

WELCOME 2021

The Bell-Tower NEWS

*Enter as Guests, Leave as
Friends, Return as Family*

Thank you for all you have done to keep Florissant Presbyterian Church strong and faithful this last year. It was a year of shutdowns and isolation. A year of suffering, death and struggles. 2020 is a year many of us would like to forget.

Although last year is a year many of us would like to put behind us, I believe it has profoundly shaped and molded us for the coming new year. In the midst of so many challenges, our church rose up and started serving and providing food for those who were hungry during the pandemic, we started studying and reflecting on racial justice, and we helped create a kinder and more loving world for us all (even with masks and at social distances). These are some things we will build upon and that we surely will want to remember how the light of Christ in us shined through the darkest days of 2020.

There are many changes and challenges we will have to accept as we move forward into 2021, yet it is the mission and ministry we have shared together in Christ that will continue to keep giving us

hope, inspiring us to press on in faith, and remind us of the love we can and *will* share as followers of Jesus. May God bless you and Florissant Presbyterian as we move into the new year.

Have a Happy New Year,
Pastor Sean

CLERK'S REPORT

The monthly Session of Florissant Presbyterian Church was held on Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 11:50 a.m. in Harmon Hall with social distancing and masks.

The sanctuary remains open for church services since Pentecost Sunday on May 31st. It is also on Facebook live and broadcast to the parking lot through the FM receiver. Masks will be required, and social distancing maintained plus all St Louis County guidelines will be followed.

Candy continues meeting with other Clerks of Session via ZOOM.



Treasurer's Report: Financials have been posted.

Task Force: The next Sack Supper giveaway will be the 2nd and 4th Thursday in January starting at 4:30. Mobile Market in December was held December 19th and will continue based on availability from St Louis Area Food Bank. Leftovers were taken to TEAM.

The Task Force is focusing on "connecting to the community".

Christian Education: Pastor Sean will lead Adult Sunday School in a bible study beginning mid-January. A pre-school age music program and a senior program are planned for September.

Congregation Care continues cards, calls, and visits to FPC members. A Calling Chain will begin in 2021 to all members of FPC.

Church Life –Advent donations will be sent to TEAM. Presbytery JOY offering envelopes are outside the sanctuary. Per Capita for 2021 remains at \$32. Please return your stewardship pledges as soon as possible.

The annual FPC Congregational meeting will be held January 17th following Sunday Services. New elders will be elected, and the annual reports received. In 2021 our commissions will be reviewed as to purpose.

Church Operations: Roof repairs have been completed thanks AGAIN t o the Geerling family. Outside spotlights are also being repaired. The FPC Learning Center continues to be COVID free.


Worship: Christmas Eve service will be held with special music.

A called presbytery meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 10:00 am.** The Meeting will be on Zoom to act on the resignation of The Rev. Dr. Craig Howard and to dissolve the relationship between Dr. Howard and the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy and to elect a Presbytery Leader Search Committee (PLSC) to begin working immediately and to approve the call to The Rev Elizabeth Kanerva to serve as Associate Presbytery Leader.

Offerings can be mailed to the church. Paula is there Monday through Wednesday. Also, gift cards can be purchased by calling Paula or on Sunday morning. PayPal is also available.

With ever changing circumstances, revisions and additions to plans will be made, as necessary.

Advent Folders – Your donations this year will go to support those folks in the Florissant and Hazelwood areas in need through the efforts of TEAM.



FPC Apparel - We are ordering more FPC apparel. The color will remain navy with white print. If you would like to order a t-shirt, crew neck sweatshirt, or hooded sweatshirt, please let Paula know. We have sizes S-4X.

BIRTHDAYS

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 plus Doris Parks

ANNIVERSARIES

Terry & Nancy Salfen
Married 50 years January 30

PRAYERS

Jean, Trish, Jon, Marilynn, Doris, Carol, Sara, Pamela, Georgiana, Mary's brother, Barb's son-in-law Cliff, Sue's friend Lill, Ruth and her great grandson, Sue and her brothers-in-law Jeff and Shaw and her sister Lynn.

New Year Trivia

1. Which film was released on New year drawing the highest box office sales?
2. On New Year, who failed to pass an audition for Decca Records?
3. On January 1, 1971, what kind of commercials were banned from American television?
4. Who wrote the lyrics of the now-traditional New Year song, "Auld Lang Syne"?
5. From which Roman god was the name January derived?
6. Under which calendar is New Year's Day January 1?
7. In Ancient Egypt, what event dictated the timing of New Year Celebrations?
8. Which place was the last to celebrate the new millennium on January 1, 2000?
9. What does "auld lang syne" mean?
10. What calendar determines the date of the Chinese New Year?
11. In which religion, is Rosh Hashanah the beginning of the New Year?
12. In the Middle Ages, when did most European countries observe New Year according to the Julian calendar?
13. In what year was the New Year Eve's ball NOT lowered?

1. Avatar
2. The Beatles
3. Cigarettes
4. Robert Burns
5. Janus
6. Georgian Calendar
7. Flooding of Nile
8. Hawaii
9. Times Gone By
10. Lunar
11. Jewish
12. March 25
13. 1942



Happy
New Year