

Our mission is to create disciples for Jesus Christ and to practice His teachings by loving and serving God and one another.



JULY 2022

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN TIMES

Letter from the Pastor

Friends,

July has always had a special place in my heart. Memories of birthdays and pool parties, parades, fireworks, campouts, and backyard games, flood my mind and make me quite nostalgic. I close my eyes and I can remember, in vivid detail, every place I had to step in my backyard to avoid “sticker patches” and hurt feet on my way to the garden where we planted rows of tomatoes, greens, root vegetables and beans, row upon row of corn beside the small barn that housed our chickens. I can remember the small grape vine that ran between two fields, and the kits (baby rabbits) my father found abandoned there one morning. I can remember the apple tree in the backyard, rope swing dangling from a high branch, picnic table beside it, and the shade it provided as I shelled purple hull peas – fingers stained all summer from opening the pods and reaping the delicious seeds that paired perfectly with my Granny’s buttermilk cornbread. I can remember sights, sounds, smells, textures, and routines that make me desperately long for a return to those places and times; so much so that it even elicits a heartache of sorts.

Nostalgia is one of those words we often employ when thinking of the past and longing for a return to the days that have created such fond and, in many ways, holy memories for us, individually and as a community. We tell stories of our past – people, places, experiences, practices, events – often with a certain glimmer in our eyes that makes it clear that if we had a time machine we’d go back in a heartbeat. We make movies and masterpieces of visual art, and we create songs that idealize past times and settings, often never painting a full portrait, but rather a highly selective vignette of our own hearts’ longings. Nostalgia can be a very pleasant thing, eliciting stories and opportunities to share our lives with others and create a stronger sense of community.

But it isn’t always a good thing.

Nostalgia can be debilitating at times, making us long so desperately for past times, places, and people, that we can become immobilized, embittered, enraged.... It can leave us “living in the past” and neglecting our present and the future into which God is calling us. It can make us blind to the good

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things of now, and the beautiful things yet to come. Nostalgia can leave us feeling powerless, or helpless, in effecting change. And, in many circumstances, it has left people feeling hopeless.

The word *nostalgia* was coined in the seventeenth century by a Swiss doctor, originally used as a medical diagnosis for mercenary soldiers who were “homesick.” It comes from the Greek words for “returning home” and “sick, ache, distress.” And, as soldiers fought in someone else’s war, losing friends and loved ones, their hearts ached for a sense of stability, routine, safety, and familiarity that brings peace of mind and a feeling of rootedness in place, in purpose, in identity.

I think we all long for such things. And God knows we all need them, too. So the One who called Abraham, who delivered from Egypt, who spoke through prophets, who walked alongside us in Jesus the Christ, who sent the Spirit to dwell within us, reminds us all again and again that nostalgia “a homesickness, or longing for the past” is not where we are to live. Indeed, we can only live in the present and move into the future. And it is only in doing so that we can look back and declare with awe and wonder the mighty things God has done in, and through, and around us.

That is perhaps the most amazing thing about the Scriptures, in my opinion: that they are a witness of what God has already done, and a prod for us to have open eyes, ears and hearts, as well as a holy hopefulness, for what God is doing now and will do in the days to come.

As this July unfolds, I urge you to remember the past, but not to dwell there. Look with hope for what God is doing now, and will do in the future. There’s so much unfolding before us, and yet to come: new opportunities ripe for connection, worship, service, witness, transformation, and the making of new memories that years from now you might be sharing with a certain glimmer in your eyes as you recount the wonderful ways of the God who WAS...and IS...and IS TO COME (Rev. 1:8).

Peace,
Pastor Jason



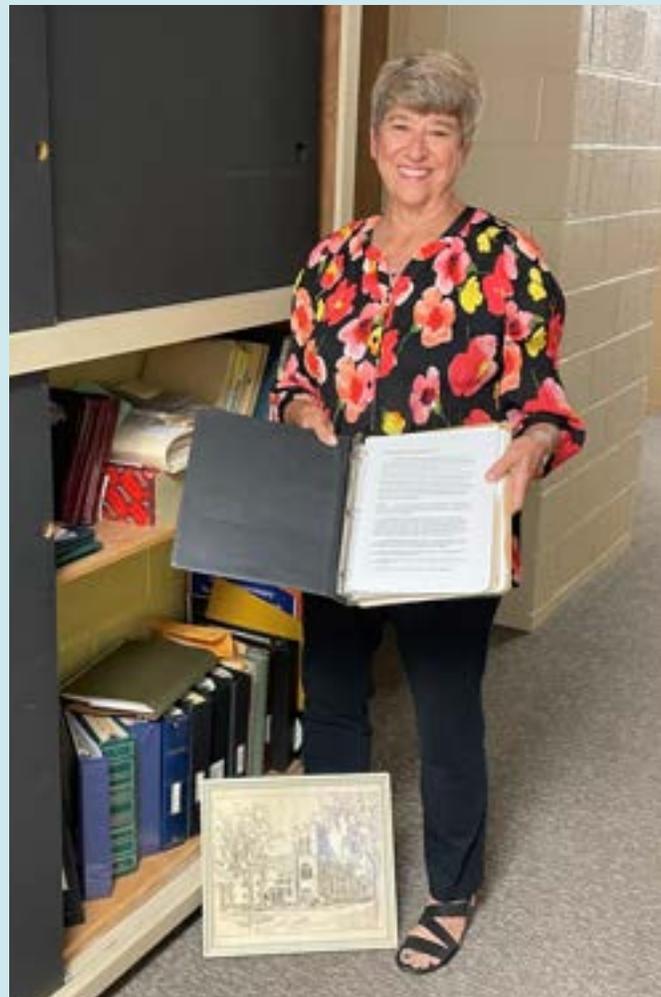
STEWARDSHIP SIGHTING

Our Church Historian

Did you know that we have a church historian?

For the past eleven years, Linda Schottler, has volunteered in that capacity. So, what functions does a church historian perform? The primary purpose is to record every year all the major events in the life of our church. Other duties include locating records for past or present church members as to when a family joined or perhaps when they were married. There is also much organization of pictures and writing some history for specific church events. With the long and rich history of our church it is important to preserve our past with the help of our Church Historian.

Linda Schottler, Historian for First Presbyterian Church



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events, Classes, & Save the Date's

Summer Brunch | July 3rd

Fisher Hall | After 10:30 a.m. service

Gather in gratitude for bountiful blessings! Please bring a dish to pass and your desire for fellowship! Table service and beverages are provided.

Save the date for the August brunch: Sunday, August 7th!

Music Camp | July 23rd

Grades K-5th | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Pack a sack lunch and spend a Saturday praising God through the power of music! Kids will learn to play a variety of musical instruments, sing, play games, and make music inspired crafts!

ReNew VBS | July 25th — 29th

July 25th - 29th | 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Celebrate God's creation this summer with ReNew VBS!

ReNew is a 5-day curriculum that empowers kids Pre-K through Grade 5 to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world. Each day, kids will explore Jesus' Parable of the Sower with three age-appropriate activities that help kids learn how to care for God's creation.

Register by visiting us online or picking up a form in the church office. Questions? Contact Susana Vick at (785) 537-0518 or at susana@firstpresmanhattan.com

interactive activity, and bible lesson! P.N.O. is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and \$6/per child! Questions? Send your inquiries to our Interim Director of Faith Formation, Susana Vick at susana@firstpresmanhattan.com

Music Night | July 31st

Join us for a fun filled night of fellowship and music! More information to come!

Save the Date: PraiseFest 2022

When: Friday, September 24

What: Flint Hills Praisefest Food Packing Mission

Where: Pottoff Hall at CiCo Park

Why: First Presby is a major sponsor for this event and we would like to maximum participation by our church family, neighbors and friends. Packing will be in 2-hour shifts. More to follow when sign-up sheets become available.

We hope you can help with this worthwhile hands-on mission event that can have an impact world-wide.



Kids Music Camp



Saturday, July 23rd
9am to 3pm



Don't forget to pack a lunch!



Contact Susana Vick for more information

(785) 537-0518

✉ susana@firstpresmanhattan.com

RENEW

Grow in Faith. Have Fun. Change the World.

JULY 25 - 29

9AM TO NOON EVERYDAY

Pre-K through Grade 5

Celebrate God's creation this summer with ReNew VBS!

ReNew is a 5-day curriculum that empowers kids in grades K-Grade 5 to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world. Each day, kids will explore Jesus' Parable of the Sower with three age-appropriate activities that help kids learn how to care for God's creation. Register by completing the registration form and returning to the church office. If questions, please contact Susana Vick at

(785) 537-0518 or susana@firstpresmanhattan.com

RENEW VBS REGISTRATION FORM



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MANHATTAN JULY 25-29, 2022 | 9AM TO NOON

ReNew Registration

REGISTER YOUR CHILD

Complete the registration form below for ReNew: The Green VBS. Please fill out one form per child.

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ School Grade: _____

Name of Guardian(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

Return Completed form to:

First Presbyterian Church of Manhattan
801 Leavenworth St.
Manhattan, KS 66502

Questions?

Susana Vick, Interim Director of Faith Formation
susana@firstpresmanhattan.com
(785) 537-0518



RENEW VBS

SUPPLY DONATION LIST



LIST OF NEEDED SUPPLIES FOR RENEW VBS JULY 25-29, 2022

USED ITEMS:

- Gently used pillow cases
- Old, broken crayons
- Cardboard
- 2 liter soda bottles
- Fleece fabric (10x10 squares)
- 5 gallon buckets (x3)
- Disposable diaper
- Cotton sock
- Glass bottle
- Aluminum can
- Large seeds (peach pits, avocado pits, etc.)
- Shoe boxes
- Grocery bags
- Cereal boxes
- Textured materials (sand paper, carpet, etc.)
- Newspapers
- Old greeting cards
- Cans
- Jars
- Crafting scraps
- Left over pieces to and incomplete board games
- Egg cartons
- Catalogs/magazines
(especially gardening/nature/outdoor related)

ITEMS TO BORROW:

- Garden Supplies (gloves, hat, shovel, spade, etc)
- Cool muffin tins
- Book with pictures of different kinds of trees
- Other nature books

NEW ITEMS:

- Paper Towels
- Gravel (small bag)
- Sand (small bag)
- Cotton balls
- Straws
- Ribbon (different kinds)
- Plastic plant pots
- Fabric markers
- Plastic spoons
- Brown pipe cleaners
- Poster board (x3)
- Clothesline
- Clothespins
- Squeeze paints/glitter paints
- Play dough
- Paper bags
- Tomato seeds pack (x6)
- Bell Peppers seeds pack (x6)
- Onion seeds pack (x6)
- Oregano seeds pack (x6)
- Wildflower seeds pack (x6)
- Any other seeds
- Envelopes
- Tubs of powdered clay
- Tubs of powdered soil
- Spray bottle
- Duct tape
- Soil

Questions?

Susana Vick, Interim Director of Faith Formation
susana@firstpresmanhattan.com
(785) 537-0518



COMMUNITY MEALS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Our Community weekly dinner meals is growing, and we need help filling in spots!

HERE'S WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- ◆ There are 3 Teams that are short of “main dish” volunteers (5 open slots).
 - ◆ 1 Team is short of a “side dish” person.
- ◆ The 3rd Tuesday Teams of every month are particularly short-handed.

If you are interested in volunteering for community meals, contact **Claudia Voos** at:

(785) 313-1874 or cvoos@BurnettAuto.com



SUPPORT THE FPC LIBRARY!

We are looking for donations from a curated wishlist of books to rejuvenate and revitalize our church library bookshelves! If you wish to participate, you can gift a book found on our wishlist linked below or give a monetary donation! We will continue adding new titles to the wishlist over time, so you can gift a book at any time!

Purchase Online:
tinyurl.com/fpc-library

For gift cards or monetary donations can be dropped off or mailed to the church office at:
First Presbyterian Church, 801 Leavenworth St, Manhattan, KS 66502

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>JULY CALENDAR</h1>					1 Food Pantry 9am	2
3 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday Brunch 11:30am 4th Sunday after Pentecost	4 OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day	5 Faith Formation 1pm Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	6	7 Membership Committee 6pm	8 Food Pantry 9am	9
10 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am 5th Sunday after Pentecost	11 Mission Committee 5:15pm Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm	12 Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	13 Staff Meeting 9am Newsletter Deadline	14 Business Affairs Meeting 5pm	15 Food Pantry 9am	16
17 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am 6th Sunday after Pentecost	18 Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm Men's Lunch 12pm	19 Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	20 Personnel Committee 1pm	21	22 Food Pantry 9am	23 Music Camp 9am
24 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am 7th Sunday after Pentecost	25 VBS 9am to Noon Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm Men's Lunch 12pm	26 VBS 9am to Noon Stewardship Committee 1:30pm Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	27 VBS 9am to Noon Staff Meeting 9am	28 VBS 9am to Noon	29 VBS 9am to Noon Food Pantry 9am	30
31 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am 8th Sunday after Pentecost	<p style="text-align: center;">IMPORTANT DATES:</p> <p>July 3rd: Summer Sunday Brunch July 4th: Office Closed July 23rd: Music Camp July 24th: Celebration of the Lord's Supper July 25-29th: VBS</p>					

FLINT HILLS BREAD BASKET'S *Annual Luncheon*

The Flint Hills Bread Basket held its Annual Luncheon here at Presby Place on June 17. The afternoon was filled with celebration, acknowledging the contributions of many volunteers, board members, and congregational food pantries, all cooperating to meet the needs of our neighbors in Riley County. Several exciting updates about significant changes in distribution of food, and broadening community support, were shared by the new Executive Director of the organization, Karla Hagemeister. Thank you to everyone who makes this ministry in our community possible. Without you, and your love for neighbor, the witness to Christ would be greatly diminished. Thank you for shining so brightly! Coordinators of First Presbyterian's Food Pantry are Barbara Gatewood, Emily Mark, and Stacey Montgomery.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 07/01 Bob Mertz
- 07/01 Ray Coffey
- 07/01 Jeff Smith
- 07/02 John Leslie
- 07/03 Grace Maxwell
- 07/03 Izzy Maxwell
- 07/03 Guy Henry Allen
- 07/04 Steve Maxwell
- 07/07 Lyle Butler
- 07/07 Kate Gillum
- 07/08 Dave Woolfolk
- 07/09 Carol Ross
- 07/09 Indie Voos
- 07/11 Doug Chapman
- 07/11 Rich Jensen
- 07/11 William Allen
- 07/12 Patty McCrary
- 07/13 Daisy Schalles
- 07/14 Jackie Hartman-Borck
- 07/15 Jennifer Allen
- 07/17 Carter Couch
- 07/19 Bob Maxwell
- 07/19 Ron Feldkamp
- 07/19 Sue Mountford
- 07/20 Mike Vick
- 07/20 Bronwyn Fees
- 07/21 Muriel Woods
- 07/22 Nelson Galle
- 07/24 Connie Hayden
- 07/26 Riley Jarvis
- 07/27 Bill Varney
- 07/28 Jonathan Wille
- 07/30 Stan Myers



First Presbyterian Church
801 Leavenworth St
Manhattan, KS 66502

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 785-537-0518

Facebook: @firstpresmanhattan

Instagram: @firstpremanhattan

YouTube: @firstpresmanhattan

Website: www.firstpresmanhattan.com

PARKSIDE SERVICE IS BACK!

Join us Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in Friendship Park for worship!