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April 2017

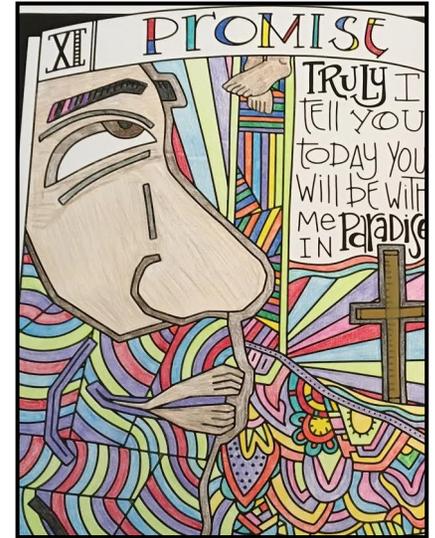
# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **Headline News**

## Holy Week Worship and Fellowship Opportunities Let us celebrate the Risen Christ!

**Remembering the Seder Ritual—  
April 13, 6:15 p.m.** We will be continuing a new practice in conjunction with our **Maundy Thursday** supper. All ages will enjoy this Jewish family tradition of telling the story of the Hebrew's escape from Egypt.

**Maundy Thursday service:  
Office of the Tenebrae—April 13, 7:30 p.m.** An adaptation of the early fourth century office in which there is a solemn observance of the Lord's Supper.

**Good Friday Concert—  
April 14, 6:30 p.m.** John Rutter's "Gloria" and more special music to tell the passion of the Christ. The Stations of the Cross Coloring Posters will be on display as our visual offering for the evening. Reception to follow.



## Easter Morning, April 16

**Sunrise Service, 7:00 a.m.** Join Rev. Kati Collins and Doug Chapman in Tami's Garden to celebrate the Risen Christ.

**Breakfast, 7:45-10:30 a.m.**—Come and go as you please.

**Sunday traditional worship services, 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.**

**World's Greatest Easter Egg Hunt,** after the 10:30 a.m. worship service



Rev. McConnell

When over a hundred children break out of the starting gate at the “World’s Greatest Easter Egg Hunt” on Easter Sunday we love watching them scurrying through Friendship Park with baskets and bonnets trying to find the “elusive” egg which is normally in full view. The children’s spirit and energy are another reminder of the energy of Easter with its triumphal music, brightly colored dresses, Easter hats that women pullout of the closet in celebration, overflow parking, majestic hymns, family brunches and lunches, and, finally, its message of hope and new life.

The world needs more Easters where we concentrate on the possibilities instead of the problems and look at what went right instead of what went wrong. The disciples, an unusual and unlikely lot of characters who walked the dusty roads of Galilee with Jesus, were likely overwhelmed by panic and then pressure to run for the hills when the final sentence of crucifixion was pronounced for Jesus on that fateful Friday. But their own struggle to survive went quickly from an insoluble problem to a tremendous possibility after seeing the empty tomb and Jesus himself on the road to Enmmaus. More than a possibility it was a promise from Jesus himself that he would be with them until “the end of time.”

It’s a word that needs to get out a lot more in our culture and it’s a word that needs to reach the hearts of those who dwell on the negative and not enough on the positive. Too often too much time is spent on the reasons why something can’t work instead of the reasons why they can work. The Resurrection doesn’t teach us to think that way, it teaches us the opposite. Just about everybody told Orville and Wilbur Wright that they were crazy to think they could actually fly; a lot of people doubted that we could ever send a man to the moon; most people on the banks of the Hudson River shouted to Robert Fulton that his steamboat would never start, then when it started they said it would never stop, and how many naysayers were there when Henry Ford set out to build a car.



*Continue on page 3*

## Coming Up Next... Happy April Birthdays!



### Mother’s Day Pictures

We will be creating a PowerPoint presentation featuring pictures of mothers in celebration of Mother’s Day! Please turn in pictures of mothers, grandmothers, aunts, or a person in your life who has been a mother figure. Pictures may be emailed to the office at [secretary@firstpresmanhattan.com](mailto:secretary@firstpresmanhattan.com) or brought into the office in person. Please include the names of everyone in your picture. Pictures are due **BY MAY 8th**.



### Men’s Breakfast

There will be NO Men’s Breakfast during the month of April. Keep an eye out for information about our May speaker!



### Crunching the Numbers

During the month of January, we served 131 dinners and 89 breakfasts. We also distributed 39 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 February, our Food Pantry served 42 adults and 18 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.

**Throughout Lent**, coloring posters have been available for groups or individuals to complete. Pictured on the front cover of this letter is a poster completed by our Sunday morning Covenant Class, taught by Dean Armbrust. Thank you for your beautiful work!

Did you enjoy this devotional? Are you looking for opportunities to create? Join us for our second **Painting with Neighbors on April 4**, beginning at **5:00 p.m.** Participants are invited to stay and share a meal with our neighbors.



### **First Pres Volleyball Team**

The First Presbyterian Volleyball Team had a great season! Pictured left is the First Pres team: (top left to right) Kirk Provine, Robbie Collins, Mike Wilson, Andrea Higgins, Taylor Manges, Anastasia Morgan, and Kristine Tiroch.

### **Thank you!**

Dear First Presbyterian Church, Our church-league volleyball group would like to say thank you for allowing us, once again, to use your facility to play volleyball these past 10 weeks. We really appreciate all that you do for us to make it a fun and successful season. Tamera Garibay has also been so great to work with in scheduling our group's use of Presby Place! And Brennan had everything set up just right each night for us to play!

Thanks again!

June Klotz, director of Church League Volleyball

**THANK YOU** to all who participated in the process of getting a new **photo directory** completed - it was definitely a team effort! The list is long and includes the church office staff (Judy, Joan & Taylor) for help (and patience) with publicity, lists & setup; maintenance staff (Mike & Brennen) for setup & lockups; many members who helped with signups & check-ins for the photo sessions; Rev. McConnell and Pastor Kati for whole-hearted support & continued encouragement; and, of course, all of our church family for getting photos taken or submitted, and for your eager anticipation.

**NOTE: Please add to the address section of your directory: Melvin and Rae Jean Hunt, 2212 St. Andrew Circle, Manhattan, 66502, 539-8165.**

**Apologies to Hunter & Rae Jean for that inadvertent omission!**

Thanks again to everyone!  
Membership and Fellowship Committee

Consider the disciples' inexhaustible energy as they spread the word of Christ's Resurrection. Nothing stood in the way of their courage and enthusiasm in a world reluctant to listen to a message of love and peace. Negativity was not an option, a positive spirit was the only choice. They were operating in a culture of persecution, we operate in a culture of freedom, which gives us a leg-up on sharing the Good News.

It doesn't have to be complicated, this Easter message. Simply share with someone else what Christ means to you. And then invite that person to church this Easter Sunday.

He is risen!

Faithfully,

Cam

### **Lenten Programs Draw Big Crowds**

The Ecumenical Lenten Lunches and Programs continue to draw large crowds as a variety of speakers throughout the community share the essentials of their faith. The 2017 Lenten service theme is: "Faith Essentials." Delicious lunches were prepared by church hostess, Julie Haynes and volunteers while music was provided by talented local musicians.



**Walk the Labyrinth**—Available in Fisher Hall on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Use this ancient path to remember Jesus. You may not be able to visit Jerusalem, but the maze acts as a virtual pathway for the pilgrimage. The circle can also symbolize an empty tomb. What will you find there? Come and see.

**Distinguished author to speak on April 29 and preach on April 30 at First Presbyterian**

Dr. Charles Marsh, professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia and author of widely-acclaimed "Strange Glory, the Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer," will be First Presbyterian's special guest the weekend of April 29th. Dr. Marsh will speak in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. (note change of time) a.m. on April 29th and preach at both services April 30th. He is author of several books, including, "God's Long Summer," (how the Christian faith was critical to the Civil Rights movement).



The following are excerpts from reviews of Dr. Marsh's book: "Strange Glory, the Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer."

From The New York Times Sunday Book Review:

*"Few theologians witnessed the juggernaut of Nazi depravity at closer range than Dietrich Bonhoeffer. In Strange Glory, Charles Marsh.....renders Bonhoeffer's life and thought in exquisite detail and with sympathetic understanding.....we see Bonhoeffer's transformation from a pampered scion and theological dilettante to energetic churchman and Christian martyr, all against the backdrop of cataclysmic changes in Germany.....Marsh guides his narrative with a steady hand..."*

From The Wall Street Journal :

*"Just about the entire German church, Catholics and Protestants, turned up its belly to Hitler. Bonhoeffer was undecieved from the start.....Strange Glory's is a splendid book....It is honest to Bonhoeffer's orthodoxies, which were strict.....Dr. Marsh very properly emphasizes the importance of the volatile, visionary thoughts in the last letters and fragments, which Bonhoeffer himself believed might be his best work....."*

**Friday Fellowship**

Please join us for Friday Fellowship in Fisher Hall on **April 28 at 11 am**. Our speaker will be **Lieutenant Erin Freidline**, of the Riley County Police Department. Ms. Freidline is a graduate of Kansas State University, FBI National Academy, and has a Master's certificate from the University of Virginia in criminal justice and law enforcement administration. She will speak about her role within the Riley County Police Department, and important measures to keep us safe.

# VBS 2017!



June 5th-9th 9:00 a.m.-Noon  
Ages preschool-5th grade  
Registration begins April 2

## 2017 Summer Camps!

First Pres is gearing up for a fun summer with Sports, Music, VBS and Heartland day camps!

**Basketball Camp: July 10-13**, Coach Sarah Wenger is back for our **3rd-6th grade** camp!

**Cheer Camp: June 14-15**, Damian Hilton returns for our second annual Cheerleading camp for grades **1st-6th!**

**Music Camp: July 25-28 with showcase on July 31**, Led by Susan and Steve Maxwell, this Celtic themed camp is for children aged **PreK-6th grade**. Have fun learning about rhythm, singing and instruments— no musical knowledge required!

*All camp registration begins April 2.*

A belated but heartfelt thank you to Kendra Rock and all the Presby kids and parents for the thoughtful Christmas poinsettias and gift cards. Susan and I are so happy to work with the most amazing kids ever! Thank you for thinking of us.



Shiloh Vick, Children's Ministries Director

# Presby KIDS!

## HEARTLAND DAY CAMP\*

Here at First Presbyterian Church!

**June 26-30th 9:00a.m.-5:00 p.m.**  
Scholarships available!

*\*An extension of Heartland Center (PCUSA), Kansas City, MO*

This year, the **Heartland Camp Traveling Day Camp** is coming to **First Presbyterian!** We are offering this exciting program in partnership with Heartland Camp. We strive to invest in our young people's faith development through our many programs and we firmly believe that our partnership with Heartland Camp is capable of impacting lives for Jesus Christ. Relationships are built and lives are changed in our Christ-centered program.



All children who have completed K-6 can enjoy this week long day camp held right here at our church. Kids will enjoy Bible stories, worship, games, arts and crafts, slip n' slide, archery, fellowship, and so much more! The theme for the week is "Courageous Faith", it's time to give God everything!  
Watch for more information in Headline News, your bulletins, and on our website and Facebook!

### Mother's Day Tea

Celebrate mothers and all that they do with our annual Mother's Day Tea on **May 13 at 2:00 p.m.!** Look for the invitation on our website and in April bulletins!



### Parents' Night Out

May 5, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

**CINCO DE MAYO!**

Visit our website for more information and to register

### The CCCC (Chuckles with Coffee, Chocolate, and Christ) Church Circle Field Trip!

On **May 2**, CCCC will be taking a field trip to Kansas City to view the new stain glass windows and sanctuary at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection. We will leave the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. for the tour at 11:00 a.m., we'll do lunch and then return home by 4:00- 4:30 p.m. If you would like to join us please let us know asap to plan for car pooling arrangements. If you want to return earlier, we hope to have 2 cars going so that will be available. Anyone is WELCOME to join us.

### Boy Scout Food Drive Stocks the Shelves

Boy Scouts Troop 74's recent food drive helped fill the shelves of the First Presbyterian Food Pantry with enough food to fill 4 grocery carts, 2 milk crates, and 2 shopping bags as well as several boxes of food stored in the freezer! Thank you very much to Troop 74 for your help with this important mission!



### New Singles Group to Meet

On Sunday, **April 23 at 11:45 a.m.**, a new Singles Group will gather in Fisher Hall for a light lunch and fellowship to plan future programs and events. This group is open to all ages. Bring a great spirit and ideas for the future of this exciting new group! Contact the church office at **785-537-0518** for more information.

### Hoop-It-Up Camp draws over forty-five children!

For five consecutive Saturdays Presby Place was rocking and hopping with almost fifty children in the second annual **Hoop-It-Up Basketball Camp**. Organized by Director of Recreation Ministries, Tamera Garibay, the children practiced dribbling and shooting drills, and actually played several basketball games on the last Saturday of the camp. Many thanks to **Katie Gehrt**, leader of the camp, and the many K-State students who volunteered to help!

# Youth

Let's celebrate our young disciples in April! Here are some important dates to mark on your calendar. For more information, contact Youth Leader, Mackenzie Pepper, or Pastor Kati

**Sunday, April 2, YOUTH SUNDAY** Our youth will conduct both worship services as well as deliver the message. We hope you will join us for this very special day in the life of our youth and congregation.

**Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> Spring Lock In**

**Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, Special Session Meeting with Confirmation students and Confirmation "New Member" Lunch, 11:30am**

**Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Confirmation for our students at the 10:30am worship service**

**TWO FUN SUMMER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES for 7<sup>th</sup>-12 graders!**

**Heartland Presbyterian Center presents "The Midwest Conference." June 11-16 in Parkville, MO.** Enjoy high energy speakers and worship services, plus great activities (horse rides, archery, swimming, and rock climbing).

**Presbytery Youth River Trip, June 19-21, Float and Kayak/Canoe down the Missouri River!**

For more details, see Pastor Kati or contact the office. Scholarships are available for both trips.



### **Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the clothing drive for our pen-pals in Nicaragua! Also, a huge thank you to those who helped with and those who purchased from our bake sale. We raised \$300 which will fund two weeks of meals for Enrich Mission's nutrition program.

Thanks!

P2 (Presby Pre-Teens)

# College and Young Adults

## **An Invitation from Pastor Kati to a new Coffee House Series starting April 23!**

Following Easter, we will begin a new **Coffee House Series: Faith That Matters**, which will study stories of faith from **Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Karl Barth, unnamed "Old Ladies" and other Faith-full leaders** during their specific time in history when they felt their theology was dead and they needed to rewrite their beliefs in a way that guided their daily actions for living a faith-full life. They did not think the Bible or God was dead, they just felt that their lives were yearning for a new way of describing what God has been trying to tell us from the beginning of time.

To introduce you to our new Sunday School study, I want to tell you about one of my favorite speakers from a conference I recently attended called "**NEXT Church.**" One of the speakers, **Linda Mercadante**, shared about her research interviewing people who identified themselves as SBNR's—Spiritual But Not Religious. She shared that a lot of surveys had been done to show statistics about people who defined themselves this way or checked the box saying "none" when asked about their religious affiliation. Not much research has been done, she explained, to explore their beliefs or understandings about the world, humanity, and what they mean by spirituality. Her book, "*Belief without Borders*", tells about her findings. We might imagine these people to be hippies with no set standard of beliefs, and yet, in her research we discover our neighbors or even fellow church members who find meaning and wholeness and through sacred pathways connect with The Spirit. Maybe you even feel a longing to define yourself this way as you read these words.

On the one hand this may seem very "new age" or "post-modern" to you, when in fact, this idea is quite old. If you would take a time machine and travel back 50 years or even 2000 years, you would find a similar scene: faithful people stepping away from the most religious groups to remind them that Our God comes to us in our brokenness and Our God is constantly calling us to the Same Love to make us Whole. That same never ending love which the Hebrews called Hesed can be translated as mercy, grace, compassion, or (insert your favorite word). **Join me at 9:15am on Sundays in Fisher Hall starting April 23, and let's discover some Faith That Matters for our time.** *Rev. Kati Collins*



**NEXT CHURCH**

**Next College Lunches: April 2nd and May 7th.**