



Presbyterian

R E P O R T E R

Volume 57, Issue 7, September 2017

Giving with Gratitude It's a Time to...

*"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant,
and a time to pluck up that which is planted..."*

The Bible refers to time extensively. As in this familiar passage from the book of Ecclesiastes, the word 'time' is often rendered as *kairos*. Where *chronos* is quantitative, *kairos* is qualitative. It measures moments, not seconds. Further, it refers to the *right* moment, the opportune moment, the perfect moment, as in: "Life is not measured by the number of breaths that we take but by the number of moments that take our breath away."

Chronological time marches on without any help from us. It seems to slip away, minute by minute, hour by hour. There never seems to be enough. A *kairos* moment, on the other hand, stops all time. As Christians, we are called to look for those moments, paying attention to what God is doing, looking to those opportunities where God intervenes, where God intersects with our life experiences – to shape us and our community in profound ways and to move us forward with real strength and vision.

This Stewardship Season, we are being invited to rethink the gift of time. How do we spend our time? How are we investing our other resources? Are we ready to respond with gratitude to the "God" moments in the life of our community? in the nation? in the world?

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

*A Time to GIVE and a time to REJOICE
A Time to SERVE and a time to DISCERN
A Time to EMBRACE and a time to TEACH
A Time to LOVE and a time to CARE*

Join us this fall as we explore what time it is at First Presbyterian Church. We will be gathering in each others' homes for meals and conversation during October and hearing from different folks during worship each Sunday. Our hope is that we can enter into that space where God sets the agenda, living in relationship with the one who transforms and redeems all time, and respond with gratitude, giving our time, our financial resources and, indeed, our whole selves.

Carolee

AUGUST SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in the church library at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2017 for its stated monthly meeting. The Rev. Caroline M. Kelly served as Moderator. Jeff Getty served as Clerk.

The Session took the following actions:

- Received as a new member Gail Foster.
- Approved the 2018 Stewardship campaign theme of “Giving with Gratitude It’s a time to . . .” as presented by chair of the Stewardship Committee Kathy Getty.
- Approved the year to date financials as of July 31, 2017.
- Authorized the Clerk to write letters of thanks to Lindsay Howell, Bob Kazary and Aaron Hendrickson for the *pro bono* assistance in selling the Southminster manse.
- Authorized the Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Karl Hodges for his *pro bono* assistance with the church’s computer issues.
- Approved the selection of Jeff Getty as Moderator of the Personnel Committee.
- Authorized the creation of a committee to review, evaluate and recommend options for the future use of and relationship to the Southminster Community Center, approved Phil Mills and Pam Jan as members, and authorized them, along with the moderator, to make recommendations to the Session for additional members of the Committee.
- Elected Phil Mills as elder commissioner to the September 14, 2017 Presbytery Gathering at Knox Presbyterian Church.
- Authorized an invitation to the Presbytery to hold its September 14, 2018 Presbytery Gathering at First Presbyterian Church.
- Affirmed the P.C. (USA) statement on racism and white supremacy and approved the preparation of communication to the congregation and a letter to the editor announcing the Session’s action.

In addition the Session heard:

- A report from Robin Bissell and Janet Hendershot on the mission trip to South Dakota and how their experiences have led to faith development.
- A report from Agnes Yountt that the sale of the Southminster manse has closed and the proceeds from the sale of \$3,579.71 have been received.
- A report from Joe Weaver on the Faith Formation Committee’s programs for the 2017-2018 year.
- A report from Dave Stickler regarding replacing Livestream for the worship service and the Church’s fall kickoff scheduled for September 10, 2017.
- A request from Buck Belt for volunteers to assist in the 1st Sunday food and fellowship.
- A report from Bill McElvie about a request to permit a food truck to use the church parking lot to serve food and the Building and Ground’s conclusion that as the activity is not non-profit, it is outside our mission and declined to approve the request.
- A report from Phil Mills that the West Virginia mission trip is the week of September 17, 2017 and efforts to organize for the trip are ongoing.
- A report from Rev. Kelly on her attendance at the Worship and Music Conference at Montreat to explore new ideas for enhancing worship and music.

If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk or the Moderator.

SESSION STATEMENT ON RACISM AND WHITE SUPREMACY

At our August 17, 2017 meeting, the Session voted to affirm the August 14, 2017 statement issued on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (USA) condemning white supremacy and racism in the aftermath of the events of August 11 and 12 in Charlottesville, Virginia.

In affirming the statement publicly, we honor our baptismal vow to turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world and stand firmly in the Reformed Tradition's history of expressing our convictions about what Scripture leads us to say and do.

In particular, we join with the authors of the statement:

- in giving thanks for the presence and faithful witness of church members who stand against white supremacy and racism and for those who work to disrupt racism and to build racial equity in place across the country;
- in grieving for Heather Heyer, who was killed while standing witness, and state police officers J. Jay Cullen and Berke Bates, who died in a helicopter crash while monitoring events in Charlottesville;
- in praying for the recovery of all who were injured;
- in affirming that Scripture has been misused to justify white supremacy and racism and proclaiming that the Bible message presents a far more consistent and insistent witness to God's love for diversity and justice;
- in acknowledging the church's complicity in the creation of white supremacy and, too often, our silence in the face of injustice and oppression; and
- in committing ourselves to stand against, speak against and work against racism and white supremacy, this day and every day.

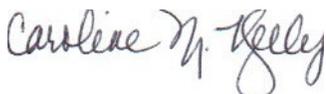
By affirming this statement, we choose to stand on the side of love and we hope, together with you, to discern what is not-love in ourselves and in the world and to stand against it in nonviolent loving resistance.

We invite you to contact either of us if you have any questions.

Faithfully yours,



Jeffrey S. Getty, Clerk



Caroline M. Kelly, Moderator

CONNECT WITH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

2018 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

GIVING WITH GRATITUDE

IT'S A TIME TO...

FALL FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

Dear friends:

This year's Stewardship dinners are taking shape as we plan for the opportunity to break bread with other members, learn more about our Church's financial health and the role your giving will play in constructing the 2018 budget. The host will provide the main course, and you are asked to bring side dishes, bread, beverages or desserts.

Those who have agreed to host dinners and their dinner dates are as follows:

- **Thursday, October 12th: Rex and Sandra Burton's home in LaVale at 6:00 PM**
- **Sunday, October 15th: Buck and Jane Belt's home in LaVale at 5:30PM**
- **Saturday, October 21st: Mike and Cathy Levitas' home in Lavale at 6:00 PM**
- **Sunday, October 29th: Bob and Sharon Kazary's home in Grantsville at 3:00PM**

Please contact Brittany at the church office to complete your dinner reservation. The Stewardship Committee and church office are coordinating the dinners with guests and hosts.

First Presbyterian Church Fall Fellowship Dinners

Name: _____

I/We would like to attend a dinner on:

Thursday, October 12th at 6:00PM: _____

Sunday, October 15th at 5:30PM: _____

Saturday, October 21st at 6:00PM: _____

Sunday, October 29th at 3:00PM: _____

I will bring: _____



FPC WELCOMES NEW MEMBER GAIL FOSTER



On Sunday, August 27th, we welcomed Gail Foster as our newest member! Gail recently moved here from Cleveland. She graduated in May from Hobart & William Smith Colleges in upstate New York with an undergraduate degree in computer science and is currently working at IBM as an application developer.



Congratulation to Jackie and Chelsea Boor on the birth of their son, Jax Kennedy Boor, on Friday, July 27th.

Congratulations to Ginny Reid, our Nursery Care Worker, and her partner, Dwayne, on the birth of their first child, Zia Jazmine Ritchey, on Tuesday, August 15th.



Betty Lange	09/01
Cameron Stroup	09/01
Teri Gill	09/03
Tim Workmeister	09/08
Amy Workman	09/09
Rex Burton	09/10
Jim Mooney	09/11
Jim Williams	09/12
Kaitlyn Kauffman	09/13
Penny Campbell	09/14
Brittney Corley	09/14
William Fritz	09/20
Mike Weddle	09/20
Ernie Casseday	09/21
Betty Luger	09/21
Elva Berry	09/22
Phil Nelson	09/24
Carol Morgan	09/25
Cindy Corley	09/30
Charlie Orlick	09/30



**Change of
Address**

Phil and Tracey Klickman
1173 Jordan Rd.
DePere, WI 54115-4002

BUILDING & PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS

During the summer, the Buildings & Grounds Committee continued their plans for property improvements by installing new windows on the basement level of the church. The pictures below show the windows midway through the process and the finished product as well as the door beside the windows.



Before



After



Before



After

BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

FALL WORSHIP

SCHEDULE

**WORSHIP WILL RETURN TO OUR
FALL SCHEDULE WITH WORSHIP AT 11:00AM**

SOUTHMINSTER MANSE UPDATE



As approved by the congregation in June, the former Southminster Presbyterian Church manse property has been sold to First Pregnancy Support, who leased it in recent years.

The funds from the sale, after the cost of providing separate water meters, are designated for maintenance of the former Southminster Church building, still owned by First Presbyterian Church.

We thank Baltimore Presbytery for approving the sale, and thank our members, attorney Robert Kazary and realtor Aaron Hendrickson, for assisting us in completing the sale.

LEARN & GROW

MILESTONE MISSION EVENT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH AT 8:45AM

ROCKY GAP STATE PARK: LAKEVIEW PAVILION

FOLLOWED BY OUR ANNUAL FALL-KICK OFF WORSHIP & PICNIC

WV FLOOD RELIEF WORK CAMP



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

SUMMER LUNCHBOX 2017

COMES TO A CLOSE

WE MADE IT! Thanks to all of your hard work and dedication we shopped for, made, and delivered 5,766 lunches over eight Fridays this summer!! Nearly 800 children received food each week day during this period. Our involvement with the Summer Lunchbox program these past 10 years has brought many blessings to our community as well as our congregation and friends. Well done, good and faithful servants!



Summer Lunchbox coordinators: Laura Fiscus, Deb and Gary Hendrickson, Pam Jan, Cathy Levitas, and Nadene Stroup

LEARN & GROW

FAITH FORMATION FALL OFFERINGS

YOUNG DISCIPLES

**2-5 YEAR OLDS - AN ILLUSTRATED COMPASSION:
LEARNING TO LOVE LIKE GOD**

Facilitators: Ginny Reid and Jessie Gates
Location: Nursery (1st floor Education Building)
Day/Time: Sundays, 9:45 AM
Start Date: September 17

ALL AGES

MILESTONES MINISTRY CELEBRATIONS

Facilitators: Ann Kellermeyer and Cindy Corley
Location: in homes, at church, at Rocky Gap (TBD)
Date/Time: TBD
Start Date: Ongoing

ADULTS

PERSONALIZING BIBLE STORIES

Facilitator: Katie Ross
Location: Chapel
Day/Time: Sundays, 9:45 AM
Start Date, September 17

ACCIDENTAL SAINTS: FINDING GOD IN ALL THE WRONG PEOPLE

Facilitator: Cheri Duncan
Location: Heritage Room
Day/Time: Sundays, 12:15 PM
Start Date: October 1

COVENANT BIBLE STUDY: CREATING THE COVENANT (PART ONE)

Facilitator: Hans Killius
Location: Pastor's Office
Day/Time: Tuesdays, 7:00 PM
Start Date: September 12



COVENANT BIBLE STUDY: LIVING THE COVENANT (PART TWO)

Facilitator: Caroline Kelly
Location: Pastor's Office
Day/Time: Wednesdays, 5:30 PM
Start Date: September 6

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

YOUTH GROUP (6TH – 12TH GRADE) FACILITATORS: ANNE & LEON BRYAN

YOUNG ADULT GROUP (20'S AND 30'S) FACILITATORS: JOSH GILHART AND CHELSEA BOOR

MID DRIFTERS (40'S AND 50'S) FACILITATOR: AARON HENDRICKSON

HIGHLANDERS (60+) Leadership is shared among the group.

***FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 301-777-3700***

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

October 1, 2017 is World Communion Sunday. This is the day set-aside for our congregation to contribute to the Peace and Global Witness Offering.



A gift to this Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Our portion of the monies collected will go to help support the Family Crisis Resource Center here in Cumberland. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

Please consider giving generously to this Offering.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Dear Friends,

This summer FPC was blessed by many talented individuals who were willing to share their time and gifts for special music during worship. Many thanks are extended to our summer soloists: Mikayla and Zach Dodge, Eric Ringler, Carolyn Matthews, Brenda Luger, Gail Plitnik, Nancy Hodges, Betty Richtmeyer, Beau Hartman, Gary Hendrickson, and Wesley Mason. Thanks are also extended to the members of the Sanctuary Choir who offered a special summer anthem on July 9, and beautifully sang "The Lord's Prayer" on July 23 in memory of Louise Grimm. And while the summer may be coming to a close, opportunities are always available for anyone in the congregation who would like to share special music, whether vocal or instrumental.

The Sanctuary Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30 in the choir room on the second floor. This fall the choir will be working on new repertoire, as well as some familiar favorites. New members are always welcome, regardless of musical experience. For more information, please speak with any choir member or contact me anytime.

Yours in Christ,



Our next Contemplative Prayer Service in the style of the Taizé community will be offered in the chapel at 5:00PM on Sunday, September 17th. You can come as you are, invite a friend, or the person walking down the street. You may remain silent or participate in the singing and reading. You can also bring an instrument to join in! We will gather for this service on the third Sunday each month.

FPC YOUTUBE CHANNEL

We now have a YOUTUBE CHANNEL which we are using to tape and broadcast worship live. Go to www.youtube.com and search for First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland Live Stream or go to our website <http://www.fpc-cumberland.org/> and click on “click here to view our worship service” located at the bottom of the home page.



Like us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland>

First Presbyterian Church
Eleven Washington Street
Cumberland, Maryland 21502

September

We Thank God For:

Address Service Requested

FALL KICK-OFF



Our Fall Kickoff has been scheduled for this Sunday, September 10th, at Rocky Gap State Park. The kickoff will be held in the Lakeview Shelter starting with a milestone celebration at 8:45AM, followed by worship at 11AM and a congregational picnic. If you have any questions or if you would like to see how you can help, contact Carolyn Matthews or Buck Belt.