroom 8

Tuesday, April 4 - 7pm via zoom

FPC PICTURES

If you have any pictures you would like to share of people at activities at FPC please email to Chris Flynn sheroknight@gmail.com Pictures are for the new website.

Krista will be attending a conference this week, she will return on Tuesday, March 7.

March 26 Potluck March Mayhem

A-C- Salads, Sides, and/or Bread

D-M- Dessert

N-Z – Main Dish



CHURCH GETS A SHOUT-OUT FROM LANSING SCHOOL SYSTEM

The following article written by Sharon Burns, director of Communications and Marketing for Lansing USD 469, was posted on the district's website on February 7.

Thank you to First Presbyterian Church For Supporting Positivity in Lansing USD 469 with \$968.97

Donation. The First Presbyterian Church of Leavenworth has shown its commitment to promoting peace and reconciliation in the community through its recent donation to Lansing USD 469. The church set aside 25% of what they received through their Peace and Global Witness Offering in 2022 and reached out to the district to see if any initiatives could benefit from the local share, particularly anti-bullying projects.

Our mental health team was thrilled to receive the donation of nearly \$1,000 to use toward purchasing affirmation signs for each of our district buildings. The total contribution was \$968.97!

Led by Lansing High School Social Worker Rebecca Davis, the mental health team has placed signs in high-traffic areas of each building. They will be moving them regularly so they stay fresh in the minds of staff, students, and community members entering our facilities. The mental health team chose the affirmation signs because research has shown that positive affirmations help reframe negative thoughts and beliefs, improve self-esteem and confidence, and increase feelings of happiness and inner peace. Positive affirmations can also be helpful in coping with anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges. The church's donation and this positive initiative support our district's mission of promoting positivity and affirming the students in our community.

In the photograph accompanying this story, members and friends of the church will see the signs that were installed outside Lansing Middle School.

Referring to all of the signs that went up at the district's six buildings (10 signs per building), in an email our interim pastor and Clerk of Session received on February 16, Rebecca said, "I know the signs are having a positive impact, as I have received lots of feedback from students, staff, and community members."

TIME AND TALENTS

If you have not taken the time to pick up one of the new Time and Talents brochures and then complete the one-page survey that goes with the brochure, please do so as soon as possible. The information you provide will be helpful to the Mission and Faithful Discipleship Committee as it strives to connect members and friends of the church with the opportunities for ministry that are currently available or possible new ministries. Completed surveys can be left in the basket in the sanctuary on a Sunday or brought to the church office during the week. Thank you.

MAD HATTER TEA PARTY

Southminster Presbyterian Church at 6306 Roe Avenue in Prairie Village will provide the setting Saturday, March 18 for an Irish-themed Mad Hatter Tea Party sponsored by the Presbyterian Women of the Synod of Mid-America. The event will run from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and include a talk by Kathleen Keefer, National Presbyterian Women Co-Moderator. Various teas and tasty goodies will be served and games played. Ladies planning to attend are encouraged to wear their "craziest hat." For more information, check out the flier in the narthex.

PRAYERS

Immediate: Joe Hudson and family, Katie Schafer and family, Erika Johnson, Dan Cloud (Carolyn A.), People of Turkey, Syria, Ukraine and Iran, Dana Guanciale (Ginnie S.), Bobbie Snyder, Michelle Martin, Mike, John Clinton (Linda Barry), PNC, Sidney, Margie Holland, Elaine Coffman, Brianna Hoffman and Family (Cindy Scircle), Diann Wooley (Cindy Scircle)

Ongoing: Jim and Lorna Mathison, Maria Gordon (C. Tillotson), Shirley Rockwell, Barbara-Sue Rose, Le Thomas, Michael Brock (C. Scircle), Mike Graham (Norma Graham), Greta Sharp, John Garner (Carolyn T.), Richard and Linda Cooper



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Every time we set a table
where all hungry hearts can eat;
every time we welcome neighbors
and we add an extra seat;
and every time we live as servants,
free to wash each other's feet,

In our living, in our giving, we are there.



We are there

Jesus teaches us in Matthew 25, that in every time and season, the Church connects with itself and its Savior through relationships with those who have least. For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has partnered with others to take action to share God's love. Through these three life-saving programs, we are there to advance the causes of justice, resilience and sustainability.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Restore Streets to Live In

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

Share Bread with the Hungry

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE

Loose the Bonds of Injustice



Please give what you can.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, the first special denominational offering of the year, will be received on Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 9. More information about this offering will be shared with the congregation later this month.

MARCH FELLOWSHIP TREATS

March 5–Session **March 12** – Choir and Bell Choir **March 19** – Circle 3

Potluck-March Mayhem –March 26

A-C- Salads, Sides, and/or Bread **D-M**- Dessert **N-Z** – Main Dish

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2- Paul Keeling **5-**Pam Crume **8-**Linda Johnson **14-**Ivana Bowman **15-**Bill Katzenberger

16- Brian Hurt **18-**Howard Kirk **18-**Pat Domann **21-**Isabella Bowman

22-Mike Lemke **23-**Marge Grafke-Doby

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

4- Rod and Dru Cox **17-**Carl and Linda Johnson **19-**Jim and Lorna Mathison

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	1 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	2	3 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL	4 10:00am Flute Practice
5 Fellowship Treats-Session Mission Committee Meeting 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship	6 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 5:30pm - 7:00pm OISS 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers	7 10:00am Adult Study 6:00pm Circle 5 7:00pm Zoom - Book of Confessions	8 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 11:00am Deacons Meeting 4:45pm Flute Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9 6:00pm Session Meeting	10 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL	11 10:00am Flute Practice
12 Fellowship Treats-Choir and Bell Choir 9:00am Adult Study 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship	13 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers	14 10:00am Circle 3 11:45am Endowment Committee Meeting 5:30pm Finance & Admin. Meeting 7:00pm Zoom - Book of Confessions	15 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	16	17 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL	18 10:00am Flute Practice 10:00am League of Women Voters
19 Fellowship Treats-Circle 3 Worship Committee Meeting 9:00am Adult Study 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship 11:30am Christian Ed. Committee Meeting	20 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 10:00am Circle 4 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers	21 10:00am Adult Study 5:00pm - 6:00pm Community Meal 7:00pm Zoom - Book of Confessions	22 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	23 6:00pm Building and Grounds Committee Meeting	24 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL	25 10:00am Flute Practice
26 Fellowship Treats-Pot luck - March Mayhem 9:00am Adult Study 9:15am Choir Practice 10:30am - 11:30am Worship	27 7:00am Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Cody Choraliers	28 10:00am Adult Study 7:00pm Zoom - Book of Confessions	29 9:30am Crafts & Fellowship 4:45pm Flute Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	30	31 Church Office Closed 1:00pm ESL	1 10:00am Flute Practice