



Lift Off

Opening Meditation

A small chapel on the Mount of Olives marks the traditional site of Jesus' ascension, but it's also the launching pad for the church's mission. Jesus' final instructions to his disciples on completing that mission can be boiled down to three ideas: word, waiting and witnessing.

Graduate Celebration

May 21, 2023

9:30am

First Presbyterian Church

324 Madison Street

fpcjcmo.org

(573) 636-2149

CHIMES "BRINGING THE LIGHT AND WORD TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD"

WORDS OF WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Angela Madden

(Faith Family members may introduce their guests and welcome new faces and please note your name in the Friendship Pad so that we might better know and welcome one another)

PRELUDE

Dr. Natasia Sexton, Pianist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jodi Hardman

Leader: As we gather together this morning, a warm welcome is extended to all.

Especially those who are worshipping at First Presbyterian Jefferson City for the first time or who have returned after an absence.

People: Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together.

Leader: We come to celebrate Christ's ascension, our Father.

People: We remember that his physical removal from earth made possible the coming of the Holy Spirit, who is our companion at all times and in all places.

Leader: We glorify God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. One God in three manifestations.

People: Therefore, we thank you, God, that you are ever-present and ever blessing us. In Christ's name. Amen.

*HYMN # 392 Jesus, We Are Here

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Jodi Hardman

Holy God, again and again we need to be reminded of our true home. The world continually tugs at us to believe that we belong here, that this is all there is, that hope and fulfillment can be found in what the world offers. We know the truth, Lord, but we forget. We know that you are the source of our life and breath. We know that every good gift we have comes from you. We know that in you we have redemption and forgiveness and are fully known and completely loved. Our true home is in you. Help us to remember. Help us to trust. Thank you for your grace and compassion that continually draw us back home. For the sake of Christ, we pray responsively our confession...

*CONFESSION (Responsive)

Jodi Hardman

Leader: Proclaim the kingdom of God, O people!

People: God's reign has begun and will continue for all eternity.

Leader: God's salvation purposes are at work.

People: God is redeeming the earth and all that is in it!

Leader: As God's people, we are kingdom agents, leavening and salting the world.

People: We shine God's light to dispel darkness.

Leader: We love friend and enemy alike and serve our neighbors both near and far.

People: When we forgive, pursue justice, and show compassion, God's kingdom breaks forth.

Leader: Proclaim the kingdom of God, O people!

People: God's reign has begun and we are kingdom citizens!

(A time of silence to contemplate these words and how they apply to us personally and as a community of faith)

***ASSURANCE**

Rev. Angela Madden

***GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

***SHARING THE SMILING EYES OF PEACE AND THE WORDS OF HOPE WITH
THOSE AROUND YOU**

***SHOUT OUT TO THE KIDS** *(We sing Jesus Loves Me as the children gather at the children's area)*

Rev. Angela Madden

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Angela Madden

SCRIPTURE Isa 45: 1-7

Jodi Hardman

PSALTER LESSON Psalm 21: 1-7

Jodi Hardman

SPECIAL MUSIC Walk Worthy by *Joseph M. Martin*

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE 2 Acts 1: 6-14

Rev. Angela Madden

SERMON LIFT OFF!

Rev. Angela Madden

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Brief Statement of Faith

The same spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church

CELEBRATION OF THE GRADUATES IN A LEGACY VIDEO

LITANY FOR THE GRADUATES

GRATITUDE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Angela Madden

OFFERTORY MUSIC

SHARING THE OFFERING *(As we experience the beauty of the music, we have an opportunity to place our
tithes, pledges, offerings in the baskets that are passed)*

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***BLESSING THE OFFERING**

Rev. Angela Madden

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

***HYMN # 542**

God Be With You (hold hands as desired)

(Beadle come to table)

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Angela Madden

As Jesus was lifted up and disappeared in a cloud, the disciples were asked a question: "Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go."

In the meantime, friends, while we wait for his return, there is work to be done. Go. Go to share the love of Christ, to bind the wounds of the brokenhearted, to be peacemakers, to tell what you yourselves have seen and heard: that Jesus Christ offers forgiveness and salvation to all. Amen.

***ThreeFold AMEN**

"TAKING THE LIGHT AND WORD INTO THE WORLD"

POSTLUDE

Dr. Natasia Sexton, Pianist

**If you are interested in learning more about this faith family or
joining by transfer or reaffirmation of membership please contact
Rev. Angela Madden (amadden@fpcjcmo.org) or
573-636-2149 ext. 102**

Graduation Litany 2023

Pastor Angela: The Young Prophet Jeremiah heard God tell him “For I know the plans I have for you, plans for you to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

All: Today, these five spectacular young people begin new chapters in their lives as they step out into God’s future.

Pastor Angela: Today, Abigail, Jayla, Katie also begin new chapters in their adult lives as Living disciples of Jesus Christ.

All: And we as a congregation begin a new chapter as well. We recall memories have how these remarkable young people have blessed our lives. We cherish the way that we have interacted with them. We grieve when folks are called away to college and new careers.

Pastor Angela:

*During your time with us, we have laughed together, cried together,
worshipped together, prayed together.*

*We have hoped together, dreamed together, worked together, shared food and
fellowship, offered care together.*

*We bless you, now, with gratitude and sadness mixed together in all
sorts of strange ways.*

Pastor Angela: In blessing these graduates, we ask God to grant them safe passage and new opportunities for witnessing to the love of Jesus. We ask that God would always bring them to a faith family where each can continue his or her servant leadership.

All: With God's help, we will pray for God's vision for your life. Share your plans, with us.

(Any who would like are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands)

Let us form a link of love around this sanctuary now. Let us feel God's Spirit strengthening us and Abigail, Jayla and Katie as each embarks on the world.

Our English Word 'comfort' comes from the Latin confortare which means to strengthen. The fort hidden within is also found within words like fortify and fortitude.

Pastor Angela: Often we imagine the act of comforting to be little more than soothing hurt feelings, stroking another's head and saying 'it will be okay.

Isaiah 40:22 God stretches out the heavens like a canopy and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

Prayer: In one moment we saw Abigail, Jayla as Katie, as Toddlers/preschoolers learning to walk, talk, explore your world and lead. Now, we see them as adults—thank you for loaning each to us these past 18 years to nurture in the faith. Abigail, Jayla and Katie belong to you, God, and we acknowledge and commit that we will pray for each as they move forward in their lives—fulfilling your calling.

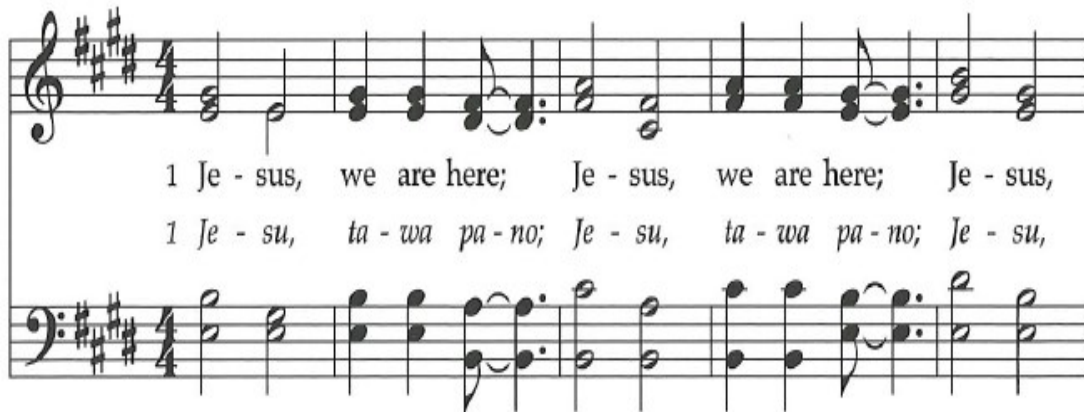
Presentation of the Gifts

The entire faith family is invited to shower these exceptional young people with your love and best wishes during our singing of "God be with YOU" as we depart to Fellowship after worship today.

Jesus, We Are Here

392

Jesu, tawa pano



1 Je - sus, we are here; Je - sus, we are here; Je - sus,
1 Je - su, ta - wa pa - no; Je - su, ta - wa pa - no; Je - su,

Leader: Wel - come, Je - sus.

Mam - bo Je - su.



we are here; we are here for you.
ta - wa pa - no; ta - wa pa - no, mu zi - ta re - nyu.

2 Savior,... 3 Teacher,... 4 Spirit,...

When coming to worship involves long and possibly dangerous travel, "we are here" voices a powerful commitment as well as a desire to build community with those who have gathered. Some of that meaning can be grasped if this song is sung in parts, especially in the original Shona.

TEXT and MUSIC: Patrick Matsikenyiri, 1990

Text and Music © 1990, 1996 Patrick Matsikenyiri (admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBCMUSIK)

JESUS, TAWA PANO

Irregular

542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:
 vide you:
 round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 fore you:

After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

**First Presbyterian Church
Weekly Calendar of Events
May 21 - May 28**

Sunday, May 21st - Graduation Celebration

8:30 am - Nursery opens
8:30 am - Contemporary Adult Class
9:15 am - Graduates in Knox Hall greeting & sharing
9:30 am - Worship Service with Graduation Celebration
10:30 am - Coffee Fellowship with Graduation Cake
10:30 am - Calvin Class - Adult Sunday School - McAfee
10:30 am - Graduation Celebration Fellowship
10:45 am - Sunday School for Kids & Youth - Gym - Snacks provided
10:45 am - Adult Study: The Grace of Les Misérables- Parlor
5:00 pm - Sunday Night Live - Service & Supper

Monday, May 22nd

10:00 am - Hands for Mission
5:30 pm - Bible Study

Tuesday, May 23rd

10:00 am - Bible Study
1:00 pm - Recorder Practice - Choir Room
1:00 pm - FPC Food Pantry - Knox Hall
5:00 pm - Table Tennis
5:30 pm - Missions Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 24th

10:30 am - Kaffeeklatsch - Hyvee Dining Room
6:30 pm - Choir Practice

Thursday, May 25th

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Pickleball
6:30 pm - Fellowship Committee Meeting

Friday, May 26th

Saturday, May 27th

Sunday, May 28th - Wear Red & Bring gifts of Food

8:30 am - Nursery opens
8:30 am - Contemporary Adult Class
9:30 am - Worship Service w/ Communion
10:30 am - Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am - Calvin Class - Adult Sunday School - McAfee
10:30 am - Graduation Celebration Fellowship
6:00 pm - Community Pentecost Celebration - Riverside Amphitheatre
Pastor Angela is preaching

Rev. Angela will be away for Continuing Education May 21 @ 3:00pm - May 29. Rev. Bobbie Karchner will be on call. You may reach Rev. Bobbie at 660-596-3954 by phone or text.

Sunday, May 21 we will resume 5:00pm Worship and a community meal at First Presbyterian Church, 324 Madison St.

Please join us for praise and fellowship!

May 14 will be our last Sunday Evening meal delivery!

FPC Faith Family leader and Treasurer Jan Haviland was selected today as a Zonta 2023 Woman of Achievement! We are thrilled for you and your path of discipleship and leadership! Cheers to you and our other excellent nominee and Elder Carla Ahrens! You ladies are inspiring as you lead without limits!!



Baptism of Theodore Dean Best May 14, 2023



Note from Stewardship ~

The Stewardship Team met on May 15th and joyfully received a Sanctuary+ update! As of Sunday - May 14 there has been **\$271,495.71** in cash donations received. We are grateful for these contributions to our Capital Campaign for the sanctuary ceiling repairs and replacement of our aging air conditioning units. Thank you!

We have also received **\$119,750** in pledges to support the Campaign and are most appreciative. Two pledge cards were submitted without names the weekend of May 13/14, and we send our thanks to these anonymous donors. However, if by chance omitting the name was an oversight, we are hopeful that the donors will contact the church office and identify their pledge card.

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE @ FIVE IS BACK!

And We Need YOUR Help!

We are asking for volunteers to serve as drivers and ushers.

DRIVERS will pick up community members without transportation from 4:30 to 5 p.m. and return them to their homes after the worship service and light supper is finished, usually at approximately 6:30 p.m. The church van is available or personal vehicles may be used also.

USHERS will greet worshipers as they arrive, pass out bulletins, help with collecting prayer requests and the offering, and take attendance during the worship service. They will also be responsible for ensuring that any funds collected are safely secured in the church office. We would ask that Ushers arrive at 4:45pm to begin greeting people as they arrive.

If you would be willing to assist in this ministry, contact Anne Schneider at (573) 418-1853 or AKRSCH@aol.com or Brenda Waters at (573) 659-8109 or bkwandthecat@peoplepc.com.

LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO HELP THIS MINISTRY HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN THE JEFFERSON CITY COMMUNITY!



The Church Directories are set
to ship to FPC by **June 2!!**
Thanks to Jaymee and her
expertise it has cost the church
\$0.00!



*The members of the
First Christian Church invite you to the*

Installation Service
of

Dr. Michael T. Dunn, D. Min.

as Senior Minister

Sunday, May 21, 2023 - 2:00PM

Reception Immediately Following

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
327 East Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, Missouri

**ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR
VBS 2023!**

**You can make your suggested VBS donation
online also!**

WWW.FPCJCMO.ORG



Please contact VBS Coordinator, Natalie Mendez at 573-694-3791 to be apart of a STELLAR CREW & KIDS! - make sure to tell her who you are :)



SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM - FREE LUNCHES FOR KIDS



First Presbyterian will host Food 4 Kids again this summer. We are in need of a few more people to help as weekly coordinators. For more information, please contact Shelley Swoyer.

Save the Dates

May 19 - Bob Jones Celebration of Life - Trimble Funeral Home
May 19 - Youth Lock-In
May 21 - Graduation Celebration
May 21 - Last day of Sunday School
May 22 - Hands for Mission Sewing
May 23 - Mission Committee Meeting
May 24 - Kaffee Klatsch - Hy-Vee Dining Room
May 25 - Fellowship Committee Meeting
May 28 - Rev. Bobbie Karchner preaching
**May 28 - Community Pentecost Worship - 6pm -Amphitheatre - Pastor Angela is sharing
in leadership by preaching**
May 29 - Church Office Closed - Memorial Day
May 31 - Care for Creation

↓ **REMINDER!** ↓



We have SIX middle school age youth going to camp at Westminster Woods June 12 - 16!! We NEED YOUR HELP preparing care packages for the youth. Bring your snack, surprise, prayer card, fun item, etc to the office by June 1!

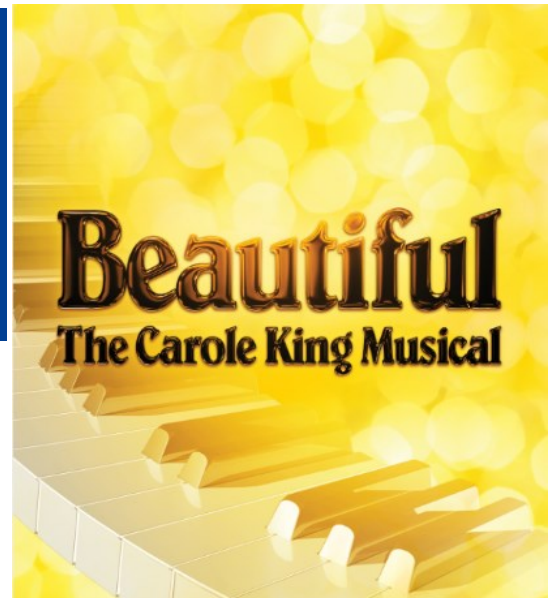
Save the Date

Founders Day Celebration

June 11 at 11:00 am



Sunday, July 9th
Lunch & Matinee



Before she was hit-maker Carole King — she was Carole Klein, a spunky, young songwriter from Brooklyn with a unique voice. **Beautiful** tells the inspiring true story of one woman's remarkable journey from teenage songwriter to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. From the string of pop classics Carole King wrote for the biggest acts in music, to her own life-changing, chart-busting success, **Beautiful** takes you back to where it all began—and takes you on the ride of a lifetime. Enjoy over two dozen pop classics, including "You've Got a Friend," "One Fine Day," "Up on the Roof," "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling," "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," and "Natural Woman."

Join Presbyterian Women and friends for a trip up to the Lyceum Theatre on July 9th! We'll leave directly from church after morning worship, and eat lunch along the way or in Arrow Rock. The matinee begins at 2:00 pm.

Tickets are \$49 if we have fewer than 10 participants (\$47 for 62+) and \$42 if we have 10 or more participants. Lunch will cost between \$15 - \$25 (pay on your own).

Please get your reservation and ticket money to Brenda Waters by **NOON on May 28th (Pentecost)**. You can email Brenda at bkwandthecat@peoplepc.com or call at 573-659-8109.

Join us for a fun road trip – bring a friend!

SAVE THE DATE

POOL party

Saturday, July 15 | 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Memorial Park Family Aquatic Center

120 Binder Dr.

Jefferson City, MO 65109

**Plan now to bring you, yours, and your
friends! Lets make memories at the pool!
Treats will be offered, fun kids play area,
and zero entry access!
Life guards will be on duty!**



COMMUNITY PENTECOST CELEBRATION

SPONSORED BY
CHRISTIAN MINISTERIAL FELLOWSHIP

WHEN

Sunday, May 28th, 2023

Volunteer Fair: 5 - 6 PM

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN JEFFERSON CITY

- River City Habitat for Humanity
- Common Ground
- Transformational Housing
- Jefferson City Room At the Inn
- Catholic Charities
- Central Missouri Community Action
- & Many More

Worship Service: 6 - 7 PM

WHERE

**Ellis Porter Riverside Park
Amphitheater**

1425 Riverside Dr, Jefferson City, MO



**FREE
ADMISSION**

**WHEN THE
SPIRIT COMES...**

Questions?

Please Contact:

Pastor Mark
Kiekhaefer

markk@livinghopejc.org

(573) 893-3359

THE HEALING HOUSE AND NEW BEGINNINGS INC.

ANNUAL HOUSE FUNDRAISER

Live Testimonies!
Live Music by: Bxker

WHEN:
MAY 23, 2023

5:00 - 7:00 pm

WHERE:
Memorial Park Pavilion
115 Memorial Park Dr.
Jefferson City, MO 65109

**Questions &
Prepurchase tickets:**

Heather 417-559-7068

Becky 573-418-3012

Kelli 573-291-31-24

Silent Auction & Raffle Items by:

Classic Buildings, Shirks, GQT, Bandana's,
American Shoe, Turkey Creek Golf,
Tropical Tans, Carrie's Hallmark, Scholastic,
Downtown Book & Toy, HMG Sales,
Creative Escape, Mod Pizza, Snob Shop,
River City Florist... AND MORE!

MEAL PRICE:
\$15 a Plate

Children 8 and under
FREE: hotdog, chips

PLATE INCLUDES:
Colton's Pulled Pork
Sandwich topped with
Coleslaw.

Home Made Chips,
Pickle , Drink & Dessert

FOOD SPONSOR:
***Colton's**
Steakhouse- Dinner

***Landmark Recovery**
Center-Desserts

BENEFITING:
The Healing House and
New Beginnings Inc.
-Healing House
-Bethel House
-Jochebed's House