

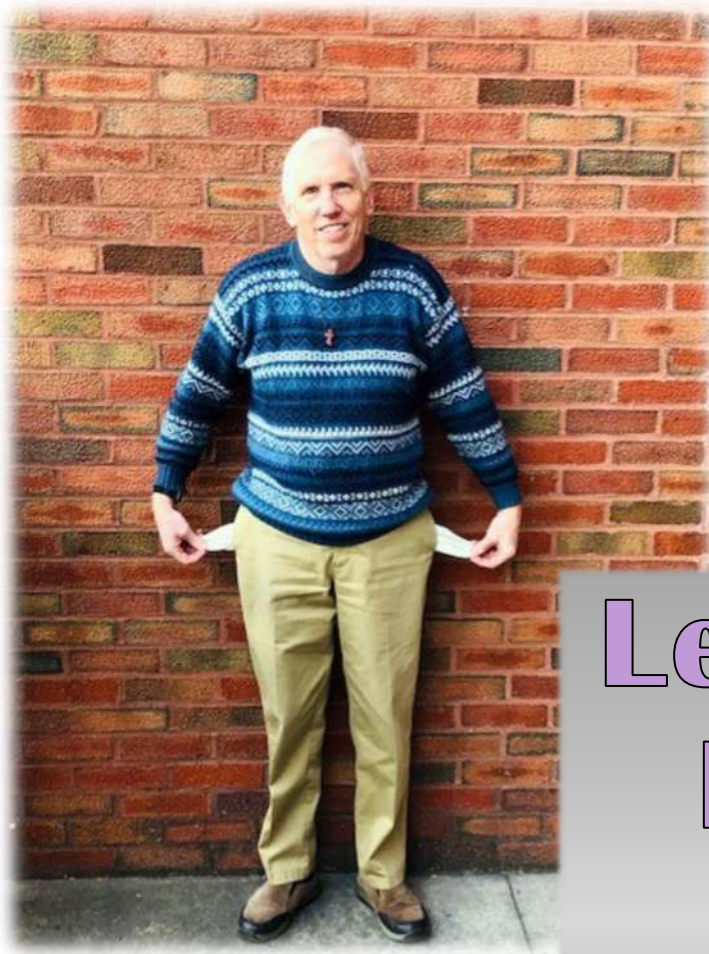


# The Presbyterian

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
324 MADISON ST - JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI  
OFFICE@FPCJCMO.ORG 573-636-2149

MARCH 2020

Pick up  
"Experiencing the  
Holy," our FPC  
Lenten Devotional  
written by You!



What is  
Weighing  
You Down?

What do you  
need to  
LET GO of?

Lent  
Not  
Lint

## Listening to Lent 2020

Are you listening?

Listen

Praying in a N O i S y World

Our world is one of noise.

Everywhere we go, we hear sounds that compete for our minds and hearts. Listening to God requires a deliberate choice to shut out the chatter around us and focus our thoughts.

This Lent we will embark on a spiritual formation journey to learn the HOLY HABITS that lead to a deep and vital relationship with God!

Lent doesn't equal the stuff in your pockets.

## CHILDREN'S LENTEN ACTIVITY

During Sunday School time on Feb. 23rd, families of preschoolers through 4th graders learned more about Lent and planned and designed ways that they could focus on this season of introspection and love.



- ◆ **L**esson on Lent
- ◆ **E**nergizer
- ◆ **N**eat things to create
- ◆ **T**reats



**W**hat do Seventh Day Adventists, Baptists, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, Church of God members and Presbyterians in the Amazon Rainforest of Peru have in common? They all find joy in worship and praise of God in the celebration of the Dedication of a baby! On Saturday, January 18 between sixty and seventy family, friends and neighbors of Viviana Moshouzte Feqezra and Jhony Capoená Sacama joined together in the sanctuary of La Iglesia Reformanda y Presbiteriana in Tamshiyacu, Peru for the Dedication of Jersey Valentina Mouhouzte! Pastors from all the churches listed above - fellow pastors in Tamshiyacu- joined in the service of enthusiastic singing, heart-felt prayers, scriptures readings, sermon - and then the Dedication. With joy Jersey's parents handed her to me - three weeks and two days old - and using words similar to our Baptismal Service, quickly translated into Spanish that afternoon, we Dedicated this precious child to God and prayed for God's continuing and generous blessings upon her and her family. All the Pastors joined the family in the front of the sanctuary and I prayed in English and at the same time all the Pastors prayed in Spanish - a chorus of voices praying in the Spirit of love and harmony.

And the celebration party which followed was filled with music and best wishes and cake and popcorn and orange juice and children playing and Viviana and Jhony beaming at the outpouring of love. In those moments the phrase "it takes a village" was demonstrated in all its fullness!

Gloria a Dios!  
Pastor Dave

**T**ell me an incredible story when the space between you and God was thin.

In that incredible moment...of being asked by your soul mate to get married, of hearing the news that you are having a baby, of sensing God's presence to hear a goodbye from a friend that died 20 years earlier, these are thin places. The breath between God and us is thin.

The Irish call these thin places. The veil between this world and the next is so sheer it is easy to step through.

Climbing in the mountains of Colorado leaves me breathless. Descending leaves me longing. Touring my family burial ground in Ireland allowed a connection that was inexplicably spirit-laced. Sustaining that is trickier.

The valleys are hard. Waiting for the engagement ring to appear for our hoped for 'happily ever after'—isn't as dark as the valley of living together in a pretend world. Waiting for a quadriplegic mother to die--is a dark valley far worse than the thin moment before she takes her last breath.

People lose sight of the mountain glimpse with God. It's human. We like the mountain high. We have our Peter, James, and John moments, and perhaps refer to them as once in a lifetime peaks that, like Charlie Brown, we don't think we will ever see again.

In a Peanuts comic strip, Lucy asks Charlie Brown. "Do you think that life has its peaks and valleys?" "Yes, I'm sure that it has," Charlie Brown says. "Then, that means that there must be one day above all others in each life that is the happiest, right?" asks Lucy.

"Yes, I guess that's probably true..."

"What if you have already had it?" Lucy asks, as Charlie Brown looks perplexed.

Could it be that the thin places are so plentiful that we don't recognize them as footprints of God but see them only as ordinary?

Thin places are ironic because there is no shortage.

In this Lenten Season, open your eyes to God's thin spaces all around you.

Blessings,  
Pastor Angela



**ASHES TO GO**

On Wednesday Morning, February 26th your pastoral team and several local ministers will be offering "Ashes to Go" a new approach to a centuries-old Christian tradition. Pastor Angela has discovered much rich meaning in this outreach in previous years. This will be the first annual downtown Ashes to Go in JCMO.

**Wednesday, February 26th, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.**

Pastor Angela and Pastor Dave invite you to find us (and/or any one of our ecumenical colleagues) on any of the following corners: High/Monroe, High/Madison or High/Jefferson. Walk/Scoot/Drive by and get your Ashes.

Ashes remind us of our identity...and this Ash Wednesday, we CELEBRATE that God "meets us where we are." Ashes to Go provides an opportunity for anyone who may have lost their connection to a faith community, or one who has never participated before. Bring your co-workers, neighbors, family, and yourself!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**March 4, 11, 18 & 25**

6:00 pm  
LENTEN VESPERS COMMUNION SERVICES  
Knox Hall  
Child care provided

**March 7**

(leaving at 9:30 am)  
TRIP TO BRANSON  
To see the 3:30 show of "Noah"  
Sight & Sound Theater, Branson

**MARCH 15**

Interested in Church Membership?  
Meet us in the Parlor at 11:00 am for membership information.

**March 26**

(leaving at 4:00 pm)  
TRIP TO SPRINGFIELD  
Presentation from Rev. William Barber, co-director of the Poor People's Campaign

**March 28**

9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
SPRING CLEAN UP OF THE CHURCH

**March 29**

10:45 am  
REV. DR. CLIFF CAIN'S PRESENTATION & BOOK SIGNING  
Chapel

Pastor Angela will be away from noon on 3/22 thru 3/27 for a Pastoral visit. Please call Pastor Dave.

Pastor Angela will also be away 2/28, 2/28 & 3/1 to Kansas.

**MARCH Birthdays**

- 1 - Fred Lamon
- 3 - Mary Corley
- 3 - Bill Ruprecht
- 3 - Xavier Andrews
- 5 - Jack Pletz
- 5 - Aidan Haugen
- 7 - Linda Phelps
- 7 - Emily Collins
- 8 - Caroline Wainaina
- 12 - Libby Pool
- 13 - Keith Brickey
- 13 - Krista Brickey
- 13 - Kurtis Brickey
- 13 - Tanner Haugen
- 14 - Ron Morley
- 16 - Steve Brennaman
- 18 - Bill Washburn
- 18 - Scott Englund
- 18 - Chris Nickolaus
- 18 - Jayla Anderson
- 20 - Rosemary Hutson
- 21 - Mackenzie Owens
- 22 - Lynn Ratchford
- 23 - Kyle Kittrell
- 25 - Debbie Wilson
- 25 - Pattie Burkhardt
- 26 - Mari Nickolaus
- 26 - Susan Lewis
- 28 - Carl Mosher
- 30 - Bob Busch
- 31 - Tim Gaines
- 31 - Debbie Engle

**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES**

Our opportunities to join in BIBLE STUDY include our **Sunday morning** Christian Education Classes at **8:30** and **10:45 am**, our **Monday at 5:15** class in the Church Library and our **Tuesday morning at 9:30** am class in the McAfee Room both will be studying *"Holy Solitude: Lenten Reflections with Saints, Hermits, Prophets, and Rebels"* by Heidi Haverkamp during the season of Lent. There is room for YOU in our Bible studies – room at the table and room to grow in faith!

**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST** at the Towne Grill at 7:00 am on Friday, March 20th. Good food, great fellowship and fantastic (sometimes true) stories!

**RETIRED ADULT FELLOWSHIP**

RETIRED ADULT FELLOWSHIP (RAF) enjoyed a wonderful meal, time of fellowship and a nostalgic and competitive version of *"Name That Tune"* led by Barbara Chilcutt in February. This month we will meet on Thursday, March 19th at 11:30. Please Note: Our RAF has set an Inclement Weather Policy that **"If the Public Schools are closed we will not meet."**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

On Sunday, February 2nd our Youth collected donations for our Food Pantry as part of the National Souper Bowl of Caring drive to help alleviate hunger in our community. We raised \$1135.00 and these funds will provide needed food for many in our area. The theme was *"Let's Tackle Hunger Together"* and we did our part to provide for our community neighbors in need!

**OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM** will use its March meeting time to attend the presentation by the Reverend William Barber, co-director of the Poor People's Campaign, in Springfield, MO on Thursday, March 26th. We will leave the church parking lot at 4:00 pm and take the Church Bus. If you are interested in going, please contact Pastor Dave.

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

- March 1** **Celebrating the Gifts of Women Sunday.** Women of FPC will lead worship at the morning, evening and Primrose worship services.
- March 8** **"Waist Deep in Alligators"**  
Genesis 12:1-4a
- March 15** **"In the Swamp. Spiritual Dehydration"** Exodus 17:1-7 & Romans 5:1-11
- March 22** Pastor Dave will preach from the Lectionary texts of Psalm 23 and Ephesians 5:8-14 as we consider that once we "were children of darkness" but now we are to love as "children of light" and do those things that are "pleasing to the Lord".
- March 29** **"(Fix Your Eyes on the Horizon Not on the Ground) Thinking Outside the Grave"** Romans 8:6-11 & John 11:1-45

**SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP**

In our Sunday evening worship (Sunday Night 5 Alive) we are focusing on **"Lessons From the Waters"**. Each week we will examine some of the lessons we can learn from the biblical texts and stories and each Worship experience will be followed by a wonderful meal and time of fellowship. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know many of our community neighbors!

**TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND THEATER**

We have tickets for the Sight and Sound Showing of **"NOAH"** in Branson on Saturday, March 7th – 3:30 pm showing. We will travel by Church Bus – or you may meet us there. We have 15 tickets and the cost is \$60.00 per ticket. We will leave the church at 9:30 am, eat lunch together in Branson, see the show and return home Saturday evening. See Elder Carol Scott or Pastor Dave to reserve a ticket (and let us know if you will be riding the Bus!) Currently we have sold our 15 tickets (but can purchase more if needed.)

**ANNUAL HALO DINNER AND AUCTION**

The annual auction is Friday, March 6th from 6:00 -10:30 pm at Capital Bluffs Event Center at Turkey Creek, 1616 Oil Well Rd., Jefferson City. Tickets are \$75.00 and can be purchased online at HALO, Jefferson City, MO. HALO provides housing – and compassionate love and care for homeless children in Jefferson City. HALO represents far more than food and shelter. It represents the day their entire life changed. At the JC HALO Home, the doors and the hearts of the Staff and volunteers are open to pregnant, parenting and non-parenting girls ages 16-21 and their children, who are in homeless or high-risk situations.

**PW CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2020**

- March 1**                      Gifts of Women Sunday.
- March 4**                      10:30 am Monthly Bible study. McAfee Room.
- March 11**                     1:30 pm Faith Circle. Heisinger Bluffs, Apt. 327.
- March 12**                     12:45 pm Afternoon Circle. Church Library.
- March 17**                     6:30 pm Coral Circle. Location TBD.
- March 25**                     10:30 am Kaffee Klatsch. HyVee Dining Room.

**NOTE:** In case of inclement weather, if Jefferson City schools close, PW activities will be either postponed or cancelled.

A hearty **THANK YOU!** to everyone who helped make PW's latest mission project a rousing success! Your generosity will enable us to donate much needed paper products to several worthy organizations in the Jefferson City area. Watch this space next month for information on our Spring mission project.

**ON THURSDAY, APRIL 30th**, the women of Missouri Union Presbytery will convene at the First Presbyterian Church of Boonville for our annual Spring Gathering. There will be a presentation by our synod representative, Rhoda Frasier; group activities; and a tasty luncheon. To register for the Gathering, just provide your name to Anne Schneider. The cost of the Gathering is \$10 – you may pay the fee up-front or at the door on the 30th. And there will be carpooling!

For additional information about the Gathering, contact Anne Schneider, Brenda Waters or your circle leader.

**It's never too early to make plans for the summer.** In mid-July, PW will making its annual trip to the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theater to see a production of the musical *"Sister Act."* Watch this space next month for information on how you can participate in this always enjoyable excursion.

Just a reminder that the Lenten season is upon us, and there are many worthwhile activities at FPC that **YOU** can take part in (Bible studies and Wednesday evening Vespers services, just to name two). Please prayerfully consider taking part in these gatherings that help bring us together as a church community.

**Conversation with Author  
Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain**

Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain, Parish Associate and Theologian in Residence, First Presbyterian Church, will discuss his 10th book *"Attunement: Living in Harmony with Nature"* on Sunday, March 29th, at 10:30 am in the Church's Chapel, 324 Madison, Jefferson City, Mo. In addition, Cain will hold a question and answer session with the audience and be available to sign books. Copies can be purchased at the event.

*Attunement* examines four spiritual figures throughout history who were dedicated in their own way to living in a healthier relationship with nature and to modeling that attitude and behavior for others. The book features 12th-century nun St. Hildegard of Bingen, St. Francis of Assisi, Pope Francis and 19th-century Japanese Buddhist monk Taigu Ryokan.

The writings of each individual emphasize that how we envision nature influences or determines how we interact with the natural world. "In order for life on earth to survive, we must alter dramatically the way we see our relationship with nature," Cain says.

The book, which Cain researched and wrote over a period of three years, is written more for a general audience than for academics. The person on the street and the religious person in the pew should be able to access and appreciate what he is attempting to convey.

"I am hoping the book will be helpful to persons of faith who believe, or could come to acknowledge, that the environment is a religious issue which the Church and public discourse must examine and embrace," Cain explains. "Indeed, in my opinion, a 'non-Green Christian' is a contradiction in terms. The Bible is replete with admonitions to care responsibly for the earth which God has created and placed in our hands."

In addition to his role at First Presbyterian Church, Cain is the Harrod-C.S. Lewis Professor of Religious Studies at Westminster College. He teaches courses at Westminster in world religions, religion and ecology, contemporary religious thought, religion and science, death and dying, the meaning of life and Holocaust studies. Missouri Governor Mike Parson appointed him to the state-wide Holocaust Education Awareness Commission in the fall of

**Continued on Page 6**

**EVERY SUNDAY**

- 8:30 am Adult Contemporary Class-3rd Floor  
 9:30 am Worship Service  
 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship - Knox Hall  
 10:45 am Christian Education for All Ages  
 5:00 pm Sunday Night 5 Alive Worship Service  
 5:45 pm Shared Meal in Knox Hall

**EVERY WEEK**

- 5:15 pm Monday - Lenten Study - Library  
 7:00 pm Monday - Boy Scouts Troop 2 - Gym  
 9:30 am Tuesday - Lenten Study - McAfee Room  
 1:30 pm Tuesday - Recorder Practice - Choir Room  
 1:30 pm Tuesday - Staff Meeting  
 6:00 pm Wednesday - Lenten Vesper Communion Service  
 6:30 pm Wednesday - Choir Practice  
 4:30 pm Thursday - FPC Pickleball - Gym

**Sunday, March 1**

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
 CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF WOMEN  
 SUNDAY**

- 2:00 pm Worship Service at Primrose Retirement Community

**Monday, March 2**

- 5:00 pm Facilities Committee - Knox Hall  
 6:30 pm Stephen Ministers - Parlor

**Tuesday, March 3**

- 5:00 pm Stewardship Committee - Library  
 6:00 pm Deacon Committees - Chapel  
 6:30 pm Board of Deacons - Chapel

**Wednesday, March 4**

- 9:30 am Meals on Wheels  
 10:30 am Presbyterian Women Bible Study - McAfee Room  
 6:00 pm Lenten Vespers Communion Service

**Thursday, March 5**

- 5:30 pm Worship Committee - Library

**Friday, March 6**

- 6:00 pm HALO Dinner & Auction - Capital Bluffs Event Center

**Saturday, March 7**

- 7:00 am Boy Scout Troop 2 Pancake Breakfast - Eagle's Club  
 8:00 am Scouting for Food - Area Grocery Stores  
 9:30 am Leaving for Branson - Sight & Sound Theater presentation of "Noah"

**Sunday, March 8****SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT****Monday, March 9**

- 10:00 am Hands for Mission - Chapel  
 4:30 pm Serve Supper at Salvation Army

**Tuesday, March 10**

- 6:30 pm Session Meets - Chapel

**Wednesday, March 11**

- 1:30 pm Presbyterian Women Faith Circle - Heisinger Bluffs, Apt. 327  
 4:30 pm Serve Supper at Salvation Army  
 6:00 pm Lenten Vespers Communion Service

**Thursday, March 12**

- 12:45 pm Presbyterian Women Afternoon Circle - Library  
 6:30 pm Rotary Club - Knox Hall  
 7:00 pm MUP Medicaid Expansion Forum - FPC Columbia

**Friday, March 13**

- 10:15 am Meals on Wheels

**Saturday, March 14**

- 11:30 am Serve Lunch at Ken Locke Apartments

**Sunday, March 15****THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

- 11:00 am New Member Informational Meeting - Parlor

**Monday, March 16**

- 4:30 pm Serve Supper at Salvation Army

**Tuesday, March 17****ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

- 6:00 pm Mission Committee - Library  
 6:30 pm Presbyterian Women Evening Circle - TBD

**Wednesday, March 18**

- 6:00 pm Lenten Vespers Communion Service

**Thursday, March 19**

- 11:30 am Retired Adults Fellowship - Knox Hall

**Friday, March 20**

- 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast - Towne Grill  
 6:30 pm Boy Scout Garage Sale (Set Up)

**Saturday, March 21**

- 7:00 am Boy Scout Troop 2 Garage Sale - Gym

**Sunday, March 22****FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT****Monday, March 23**

- 6:00 pm Faith Voices - Joshua House

**Wednesday, March 25**

- 10:30 am Ladies Kaffeeklatsch - HyVee  
 4:30 pm Serve Supper at Salvation Army  
 6:00 pm Lenten Vespers Communion Service

**Thursday, March 26**

- 4:00 pm Leave for Springfield - Poor People's Campaign

**Saturday, March 28**

- 9:00 am Spring Clean Up of the Church  
 11:30 am Serve Lunch at Ken Locke Apartments

**Sunday, March 29****FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

- 10:30 am Dr. Cliff Cain's presentation & book signing - Chapel

2019.

**Conversation with Author Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain (continued from Page 5)**

The event is free and open to the public. Parking is available behind First Presbyterian Church, 324 Madison St., Jefferson City, off Wall St. (between the church and Hawthorne Bank) Handicapped parking is available on Wall St. For more information, call First Presbyterian

**Easter Blooms/Food Pantry Donations**

I would like to purchase an Easter Bloom

(please select one)

In Honor of:     In Loving Memory of:

I would like to donate to the FPC Food Pantry in lieu of flowers.

(please select one)

In Honor of:     In Loving Memory of

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (payment & form can be put in the collection bag.)

\_\_\_ I will take my flower home after the Easter Service.

\_\_\_ I don't wish to take my flower, please give it to someone to bring them joy.

Easter Blooms are \$20.00/each.

**SUMMER CAMPS 2020**


Missouri Union Presbytery & Disciples of Christ are partnering up again to bring you another amazing camping experience.

For additional information:  
 Missouri Union Presbytery  
 Youth & Outreach Ministry  
[youthoutreach@mupresbytery.org](mailto:youthoutreach@mupresbytery.org)

- Camp:** CYF (Christian Youth Fellowship)  
**Grades:** Completed 9th – 12th  
**Dates:** June 7th – 12th  
**Cost:** \$350  
**Location:** Jo-Ota – Clarence, MO
- Camp:** Our Bodies, Our Faith  
**Grades:** Completed 8th  
**Dates:** June 12th – 20th  
**Cost:** \$350  
**Location:** Mo Val - Union, MO
- Camp:** Chirho  
**Grades:** Completed 6th – 8th  
**Dates:** July 20th – 25th  
**Cost:** \$350  
**Location:** Jo-Ota – Clarence, MO
- Camp:** Elementary  
**Grades:** Completed 2nd – 5th  
**Dates:** \*August 3rd – 7th  
**Cost:** \$350  
**Location:** Jo-Ota – Clarence, MO
- Camp:** Try-It  
**Grades:** Completed K – 2nd  
**Dates:** August 7th – 9th  
**Cost:** Child - \$90, Adult - \$120  
**Location:** Jo-Ota – Clarence, MO

\* Dates may be adjusted

**CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!**  
[Facebook.com/mupministry](https://www.facebook.com/mupministry)



**BOY SCOUTS**

**TROOP 2 PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
 March 7th  
 7:00 am - 11:30 am at the Eagle's Club (Missouri Blvd)

**SCOUTING FOR FOOD ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE**  
 March 7th  
 8:00 am - 2:00 pm  
 at Area Grocery Stores

**TROOP 2 GARAGE SALE**  
 March 21st  
 7:00 am - 12:00 pm  
 FPC Gym

Donations for the sale will be accepted on Monday nights at 7:00 pm at the FPC McCarty Street Entrance.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
**"RISE! TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK"**

All women are invited to participate in World Day of Prayer at **1:00pm on Friday, March 6th, at the Catholic Pastoral Center (2207 West Main).** Church Women United host this annual prayer service to celebrate God's goodness and pray for the needs of others around the world. Join women from 12 other Christian congregations in Jefferson City for a worship service prepared by the women of Zimbabwe entitled *"Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk."*

**TAKE STOCK IN OUR YOUTH**

It is time to purchase "STOCK" in our Youth to "share" in the mission and ministry and work and learning of our Mid High, Senior High and College Youth as they participate in Mission Trips and Conferences in 2020. A "stock" is \$25.00 and you may purchase as many as you would like to support our youth. Your "dividends" include postcards from the youth while on their trips, a "no cost to you" lunch on Youth Sunday and a "Stock Certificate". As one member of our faith family said, "This is one stock which will never go down in value!"

**"NEED A COAT, TAKE ONE; HAVE AN EXTRA COAT, LEAVE ONE"** – Most of the coats remaining on our coat rack on the porch of the church are "light-weight". If you have winter coats to donate bring them by anytime – hangers are available on the rack.

**PERU MISSION TRIP 2020!** Our dates for our 2020 Mission Trip to the Amazon Jungle of Peru to work in partnership with our friends in Tamshiyacu and Iquitos have been set.

Week I	June 26-July 4
Week II	July 3-11
Two Weeks	June 26-July 11

Cost is \$2600.00 for one week and a total of \$3200.00 for two weeks and includes airfare, room and board, materials for use with construction projects, services of the Medical Missions of Iquitos Staff and translators.

**We still have space for a couple more folks on this trip! Some scholarship funds are available for this trip for high school/college/graduate students.**

#### **INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER**

In order to help make it possible for more of our members – particularly our high school and college young adults – to have the experience of a mission trip to work with one of our international partners in mission, we are holding a **"LEAP Into Mission Dinner"** on Saturday, February 29 (LEAP Day 2020) from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. An "International Dinner" will be served and stories and information about our International Mission partnerships will be shared. Donations for the meal and donations to assist with scholarships for youth and young adults joining our 2020 Mission Teams will be accepted. Our Fair Trade/ Mission Sale items will also be available as these sales benefit our mission partners.

**MALAWI MISSION TRIP 2020!** The dates for our Mission Trip (and International Habitat Build) in Nepal have been set. Kyle Kittrell will be leading this trip and Pastor Angela will be a participant on the trip. Dates are:

July 13-22	Mission in Northern Malawi
July 23-25	Safari
July 26-August 2	International Habitat Build

During the first week participants will visit the feeding programs we support at the Community-Based Child Care Centers, churches, clinics and nursing housing we have helped build, worship with our mission partners in the Synod of Livingstonia including Reverend Levi Nyondo and more. See Kyle Kittrell for more information.

**NEPAL** – Although we are not planning a Mission Trip to Nepal in 2020 – we are planning a trip to Kathmandu to work with our mission partners there in the Fall of 2021. We are currently in need of additional sponsors for children in Nepal – so that they can attend

school. The cost to sponsor a child for a year is only \$450. See Carol or Jeff Sanders or Pastor Dave for more information.

**UKRAINE** - Would you like to be a pen-pal with a child in the Ukraine – one of the Roma children who are part of our ongoing mission partnership there? If so, please contact Pastor Dave for more information. Also, **see Page 10 for an update from David Pandy.**

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE – CHURCH AND COMMUNITY**

##### **COMMON GROUND**

Common Ground Community Ministry provides many forms of assistance to our community neighbors. Our faith family has been a partner in this ministry since its beginning. Our Church "covers" the reception area for the Common Ground Community Building on Friday mornings and we could use a few more volunteers in our rotation. We work in teams of two from 9:00 to Noon, answering the phone and assisting walk-ins who are coming to see the social worker or apply for assistance. If you'd like to help with this wonderful local mission, please let Pastor Dave know!

##### **LUNCH AT KEN LOCKE APARTMENTS**

Our Deacons coordinate the serving of a **Lunch at the Ken Locke Apartments** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Saturday each month. Three Volunteers are needed, one to provide the meat/main dish, one to provide a salad or vegetable and one to provide a dessert – for about 20 people. The food is prepared at home and brought ready to serve at 11:30 am. If you would like more information or would like to help with a meal in 2020, contact Deacons Deb Denning or Cecil Caulkins.

##### **Faith Family members need a RIDE to Church!**

Our Deacons coordinate rides for members of our Faith Family who no longer drive to get to Worship and Sunday School each Sunday morning – and occasionally to other church activities. With a smaller number of Deacons now on the Board of Deacons, we are looking for some folks who would be willing to join our Driving Team and be on the schedule to provide rides. Those who ride are so thankful – and a delight to share time with on the drive. See Deacon Moderator Cecil Caulkins or Pastor Dave if you would like more information – or would like to sign up to drive! (In most cases there is no need to use the Church Bus – you can use your own vehicle!) Also, if you would be willing to drive the Church Bus to pick up folks for our Sunday Night 5 Alive Worship, please contact Kyle Kittrell or Pastor Dave.



## A Summary of February 11, 2020 Session Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church was called to order at 6:30 pm by Rev. Angela Madden. The Session meeting started with prayers for those in need of healing in the congregation.

### Clerk's Report

- A motion was made to approve May 12th as the date for the Deacons and the Session to meet as required by the Book of Order. This was approved.
- The Teaching and Ruling Elders participated in a Hospitality Crawl through approximately half of the church, attempting to see the church as a newcomer might see it, with an eye toward improving the first impressions visitors have when coming to the church.

### Head of Staff/Moderator's Report

- A motion was made and approved to create an ad hoc Security Committee with two volunteer congregants to co-lead (Jay Bosch and Nick Lepper).
- The moderator requested that Session members consider those members that they had not seen in worship for six months, and reflect on the ways that we might communicate with these members and encourage their regular return to worship.

### Associate Pastor's Report

- A motion was made and approved that a plaque be purchased and placed in the Gym of First Presbyterian Church Jefferson City to acknowledge that at the time of the renovation of the gym the decision was made to name it the "Arthur Hughes Memorial Gym" and that a dedication service be held on a date set following the purchase of the plaque.
- A motion was made and approved that the church bus be used to take a group from our Faith Family and others in the community to hear Rev. William Barber (co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign) to speak at the Central Christian Church (Springfield) on Mar. 26th at 7:00 pm.
- Session approved the motion that Greg & Vicki Schildmeyer and others will take our Fair Trade/Mission Sale items to sell at the Missouri Union Presbytery meeting at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Marshall, MO on Feb. 22nd.

### Committee Reports

Personnel - A motion was made and approved that the use of the Church van for the transportation of children be immediately suspended until it is determined to be adequate and appropriate for that purpose. A motion was made and approved to authorize the Facilities Committee to expend up to \$10,000 for the repair or replacement of the seats and/or seat belts by the dealer or manufacturer such that the Church van would be safe for the transportation of children and adults. It was also approved that up to the \$10,000 be made available to fund the previous motion from the Estate Undesignated Fund.

Stewardship - Elder Brennaman moved and received approval of the Jan. 2020 financial report of receipts and expenses.

	<u>January</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$61,462	\$61,462	8.89%
Expenses	\$53,293	\$53,293	7.71%

### Old Business

A motion was made and approved to elect Elders Caplinger and McPherson to serve as Presbytery Delegates for the remainder of 2020, with Elder Weinert to serve as an alternate.

### New Business and Upcoming Events

- Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26th) 6:00 pm Lenten Service with Communion
- Ashes To Go from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm on Ash Wednesday at three different High Street intersections, with our pastoral team and ecumenical colleagues.
- Security Training (Feb. 23rd @ 1:00 - 3:30 pm, with childcare provided).
- Deadline for Newsletter is Feb. 20th.

The Session adjourned at 8:45 pm following a prayer by Pastor Angela in the sanctuary.

#### **THE CAPITAL AREA INTERFAITH**

**ALLIANCE** is sponsoring the *Festival of Faiths III* on Saturday, April 4th from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm at the First Christian Church (327 E. Capitol Street, Jefferson City) on the theme of **"Religion in the Public School"**. Cost is \$15.00 and includes lunch. Registration is required - here is the registration link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LXaNTTxn6QEUsB\\_L3jnFp-I193Dhx7YibILgt9k-Tak/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LXaNTTxn6QEUsB_L3jnFp-I193Dhx7YibILgt9k-Tak/edit). For more information contact [Cap.Area.Interfaith.Alliance@gmail.com](mailto:Cap.Area.Interfaith.Alliance@gmail.com).

**MISSOURI UNION PRESBYTERY EDUCATIONAL  
EVENT OPPORTUNITIES**

During each Stated Meeting of Missouri Union Presbytery there is time built in for an "Educational Event" – a speaker, program or workshops to help our elders and pastors delve deeper into an area of ministry, mission, theology or denominational programs which are vital to our health as a Presbytery. Members of our Faith Family presented a program on "Short Term Mission Trips in February and two more events for 2020 have been scheduled:

- Tuesday, May 19th – place to be determined – **Rodger Nishioka**, Director of Adult Educational Ministries at Prairie Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, KS and previously Professor of Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary. (Specific topic to be determined.)
- Tuesday, November 17th at First Presbyterian in Kirksville – **J. Herbert Nelson** (who has been with us here at FPC and preached for us here in the past), Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church, USA. (Specific topic to be determined.)



On March 26th the Poor People's Campaign will be holding a "Mass Meeting" in Springfield, Missouri, with its national co-chairs, Presbyterian Minister Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis and Disciples of Christ minister, Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II. Launched in 2018, the Poor People's Campaign was conceived as an effort to revive the original Poor People's Campaign of Dr. Martin Luther King back in 1968 and to continue the work towards ending the interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, the war economy/militarism and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism. Some may recall the Campaign's "40 Days of Action" in the summer of 2018, during which there were weekly marches and rallies in Jefferson City and other state capital cities. The PCUSA has endorsed the principles of the Poor People's Campaign. More on the demands of the Poor People's Campaign can be read at <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/about/>. This year's efforts will culminate in a Mass Poor People's Assembly and Moral March on Washington, D.C. in June.

Our Social Justice Ministry Team is planning a trip to Springfield to hear from Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis and

Rev. Dr. William Barber and other speakers on these important issues and the need to revive the morals of our country to combat poverty and other injustices. If you'd like to join in this trip, please let Pastor Dave know! The Mass Meeting is scheduled to run from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm that evening. Transportation will be provided.

**MEDICAID EXPANSION FORUM**

Missouri Union Presbytery's Peacemaking and Public Witness Mission Team is providing a Medicaid Expansion Forum on Thursday, March 12th at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia (116 Hitt Street) at 7:00 pm. Get your questions answered about Missouri's own Medicaid program, the likely impact of the Medicaid Expansion Initiative, and what guidance our beliefs and Christian principles may offer. If you'd like a ride, contact Anne Schneider.

**JOIN THE PRESBYTERY SUMMER CHOIR!**

If you like to sing (or play piano accompaniment) and would like to share your talents with others in our Presbytery, you are invited to join the Missouri Union Presbytery Summer Choir! Members of the MUP Summer Choir will visit several churches over the summer to provide special music. We've been visiting churches generally too small to have a choir during the year, so it will be a special worship service for everyone. Join the fun, and let's make music together! See Anne Schneider for information or to express your interest.



**A NOTE FROM DAVID PANDY**

Dear Dave and Mission Committee,  
Many thanks for your email and your faith family's financial support. Just today did my brother in Toronto inform me that the cheque which you sent arrived in his mailbox in Toronto. It is a most timely gift as just last week did the kindergarten for Roma children in the Nagydobrony south encampment run out of firewood. As it was the kindergarten was not operating for the last two weeks because the state health authorities had closed all schools and kindergartens because of the large number of children who had contracted influenza [although many of us suspect this is just a ploy for the state to save on school heating costs]. With your support we shall now be able to purchase enough firewood for this kindergarten to last until the warmer weather comes [which may well happen sooner than expected seeing how very mild this "winter" has been thus far].

Our family spent five days of the Christmas period in my wife's home village in Transylvania [presently part of Rumania].

The Lord be with you,  
David P-Sz

**CHURCH OF CENTRAL AFRICA  
PRESBYTERIAN  
SYNOD OF LIVINGSTONIA**

**Report on the Utilization of Funds**

Background

In the month of December & January, the CCAP Health Coordination Office received funding from the 1st Presbyterian Church of Warrensburg and the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This money has been utilized jointly to meet the operational needs of the office.

Introduction

The CCAP Synod of Livingstonia promotes and provides health services to 4 of the 6 districts in Northern Malawi. The work is done in both the semi urban and rural areas but the majority being in the rural and hard to reach areas of the North.

Areas visited

1. Community Based Distributing Agents (CBDAs)  
In January, the Coordination Office visited the communities where the Community volunteers are providing family planning methods to people in the villages. This started way back in 1992 in order to reduce the distances of people traveling to the hospitals. The Department through its hospitals trains Community Volunteers so that they can be going door to door within the reach of their villages to educate and provide these family planning methods. This initiative has increased the uptake of family planning and also reduced the number of unplanned pregnancies. The Synod of Livingstonia was the first to initiate this approach and it was later adopted by the Malawi government.

During this visit to the community, the Synod Health Director and her team went to see the progress of the work and also to appreciate the challenges the volunteers are facing. It was noted that there is much progress and many people are accessing the family planning methods. The one success is that there are male, female and young CBDAs and it has become easy when each of the groups wants to access family planning they are able to approach their peers. The visit this time was done at Dunduzu community.

2. Youth Groups

The young people are an important cadre in Malawi as the country is youthful. Young people are performing many activities to disseminate messages of health. They meet as youths to share messages regarding HIV & AIDS, sexual reproductive health and education.

These are done through drama, debate, songs, sports and poems, etc. The visit was done at Euthini and we met the youths at the church and school. The youths portrayed their work and activities in various ways. The youths were encouraged and also lessons were given on various ways. The young people have been very active in reaching out to other youths so that messages can be spread. The one positive thing at Euthini is that the church as also organized itself to help the

youths spiritually through the Pastors fraternal. They are also paying school fees for the needy youths who are in the youth clubs. The teachers are taking a very active role in being with the children. The reports are showing that because of the youth clubs, there is a reduction of child marriages, unplanned pregnancies and criminal abortions.

Purchase of medications and supplies

Almost all supplies and medications are in short supply in our hospitals. The hospitals struggle to make ends meet and meet the needs of the patients and clients.

Hospital visits

Nurses and clinicians are monitored in their work and support is also given where need be. In the month of December visits were made to Ekwendeni hospital to deal with disciplinary issues with management as well as to monitor patient care.

Car insurance

The 2019 vehicle insurance had not been paid, with the coming in of the two chunks of money; we managed to make a part payment of the insurance to make the car road worthy. We are grateful that our insurers managed to provide us with an insurance disc despite not paying the full amount.

Staff emoluments

The Coordination Office staffs are lagging behind in receiving their salaries due to lack of funding. At receipt of the money, some staffs have been covered to receive all their arrears except the Synod Health Director who is still having two months of her 6 months unpaid salaries. This has put a smile and also encouraged staff in this difficult month where there is great demands in the payment of school fees, food is scarce and prices are high, purchase of fertilizers, etc. We are grateful ☺☺.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**KNIGHTS OF  
NORTH CASTLE:  
QUEST FOR THE  
KING'S ARMOR**

**Vacation Bible School  
June 1st - 5th  
8:30 am - 11:30 am  
(early drop off at  
7:45 am)**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
324 MADISON STREET  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101  
return service requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 145  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

On the web at [www.fpcjcmo.org](http://www.fpcjcmo.org)

Also follow us on:



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### "SAFETY IN PLACES OF WORSHIP"



26 FPC faith family members joined a crowd of 55 in a 3 hour Church Security 'Safety in Places of Worship' and Armed Shooter Response Training on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Event was hosted in Knox Hall and 4 Staff participated (Diane, Marilyn, Pastor Angela, and LeAnne) and 7 Elders (Steve Brennaman, Christa Johnston, Dave Epema, Sue Nichols, Jan Haviland, Shelley Swoyer, and Dan McPherson). Eight churches participated: First Christian, First Baptist, Second Baptist, First United Methodist, Memorial Baptist, Auxvasse Presbyterian and First Presbyterian. Photos courtesy of Don Sisson.