

A-PICNICING WE'LL GO! A-PICNICING WE'LL GO!

It's summer and what's summer without a picnic? So we are having a picnic on Wednesday, July 27 in Irvine Park.

The event will be held in the main pavilion near the animal cages. This could also give you a chance to see the new small animal building and its inhabitants.

Meat will be provided by the church. Bring your own beverage and a salad or dessert to pass. Corine Bios will have sign up sheets for food so we don't end up with 20 chocolate cakes. On second thought, that might not be too bad.

The food team consisting of Corine, Ryan Reemtsma, Todd Teske, Jerry and Jan Giede will have everything ready to serve at 5:30.

There will be games for the children organized by Ellen Teske and the Teske children and grandchildren. There will be prizes for the winners.

Adult games are being planned by Anne Welke, Carmi Simonson, Jon Beighley, Becky Hager and Holly Gintz. Prizes will be awarded for the adults too.

All games will begin at 3 PM.

There will also be competitive timed bicycle races from 2 to 5 PM. Participants will run against the clock completing a 4-mile course. There will be four classes – ladies under and over 50 and men under and over 50. Prizes will be awarded for each class. Since the races are timed, cyclists can begin at any time between 2 and 5.

Plans for this year's picnic have been finalized by Gene Peissig, Al and Roxy Wolfe and Sara Reemtsma.

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES!

A special summer movie night is planned for June 29 at the church. There will be a movie for adults in the Library and one for the children in the basement. The movies begin at 7 and should be over by 9. The church will supply the fresh popcorn. Kids should bring pillows to make themselves comfortable on the floor.

SIMPLIFY LIFE AND ENJOY IT MORE

It seems like during the summer we get busier and busier and don't find the rest and relaxation that we hope to have. During the summer, sometimes we say to ourselves "Stop the world. I want to get off". On the other hand we do things like helping our kids, watching TV or going to the movies, playing card games, going out on the town to eat, going boating or golfing, playing bridge, taking trips to visit friends and family, going on vacations, spending time on social media, going to museums, going for a walk at Irvine Park.

In the back of our minds, we just want the simple life. But it seems like the simple life is just boring. But maybe you could think of simplicity as a way to add quality contentment to your life. When it comes to life, simplicity doesn't mean poverty. Quite the opposite - when you identify those things and those people who are really important to you, your life takes on more meaning because you proactively choose to do those things that will increase the quality of your life. The net result is your life is richer, not poorer.

It is important to remember that God isn't the one who leads you to a more complicated life "and more stress". You get there quite well all by yourself. God wants you to give the small stuff and the stress of your life over to Him.

Thomas Kelly wrote that our deepest need is not food and clothing and shelter and activity, important as they are. It is God. In their book "God Is In The Small Stuff, and it all matters", Bruce Bickel and Stan Jantz have a small list of things to think about.

- Appreciate simplicity.
- Learn to have a good time without spending a lot of money.
- Satisfaction begins when comparison stops.
- Be as satisfied with what you don't have as with what you have.
- Being deprived of something you desire is better than having something you despise.
- If you can't live without it, go home and sleep on it.
- Make it a lifelong goal to remove clutter.
- Don't throw money at problems.
- Your needs will always outweigh your energies.

It would be good to add a little simplicity to your life and hopefully in the process and more meaning and increase the quality of your life.

Blessings,
Pastor Karel

LEAVING A LEGACY

We recently memorialized two outstanding members of our church. Bruce Miller and Roger Stiles will be greatly missed by our congregation. It was heart-warming to hear the families remember them with their stories.

Their stories reminded me of something that Minner Serovy, our Midwest representative for the Presbyterian Foundation, said at our informational session on estate planning back in October. She began by reminding us that the most important legacy that we can leave is the stories about ourselves. When we share these stories, our lives live on through our children and grandchildren. It connects the past with the present and the future.

There are many ways to do this.

- Do you have treasured items? Take the time to share with your children and grandchildren why these items are special to you. What is the story that goes with the item? This item may then become special to those to whom you may bequeath it.
- Write it down. Create a memories book. There are many helpful journals with questions to answer that will guide you in recalling memories. Make sure to let someone know where this special journal is.
- If you have difficulty sharing your feelings, you may choose to write a letter that would be included in your will to be read after your death.

After someone has passed from this earth, these stories will be remembered by those who are left. This is a wonderful and precious legacy to leave.

~Barb Shorrel

SERVING BRATS WHILE PROMOTING FPC

We are holding two more Brat Sales this Summer at *Gordy's Parking Lot* on July 2 and 30 from 11:00 am to 4:00 p.m. There are two important reasons for doing this. First, it gives us an opportunity to distribute pamphlets to people and invite people to worship with us. Second, we make a little money to go to our Operating/Mission fund.

Please contact Kevin Litten if you are interested in participating. You can also sign up for a two-hour slot of time on the tower in the Narthex.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

In the last month we have lost two of our staunchest members, Roger Stiles and Bruce Miller.

Roger passed away on May 25 and his funeral was on June 10. Bruce passed away on June 9 and his service was on June 16.

Our prayers and condolences go out to both families.

CORRECTION

The donation of \$6000 for the Food Pantry actually came from the Edward and Hannah M. Rutledge Foundation, not the Casper Foundation as reported in the May Bell.

THANKS FROM ESTHER FRAZIER

Esther Frazier extends thanks to all those who have remembered her during her hospital stay and convalescence. She is at home now and enjoying the cards and well wishes.

CHERIE ANDRINGA ON THE MEND

Thank you so very much for your prayers before, during, and after my surgery. Your flowers arrived on Tuesday in a Mason jar and are still blooming next to me in the living room. June blooms. They are beautiful! Your daily cards and notes are the very best♥! They make me smile. You are awesome. I look forward to more healing days and seeing you all soon. Love, Cherie

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

A new bulletin board has been created in the hallway across from the name tags. This bulletin board is intended to make it easy to keep informed about what various church teams are doing. Minutes from the Session, Worship Team, Mission Team, Finance Team, Communications Team, Presbyterian Men and Presbyterian Women are either already posted or are to be posted. Event notices and related materials will be posted on the tower near the reception desk.

This is just one of the many ways the team plans to keep everyone informed about church events. But they can't do it alone. The Communications Team is looking for a few good men or women to assist and help guide the FPC communications process. Karen Beighley has agreed to be a team member but two or three more members are needed to round out the committee. Your responsibility as a member of the Communications Team will be to advise and assist Team Leader, Gary Shorrel, in determining what and how to communicate to the congregation. Please contact Gary if you are interested in joining this important group.

From the Finance Team...

By Barb Shorrel, Treasurer

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

From pcusa.org--A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency:

- Young Adult Volunteers
- Ministries for Youth
- Children-at-Risk
- Pentecost Offering Financials

Our church contributed \$420 to the Pentecost Offering this year. Of this, the Mission Team will decide on how to use the 40% (\$168) that will remain here. We sent 60% (\$252) to the Presbytery of Northern Waters.

PER CAPITA

This year we will pay the Presbytery of Northern Waters \$4379 for per capita. In our budget, we hoped to receive contributions of \$1800 from you. So far we have received \$1322 of the \$1800. We encourage all of you to help us defray the cost of our per capita.

Free Will Offering at Flute Concert

On June 12, Tim Anderson performed his flute concert with rave reviews. A free will offering was taken totaling \$158.

Thank you to the musicians and to those who contributed.

SESSIONS GOAL #1

The Session has committed to reducing the amount of money that we planned to take from the manse fund to use for our 2016 budget by 50%. As approved, we chose to use \$32,000 from the manse fund to balance our budget.

Last month, we reported that contributions and a reduction in our monthly mortgage cost have reduced the reliance on the manse fund by \$11,932.

In May, Gene Peissig, our custodian informed Rev. Hanhart that he was resigning. Instead he would continue to do the custodian's job as a volunteer! This reduces our budgeted expenses by \$4,915. We thank Gene for his good work and his generosity.

Adding this amount to the \$11,932, the total 'raised' to reduce the manse fund now stands at \$16,487.





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

In partnership with Feed My People

Submitted by: Larry Annett, food pantry volunteer

Dear Lynda,

Larry has agreed to write the FP page for the July BELL. He will let you know if it is ½ or a full page. I told him that he can handwrite the information and that you would type it on this FP “letterhead” page. I also mentioned he could email the write up to you. I hope that this was all ok to say and that it will work for you? I told Larry it was due by July 20. If any of this is wrong please let Larry know.

If you have room on the page the following items could be included.

(If the funny blue box shifts, it works for me to highlight the box and arrow it up or down. The text stays put. Your computer might work differently ...)

(KATHI can print the labels for you)

Thank you so much, Cherie

CANS for CANS are back!

As promised the CANS for CANS fundraiser is continuing! If you didn't receive a can last year and you would like one please see Anne Welke –we have plenty! We hope these cans will be filled with change (and bills –we also except checks 😊) and returned Rally Sunday September 11 –**or anytime they get full!**

Thank you for participating!

FPC Food Pantry Committee
Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, July 20, at 10:00 am. We are looking for additional volunteers on Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am-12noon. If you or someone you know would like to help please call Larry or Marlys.

Monthly Statistics –May 2016

First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry helped **111 households** during the month of May. We helped 290 people with 4,440 pounds of groceries and other personal items. Of the 290, 116 were children and 33 were over the age of 60, 141 were aged 18-59.