



160 South Main

# The Beacon

Official Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church of Sainte Genevieve, Missouri

Ann Coulson, Editor—[anncoulson@gmail.com](mailto:anncoulson@gmail.com)



Fall 2022

(USA)

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## Notes from Pastor Steve Fall 2022



Fall has arrived! The days are getting cooler (and shorter) and soon the fall colors will be on full display. I enjoy this time of year and I hope you are able to get outside and enjoy this part of God's great creation!

It is my pleasure to announce that Judy Runk became the newest member of church in August. Please make Judy feel welcome as she finds her place in our ministries here at First Presbyterian Church.

For our annual River Float Trip, we traveled to the Black River near Lester-ville on July 20<sup>th</sup>. This is always one of my favorite fellowship events as I love to spend time on the rivers of southern Missouri! 15 members and friends of the church participated this summer. Pictures of this trip are included in this fall newsletter.

Vacation Bible School took place July 25 through July 29, from 5:30 pm until 8:00 pm. The theme for VBS was "Food Truck Party" and we had an actual food truck trailer here at the church on those evenings. A total of 18 children attended and there were about that many adults and youth who also participated as workers and leaders!. A huge thanks to Joan Huck for organiz-

ing and leading this year's VBS – it was a great success! Pictures are found in this fall newsletter.

A **Film and Faith** fellowship and discussion activity took place on Friday evening, August 19<sup>th</sup>, in the fellowship hall. We watched the movie, *The Shack*, and had time for fellowship and discussion afterwards. Thanks to Richard Fieg for organizing this event.

We had a church breakfast on Sunday morning, September 11<sup>th</sup>, which served as a "kick-off" for our 2022-23 Sunday School season. We have two Sunday School classes presently in session: our Children's Class, led by Marcia Schaefer and Rhonda Geisler, and our Adult Class led by Rick Schaefer. The Children's Class meets on the main floor of the church building and the Adult Class meets on the first floor of the Silversmith's House. These both meet at 9:30 am each Sunday and they welcome guests and new attendees. The breakfast on September 11<sup>th</sup> was provided by our Christian Education Committee, chaired by Sharon Boyer. Thanks to all who helped to prepare and serve this very filling breakfast!

The Annual All-Church Fish Fry and Picnic took place on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Forest marina pavilion. Fish, hush puppies, and drinks were provided by your hosts, Pastor Steve and Julia, with many bringing side dishes or desserts to share. A total of 22 enjoyed the meal and the beautiful day. Thanks to Rick Schaefer, Kyle Schaefer, and

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Bruce Terry for helping with the cooking of the fish and hush puppies. Unfortunately I got a little overheated standing over the hot fish frying pans and had to sit down before all the cooking was done. Rick, Kyle, and Bruce saved the day for me personally! I did recover in time to enjoy Judy Schmelzle's homemade blackberry pie! Then everyone pitched in and helped take down the picnic and cooking materials and clean up after the meal. Thanks

## Pastor's Notes continued

for the entire group effort. We just may have to do this again next year . . .

Our next fellowship event will be the hayride and bonfire on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is always a great time to enjoy God's great outdoors in the cool of autumn - I hope to see many of you there!

I was on vacation the week of August 28 and September 4 – Julia and I and two close friends were on a river cruise on the romantic Danube River in central Europe. It was a great vacation! We had a wonderful time visiting several cities in Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Germany.

A special thanks to Lisa Palmer and Rick Schaefer for filling the pulpit the two Sundays I was gone in August and September. I did have the opportunity to watch both these services on YouTube and the messages each provided were uplifting and very meaningful to me – as I am sure they were for all of you who attended (or watched) on those two Sundays. Rick has filled our pulpit many times in the past but this was Lisa's first time to bring the message. Both the veteran and the newcomer did great jobs – thanks again to Lisa and to Rick.

We celebrated The Lord's Supper, or communion, on October 2, the first Sunday of the month. We will not have communion in November as I will be gone the first two Sundays of that month. We will have communion twice in December – the first Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, and again on Christmas Eve.

If you are currently participating in our **Through the Bible Reading Challenge for 2022**, our goal for October is to read Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Ti-

tus, Philemon, and Hebrews. Our goal for November will be to read James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Jude. That will leave only the book of Revelation for December!

As the summer season has now passed us by, I wish for you and yours a wonderful and a safe fall. May the grace of God continue to uplift you and may your days be relaxing and worry-free. And may God continue to hold you in the palm of God's hand.

*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

## Kids!!

On Sunday, June 19 our nursery was blessed with an abundance of children, including Rhonda's grandchildren, the Schaefers, as well as three of Pastor Steve's grandchildren. Rhonda and Amy led the children in their "during worship" activities.





## River Float Trip July 2022

Our church traveled to the upper Black River near Lesterville, Missouri, for our annual River Float Trip in 2022. We floated on Wednesday, July 20 this year. We traditionally float on a Wednesday as this is one of the least busy days for people to be on the water. 15 hardy souls braved the clear and cool water of the river and everyone seemed to enjoy the day. We stopped several times to play in the water and to eat. The river was very low so we also had to get out and push/pull our canoes through the shallow spots at times! A good time was had by all.





# Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was held the week of July 25 through 29, 2022. The theme was “Food Truck Party”. A meal was served each evening, followed by music, crafts and Bible Story. There were 19 children in attendance throughout the week. Thanks to Marcia Schaefer, Maddie Terry and Sharon Boyer for helping with Music! Sharon also doubled as our registration person! Dayna Roth and Julie Terry were our craft leaders! In story time we had Pastor Steve and Xavier Moore! Our chefs were Kris Ritter and Rikki Schaefer! Teachers were Haley Grass, Ann Coulson, Amy Pfaff, Logan Moore! DJ Cupcake was Kyle Schaefer and our Top Chef for the week was Joan Huck! VBS is a fun week of Christian fellowship!!





## More VBS Pictures



# **Prayer**

## **By**

### **Barbara Fitzgerald**

I was given a little box of affirmations that I use very often...just pulling one card out and reading it, as I pass by the shelf where it sits in my “quiet room.” One quote I especially like says “I send a prayer of love to all beings in need of a miracle.” I am pretty sure that most of us can think of a friend or family member who is in need of a miracle. I feel a stronger connection to someone I am praying for. It is as if they are with me in those moments, when I ask God to bless those in need of healing in mind, body or spirit.

Medical people have said that people who know that they are being prayed for have a better outcome in their health challenge. We are all connected to each other in spirit, and praying is one way of strengthening that connection, especially when someone is in need of a “miracle.”

A booklet that I read has daily meditations in it. One that I read recently concerns prayer for and with others. “When I pray with (for) others, I gather all my feelings of love, support, compassion, and protection, and I focus on the highest and best outcomes” (for those I pray for). God knows their needs and so we put them in His hands.

When I sit outside admiring the magnificent sunsets, I sometimes think of all those people I have known in my life who have enriched it so much and who are no longer with us. We will never know how many of their prayers have helped us along the way, when our journey became challenging. God’s beauty has always shown me His love and the love He gives to all who share in His life. So, if I see a butterfly, I think of my oldest sister who knew the resurrecting power of God and of the chance we all have to become something new and transformed. When I see the cardinal bird at the feeder I think of my father and his love for all nature and the many cardinals he fed all winter. I know that they both said a lot of prayers for me, and I know that made a difference in my life, when I was going through serious health issues and other challenges.

“Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.” Romans 8:26



## ***Faith and Film Fellowship Event***

On Friday evening, August 19<sup>th</sup>, our church sponsored a **Faith and Film** fellowship evening. Attendees enjoyed popcorn, ice cream, and various snacks as we watched the movie *The Shack*, based on the novel of the same name by William Paul Young. After the movie we engaged in a discussion of the various themes dealt with in this story. It was an entertaining and enlightening evening for everyone involved. Thanks to Richard Fieg for “rediscovering” this idea and for helping to organize this event.



### **Food Pantry & Blessing Box**

On the left are pictures of food donations to the Food Pantry and Blessing Box from the Bible School children and adults. It is a good reminder to us that our Food Pantry and Blessing Box are running in the “red” right now due to increased need and higher prices. If you can help, it would be most appreciated. You may donate food, but cash donations ensure that needed food items can be made available for patrons. Many thanks!

## Youth Lock-In

On September 16 & 17, 2022 the Youth Group held a lock-in at the Silversmith House. It was the first lock-in that was held in their new space in the Silversmith House! We kicked off the night with a taco bar and played outdoor games. The group did a devotion about being on God's Team! The group painted rocks and then hid them throughout the downtown square area. There is a message on the back of the rocks instructing the finders to go to the First Presbyterian Church Ste Genevieve's Facebook page and to post a photo under the group "First Presbyterian Rocks!" We have had a few people post! We also watched, "Facing the Giants" movie about a football team who is transformed when they begin praising God! A good time was had by all! Thanks to Rikki & Kyle Schaefer, Lisa Palmer, Julie Terry, Amy Pfaff and Joan Huck for making the event happen for the youth at our church.





**Fish Fry**  
**September 24, 2022**



## **Presbyterian Day at the Ste Gen Nutrition Center**

On Friday, October 28, for those who are interested, we will gather at the Nutrition Center for lunch and fellowship. The Nutrition Center (on Parkwood behind Tractor Supply) will be serving chicken parmesan. For those who are 60 or older, the price is \$4; for all others, the price is \$6. Ann and Pastor Steve will be there at 11 am to greet you and explain procedures. We hope you can attend!



## **Anna Circle**

Anna Circle Meeting Wednesday November 9 at 1:30 p.m. Lesson 3



## **As Seen on a Tee-Shirt**

I WANT TO BE  
SO FULL OF CHRIST  
THAT IF A MOSQUITO BITES ME  
IT FLIES AWAY SINGING "THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD"

Shared by Judy Rottler



## OCTOBER

### AT A GLANCE

Consult your weekly bulletin for possible changes in this schedule.

- 2 Communion
- 5 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 12 Anna Circle 1:30 pm
- 12 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 13 Session Meeting 6 pm
- 19 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 22 Bake & Book Sale 9 am
- 22 Hayride
- 26 Food Pantry 1 pm
- 28 Nutrition Center 11 am

## NOVEMBER

### 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
- 17 Deacons' Meeting 6 pm
- 23 Food Pantry 1 pm



# Happy Birthday!

## OCTOBER

7 Ryan Sherry  
9 Julie Terry  
16 Joan Huck  
16 Joyce Roth  
21 Linda Armbruster  
21 Frank Myers  
21 Tracey Newman  
31 Donna Boyer

## DECEMBER

19 Jared Kenik  
20 Becky Millinger  
30 Brenda Stretch  
31 Jacque Brillos  
31 Judy Schmelzle

## NOVEMBER

7 Ike Rutherford  
8 Mike Sherry  
11 Drew Newman  
21 Kyle Schaefer  
22 Jacob Donze  
22 Ed Millinger  
30 Mary Blanford  
30 Tom Rottler





## IN OUR PRAYERS

Martha Boyer, Ray Albert, Rosa Lee Holcomb, Carol Wibbenmeyer, Toby John, Danny Wene, Kate, Evelyn Malone, Randy Heberlie, Louise Peterson, Neva Walton, Paul, Olivia Viox, Linda Hafley, Taylor Lawrence, Carol Mancuso, Marjetta Stenberg, Kade Rayoum, Joe Shirey, Kevin Budd, Glenda Gross, Roma Dortch, Jeff Shirey, Mary Pettus, Gary Rackers, Mary, Bob Koller, Joan Emmendorfer, Amanda Coalter, Rick Murphy, Bob Gentry, Bill Gentry, Jacque Brilllos, Dinah Weiler Arand, Bill Howren, Ceci, Sara, Stanton Weyand, Alyson Lee, Ryan Roth, Bob Havin, John Vogt, Rod Laubenstein, Mary Peura, Jeff Paulus, Ike Rutherford, Jim & Annie Jackson, Gloria Means, Donna Garleb., Helen Tucker, Noah, Brenda Stretch, Janet Schmelzle, Dave & Shellie Schmelzle, Derek Morganthaler, Mary Blanford, Jeff Gramling, Marion Kertz and the Coleman Schwent family.

All those serving in our military.

Those in nursing homes.: Martha Boyer, Romaine Holman, Ike Rutherford & Mary Blanford.



### 2022 Church Officers

#### **ELDERS**

Bruce Terry  
Kathy Roth  
Joy French  
Joan Huck  
Sharon Boyer  
Rick Schaefer

#### **DEACONS**

Marcia Schaefer  
Julie Terry  
Patti Weakly  
Amy Pfaff  
Ann Coulson  
John Weakly

### 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.  |
| 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

|                   |              |           |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------|
| 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. |

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  
Moderators, Pres. Women . . . . . Marcia Schaefer  
Donna Garleb

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