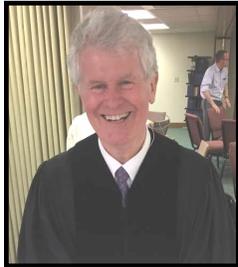




Manhattan, KS

October, 2017

# Headline News



Rev. McConnell

## 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, which is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we will also celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of First Presbyterian's founding. Bagpipes and drums will lead the procession on this historic day in the life of the Protestant Church, coupled with a celebration of our congregation's mission and outreach since 1867. Fourteen members, along with the Rev. Alexander Sterrett, constituted the first Sunday worship of the congregation on the second floor of the courthouse just two years after the Civil War. Three years later the congregation would build its first building on the southwest corner of Fifth and Poyntz at a cost of \$6,223.00.

We often associate the founding of a church or any organization in a romantic light, considering the dreams, aspirations, and vision of the founders. But we know that hard work, disappointments, and discouragements come with the territory in any proposition or idea worth working for and sharing with others. Such was the dedication of our founders in an effort to promote the gospel in a city with a brand new University and brand new vision for itself. First Presbyterian would join in this growth of spirit and community, just four years after the city of Manhattan and Kansas State University were founded.

And so here we are today, not only appreciating the diligent efforts and the visions of our spiritual ancestors, but carrying on the tradition of the mission of the gospel forward so we reach others for Christ and prepare the way for future generations.

Mark October 29<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. It will be a great day of celebration!

Faithfully,

Cam



Rev. Alexander Sterrett  
First Presbyterian's First Pastor

P.S. Just one service on October 29th at 10:30 a.m.

## 40 DAYS IN THE WORD

Every partner of our congregation is invited to renew their spiritual devotion to God and join in a commitment to read the bible every day for 40 days starting **October 9th!** Several of our current Small Groups and Bible Studies will be using Rick Warren's DVD and Workbook study to guide us through "40 Days in the Word." Bookmarks are available at the Welcome Center to guide you with scripture to memorize each week and use as a starting place. If you would like to use the workbook as your daily devotional, you can order one through your small group or pick one up in the church office. If you already have a daily devotional book, you are invited to open up your Bible as well and read the supporting passages.

## A FEW NEW SMALL GROUPS WILL BEGIN THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9TH

Please contact Pastor Kati for more information:

Men's Small Group

Young and Fun Adults Small Group, Meeting at Bluestem on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Afternoon Ladies Group, Tuesdays at Radinas in the 'Ville at 4:15 p.m.



## FIRST ACADEMY

Kansas State President Richard B. Myers will speak at First Presbyterian's First Academy on **Monday, October 9th at 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. President Myers is a retired four-star general in the United State Air

Force and also served as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under President George Bush from 2001-2005. Refreshments begin at 6:15 p.m. and the program commences at 6:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for Friday Fellowship at 11:00 a.m. in Fisher Hall on October 27. This month's speaker is **Dr. Sue Maes**, retiring Dean of K-State Global Campus. Dr. Maes' vision and leadership transformed access to online higher education and adult learning, extending the reach of Kansas State University both nationally and internationally. Julie Haynes, Hospitality Coordinator, will prepare a delicious lunch following the presentation.



## HOW DO YOU SERVE?

*Without knowing it at the time, I think my grandmother Beulah introduced me to volunteerism. As a child, I spent a week or two each summer at my grandparent's farm in Marshall County, KS. I'd help with typical chores and tag along on errands. I realize now how many friends, neighbors and relatives my grandmother helped each week. Every Friday we would drop off eggs, a basket of crabapples, a few tomatoes (whatever was in abundance at the time) at numerous elderly neighbor's farmhouses, see if they needed anything in town, then head to Blue Rapids.*

*Once in town we would repeat the checking on friends & relatives. I ate my first piece of gooseberry pie at Bertha's home, an elderly friend who had the most beautiful flowers in her backyard. Sometimes we would stop at the nursing home to visit more people. Then our final visit was to pick up my great-great Aunt Bessie.*

*Aunt Bessie, all of 80 lbs. at barely 5 feet tall, didn't drive, had lost her husband early and outlived two mentally disabled adult children. She had supported her family by sewing & darning stockings, not an easy life. My grandmother took her to the grocery store 2 blocks down the street to 'do her trading' every single week of the year.*

*It's just what you did. You helped your neighbors, your friends, your relatives. My grandmother never acted as if it was a burden or even an expectation. She set a wonderful example of serving others, not in a fussy way, just matter-of-fact. If she had plenty, she shared, not just her garden but her time.*

*It must have made a lasting impression because I like cooking & serving Community Dinners, being involved with church & community events, and look forward to returning to delivering Meals on Wheels and helping with our Food Pantry.*

*I have considered it an honor to serve as an elder at our church, alongside so many other generous volunteers. And I especially hold those on the Membership & Fellowship Committee close to my heart, as they have shown me how dedication & hard work can lead to lasting friendships.*

-Member, Jill Myers

First Presbyterian provides an endless number of ways to serve, from helping the food insecure in our Food Pantry to visiting the homebound through Bridge Builders.

For information about service and mission opportunities, contact the First Presbyterian Volunteer Coordinator, Taylor Roberts, at [secretary@firstpresmanhattan.com](mailto:secretary@firstpresmanhattan.com) or 785-537-0518.



## GIRL SCOUTS DONATE TO FIRST PRES

Girl Scout Troop #71301 donated a portion of their Girl Scout Cookie sales profits (\$100) to support the First Presbyterian Community Breakfast!

Thank you, Troop #71301, for your generous donation!

Pictured left is the troop at a meeting in September earning their cooking badge. The girls gathered in the Fisher Hall kitchen to make mini pizzas and no bake cookies.

(From left) Stacey Montgomery, Gracie Montgomery, Ava Bunell, Kendall Vandom, Joslyn Nixon, Lara Stother, Reagan Gaul, Mia Wade.

## COLLEGE MINISTRY NEWS

First Pres has a new College Ministry leader! **Emily Moormeier** will be working with and organizing activities for our college students. Emily comes to us from Olathe, KS. She is a Junior at KSU majoring in Family Studies and Human Services.

We are planning a college Fall serve day where any college students who want to will come out and help do yard work at members of the congregation houses and places around the city. If you are college student who is interested in participating please email me at [emoormeier28@gmail.com](mailto:emoormeier28@gmail.com).

College students interested in helping at the Tuesday night community dinners held at the church (5-7pm) please email me at [emoormeier28@gmail.com](mailto:emoormeier28@gmail.com).



## WELCOME, SARAH!

Sarah Diamond joins First Presbyterian as the Church Administrator. Sarah recently earned her Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from Kansas State University. Her research focus encompasses the motivation and retention of volunteers in community-based non-profits. Sarah has extensive experience serving in leadership and management roles in non-profits, including working in a similar capacity for another church in Manhattan. In addition to her position at First Presbyterian Church, Sarah also works at Kansas State University.

Sarah and her husband, Jeremy have two sons. She enjoys spending time with her family, running, gardening, photography, riding horses, and volunteering.



## BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

On September 24, the First Presbyterian organ came alive with the annual Music Guild Organ Recital. The talented performers (pictured left) included Stephen Kucera, Bob Edwards, and Dan Myers. Thank you to our musicians and the Music Guild for another successful concert!

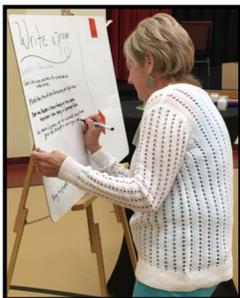
## THE LIGHT UPDATE



The earth was formless and empty,  
and darkness covered the deep waters.  
And the Spirit of God was hovering  
over the surface of the waters.  
Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.  
Genesis 1:2-3 NLT



"Inclusive", "moving", "engaging" and no words (insert hug), a few of the many responses to Sunday's Worship Service Launch for our New Worshipping Community. Our musicians led us through songs like "How Great Thou Art", "10,000 Reasons", and "Shine, Jesus, Shine". Our worship partners read scriptures from the book of Genesis and talked about what these words tell us about God and about humanity.



We stated our faith using part of the Brief Statement of Faith of the PCUSA, and we prayed. One unique feature of our time together appeared in motion during the time of Offering. This is different. This is new. Here we are cultivating community in ancient, new, comfortable and uncomfortable ways at our **modern giving stations**. In one corner you can give cash or check, by placing it in a communal jar. In another corner, you can use a debit card or apple pay at the Square station. On one end of our space you can refill your coffee, and on the other end, the children play in our **"Pray-ground"** (pictured right). In one corner you can post a prayer or physical need (pictured left), in another corner, you can take/leave a used coat/shoe/cup or whatever you put on the rack. **"Give what you have, Take what you need"** reads the sign on the coat rack. Really that is the motto of our whole time together. *We are cultivating community in worship, by making space for people to really think about what they have been given by God, what they physically need, and what they have to give.*



Do you have something someone else might need? Join us for worship on Sunday, and come be in community with us and with God.

## HAMMERING FOR JUSTICE

**October 29th beginning at 9:00 a.m.**, in order to celebrate 500 years since Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-Five Theses on that Castle Church door in Whittenburg, Germany, The Light will have their first "Service in Service" day. We will set to work on a variety of community service projects ending with a prayer and song for our community at 10:15 a.m.. Habitat for Humanity will be coordinating some construction projects and the FPC Mission Committee will be providing supplies that can be put in buckets and sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and be used for future Hurricane Clean Up projects. Please RSVP on our Facebook Event, so that we can have the appropriate amount of projects and supplies.

## PAINTING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

Refresh your mind and spirit with creative projects. Supplies will be provided to paint or color beautiful posters created by A Sanctified Art. You may bring your own project, or use our supplies for watercolor, acrylic, colored pencils, crayons and markers. These events will take place before our community dinners, and all are welcome to create and eat!

Join us Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5 at 5:00 p.m.



## ANNUAL FALL PICNIC

Over 130 people attended the First Pres Fall Picnic on September 17 in Friendship Park. Guests played games organized by Children's Ministries Director, Shiloh Vick, including sack races, egg-in-a-spoon races, and tug-o-war; Chris and Ron Wilson brought a pony for guests to ride; Reg Pittman, First Pres Chancel Choir Director, led a hymn sing, and everyone gathered together to partake in "Jim's Famous Grilled Chicken"!

A huge thank you goes out to the Membership, Fellowship and Growth Committee and all of the volunteers who helped make this year's picnic a huge success! This is one of the church's favorite annual events and it could not be done without you!

See our Facebook page @firstpresmanhattan for a compilation video of memories from the First Pres Picnic 2017!



Pastor Kati's Recipe for Happiness

1 mustard seed of faith  
 1 handful of compassion  
 1 heaping cup of gratitude

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
 Praise God, all creatures here below.  
 Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.  
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
 Amen.




Pastor Kati shared her "Recipe for Happiness" along with the Benediction, which was read and sung before the meal;

Picnic-ers played games of tug-o-war for the finale!

## SAVE THE DATE

11/27 **Family Advent Lunch & Activity**- Reservations needed; "Build A Nativity" kits (\$15 per family), available to build onsite or take home,

12/3 **Mayor's Spirit of Christmas Lighted Parade**- We will have a Presby Kids float in the parade. Volunteers needed! More details to follow.

## PRESBY KIDS NEED YOUR RECIPES!!!

If you haven't submitted a recipe (and short memory/narration about it), please do so before October 31. Our little cookbook will go to print in early November and hopefully be ready for pick-up before Thanksgiving. The cost will be \$12. Proceeds from the sale of the books will help fund our Heartland Church Camp next year, and provide scholarships and subsidies to kids in our community who would like to attend. To reserve your copy, contact Taylor Roberts at the church office, 537-0518.



## TRUNK OR TREAT

On **Friday, October 27th from 6:00-9:00 pm**, our PNO will be a "Trunk or Treat"! It will be "carnival style" with different stations throughout the church, in Sunday school rooms, Fisher Hall and outside! Please have your child dress in a church-appropriate and age-appropriate costume (ghosts/goblins OK, but please nothing gory or scary). Registration begins October 1. The link and more information can be found on our website!

We could definitely use some **YOUTH VOLUNTEERS** for the event to help lead activities by station, so if your son or daughter is interested, please call or text Shiloh Vick, @ [785-317-8286](tel:785-317-8286)! It's a great way to get those high school volunteer hours!



## P<sup>2</sup>!

P<sup>2</sup> has kicked off strong with record attendance and some fun meetings....we even attended the MHS game as a group! Don't miss out on the fun, as October and beyond brings even more events and activities...flag football, t-shirt designing, mini-golf, missions, and even a PUMPKIN PALOOZA!!

Here is our schedule the next month:

- 10/6 Lesson & Activity
- 10/13 Pumpkin Palooza\*
- 10/20 Lesson & Activity
- 10/27 Help with PNO's Trunk or Treat (costumes appreciated, left for details)\*
- 11/3 Putt-putt golf at Wildcat Creek\*

*\*Emails will be sent to P2 parents covering the details of this event!*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL IMPORTANT INFO!!

Parents of children in Preschool-6th Grades, please remember we offer Sunday school and choir during our **10:15 AND 10:30 worship services**. Children are dismissed around 10:45 each Sunday morning to attend Sunday school. We meet as a large group in the chapel and dismiss to classrooms/choir by group. Our curriculum this year is called *Dig In*. It is simple, straightforward, and a FANTASTIC way to "dig in" to our Bibles book by book. Each classroom does something different and no two Sundays will be the same! If your child is not already involved, please consider having them try it out. Our teachers and choir directors are very understanding and flexible and will always encourage children to move at the pace that is most comfortable for them. If they don't want to jump in right away, it is OK for them to attend as an "observer". We also welcome anyone who cannot attend regularly. We understand tournaments and other activities can conflict with the schedule...please don't let that stop them from coming when they can! It's a lot of fun!!

### Classes include:

- "Mustard Seeds" (Toddlers) .....Nursery
- "Seedlings" (Preschool)....."Preschool" Room (south of and adjacent to nursery)
- "Frogs" (K/1st)....."The Way" Room (south end classroom, 2nd level)
- "Owls" (2nd/3rd)....."The Truth" Room (middle classroom, 2nd level)
- "Trees (Of Life)" (4th-6th)....."The Life" Room (north end classroom, 2nd level)

Safety is our top priority so please remember to check your child in upon arrival to church at any one of **THREE KIOSKS** conveniently located throughout the building: in the **narthex**, at the **nursery entrance**, or in **Presby Place**. **FOR YOUR ADDED CONVENIENCE**, we now have barcoded **KEY TAGS** to make the check-in process hassle-free! If you do not have a key tag, please let someone know at one of the welcome stations, and we will get you taken care of!

## THANK YOU NOTES

**Dear First Presbyterian Church,**

The dust has settled a bit and we wanted to thank the First Presbyterian church for their generous and loving donation of backpacks and school supplies. We served over 179 families at the FIT closet since the start of the new year. It has been the busiest year so far. We just could not have done this with out the help of congregations like yours. Thank you for being willing to minister to the needy in the USD 383 school district. Thank you!

From,

Barbara Hartnett

(Pictured right: The FIT Closet sorting out backpacks and supplies for the 2017-2018 school year)

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**Dear First Presbyterian Church,**

Thank you so much for sponsoring the Senior Champion for Geology and the Little Apple Dollars. Your support is greatly appreciated for 4-H.

Thank you,

Dylan Anderson, Leonardville Hustlers

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Our acolytes would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to Emily Mark for having our stoles cleaned and pressed! "No more ring around the collar", as they used to say. We appreciate you, Mrs. Mark!!

Presby Acolytes and Leaders

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Thank you to all who came to help set up and take down the games and activities at the church picnic. A big shout out and thank you go to Ron and Chris Wilson for providing not only the pony rides for the picnic, but also the hay bales for our hymn sing. The hay bales are stored safely away to be used for our float at the Mayor's Spirit of Christmas Lighted Parade.

Shiloh Vick, Children's Ministries Director

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[www.firstpresmanhattan.com](http://www.firstpresmanhattan.com)

Facebook: @firstpresmanhattan

Twitter: @firstpresmhk

### CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

#### Food Pantry

In August, our Food Pantry served 35 adults and 32 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.

#### Community Meals

During the month of August, we served 172 dinners and 102 breakfasts. We also distributed 55 brownbag lunches.

## OCTOBER MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast is held monthly on the third Thursday of each month from 7:00-8:00 a.m. in Fisher Hall.

The October Men's Breakfast will be held on Thursday, October 19, and will feature a presentation by FPC member

**Wayne Converse** (pictured right). Wayne has officiated high school sports for many years and won the High School Football Official of the Year Award. Join us for this interesting talk!



  
the **LIGHT**  
A New Worshipping Community

Have you heard about  
our New Worshipping  
Community?  
Join us Sunday  
Mornings at 10:15 a.m.  
in Presby Place.

*All are  
Welcome*