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Manhattan, KS

February 2017

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Headline News

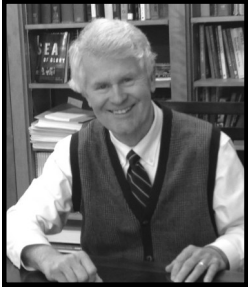


What's In a Word?

On January 15, Pastor Kati delivered the sermon "Starwards Bound" which discussed the practice of choosing a word, or words, to guide you through the year. During the sermon, offering plates filled with stars, doves, and crosses with scriptures on them were passed through the congregation. Each person was invited to choose a verse that spoke to them and would guide them through the year.

If you would like to pick out a scripture, more are available outside Pastor Kati's office.

Did you miss this sermon or any past sermons? Visit the sermon archives on our website at www.firstpresmanhattan.com under "Worship."



Rev. McConnell

As sure as Christmas comes before we know it, Lent comes before we know it. March 1 marks Ash Wednesday with a service here at 6:30 p.m., followed by a great lineup of ecumenical Wednesday Lenten lunches and services hosted by First Presbyterian in our Recreation Center, otherwise known as Presby Place, with services beginning March 8 and continuing for consecutive Wednesdays through April 5. All lunches and programs will begin at 11:45 a.m., and conclude no later than 1:00 p.m. This year our theme will be “Faith Essentials,” with

community leaders as speakers. Each speaker will share what he/she feels are the most important faith essentials in his/her life. Our church hostess, Julie Haines, will prepare and coordinate the meals.

The season of Lent marks a time when Christians reflect on their own relationship with Christ and take into account the virtues associated with the Christian way and life: forgiveness, sacrifice, patience, gentleness, self-control, peace and many others. Obviously, we contemplate and do our best to practice these same virtues year around, but reserving a season for this reflection helps us focus on improving our spiritual lives, therefore the increased number of service and program opportunities, including our Maundy Thursday Seder meal and Office of the Tenebrae service (April 13) and the Rutter Gloria concert on Good Friday evening (April 14).

Please consider making a special effort to attend some or all of these special services and events, as we recall the sacrifice and self-denial of our Lord, and strive to become better Christians.

Faithfully,
Cam

Coming Up Next... Happy February Birthdays!



Total Body Workout

Zumba is back. Come Zumba with us on Monday's from 5:30-6:30 in Presby Place.

Crunching the Numbers

During the month of December, we served 145 dinners and 91 breakfasts. We also distributed 44 brownbag lunches.

During the entire year of 2016, we served 1207 breakfasts, 541 sack lunches and 2264 dinner meals for a total of 4012 meals!

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 November, our Food Pantry served 59 adults and 42 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.

Blood Drive

First Presbyterian Church will have a blood drive on **February 26**. Please contact Tamera Garibay at 785-236-0955 or twgaribay@gmail.com for an appointment.



Friday Fellowship

Please join us for **Friday Fellowship** on **February 24 at 11:00 a.m.** in Fisher Hall. Our speaker this month will be Gary LaGrange, founder of the Soldier Agricultural Vocation Education farm. A delicious lunch will follow the presentation at 12:00 p.m.

To the Deacons,
What a wonderful surprise when we received a plate of cookies and sweets from you several days ago.
They were so good that we gobbled them all the same day!
Merry Christmas to all of you.

Thank you!
Laura and Bill Varney

Dear Friends,
I was so surprised when I opened my door and saw a plate of cookies and fruit left for me during the holidays.
Thank you so much for thinking of me.

Sincerely,
JoAnne Call

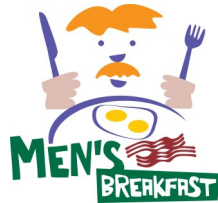
Men's Breakfast

January Men's Breakfast

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

The February Men's Breakfast will be held on **Thursday, February 16** from 7 AM to 8 AM. Our speaker will be **Lyle Butler**, the President and CEO of the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce.

Please join us for great fellowship as we hear about the on goings of the Manhattan business community!



Friends in Christ,

On behalf of all the ECM directors, staff and students, I want to thank you for your generous contribution of \$2,000.00 to ECM's ministry on December 21, 2016. We continue to be grateful for your partnership and support as we engage in ministry on your behalf.

Many blessings,
Sean Weston

Thank you for this wonderful gift! Please extend my appreciation to the Mission Committees, Cam, Kati, and FPC's three representatives on the ECM Board—Julie, Stephanie and Ann! May God's blessings continue to shower the congregation in 2017!

David Jones

We want to express our appreciation for all the kind and encouraging cards and words we received from church members during our recent family tragedy. They were truly appreciated.

Nelson and Marilyn Galle

Well-known religious author will preach at First Presbyterian

Dr. Charles Marsh, professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia, and author of the widely-acclaimed book, "Strange Glory, A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer," will be First Presbyterian's guest preacher on April 30th. He is the author of seven previous books, including God's Long Summer: Stories of Faith and Civil Rights." Copies of Dr. Marsh's Bonhoeffer book are available at the Visitor's Table in the narthex at a cost of \$16.00.



Watch us online

Looking for information on First Presbyterian Church happenings? Want to watch a sermon, read a past newsletter, or learn about our kids, youth and adult programs? Visit our website at www.firstpresmanhattan.com to learn all about our church!

We are also on Facebook! Like our page at firstpresmanhattan to see up-to-date information on current events and receive inspirational scriptures and highlights from recent Sunday



Welcome to Our Church!



Frank and Margo Laubhan come to Manhattan from Pratt, Kansas. They chose to visit First Presbyterian because this is where Margo's parents were married! Their choice to stay was made because of the pastors, organist and choirs.



Penny Bloedel has lived in Manhattan for 2.5 years and is a K-State student. Previously, Penny lived in Leavenworth, KS. Penny chose First Presbyterian because of the great music.



Robert Roper comes to us from Topanga, CA. He has lived in Manhattan for two years and is a graduate student in the K-State Department of Economics. Robert chose to join our church family because of how welcome he felt on his first visit.



Kristen and Jay Jensen were introduced to First Presbyterian by Kristen's parents, Rich and Micky Jensen. Kristen works in Summit Care at Meadowlark Hills and Jay works at Titan Tractor Mfg. The Jensens have chosen to join First Presbyterian because of the community, its family atmosphere and the pastors.



Get ready for one of the most innovative VBS themes ever as we gear up for...
"MAKER FUN FACTORY"!!

That's right! Just as our Creator molded and wired each one of us individually, our Presby kids will get the chance to do some molding of their own! Curious kids will discover as the hands-on inventors they are, that we are crafted by God and created for a purpose!*

Parents... if your kids can list on a piece of paper, all of the words in the paragraph above that have anything to do with imagining, creating, or constructing, have them bring it to Sunday School anytime in February to receive a cool prize!

Presby KIDS!

P2 has begun!

See this semester's schedule below to join Natalie, Ashley, and the whole gang every Friday night from **6:00 PM-7:30 PM** for a little fun, faith and...food! As always, bring a friend...the more, the merrier!

Remember: Fridays when Parents' Night Out (PNO) is scheduled, P2 members are welcome to stay and join the fun!

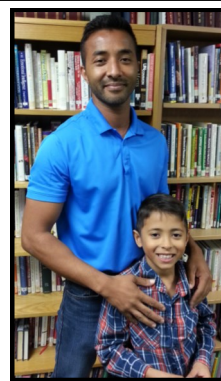


February Parents' Night Out

Will Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow in 2017? Who knows how many weeks there will be of winter? Yes, this February, we are having a Groundhog Day theme for PNO! Join us on **February 3** from **6:00-9:00 p.m.** for a fun night of Groundhog Day crafts, snacks, and games!

Cost: \$10 per child, \$35 for families with four or more children.

Sign up on our website at www.firstpresmanhattan.com/



Nicklus D. Markson (Nick) has lived in Manhattan for eight years and works at Manko Window Systems. Nick was introduced to First Presbyterian by Gene Moherman. Nick has an eight year old son named Alex (pictured left) who is in the third grade.



Taylor Johnson and Tevin Grace are both students at K-State and have lived in Manhattan for three years. Taylor works at Bergman Elementary and Tevin at Myers and Stauffer. Taylor and Tevin found out about First Presbyterian from their Pastor at their previous church in Hutchinson. They have chosen to join because of the familiarity and friendliness they found here.



Jason and Allison Payntor are new to the Manhattan community. Jason works on Fort Riley and Allison is a student at K-State. Jason and Allison had their first child, Madison, in June. The Payntors were introduced to First Presbyterian by Rev. Kati.



Dana and Marcia Hauck have lived in Manhattan for five years. Marcia is retired and Dana is self-employed. Dana and Marcia have two grown children, Michelle and Angelina. The Haucks knew of First Presbyterian because of their attendance as students at K-State. They have chosen First Presbyterian because of the activities, pastors and friends.

Youth & College

Cornerstone Youth, Confirmation and Small Groups

In January we had a fresh start with our youth opportunities! **Youth Choir and Cornerstone** are back into full swing on Sunday evenings! **Midhigh Small Group** is cooking up great discussion and fun meals. Our **2017 Confirmation Class** “retreated” out at Tuttle Creek State Park on an eerie Friday the 13th! And we welcomed an addition to our youth leadership team, **Mackenzie Pepper**. She will be leading Cornerstone and reaching out to our Senior High students. See her bio below.

Meet our new Youth Leadership Intern!

Hi! My name is Mackenzie Pepper, and I am a junior at Kansas State University. I am studying public relations with minors in business and leadership studies. On campus, I am involved with Mortar Board Senior Honorary, Leadership Studies Ambassadors, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Public Relations Students Society of America. I spent this summer in Nashville, Tennessee interning for a marketing and advertising firm. I hope to return to Nashville after graduating to work in the country music industry at a publicity firm. I am from Wichita, Kansas and grew up going to Eastminster Presbyterian Church. I have three sisters, and one brother. Whitney (17), Baileigh (16), Kylie (4) and Carter (2). Some of my favorite things to do in my free time include singing, playing guitar, hanging out with friends and traveling. If I could travel to one place in the world, I would pick to go to New York City because I love big cities and want to see a Broadway show!



Confirmation Retreat

Confirmation Students work together to build a foundation for their spaghetti tower as they prepare to learn about scripture, a foundation for our faith.



Young Adults and College



The **Youth Choir and Presby Players** will be preparing for two future performances on March 5th and our **Good Friday Concert** on April 14th. Instrumentalists will practice beginning **Wednesday, February 15th** and our choir is already preparing. New members of all ages will be welcome to join us for a special performance of **John Rutter’s Gloria** during the Good Friday Concert. If you would like to sing with the choir, you can join rehearsals in March and April on Sunday nights at 5pm, contact RJ Leonard, youth choir director. If you would like to play with the orchestra, please contact Pastor Kati for the rehearsal schedule starting on Wednesday evenings in March.

Visit our Italian Kitchen!

This month we’re excited to gear up for the Ski Trip! Help us prepare for this meaningful and exciting event for our group and join us for the **Italian Kitchen on February 5th!** Donations will go towards our travel and meals on the **Ski Trip** and also towards travel for our **Summer Camps**. We’ll have a delicious lunch with Baked Ziti, Salad and Dessert. PLUS, we’ll have a **Silent Auction** where you can win desserts or sides for your Super Bowl Parties!



College lunch

Join us for our February College Lunch! On February 19, we will be having our trivia competition. Teams of 3-5 are encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome. We look forward to seeing all of our K-State students and employees there!