



THE BELL TOWER

JANUARY 2020

Florissant Presbyterian Church

Welcoming 2020

Change is something for which we should really spiritually get ready and perhaps a little prayerful preparation is in order for us at Florissant Presbyterian. The New Year and the new decade, 2020, is a good time for us all to pray about new opportunities and to ask God about how we can adapt for changing possibilities.

For us, as the followers of Jesus, our opportunities to start anew over and over again is consistent with God's promise of grace and forgiveness in our ever-transforming lives and in a constantly changing world. In our life of faith, we don't so much choose to change as we give ourselves prayerfully over to the Spirit in change. Then God's Spirit will lead us and pull us toward the good, the holy, and the way in which we are to serve Christ and others. With God's power of prayer around and within us, we can then face both the difficult choices and the unfamiliar situations of our ever-changing lives and community. There is never a wrong time for you and me to start praying about welcoming new opportunities and possibilities, yet the beginning of a new year and especially a new decade is the perfect time for us to ask how we at Florissant Presbyterian can open ourselves and prepare our church to change and adapt in sharing God's call to serve and love our neighbor and ourselves in 2020. With God's help, we can come to know changes as gracious gifts.

Have a Great New Year and God Bless You in 2020

Pastor Sean

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

The Session of Florissant Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, December 15, 2019, 2019 in the FPC Conference Room.

Task Force for Change is meeting 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.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Breakfast with Santa was December 7th. All help was greatly appreciated. Over 110 attended. Project Backpack donations will be accepted through the middle of January.

CHURCH LIFE – The annual Christmas Eve Wassail party was immediately following the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Per capita will be \$32 in 2020. Please get your pledge card in as soon as possible.

CHURCH OPERATIONS: The FPCLC inspection found some plumbing issues that must be corrected.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE continues cards, calls and visits to FPC members. Please sign up for fellowship cleanup. Church member birthdays will be celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of each month with special mention of any over 90 members. Betty Williams was honored in December.

EVANGELISM – **All members** and guests are asked to wear name tags on Sunday morning

WORSHIP – Check out the liturgists and communion server's signup sheets on the bulletin boards. The choir performed their Christmas Cantata on December 22nd followed by a cookie fellowship.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Dick Lee is chairing the nominating committee. Please consider volunteering for a 3-year term Class of 2022 or a 1-year term Class of 2021 to be elected in January. The annual congregational meeting will be held January 26th.

Next Presbytery meeting will be Thursday, Feb 6th, 2020 at St Mark Presbyterian, Ballwin, Missouri.

Pastor Sean closed the meeting at 12:45 pm with prayer.

Next meeting Sunday, January 19, 2020.

JANUARY Birthdays

12 Shirley Enns

16 Lois Gallyoun

16 Ramona Krohn

17 Bill Bass

17 Steve Bohannon

17 Tom Shelton

18 Doris Parks

20 Marilyn Branstetter

20 Ann Thobes

30 Sue Edwards

30 Dorothy Gebhart

Happy 90+

Doris Parks

If you would like to send birthday wishes, Doris' address is Parkwood Nursing,
3201 Parkwood Lane - Room 120, Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Wedding Anniversaries

Terry & Nancy Salfen, married 49 years on January 30

Church News

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mariner Log - December was a quiet month for the mariner organization, everyone was busy with their own family activities and shopping. Several members did take time out to help with the "Santa Breakfast" which was a huge success.

Saturday, January 11th at 10:00 we will meet to take down the holiday decorations, share a chili/soup lunch and make plans for 2020. Please join us.

CHURCH LIFE

Project Backpack - Through January 12, 2020 -Project Backpack is a unique project designed to help children - the silent and forgotten victims of domestic violence. The Project Backpack organization provides backpacks that are age and gender appropriate to be distributed on the scene by police or social agencies so that children will have something to call their own as they make the transition to foster homes.

Sunday, January 26th will be the Annual Congregational Meeting. The church life commission is sponsoring a pot luck luncheon after worship. Side dishes and desserts needed as meat will be provided. Let's kick off 2020 in style.

PRAY REQUEST

Georgiana, Doris, Carol, Sara, Jon, Ester, Pamela, Sue's family with the passing of her brother-in-law Bob, Mary's brother, Barb's son-in-law Cliff, Sue's friend Lill, Trish's brother Stephen, Ruth and her great grandson, Ruth's friend Matthew, Sue's brothers-in-law Jeff and Shawn and her sister Lynn.

JANUARY

Volunteer Cleaning – 1st & 3rd Thursday, 9 am

Choir – Every Thursday, 7 pm

Take Down Decorations – Saturday, Jan. 11, 10 am

We will meet to take down the holiday decorations, share a chili/soup lunch and make plans for 2020. Everyone is welcome.

Session/Bday Celebration – Sunday, January 19

OFFICE CLOSED – MLK, Monday, January 20

Lydia Circle – Tuesday, January 21, 7 pm

Young @ Heart – Thursday, January 23, noon

Annual Report Materials Due – Mon, Jan 20, 11 am

Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 26

Bell Tower Due – Tuesday, January 28, 9 am

Happy 90th Birthday
Betty Williams

