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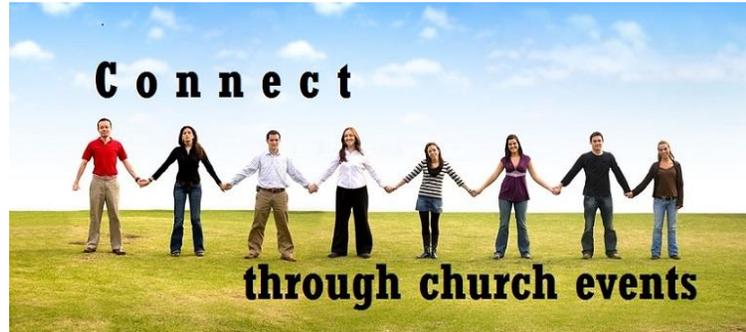


September 13, 2017

Volume 49 Number 17
Ann Elder, Compilation; Rick Koetje, Editor

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8:45 AM NewSong Service

11:00 AM Sanctuary Service

"One Table" service @ 11:00 AM on 1st Sunday of every month

EDUCATION

9:45 AM Christian Education for all ages

Two opportunities for adults during the Christian Education hour

1. The **EVERYDAY ISSUES CLASS** continues to meet in the Dining Room.

- September 17 - "No Joke"

We will watch the first part of a documentary about three clergymen from Peoria— A Rabbi, an Imam and a Preacher. The three men become friends and travel the country teaching others what they've learned about interfaith dialogue.

- September 24 - "No Joke"

The second part of the documentary continues about the Rabbi, Imam and Preacher. Our discussion will also involve brainstorming ways we can further the interfaith friendships we have here in Decatur.

- October 1 and 8 – "Weird Church" led by Jan Mandernach and Norm Jensen

2. Continuing every week, Pastor Bob leads a new class called **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**, during the Education hour in the lower level of the church.

This class is intended to reach out to some of our younger adults who haven't found their way to other Adult Education opportunities in the past and will engage them in some lively conversation covering a wide range of topics. There is, of course, lots of coffee and perhaps a few donuts! Anyone is welcome to come and join the conversation.

First Pres members and friends, save the date!

Mphatso Mguluwe from Malawi, International Peacemaker, will speak on **OCTOBER 3 AT 7:00.p.m.**

Deadline

Monday
Sept. 25
Noon

Note: Please notice date on lower left banner that your articles are due by noon on the Monday before the Tower Notes are mailed or emailed to you.

Calendar . . .

Wednesday, September 13

10:00 – Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:15 – Choir Practice

6:30 – Evangelism and
Membership (NEW TIME)

Thursday, September 14

9:30 – Parish Visitors Meeting

3:30 – String Band at
Lincolnshire, 1215 W. Arbor

Sunday, September 17

8:45 – NewSong Worship

9:00-1:00 – Prepare and serve
at Good Samaritan Inn

9:45 – Christian Education

11:00 – Sanctuary Worship

Monday, September 18

1:30 – Women's Bible
Study

7:00 – Session Meeting

Tuesday, September 19

1:00 – Worship Planning

5:00 – Tower Ringers

Wednesday, September 20

2:00 – String Band at Eagle
Ridge, 875 W. McKinley Ave.

5:15 – Choir Practice

6:30 – Soul Friendship Class

Thursday, September 21

5:30 – Patio Party at Jensens

Sunday, September 24

8:45 – NewSong Worship

9:45 – Christian Education

11:00 – Sanctuary Worship

Tuesday, September 26

5:00 – Tower Ringers

Wednesday, September 27

4:00 – String Band Practice

5:15 – Choir Practice

Thursday, September 28

10:30 – First Friends at FUM

5:30 – Women's Night Out at
Casa Fuentes (former Carlos
O'Kelly's)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marty Grohne is in Room 118,
Hickory Point Christian Village
and welcomes all friends to visit.

Mike Lowe is in hospice at Fair
Haven Christian Home.

Don Butler is home from the
hospital.



Gary Smalley is walking with a
cane and doing outpatient therapy.

Veryn Rosenberger is recovering
from a mild heart attack.

Jane Spires is home and doing well.
She is cancer free.

**Those affected by the hurricanes
and floods.**

CLAIRE TAYLOR'S FIRST REHEARSAL



New singers welcome; for more information contact Dir. Claire Taylor
at ce.nicholson1@gmail.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

BECKY & LANCE GAUBLE were received by Session and the congregation on
August 20th. They both grew up in Girard, Illinois but have lived in Decatur for
45 years. Both are retired now: Lance was an accountant and Becky was a
hairdresser. Their daughter, Shani Goss, her husband and their grandson, Alec,
also live in Decatur and own Goss Graphic Design. The Gaubles enjoy sports,
music and travel. We're so glad you are here at First Pres.

BECKY & LANCE GAUBLE
4630 Baker Woods Place
Decatur, IL 62521
LGauble@comcast.net
217-791-1563 (Lance)
217-423-7019 (home phone)

GEORGE & PHYLLIS MULLIGAN met with Session and joined First Pres. on
August 20. They moved to Decatur from Chicago a few years ago. Three sons,
Jon, George and Richard, are all adults living elsewhere. George is retired from
CNA Insurance and Phyllis is also retired from AMA Insurance. We're happy to
have you as part of our church family at First Pres.

GEORGE & PHYLLIS MULLIGAN
2224 W. Woodbine Dr.
Decatur, IL 62526
pamdarien@aol.com
217-424-1076 (home phone)
217-358-0469 (George)
217-775-2505 (Phyllis)

Calendar cont. . . .

First Sunday, October 1

- Peacemaking Offering
- 9:45 – Christian Education
- 11:00 – *One Table*
- Worship Service (Bring canned goods.)
- 12:15 – Deacons Meeting, Youth Room

Monday, October 2

- 5:00 – Facilities Meeting
- 6:00 – Peacemaking Meeting
- 6:30 – Mission Meeting
- 7:00 – Worship & Music Meeting

Tuesday, October 3

- 1:00 – Worship Planning
- 5:00 – Tower Ringers
- 7:00 – Peacemaker guest

Wednesday, October 4

- 4:00 – String Band Practice
- 5:15 – Choir Practice
- 6:45 – Taizé Worship

Friday, October 6

- 9:00 – WSOY food drive

Saturday, October 7

- 6:00 – String Band at Rock Springs

Sunday, October 8

- 8:45 – NewSong Worship
- 9:45 – Christian Education
- 11:00 – Sanctuary Worship
- 6:00 – Just Flicks (*Ushpizen*)

Monday, October 9

- 5:00 – Adult Ministry Meeting
- 5:00 – Finance Meeting

Tuesday, October 10

- 5:00 – Tower Ringers

Wednesday, October 11

- 4:00 – String Band Practice
- 5:15 – Choir Practice
- 6:30 – Evangelism and Membership Meeting

Thursday, October 12

- 9:30 – Parish Visitors
- 12:00 – Children and Youth Mtg.



from the desk of
Pastor Jean

What does it look like to be the Church of Jesus Christ? In the second paragraph in our Presbyterian Book of Order, we find the following sentences:

In Christ, the Church participates in God's mission for the transformation of creation and humanity by proclaiming to all people the good news of God's love, offering to all people the grace of God at font and table, and calling all people to discipleship in Christ....

That seems a bit vast and far reaching does it not, to participate in God's mission for the transformation of creation and humanity? Yet, each one of us does this more often than we might think. One way we participate in this transformative action is through mission and service. This past Saturday 8 of us from First Presbyterian Church went to St. Paul's Lutheran Church to join in the Feed My Starving Children program to help end world hunger. Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian nonprofit that helps turn hunger into hope. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack MannaMeals designed especially for starving children, and FMSC ships the meals to nearly 70 countries around the world. During our time packing, we were told that our group packed the one millionth meal from Decatur, to go to FMSC. All of us in that room worked feverishly to pack as fast as we could to reach that milestone during our two-hour session of meal packing! It was a wonderful feeling to know that here in Decatur we have packed over 1 million meals to help put an end to world hunger.

Our First Presbyterian Church Family participates in many mission and outreach activities, both locally and internationally to help make known God's transformative love for all of God's people. I encourage each one of us to continue to look for ways to be involved in the Church's transformational work not only in our community, but throughout the whole wide earth. May God's deepest blessings be upon you as you continue to seek ways to live and share God's love.

FIRST FRIENDS September 28

Our meeting will be at First United Methodist, and will feature Dr. Mahmood, a local physician and prominent member of the Decatur Muslim Fellowship and Mosque. Our program will be on Islam, particularly the local congregation. Please circle the 28th at 10:30 a.m.

WSOY FOOD DRIVE
We will accept canned and boxed food from now until October 5 for the community food drive on October 6.

LAST SATURDAY September 30 Dinner Downtown

First United Methodist, 201 W. North St., needs donations of desserts to feed the hungry for lunch at noon. You can deliver pies (no cream, no nuts), cakes or cookies (no nuts) from 9:30-11:30 to 201 W. North St. They would also like to have serving assistance for Dinner downtown if you are free from 11:30-1:00.

**Kemmerer Village thanks
First Pres for
Pentecost Offering**

Our children are busy embracing new routines, challenges and opportunities. The Fergusson Educational Center has housed our on-campus school since 1989. Our youth attend classes on campus led by caring teachers that are all certified in special education to meet the needs of our young people. The classes are small to give individualized attention to each child in our care. Some of our children earn the privilege of attending the local high school where the social skills and life skills they have learned here are put into practice. Your generosity allows us to continue to provide the best education possible for our children.

On behalf of the children and staff of Kemmerer Village, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your recent gift. We continue to be grateful for your interest and support of our ministry.

Sincerely,
Michael Havera, Director of
Development & Fundraising

**ISLAMIC CENTER COMMUNITY
SALE**

1635 Huston Drive
September 16, 9-2 p.m.

Ethnic jewelry, towels, linens,
household décor, athletic
equipment, light furniture,
children's toys, floral
arrangements.



Henna artists will be available to apply designs and there will be light refreshments.

DO YOU NEED SOME TYPE OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?

CHECK OUT OUR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN CLOSET!!



First Presbyterian Church and the Health Ministry Committee have a medical equipment closet to lend equipment to members and friends. This equipment has been donated to the church so it can be used again by others when they have a need.

Here is a list of what is available.

- Wheelchairs
- Walkers, several types
- Canes, assorted styles
- Crutches
- Scooter, for use after foot or ankle issues
- Bath chair
- Egg carton mattress pad
- Various other types of equipment

If you are in search of medical equipment, call the church office and leave a message. I will get back to you on whether we have what you need, or I know where you might borrow it.

There is a sign-out sheet on equipment, so we can keep track of where the equipment is. Please return items to the church when you are done using them and sign them back in.

If you have any questions, please call me at 217-412-8838

Phyllis McPherron

FLU SHOT CLINIC

On October 25, we are scheduling a flu shot clinic from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Mark it now on your calendar if you are interested.

Presbyterians Today

"*Presbyterians Today*, the award-winning magazine of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is published bimonthly (6 times a year). Every issue is filled with inspiring stories about people and congregations ... highlights of church news and mission ... a Christian perspective on issues of the day ... Bible study and practical tools for life and ministry ... and much more!" (pcusa.org)
A year's subscription is now just \$9.95! See the display in the Gathering Room to sign up or renew.



CHILD-CARE WORKER OPENING

Sunday hours 8:30-12:30. This is a paid position. Call 429-4195.
If you know of someone, please let us know. (fpdec@comcast.net)