

The Bell-Tower NEWS

Florissant Presbyterian Church

November 2020

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

Pandemic Thanksgiving

Once again, this November, we as a nation want to answer God's call to be thankful. In the midst of a divisive general election and the trauma and tragedy of a global pandemic, thankfulness may not be the first thought to come into our minds. Yet, if we reflect even more on our faith, fellowship, and our many simple blessings, we may then be able to re-focus our emotions and attitudes to the possibility of being truly thankful. During the loneliness of our isolation and social distancing, we are individually challenged to discover a deeper inner awareness of gratitude for all God's blessings.

This November, may we to become more aware of gratitude, even in the middle of the loss, pain and disorientation of Covid-19. As we struggle to keep some semblance of normalcy in our everyday lives, we can re-direct our focus to be on the many reasons we feel thankful and that may start us to change our hearts to be ready to truly celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. Even with all the plans, gatherings, special events and

jobs that have been postponed, canceled, or terminated, a commitment to living thankfully before God, challenges our individual strength and character to be even more commitment to trusting God with all our life. Trusting God gives us a new foundation, the solid rock of Jesus, on which to stand even while this awful pandemic disrupts and strains our life together. Yet, our living thankfully based upon the power of God's love, faith, and hospitality, gives you and me a powerful source to witness to others suffering pandemic pain of the God to whom we are rightly and eternally thankful.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving,
Pastor Sean

CLERK'S REPORT

The monthly Session of Florissant Presbyterian Church was held on Sunday, October 18, 2020 at 11:40 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 are required, and social distancing maintained plus all St Louis County guidelines are being followed.

Candy continues meeting with other Clerks of Session via ZOOM.

Treasurer's Report: Financials have been posted.

Task Force: Sack supper giveaways will continue the 2nd Thursday in November and December between 5:30 and 7:30pm. The congregation will have opportunities to help pack the sacks on Sundays. At the last supper 139 sacks were served.

The Mobile Market in October served 141 boxes (plus 51 to TEAM) for 96 households (375 people, 162 under 18). The Food Bank has a shortage of dry goods so there will be no Mobile Mart in November, but we may have an opportunity to distribute fresh produce and frozen food on a Friday evening.

There will be a Trick-or-Treat candy giveaway on October 31 from 4 spots on the FPC parking lot (no contact, social distancing, mask required). It is open to the community from 4:30 – 6:00 pm.



T shirts, sweatshirts, and masks with FPC information will soon be available to order.

The Task Force is focusing on “connecting to the community”.

Congregation Care continues cards, calls, and visits to FPC members. Happy 90th Birthday to Don Wardlaw,

Church Life: Stewardship campaign will be “Challenging Times”. Reminder there will be no Craft Fair. Hanging of the Greens will be Saturday, November 28th at 10 am.

Church Operations: More tree trimming and vine removal is being done. Gamblers Anonymous will meet every Tuesday from 7 to 9 pm in the FPC conference room. Our current trash company matched a much lower bid.



Worship: Choir is now participating in Sunday worship. Last month a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to be a “Four for Four” congregation by participating in the four official presbyterian offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace & Global Witness and Christmas Joy.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Pastor Sean continues to lead Adult Sunday School, “Pandemic Discernment: Scripture, Reflection, and Spiritual Discernment” for eight weeks.

FYI: John Knox has welcomed Pastor Carol Devaughn as interim and John Calvin welcomed Dr Kurt Calkins as bridge pulpit supply.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to call a Congregational meeting on November 8, 2020 immediately following Sunday Service to select a nominating committee.

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 available.

CHURCH NEWS

Office Closed November 3-6

2021 Stewardship Drive

“A Very Challenging Time”, that’s the theme for our 2021 Stewardship Drive. It was decided, because of the COVID-19 situation, we would mail our letter and your pledge card by early November. We are asking your assistance, by reviewing your support of FPC and returning your pledge by November 22. The earlier we have these financial figures, the sooner we can budget for the coming year.

God Bless and thank you again for supporting God’s work. - Rolla

BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Sara Williams
- 8 Shirley Flynn
- 11 Samuel Hendrickson
- 14 Betty Walters
- 16 Sofia Butler
- 16 Carolyn Mawson
- 24 Marc Sostarich
- 26 **Lorraine Jaeger***
- 27 Susan Denno
- 28 Doug Law
- 29 Paula Finke



*Happy 90 plus Lorraine Jaeger

ANNIVERSARIES

Jake & Mona Krohn
Married 3 years November 25

Bill & Kay Bass
Married 60 years November 26



IN LOVING MEMORY

Mike Farano & Shirley Richards

PRAYERS

Jean, Trish, Jon, Marilyn, 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.

I AM
thankful
FOR

*All those who have served, and
those who continue to serve.
Thank You Veterans!*



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

