

# HAPPENINGS

First Presbyterian Church | 1601 Main St., Murray, KY 42071 | (270) 753-6460



## Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer

Clerk of Session: Carol Allen

Treasurer: George Kipphut

Choir Director: Kate Tombaugh

Accompanist: Christy D'Ambrosio

Secretary: Andrea French

Campus Ministry Director: Lisa Polivick

Youth Director: Andrew Green

Nursery: Payten Caldwell

Custodian: Monte Fisher

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; 1-3 p.m.

## From Pastor Renee's Desk

I am happy to tell you that last year's youth and Wednesday Night Live (WNL) ministry was so successful with First Christian Church (FCC) that we are continuing this ministry. We have actually hired a youth director for the combined youth ministry. His name is Andrew Green and he is a student at MSU. He just got married to Janie in July. She is also a MSU student. Andrew is majoring in History with a minor in Religious Studies. He is currently discerning God's call to him. He may be called to professional ministry or to teaching religion. We are excited to have Andrew on board as a new staff member to both churches. He is very conscientious and is willing to go the extra mile for our youth. Andrew and Janie will be attending our church from time to time. He is also teaching Sunday school for FCC and is a member of their choir. Since he has more responsibilities with FCC, he works 2/3 time for them and 1/3 for FPC. I hope you will take the time to speak with Andrew when you can so that he can begin to feel a part of the FPC family. I will introduce him to the church when he visits the next time.

This year we were able to be on the initial planning for WNL and so we will be hosting 1/3 of these at FPC. I want to share just a little about WNL events so that our newer folks will be up to speed on what they are all about.

We try to schedule two WNL days every month (except for Dec. when we have none). Every time you see WNL on the calendar, also take note of its location: FPC or FCC. We will always be in the fellowship hall at either location, unless otherwise noted (Blessing of the Animals is in the yard at

## Join Us!



### Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday  
Morning at 7 a.m.

Sept. 6, Crossroads

Sept. 13, Hih Burger

Sept. 20, Martha's

Sept 27, Cracker Barrel



### Lunch Bunch

Every Thursday at 12 p.m.

Sept. 7, Gigibites

Sept. 14, Applebee's

Sept. 21, Backyard Burger

Sept. 28, Panera Bread

FPC). Enter FCC's fellowship hall from the back of their church, on the parking lot side. Come in through the door with the window.

WNL events are always INTERGENERATIONAL. The whole church is invited! The purpose is for our very young children to our most senior adults to establish a community beyond just the worship setting. It is just another way that we may live out our baptismal commitments to the very youngest among us. Friendships between the young and old are forged even deeper as a result of this ministry. WNL allows us to have intergenerational FUN as well as gives our adults a chance to mentor our children and youth and assist them in mission projects such as Operation Christmas Child when we put together shoeboxes full of toys for children in poverty stricken countries. Each WNL will have a theme and particular meal plan so check the schedule out for more info on those things.

So bring your babies, bring your canes and get ready for a fun filled time of friendship and ministry projects. Our meal begins at 5:30. If you are able we ask for a donation of \$5 a person up to a maximum of \$15 for families of three or more to defray the cost of the meal. Our programming ends by 6:50 so that folks may make it to the respective choir practices.

Please note on the schedule that is included in this newsletter that the Youth Group (6-12th grade) participates in all WNL nights AND they also have meetings the other Wednesdays of the month. So Youth, you have an easy schedule to remember: you have church EVERY Wednesday night!! Youth group meetings are from 5:30-6:50. A meal is provided at no expense to the youth on these particular nights.

I hope to see the members of FPC turn out for more WNL events this year. Last year it was very new and the scheduling was a little less clear to us then as it is now after having been a part of it for a year. Thanks to all who will make this year a ministry success!! God bless you!

Shalom, Renee

## Rally Day 2017

First Presbyterian Church held its annual Rally Day on Sunday, August 20. The festive occasion kicked off with a potluck breakfast at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by worship service at 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Renee delivered a thought-provoking sermon, titled, "Crossing the Line," which challenged us to step courageously over the lines we tend to draw, so that we might do a better job helping others, especially those of whom are not like us.

Making its seasonal debut after summer break, the FPC Chancel Choir was greeted with an enthusiastic applause by the congregation when it entered the sanctuary. Under the direction of newly-appointed Choir Director, Kate Tombaugh, it performed a beautiful rendition of, "Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You."

Church member, Dr. Harry Conley, featured his model airplane exhibit, which was on display in the Session Room. His exhibit attracted community members, as well as a reporter from the Murray Ledger Times. Please enjoy the photos submitted by our very own Jerry Meyers.



Members of MOTA Campus Ministry visit in the Fellowship Hall after the potluck breakfast.



Dr. Harry Conley looks on as community members stop by to view his model airplanes.



Choir Director, Kate Tombaugh, directs the Chancel Choir.



Pastor Renee visits with the children during the "Pastor's time with the young disciples."



## Clerk's Corner

*Stated Session Meeting*

*August 15*

### Action taken by Session

- ✦ Session voted to use Computer Connection for all computer issues.
- ✦ Ken Wolf and Ann Stanley were elected co-chairs of the ad hoc committee to re-write the church website. Maribeth Crawford, Luke Crawford, Val Heath, and Steve Weimer will join them on the committee.
- ✦ Terry Foreman and Ken Wolf were chosen to serve as Session's members on the 2020 Elder Nominating Committee.
- ✦ Session affirmed its financial support of MOTA and requests the Presbyterian Campus Ministry Board support Andrea French as administrative assistant to assist the work of Lisa Polivick and the PCMB by contributing to her salary. Her campus ministry duties will be determined in consultation among Lisa Polivick, the chair of PCMB, and Pastor Renee and will be part of her work as FPC Administrative Assistant.



## Financial Report

*From the Stewardship Committee*

Thank you to all who have kept up with pledges and donations to our church. The summer months are usually a slow time for church income. We also continue to make progress on retiring our mortgage and are on schedule to do this by Spring 2018!

2017 income as of July 31 — \$101,188

2017 expenses as of July 31 — \$103,299

Remaining Mortgage Balance as of July 31 - \$24,688

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:5-6*



## Soup For The Soul

Our next date to volunteer for Soup For The Soul is Sunday, September 17. If you would like to participate in this important community program, please contact Ann Stanley, 270-753-8747, or [asjstanley33@twc.com](mailto:asjstanley33@twc.com) for more information.



**Sunday**  
EVERY  
SUNDAY @ 9:30  
**School**

**Join us at 9:30 a.m.**

**Nursery**  
Available for our little ones

**Children's Sunday School:**  
K-3, meeting in Classroom "B"  
4-6 Grade, meeting in Classroom "C"

**Youth Sunday School:**  
7-12 Grade, meeting in the Church Library/Youth Room

**Adult Sunday School:**  
New Sunday School, meeting in the Fellowship Hall  
The Pathfinder's Class, meeting in the Sanctuary  
Zeteo, meeting in the Session Room



Dear Friends of First Presbyterian,

Wasn't Rally Day wonderful? It was so good to be together again and to learn about all of the new Sunday School classes being offered. New people in the church are providing superior leadership in our congregation. The enthusiasm about the coming year was so energizing!

It was also exciting to have the choir back under the direction of Kate Tombaugh. I loved the way the congregation spontaneously applauded its entry. I also appreciated Kate taking the time to thank Chris Mitchell and choir members who have retired this year or gone on to heaven. We are all so thankful for their faithful service. Our church choir certainly has a rich history!

Then, all those children gathered around Renee for the moment for young disciples. Did you see how many there were? Praise God! He is answering our prayers! The service culminated in another one of Renee's striking sermons. She always finds a new way to present the same scriptures I've heard preached all of my life. I don't know how she does it. Her perspective made

me rethink my own perception of what it meant for Christ to be fully human and fully divine.

I am so grateful to be a part of this congregation's ministry. In today's political climate, people need a loving church more than ever. We truly must be a sanctuary for all who enter our doors. I am proud to bring new students into our fellowship. Last month, I provided goody bags to welcome ten students back to MSU. I am excited about our increase in numbers. We have set the calendar for the fall semester.

We have Sunday School every Sunday in the MOTA House from 9:30-10:30 a.m. We are studying the book of Romans. Donuts/pastries will be provided. We are also eating a home-cooked meal together at the MOTA House directly following the worship service on Sundays.

Thursday night fellowship activities normally start at the MOTA House at 7 p.m.. In September, we are starting off the month with our fall retreat and lake outing. We have a games night at the MOTA house the next week. Our service project of the month will be volunteering to help with Soup for the Soul.

Jenna Goggins, the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Paducah will be with us on September 21 to talk with us about our upcoming mission trip. Any interested member of the congregation is invited to attend. On June 23-30, 2018, we will be traveling to Chimaltenango, Guatemala. Partnering with Grace English School, we will build a house and host a Vacation Bible School. We will also host a medical or dental clinic, depending on the skills of the team. We were hoping to install a clean water system, but the cost for one system has risen to \$8000.00, so we will discuss whether this project will need to be postponed to 2018 to raise more funds.

The final September event is a movie night at the MOTA House. I am excited about the new year and all of the experiences we will share and relationships we will build as we continue to work together while serving God. Thank you again for providing me the opportunity to minister to these lovely young people.

In Christ,

*Lisa Polivick*



## MOTA 2017 Fall Calendar

**Sat-Sun. September 9-10:** Fall Retreat at Moor's Resort and Marina. Meet at the MOTA House at 3 p.m. on Saturday. We'll be back Sunday night around 7:30 p.m. We will have a wonderful time of worship, fun, and fellowship. Bring board games, your bathing suit and sunscreen; we will be in a cabin together on Saturday night and on a pontoon boat from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday. We'll arrive back in Murray around 7:30 p.m.

**Thurs. September 14:** 7 p.m. Games night

**Sun. September 17:** Volunteer to help with Soup for The Soul

**Thurs. September 21:** 7 p.m. MOTA House Jenna Goggins will talk about the mission trip.

**Thurs. September 28:** Movie Night

**October 1-7:** Fall Break

**October 12:** Campus Outreach Event. We are going to pass out free coffee on campus. Bonfire at the Polivick's house.

**October 19:** at the Wolfs' house

**October 21:** Fall Festival at Lisa Polivick's house for FPC families. Face painting, games, and pumpkin decorating for children.

**October 26:** Halloween Party at Polivicks' house

**November 3-4:** Lock-In at the MOTA house

**November 9:** Bake/ Craft for Holly Berry Bake Sale

**November 19:** 6 p.m. Thanksgiving meal for students and adopted parents hosted by Lisa P.

**November 23:** Thanksgiving break

**November 30:** Movie Night



# PW Fall Retreat 2017

*Submitted by Cheryl Pittman*

Hey Presbyterian Women: Need a break? Looking for some inspirational time with women? Join us for the Fall Retreat for PW of the Western Kentucky Presbytery on October 13 & 14 at Kentucky Dam Village. There will time to share, bond and laugh. The keynote speaker is Melissa Bane Sevier (photo), author of *Cloud of Witnesses*, our Horizon Bible study for 2017-2018. There are rooms reserved but first you must register. Look for the registration form and more information on the PW bulletin board. Registration forms must be mailed no later than September 5th. If you have any questions, see Ann Stanley or Cheryl Pittman. Remember: ALL WOMEN are Presbyterian Women!



## September Birthdays

- Lucy Mitchell, Sept. 1
- Dawn Gaskin, Sept. 8
- Barbara Conley, Sept. 10
- Sid Martin, Sept. 10
- Luke Crawford, Sept. 12
- Kathie Fleming, Sept. 13
- Chris Adams, Sept. 19
- Paul Shaw, Sept. 23
- Ethelyn Loberger, Sept. 26
- Cindy Barnett, Sept. 26
- Carol Jean Lewis, Sept. 27



## September Anniversaries

- Cheryl & Ralph Pittman, Sept. 6
- Luke & Maribeth Crawford, Sept. 8
- Don & Kathie Fleming, Sept. 29



Our officers met in August to plan our year and we think we have a wonderful program scheduled for the 2017/2018 year. One of our most successful evenings in the past was a supper for “just the women”, and it was so successful, we’ve planned two for this year!

If you are new to the church or just not familiar with the organization Presbyterian Women, we are an organization made up of all the women in the church. Most Presbyterian churches have this organization. Sometimes we have regular meetings (which are called “Brown Bags” because we bring our own lunch) to organize and discuss, sometimes we do service projects, sometimes we do fun evenings full of food and a time to get to know one another. You can come to one thing or you can come to every single meeting and event we have. You, as a woman in this church are welcome at all times! Please contact Ann Stanley (270-753-8747) or [asjstanley33@twc.com](mailto:asjstanley33@twc.com) for more information.

**Our Schedule is as Follows:**

- ◆ Monday, Sept. 11, 11:30 a.m. - Regular brown bag meeting at church.
- ◆ Tuesday, Sept. 26, 6-7:30 p.m. - Pot luck salad supper at church. Information will be shared about our Fall Projects (HollyBerry and Back Pack Program).
- ◆ Monday, Oct. 2, 11:30 a.m. - Regular brown bag meeting at church.
- ◆ Saturday, Nov. 11, 8 a.m. - HollyBerry at FPC.
- ◆ December is Back Pack month, schedule to be announced.
- ◆ Monday, Jan. 8, 11:30 a.m. - Regular brown bag meeting at church.
- ◆ Tuesday, Feb. 6, 6-7:30 p.m. - “Women to Women” come and join us for supper at church but don’t bring food, bring women’s personal care products for Need Line. Watch future newsletters for details. Supper will be provided!
- ◆ Monday, March 5, 11:30 a.m. - Regular brown bag meeting at church. Guest speaker, Marion O’Rourke, will give a talk on First Presbyterian Church Women’s History.
- ◆ Monday, April 2, 11:30 a.m. - Regular brown bag meeting at church to elect new officers
- ◆ Monday, May 7, 11:30 a.m. - Regular brown bag meeting at church to install new officers

## Dorothy McKenzie

The Dorothy McKenzie Circle will begin its study this year on Tuesday, Sept 12 at 1 p.m. at church. The remaining times will move back to the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m.

## Beth Belote Circle

The Beth Belote Circle will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, September 7, at the home of Debbie Burgess, 1710 Audubon. After updates on the circle's adopted family, the Alzheimer's resource information card, and Just Coffee sales, we will discuss options for this semester's study topics. Please come with suggestions for readings or issues we should pursue. This circle welcomes new members. The evening meeting time is especially intended to accommodate women who are employed during the day. Do join us for Debbie's delectable hors d'oeuvres, wine, and engaging conversation as we work together to strengthen our faith.



Murray Calloway County  
Need Line

## Need Line Items Needed Update

Need Line is experiencing a shortage of anti-perspirant/deodorant for both men and women. If you are able to help, please drop off your donation in the Need Line basket in the Narthex at First Presbyterian Church, and we will be happy to bring it to Need Line for you.

## The Group

Join us for a potluck lasagna dinner!

**When:** 6 p.m., Saturday, September 23

**Where:** Cochran's Home--2238 Mitchell Drive

Lasagna and drinks will be provided. Please sign up by September 10 on the sign-up table in the narthex.





## Community Bulletin Board

Is there something happening in our community that you would like to share with our church members? Perhaps a cause you are passionate about? An upcoming fundraiser or social activity? How about a concert or work event? Well, we have just the place for that on our FPC bulletin board! Help us spread the word. Please forward your community events to Andrea at: [fpcmurray@hotmail.com](mailto:fpcmurray@hotmail.com), and she will put it up for you. If you have a poster or flier to hang, feel free to drop it off the next time you are in the neighborhood. Please note, FPC reserves the right to prohibit postings it finds inappropriate.

## Charter Sunday

Sunday, September 10 will mark the ten-year anniversary of our church's new addition. What a difference that remodel has made for our ministry! Please join us for this special service. Our FPC Chancel Choir will commemorate this special occasion with the Anthem, "Come Build a Church," by Ken Medema. Do you know folks who were instrumental to our remodel? Please consider

inviting them to this service as we would like to recognize them for the impact they have undoubtedly made. **We need your help:** We will make available, at our September 3 service, memoir pads to record your memories and/or thoughts regarding our renovation: What was it like at First Presbyterian Church before the renovation? What was it like to endure the renovation? In what ways have we grown/changed since? We invite you to briefly read aloud your memoir during our service on Charter Sunday, September 10. After service, we will collect and display the memoirs on our bulletin board for all to enjoy.



## **Wednesday Night Live Schedule and Youth Group Schedule**

**Andrew Green: Youth Director 270-978-1527; [andrewgreen12@gmail.com](mailto:andrewgreen12@gmail.com)**

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September 6: Youth Group FPC - Neighborhood Drive.

**September 13: Wednesday Night Live , FCC .** Theme: Backwards Night. Wear your pajamas!

We'll be eating breakfast foods!

September 20: Youth Group FCC

**September 27: Wednesday Night Live, FPC.** Theme: St. Francis Day / Animal Blessing. Bring your pet, or a picture of your pet to be blessed!

October 4: NO YOUTH GROUP (Public School Fall Break)

**October 11: Wednesday Night Live, FCC .** Theme: Simchat Torah. Come and experience a special Jewish holy day!

October 18: Youth Group, FCC.

**October 25: Wednesday Night Live, FCC .** Theme: Fall Festival. Come and play carnival games!

Nov. 1: Youth Group, MOTA house

**Nov. 8: Wednesday Night Live, FCC.** Theme: Environmental Night. What does it mean to be good stewards of God's planet?

**Nov. 15: Wednesday Night Live, FPC.** Theme: Operation Christmas Child. Come pack shoe boxes filled with gifts to send to children around the world!

Nov. 22: NO YOUTH GROUP (Thanksgiving Week)

**Nov. 29, Wednesday Night Live, FCC.** Theme: Peru Night. Come and hear Rose talk about her experiences in Peru this past summer and try some Peruvian food!

Dec. 6: Youth Group, FCC.

Dec. 13: Youth Group, MOTA house, Dirty Santa. Bring a wrapped Christmas gift for the gift exchange. Bring some dessert to share.

Dec 17: Craft and Cookie Bake for Children and Youth at FCC @ noon.

Dec. 21: (Thursday), Youth Group to help with Winter Solstice Service @ FCC at 7 PM.

Dec. 27: NO YOUTH GROUP (Christmas Week)

FCC = First Christian Church, 111 North Fifth St., Murray, KY 42071

FPC = First Presbyterian Church, 1601 W Main St., Murray, KY 42071



## Prayer Concerns

*“Blessed be God, because God has not rejected my prayer or removed God’s steadfast love from me.”--  
Psalm 66:20*

### Church Members and Regular Attendees

Maryann Mitchell	Hospice House
Cindy Barnett	Wisdom
Ralph Pittman	Hand recovery
Michael Johnson	Recovery from surgery
Justine Ostlund	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Bev Reuter	Began chemotherapy
Bill Thurman	Cancer
Warren Thomas	Home
Paul Shaw	Declining health due to Parkinson’s Disease
Mary Lynn Christensen	At Brookdale
Sal Matarazzo	Congestive heart failure

Rosemary Moore	Health issues
Barbara Simons	Health issues
Korean Church	Has interim pastor who is a chaplain at Fort Campbell

**Family and Friends of the Congregation**

Laura	Strength and direction during a difficult time
Bruce Pittman	Recovery from heart surgery
Family of Caroline Jones	
Family of Rev. Don Troutman	
Devin Hawkins and Family	Passing of Wife and Son
Terri Prince	Lung cancer and chemo
Family of Judy Crofton	Passing of Mother, Rita Bush
Murray Wall	Recovery from surgery, divorce
Dan (Juli McClain's Father)	On Hospice care
Edna Davis (Pastor Renee's Friend)	On Hospice care
Family of Barbara Mason	
Family of Mildred Valentine	
Family of Betty Shepperson	
Family of Sally Wright (Todd's Mother)	
Family of Betty Brown, especially Harry	
David Fleming	Continued recovery from hospitalization
Family Jack Trout	Especially his wife Betty
Tabitha & Junior	Pittman's family
Earline Clark	Toni Belcher's mother

Sandy Cunningham	Pastor Renee's mother, severe macular degeneration
Family of Ryan Kirchman	Nephew of Marcie Johnson
Gary Hopkins	Friend of the Pittman's and Cochran's, recent stroke
Jack Flagg	Friend of Ralph Pittman, lung cancer
Dan	Juli McClain's father, Spring Creek
Smith Broadbent	Anne Adams' brother, Parkinson's
Don Knop	Barbara Conley's brother-in-law, cancer
Jim McCulloch	Maribeth Crawford's grandfather, failing health

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