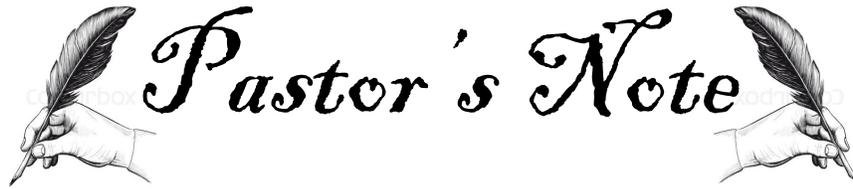


The Evangel



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AUGUST 2015



Pastor's Note

From the Pastor – What is The Fellowship Community?

This past month, in response to our congregation's denominational discussions, our Session voted to join The Fellowship Community. (You may have seen the Session's announcement about this in some of the July bulletins.) This month, I wanted to spend some time here answering some questions about this organization, and why we have chosen to become a part of it. I hope this is helpful!

1.) What is The Fellowship Community?

The Fellowship Community is a group of Presbyterian (USA) congregations and individuals who are committed to being Presbyterian in a different way. Most churches and individuals who join have not sensed the call to leave the PC(USA), but are uncomfortable as a part of it. We are therefore Presbyterians who have covenanted together to hold ourselves to higher standards of being the Church of Jesus Christ. One shorthand phrase that has been used to describe Fellowship members is that they are committed to build thriving churches that baptize more people than they bury. (What a wonderful goal to have!) On the Fellowship's website (www.fellowship.community), this group describes itself as "a network of churches and leaders called together to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by growing in Christ's likeness, living by God's Word, and joining in God's mission in the world." This community includes elders, pastors and congregations in 45 states across the United States – a united, yet truly widespread fellowship of Presbyterian believers!

2.) What do we gain from being a part of this community?

a.) An identity: For congregations and leaders who are Presbyterian, but not necessarily comfortable as Presbyterians, the Fellowship offers a different kind of identity – we are now Presbyterian, but not your *typical* Presbyterian congregation. We are a Fellowship congregation, meaning we are committed to different standards, higher standards. This is an important asset!

b.) Fellowship, Community, and Accountability: The Fellowship Community's name was not chosen by accident. These individuals and congregations covenant to be truly *together*. We commit to being connected to each other. This past month, our Session got to experience that in a marvelous way; Paul Detterman, the National Director of the Fellowship Community, was facilitating an event at Madeira-Silverwood Presbyterian Church, another Fellowship church in our presbytery. MSPC's pastor called me and invited us to bring folks to this event so we could find out more about this community. Seven of us went and enjoyed a fantastic time with representatives of the host church, and of two or three other congregations in the presbytery who are thinking of joining this group. We shared ideas for future events we could collaborate on, as well as ways we can pray for and support each other in ministry. This is an incredible blessing the Fellowship offers us – the coming together of like-minded people in our common calling to serve the Lord!

c.) Resources: The Fellowship offers a variety of resources for us, including a website full of excellent documents for study (you'll be seeing more of some of these in the future!), conferences with excellent teaching and worship, as well as the facilitation of mutual

accountability (see #3 below for more on this). In addition, those who are on the web can receive regular updates through articles on the Fellowship blog, or through Facebook updates and tweets on Twitter.

3.) What will be different here as a part of this organization?

In many ways, not much. Our worship and regular events will continue as they always have. But in other ways, we will see a difference. For one thing, the Session has signed a covenant with the Fellowship Community that we intend to keep. We have also signed on to the Essential Tenets supported by this group. (For both of those documents, go to www.fellowship.community and click on “Resources”. They are found under “Core Documents”). Beyond this, the Session is also committed to joining a “Mission Affinity Group” – i.e., joining with several other Sessions in a group that will meet regularly to hold each other accountable to these core commitments. We will be praying together, worshipping together, sharing best practices, and studying a “Narrative on the Health of Mission and Ministry” (also found on the website under “Core Documents”) together to evaluate how well we are serving the Lord here. As Paul Detterman shared with us last month: Congregations produce what they measure. In other words, if we know we are going to be held accountable for something, we are sure to get it done!

I hope you see that the Fellowship Community has the potential to be a wonderful place for us in the future. If you have any questions, please come talk with me, or spend some time studying the website. May the Lord bless us as we seek to honor Him through this new commitment!

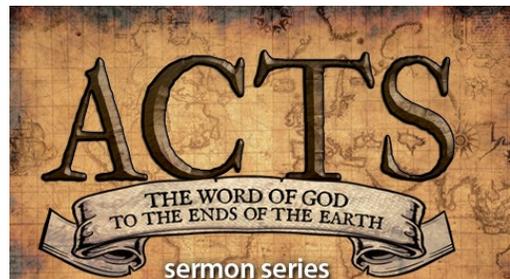
To Him alone be the glory!

In Christ's Love, **Joshua**



Our next **Tea or Coffee with the Pastor** will be held from 2-4pm on Wednesday, August 12. (You can come and go at any time during those 2 hours.) We will meet again at the Coffee Peddler in downtown Harrison (112 Harrison Ave). Come for good fellowship, good conversation, good hot beverages, and for a chance to ask any question you want!

This month, we will be continuing our sermon series on the Book of Acts – the Acts of the Apostles, the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Be sure to



join us in worship as we learn about the mission and growth of the early Church, and how we have that same mission and that same potential for growth. All are welcome. See you there!

Quote to Ponder...

“My duty towards my neighbor is to love him as myself,
and to do unto all (people) as I would they should do
unto me.” - From *The Book of Common Prayer*.



AUGUST BIRTHDAY BAKERS:

Lou Rozmarynowski, Phyllis Wolf

- 4 Claire Loos
- 5 Lisa Meyer, Riley Becker
- 6 Bill Bates
- 7 Janet Acra
- 8 Bill Schlager, Isabella Pitstick
- 9 Pam Biddle, Jim Taphorn
- 11 Kay Thiele
- 12 Ellen Puckett
- 15 Shannon Brown
- 16 Deana Doepker
- 17 Carrie Hursh
- 20 George Merse
- 23 Michael Jones,
Lisa Taphorn,
Brianna Brown
- 25 Shirley Quinn
- 30 Lieschen Turchina



CHURCH PICNIC ANNOUNCEMENT:

We hope to see everyone at the our Annual Church Picnic on August 30 immediately following the 10:45 church Sunday service (location TBD.) Please bring a covered dish to share (don't forget serving utensils) along with your own beverages. Meat and dinnerware will be furnished. We are in need of a couple grills (and a few folks to man them) as well as some lawn games. Please contact Bev Hughes (bevughes69 @gmail.com or (859) 426-9775) with questions or if you can help out.



The Outreach committee wishes to thank all those who helped make our participation in the 4th of July parade a big success! A good time was had by all and we represented well. In fact, we won the Grand Marshal award for our float! So again, THANKS to all those who helped decorate and build the float, those who marched and those who supplied candy!

If you have an article or event you would like featured in the **September Evangel**, please submit them to Kristy by **August 18**. You can leave a note in her mailbox or email her at kkathman@harrisonpresbyterian.com



News from the **WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

STUFF SALE is **COMING** - Don't forget to save your "stuff" when cleaning out garages, basements and closets for the Women's Stuff Sale happening the week of October 5. Remember, **WE SELL ANYTHING!** If you need a place to store your boxes of stuff, June has room in her garage.

The next Women's Association meeting will be September 3 when we go on our annual Fall trip. More details to come but go ahead and **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



Thank You!

We had a fantastic VBS at First Presbyterian Church of Harrison! We were able to teach 60 children how God helps us to overcome challenges. We had over 40 volunteers who gave their time, talent, money and materials. Thank you for your prayers to have a great week. VBS

is successful because of you! Finally, we thank Father, Son and Holy Spirit for guiding and protecting us everyday. To God be the Glory both now and forever. Amen. ~ Amy Green

2015 VBS Volunteers:

Joshua Long
 Fred Burkey
 Elaine Burkey
 Mike Green
 Ashley Green
 Nancy Wolfram
 Alan Wolfram
 Mindy Sindiong
 Jeff Sindiong
 Kelly Sebastian
 Stephanie Trabel
 Jim Trabel
 Elle Ventre

Jeff Gibbs
 Phyllis Wolf
 Janice Cook
 Marvin Cook
 Mary Tabor
 Jean Gibbs
 Walt Rueger
 Marilyn Rueger
 Christine Luca
 Karen D'Alessandro
 Phyllis Wolfram
 Mark Wolfram
 Marcia Merse

Melissa Fette
 Linda Hellmann
 Sherry Caito
 Lieschen Turchina
 Emma Roush
 Kristy Kathman
 Josh Kathman
 Noah Kathman
 Rachel Rivera
 Abbi Kugler
 Grace Ward
 Alyssa Perry
 Courtney Doyle



The FROGs would like to thank everyone for their generosity during our product drive. Thanks to you, we were able to deliver 203 items to Love Inc. and 362 items to Reach Out Pregnancy Center. Your caring hearts helped us to collect a total of 565 items. Thank you so much!



Prayer Meeting – Our next monthly prayer meeting is Saturday, August 8 at 11 am in the chapel. Please join us as we lift up our congregation, our leaders, our nation, and other needs in prayer!



Love Thy Neighbor Mission 12 Months of Giving

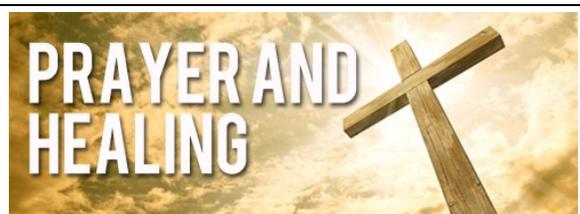
The Mission committee continues to be amazed by our generous congregation in response to our monthly “Love They Neighbor” missions.

The August "Love Thy Neighbor" mission will benefit the local residents of HER TURNING POINT TRANSITIONAL HOME. We are asking for donations of laundry detergent, trash bags, body wash and shampoo which will provide assistance to the women of this Christ-Centered transitional home. Her Turning Point provides a nurturing and stable living environment for single women or women with children for up to one year while they participate in daily programs that require them to be actively involved in the planning of their future. Her Turning Point strives to help our community with positive life changes through structured programs focusing on a relationship with Jesus Christ, education, employment, real life management skills, recovery from substance abuse or life circumstances, and providing opportunities for individuals to get back on their feet and successfully rejoin society as productive citizens. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Can't make it to church? Out of town last month and want to see what you missed? You can watch Rev. Long live and catch up on previous sermons via our church's website (www.harrisonpresbyterian.com) or via our new YouTube station (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr_A4d3L-GAEF8ymxJF_8Zg) or search "First Presbyterian Church of Harrison" in YouTube.

Youth Connection (YC) invites all 7th - 12th grade teens and friends to meet and participate in activities throughout the year. Please watch bulletins, Facebook and text messages for the latest information about YC summer events.



"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven" (James 5:14-15,ESV). In obedience to these verses, we will offer a **HEALING SERVICE** in the chapel after the 10:45 worship service on August 30. Any who are sick or in need are welcome to come receive anointing and prayer from the elders of our congregation. God has given us a great promise here – let's take Him at His Word!

Quote to Ponder... "Friendship

between the friends of Jesus of Nazareth is

unlike any other friendship." - Stephen Neill

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

For Health Needs

Gene Steelman
Georgia Dwelly
Louanna Smith
Bennie Pierson
Hester Konkle
Janet Coakley
Russell Taylor
Carter Jones
Ellen Puckett
Jane Poland
Elaine Harris
Nomi Taylor
Jim Mendell
Earl Dwelly
Pam Kraus
Diane Arel
Jean Vest

Our Shut-Ins

Pauline Zimmerman
Nora Montgomery
Theresa Johnson
Jeanette Rae
Gloria Culley
Ginny Thiele
Don Kraus



Specific Prayer Needs

Deb Menninger: for her son's health;
June Merten: for her brother's health;
Stephanie Trabel: for her aunt's health;
Jim & Ellen Puckett: for her sister's health;
Georgia & Earl Dwelly: for their daughter's health;
Gloria Culley: for her grandson and his Mission Team;
Nancy Mendell: for her niece, Mary Ellen Watts', health;
Ted & Janet Coakley: for their granddaughter's, her sister's
& his

PRAYER CHAIN CALLS - *The Prayer Chain is a group of people who are committed to praying daily for those requesting prayer. This ministry is administered through our Board of Deacons. If you have a prayer request please contact **Marcia Merse** at 812-637-3702 (home) or 367-4301 (work) during the day or **Phyllis Wolfram** at 367-4578 during the evening. For two weeks, the people on the chain will pray daily for the person or situation requested.*



The **SUMMER CHOIR** continues to meet at 10am each Sunday in the music room. No prior choir experience required. If you enjoy singing and want to be part of our worship service, please join us!

We are also looking for musicians to add to our worship service this summer! If you have a talent that you would like to share with our congregation, please see Beth Snape (265-8425 or bsnape67@gmail.com.)



2¢ A MEAL - SUNDAY, AUG. 9

You can place your donations in the gold pots located at both entrances to the sanctuary. Thanks for your donation to feed the hungry.



MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES

If you are interested in going to Matthew 25, please meet in the church parking lot at 9:00am on **Monday, Aug. 24.**