



Frugal Froggy

We are halfway through 2016. We have 127 giving units in the church for the operating fund. Eighteen of those (or 14%) are lagging behind in their pledged giving. We know that people's circumstances may change during the year and giving at the pledged level may not be possible. However, if you've just missed a Sunday or two and you haven't caught up with your giving, please make the effort to get back on track.

Christl will be sending out the quarterly report soon. Please check it and let her know if there are any incorrect entries. Your capital campaign contribution will also show on your quarterly report. Thank you to everyone who is current in their giving.

It's also not too late to pay the per capita of \$40 per member which supports the Synod, General Assembly, and Presbytery efforts. Please mark your contribution as "per capita" when you contribute. We have had over 43 individuals generously give \$40 as added pledge giving.

It's a joy to give when you see all the wonderful things our church is involved in. Camp Carew is in full swing, children are laughing, music is reverberating from the walls, and our eyes light up on Sunday morning when we see our friends in Christ. Share the joy!

By GRACE NEWS

Pixie is in Kenya with the kids from By Grace. New rules from the government concerning orphanages require classrooms to be in a separate building from where the children sleep at night. They will have to rent a building across from By Grace and pay for remodeling of the rooms into classrooms (\$3000), and rent will be \$700 per month. They also require triple decker beds with sheets rather than just mattresses and blankets on the floor.

If you can contribute to help with these present needs or donate to the rummage sale, it would be most appreciated.

Checks to Stand Up For Grace may be sent to 1528 W. Riverview, Decatur, Illinois 62522, or the website, www.standupforgrace.org, offers online donations. Thank you so much for your support and prayers.

Sincerely, Pixie Fennessey, President, Stand Up For Grace

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to receiving the monthly reports of the treasurer, standing committees, and program staff, at its stated meeting on June 20, 2016, Session:

- affirmed the decision of the Administration Committee to authorize nine days of Continuing Education time (6/18-6/26) in order that Dr. Kay may attend the PC(USA) 222nd General Assembly .
- learned that First Presbyterian Church has received positive feedback from the community for hosting the Orlando Candlelight Prayer Vigil.
- celebrated that the Capital Campaign construction project is essentially finished, on time and on budget.

OUR SERVICES	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service – Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Christian Education Hour – Everyday Issues Class
	9:15 a.m.	NewSong Worship Service – Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service – Sanctuary

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Coming Events . . .

Thursday, June 30



Men's Bible Study, 7:00 a.m.

We are using a study guide, "The Present Word," and applying it to our modern lives. We will meet from 7 to 8 **every Thursday morning** at the home of Paul Rosenberger. Come share the Bible. Call Paul at 877-4789 by the evening before to ensure that the Bible group is meeting.

Saturday, July 2

There will be a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. for Lillian Landon with visitation in the Gathering room at 10:00.

Sunday, July 3, Communion

First Sunday

Please bring your food donations to all 3 services for Northeast Community Fund, or on Monday morning.

Peacemaking Coffee and Oil

Support Equal Exchange with your purchase.

Everyday Issues, 9:00 a.m.

Morgan Freeman's *Apocalypse* video will be shown in the Dining Room.

Monday, July 4

We will be closed on Independence Day.

Wednesday, July 6, Staff Retreat

The program and office staff will be away from the office for a retreat at Millikin from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 7

Volunteers at Good Sam, 9:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church prepares and serves at Good Sam. Hours are from 9:00-1:00 p.m. If you are free to volunteer, come to 920 N. Union Street.

Thursday, July 7-9, Paint Days



Volunteers are needed to help Dick Ward paint Ann's office while she is away. Call Dick at 767-1063.

Sunday, July 10

Everyday Issues, 9:00 a.m.



Beginning July 10 to August 28, an 8-week class begins on the Book of REVELATION, *It's Not the End of the World*. It is a description in symbolic language of how God works in

the world in every age.

Bill Keagle requests that you bring your own Bible.

Looking Forward . . .

Monday-Friday, July 11-15, FUM

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m.-noon

Volunteers are still needed. Call Cathy Beube at 620-7563.



VBS is requesting donations of 15 boxes of cornstarch and 5 cans of insulation foam spray for art projects. Thank you.

Wednesdays, July 13, 20, & 27

- **Revelations class**, 6:30 p.m., Dining room

For 8 weeks, *It's Not the End of the World* will also be offered every Wednesday evening through August 24. Bring your Bible.

Sundays, July 17, 24 and 31

- **Everyday Issues**, 9:00 a.m., Dining Room

Revelations Class continues.

Monday, July 18

- **Women's Bible Study**, 1:30 p.m.

Meet downstairs in the Adult classroom.

Thursday, July 28

- **First Friends**, 10:30 a.m.

Meet at First United Methodist this month.

- **Women's Night Out**, 5:30 p.m.

We'll meet and eat at Il Forno. RSVP!

Saturday, July 30

- **Dinner Downtown**, FUM, 11:30-1:00 p.m.

Bring pies (no cream, please), cakes or cookies from 9:30-11:30 to 201 W. North St. or help serve if you are free from 11:30 to 1:00.

From the Parish Nurse

SUN, HEAT AND MEDICATIONS



We certainly have already had our share of sun and hot days this summer, with probably more to come. Some

medications can make you more vulnerable to the sun and heat. Here are some examples: diuretics may cause dehydration more easily; antibiotics, like doxycycline, sulfa, and Cipro, may increase your risk of painful sunburn; antihistamines, like Benadryl and tricyclic antidepressants, may decrease your ability to sweat that can lead to heat exhaustion.

This does not mean you should not take these medications if they are needed— just follow some precautions. These include: check for warnings on labels or package inserts, keep yourself hydrated, use sunscreen and cover-up, and save outdoor activities for the morning or evening.

If you have any questions, call your pharmacist.

Phyllis

PS Information on Mosquitoes, West Nile and Zika is still available in the Gathering Room.

PRAYER CONCERNS

- **Carol Fuller** had shoulder and elbow surgery on June 24.
- **Christl Smalley's brother Gary** was run over by a forklift at work. He has undergone surgeries and is still in critical condition.
- **Carol Williams** is home from the hospital. Cards and notes may be sent to Carol at her apartment: 518 S. Church Street, Decatur, IL 62522.

THANK YOU

- ❖ *Thank you to those who helped make Thursday evening's prayer vigil possible on June 23, and for all those who came to share the journey to the Peace Pole.*
- ❖ *Thank you for your generous Pentecost gift to our kids. Your support helps us to meet the emotional needs of the children and families we serve, as well as, provide them educational and growth opportunities throughout the year.*
Martin Harris, CEO, Webster-Cantrell Hall
- ❖ *Here's a big thank you, especially for the 42 friends who signed my birthday card in the Gathering Room at church last Sunday, June 12.*
Thanks, Jim Olson
- ❖ *Thanks to our volunteers! During the 2nd week of June, 36 of our members delivered Meals on Wheels to shut-ins. Six new people enjoyed participating in this mission. We'll do it again in November.*
- ❖ *Thank you FROM THE BUDGET POSSE*
The Budget Posse would like to thank our committees for a job well done! We appreciate all the hard work put into projecting expenses and needs for the 2017 budget by each committee. You showed great ownership and accountability with positive energy and enthusiasm, and stayed on task by meeting the timeline given to you. Thank you again from The Budget Posse. Your input is just the beginning as The Finance Committee moves forward to provide Session with a 2017 Proposed Operating Budget.
- ❖ *My family and I wish to thank this congregation for the support, concern, and prayers in the recent passing of Pierce. I once read... "when there are no words, hear the love". We have certainly heard and felt that love when you sent flowers, cards, food and shared many hugs. The Deacons were very supportive with the great meal they prepared for us. We are blessed to be a part of this loving congregation.*
Thank you again,
Gayle Bruckner and Family

CONGRATULATIONS



Chrissy Ellis had a baby girl, Ryleigh Lynn. She was baptized here on Sunday, June 26.

CONGRATULATIONS

Nadine Wimmer's daughter Mandy and Tom O'Brien had a baby girl, Amelie, born April 24, at 7 lb. 10 oz.

NEW ADDRESS

Claire & Andrew Taylor live at 410 Woodhill Dr. (21).
Julia Bright's new apartment # is 120 (same place).

MEMBER NEED

Jody Hantel is not able to drive her car at this time and is compiling a list of available DRIVERS FOR HIRE that she can call when needed. If you are interested in being an occasional driver for hire, please call her at 767-2266.

CORRECTION

Rudy Mathieson - graduated from Warrensburg High School – Rudy is the son of Ann and Mike, and grandson of Skip and Sally Mathieson AND Sally Shumate.



Meeting God and Others

Will

Part Two – the rest of the story!

Will, the retired book binder now grocery store stocker, excommunicated former church member, tempter of the Dutch work ethic student that I was at the time ... he was quite the character.

When it became apparent that I would not budge from my church heritage any more than Will would stop pestering me about it, he tried a new tactic. To prove he was not some godless runaway, he started to quote Bible memory work he was forced to learn in Sunday School and at home. Instead of singing with the others, "Day O, day O / Daylight come and me wan' go home!" he began to sing Sunday School songs to see what my reaction might be.

"Heavenly sunshine, heavenly sunshine, Hallelujah! Jesus is mine." He wondered if I knew that one, or "This Little Light of Mine." Sometimes the other college students would join in with sarcastic voices in the style of a "Saturday Night Live" spoof.

I talked with Will sometimes about this memory of his since it seemed to me that his decades of running from God and blocking out religion was rather like a Jonah who could not forget, no matter how hard he tried. And that God doesn't forget his children either.

On the other hand, Will didn't talk a lot about his mother because I think it was harder to laugh that off. I think he felt bad that she was praying all the time and seeing no results. So you can imagine my surprise one spring day when he announced, "I'm going to church with my mom this Easter."

He told me about it that next week, that his mother was there in a scene I imagined like a Billy Graham movie ending in slow motion with tears and hugs and a big choir singing about salvation with the heavenly sunshine of Easter streaming through the windows. I don't know if it was all that, but I know that it was the start of Will joining a different church as a full member the following Easter.

Some years later I saw an obituary for Will in the newspaper and I wondered where he had been since the grocery store nights and what all had become of him. But based on what I had seen and heard of him, I would believe that Heavenly Sunshine is now his eternal reality.

My missionary moment was not a precise decision to gospel a heathen soul. It was just talking and being there and listening -- and standing firm in my faith of daily living. It also humbled me to see how God could use the ordinary and insignificant to impact a life off which he'd never taken his eyes. **RK**

- *We are still looking for brave writers to contribute to this column! Send in your thoughts to the office. and we'll add your story for others to enjoy.*

July Birthdays



- Katya Sublett—2
- Dennis Paul—3
- Thomas Hostetler—7
- Charlie Blackburn—11
- Molly Paul—12
- Lucy Lundt—14
- Naomi Davis—16
- Alan Tish—16
- Will Yepsen—16
- David Falk—18
- Maddie Locke—18
- Pixie Fennessey—19
- Matthew Young — 20
- Dick Ward—22
- Michael Delaney—23
- Cheryl Schmidt—23
- Maddox Anderson—24
- Vern Holmlund—25
- Jennifer Wittig Bagnas—27
- Rich Harned—27
- Barbara Keagle—27
- Brooke Nelson—27
- Rob Cook—30
- Tyler Melvin—31
- Joan Tinch—31

**Did we forget someone?
Please let us know!**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 2016		AC – Adult Classroom BR – Bell Room C – Chapel CCC – Central Christian Ch. CR - Choir Room DR – Dining Room FUM – First United Methodist	GR – Gathering Room L – Library MR– Music Room PO – Pastor’s Office S – Sanctuary TR – Toddler’s Room YA – Youth Area			(7am-AA) ¹ 10:00 L. Landon Visitation-GR 11:00 Landon Service – S 12:00 Landon Lunch - DR
3	(7am-AA) 4	(7am-AA) 5	(7am-AA) 6	(7am-AA) 7	(7am-AA) 8	(7am-AA) 9
Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper 8:00am Worship – Chapel 9:00am Christian Education 9:15am NewSong – Chapel 10:30am Worship—Sanctuary	 Office Closed	8:30am Money Counters	9:30am- Staff Retreat - Millikin 9:30am Parish Visitors – GR 5:00pm String Band Practice– DR 5:15pm Evang./ Memb. Mtg.–GR	7:00am Men’s Bible Study 9:00am Volunteers @ Good Sam		
10	(7am-AA) 11	(7am-AA) 12	(7am-AA) 13	(7am-AA) 14	(7am-AA) 15	(7am-AA) 16
8:00am Worship – Chapel 9:00am Christian Education - DR 9:15am NewSong – Chapel 10:30am Worship—Sanctuary	8:30am Money Counters 9-12pm VBS - FUM 1:00pm Pink Smoke – C 12:00pm – TN Articles due!!	9-12pm VBS - FUM 10:30am Staff Meeting – YA 11:30am Worship Planning – L 5:30pm Finance Committee-GR	8:30am Tower Notes Folders – L 9-12pm VBS - FUM 1:30pm Cath. Charities UW - C 1:30pm Revelation Class - DR 5:00pm String Band Practice– DR	7:00am Men’s Bible Study 9-12pm VBS - FUM	9-11am Organ Demo for Chung-Ha Kim - Sanctuary 9-12pm VBS - FUM	
17	(7am-AA) 18	(7am-AA) 19	(7am-AA) 20	(7am-AA) 21	(7am-AA) 22	(7am-AA) 23
8:00am Worship – Chapel 9:00am Christian Education - DR 9:15am NewSong – Chapel 10:30am Worship—Sanctuary	8:30am Money Counters 1:30pm Women’s Bible Study - Adult Classroom	10:30am Staff Meeting – YA	1:30pm Revelation Class - DR 5:00pm String Band Practice– DR	7:00am Men’s Bible Study		
24	(7am-AA) 25	(7am-AA) 26	(7am-AA) 27	(7am-AA) 28	(7am-AA) 29	(7am-AA) 30
8:00am Worship – Chapel 9:00am Christian Education - DR 9:15am NewSong – Chapel 10:30am Worship—Sanctuary	8:30am Money Counters 12:00pm – TN Articles due!! 1:00pm Pink Smoke – C	10:30am Staff Meeting – YA 11:30am Worship Planning – L	8:30am Tower Notes Folders – L 1:30pm Revelation Class - DR 5:00pm String Band Practice– DR	7:00am Men’s Bible Study 10:30am First Friends - FUM 5:30pm Women’s Night Out at Il Forno		
31		<i>"The steady buzzzzzz of the Katydid chorus, the bass solo of the croaking Frog, the steady woof-woof-woof a barking Dog – a summer night's serenade." - Michael P. Garofalo, Cuttings</i>			July 2016	