

First Presbyterian News

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First Pres. Family,

We are entering the month of light. June is the month of Pentecost and the month of the Summer Solstice. Pentecost Sunday will be celebrated on June 5. It is the only time in the liturgical year that we use red paraments on the pulpit and communion table. Red represents the tongues of flame described in Acts 2. The tongues of flame rested upon each of the disciples as the Holy Spirit of God filled them and they began to speak about the wonders of God to various foreign visitors in their native languages. Enlightened, those people came to know God.

Pentecost is often thought of as the birthday of the Church because it was the event that represented the transition of Jesus' disciples to apostles (those who are sent). At that time tongues of flame from candles and oil lamps were the only source of light when it was dark. The event of Pentecost can be thought of as the event where the light of Christ entered each disciple and began to spread to the far corners of the world. In effect, spiritual darkness began to recede around the world as the light of Christ was shared to more and more people.

June 12 in our liturgical calendar celebrates the revelation of God as trinity. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are equally God, yet distinct in personality as evidenced in scripture. In the story of creation found in Genesis one, God the creator looked out over the void and the Spirit of God hovered over the waters, then God said: "Let there be light." God's word went out into the darkness with the hovering Holy Spirit and the will of God was accomplished. There was light and God was pleased with the light. When the darkness of sin sentenced the whole world to death God spoke the word of salvation which we know as Jesus, who at baptism was anointed by the Holy Spirit which descended upon him as a dove. Through the cross and the resurrection of Jesus, the WORD and SPIRIT accomplished God's will for salvation. Again, the triune God brought light to push back the darkness.

June continues to bring light when on June 19 the federal holiday known as "Juneteenth" celebrates the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. Juneteenth is followed by the summer solstice on June 21, the day when the northern hemisphere enjoys the longest exposure to the sun. From that day onward to the winter solstice the time of daylight exposure lessens each day. So, June is the month for us to celebrate the light that God brings into our lives, both literally by the sun and spiritually by God's Son. Walk in the light! ~ Glenn





Celebrating Graduates - In addition to our recognition of our HS graduates on June 5th, we would like to recognize other graduates in our July newsletter. Please let the Church know if there are any graduates; a church member, child, grandchild, or anyone else that we could recognize. All we need is a short summary including name, school of graduation, degree, and future plans. You can send to Sherolyn at secretary@1stpres.cc or Colter Wickemeyer at wickemeyer3@comcast.net. Please have this information to the office by June 20th.

Summer Office Hours - Office hours during the summer will be Monday thru Thursday from 9 am - 2 pm. With the office being closed on Fridays for the months of June, July, and August. In September the office will resume normal 9 am - 1 pm hours Monday through Friday.



Prayer List - Ginny Troy fell and broke her leg in May. She had surgery and as of this writing is in rehab. Connie Troy, Terri Hazelwood's mother-in-law passed on to be with the Lord. Tee Godbold's grandson will have surgery for a sports knee injury on June 8. Robert Hughes "Smokey" - Bob and Joanna's son, had colon surgery complications. He is healing and doing much better. Mark Trickey passed away suddenly. Laurie Morris had MRI and tests showed improvement. Kim Albert to better tolerate new medications. Several of our church members had COVID, but all have recovered and doing well :Lorene and Dabney Gilliam; Joanie, Ashton, and Colby Cranford; Winston, Whitney, Caroline, and Joanna Harrell. Don Cherry doing better after his shoulder surgery. Glola Osborne passed, prayers for her family. Luanna Daniel is in need of continued prayers for healing. Ukraine continues to be in our prayers, as well as our country and all the shooting victims and their families.

Community Choir - Rehearsals for the annual Community Choir will begin Monday, June 6 at 7 pm at First Baptist Church. All voices are needed. A wonderful program will be performed later in the Summer.



Opportunity to Serve – First Presbyterian has offered to provide a dinner for the Prizery's Summerstock Theatre cast and crew on Thursday, July 21, in the early evening. There will be about 30 young people in attendance. We are looking for individuals to help in the following ways – planning/menu/grocery list, shopping, preparing food, serving, clean up. If you can be involved in any way, please contact Kim Albert who is coordinating (434-579-5011 or kalbert@ntelos.net).

Manse Fund- The Session has approved the collection of funds to help pay for the renovation and restoration of the Manse. There are monies that will not be paid by the insurance company, such as deductibles under our policy, and extra expenses incurred as a result of the fire, and it is these costs we are targeting with this fund. Once we know an estimate of costs, we will let you know the amount we will need, but funds can now be sent in and designated "Manse Fund" so we will be able to take care of these expenses. The Manse Fund will be a restricted fund only used for expenses caused by the fire and the restoration and maintenance of the Manse.





June 5 - Day of Pentecost

Sermon Title: "Our Helper, the Holy Spirit"

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-21; Romans 8:14-17

June 12 - Trinity Sunday

Sermon Title: "Continuing Education"

Scriptures: Psalm 8; John 16:12-15

June 19 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: "Real Religion"

Scriptures: 1 Kings 18:20-21; Galatians 1:1-12

June 26 - Third Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: "Get Up and Go, For You are Blessed"

Scriptures: 1 Kings 19:1-18; Galatians 3:23-29

July 3 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: "Following and Leading"

Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Galatians 2:15-21



**Searching
for a New
Pastor**



PNC Update - "Do Not Fear!" by Pastor Chuck Swindoll

Scriptures: [Exodus 12:31-14:14](#)

Humanly speaking, predicaments are terrible experiences. If you stay in one long enough, you will begin to question the very roots of your faith. By and by you'll begin to look for someone to blame; usually it'll be somebody in leadership.

That's why I am extremely impressed with Moses' response. He didn't say, as most are prone to say, "God helps those who help themselves." People think that familiar saying comes from

the Bible. It doesn't. It's from the pit. No, God helps *the helpless!*

Note Moses' more biblical response in verse 13: "Do not fear!" What strange counsel. Can't you hear his fellow Israelites? "Hey, Moses, the Egyptians are around the corner. They've got chariots and bows and arrows and pointy spears. And you're saying, 'Don't fear'? What's the matter with you, man? Do you need a change in your eyeglass prescription? Can't you see they're coming? God, save us from this near-sighted shepherd!"

"Oh, I see them fine," Moses replied. "But I'm still saying to you, 'Don't fear!' "

But Moses isn't done. After telling them not to be afraid, he has a second piece of counsel for his followers: "Stand still." And a third: "Watch." And a fourth: "The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent."

Now, there's a prescription for people in an inescapable predicament! Don't be afraid, stand still, watch God come through, quit talking. The hardest is the fourth, because we just *have* to complain or tell somebody what a predicament we're in. But God doesn't need to be informed. He knows the predicament. He is simply waiting for us to calm down and keep silent. When you are in a cul-de-sac, led by God to that tight place, it is there you will discover some phenomenal surprises designed just for you. That's why Moses said, "Look, let's stand still. There's a great blessing here for us that we'll miss if we turn tail and run."

You know the common response to panic? First, we become afraid. Second, we run. Third, we fight. Fourth, we tell everybody.

God's counsel is just the opposite. Don't be afraid. Stand still. Watch Him work. Keep quiet. It's then that He does His best work on our behalf. He takes over! He then handles our predicament opposite the way we'd do it. The Lord is tapping His foot, waiting for us to wait.

Your PNC continues our search for our next pastor. We covet your prayers as we persevere in the task that you have entrusted to us.

Grace and peace,

Don Cherry.

PNC Chairman



Happy Father's Day

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As Father's Day approaches, I am ever grateful for a loving Father in Heaven. As I am studying the Old Testament, I am finding new "gems" that I had previously not seen.

I see a loving Father, who loves His children so much that He covenants with them to preserve them, and He continues to forgive them and welcome them back into the fold, even though they frequently forget Him and the covenants they made.

The children of Israel saw His hand helping them to be freed from Egypt, they witnessed Him providing food (ie: manna, water, quail).(Exodus 16) He was their cloud by day, and fire by night, protecting them all along the way. (Exodus 13:21)

They willingly agreed to follow His commands, they covenanted with Him. But in a short amount of time after seeing all these miracles they turned away and returned to Egypt in their hearts, worshiping idols, and wishing to return physically. They were concentrating on their current trials and not remembering their many blessings, nor the sufferings they had while in Egypt.

Even after seeing His hand miraculously rescuing them multiple times, they do not trust Him to help them as they enter the promised land. They feared the strength of the people who currently inhabited the area. Because of this, the Lord did not allow that generation to enter the promised land.

Though they were only 11 days journey away (see Deuteronomy 1:2), they wandered for 40 years.

I wonder how often I create my own wilderness, and though I may be only "11 days" away from glory and heaven, fail to trust Him and make it so that I must wander aimlessly for "40 years" before being allowed to enter the "promised land".

I've heard it said that the God of the Old Testament is angry and just.



But as I study, I see a God, who is loving and merciful. He wants all His children to be able to return home to Him. But, as mortal beings, we sin and get forgetful of our many blessings. Christ states "... how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matthew 23:37)

Isn't this just like us today? These stories are for us. As the Isrealites journeyed, we too are on a journey, here in mortality trying to get home to the "promised land". I know the Lord is guiding us and directing us and providing safety if we will but heed and follow His counsel. "Wherefore [we] must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and love of God ..." for He is loving and "mighty to save". Yes, I am so grateful for the knowledge that He is my Father, and He loves me, and all of us dearly. ~ *Sherolyn*



Join us for a Congregational

Barbecue Dinner in the Garden of
Frances and Rick Harrell



1212 Sixth St. , South Boston, June 12 at 5:00 pm

Please email or text Frances, by **June 5**, so enough food can
be prepared for everyone.

* In case of rain it will move inside

fharrell@gcronline.com or 575-2969

JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	30 Office Closed 	31	June 1 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	June 2 8:00 pm - AA	June 3 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	June 4
5 - Graduate Recognition 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	6	7	8 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	9 8:00 pm - AA	10 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	11
12 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm - Garden BBQ at Harrell's home	13	14	15 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm—Choir	16 8:00 pm - AA	17 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	18
19—Father's Day 5 Cents a Meal collection 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	20	21  Deacons & Elders 6:00 pm Deacons 7:00pm Elders	22 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	23 8:00 - AA	24 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	25
26 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	27 NewsLetter DEADLINE	28	29 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	30 8:00 pm - AA	July 1 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	July 2

JUNE



- 1 Laylo Ridgeway
- 1 Lorene Gilliam
- 4 Corinne Williams*
- 6 Carol Foster
- 6 Janet Adams
- 7 Kayte Temple Nelson
- 9 Paul Edmunds
- 12 Ken Cochran
- 12 Lauren Henderson
- 12 Jennifer Lee Miller
- 13 Robert Guthrie
- 16 Veronica Raney
- 20 Carol-Ann Lawson
- 20 Scott Carter
- 26 Jack Morgan
- 29 Grace T. Seat

If we don't have your birthday listed, please call the office and let us know.



* In Memory



Session Notes: **Since our last Newsletter, our Session discussed:**

The Session met on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

1. Rev. Coleman opened the meeting with prayer and shared news of the congregation.
2. Memorial Service for Donnell Corelle will be Saturday, May 21st at 1:00 pm. Deacons will provide refreshments after service.
3. The graduates will be recognized during the worship service on Sunday, June 5th
4. The Harrell's will host a BBQ dinner for the congregation at their home garden in honor of the graduates on Sunday, June 12th at 6:00 pm.
5. Next Presbytery Meeting – August 20, 2022, (Kim Albert – Commissioner)
6. Membership Roll – Glola Worsham Osbourne passed away April 27, 2022
7. PNC Report – Continues to work with the Vanderbloemen Search Group to identify potential candidates for our next pastor.
8. Worship – Next communion June 5th
9. Local Missions – Kim moved that we host one dinner for the Prizery Summer Actors. The motion was seconded, discussed, and approved. Kim will check into a date where we can host them at our picnic shelter.
10. Personnel – Per a request from the Church Administrative Assistant, Mike Rand moved that she be allowed to work four days a week (Monday thru Thursday) 5 hours a day for June through August to match her husband's summer schedule. The motion was seconded, discussed, and approved.
11. Property – Mike Rand presented an update on the progress of the insurance claim for the fire in the Manse.
12. The April financial reports were reviewed.
13. Rev. Coleman closed the meeting with prayer.



Upcoming :

Choir - Each Wednesday at 6 pm.

Deacons and Session - Tuesday, June 21 at 6 pm and 7pm respectively

First Presbyterian Church
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