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YOUTHHOUSE/MONROE HOUSE



The Youth House is expected to come down this month. It has served us well for the time we have had it, but rising maintenance costs have made it prohibitive to keep it. As activities begin transitioning over to the Monroe House, that building will become an increasingly busy shared space, with youth activities, young adult bible studies, adult small groups and more, all meeting there. The beds have remained in place upstairs, so we could still support mission groups and retreats as well. In light of this reality, it is more important than ever that groups who desire to use the shared space contact the office, both to schedule a reserved time and to obtain access by signing out keys. With the added foot traffic, groups also will need to be especially conscious of cleaning up after each use: trash, recycling, kitchen items, chairs, etc. We have been blessed at FPC with spaces to use for ministry; let us steward them well in carrying out those ministries.

**HOMWORK CAFÉ
-JUSTIN PARK, COORDINATOR**

Homework Café for the current school year finished in mid-May this year, with five people from the church contributing about 100 person-sessions of support to the program. Students from sixth, seventh, and eighth grades participated and were separated by grade most of the sessions. We had the opportunity to struggle alongside them in addressing some of their homework and to get a little bit connected with middle-school students and their concerns. The Common Core Curriculum is introducing new concepts and vocabulary, at least in math, and if you don't understand the key word in a question, it is hard to come up with a reasonable answer (algorithms, for example).

Participants included Barry Driggs, Olga Martin, Jane and Justin Park and Mary Ann Scott. Thank you all for helping the students to make progress. Thanks also go to the church for encouraging us to make a difference and to the Jennie F. Snapp School for welcoming us in carrying out the program.

We anticipate continuing in the fall, and if anyone would like to join with us, please contact me for information on how to get started. In the meantime, let's enjoy summer.

**OVER 80
BIRTHDAYS**

- June 1**
Margerry Berriman
- June 6**
Patricia Stillings
- June 12**
June Hayes
- June 16**
Alice Loudon
- June 22**
John Engstrom

OUR CONNECTIONAL NATURE

– JAN AND TIM DEVINE, CO-PASTORS

As we study the book of Philippians in worship, small groups, and in our own personal devotions, words that were written almost 2,000 years ago jump off the pages and speak to us today. The Bible is not a crusty old document that is irrelevant because it was written long ago by people who had no concept of 21st century life. It is still “*God-breathed,*” “*useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,*” and written “*so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

In the first two chapters of Paul’s letter to the Philippians, Paul focuses heavily on relationships:

- God’s relationship with humanity.
- Our relationships (both healthy and strained) within the body of Christ.
- Our relationship with the world beyond the church.

We were created to be in relationship. That is a premise that undergirds who we are as Presbyterians in the Reformed tradition. Sometimes those relationships are easy; often times they are challenging. It is a relief to read in Philippians that the same was true for the early church, and Paul had some good insights about how to behave in both.

We are especially aware of our connectional nature this month as we focus on two events in the life of FPC.

First, as a congregation in the PC(USA), we are paying attention to the June meeting of General Assembly (GA). It is the biennial gathering of commissioners and advisory delegates from 172 presbyteries, as well as delegates and observers from around the world, who gather to discuss, debate and decide issues about the direction, theology, mission and ministry of the PC(USA). We have tried to prepare a document to inform the congregation about the GA and some of the major issues to be addressed. Hard copies can be found at the back of the sanctuary; you may also access the information digitally on the church website:



www.firstpresendicott.org. Go to www.pcusa.org to get live information while GA is happening.



The second connectional focus is Session’s work to become part of a Mission Affinity Group (MAG). As a member of the Fellowship of Presbyterians, we commit to be part of a covenant group with several other sessions to provide accountability and encouragement for churches and leaders. MAGs are not assigned: sessions are given permission to form a MAG organized around similar ministry contexts such as geography, demographics, shared ministry priorities, or future ministry goals. You may read more about MAGs at: <http://www.fellowship-pres.org/mission-affinity-groups/>

On May 17, we and two elders met with three churches over the border in PA to talk about the possibility of working together in a MAG. We are also in dialogue with several churches in NYS. As we consider distance and ministry contexts, we anticipate that Session will discern which relationships will be most beneficial for all involved.

WHAT'S NEW AMONG OUR PEOPLE?

- NATHAN JACOBS

May has been a month of transition. We have welcomed home our college students as some end their semester and others end their college tenure through graduation. This month we will officially honor all of our graduates, both those from college and those from high school. As we welcomed home those who were away, we also said goodbye to some familiar friends: Maynard and

Annabelle Koplin, who moved to a retirement community in Tipton, PA; Olga Martin, who is moving to Florida to be closer to family; Jess Early, who moved to Colorado to pursue a photography opportunity; and Megan Nuffer and Kelly Ash, two college students who were staying with church members and had plugged in here at FPC and moved back to their homes upon graduation. Please continue to

TRANSITIONS...

pray for these people as they move on to a new chapter in life.

Transitions continued as activities and resources began moving from the Youth House to the Monroe House. This season is a new time for many of the ministries that made their home in the Youth House, so please continue to support them as they adapt.

Samaritan Supper had its last

meal of the school year and will take a hiatus until September. We thank the volunteers for another year of service and pray for those families that depend on ministries like Samaritan Supper. This month we also honored our military members for their service over the Memorial Day weekend.

Our members shared several joys over the course of the month: Jane and Justin Park celebrated 50 years of marriage;

A DIFFICULT SEASON...

Flo Powley welcomed great-grandson, Cooper James Schultz; and the Finns welcomed a new baby boy, Jeremiah Marc Finn.

Our church family also prayed through some concerns this month: Linda Fiaschi's father had hip surgery; Bob Thomas had trans-valve heart surgery and is recovering at Good Shepherd Fairview; Tim Devine

had a heart catheterization; Analise Farrell's mother, Nelda Leonard, underwent cancer surgery; Bill Preisendanz continues to undergo cancer treatment; Dawn Weber's brother-in-law, Ralph Berlin passed away; Phil Castoro's grandmother died; and Brandon Youngstrom (a friend of many in the congregation) took his life. These folks could use continued support through this difficult season.

Laura Tanis has been trying to find a unique way to combine her passion for feeding people with her growing passion to share the gospel with others. This past month, the "Good News" Cupcake Project was born. For a week before the annual Tioga Terrace garage sale, Laura and Andrew baked 425 cupcakes and frosted them with homemade butter cream frosting! Friends came and helped in anticipation of the big event. When the day arrived, the Tanis family set up a table outside and gave away free cupcakes to everyone who passed by in search of bargains at this huge neighborhood garage sale. On top of each treat was a toothpick with one of two scripture passages that Laura and Andrew had carefully chosen to express the good news of our faith. Laura says that this is the "first annual." What would it look like if several families found ways to intentionally reflect Christ at this annual event?

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STAFF: CHILDCARE WORKERS - PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Every Sunday, people come to 29 Grant Avenue to worship, learn, fellowship, and serve. The sanctuary, gathering area and children's ministry rooms are filled with music, prayer, scripture, lively study, meaningful conversations, and energetic children.

Tucked away at the end of the main hall of the Christian Education wing is another room that is filled with its own energy. This is the place where our youngest children play, socialize, work through separation anxiety, and receive loving care while their parents participate in the life of this faith community.

The only people that have a reason to visit this room are families with young children. But it is a vital ministry of the church, and we are grateful for the childcare workers who provide a consistent, safe and stable environment where infants and toddlers first experience the love of God through the body of Christ.

We are in a time of transition in the crib room, because two of our childcare workers are moving. Debbie Berner worshiped at 9:09 and then faithfully served during the second service for several years. The Berner family is now moving to Albany where Andy has found new work. Megan Nuffer was a student in the B.U. intensive nursing program this past year, and she provided care throughout the morning each Sunday. Megan graduated in May and has returned to northern NY to work. Connie Stanton continues as a familiar face and will provide stability for the children through the transition. She often steps in when needed to cover extra shifts, and we are grateful. Donna Williams has also graciously filled in as a sub over the past few years. These women have all helped create an atmosphere where parents feel comfortable leaving their children, and the first experience children have of being part of the Church of Jesus Christ is positive.



We now welcome Nancy Boyer, as she gets oriented to our childcare ministry in the next few weeks. Nancy is a first year student at BCC in Early Childhood Education. She has three younger siblings, babysitting experience, lots of energy, and a love for children that she is eager to share here at FPC.

GOLFING FOR A CAUSE THE E.F.P.N.S. 2ND ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER



Pastor Jan taking no prisoners!



“Fore!”



“You guys have any more Mulligans?”

The Janet Cook Scholarship Fund will help many families with nursery school tuition next year thanks to the many big hearts who joined us for golf, dinner, music and fellowship May 10th at Traditions at the Glen. The generosity of golfers, donors, nursery school staff and community businesses yielded \$4600 for this very worthwhile cause! After a long 18 holes (some soggy!) participants were treated to a first-class chair massage courtesy of Tammy at Essential Bodyworks in Endwell. On behalf of our grateful nursery school community, we thank you.





SUMMER INTERNSHIP

YOUTHHOUSE MINISTRIES MISSION

yYouthouse Ministries exists, as an active element of First Presbyterian Church, to energize, equip, and empower students and their families to live for Christ.

YOUTHHOUSE MINISTRIES CORE VALUES

Community - *God has created/called us all to live in Christ centered relationships with each other.* (1 Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 4:2, 1 Peter 4:9)

Discovery - *God has created/called us to know Him.* We will passionately endeavor to help students develop their faith. (Matt. 28:18-20, Acts 2:42, 2 Tim. 3:16, 17)

Service - *God has created/called us to live sacrificially* with our time, giftedness, and resources. We will seek to help students become good stewards of what God has given them. (Gal 5:13, 14, Mark 10:43-45, 1 John 3:16-19)

YOUTHHOUSE MINISTRIES SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPANTS TO:

- Understand the developmental characteristics, cultural influences, and the needs of teenagers.
- Develop and exercise professional organizational skills
- Acquire experience in managing a volunteer team.
- Recognize the importance of providing resources for parents of adolescents.
- Grow in spiritual, emotional, and personal areas of life.
- Become proficient in communicating of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Experience the fun and excitement of youth ministry.

YOUTHHOUSE MINISTRIES INTERNSHIP APPLICANTS MUST COMMIT TO BEING **FAST**:

Faithful
Available
Spirit Led
Teachable

YOUR APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

Internship Application Form (Attached)
Your Institution's Internship Requirements (if you are receiving credit)
Current Resume
Your personal statement of faith (hand written or typed)
Two letters of recommendation

Contact:

Jeremy Finn
jmfinn@firstpresendicott.org
607.743.4511

SESSION UPDATE

-JANET FREDERICK, CLERK OF SESSION

We had a busy evening on May 7 as the agenda reflected a combination of Session meeting logistics and reports from the co-pastors and ministry teams. Action items included:

-Approved a fundraiser for the mission work being done in the Dominican Republic on May 17.

-Agreed to make provisions for the sale of copies of the six pieces of artwork used during the Lenten series.

-Approved the use of our church on June 1 as the site for a neutral pulpit for a potential pastoral candidate of a church in our presbytery.

-Heard more details regarding a proposal for a Summer Outreach Program in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club, the U-E School District and our church. Since the program was determined to have been successful last year, Session members had no concerns about its continuation this year.

-Granted permission for the co-pastors to attend the National Fellowship of Presbyterians/ Evangelical Covenant Order Gathering from August 18-20 in Dallas, Texas.

-Agreed with the Worship Ministry Team's recommenda-

tion to give away the choir robes formerly used by our children's choir.

-Received and approved a recommendation to cover the cost of labor and materials to replace the lighting system on the organ console. This is in addition to the repairs made to the organ due to the lightning strike nearly two years ago that were covered by our insurance policy.

-Approved a motion to hire the Presbytery Office Administrator to conduct a financial review of our books.

-Heard about the reasons for needing to

upgrade the financial computer and approved the expenditure of funds from the sources recommended by Treasurer Art Davis.

Session members also had an opportunity to review the materials regarding the June General Assembly meeting of the PC(USA) that will be made available to the congregation beginning in May. Elders are also trying to make themselves familiar with the information in order to answer any questions church family members might have.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Over 80 Update

The Deacons are updating our info and need your help. If you or someone you know is a part of our FPC church family, is 80 years of age or older and not receiving flower deliveries (Easter lilies, Christmas poinsettias and birthday roses) the Deacons would like to add your name to our delivery list. Names can be given to any Deacon. Thank you.

Graduates

If you or someone you know is graduating this year, please contact the office and let Nathan know so that we can honor our graduates in June. Please turn in the following information: name of graduate; institution; degree conferred (if applicable); and future plans.

Annual Picnic in the Park

Please join us for our annual picnic in the park on Thursday, June 12, at 12:00pm for a catered picnic at Arnold Park in Vestal. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Please RSVP to Charlie and Maxine Waughtel at 625-4693. Hope you can join us for a fun afternoon!

VISION STATEMENT

(What God wants to do)

We believe God wants to transform our community through the saving love of Jesus Christ and calls us to share that hope with the world. To be an agent of hope, our congregation must work together and rely on the power of the Holy Spirit to follow Christ, whatever the cost.¹ This commitment, which is grounded in a deep love of God and neighbor,² sends us out to share the Good News of Christ through our words³ and our actions.⁴

¹ *The Great Commitment*, Matthew 16:24-26

² *The Great Commandment*, Luke 10:27

³ *The Great Commission*, Matthew 28:18-20

⁴ *The Great Compassion*, Matthew 25:31-40

MISSION STATEMENT

(What God wants us to do)

We believe God wants us to share the life-changing power and love of Jesus Christ in such compelling ways that more people become fully devoted followers of Christ.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

(The reason we exist)

To reach more people and together grow in Christ.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Endicott, NY

FPP Calendar

June 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:09 am Worship Service (Contemporary) 10:30am Children's Ministry Family Day (Last Day of Children's Ministry) 10:45 am Worship Service (Traditional)	2 6:00 pm Membership Team Meeting-Library 7:00 pm Relevant Ministries	3 7:00 pm Deacons	4 6:00 am Men's Group 7:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm Session 7:00 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	5	6	7
8 Communion Pentecost 9:09 am Worship Service (Contemporary) 10:45 am Worship Service (Traditional) <i>A Touch of Brass</i>	9 1:00 pm Women's Club 5:30 pm Personnel Committee 7:00 pm Relevant Ministries	10 12:30 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm M & S Committee	11 6:00 am Men's Group 7:00 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	12 12:00pm Picnic in the Park 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	13	14 General Assembly Begins in Detroit
15 10:00 am United Worship Service (Graduation Sunday)	16 7:00 pm Relevant Ministries	17 6:30 pm NS Board Meeting	18 6:00 am Men's Group 7:00 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	19	20	21 General Assembly Ends
22 9:09 am Worship Service (Contemporary) 10:45 am Worship Service (Traditional)	23 7:00 pm Relevant Ministries	24 12:30 pm Staff Meeting	25 6:00 am Men's Group 7:00 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 9:09 am Worship Service (Contemporary) 10:45 am Worship Service (Traditional)	30 7:00 pm Relevant Ministries					