

# *The MAY Leaven 2022*

Dear Friends,

It was a blessing to share in Holy Week and Easter services with you. Maundy Thursday service had a moving, almost haunting feeling as the music and “voices at the table” led us to a sacred space in which we entered into the silence of Jesus’ suffering. Easter Sunday was a joyful renewing day for our congregation – again with music and scripture leading us to the “Christ is Risen” moment.

We are fully into the Easter Season as I write this. I have been with you for three months now and am continuing to be blessed as we journey together. Your Session is a faithful group of folks who are open to the Spirit’s leading in this transition time. The Session has appointed a “transition team” who will design the next phases of our discernment process as you pray and imagine where God is leading you in the next phase of your ministry together as First Presbyterian Church, Leavenworth, Kansas. The members of the team are Debbie Anderson, Dody Marsh, Jim Mathison, Cindy Scircle, and Rodney Schwatken - and I am providing staff support as your interim pastor. Please pray for this group.... they will help you lay the groundwork that will lead to the election of your pastor nominating committee and their work will give the PNC the “flesh and bones” of the church’s Mission Information Form.

Finally, I approached the Session about bringing the New Generation Singers to our worship on Sunday, June 26 and they said YES. I have known the New Gs since I came to St. Joseph in 1990. It’s a lovely group of high school youth who love Jesus and love to sing. It is deeply ecumenical and very life changing for the youth. Many Presbyterian youth have sung in New Gs and we will be blessed to have them lead our worship on June 26. This will be a good Sunday to bring your children and grandchildren to worship. (There’s a description about New Gs later in the Leaven).

God continues to call us to live deeply and intentionally in this transitional time. It is a blessing to serve with you. Peace – Krista

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**GRADUATION:** We will celebrate high school, college, technical school, master’s degree – well really, all graduations - during worship on Sunday, June 5. If you have a family member who is graduating, please let Arlene know and we will add them to our list of honorees. We will also be honoring this year’s scholarship recipients on June 5th.

Save the Date: Our annual outdoor worship service will take place on Sunday, June 19 – Father’s Day – at Veterans Park. We will worship and then have a picnic potluck – the first in a couple of years. More details to come but please save the date.

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# NEW GENERATION SINGERS COMING TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

MARK THE DATE – Sunday morning worship, June 26.

Invite your family and friends for this inspiring,

joyful musical worship experience.

The New Generation singers, known as New G, are a highly energetic group of high school and college students from St. Joseph. They love Jesus and they come from many different churches in St. Joseph. They're hard to define, in all the best of ways.

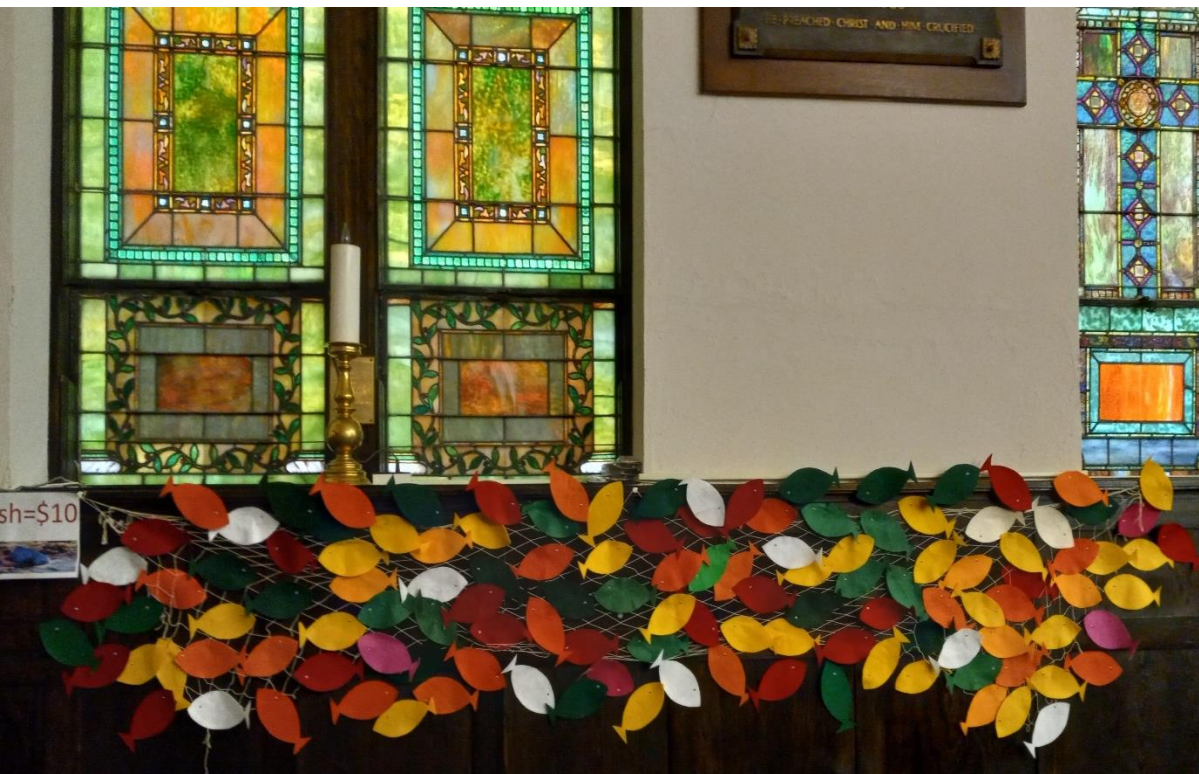
If we had to describe the New Generation singers in a song, what would it be? This is a serious challenge. The song would have to include 48 years. 48 states. Six Canadian provinces. Hundreds of alumni. Thousands of frozen pizzas sold. And thousands upon thousands of hours spent rehearsing, planning, writing, encouraging, listening and laughing across multiple faith denominations. Lots of laughing.

In fact, the singing is just the beginning. The students, ages eighth grade to early college, take on leadership positions and work on committees within the group, across the year, as they create and carry out their pinnacle two-week summer tour. Membership to New G is open to anyone within the age parameters, regardless of experience with singing.

“Many of our members do really enjoy singing, but some join us for the social aspects or to build their leadership skills. Others enjoy the planning, the writing of the shows, the production and the travel,” says Byron Myers II, music director/leader/professional volunteer/alumni for New G since 1998. “And some students come to us out of sheer curiosity and end up staying. We enjoy all the kids, across all faiths, and it’s always been a very open door.” There’s a legitimate sense of roots and of belonging in these words. Myers and his wife, Carol, are the second generation to lead the group. It was started by his parents, Byron and Phyllis Myers, in 1970. “At that time, a lot of Christian music groups were hitting the road and changing their format of their music. We were definitely one of many groups around. But we stayed and have continued to grow,” he explains. Today, the group performs locally throughout the year and at several national (and international) locations along an annual two-week summer tour



***GUESTS FOR THE COMMUNITY MEAL  
WERE WELCOME WITH SIDEWALK ART***



## THE "FISHING" WENT FAIRLY WELL

The net in the sanctuary filled with fish that was photographed recently by Carol Beall was a testimony to the support this year's One Great Hour of Sharing offering received from our church.

All told, members and

friends of the church contributed \$1,661.99 to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) through the offering, money that will be used to help fund Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Self Development of People project.

In view of the rising cost of food and fuel all of us have been dealing with for at least a year now, not to mention higher prices for many other things, I think this figure speaks volumes about the generosity of those who are affiliated with this church. May God bless you for having contributed what you could or wanted to contribute to the offering, and it is my hope and prayer that these funds can be used to make a real difference in the lives of people in America and elsewhere.

The next denominational offering will be the Pentecost offering, and my committee will be providing you with more information about this offering later this month. In the meantime, thank you for your continuing support of the work of the church through the time, talents and treasures you share with it.

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you for your continuing support of the work of the church through the time, talents and treasures you share with it.

--- Rick Nichols, moderator, Faithful Discipleship Committee

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF TWILA L. CORLEY

Twila L. Corley, 91, of Lansing, KS passed away on Monday, April 4, 2022 at St. John's Hospital in Leavenworth. A visitation will be held from 10-11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 30 at Leavenworth Presbyterian Church, 407 Walnut Street with memorial services to begin at 11:00 a.m. A faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of Independence, and more recently Leavenworth Presbyterian Church, Twila served as deacon, trustee and a volunteer for the Logos Youth Program. Twila is survived by her daughter Cathy Corley and grandson Jeff Corley. She was preceded in death by her husband George in 1984, stepson, two brothers and one sister. Contributions may be made in Twila's memory to Harvester's or Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.speakschapel.com](http://www.speakschapel.com) (Arr: Carson-Speaks Chapel, 816-252-7900)

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WATER OUTDOOR FLOWERS

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to volunteer watering the flowers.

## NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

The following are new email addresses for our church and for our pastor.

[arlene@fpclvks.org](mailto:arlene@fpclvks.org)

[Pastor@fpclvks.org](mailto:Pastor@fpclvks.org)

## OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Taking full advantage of the opportunity that had presented itself, our church was able to bring three members of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance National Response Team to Leavenworth for our worship service Sunday, May 1.



Prior to the service the trio, the Rev. Richard Underdahl-Peirce of Minnesota, Marilyn Stone of Wisconsin and Phil Darby of Texas, joined Pastor Krista and about a dozen congregants in Fellowship Hall for a 30-minute slideshow presentation by Richard that amounted to an overview of PDA.

According to a promotional flier that was made available to those present, in 2021, 30 states and 15 countries shared \$3.1 million in PDA grants, 60 National Response Team members were deployed to 19 presbyteries, 112 Presbyterian women were trained in disaster preparedness, more than 500 people were served through 41 Emotional & Spiritual programs, and PDA helped with the collection and distribution of 191,182 Gift of the Heart kits and blankets in partnership with Church World Service.

Richard, who is pictured here with Pastor Krista in Fellowship Hall, also talked about PDA during the service when it was time

for the Moment for Mission.

Richard, Marilyn and Phil were among 70 or so National Response Team members from throughout the United States who were in Kansas City, Mo., April 26-May 1 for a conference hosted by Heartland Presbytery.

PDA, which springs into action in the wake of both natural disasters and man-made disasters, is supported by the annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering, receiving roughly a third of what has been contributed by members and friends of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

## Celebrating Sabbath PWC

Celebrating Sabbath PWC By Carol M. Bechtel Suggestions for Leaders by Laura Mariko Cheifetz

Welcome to the 2022–2023 Presbyterian Women/Horizons Bible study, Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight. In the nine lessons of this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—we’ll consider Sabbath • as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality • as God’s intent for all of creation that includes busy women too • as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday • as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide • as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God’s plans for our precious lives • as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care. Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives. Our new Bible Study has been printed! If you would like to have a copy (postage free!) Please give your Circle Leader your name or sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. Cost of the Study is \$10.00 Large Print is \$15.00 Audio edition is \$15.00 Please sign up by June 1, 2022 Circles for this study will begin in September! Look for more news from PWC in the next edition of the Leaven!!

## KIRK’S NEW ADDRESS

Howard and Joyce Kirk’s new address is: 1415 Normandy Dr., Burlington, NC 27215

## LINCOLN, LINCOLN, BO-BIN-COLN ...

Our church was blessed by the presence of five members of the Association of Lincoln Presenters during our worship service Sunday, April 24.

Decked out in attire similar to that worn by America's 16th President - yes, these Abraham Lincolns even had a stovepipe hat, too - the five men who joined us in the sanctuary to praise Him who marches on were Murray Cox of Indiana, Joe Woodard and Randy Duncan of Illinois, and John King and John Cooper of Ohio.

Cooper masterfully delivered Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and also gave the history



behind that stirring Civil War-era song for the ages, "Battle Hymn of the Republic," which was sung by the congregation.

Following the service some of the Lincoln look-alikes made their way back up the center aisle and headed for the parlor to enjoy a little sustenance before they went their separate ways.

As he sampled what the table had to offer, Murray told me that he and his companions were among the approximately 30 members of the ALP who had assembled in Leavenworth for the organization's annual convention, its first in-person get-together since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. He said the group included 17 Lincolns and 10 Mrs. Lincolns.

A visit to the University of Saint Mary to view the collection of Lincoln memorabilia there and a side trip to Lecompton, once a pro-slavery stronghold, also were part of the convention.

--- Rick Nichols

## MAY FELLOWSHIP TREATS

May 1 –Circle 5

May 8 –Deacons

May 15-Session

May 22-Choir and Bell Choir

May 29-Circle 3

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

2-Le Thomas 3-Carolyn Tillotson

5-Jennifer Butler 5-Tom Thompson

12-Norma Graham 16-Al Pursell

21-Cindy Scircle 24-Becky Stovall

28-John Graham

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

23-Gary and Marti Auchard 30-Jerry and Maria Traynham

MAY 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Fellowship Treats - Circle 5 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting	<b>2</b> 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choralliers	<b>3</b> 1:00 PM ESL	<b>4</b> 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 11:00 AM Deacons Meeting 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Church Office Closed	<b>7</b> 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM LWV
<b>8</b>  Fellowship Treats-Deacons 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	<b>9</b> 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choralliers	<b>10</b> 10:00 AM Circle 3 1:00 PM ESL 6:30 PM Circle 5	<b>11</b> 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>12</b> 6:00 PM Session Meeting	<b>13</b> Church Office Closed	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Fellowship Treats-Session 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Christian Ed. Committee Meeting	<b>16</b> 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 10:00 AM Circle 4 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choralliers	<b>17</b> 1:00 PM ESL 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Community Meal	<b>18</b> 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Church Office Closed	<b>21</b> 10:00 AM League of Women Voters
<b>22</b> Fellowship Treats-Choir and Bell Choir 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	<b>23</b> 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choralliers	<b>24</b> 1:00 PM ESL	<b>25</b> 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Church Office Closed 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Testing	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Fellowship Treats-Circle 3 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	<b>30</b>  Memorial DAY	<b>31</b> 1:00 PM ESL	<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Church Office Closed	<b>4</b>

**Serving the community Meal to the right.  
Carl Johnson, Ginnie Strand, Carolyn Tillotson, Linda Johnson,  
Pat Domann**

**Below at Easter: Rev. Dr. Krista Kiger, Mindy  
Andrasevits, Jaylen and Jayda**



**Serving the  
community Meal  
below are:  
Linda Johnson,  
Linda Barry, Elaine  
Carder, Wes  
Watkins, Carl  
Johnson, Jim  
Mathison, Carolyn  
Anderson, Ginnie  
Strand, Pat  
Domann, Carolyn  
Tillotson,**

**Chris Aus, Shirley Rockwell**

