

First Presbyterian Church  
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April 2015

# Headline News

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

## He is Risen!

### Holy Week Schedule:

**April 2:** Maundy Thursday— Dinner in Fisher Hall at 6:30 p.m., followed by worship service in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. Communion will be served. Childcare available.

Prayer Vigil 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. in the chapel.

**April 3:** Good Friday— Worship service at 12:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Communion will be served. No childcare available.

**April 5:** Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service— Friendship Park.

7:45-10:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast— Fisher Hall.

9:15 and 10:30 a.m. Worship services in the sanctuary.

11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt— Friendship Park.

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

Articles for May HEADLINE NEWS will be due on **April 21**.

### Crunching the Numbers

During the month of February, we served 176 dinners and 78 breakfasts. We have also distributed 50 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.

### Backsnack Project Tally 2014-2015 School Year

The Backsnack project is a way of providing Pre-k - 12th grade students with nutritious food on the weekends during the school year. School counselors help get the snacks to students on Fridays in their backpacks. There are roughly 200 students in Manhattan who get this help each weekend from this program.

In March, we received 58 pounds of food! This brings our running total to 385 pounds of food collected in this academic year. Snack food collection ends in May with the school calendar. Please keep donating!

Please leave the donations in the basket in the narthex. Contact Susan Maxwell if you have any questions!



### Food Pantry News

In February, our Food Pantry served 98 adults, 39 children, and 3 elderly. We partner with the Flint Hills Breadbasket to help those in our community who are food insecure.

### New Interim Associate Pastor to begin on April 12

The Session is happy to announce the hiring of the Rev. Kati Collins as First Presbyterian's new interim associate pastor. Kati comes to us from St. Paul, Nebraska where she has served as the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church for the last three years. She is a graduate of Oklahoma State University in flute performance and a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Some of her main responsibilities will include: directing and develop ministries for youth, young adult (including college students), and young families, and increasing music opportunities for mid-high and senior-high youth. Kati is married to Robbie Collins. Kati will preach her first sermon here on April 19<sup>th</sup> and a welcoming reception for her and her husband, Robbie, will be held April 26<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service.



## The Joy of Easter



Rev. Cam McConnell

The eternal message of Easter eternalizes the goodness that comes with belief in the Resurrection. With the empty tomb comes the hope of emptying out the grievances and the grudges of the past with the hope that life will live in the future and no longer in the past. With the risen Christ comes the rise of expectations for ourselves to be kinder, more cheerful, more grateful and generous. With the promise of the Holy Spirit comes the promise of the peace of Christ.

There is no better lineup than the lineup of the Easter characters with their alternating moods of hopelessness and hope, sadness and celebration, defeat and victory. They are the everyday moods of everyday people. But the joy of the Resurrection remained forever in the hearts of the disciples as it can remain forever in our hearts and help us overcome the obstacles of life. Luke 24: 52 says it well: "And they worshipped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy." The Easter message teaches us to return home with joy, to return to our work place with joy, to return to our friends and relatives with joy, and to return to our school with joy. After all, Easter is about being joyful because there was never any better message in the history of the world than the discovery of the empty tomb. We know there are down and difficult days, but our Lord needs us to rise above those days in order to share the hope of Easter to others in need of the "Good News." There is no better testimony than the testimony of joy.

It's a beautiful time of the year! Let us share the celebration! Bring a friend to church on Easter Sunday!

Happy Easter!

Cam

## Heading to Haiti

Member **Mary Lawrence Currie and son, Jack**, will go on a mission trip to Haiti with the **Global Orphan Project** in April. They will be taking 2 suitcases full of items for the orphans. The current needs are: Toddler to youth-sized clothing for boys and girls (please no baby or small adult sizes), dresses or capris for girls, youth-sized shoes, Crocs (when possible), training bras, peanut butter, twin sheets (not white), bars of soap, deodorant, footwear (tennis shoes, flip flops, kids sizes 7-13), sanitary pads for girls, light-weight clothing, underwear, socks, medicines, and toothpaste. There is a basket in the narthex lounge, marked Haiti. We are grateful for any donations!



## First Academy

April First Academy will take place on **Monday, April 13** with speaker **Charles Reagan, Ph.D.** This month's topic will be *Discussions of the Death Penalty*.

First Academy programs meet in the sanctuary. Please come for a stimulating evening of lecture and discussion. Come early for refreshments at 6:15 p.m.

## Coming Up Next...

Happy April Birthdays!



## Join our Online Directory!

We are hoping to have full-church participation for our online directory. Please go to our website, [www.firstpresmanhattan.com](http://www.firstpresmanhattan.com) and enter your information and a picture. If you need help entering information, visit the office to fill out a hard copy of your information and we can enter it for you. Pictures can be also be emailed to the office or hard copies can be scanned by Taylor. Thank you for your help!



## Threads of Compassion

### Shawl dedication

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be dedicating shawls on April 12. Annette Radina will be offering knitting lessons and Virginia Benkelman will be teaching crocheting in the narthex.



### Yarn Donation

Want to help out? Donate yarn to the Prayer Shawl Ministry! Leave your donation with the office and it will go to helping someone in need.

## Parents' Night Out

Back by popular demand! Friday, April 10 6:00-9:00 p.m.

We welcome parents to participate in Parents' Night Out by putting your children in our capable hands while you go on a date night, run some late night errands, or any other activity of your choosing! We will have crafts, snacks, and fun activities for your little ones while you take the evening for yourselves.

Please RSVP in the narthex. \$3 for one child or \$5 for a family.



## 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 April Men's Breakfast will be held on Thursday, April 16. Our new interim pastor Kati Collins will be speaking. We hope to see you there!

Note: The password for the online church directory is Proverbs2 . The P must be capitalized.

## Prayer Groups and Fellowship

**Evening Circle** will be held **April 6 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Maureen Thien, **3400 Windsor Court**. We will be doing lesson eight.

**Morning Circle** Will be held **April 2nd at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carolyn Knostman-Bowers, 1912 Indiana Lane. Wann will be giving a report from the book Jerusalem: One City Two Faiths. Sandra Moore will speak on her experience working with soldiers recovering from PTSD at Fort Riley. Questions? Call Wann Towers at 766-3128.

**Friday Fellowship** will be held on **April 24, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.** Lunch will follow. Please join us for an interesting presentation and delicious lunch!



## Small Group Lenten study

Pictured at the home of Dr. Steve and Whitney Short are members of a small group studying Mark Batterson's book, "The Circle Maker" during the season of Lent. Members of the group include: Ray and Maxine Coffey, Gary and Bronwyn Fees, Lloyd Hummer, Ken and Jo Lyle, Palmer and Marti Meek, Cam and Jennifer McConnell, Bob and Mary Mertz, and Steve and Whitney Short.

## What a Great Season!

The First Presbyterian Volleyball Team participated in yet another wonderful season of fun, good fellowship, and exciting games! The team had an awesome year and finished fourth place with 6 wins and 4 losses. Most of the games were nail biters but more importantly they were fun. The league consisted of 10 churches in the Manhattan area.

Pictured is the First Presbyterian team:

Top row: Mike Wilson, Kristine Tiroch, Jarred Hatesohl

Bottom row: Jamie Long, Kenzie George, Andrea Higgins (not pictured Kim Smith)



## A Message From Health Ministries: Allergies

*I am in pain and distress; may your salvation, O God, protect me." Psalm 69:29 NIV*

Allergies are unusual, irritating, and potentially dangerous reactions of the immune system to a normally harmless substance. There are three categories of allergic reactions. Mild reactions are localized and include a rash, watery or itchy eyes, and congestion. Moderate reactions can spread beyond the original site of irritation and cause severe itching and difficulty breathing. The worst reaction, anaphylaxis, affects the whole body and is rare but life-threatening. Within minutes severe swelling will make breathing and swallowing difficult, and may include abdominal pain, vomiting, and mental confusion. Persons severely allergic to bees, shellfish, or peanuts should carry a dose of epinephrine to quickly reverse this reaction.

Whether an allergy is diagnosed through the medical testing of a physician or the detective process of an individual, finding the source of the allergy is like solving a mystery. Be observant to symptoms and the activities leading up to them. Look for connections between a reaction and any changes in diet, environment, or product use.

## Thank you

To our Friends at First Presbyterian Church,

We wish to thank our friends and church family for the loving support and encouragement to us at the time of Mom's passing. We extend a special thank you to Cam, for his tireless efforts and concern for us during this time and for the personal and meaningful words at her services, both here and in her hometown of Fairbury, Nebraska. We also would like to thank the Deacons for the wonderful meal that our family and friends were able to have on Friday noon. The meal and service were beyond what we expected.

The staff at Via Christi Village should be commended not only for their great care, but also for the loving and serving attitude they displayed throughout her four years in their facility; and thanks also to Dr. Palmer Meek for his compassionate care for her over the past two decades. We could not have asked for anything better.

Tom and Sandy Barth



## "Fight Against Hunger"

Claudia Voos and Missy Cox, coordinators of the Community Meals programs (pictured left), spoke at the March Men's Breakfast about First Presbyterian's "Fight Against Hunger". They talked about the Community Meals missions and the strides being taken to solve the problem of food insecurity in Manhattan.

## Music Camp 2015, "A Musical Workshop"

The last week of May, (26th-29th) from 10am-noon, (K-6th grade). Participants will be engaging in all forms of music, instrumental to vocal that are age and talent appropriate. All music making will culminate on Sunday May 31st, as Youth host the worship service.



"Thank you" seems barely enough for your continuing prayers for our son, John Frederick Shimp and his family, as he continues rehabbing from his stroke.

John K. and Shirley James Shimp

## Thank you!

Dear Church family,

We are so thankful for the love and support we have received with Charlotte's baptism. What a wonderful community we've found! The blanket and bible are very special to us.

With love, Mitch, Jamie and Charlotte Binns

Participants will need to plan to participate in Sunday event as a part of the camp. Contact Susan Maxwell at s.usiebassoon@yahoo.com for questions. Online registration is now open.

## April Library News 2015

Thanks to all who use the church library. Spring cleaning is a good time to check your nightstand, bookcase and desk to see if you have any library books laying around that you have forgotten about. Please be prompt on returning books that you are no longer reading. Please return new releases as quickly as possible for recirculation.

Some new titles added this month are "Carry on Warrior: The Power of Embracing Your Messy, Beautiful Life" by Glennon Melton, "Last One Home" by Debbie Macomber, "Jerusalem: One City, Three Faiths" by Karen Armstrong, "The Love Dare for Parents" by Stephen and Alex Kendrick and "Live Original: How the Duck Commander Teen Keeps it Real and Stays True to Her Values" by Sadie Robertson.

Wishing for April showers and May flowers!!!!

**Thank you**

### Red Cross Blood Drive

I would like to thank the donors who donated at the March drive. We surpassed our goal by 2 pints. We couldn't do it without you!

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive in memory of Kevin Coffey, will be Sunday, May 31, 2015. Please contact Tamera Garibay to schedule your appointment at [785.236.0955](tel:785.236.0955) or [twgaribay@gmail.com](mailto:twgaribay@gmail.com).

**Thank you!**

Dear Friends,

Please accept my sincere gratitude for your Apostle Build partnership for the Glass Family Home. Your prayers, volunteers, and donations made this build possible. Together, we changed the life of at least one more family for generations to come. I hope you will continue on this journey with us as we work towards a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

**Build Update:** We are currently putting the finishing touches on the Glass Home. The dedication ceremony will be held on April 18, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. A formal invitation with detailed information will follow. We hope to see you there. In addition, we still have a few landscaping and exterior work days during the month of March if anyone is looking for another build day opportunity.

Thank you.

In Partnership, Roxann Janes, Executive Director, MAHFH

### A Letter from your Mission Committee

The Mission Committee is working hard to make a difference in our community and across the world! As part of our planning for giving we are preparing significant donations for eight local organizations to take part in the Match Day April 22nd that is sponsored by the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. We are also actively seeking ideas for a Major Mission to be undertaken by the Mission Committee this year. If you have any ideas that speak to you about the needs of our community you feel are underserved please contact a member of the Mission Committee. Thank you all for supporting this important committee!

Bill Fortney, Chair

Dean Armburst

Ray Coffey

Amy Matthews

Jim Schottler



## Youth Activities

### Upcoming Ignite Special Events

April 19th: P2 will be joining us for our specialized Leadership YG!!

April 24-5th: Re:Defined Lock In!! 7:00 p.m.– 9:00 a.m. Contact Addi Stewart at [addi@firstpresmanhattan.com](mailto:addi@firstpresmanhattan.com) for registration.

April 26th: Ignite Lights the Night (service project off campus, paperwork will need to be signed)

May 9th: Girls Retreat more info to come

May 10th: Mother's Day- NO PROGRAMMING

May 17th: All youth end of the summer party at 6:00 p.m.!

We would like for our kids and parents to start providing the snack or dinner item that we have each week as fellowship before youth group. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact Addi Stewart at [addi@firstpresmanhattan.com](mailto:addi@firstpresmanhattan.com)



### New Tables and Chairs

Raul Garibay has completed his Eagle Scout Award project by procuring and assembling new seating for Friendship Park. We now have two new tables with attached chairs. These asthetically pleasing tables will be put to good use during our picnics, concerts, and by those looking to enjoy the beautiful park.

We give a big thank you to Raul for his hard work!

### BYO... Baby Goes to the Farm

While local elementary schools were out for a teacher work day, little and big kids attended a BYO...Baby field trip to River Creek Farms, hosted by Mary Mertz. (The farm is owned and managed by members Mary and Bob Mertz.) Activities included walking in beautiful sunshine, petting a baby lamb, watching cows, lambs and two precious donkeys! Attending this event were Amanda and Eva Eilers, Julie and Henry, Eli and Elison Witt, Susan and Grace, Izzy and Bob Maxwell.

BYO...Baby! will resume regular Friday morning playgroup in the church nursery after the renovation ends. Please contact Susan Maxwell at [susiebassoon@yahoo.com](mailto:susiebassoon@yahoo.com) to be added to the email list

