

The Bell-Tower

JULY NEWS

Florissant Presbyterian Church

2019

'Out-Being'

The Social Witness Teams of the Synod of Mid-America held its annual conference at John Knox, Florissant last month. Titled, Troubling the Waters for the Healing of the World, one of the discussion panelists said something that has continued to ring in my ears. He said, "We can no longer remain a church that focuses on 'outreach', but we must become a church that focuses on 'out-being'." In other words, we cannot wait for the world to come to us; rather we must be willing to go out into our communities. I believe God is sending us out. I believe God is sending us out into our Charbonier neighborhood to connect with our local schools, to strangers on our sidewalks, and into our families and friends, in order to, spread our relationship with God to all the beloved children of God.

Jesus' call to Florissant Presbyterian is a call to a ministry of loving relationships, which I think following the word of the conference speaker directs us to move forward as a church of 'out-being'. Whether we facing worries about our stewardship or building, our attention can no longer be about focusing on ourselves. The church has to be about connecting people and catching the vision that God is calling us out to be a church that extended love out from where we are. Because we want to be part of Christ's dynamic mission of reconciliation, then we must discern where God is calling us and then go. We must go outside our doors and reach the people that God gives. I am confident that our church can be an example of the new directions that communities of faith have to go in order to be relevant in the 21st century. If we will only be willing to open up and risk sharing our relationship of love. My friends in Christ, I believe we are being called, not to only 'outreach', but even more to 'out-being' in our community.

Summer Blessings,
Pastor Sean

CLERK'S CORNER – *Candy Shelton, Clerk of Session*

The Session of Florissant Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, June 9, 2019 in the FPC Conference Room.

Task Force for Change is meeting biweekly to plan for the future of FPC. Members include Stefanie Thobes, Carole Tumminia, Rich Meanor and Jon Murray, chaired by Sue Kohler. They are open to any ideas, primarily ways to curb spending or to find new sources of income. The fundraiser BBQ was a success and more BBQ's are planned.

COMMISSION REPORTS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Adult Sunday School will resume September 15th with a study comparing the four gospels.

CHURCH LIFE - July 11th will be the next Cooking Up Kindness. The menu will include sloppy joes, mac and cheese watermelon. July 20th will be a trip to the Science Center to see the Imax on volcanos and the Pompeii exhibit. Cost will be \$25. August 17th will be the FPC Birthday party.

CHURCH OPERATIONS - Rolla hung a new flag in front of church. The water fountain has been fixed.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE - continues cards, calls and visits to FPC members. Please sign up for fellowship cleanup.

EVANGELISM – No news

WORSHIP - Communion Sunday will be moved to July 14th.

Next Presbytery meeting will be Thursday, **August 22, 2019** at First United & Westminster Presbyterian Church, Belleville IL

Pastor Sean closed the meeting at 1:10 pm with prayer.

Next meeting Sunday, July 21, 2019.

JULY Birthdays

3 Jon Murray	10 Rich Meanor	29 Anna Butler
3 Andrew Taylor*	16 Katherine Collins	29 Helen Butler
3 Anne Wade	17 Betty Brumback	29 Caitlin Gierer
4 Karen Collins	21 Kathy Myers	30 Alan Arseneau
6 Brooklyn Buddeke	21 Louise Scudder	30 Larry Hensley
7 Kay Bass	22 Mark Salfen	

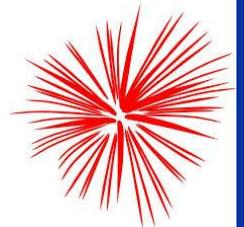
90th

Andy Taylor

*If you would like to send Andy a birthday wish,
his address is 12785 Sandalwood, Florissant, MO 63033*

Wedding Anniversaries

Richard & Joy Lee, married 63 years July 14
Sam & Carole Tumminia, married 30 years on July 15
Jon & Esther Murray, married 63 years on July 21



Happy Independence Day!

Church News

CHURCH LIFE

Cooking up Kindness – **FREE** dinner Thursday, July 11 from 5-6 pm. Everyone welcome!

GREEN TEAM

Prayer Labyrinth

As promised, Florissant Presbyterian Church has a new prayer and meditation tool. Enter Harmon Hall and you will find a labyrinth near the outer doors. Before the Learning Center resumes this fall, we have time to test this taped version and then create a painted version.



Medieval churches had labyrinths. Ours is copied from the inner paths of the Chartres labyrinth. People who couldn't go on pilgrimage to Jerusalem could still journey using the labyrinth's winding path. There are no wrong ways and no dead ends.

There are several ways to pray using a labyrinth. The most common method is a three step process. As you walk toward the center of the labyrinth, focus on letting go of the loudness and busy-ness of life. In the center, pause. Breathe. Pray or reflect on your relationship with God. Then turn and follow the path back out into the world.

You can also enter the labyrinth with a question. What choice should you make? What path should you take? As you walk, breathe and consider your question. Walking meditation keeps your mind busy enough but not too busy to hear the still small voice of God.

If you are burdened by a specific worry, envision yourself carrying it into the labyrinth. At the center, leave this burden with God, then venture back out unencumbered.

Walking prayer, also known as walking meditation, is a good choice for those who have trouble stilling their mind. Stop by Harmon Hall and give it a try.

MARINER LOG

Upcoming Events (Everyone invited!)

- **Saturday, July 20 – Science Center**

\$25 per person includes “Volcanoes” Omnimax, Pompeii Exhibition & Parking. We must leave church by 9 am – Checks payable to FPC by Sunday, July 7.

- **Saturday, August 3 – Church Rummage Sale**

Beginning at 7 am, we will provide all sorts of “goodies” for shoppers. Watch the Sunday bulletin for drop-off and set-up information.

- **Saturday, August 17 – Church Birthday Party**

From 3-6 pm, we will celebrate everyone’s birthday, sing “Happy Birthday”, play a game or two and eat cake and ice cream. There may be gift cards to win so come and try your luck. Information about donating school supplies will come later.

PRAYERS

Joyce, Doris, Carol, Sara, Carlene’s sister Mary, Sue’s friend Lill, Bobbie’s granddaughter Christy, Trish’s brother Stephen, her grandson Blake, her friends Jane & Tony, Bruce’s wife Carol, Ruth’s great grandson, Sue’s brother-in-law Jeff and her sister Lynn

FROM THE TREASURER - Your assistance is needed. Summer is upon us and cash flow is a problem you are all well aware. Please review your giving patterns during the summer and assist when and wherever possible. Thank you.