



The Bell-Tower

April NEWS

Florissant Presbyterian Church

2019

Resurrection Hopes

As the potter approaches the spinning wheel, she gently shapes her hands so that a beautiful vase rises out of a gray lump of unformed clay. The inner eye of the potter's imagination saw in the lumpy and distorted clay the future possibility of a sleek fluted vase. I think the potter saw the clay all smashed down and rounded as an expression of what we, as disciples of Jesus, might call resurrection hopes.

Easter is inseparably connected to Good Friday. Good Friday forces us to confront the bodily suffering and earthly death of Jesus on the cross and Easter challenges us to hold on to the hope of unexpected resurrection possibilities. By our paying close attention to both Jesus' death and resurrection, I think we at Florissant Presbyterian Church can be better equipped to find new purposes and imaginative directions for our own service and ministries.

While Jesus was nailed upon the cross, I believe, he could see the hope of God's unexpected possibilities. Remember, how he told the one thief who was crucified beside him that, "Today you will be with me in paradise." Jesus promises that we too, his church, can share this resurrection hope and vision in our times of struggles, losses and unexpected changes.

Sharing the vision of resurrection hope in the midst of difficulty requires committing to be a church that trusts that the faith and love of Jesus empowers, transforms, and accompanies us in our everyday missions and ministries. As we worship, pray, and serve together, we must be willing to take chances, make changes, do new activities, adjust old habits and even alter long held traditions in order to more clearly embody the hope filled power of the resurrection.

The potter can teach us to look for hopeful possibilities even in an unformed lump of dirt. Yet, seeing future possibilities is not obvious to a casual bystander of the potter's wheel. It takes practice and patience to recognize that the movement of the potter's hands works to shape away all the lumps and to finally celebrate a new vase with all its creative beauty.

How can FPC be like a potter in the way we live out a resurrection vision in our purpose and mission? As we move forward together, we can be confident that our Lord offers a new hope filled way of living out God's resurrection possibilities. Where do you see Good Friday struggles that can be transformed into new resurrection hopes?

In Enduring Hope, Pastor Sean

CLERK'S CORNER – Candy Shelton, Clerk of Session

The Session of Florissant Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, March 10, 2019 in the FPC Conference Room.

TREASURER'S REPORT: All funds have been transferred to Citizen's National Bank.

Task Force for Change is meeting weekly 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. 1) Custodial service has been reduced to Sundays only 2) Gift cards should be available by April 1st 3) Air Comfort will do 6-month checkups (not quarterly) to reduce costs 3) Cost for Easter Lilies and Christmas Poinsettias will be raised to \$15 to reflect the actual cost. 4) Looking in to selling four Lebanon cemetery plots (\$1700 each) that were donated to the church in the past 5) Advertising for hall rental has begun

COMMISSION REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Bunny Breakfast and Egg Hunt will be April 13th.

CHURCH LIFE – The Lenten folder collection will go to One Great Hour of Sharing. Cooking up Kindness will continue March 14th (soup and salad) and April 4th (lasagna). Don't forget \$31 per capita before July 1st.

CHURCH OPERATION – Resolved heating in sanctuary. Resolved organ blower issue. Removed squirrel from dishwasher vent. Roof leaks unresolved.

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

EVANGELISM - May 8th and 9th will be the last coffee fellowships with the Learning Center. Bring a Friend Sunday is March 24th.

WORSHIP – Changes in Worship began March 17th.

Next Presbytery meeting will be Saturday May 4, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church Cape Girardeau, MO.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Presbytery lead, Craig Howard will preach on March 17th and meet with session afterwards. Vanessa Hawkins will preach on April 7th and meet with session. Jim Maddsen is our Presbytery liaison.

Pastor Sean closed the meeting at 1:45 pm with prayer.

Next meeting Sunday, April 28, 2019.

APRIL Birthdays

4 Sue Kohler

12 Pamela Tumminia

29 Everett Flaker

14 Lauralyn Rosenberger

15 Wilma Thiedke

16 Candy Shelton

21 Vickie Goehri



Jesus Sends Love, Hope, & Happiness

By/Betty Walters

What helps get me through the roughest of times?
When I go to Jesus and tell him what's on my mind.
Sometimes my heart feels burden heavy and sad.
That's when I know Jesus is the best friend I ever had.
He sends love, hope, and power my way.
Then I know I can make it through another day.
He will bring you out of whatever you are going through.
Our Lord is waiting to hear from you.
Keep calling out because your deliverance is near.
Please send me words of comfort and wisdom that I will hear.

Church News

CHURCH LIFE

COOKING UP KINDNESS

Everyone is welcome to enjoy a FREE meal of lasagna, cheese garlic bread, salad and ice cream, along with wonderful fellowship, Thursday, April 4th from 5-6:30 pm. The FREE dinners will be held once a month.

EVANGALISM

The Evangelism Committee hosted a “Bring a Friend” to worship on Sunday, March 24th. Many members brought family and friends to enjoy the service and fellowship. Everyone took home a small gift.

MARINER LOG

On Sunday March 10th about 40 people enjoyed a wonderful brunch of pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice, milk, coffee and Kings Cake! Karen Collins found the baby in her piece of cake and wore the crown for a short while.

Saturday April 13th the Easter Bunny Breakfast will be from 9-11am. Anyone who can help will be greatly appreciated.

Sunday May 12th from 9-10am we will serve a Mother’s Day Continental Breakfast of donuts, rolls, juice, milk and coffee.

Saturday June 1st at 9 am will be our annual Breakfast in the Pavilion. We will also make up goody bags for the USO (Mariners buy the items for the bags). This is a wonderful time to share a meal and service project together.

PER CAPITA

Just a friendly reminder, our ‘Per Capita Apportionment’ for this year is \$31.00/person. We would appreciate if everyone could complete this task by July 1st. Thanks for your support.

PRAYERS

Elizabeth's Aunt Charline, Carlene's Sister Mary, Marilyn, Tony, Jane, Sara, Doris, Carol, Ruth and her great grandson, Sue's brother-in-law Jeff and her sister Lynn

RUMMAGE SALE

Remember our **one rummage sale** for the year will be Saturday, August 3rd from 7am – noon. Set up will start Monday, July 29th and will continue through Friday, August 2nd. Times will vary. **IF** you need to bring items early, they can be stored in the double door storage area in Harmon Hall or the Oasis Room.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EASTER EGG HUNT/BREAKFAST

The annual Easter Bunny Breakfast and Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 13th. Breakfast (pancakes, sausage, applesauce, juice, milk and coffee) will be served from 9 am to 10 am. The Easter egg hunt will be at 10 am; eggs will be filled with "bunny money" to shop for prizes at the Bunny Store. The Easter Bunny will be there! All are welcome; please let us know if you are coming. Also volunteers are needed. Contact Candy Shelton or sign up at the church office.

YOUTH

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIY

The St. Louis Area Foodbank, Saturday, April 27th - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will be sorting and re-packing food that is taken to food pantries and soup kitchens. This is a spiritually uplifting experience knowing that in some small way we are helping those less fortunate. It is also a fun way to spend time with your church family. For additional information call Carole Tumminia at 838 8606.

GIFT CARDS ARE BACK

Our Session Task Force has decided to continue our Gift (Scrip) Card program to help our church financially. This is a great way for our congregation to help us raise additional funds above and beyond our normal giving. It lets us give just by using gift cards to make purchases at local merchants where we do our everyday shopping and dining out. Last year profits were around \$2,000!

We have made some small changes to managing this program. We are keeping a smaller inventory by only stocking the cards that are purchased most often. However, we will gladly make special orders for those merchants that you visit less frequently.

The list below shows the local merchants that participate in the Gift Card program. The merchants with the "X" next to them are the cards we will be keeping in inventory. All other merchant cards will be considered for special orders. Due to the cost we are requesting all special orders be paid for in advance. We will be placing orders on a monthly basis.

If you have any questions, just ask Ellen Law in the church office on Sunday mornings.

<u>Sit-down Restaurants</u>			<u>Grocery/Everyday</u>	
	Applebee's	\$25	X Dierberg's	\$25
	Bob Evans	\$10	X Dierberg's	\$100
	Buffalo Wild Wings	\$25	X Walgreen's	\$25
	Calif Pizza Kitchen	\$10	Walgreen's	\$100
	Cannoli's	\$10	X Walmart/Sam's	\$25
	Cheesecake Factory	\$25	X Walmart/Sam's	\$100
	Chevy's	\$25		
	Chili's	\$25		
	X Cracker Barrel	\$10	<u>Department/Clothing</u>	
	Darden/Olive Garden/Longhorn	\$25	Dillard's	\$25
	X Denny's	\$10	J.C. Penney	\$25
	Fazzoli's	\$25	Kohl's	\$25
	Dave & Busters	\$25	Macy's	\$25
	Ihop	\$25	Men's Warehouse	\$25
	Landry's Seafood	\$25	Old Navy	\$25
	Noodles & Co	\$10	Shoe Carnival	\$25
	Old Country Buffet	\$25	TJ Maxx/Marshall	\$25
	Outback Steakhouse	\$25	Target	\$25
	Red Lobster	\$25		
	Red Robin	\$25	<u>Specialty Stores</u>	
	Ruby Tuesday's	\$25	Barnes & Noble	\$10
	Steak-N-Shake	\$10	Barnes & Noble	\$25
	Texas Roadhouse	\$25	Bath & Body	\$10
			Bath & Body	\$25
			Best Buy	\$25
	<u>Specialty Restaurants</u>		Cabela's/Bass Pro	\$25
	Baskin Robbins	\$10	Crate & Barrel	\$25
	Cold Stone Creamery	\$10	Great Clips	\$25
	Honey Baked Ham	\$10	Hallmark	\$25
	Starbucks	\$10	Harry & David's	\$25
	Starbucks	\$25	Michael's	\$25
			Office Depot/Office Max	\$25
			Petco/Petsmart	\$25
	<u>Fast-Food</u>		Sally Beauty Supply	\$25
X	Arby's	\$10	Ulta	\$25
X	Burger King	\$10		
	Chipotle	\$25	<u>Gasoline</u>	
X	Dairy Queen	\$10	BP Gas	\$50
	Imo's	\$20	Shell	\$25
	Jack-In-The-Box	\$10		
	Little Caesar's	\$25		
	Long John Silver's	\$5	<u>Hardware/Outdoor</u>	
	Panera/St.L Bread Co	\$10	Ace Hardware	\$25
X	Panera/St.L Bread Co	\$25	Bass Pro Shop/Cabela's	\$25
	Papa John's	\$10	X Home Depot	\$25
X	Papa Murphy's	\$10	Lowe's	\$25
	Pizza Hut	\$10	X Menard's	\$25
	Qdoba	\$25	X Menard's	\$100
X	Subway	\$10		
X	Taco Bell	\$10	<u>Entertainment</u>	
X	Wendy's	\$10	AMC Theaters	\$25

Cut out (or print) this list and keep it handy for future reference to place your special orders.

WHAT ABOUT SCHNUCKS?

Schnucks participates in the **E-scrip** program. They will provide you with a Community Card that can be registered on-line or by phone. When you register you specify which organization you want to receive your donation. Just have the checker scan your Community Card at the time of purchase. However, Schnucks has recently instituted a customer "points" program where you enter your phone number on the key pad at the time of purchase to receive cash back rewards.

You **CANNOT** use **BOTH**. If you use the personal rewards option at the checkout the church **does not** receive a donation. Our **E-scrip** donation has recently decreased dramatically so I think those of you who shop at Schnucks must be using the "points" program. Just wanted you to be aware.