

The Amen Almanac

First Presbyterian Church, 721 Church St., Jefferson City, TN 37760
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 Rev. Diana Moore, Interim Pastor

From the Interim Pastor's Desk...

In Matthew 22, a lawyer questioned Jesus and asked: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Jesus said to him: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." In the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10, we have another lawyer questioning Jesus to test him: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus asks him what is written in the law and the lawyer replies: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer then asked "And who is my neighbor?" And Jesus replied with the story of the Good Samaritan.

That question "who is my neighbor?" has great theological impact in how we live our lives. Andrew, in his newsletter article in March 2015, referred to Fred Rogers, and his television program Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood in discussing that very question. Andrew wrote: "One lesson he [Mr. Rogers] taught so well was what was meant by the term 'neighbor.' It was the term by which Mr. Rogers referred to his viewers as well as guests on the program. His opening theme song posed the question each day, 'Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won't you be my neighbor?' Mr. Rogers taught us that to be a neighbor is to be hospitable, to be kind, to practice gentleness and generosity. A neighbor is someone to be honored, cared about, and seen as a partner in life." Andrew's article was written after the Church Street Café had served their first neighborhood meal on a cold snowy February evening.

We have continued to get to know our neighbors at our twice monthly neighborhood meals. This month, we also have another opportunity to meet some more of our neighbors – our church neighbors – when we meet with Boyd Chapel United Methodist Church at Martha Davis Baptist Church for an afternoon of worship and fellowship. Delynn McCash and Arlene Peck have reminded us that we sometimes forget that our neighbors include those in other denominations and those of other ethnic backgrounds and races. Too often we focus on those denominational differences that keep us apart rather than on our similarities. We get isolated in our own sanctuaries and forget that our ecumenical partners, those in different denominations, are composed of people just like us. We may be called Methodist or Baptist or Presbyterian. We

may identify ourselves as Hispanic, or African-American, or Caucasian, but all of us are children of God. We are all neighbors who are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. There is no "us" or "them" in God's kingdom. We all have a seat at the heavenly table.

Every Sunday when we say the Lord's Prayer, we pray "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." To live that prayer, we need to do all we can to help bring about the kingdom of God here on earth. Sharing a meal with our neighbors, whether at Church Street Café, or at Martha Davis Baptist Church, is a foretaste of that coming kingdom. Come be a kingdom-builder and share a meal and fellowship with our neighbors.

Blessings,
 Diana

Announcements

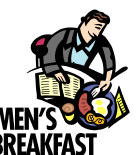
A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY



A look back in time can often help us to take a leap forward into our future. That is the driving force behind the First Annual "Love Feast" which will be happening at Martha Davis Baptist Church on Sunday, April 3rd, at 3:00 p.m. Jefferson City once had a rich tradition of pulpit sharing which allowed pastors from different church denominations to guest preach in area churches. Congregations would combine on these days, and people would sit with their neighbors enjoying fellowship. Putting a modern twist on the idea, and combining three uniquely different denominations, Martha Davis Baptist Church, Boyd Chapel United Methodist Church and First Presbyterian Church of Jefferson City have planned a community church "Love Feast" that will focus on Music, Feasting, and Fellowship. There will be a worship service with music by the choirs of all three churches and then a time to share a meal afterwards. Please join us for this time of friendship and fellowship.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 9th, at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



Jefferson City, TN 37760
 721 Church St.
 First Presbyterian Church

ANNOUNCING THE PRESBYTERIAN PLATE!

Announcing The Presbyterian Plate, the sequel! Ten years ago, we published our first church cookbook, and it was a huge success! We would like to begin gathering your favorite, most requested, tried and true recipes for our next edition! Recipe categories will include, but are not limited to: appetizers, beverage, soups, salads, breads, main dishes, desserts and a miscellaneous category that can include jam, jellies, and marinades. Set aside your favorite crowd pleaser recipes for the cookbook! Or when you bake a birthday cake for that special someone, set aside the recipe! Or when you're preparing a dish for a potluck (or Family Night Supper), set that recipe aside! Don't leave out your easy week night suppers, weekend breakfasts, holiday traditions, or family favorites!

Please help us to fill our book with lots of delicious recipes! We are asking for a minimum of 5 recipe submissions per family. Recipes must be submitted on the recipe form provided, which are placed in several locations around the church (pink half sheet in Narthex, back hall, and kitchen of the church). If you would like a form emailed to you, please contact Heather in the Church Office. There will also be recipe request forms if you would like to request a specific recipe from someone in the church. Please text or call Roxanne at 865-696-4004 with any questions.

Submit Your Recipes



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
|  | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Boyd Chapel & Martha Davis Service/ Reception 3:00 p.m. Nancy Romine | RUF 6:00 p.m. | Stewardship & Finance 2:00 p.m. Building & Grounds 6:30 p.m. | Mission 6:30 p.m. Kathy Juroff | Heather Out 12:00-5:00 p.m. | Stacy Kirkpatrick | Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Women's Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Youth Sunday Writing Dail Meadows |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Fellowship & Evangelism 12:30 p.m. Cynthia Moses | RUF 6:00 p.m. Rick & Sandy Pinkerton-Long | Church Street Café 5:00 p.m. Robert Gowan John Neal Scarlett | Session 6:30 p.m. Heather Out | Sit 'n Knit Group 7:00 p.m. | Sit 'n Knit Group 7:00 p.m. | Youth Valentines for Brazil Mary Winslow |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Yard Sale Meeting 12:00 p.m. | CSC Truck Delivery 4:00 p.m. RUF 6:00 p.m. | Family Night Supper and Youth Fundraiser 6:00 p.m. NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JV Cline | Family Night Supper and Youth Fundraiser 6:00 p.m. | Heather Out | Sit 'n Knit Group 7:00 p.m. | Hiking Club 8:00 a.m. Youth Sunday Rehearsal 12:00-3:00 p.m. |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. YOUTH SUNDAY | RUF 6:00 p.m. Kate Pinkerton-Long | Church Street Café 5:00 p.m. Dennis Cureton | Christian Education 6:30 p.m. | Heather Out | Pat Patton | Dallas McCash |



WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Women's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 9th, at 9:00 a.m. This month we will be at the home of Mary Ellen Patton (7472 Circle Pointe Dr., Talbott). We will be studying Lesson 6 from our book titled "Living each day in Jesus' name". Bring your Bible and join us for our study. Contact Debby Rinehart (423-581-3135) for more information.

YOUTH GROUP—YOUTH SUNDAY PLANNING

On Saturday, April 9th, the Youth will be meeting at the church from 12:00-3:00 p.m., to continue Youth Sunday Planning. Lunch will be provided. Additionally, there will be a Youth Sunday dress rehearsal on Saturday, April 23rd, from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Long.



SIT 'N KNIT GROUP

On Friday, April 15th, at 7:00 p.m. we will be having the Sit 'n Knit gathering at the home of Kathy Juroff (1250 Groseclose Rd).

SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIKING GROUP

The Smoky Mountain Hiking Group will meet on Saturday, April 16th, at 8:00 a.m. and hike to Porters Creek. A favorite in the Greenbrier area, and a great spring wildflower hike, this is a 3.6-7.2 mile roundtrip, depending on whether you stop at the falls or proceed to Campsite 31 before returning. Don't forget to pack a lunch and some water and join us!



ANNUAL MISSION YARD SALE KICKOFF

On Sunday, April 17th, immediately following Worship there will be a short meeting about the 2016 Yard Sale in the Fellowship Hall. We are looking for feedback from last year's sale and would like all those interested in participating in this year's sale to attend. For more information, please see Linda Noonkesser.

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER/YOUTH FUNDRAISER

On Wednesday, April 20, we will have our Family Night Supper and Youth Fundraiser. The youth will prepare and serve a meal of baked ziti (with meat), spaghetti with marinara sauce, salad, garlic knot rolls, and dessert (folks should not bring a dish!). The youth will also present our program for the evening, with a talent show and time auction (which will include services, time, and talents of our youth). Monies collected from the dinner, the show, and the auction will go in the mission trip fund. Festivities will begin at 6:30. People can see Roxanne Moser or Kay Williams for more info.



Italian Dinner

WALTERS STATE SPRING CONCERT

The spring concert of the Walters State Community Band will be held on Sunday, April 24th, at 3:00 p.m. The location is the Walters State gym at the main campus in Morristown. The band is co-directed by Greg Woodruff, and other members of the band from our church are Anne Woodruff, Beth Folsom, and Carolyn Berryhill. The concert is free and a great event for children as well as adults!



APRIL GOING-ON GROUP

On April 26th, the Going-on Group will be having a backward day. We will be meeting at the church at 9:00 a.m. and heading to Athens, TN. At 11:00 a.m. we will have a tour of the Mayfield Dairy Plant. The cost of the tour is \$4.50 per person which includes the tour and a generous scoop of your favorite ice cream. "Have dessert first, life is uncertain." Lunch will follow at Michael's at 12:30 p.m. There are copies of the lunch menu for you to have. There is a sign up sheet on the table by the office. Put your name and the flavor of ice cream you would like. For additional information contact Bob or Sue Rhein at 865-262-0130.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

It is with much joy that we report the completion of our Ministry Information Form (MIF). Our MIF tells prospective ministers about our church, our ongoing programs and ministries, and our community. The MIF also identifies characteristics, qualities, experience, and education that we are seeking in our new pastor. The MIF also lets candidates know the proposed compensation and the responsibilities expected of the pastor.

Our MIF was unanimously approved by our Session as well as by the Committee on Ministry of Holston Presbytery. It will be posted online as soon as the three electronic signatures have been added. At that time, we will give the online link to anyone who would like to read the MIF.

The committee would like to thank the congregation for all your continued prayers.

Heather will be out of the Office from April 12-April 15. If you need something in the April 17th Bulletin, please have it to Heather as soon as possible.

out of office

Diana will be out of the Office the week of May 2-May 8. She will be back in the office on Monday, May 9.



NEW ADDRESS

Jeff and Whitney Drees
3031 Lee Ridge Road
Morristown, TN 37814

STATEMENTS OF FAITH FROM OUR NEW ELDERS

DOUGLAS MOSES

Life for me has always been based around the church. Whenever the doors were open, you were attending whatever program was being held. NO MATTER WHAT! Yes, I was raised in a Baptist Church by a loving Baptist family with a whole gaggle of Baptist ministers within the ranks. There was never any problem asking someone to say the blessing at a family dinner. All of my life, especially through college and as a young adult, I still felt it was necessary to attend church rather than get lazy with my beliefs. I guess I felt that my Mom would have smacked me on the back of my head.

For many years, I went through the ritual of attending church and going through the motions of participation. When you are the husband of a church organist, you do tend to change churches often and participate in various religious beliefs which I enjoyed. Not until several years ago when Cindy retired from full time duties as a church organist and choir director did I feel that I could really become a participant in the church. Soon after we became members of a church, we joined the choir (first time for me, scared to death) and got involved in the services and Session. From that time onward, I felt that I was a real church member and looked forward to being a part of the life of the church.

Four years ago, I began to attend First Presbyterian Church in Jefferson City. For once in my life, I have truly experienced what real church and the Christian belief is all about. The church is all about how I truly believe faith should be experienced through Community sharing, International giving, personal growth and involvement, teaching and support. I will have to be honest, this is the first time since high school that I have been involved in a Sunday School class which I have enjoyed and have discussed more biblical history than I have ever done before. I am honored to have been asked to be a member of Session. I have been an Elder for a while and was looking forward to getting back into the Session. Being in the Session, participation in Sunday School, working with the Church Street Café, working in the yard sale, attending the services and family night suppers makes my church experience complete. Have to keep God from smacking me on the back of my head.

MARCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Approved the MIF, which should now be online
- Received CE and Building & Grounds Report
- Heard highlights from the March Presbytery meeting Diana

FINANCE REPORT

| MONTHLY INCOME | | YEAR-TO-DATE (YTD) INCOME/EXPENSES | |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| | | YTD ACTUAL | YTD BUDGET |
| MARCH 6 | \$7,342.00 | | |
| MARCH 13 | \$4,099.00 | INCOME \$60,652.25 | \$54,146.28 |
| MARCH 20 | \$5,020.00 | EXPENSES \$41,613.70 | \$54,146.28 |
| MARCH 27 | \$3,700.00 | | |
| TOTAL | \$20,161.00 | YTD INCOME OVER EXPENSES: \$19,038.55 | |

JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

George and Gail Twine on the death of George's mother

SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Kay Gowan, surgery scheduled for April 11th

Terry Jaros

Bill Vest

Lynn and Jusy Watkins

Bob and Irene Shurden

J.V. Cline

Seth Beck, Neal's grandson

Skylar McMillan, Diana's great-niece

Peggy Free

Jayden Dixon

Barbara and Dale Hickey

Chris Parks

Adele Gregory

Elaia and Matthew Wilson

Ruth Brown, PCUSA missionary in Congo

Joe Vannatter, son of Mary Metcalf

Government corruption in Brazil

The Pastor Nominating Committee

Nathan Williams (job search)

Jamie Spohn

Tiffany Adams

Julie Adams

Roderick Dixon

The Babb Family

Sarah Ingram, Sara Piper's granddaughter

Kandra Chesteen, friend of Diana Moore

Chante McGlofin, Arlene Peck's cousin

Aaron, Delynn McCash's son

Ashley Weaver, friend of Allison LeClercq

Stephanie Streatman

Chris Maples

Those who are struggling with addictions

The Reed Family, Arlene Peck's cousin and family

Ian and Kristen Miller, friends of Madison Meadows

All members of the military and their families, especially those stationed overseas

ILL AND RECOVERING:

Jim Deaton, who is recovering from eye surgery

Bill Brimer & Family, Friends of Martha Sanders, Bill has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

Traci Spivey, Sara Pipers daughter-in-law, who is recovering from sarcoma surgery removal

Kathy Ackerman, Dick Gombert's daughter, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will be undergoing surgery on April 5th

Stephanie Hortman, friend of Eva Zirkle, a young mother, who has been diagnosed with a recurrent chestwall tumor

Janet Reinholz, member of Grace Notes Flute Choir, who is struggling with constant pain

Theresa Barrett and Jasper Humphrey, cousins of Claudia Haskins

Anne Charles, friend of Diana Moore, who is in rehab following a broken neck

Dick and Mary Gombert

Kim LeClercq's mother and grandmother

Paul Brewer, former Pastor at Hebron

Patricia Vollmer, Katie Lupton's mom

Jerry Robinson, Karena Malavanti's friend's brother

Clara Osborne, friend of Arlene Peck

Darla Parks, Gail Twine's niece

Diana Moore, who is recovering from eye surgery

Tracy Davis, Joanne Vest's niece, who is awaiting an intestine transplant

Carolyn Armstrong, Arlene Peck's sister

Bill Parker, Arlene Peck's cousin

Jim Patterson, friend of Mike and Pam Kustermann, who is awaiting a prosthetic leg

Linda Raines, friend of the Folsoms and Clousers, who is continuing chemotherapy treatments

Charlie May Bozeman, Mary Hodges' mother

Marion Clark, friend of Gail Twine, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer

Brent McLean, Heather Hill's brother, who will be having stem cell transplant on April 7th followed by a month of isolation

Julie Wilder, sister of Carolyn Free (CSC attendee), who has a brain tumor

Tony Free, son of Peggy Free

Carl Baysigner, friend of Rick Varner

Ron, husband of Kelly (CSC attendee)

Curtis Maples, CSC attendee, who is recovering from heart surgery

Jayden Dixon's mom and dad

Charles Forester, who has cancer

Hunter Williams, CSC attendee, infant having trouble gaining weight

Carolyn Free, CSC attendee, who is having health issues

JoeLene Vannatter, CSC attendee

Georganne Guysinger, friend of Nancy Agee, who has breast cancer

IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, C.R. Vest

HERITAGE CENTER: Bonnie Young

JEFFERSON COUNTY NURSING HOME: Celeste Reneau,

Lucille Tinsley