

160 South Main

# The Beacon

Official Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church of Sainte Genevieve, Missouri

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(USA)

Summer 2021

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## Notes from Pastor Steve Summer 2021



Summertime! We all experienced the great freedom and excitement that was summertime in our youth – school was out and life seemed free and easy. The summer of 2021 in our country feels somewhat like that for all of us as we emerge from the worst stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. The vaccines that have been developed seem to be very effective in preventing this coronavirus disease and, as more and more people get the vaccine, society (and our lives) seems to be returning to some semblance of normalcy. Thanks be to God!

I want to express my appreciation to our church Session who had the difficult task of deciding how to best deal with the issues we all faced during the worst stages of the pandemic. They prayerfully and diligently considered what would be in the very best interests of all in our congregation and then made the difficult decisions concerning worship and the various ministries of our church. I commend them for their hard work and I believe we all owe them a thank you for serving our church – especially during these last several months! Current Session mem-

bers: Donna Boyer, Joy French, Joan Huck, Ed Millinger, Kathy Roth, Rick Schaefer, and Bruce Terry. Becky Millinger and Barb Sherry also served in 2020.

THANK YOU!

Our worship experience here at First Presbyterian Church in Ste. Genevieve has likewise returned to a more “normal” style as the many worship restrictions which were implemented by our Session have now **all** been lifted. Masks are no longer required (please feel free to wear one if you wish), social distancing is no longer enforced (sit where you like - first come, first choice of the back pews), and we have even starting singing the great hymns of the church once again! Our celebration of the Lord’s Supper (communion) has also returned on a regular basis (the first Sunday of each month). Our worship services are still recorded and they are available via the local community access television station (channel 997) and on YouTube (*stegentv*) so those who wish to do so may continue to worship from home. If you have gotten out of the habit of attending worship regularly due to the pandemic, NOW is a great time to resume (or begin) your worship practice, either in person or remotely. I hope to see YOU on Sunday – or, at least, I hope you see me on Sunday!

In worship this Spring we celebrated Mother’s Day on May 9<sup>th</sup> and Father’s Day on June 20<sup>th</sup>. In between, on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrated Pentecost, the “official”

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birthday of the Christian Church. Independence Day, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, actually fell on Sunday in 2021 and, of course, we celebrated this event in worship as well! Many balloons, flowers, and banners adorned our sanctuary for each of these special events.

Our All-Church Fish Fry and Picnic was scheduled for June and then had to be postponed until September due to a death in my family. It has now been officially rescheduled for September

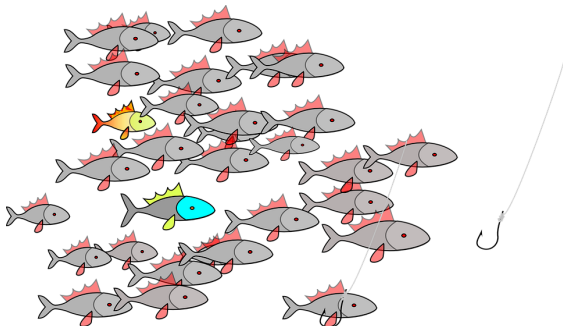
### Pastor's Notes continued

25<sup>th</sup> – check the article in this summer newsletter for details. I believe more of our fellowship activities will also begin to resume in the near future – it has been difficult not to gather as a church family informally for fellowship opportunities for the past year and a half. Watch the church bulletin and check the church website as future events are scheduled in 2021.

We know that God is always with us: For God is always above us, watching over us; God is always below us, supporting us and holding us up; God is always behind us, protecting and guarding us; God always goes before us, leading and guiding our way; God always stands right beside us, giving us a shoulder to lean on; and God is always inside us, bringing us peace and joy.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.* Proverbs 3: 5 & 6 (RSV)

Yours in  
Christ,  
Pastor Steve



### You Are Invited!

Presbyterian Women invite you to join us for lunch at the Cafe Genevieve on Friday, July 30, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. Please sign up at church or let Marcia Schaefer know if you're attending by Monday, July 26th.



Nicolas and Harper have been learning about sharing in Sunday School. They are practicing what they learned by placing food in the Blessing Box.

## Food Pantry News from Ed Millinger

The food pantry has been slow for some reason this year. Many factors have contributed to this including the giving out of weekly food boxes, (this has been halted for now) increased government assistance and other food pantries in the area stepping up such as Hope Church which now gives away Farmington Wal-Mart merchandise returns. In the first three months of this year we served 103 people and in the last three 97. However in the first two weeks of July we have helped fourteen families and already 47 folks.



Ed Schmelzle is fondly remembered and missed by us all.

## Presbyterian Church

### All-Church Fish Fry & Picnic

### Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Lake Forest Marina Pavilion

Pastor Steve & Julia serving as host & hostess

Meal at approximately 4:30 pm but you may arrive anytime  
from 3:00 pm on and stay as long as you like!

Fried fish, hush puppies, drinks, and paper products will be provided by your hosts. Others are invited to bring side dishes and desserts – but you DO NOT have to bring anything in order to attend! Yourself, your smile, and the willingness to have a good time are all that are required for this picnic. Feel free to bring a friend because Pastor Steve has plenty of fish – and he needs to make room in his freezer for more!

In addition to food: a canoe, two kayaks, and a paddle boat will all be available for people to use (life jackets provided); there is a sand beach, horse shoe pit, plenty of areas for fishing (bring your own pole); a nice flat field for playing games (bring your own frisbees, balls, bats, and other toys); and generally a nice place for a picnic. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket, or there are picnic tables under the pavilion if you prefer to sit in the shade and visit. Come one and all – see you there!!

## Joy in the Small Things of Life

By

Barbara Fitzgerald

“For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace, the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” Isaiah 55:12

God has promised us joy in many things and yet it is so often difficult to find joy in our everyday lives. I have come to believe that joy comes most often when I keep an open mind, willing to see what I have to be thankful for and curious enough to look for the good that is coming my way when I least expect it. Even in times of worry and fear God is with us and sends us little gifts that we never expected. Planning a trip that will be a 3-4 day drive to New England to visit my husband's family has been very scary at times, because of his health. Then things that eased my mind just started coming to me out of the blue. A friend offered to care for our cat...who has never traveled! Hurrah...one worry gone and new joy to be thankful for. Information on health travel emergencies came in the mail, and eased the biggest concerns. And smaller things have occurred. What a relief they are to me. I felt joy each time one of these events occurred.

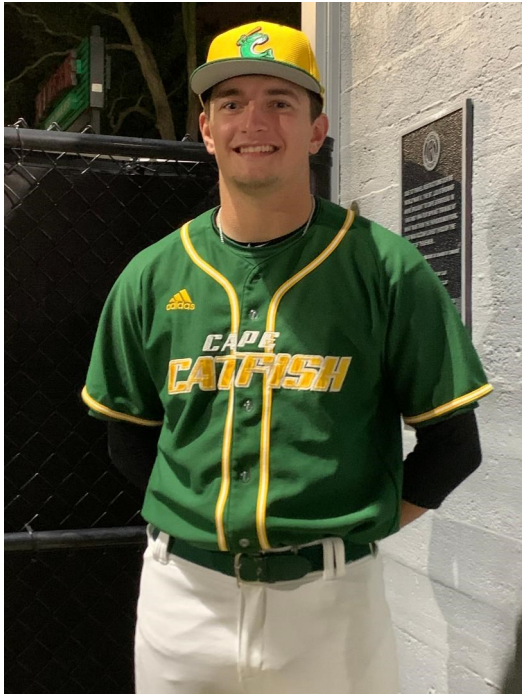
Harriet Beecher Stow said “To be really great in little things, to be truly noble and heroic in the insipid details of everyday life, is a virtue so rare as to be worthy of canonization.” All those things that worry us can become the makings of a hero when we step out of our comfort zone and receive what God sends to us, with joy and gratitude. Turn the worry into joy that we are always cared for by God. After all we are his children. His gifts come at surprising times and I hope to always be aware of their coming into my life.

### Thank You from Richard Fieg

I would like to thank everybody for their help in the clean out of my house. It has been a truly Presbyterian effort in this heat! Xavier Pfaff, Logan Pfaff, Mike Sherry, Cindy Fieg, Pastor Steve, Kathy Roth, Chuck Boyer, Sharon Boyer, Jacob Boyer & Rick Schaefer.







Chad Donze is pitching for the Cape Catfish this summer in Cape Girardeau, Mo. The Catfish are a part of the Prospect league and is made up of collegiate baseball players from across the US. Participation is by invitation. Go Catfish!

Celebrating the 4th of July in Style!



Jacob and Daesha Donze moved into their new home in Farmington on July 1.



Joan and Demi at the St. Louis zoo!





The Shaefer's were in Rikki's sister's (Mariah) wedding. Rikki was matron of honor, Kyle was a groomsman, Harper was a miniature bride, and Eliott was the ringbearer.



Joan and Demi got caught in the rain at the zoo!



At Disneyworld!



8:00 am church service on Jour de Fete Sunday (August 15).



2021 Float Trip





## BIRTHDAYS

### JULY

**21 Dayna Roth**  
**21 Judy Rottler**  
**31 Nicole Boyer**

### AUGUST

**12 Herb Cassidy**  
**15 Sharon Brooks**  
**17 Connie McAvoy**  
**23 Breanna Ferguson**  
**27 Chad Donze**



### SEPTEMBER

**1 Gary Roth**  
**3 Lynn Shaugnessy**  
**4 Marcia Schaefer**  
**18 Jim Baker**  
**20 Darrin Jacob**  
**25 Joy French**  
**27 Lanie Sherwood**  
**30 Adam Sherry**

### OCTOBER

**7 Ryan Sherry**  
**9 Julie Terry**  
**16 Joan Huck**  
**16 Joyce Roth**  
**21 Linda Armbruster**  
**21 Cindy Fieg**  
**21 Frank Myers**  
**21 Tracey Newman**  
**25 Delores Oberle**  
**31 Donna Boyer**



# JULY

## AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 4 Communion
- 7 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 8 Session Meeting 6 pm
- 14 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 15 Deacons Meeting 6 pm
- 21 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 21 Church Float Trip
- 28 Food Pantry 1 pm

# AUGUST

## AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 1 Communion
- 4 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 11 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 12 Session Meeting 6 pm
- 15 Jour de Fete 8 am service
- 18 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 19 Deacons' Meeting 6 pm
- 25 Food Pantry 1 pm

# SEPTEMBER

## AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 1 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 5 Communion
- 8 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 9 Session Meeting 6 pm
- 15 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 16 Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm
- 22 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 25 Church Fish Fry 4:30 pm

# OCTOBER

## AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 3 Communion
- 6 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 13 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 14 Session Meeting 6 pm
- 20 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 21 Deacons' Meeting 6:30 pm
- 27 Food Pantry 1 pm

## And They Won!!



## IN OUR PRAYERS

### Church Officers

#### ELDERS

Bruce Terry  
Kathy Roth  
Donna Boyer  
Rick Schaefer  
Ed Millinger  
Joy French  
Joan Huck

#### DEACONS

Marcia Schaefer  
Julie Terry  
John Weakly  
Kyle Schaefer  
Rhonda Giesler  
Ann Coulson  
Amy Pfaff

Martha Boyer, Ray & Ann Albert, Rosa Lee Holcomb, Carol Wibbenmeyer, Toby John, Danny Wene, Donna Sparks, Kate, Shawn Tucker, Helen Ledbetter, Evelyn Malone, Randy Heberlie, Louise Peterson, Neva Walton, Loren Hagemann, Paul, Olivia Viox, Linda Hafley, Taylor Lawrence, Carol Mancuso, Marjetta Stenberg, Kade Rayoum, Joe Shirey, Kevin Budd, Glenda Gross, Roma Dortch, Ed Ade, Jeff Shirey, Mary Pettus, Gary Rackers, Mary, Del Loida, Bob Koller, Loretta Miller, Joan Emmendorfer, Amanda Coalter, Rick Murphy, Bob Gentry, Bill Gentry, Jacque Brilllos, Dinah Weiler Arand, Bill Howran, Ceci, Joseph Mize, Sara, Stanton Weyand, Alyson Lee, Ryan Roth, Bob Havin, John Vogt, Rod Laubenstein, Clarice Huck, Mary Peura, Jeff Paulus, Peggy Webb, Herb Cassidy, Ike Rutherford, Dick Reiss and Jim and Annie Jackson.

All those serving in our military.

Those in nursing homes: Martha Boyer, Romaine Holman, Ike Rutherford, Herb Cassidy.



### MISSION/VISION STATEMENT

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STE. GENEVIEVE CELEBRATES THE GIFTS OF ALL AS WE SHARE THE MESSAGE OF THE LOVE AND FORGIVENESS OF JESUS CHRIST. WE BELIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES AND SUSTAINS US AS WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD AND SERVE THE NEEDS OF OTHERS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship	10:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship	10:45 a.m.
Youth Group 2nd & 4th Sundays	1:30 p.m.

### CHURCH INFORMATION

First Presbyterian Church . . . . . 883-3272

Pastor . . . . Steve Matthews . . . 573 544-6361

Church Office Hours: Wed. 9 am to noon and 1-4 pm  
Thurs. 9 am to noon

Office phone . . . . . 573 883-3272

Church e-mail . . . . . [firpresb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:firpresb@sbcglobal.net)

Church website . . . . . [www.stegenpresbyterian.com](http://www.stegenpresbyterian.com)

Administrative Assistant . . . . . Joan Huck

Clerk of the Session . . . . . Rick Schaefer

Church Treasurer . . . . . Marcia Schaefer

Pianist . . . . . Sharon Boyer

Choir Director . . . . . Julia Matthews

Moderators, Pres. Women . . . . . Marcia Schaefer

Donna Garleb

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Adult Hand Chimes	Wednesday	6:15 p.m.
Choir Practice	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Anna Circle	2nd Thursday	1:30 p.m.
Genevieve Circle	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
Lydia Circle	3rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
160 South Main Street  
Sainte Genevieve, MO 63670