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Manhattan, KS

June 2016

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Headline News

It's Tea Time!

This year's Mother's Day was extra fun with the addition of the Mother's Day Tea and Fashion Show! Guests were treated to delicious food and drinks prepared by The Presby Tea Room Ladies and a fashion show sponsored by Children's Place and Dress Barn.

Pictured are models from First Presbyterian showing off clothing from The Children's Place.

(785)-537-0518
www.firstpresmanhattan.com



Rev. Kati Collins

A few weeks ago, I attended the Forum on Youth Ministry at Princeton Seminary in Princeton, NJ. Every presentation and lecture added extremely valuable inspiration to my ministry, and I am grateful for this congregation supporting my continuing education by offering me this opportunity to strengthen my travel muscles and my knowledge base in ministering with adolescents. What is an adolescent? This was a hot topic during the conference. Several

folks like to say that adolescence is a construct of our society in response to the media's exploitation and parent's pampering of children. So, we should start treating our youth like adults. Others pointed out that adolescence has been a recognized period of transition throughout history, showing documentation in medieval paintings and instructional books. So, we should cut them some slack, remember what it was like to feel like we stick out like a sore thumb, and help discover the world alongside them. Our speakers offered statistics, case studies and guidance for ministry with youth at the start of this search for belonging and identity as well as young adults at the close of this transition as they start to embody their discovered identity and when we hope they recognize a belonging in this thing we call "church".

One of the presentations entitled, "Losing Our Religion", looked at how the adolescents of today experience the world and make choices about where they will go and what they will do. Our Speaker, Rev. Erica Liu, who ministers with Presby House at University of Wisconsin at Madison, pointed out one of the biggest challenges in reaching out to these younger generations: FOMO. More and more generations of today are faced with the anxiety produced by the Fear Of Missing Out (FOMO). They don't perceive their multiple RSVP's as over commitment, they truly want to do so many exciting things, and yet on the day of an event, they may take a look at their options by checking Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat, and then choose which of these events is the most vital or exciting thing of the moment. Remember, these young adults were raised in a world which was building in activity and access to information as well opportunities which continue to expand. The challenge for today's American young adults is not finding one opportunity, but choosing the best fitted, most enjoyable and exciting path. Isn't this the future we want for our children?

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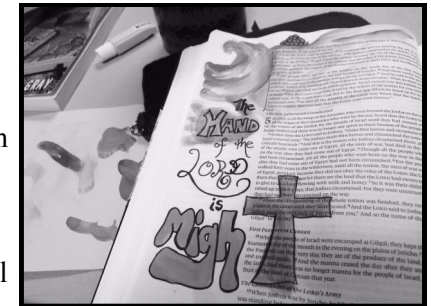
Coming Up Next...

Happy June Birthdays!



Illuminated Journaling

Have you been enjoying the peaceful meditation of coloring pages? Pastor Kati is leading Women's Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. The class has been working through Jann Gray's book "Illuminated Journaling." Gray demonstrates and encourages painting, doodling, and illustrating in a Journaling Bible as a spiritual discipline. Curious? Check out our local Christian Bookstore, talk to Pastor Kati, or google "illustrated faith."



Total Body Workout

Zumba is back. Come Zumba with us on Monday's from 5:30-6:30 in Presby Place starting May 16th.



Welcome to our New Members!



Margo and Frank Laubhan have lived in Manhattan for six months and come to us from Manhattan, KS. Margo and Frank were familiar with First Presbyterian because Margo's parents were married in the church. The Laubhans are both retired.

2814 Cedarsprings Lane
Wamego, KS 66547
620-672-1623



Penny Bloedel is currently a member of the army and a K-State student. She has lived in Manhattan for 2 1/2 years and previously lived in Leavenworth, KS. Penny began attending First Presbyterian because of the music and location.

808
Leavenworth Street
Manhattan, KS 66502

Color the Psalms

Starting June 3rd, on Friday mornings at 10am will be a new bible study called "Color the Psalms". Participants will engage in a discussion questions over the psalms while coloring a related color page. Kids are invited to attend with parent, but no formal nursery care provided. Leader is Susan Maxwell, email at susiebassoon@yahoo.com. Site will be on church grounds, either in the nursery or friendship park. The "Color the Psalms" book is \$8.00 at target online or the local Christian bookstore. Contact Susan for any questions!

Crunching the Numbers

During the month of March, we served 114 dinners and 74 breakfasts. We also distributed 31 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 March, our Food Pantry served 67 adults and 44 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.



(Continued from page 2)

This perspective gives me a more grateful appreciation for the youth and young adults who are actively sharing in the ministry of this church. Long gone are the days we can expect young people to show up in church out of duty or obedience. They will come and participate, when they choose to be here. When they see the relevance to what we are doing here at the church and in the community, they will pick up the tools needed to work alongside us. The youth who offered sermons on Youth Sunday spoke to us, because they felt God's message welling up inside them, not because we required them to do it. The temptation for us can be to aspire to try to be "the most exciting thing", but the research shows, the long term commitment choices reflect "the most relevant and impactful thing."

So my guiding question for us as we look to support and encourage the faith of adolescents is how can we invite the youth and the college students to be a part of the relevant and impactful ministries of our church? How do we introduce them to our neighbors who participate in the community meals on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning? How can we use our resources to encourage them to give back to our community? How has this church impacted your life, and how can you tell that story to invite someone else into our community of faith? Have an idea for our leadership? Send me an email or Facebook message...I'm not quite ready for Snapchat...but maybe I'll have an account by the time this letter is printed;) Don't know what I'm talking about? Ask a youth and we'll be on this journey together! Grace and Peace, Pastor Kati



Pictured above left: Pastor Kati Collins at the Forum with Colleagues and speaker, Crystal Kirgiss (center), author of *In Search of Adolescence: A New Look at an Old Idea*.



Pictured above right: Pastor Collins overcoming her Fear Of Missing Out by attending the *Late Show with Stephen Colbert* with Robbie Collins' cousin, Marilyn Miller.

In Our Church

First Sunday Summer Brunches



June 5, July 3, and August 7

In Fisher Hall Following the 10:30 Service

GUIDELINES

Congregation: **Bring a Potluck dish to serve 10-12:**

Meat dish, vegetable dish, or salad

Bring your own Table Service:

We are trying to Go Green and reduce use of plastics, paper products and plates...plus reduce clean-up.

Bring a friend!

Membership Committee: provides dessert and beverages
PB&J will be provided for kids

Deacon's Ice Cream Social will be a Bonus for the July 5 Brunch
Gathering in gratitude for our bountiful blessings...

Everyone is welcome!

Presby Art Show

Following the worship services on June 26th, we will have an art show and reception, displaying works of our members along with students from our art classes. Each member/student may submit up to 5 items to be displayed. These items may be your own creations or spiritual art in your collection which you would like to share. Please RSVP with the size and number of items, so that we may have an adequately prepared set-up. Forms are available in the church



Father's Day Pictures

We will be creating a PowerPoint presentation featuring pictures of fathers in celebration of Father's Day! Please turn in pictures of fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or a person in your life who has been a father figure. Pictures may be emailed to the office at secretary@firstpresmanhattan.com or brought into the office in person. Please include the names of everyone in your picture. Pictures are due **BY June 13th.**



Wanted

Campers. Must be:

Fun loving, eager to learn, excited to meet new people!

Dates:

June 17-18: Cheer Camp! Cheered on by Damian Hilton for kids ages 7-100.

June 20-23: Basketball Camp for grades 3rd-6th led by Sarah Wenger, MCC's Women's Basketball Coach.

June 20-23: Art Camp with Micky Jensen for 4th-8th graders

July 26-29: Music Camp with Steve and Susan Maxwell for campers ages Pre-K-6th grade.

For more information or to register, visit firstpresmanhattan.com/children/2016summer-camps/

Upcoming Events

6/6-10: Vacation Bible School

6/20-23: Basketball Camp

6/20-23: Art camp

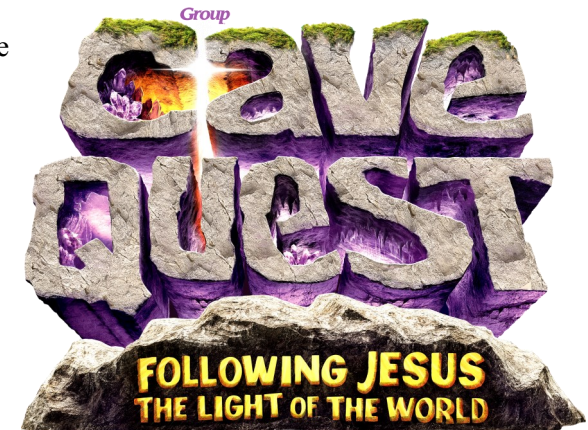
7/26-29: Music Camp

Don't forget to attend our Wednesday Nights on the Black top beginning **June 1!** Each week will have a fun theme and activities! For more information, see page 7.

Bible School 2016!

Join us 9 a.m.-12 p.m., June 6-10 for a fun week of Vacation Bible School! We will have a lot of fun learning about Jesus and the Bible through songs, games and stories. To register, visit our website at www.firstpresmanhattan.com.

Interested in volunteering? We would love to have you! Volunteers are needed to help with snacks, story telling, music, recreation, lab activities, administration/registration, and as crew leaders! Call the church office to sign up as a volunteer!



Presby KIDS!

2017 Father's Day Retreat

Following the success of our Mother's Day Tea, First Presbyterian has decided to begin planning a Father's Day retreat to celebrate our fathers in 2017!

June Parents' Night Out: Up, Up and Away!

June 17 from 6:00-9:00 p.m.
RSVP by Monday, April 13th

We will take off on a summer adventure in our beautiful balloons! Join us as we enjoy all things balloons including water balloons and a balloon craft!



Mother's Day Tea

Thank you to all who helped plan, organize and execute a most beautiful event! I am happy to say that after many requests, we plan to continue coordinating this special event for years to come! A big thank you to these wonderful ladies for sharing their time and talent: Virginia Benkelmen, Eloise Brown, Mary Lou Steinkruger, Sally Mullen, Alice Armbrust, Sue Bath-Dunn, Christy Dowling, Andrea Higgins. A special thanks to our event "helpers" Jake Brink and Susana Vick. Last but not least we thank our beautiful "fashion models" for their time on our "runway": Leicha Kennedy, Andrea Higgins, Christy Dowling, Claudia Voos, Mary Lawrence Currie, Tymir Chatman, Jamir and Kyrie Johnson, Avery and Kady Jo and Haddie Higgins, Izzy and Addie Dowling and Indie and Crew Voos and Mary-Dell Currie.

Weekly Childcare Summer Schedule

Sundays: 9:00-11:30 Both Sunday Services and adult Sunday school classes
Wednesdays: 10:00-11:30 Bible Study
Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Lil' Kids' Morning Out (LKMO)



A Note from Health Ministries

"Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in distress." Psalm 31:9 NIV

More than one million Americans at or over age 40 are currently blind. Vision impairment creates problems for an additional 2.4 million. As Baby Boomers age, these numbers are expected to double. That means this is a problem for all of us. Blindness and visual impairment from many eye diseases and disorders can be reduced when detected and treated early. The leading causes of vision blindness and visual impairment include:

- **Diabetic Retinopathy:** This common complication of diabetes affects and impairs vision in nearly half of all diabetics to some degree over their lifetime. Blood vessels of the retina can break down, become blocked or leak. Effective treatment includes laser surgery and some medications. Diabetics require annual dilated eye exams.
 - **Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD):** AMD is the most common cause of legal blindness and vision impairment in older Americans because it damages central vision. There is no generally accepted treatment, but laser therapies may reduce the risk of further vision loss.
 - **Cataract:** This is the clouding of the lens of the eye and usually appears with advancing age but can be linked to smoking, diabetes and excessive exposure to sunlight. Surgical treatment can eliminate vision loss by replacing the eye's lens.
 - **Glaucoma:** Vision loss is caused by gradual damage to the optic nerve which carries visual information from the eye to the brain. Vision loss is not noticed until significant nerve damage has occurred so screenings are important for early diagnosis when it can be controlled. Any vision loss cannot be restored.
- We have a responsibility to care for our eyesight. God has given us our body and the resources to care for it. In I Corinthians 3:16 Paul tells us, "You yourselves are God's temple and ...God's spirit lives in you." In verse 9 he says, "You are God's field, God's building." By seeing our eye doctor regularly for vision exams and following our doctor's advice, we become good stewards of our bodies. We use the resources God has given us so we can become the extraordinary servants He intends us to be.

(Source: American Foundation for the Blind www.afb.org)

Time and Talents Fair

On **Sunday, August 21**, all Studies, Committees, and Activities are welcome to set up information tables. Representatives from these groups are welcome to visit with fair attendees about their missions and activities. **Please RSVP to the office to reserve a space.**



Youth and College

Graduation and beyond!

In May we celebrated the graduation of 10 college undergraduates and graduate students and 4 high school students. Our next college lunch will be on August 28th, including a Trivia Championship!

Youth Schedule

Small Groups and Cornerstone Youth will return this fall, beginning the week of August 21st, but don't worry! We'll have plenty to do over the summer! If you're not on our text list, talk to mid-high youth leader, Natalie Bender, who will be sending updates for Bowling, Swimming, Snowcones and Trip meet-ups, or go to the church website to register for our Summer Youth Choir and Arts Camps!

Youth Sunday



First Presbyterian's Cornerstone youth group led worship on May 1 for Youth Sunday. From reading to preaching, our young people demonstrated their strong leadership skills. Check out their sermons on our YouTube channel and church website!

Pictured left: Briana Dowling, Edward McKeever, Zac Paquette after leading the Youth Sunday services.

You can help our youth on their summer mission trip to South Dakota by being a prayer partner! Sign up will be available in Sunday bulletins in June.

Summer Fun for Everyone!

Wednesday Night's on the Black Top

BYO-Dinner and enjoy it with your family in our Friendship Park starting at 5:30. At 6pm we'll have a special program each Wednesday night from June through July. Bring your friends and spread the word!

June

1st: "The Church Ladies", Live Music and Sidewalk Chalk games/designs

8th: Rockin' Geology Night with Fun and Games, as an extension of the Vacation Bible School Cave Theme

15th: Campfires & Cowboys: Ranching & Wrangling Games with special guest Ron Wilson and his Cowboy Poetry

22nd: Canvas & Coke: Bring your own canvas and soda or help us paint some murals together!

29th: Outdoor Games with Badminton and more!

July

6th: Patriotic Red, White and Blue (Military Appreciation Night)

13th: Movie Night in our air conditioned sanctuary

20th: Water Fun Night: Mission, Games & Activities

27th: Drum Circle and Dancing

