



The Beacon

Official Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church of Sainte Genevieve, Missouri

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160 South Main

September-October, 2020

(USA)

Notes from Pastor Steve September 2020



I appreciate all the thoughts and prayers for my recent surgery

— it went well and I am now almost 100%. I still have a few restrictions on lifting much weight for a while — so as long as I don't catch a very big fish I should be fine!

Our in-person worship services seem to be going well. We still have several worship conditions in place as we attempt to keep everyone safe during this ongoing pandemic. We are maintaining social distancing in our seating, we are encouraging the use of hand sanitizer and the wearing of masks while in worship (both are available as you enter the sanctuary), we are not singing hymns, we are not physically passing the peace, we are not celebrating communion, we do not pass offering plates, we have no Children's Moment — but WE ARE gathering to worship our Lord!

A special thanks to our Christian Education team for putting together a nice celebration for our seniors on July 26th out behind the Silversmith's House. I know that not everyone could attend on a Sunday evening, but holding this gathering outside in the open was a good idea. Jacob, Luke, and Jared were all suitably honored with cake, ice cream, and gifts. A good time was had by all! We also dedicated the new fire pit and benches at that time. Luke

Terry designed and constructed these as his Eagle Scout project — thank you, Luke! If you have not had a chance to see these, check them out sometime in the near future. The plaque on the bench nearest the Silversmith House is a dedication to Luke's great-aunt, Lorraine Stange.

I am very pleased to have a Liturgist sharing the worship service presentation with me again on Sunday mornings. This gives the congregation a representative who is leading worship even if you are still restricted from participating in many of the more normal ways. For several weeks now I have been inviting the congregation to join me in the Lord's Prayer at the end of the pastoral prayer. We now use a **responsive** Call to Worship and **unison** Prayer of Confession — we are slowly getting back to a more "normal" type of worship. Please note my new face mask that I began using in worship in September. It is adorned with several types of crosses and was made especially for me by Joan Huck. Thanks, Joan, for this gift.

It was nice to have Frank and Shirley Myers back in worship on a Sunday in August for the first time since we reopened for in-person worship. We are still missing several of our members who have yet to return to worship. I have tried to contact most of these missing members and I try to assure them that the congregation understands if they are not yet ready to return to indoor, in-person worship. Most have some

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underlying health issues, or members of their families do have, and they choose to err on the side of caution. We need to keep them and all the members of our congregation in our prayers.

We sent out the updated church directory and the summer newsletter in June primarily via email. Thanks to Ann Coulson for all her work in putting both together. I hope you were able to access copies of both of these. Our plan is to use email to distribute most

Pastor's Notes continued

copies of the newsletter in the future. This will save our church both time and money. We will still print a few hard copies of the newsletter and we will mail out a copy to anyone not on our email list or if we know you prefer a hard copy. Let Joan know if you would like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter. There are also printed copies of the church directory available at the back of the sanctuary if you would like one.

I am **tentatively** planning to have the All-Church Fish Fry on Saturday, September 19th. I say tentatively because I have asked our church Session to consider prayerfully whether this should take place or not and I will follow their guidance – to be discussed and voted on at the September 10th Session meeting. With confirmed cases of the coronavirus going up in Ste. Genevieve County going up at an alarming rate in August, **the fish fry may NOT take place**, at least not in September. I would be devastated if our church fish fry resulted in even one person being exposed to the coronavirus – when it is something that we do not have to do! This pandemic has taken so many normally scheduled events from our lives in 2020.

Phil Eydmann recently broke his ankle in three places. He had to have it surgically repaired but is now doing well and is recuperating at home. Please keep Phil and Liz in your prayers. Several of our members continue to be isolated in nursing homes or care facilities. This is for their benefit health-wise, but it is very difficult emotionally for them and for all those that remain in isolation in nursing homes. Please keep all of those who continue to be adversely affected by this pandemic in your prayers as well.

Ruth Haas passed away on

August 18. She was a long-time friend of this church who attended regularly for many years. Zelma Ruple Basden died on August 28. Zelma was a long-time member of this church who was 104 years young when she passed away! Our condolences to the families of both Ruth and Zelma.

I continue to ask for prayers for the members of the First Presbyterian Church in Fredericktown. They are down to only 12 members and they will hold their final worship service before closing their doors for good on September 20th. May God continue to be with them and may their final service be a blessing for them and their community.

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



Upcoming Fellowship Activities!

4th Annual Fish Fry
(postponed until spring)



Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery News

Just like the rest of society, the Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery has had to make adjustments given the conditions of the present pandemic. The presbytery office was closed for a few months at the beginning of the shutdown period and now it is open for necessary activities only. Much of the work of the presbytery has been taking place online as various teams and groups meet together virtually. Our presbytery has now held the last two Presbytery Gatherings (where ministers and commissioners meet to discuss business and vote on actions to be taken by the presbytery) through zoom technology (virtually). These gatherings took place in May and August with around 120 participants connecting online for each meeting. After initially struggling with some aspects of this technology, it appears the presbytery gatherings are being successfully managed under this new format. One item of interest to many of us here in Ste. Genevieve: A former pastor of this church, Rev. Junie Ewing, has been chosen to serve as the presbytery's Bridge Associate Presbytery Leader. This is similar to an interim position as Junie will be serving in this position until a permanent Associate Presbytery Leader is hired. Many of you know that Junie moved back to our community a couple of years ago and she is now in a leadership position in our presbytery – congratulations Junie!

Churches across our presbytery are all attempting to deal as best they can with the pandemic. Many of the St. Louis area churches continue to meet virtually only, with no in-person worship services yet. Many of the churches outside of the St. Louis metropolitan area have reinstated in-person worship in some form, as we have here in Ste. Genevieve. Each individual church has to decide what they believe to be in the best interests of their own particular congregation. May God continue to bless the Presbyterian Church (USA), our presbytery, and our church as we do our best to follow in the Way, the Truth, and the Life!



James Vincent Huck

Proud grandparents: Steve and Joan Huck
Parents: Daven and Amadee Huck
Born: August 17, 2020
Weighed 5 pounds 2.9 oz 18 3/4" long

He went home from the hospital on August 29, 2020. All are doing well.





**Congratulations to our graduating seniors,
Jared Kenik, Jacob Boyer, and Luke Terry!!**



Dedication of the New Fire Pit

It is with great pleasure the church dedicated the new fire pit behind the O'Neill house which was designed and built by Luke Terry as his Eagle Scout project. The fire pit and benches are a great addition to our outside space and we are very grateful to Luke. Luke is the great-nephew of Lorraine Stange, so please look for the plaque on one of the benches dedicating it in Lorraine's memory.



Award

Chad Donze was recently named to the NJCAA All-Academic second team. Chad, who graduated from Ste. Genevieve High School in 2019 play on the Three Rivers Community College baseball team.

He had to achieve a 3.8-3.99 GPA to achieve this honor. Chad is the son of Joan Huck and Tim Donze. Congratulations, Chad!

Stanton Weyand, a former church member, is in kidney failure. He is getting dialysis 3 times weekly and is otherwise doing all he can to satisfy doctor's orders. He is on the list for a kidney transplant. Stanton and his wife Charlene live in Omaha, Nebraska.

Memories

The picture is from Sunday School in October 1964-

Front row - DeWayne Rottler, Marcia Rottler, Nancy Brillos, Linda Bodine, Reeda Marts, Rhonda Cumberland, Steve Rottler. Back row - Mike Lea, Mike LaRose, Del Chase, Eddie Tucker, Tim Schurmann.

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On the following page is a poem written about Ann Bodine, a long-time member of this church who died in 2005. The poem is by her daughter.



Ann Bodine

My Mother

She lived life on her own terms.

*She was her mother's best friend.
She married her childhood sweetheart.
She met the Great Depression with
Great Ingenuity.*

*She left her new house in the suburbs for
a farming adventure.*

*She learned to ride a horse and drive a
tractor.*

*When there was no Evangelical Church
she became a Presbyterian.*

*She traded her dreams of a new house
for the challenge of remodeling a
farmhouse.*

*When her children left home, she
looked forward to grandchildren.*

*When she became a widow, she began
a new career as a tour guide.*

*She took a community development
course in her seventies.*

*She learned to speak French in her
eighties.*

She voted in every election.

*She left her farm home for an
apartment in town.*

*She rejected "assisted living" for
independent living.*

She never looked back.

She managed her own health.

She drank water from an open spring.

*She cooked her meals in aluminum
pots.*

*She ate bacon and eggs and coffee with
two spoons of sugar for breakfast.*

*She lived to be 97 years old, with full
mental capacity and ready wit,
Still living independently and voting
Republican.*

She was one of a kind

Written by Margie Kern

Church Float

From Judy Schmelzle: I came across this picture while sorting through the many pictures I have taken over the years. 1985 Ste. Genevieve celebrated its 250th anniversary. There was a parade with floats, bands and the usual trappings. The parade participants lined up in my neighborhood (Pointe Basse). I happened upon the float from First Presbyterian Church and took the picture.



BIRTHDAYS

September

1	Gary Roth
3	Lynn Shaughnessy
4	Marcia Schaefer
18	Jim Baker
18	Virginia Foulk
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	Franklin Myers
21	Tracey Newman
25	Delores Oberle
31	Donna Boyer

SEPTEMBER

AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 2 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 9 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 10 Session Meeting 6 pm
- 16 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 18 Deacons Meeting 6 pm
- 23 Food Pantry 1 pm

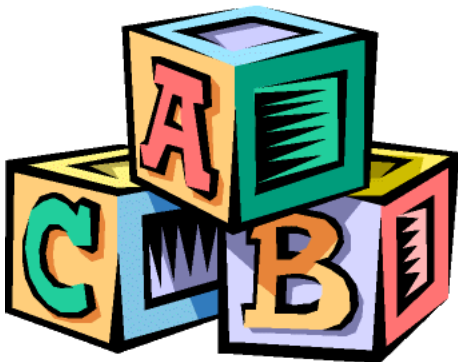
OCTOBER

AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 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
- 28 Food Pantry 1 pm

Harper begins Pre-School!





Condolences

Zelma Basden

We extend condolences to the family of Zelma Ruple Basden upon her death Friday August 28. She was 104 years of age.

Jean Henson

We also hold Jean Henson in our hearts. Jean died September 7. We will miss her smile and helping hands in our church.

Church Officers

ELDERS

Bruce Terry
Kathy Roth
Donna Boyer
Rick Schaefer
Ed Millinger
Becky Millinger
Barb Sherry

DEACONS

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Martha Boyer, Ray & Ann Albert, Rosa Lee Holcomb, Robin Schenck, Carol Wibbenmeyer, Toby John, Danny Wene, Donna Sparks, Kate, Shawn Tucker, Vernon Hull, Helen Ledbetter, Evelyn Malone, Randy Heberlie, Louise Peterson, Neva Walton, Loren Hagermann, Paul, Dorothy Martinelli, Olivia Viox, Linda Hafley, Taylor Lawrence, Carol Mancuso, Marjetta Stenberg, Kade Rayoum, Joe Shirey, Kevin Budd, Helen Drury, Glenda Gross, Roma Dortch, Tristan Schenck, the Lynn Messier family, Ed Ade, Jeff Shirey, Joe Rozier IV, Mary Pettus, Gary Rackers, Leticia Hindrichs and family, Mary, Del Loida, Bob Koller, Barb Casper, Ginny Lavender, Mary Peura, Ginny Lavender, Loretta Miller, Sharon Brooks, Clarice Huck, Joan Emendorfer, Amanda Coalter, Sam Ewing, Rick Murphy, Bob Gentry, Austin Veath, Claire Fischer, Bill Gentry, Jacque Brilllos, Dinah Weiler Arand, Bill Howren, Ceci, Dana, Larry Feltner, Joseph Mize, Sara, Lester Wingerter, Stanton Weyand, Alyson Lee, Jameson Huck and Ryan Roth.

Please continue to pray for all those serving in the military.

Those in nursing homes: Virginia Foulk,

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

Church website 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

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