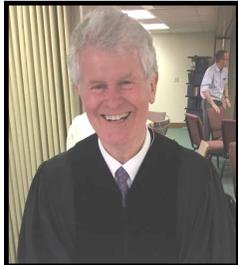




Manhattan, KS

November, 2017

Headline News



REPURPOSING YOUR STEWARDSHIP LIFE

We have heard about repurposing ideas around the home. Perhaps you have seen old utensils or old tools repurposed for decorations on walls, or window curtains turned into tablecloths, or horse harnesses turning into mirrors on the wall, or the repurposing of wooden spoons to drumsticks, or an old ladder converted into a hanging piece for quilts and scarves, or conga drums becoming side tables, or dining room table leaves transformed into coffee tables, or the conversion of a closet to a cupboard, or an old trunk into an occasional table.

Rev. McConnell

By repurposing, we give what we own new life, new purpose, new beginnings.

Repurposing also comes in the form of new careers, new relationships, new attitudes, new ideas, new perspectives. When you come right down to it life could become rather dull and unchallenging if it weren't for repurposing. It's like seeing everything in black and white, but now you see it in Technicolor, so said the former NBA star and now writer, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, when describing life in general.

Some of you have heard the expression: a "one-read" quarterback, which simply means that if the primary receiver is covered the quarterback is disinclined to go through the progression and find another receiver, therefore limiting his and his team's options.

And so it is in our faith. God doesn't want us to become "one-read" Christians, limiting the movement of the spirit and therefore discouraging the repurposing of the secular.

When one considers the amount of opportunities to change our thinking about certain matters and subsequent opportunities to make a difference the possibilities are limitless.

And stewardship is no exception. God doesn't want us to limit ourselves when it comes to this marvelous opportunity to make a difference. He doesn't want us to be one-read Christians in this area, but wants us to repurpose our resources in ways that will impact others.

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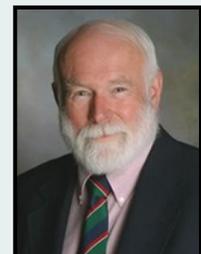
FIRST ACADEMY

Rev. R.C. McConnell will speak at First Presbyterian's First Academy on **Monday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Rev. McConnell will speak about the Protestant Reformation including its historical, social, religious, and political influences. Refreshments begin at 6:15 p.m. and the program commences at 6:30 p.m.



FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for Friday Fellowship on November 17th at 11 am in Fisher Hall. This month's speaker is First Presbyterian member Dr. Michael Finnegan of Forensic Anthropological Consultants, LLC. He will present a program on the Central Identification Laboratory (CIL) and its Mission: an example from Vietnam. A delicious lunch prepared by Hospitality Coordinator Julie Haynes will be served at noon.



And so it is when it comes to repurposing our lives relative to our own personal finances as it relates to the Kingdom of God. There might be uncertainty that comes with it, or doubt or fear, but pulling the generosity trigger always wins in the end.

You know that many of things on which we spend our money are here today, but gone tomorrow. Many of them are fleeting pleasures with no hint of eternal purpose in mind. But the investment in Christ's kingdom is here to stay. It's not going anywhere.

Our dollars have the power to speak. So consider for a second if a dollar could talk. Might it not be saying to you and me: Use me where I can make a difference. I know there is the temptation to use me more on things I don't really need, but won't you consider using me where I can feel better about my purpose. Can't you repurpose me to feed the hungry, to teach children and youth about the joys of Christ's kingdom, to support the beautiful music sung to God's glory, to take care of the sick and the lonely, to provide clean water and ways to fight disease in lands where poverty reigns, to maintain God's house, to teach the Bible and to nourish the mind. In other words, I don't want to be just another dollar. Please repurpose me for a greater cause.

Yours and my generous investments are needed to sustain an already bustling ministry and are needed to expand this same energetic ministry.

God bless you as you consider taking the next step up in your personal stewardship.

Faithfully,

Cam



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nominating Season is Upon Us

If you would like to nominate a person for the office of elder or deacon in the church, please submit your nomination to the chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Robin Mall.



Christmas Worship Times

It's not too soon to mark your calendars for Christmas Eve Sunday: Two traditional morning services at 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. "The Light" service at 10:15 a.m. Two Christmas Eve services at 7:00 p.m and 8:30 p.m.

Calling all knitters and crocheters

First Presby Prayer Shawl Ministry needs you! We have lots and lots of yarn available if you are willing an able.



Presby Diners Club is COMING SOON!

Watch for more information in December publications.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Member Dr. Jeff Smith was recently awarded the Kansas State Faculty Award for Teaching at a ceremony in the Alumni Center on September 27th. Pictured are Jeff and Kim Smith.

COLLEGE BARBECUE AND CONCERT

On September 29, K-State students enjoyed a barbecue in Friendship Park followed by a concert in Presby Place. This event was a part of First Presbyterian College Ministry. Next up is a Work Day on November 12 when students help members in need of fall cleanup.



HOW DO YOU SERVE?

Why do I volunteer? That's a good question with so many answers!! I suppose my first response would be that I volunteer because it makes me feel good. The truth is, that's what God wants me to do, to be worthy of his love and it is what we are taught by Jesus to do!

God gives in abundance. He takes whatever I can offer him in time, ability or resources and multiplies its effectiveness beyond my wildest expectations! I have volunteered in many areas, from serving on boards such as the Housing Corp. Board for Alpha Chi Omega, Presbyterian Board of Deacons to the Board of Directors for Burnett Automotive Inc. Whether it be visiting a member in the hospital, a church greeter, a bridge builder member or helping with funeral meals, I have learned that I can help others and be a servant of God in many ways.

Being the Community Outreach Dinner coordinator is by far the most rewarding thing I've done. I have had the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people... fellow volunteers and community neighbors that I might not otherwise have known. To be able to put a smile on a stranger's lonely face, give them a hot meal, offer a hot shower or provide shelter and fellowship to a child of God is a true blessing. Simply by volunteering, I myself am the one that truly receives the blessing!

"So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless" James 2:17

In Christ,

Claudia Voos

First Presbyterian provides an endless number of ways to serve, from helping the food insecure in our Food Pantry to visiting the homebound through Bridge Builders.

For information about service and mission opportunities, contact the First Presbyterian Volunteer Coordinator, Taylor Roberts, at secretary@firstpresmanhattan.com or 785-537-0518.

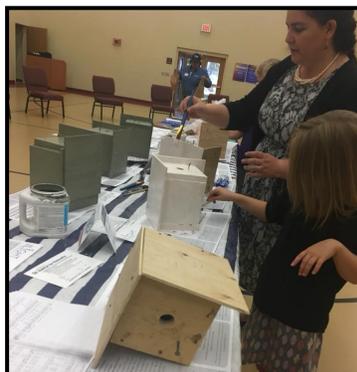
THE LIGHT UPDATE

Highlights from Hammering for Justice

Our first "Service in Service" day, where we met to do a community service project as an act of worship! We assembled bird houses, which will be donated to families that have received a new home from Habitat for Humanity. Hammering as an act of faith, the noise we made echoed Martin Luther's hammering of his faith on the message board of his Cathedral 500 years ago, one of the most recognizable acts in the reforming of the church. Thank you for all who helped!

Pictured top right: R.J. Leonard and Robbie Collins assemble bird houses.

Bottom right: Bird houses were painted before they are given to Habitat for Humanity home owners.

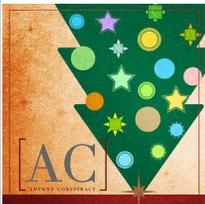


Advent Conspiracy

In 2006 five pastors imagined a better Christmas practice

for their own communities. Today,

Advent Conspiracy is a global movement of people and churches resisting the cultural Christmas narrative of consumption by choosing a revolutionary Christmas through Worshipping Fully, Spending Less, Giving More and Loving All. The Light will join in the conspiracy and challenge our community to conspire to do acts of kindness, while continuing our commitment to discovering what is "enough" for all to thrive.



The Light, November 5th, 10:15am, WORSHIPING IN REMEMBRANCE

At this communion worship service we will "remember". We remember in the sharing of the bread and cup, and we will remember with light in a special ceremony of remembrance for those who have been lost in the past year.

PAINTING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

All are welcome for the upcoming Painting with Our Neighbors events on Tuesdays, November 7th and December at 5pm before Community Meals in Presby Place. Photos include paintings done by our community meal participants, using coloring posters from sanctifiedart.org.



COLLEGE CORNER

Sunday, November 12th will be our Fall Serve day where we will be out in the community doing yard work for those who need help.

We are attempting to start a college chorus that will sing periodically at service, so if you know anyone that might be interested, send them our way!

We will continue to have our college lunches following the 10:30am service throughout the rest of the semester. The next lunch will be November 12, following the 10:30 a.m. service.



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

On October 29, First Presbyterian celebrated its 150th anniversary! Beginning with a wonderful brunch prepared by church hostess, Julie Haynes, the festivities included a display of FPC historical documents and memorabilia as well as a recognition of 50 or more year members. As it was also the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the congregation enjoyed a bagpipe and drum trio and brass quartet throughout the service.

Pictured top left: Brass quartet including Rod Manges, Steve Maxwell, Billy Brown, and Zach Paquette.

Top right: Bagpipe and drum troop, including Jack Williamson and Jim Williamson on pipes and Zach Cochran on drum.



CROP WALK 2017

On October 1, members and friends of First Presbyterian gathered in Friendship Park for the CROP Hunger Walk. This yearly, world wide, event raises money to benefit Church World Service in their goal to end hunger. In addition, 25% of the money raised was donated to local organizations to fight hunger here in Manhattan! Watch our newsletter and website for more ways to help our community.

GET READY... GET SET... JINGLE BELL RUN ON DECEMBER 3!

Mark your calendars for the First Presbyterian Jingle Bell Run on **Sunday, December 3 at 4:00 p.m.** Medals will be awarded to the winners in the men's and women's divisions and to the two top finishers in age brackets. Cox Brothers Barbeque will follow, in addition to door prizes. Register at www.jinglebellrun5k.com or call the church office at 785-537-0518.



This run includes a 5K race and a 1.5 mile fun run or walk.



The Heart of MFB (Mother's for Babies) is a non-profit organization founded in 2016. The Heart of MFB's mission is to offer education, research, advocacy, awareness, and support for Congenital Heart Defects, childhood diseases, and pregnancy and fertility issues that will help families experiencing such conditions through offering them valuable information, financial support, encouragement, and hope.

Through personal stories of The Heart of MFB's partners, promoting further research, increasing awareness, and providing resources to families, our hope is to make a difference in the lives of many families.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT TIME!

Dress Rehearsal on Dec 3 at 11:30

Performance on Dec 10th at 5pm,
Deacon's dinner following in Fisher Hall

Hark! the Herald Orchestra! Musicians needed!

Please join us for the last tune of the Christmas pageant. Parts for all instruments will be available from



Susan Maxwell. We will do the same arrangement as in years past. Contact susiebassoon@yahoo.com for more details.

P²!

P² has kicked off strong with record attendance and some fun meetings! Don't miss out on the fun, as November and beyond brings even more events and activities!

Here is our schedule for November and December:

3: Mini-Golf @ Wildcat Creek

10: Presby Place

17: Presby Place/(PNO afterwards for those registered)

24: No P²

December

1: Presby Place*

8: Presby Place

15: P² Christmas Party (last P² until January 5)

*Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, we will not be participating in the Mayor's Spirit of Christmas Lighted Parade On December 1 due.

TRUNK OR TREAT!

On October 27, Presby KIDS hosted a Trunk or Treat event for Parents Night Out. Kids and staff dressed in creative costumes including a dragon, Superman and Wonder woman, first responders and a Jedi! These were only a few of the incredibly creative costumes worn by those in attendance!

Different rooms were decorated in themes including the "Great Pumpkin" room where children played games; the "Mummy" room run by P² where kids played a game and made I love Jesus jack-o-lanterns; the Bible Action Hero room in the nursery where kids made monster puppets; and the island themed church office where Pastor Kati led

trick-or-treaters through Wonder Woman's island of **Themyscira** and Rev. McConnell challenged candy-seekers to pirate sword fights, after surviving the "swim" through the shark infested waters by our Communications Director, Taylor's, desk!

Join us on **November 17** for a Thanksgiving themed Parents Night Out! Watch our bulletins, Facebook, and website for more information!

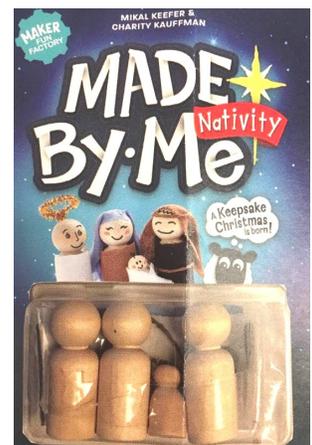
HEAD START ADOPT A CHILD

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 October 29, November 5, 12, 19, and 26. Please stop by to select an ornament. Coats, shoes, and clothing should be returned to the church, unwrapped by November 26. If you have questions please contact Sheila Fortney at 341-0079.

FAMILY ADVENT LUNCH & ACTIVITY

Join us on **November 27 at 11:30 a.m.** for the Family Advent Lunch! We will be eating in Presby Place and families are invited to participate in this year's activity: "Build a Nativity!"

"Build a Nativity" kits (pictured right) are \$15 each and must be pre-ordered. Please RSVP by **November 15** for the activity so that we may have enough kits!



THANK YOU NOTES

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the nice invitation to the 150th church anniversary. We would love to join you but it will not be possible. We will always cherish the many wonderful years as members of the Manhattan church family. It was a grea beginning to our fine years in Manhattan.

We sincerely wish you continued success in the good work this church has always done.

Sincerely,

Dick & Beverly LaGree

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

I first want to personally thank you for your help with our appeal for clean up buckets for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. In God's usual way, your 20 buckets have multiplied! We sent 181 buckets to Wichita from our PNK meeting. In addition we are spending almost \$2000 in all from churches and worship offering. And we have school bags, hygiene kits and nearly 70 more buckets before we wrap up! Thanks so much for being a part of this abundant generosity!

Also, I have to thank you for sharing Kati's gifts with PNK. She did a great presentation at our meeting. Blessings on your ministry. Prayers go with Pam Beardsley and the rest of the Mission team going to Louisiana.

Pat Ireland,

Coordinator for Stewardship and Mission

Presbytery of Northern Kansas

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



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CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

Food Pantry

In September, our Food Pantry served 56 adults and 17 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.

Community Meals

During the month of September, we served 180 dinners and 81 breakfasts. We also distributed 42 brownbag lunches.

NOVEMBER MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast is held monthly on the third Thursday of each month from 7:00-8:00 a.m. in Fisher Hall.

The November Men's Breakfast will be held on Thursday, November 16, and will feature a presentation by FPC member Nick Landers (pictured right). Nick is the Associate Director of the Department of Housing at Kansas State University. Join us for this interesting talk!



the LIGHT
A New Worshipping Community

Have you heard about
our New Worshipping
Community?
Join us Sunday
Mornings at 10:15 a.m.
in Presby Place.

*All are
Welcome*