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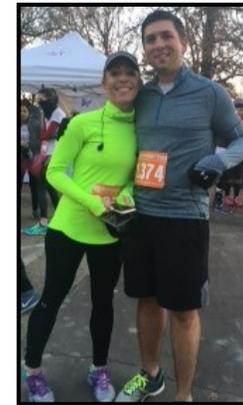
First Presbyterian Church  
801 Leavenworth  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
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Manhattan, KS

January 2017

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **Headline News**



## **Jingle Bell Run!**

**The 2016 Jingle Bell Run was a huge success with hundreds of runners and walkers! For more, see page 4.**

## Embrace the Winter!



Rev. McConnell

Every season is a great season. You just have to look for the good in it, like anything else. I think winters in Kansas, compared to other areas of the country, are terrific. We still have a lot of sunshine, compared to some of the grayer states in the northeast and the upper Midwest. It's not as cold as a lot of the other areas of the country, with January's mean temperature in Manhattan 28 degrees. The chilly air warmed by the sunshine is its own kind of beauty. So don't consider months as January and February as your foe, but as your friend--- by getting outside for a little skating in

Manhattan's City Park ice arena, or cross country skiing (one of our members gets out the cross country skis almost every time we have a good snowfall), exploring the streets and neighborhoods with a good run or a brisk walk, joining thousands of high-spirited basketball fans at Bramlage Coliseum, going to a McCain event, or signing up for the wonderful fellowship program of Presby Diners, which connects you with other church members around the hearths of warm and inviting homes. Think how full and fulfilling your winter would be if you did at least a few of the above. Like anything else in life it's what you make of it that determines your attitude and, therefore, your happiness.

So, after all the decorations have been taken down and the New Year has arrived there is no need to feel the post-Christmas blues, but, instead, vow that you will enjoy this season as much as you enjoy any season by finding ways to embrace winter, remembering the Psalmist's words: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Faithfully,

Cam



## Coming Up Next... Happy January 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 November, we served 234 dinners and 102 breakfasts. We also distributed 46 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 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.

**Esther and Linda Brabb** would like to thank everyone for the cards Esther received on her recent birthday. She received a total of 97 cards from family and friends!



**Dear Deacons,**

Thank you so much for remembering me every year. [Cookie platters]

In Christian love,  
Irmgard Dannatt

### Community meal highlights

First Presbyterian spread the Christmas cheer throughout December at our Community Outreach Meals!

Susan Maxwell's Bassoon Ensemble played Christmas music during our Community Dinner Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Deacon's donated warm socks for the Common Table Christmas Gift bags to be distributed to our Community Meal neighbors, and our college students held the "Painting with Our Neighbors" event, inviting our Community Meals guests to join in the fun!

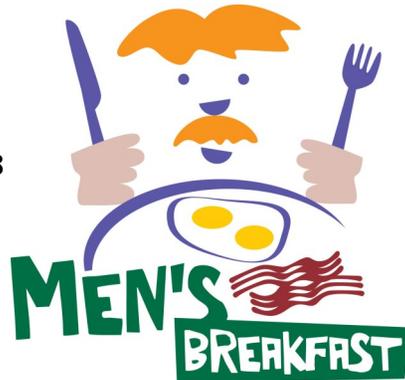
### Men's Breakfast

#### 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 January Men's Breakfast will be held on **Thursday, January 19 from 7 AM to 8 AM**. Our speaker will be Todd Holmberg, the Executive Director of the McCain Performance Series. He will share with us about the series and maybe a few "behind the scenes" stories!

Please join us for this interesting talk!



### To the Session and Members of First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for your recent contribution to the chaplaincy at Monmouth College. It means so much to know that you are aware of our Presbyterian ministry here at MC and are willing to support us with this gift. I promise to be a faithful steward of the gift as we seek to offer students unique, enriching, theologically-deepening experiences.

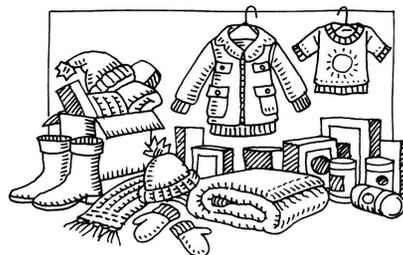
Gratefully,  
Teri M. Ott, Chaplain, Monmouth College



### Dear Deacons Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas plate. The goodies were awesome, but being remembered was even more special. God bless you as you do the work of our Lord.

Joyce Whitson



Members of First Presbyterian,  
Your donations make life so much better for kids and families in our community. We appreciate your continued support in helping to provide these basic needs.  
Head Start/Early Head Start Staff

**Thank you,**

Deacons for a wonderful soup dinner after our Christmas Pageant!  
Children's Ministry



### Presbyterian Church Family,

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting our team in so many ways. We are blessed by you all and look forward to many more interactions.

The Lord bless you.  
MCC Women's basketball

# Jingle Bell Run

A record turnout of **over 500 runners** and walkers participated in "The Jingle Bell Run" on December 4th, including the "Girls on the Run" organization that added additional vitality to the festive event. Runners and walkers, family and friends, and volunteers filled the downtown streets with enthusiasm and the spirit of the Christmas season on a beautiful early December evening. Afterwards, a taco feast from CoCo Bolos and an award ceremony capped off the great night. The beneficiary of the proceeds of race is "Girls on the Run," a mentoring organization for young girls to help build confidence and leadership skills. Many thanks to race director, Tamera Garibay, and the over 60 volunteers who led the efforts to make this the best "Jingle Bell Run" ever!

Times and ranking information can be found by visiting [www.jinglebellrun5k.com](http://www.jinglebellrun5k.com).

## Congratulations to our winners!

Left: **Brent Telck** finished first overall in the race

Middle: **June Klotz** won the female division

Right: First Presbyterian member, **Abby Bowen** won 2nd place in the female division with almost 200 runners in the division



## A Note From Children's Ministries Director:

Friends,

I want to send out a great big thank you to all volunteers and staff who supported children's ministries during our Advent season. It certainly was a beautiful (and busy) one! From our Night in Bethlehem to our fantastic Christmas Pageant, we were blessed with such dedicated and talented volunteers! For those who helped out with these events with everything from loaning of props to the playing of instruments; from the portraying of shepherds and shopkeepers to setting up a popcorn bar....I am so very thankful!

To our amazing kids' choir directors, Steve and Susan Maxwell and Morgan Karr.....you guys "nailed it" once again! What a special night with sweet and joyful noises abound! Very well done! Thank you all for your hard work through the semester and your ongoing dedication to our Presby Kids!

Virginia Benkelman and Andrea Higgins....I cannot begin to express how vital your efforts are to our children's programs! I recognize and appreciate beyond measure, the many hours of prep time you devote to our events. This season was no exception. Thank you both so much!

Taylor, Joan, Judy, and Pastor Kati...thank you for promoting both events so tenaciously! They were both well advertised and well-attended thanks to you!

I would be remiss if I did not give a shout out to the hardest-working guys in the building...Mike Hedke and Brennan Bard! You guys are always ready to lend a hand whenever needed. You are both awesome! Brennan, your help with A Night In Bethlehem was invaluable! Thank you for being such a team player!

Thank you, everyone, for your willingness to go the extra mile to insure the success of these events. This proves the age-old truth that it truly takes a village, (and an invested congregation!).

Have a blessed New Year,  
Shiloh

# Presby KIDS!

## Lil' Kids' Morning Out

Lil' Kids' Morning Out (LKMO) is a program on Thursday mornings at 8:45-11:15 for 4 months- preK aged children. Children will be taken care of by our own well-trained nursery staff while parents are free to run errands, work, or just rest!

**Registration for LKMO Spring Session begins January 5, 2017. For a link to the sign-up page go to [www.firstpresmanhattan.com](http://www.firstpresmanhattan.com) under the "children" tab!**

Sign up is required, as space is limited. There are directions to sign up on the Lil' Kids' Morning Out web page. We also ask that you print and fill out the registration forms before your first attendance.

Look for our children's ministries Late Winter/Spring events calendar (to include our PNO schedule) in our February HLN!  
**THERE WILL BE NO PARENTS NIGHT OUT IN JANUARY! WE WILL SEE YOU IN FEBRUARY...until then, stay warm!**

## Parents' Day Out

The December Parents' DAY Out gave parents a chance to run Christmas errands while their kids took a ride on the Polar Express with fun Christmas activities! They enjoyed Christmas themed snacks, played Christmas games, and made Christmas crafts.

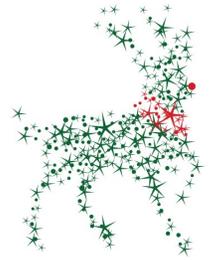
Pictured left is the "Day Out" group dressed in festive Christmas pajamas.

## Jingle Bell Run 2016

518 Participants! The 2016 Jingle Bell Run surpassed last year's event with record attendance since starting the event 10 years ago. Participants dressed up in holiday-themed attire as they jingled their way through downtown Manhattan and the Festival of Lights in Blue Earth Plaza all for the benefit of "Girls on the Run".

Thank you to all that participated.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## To All the Jingle Bell Run Volunteers,

Thank you to this year's volunteers of the Jingle Bell Run. You all went above and beyond to make this year successful. The event was larger and the volunteers were fantastic. The Jingle Bell Run wouldn't happen without all of you – the cookie bakers, the course marshals, the ladies at registration and all of you in the kitchen. It was a lot of work and I appreciate all you did to help and support the Jingle Bell Run, First Presbyterian Church and Girls on the Run.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."  
Thank you so much for helping!



Tamera Garibay

## To My Family - Enrique, Wesley and Raul,

Thank you again for all the support you have provided to me as we finished our 10th running event together. None of this would be possible without you my family at my side helping and encouraging me through it all. I appreciate and love you all.

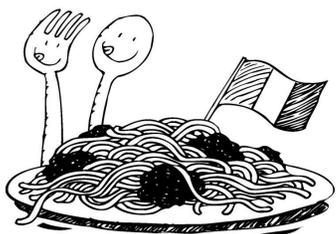
Thank you for being such a supportive family,

Tamera/Mom

# Youth & College

## Cornerstone Youth, Confirmation and Small Groups

We've got an active spring set up for our youth, with our annual Ski Trip, Youth Sunday, Confirmation and a missional overnight called the 30 Hour Famine. We are transitioning our leadership structure to incorporate a Youth Leadership Intern which will work in partnership with our volunteers to build up our youth meetings and events. Stay tuned for those announcements and see the box below for important Confirmation Dates.



### Visit our Italian Kitchen!

Help our youth travel for our Ski Trip and Summer Camps and Conferences and join us for a delicious Italian Meal on Sunday, January 15th. The meal will be in Presby Place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30pm, so invite your friends from other churches! Talk to Pastor Kati if you can help by volunteering!



### Congrats, Grads!

This month, we celebrated our December Graduates, Nick Wiggins and Alex Fees (left)! We wish you blessings on your future journeys!

# Young Adults and College

**Church volleyball league!** This is a recreational co-ed league. The season runs from Jan.—March. Games are played on Thursday nights in our recreation center. Contacts are Kristine Tiroch [ksmpt@cox.net](mailto:ksmpt@cox.net) or Mike Wilson [mdw8778@yahoo.com](mailto:mdw8778@yahoo.com).



### College News

Our college students finished out the semester with a special service event on Dec. 5th, "Painting with our Neighbors." The service event provided a fun time to relax and paint in our Presby Place alongside our guests for the Tuesday night community dinner. **We'll be offering this event again on April 4th**, so mark your calendars, anyone can join us! This month don't miss out on the exciting **Winter Trivia Challenge January, 29th!** Christmas and Star Wars Trivia will be at least two of the categories! More sensational prizes and a great lunch await!

Right: Art from "Painting with our Neighbors"

