

First Presbyterian Church
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Manhattan, KS 66502

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FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Manhattan, KS

November 2016

Headline News

It's the Great Pumpkin, Presby Kids!





Rev. McConnell

Stewardship Role Models

Role models, as we know, are not only an important part of growing up they are also important part of every stage of every life. It's not unusual to develop additional role models over the span of life, considering the number of people we meet and the number of experiences we share with others. As Paul called the Christian faith an "upward calling," meaning there's always more to do and more to accomplish, so do we take inspiration, not only from people of the

past, but also people from the present. And they come from different departments of life. I know a man today who is pushing through an unexpected illness with strength, courage, and perseverance. Today, for me, he has become an example of optimism and good cheer, in spite of his challenges. I can only hope that when and if I ever experience a significant health crisis that I will have the same attitude. A new role model for me. Whenever I read about an historical figure of whom I had little knowledge and learn about his or her strengths of character and the ability to navigate choppy waters another piece of inspiration accompanies me on life's journey.

Hebrews 11-12 talks about all the greats of the faith—Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, Moses, David, Jesus and the rest, and we continue to look to them as role models of faith, but there are many in our midst today who can help us reach a new level of faith in our own lives.

Last summer when I was having a conversation with my older brother in a North Carolina beach home during our annual family reunion and vacation we got on the subject of stewardship. My brother, Trez, a retired Presbyterian minister, and his wife, Sandy, a retired YMCA manager, live in a modest lake home near Grand Rapids, Michigan. My brother has a couple of pensions from the Presbyterian Church and the United States Army, which he served faithfully, and my sister-in-law a YMCA pension, in addition to Social Security for both of them. From what he tells me---they live comfortably with sufficient resources to enjoy the basics of life. But then he voluntarily told me that he and his wife give 40% of their combined income away, beginning with 10% to their church and 30% to a variety of other causes, including responding to individual needs, most recently giving \$800.00 to a single parent unable to pay his rent and a gift to a cable technician who was having financial problems. The list goes on with Trez and Sandy. I asked my brother to repeat the 40% number, thinking I had not heard him correctly, but sure enough I had it right the first time: for every hundred dollars that come in forty goes out for benevolences, including 10% off the top for their church.

I all of a sudden had new stewardship role models.

Coming Up Next... Happy November Birthdays!



Morning Circle

Morning Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. on **Thursday, November 3** at Marion Kyle's home, 4805 Rockbridge Court. You may phone Marion for driving instructions at 537-2687.

Crunching the Numbers

During the month of September, we served 183 dinners and 99 breakfasts. We also distributed 49 brownbag lunches.

Our Community Dinners take place on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-6:45 p.m. and the Community Breakfasts on Wednesday mornings from 7:30-8:15 a.m. Average attendance at dinner is 35-40 and for breakfasts is 20-25.

Food Pantry News

In September, our Food Pantry served 63 adults and 56 children. We partner with the Flint Hills Breadbasket to help those in our community who are food insecure. The First Presbyterian Food Pantry serves our community on Fridays from 10:00 a.m.-noon and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Music, Prayers and Words of Hope, Monday, Nov. 7th at 6pm

Our Youth Choir and Presby Players Wind and String Ensemble will come together for a concert on the night before our elections to celebrate our nation and pray for a future with hope. We will honor and pray for our country, our citizens, our elected leaders, our service men and women, our veterans, and those seeking election at multiple levels, including the Presidency of the United States.

Prayer Vigil for Our Nation

November 7th and 8th prayer stations will be available in the chapel to assist you in praying for our country and offering your hopes and concerns to God. You are invited to come in preparation for your vote on Tuesday, Nov. 8th, or you could stop by after you have voted.

Don't know where you are voting? Visit here:

<https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/VoterView/PollingPlaceSearch.do>

Young Adult Fellowship Opportunities

Are you in your 20's, 30's, or 40's and looking to connect other couples and singles in this age bracket? Join us for Young Adult Fellowship on **November 11th** at The Tap House. Email Pastor Kati or the office to get your name on our contact list.

Capital Repairs

We are well on our way to achieving our goal of \$167,000.00 for improvement of our HVAC systems, repairing and painting the window casings, and a new sanctuary roof, known as the **Capital Repairs Fund**. Over 65 households have pledged/contributed over half our goal. Please support these very important capital projects by filling out a pledge card and returning it to the church office.

Thank you!

Men's Breakfast

The November Men's Breakfast will be held on **Thursday, November 17**, with new associate athletic director, Jerry Kill, as the speaker. Coach Kill was recently the head football coach at the University of Minnesota.



The Men's Breakfast is held monthly on the third Thursday of each month from 7-8 AM in Fisher Hall.

Forty per cent to most of us seems pretty far away. But as we draw close to **Stewardship Sunday (November 20)**, let us consider the Scriptures, which are very clear about the **tithe: ten percent**, not the last ten percent, but the first ten percent. The prophet Malachi tells us: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that I may have food in my house." (Malachi 3:10) If you are not at that level yet, consider taking the steps to get there.

It will change your life.

Faithfully,

Cam

Great Comeback in "Hog Kissing" Victory

First Presbyterian was a touchdown behind going into the fourth quarter and ended up winning by a touchdown in the Meadowlark Hills "Kiss the Hog" competition to benefit the "Good Samaritan" fund to help residents who have depleted their

resources to remain at Meadowlark. Between the five churches involved in the competition over \$10,000.00 was raised with First Presbyterian contributing over \$4,000.00 of that total. By virtue of



finishing first, **Cam got to kiss Harriet the Hog!** Congratulations and thanks to all who contributed to this very important cause!

Consider the Presbyterian Giving Catalog

The Giving Catalog offers gift ideas that will go a long way in helping others throughout the world, ranging from purchasing a family of chickens, water filters for Flint, Michigan, farming tools, bunk beds for children, youth agricultural training, and support for entrepreneurial start-ups. The catalog is available at the Visitor's Table in the narthex. This could be a very special Christmas with your special gift to people in need.

In Our Church

Jingle Bell Run 5k Run and 1.5 Mile Fun Run/Walk

Join us this holiday season for the 5th Annual Jingle Bell 5k Run and 1.5 Mile Fun Run/Walk. It will be held Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 5:00 PM. Get into the holiday spirit with this family-friendly event. **Dress up in fun festive attire...** wear Christmas lights, reindeer antlers or adorn yourself in ornaments as you run through downtown Manhattan and around Kansas' largest Christmas tree in Blue Earth Plaza. After the event, **enjoy a light dinner and awards ceremony!** Be there with bells on!

This year's event benefits **"Girls on the Run"** - inspiring girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.

Sign up now at www.jinglebellrun5k.com



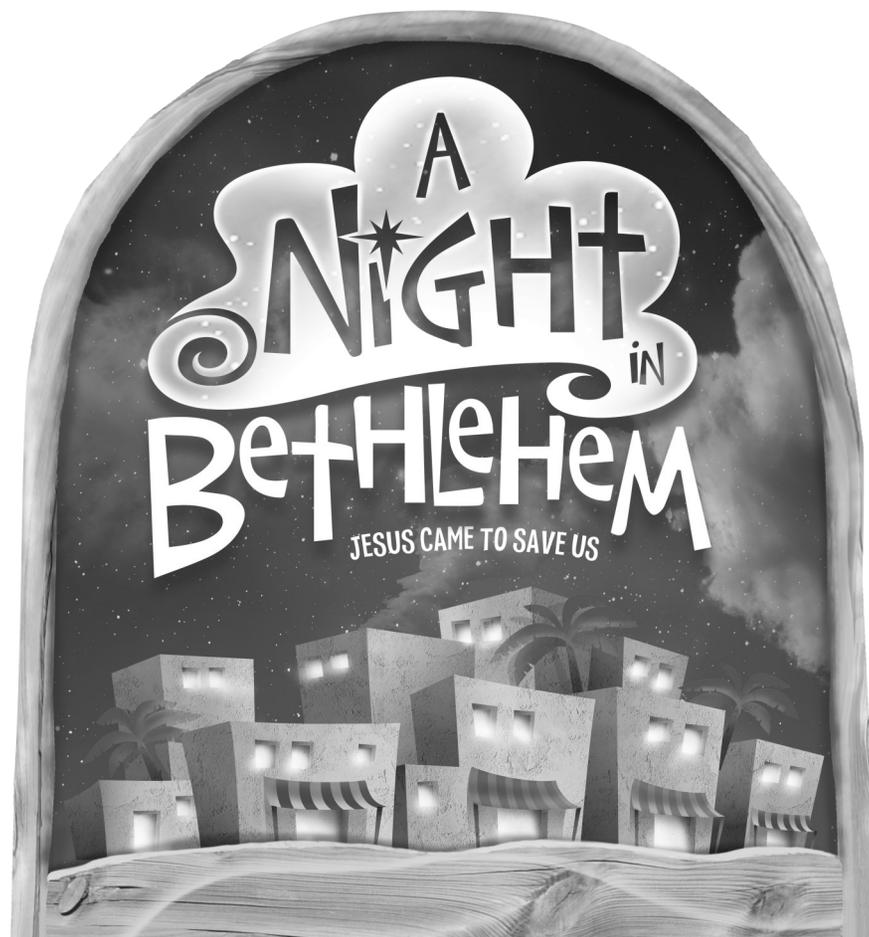
The Deacons are sponsoring the Adopt Manhattan/Ogden Head Start

Program for the holidays again this year to provide children with winter coats, shoes and warm clothing. Deacons will be available in the narthex before and after church on November 6, 13, and 20th. Please stop by to select an ornament. Coats, shoes, and clothing should be returned to the church, unwrapped by November 20. If you have questions please contact Rae Anderson at 776-7764 or Sheila Fortney at 341-0079.



First Pres Advent Devotional, Looking for Hope with Grace and Gratitude

Sunday, November 27th we will welcome the beginning of Advent. A devotional will be available to you including scripture, stories, poetry, meditations and art from a huge variety of our church members. If you still want to submit something to be included, please contact the church office as soon as possible.



Come and experience Bethlehem in the time of Jesus' birth!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH
4:00-6:00 PM**

An unforgettable Advent experience for the whole family!

Get your free ticket now!

Registration at www.firstpresmanhattan.com or call 785-537-0518

Presby KIDS!

Kids' Choir Fall 2016 Performance Schedule

November: Performance on November 13

December: Dress rehearsal for Pageant on Dec. 9th, Worship "teaser" on Dec. 11 at 10:30 a.m., **Pageant performance on Dec. 11 at 5:00 p.m.** (4:30 p.m. call)

P2 Fall 2016 November Schedule

6th: Wii Dance-off, Lesson & Life App

13th: World Kindness Day project, Lesson & Life App

20th: No P2 (Thanksgiving Break)

27th: Family Advent Night

The Parents' Night Out bunch celebrated the 50th Anniversary of "It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" with Peanuts crafts, games and their own private showing of the movie in Fisher Hall! Some of the fun refreshments included...Charlie Brown-ies, Peppermint Patty Popcorn, Snoopy's Red Baron Pizza Bites, Lucy Kisses (aka Dog Germs!), Linus and Lucy's and Sally's Pumpkin Patch Squares, and Blue Blankie Lemonade! Our November Parents' Night Out will be on **November 11** with a theme of Thanksgiving! Watch our website for more details.



Dear Deacons and Presbyterian Women,

Thank you very much for all of your help with the meal for our Dad's (Perry Potter) memorial service. We truly appreciate your assistance. You did a wonderful job with our Mom's meal last year.

Thank you!

Tawn Rockwell, Jennifer Potter & Grant Potter

On Sunday October 9 we returned from the memorial service at Arlington National Cemetery for our son-in-law, **Lt. Col. Dan Swayne**. There is no way to adequately thank our First Presby family for the outpouring of love, care and support for our daughter Katie and their seven year old daughter, Grace. Dan was killed in a plane crash on May 15. This incredibly hard time for our family has been eased by so many of you. Please continue to hold us tightly in your prayers. With love, John & Peggy Lyons and family.

Groceries for God

To all of you who participate in the **Dillons Community Rewards program supporting First Presbyterian Church**, we are excited to share with you that we have received a donation check for \$423.64 for the period 7/1/16 - 9/30/16. The monies raised help support our youth programs at First Presbyterian Church. Thank you for all of your support. Keep on shopping at Dillons! If you're not already signed up, follow the instructions below. Just enroll your Dillons Reward Card and start shopping.

Go to dillons.com/communityrewards.

1. Create an Account including e-mail address-if you do not have an e-mail address see instructions below.
 2. Enter shopper card number or alternate ID# & last name.
 3. On the Account summary screen scroll all the way down to Community Rewards- click "enroll."
 4. Fill in personal information **Enter 10157** – You will then see First Presbyterian Groceries for God – 801 Leavenworth
 5. Click in the circle as this is our Groceries for God program.
 6. Click on Save, and you should get a note in the top of the page indicating your sign up has been completed
- You will automatically start earning rewards for FPC on qualifying purchases made using your Plus Shopper's card! Items which do not qualify include fuel postage, alcohol, tobacco, Dillons gift cards, and variable load gift cards. A full list is available on the Dillons website.

If you **DO NOT** have internet, but want to use this program, you will need to call 1-800-576-4377 and it will be #3 on the recorded menu. They will walk you through the process of signing up.

Youth & College

Youth Weekly and Events Schedule

Our weekly youth schedule is back in full swing with a few NEW additions!

Sunday nights we start with Youth Choir at 5pm. Cornerstone(7-12th) and P-Squared(4-6th) start together in Presby Place with a light meal, games and hangout time, and they split 6:30-7:30pm with our youth leaders Nick Wiggins and Natalie Bender.

Small Groups

Mid-High Small groups will feature several Master Chefs in the month of November. They'll be making pastas and breads and sweets! Senior High Small group will be transitioning to a new form, so in the meantime, all students are welcome to come to the Master Chef nights if interested.



Confirmation 2017

Confirmation is a time for youth to more fully explore the essential beliefs of the Christian life and discover the relationship between their belief and their response to being called to serve as a Disciple of Jesus Christ. **Any interested youth (8th-12 grade) may contact Pastor Kati for registration forms, which are due by December 1st.** A Confirmation Orientation Meeting will take place on Sunday, **January 8th** from 9:15am-10am. Parents and youth are required to attend this meeting as preparation for the course and our Confirmation Retreat, **January 13-14th.** We will hold Confirmation classes each Sunday morning from **January 22-April 9th.** Confirmation Sunday will be **April 23rd.**



Zip-lining Adventure

Seven youth joined our youth leaders for an adventurous day in the flint hills, conquering our fears and getting to know each other better!



College Service Day
FPC, Trinity Pres and ECM came together for a College Service Day. Pictured: Robbie Collins with our College Service Intern Nicole Boulanger and David Jones, Director of Ecumenical Campus Ministry.

College Ministry

This fall we will be planning several service opportunities for fellowship and giving back to our community! **November 13,** all students, faculty and staff are welcome to join us following the second service for a home cooked meal and fellowship.



Ski Trip Registration has Begun!

Registration has begun for our Cornerstone Ski Trip! **February 9th-13th, 2017** our Cornerstone Youth Group will be traveling to Winter Park, CO for their annual ski trip. Final registrations are due **December 12th!** We have a special website for registration and payment which can be found through the "Ski Trip" link on our website. If you are an adult volunteer and interested in cooking or skiing with us, please contact Pastor Kati!



Mission Trip Recap

The youth shared their reflections on their summer mission trip to South Dakota. Check out our YouTube channel or sermon page of our website if you missed it!