



First Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit
1625 NW O'Brien
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

Church : 816.524.3933
Info Line: 816.524.5550
Fax: 816.524.4071
E-mail: office@firstchurchls.org
Web Site: www.firstchurchls.org

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FIRST PRESS



FPCLS' *First Press* is published for all members and friends. Readers are encouraged to submit articles or ideas to office@firstchurchls.org.

A Publication from First Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit

April 2023



"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."
- MLK

Maunder Thursday Service

April 6, 2023
7:00 pm
Rev. Jen Baer



All Church Work Day

Saturday, April 8, 2023
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Come join and help fine tune the church for Easter, Presbytery and Spring. Anything you can do to help is appreciated. Snacks will be provided.



Easter Sunday Morning

Sunday, April 9, 2023
9:00 am Contemporary Worship
10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt and special treats for all!
11:00 am Traditional Worship



Keenagers

Thursday, April 13, 2023
Lunch at 12:00 pm



Guidance at the Crossroads of Decision

Program: Caring Conversations presentation by the Center for Practical Bioethics. A free will offering is requested for this presentation.

Heartland Presbytery - Monthly Meeting at FPCLS

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

We can use a few good volunteers if you are available!

The Next Big Thing!

Youth Dinner/Talent Show/Auction Fundraiser

Saturday, April 29, 2023
Tickets are on sale now!

Contact Curt Likins to schedule your evening.



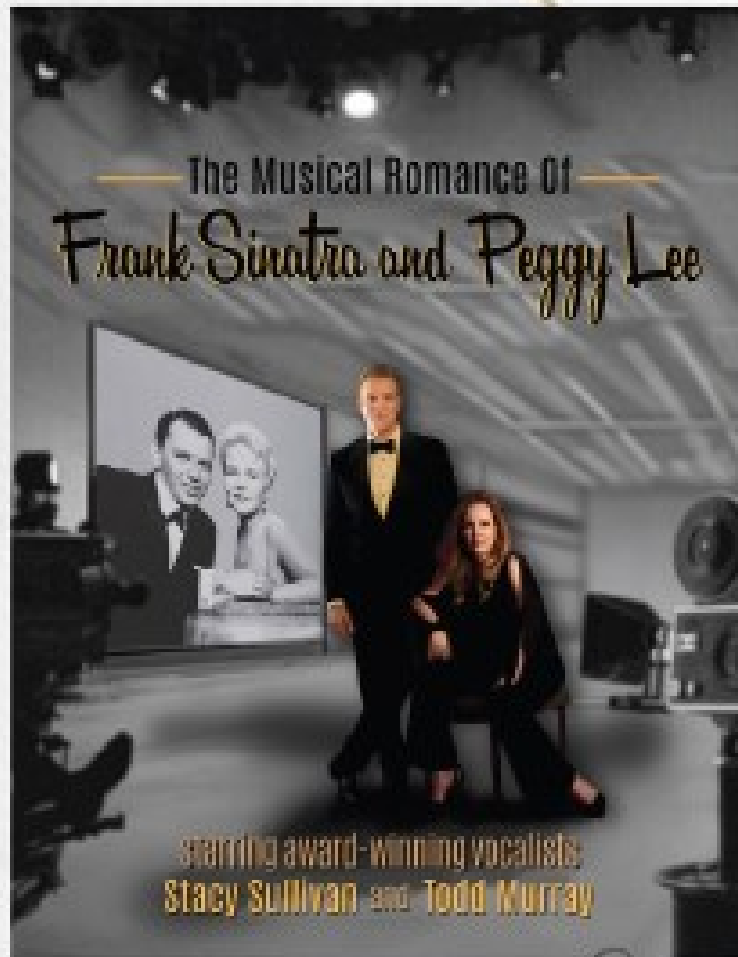
We the people of the First Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit are called by God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, sent by Christ to build faith, bring hope, share love; as a diverse, growing, grace-giving community.

First Presbyterian Church Ministry Team
Ministers: All Members
Director of Christian Education: Curt Likins
Email: curt.likins@firstchurchls.org
Director of Music: Jacob Lowry
Email: jacob.lowry@firstchurchls.org
Contemporary Worship Leader: Joey Mayo
Email: jkmayomusic@gmail.com
Asst. Director of Music: Sharon Pyburn
Email: sharon.pyburn@firstchurchls.org
Office Administrator: Diane McKee
Email: office@firstchurchls.org
Organist: David Anschutz
Church Sexton: Sharon Pyburn
Nursery Director: Cassandra Pyburn

Sunday Worship Schedule
9:00 am Contemporary Service
10:00 am Faith & Fellowship
11:00 am Traditional Service

April 2023

A concert to benefit First Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit



TICKETS
\$25 each

Ticket Information:
816-607-1125
or purchase at the door
(CASH ONLY)

To prepay by card: Venmo
@Tara-Grauberger
with name and payment
816-835-8356



Todd Murray & Stacy Sullivan

Saturday, May 20, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit
1625 NW O'Brien Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

ALL TICKET PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT CHURCH PROJECTS

Todd & Stacy's Next Stop - Carnegie Hall, New York City

SUMMARY OF MARCH 21, 2023 MEETING OF SESSION

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

Stated Session Meeting March 21, 2023 {Not the minutes}

Session of First Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit held its regular meeting on March 21, 2023 in the Center Room. Moderator, Rev. Bonnie Grabowski called the meeting to order at 6:38PM by praying the Breakthrough Prayer in unison.

Deaths - John Lehene, member, passed away December 31, 2022.

Stewart Black - member, passed away January 13, 2023.

Baptisms - Emersyn Rose and Olin Anderson Hart (twins), children of Alec and Sarah Hart, members, were baptized on Sunday, March 19, 2023 by Rev. Dr. Alex Wales.

February Financials: Financial statement as reported by Finance.

As of February 28, 2023:	For the Month	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget
Income	\$45,792	\$80,522	\$68,916
Expenses	\$30,297	\$62,491	\$74,570
Income vs Expense	\$15,495	\$18,030	-\$ 5,654
Per Capita	\$ 1,189	\$ 2,867	\$ 1,166
Cash in bank: \$47,595 (Current Liabilities \$7,743 = Net Available \$38,852)			

Financial Report – February continued to be Very Positive. Income was **\$15,495 more** than Expenses. Monthly Pledged giving was **\$7,826 more** but Non-pledged giving was **\$1,210 less** than budgeted and Per Capita was **\$606 more** than budgeted. Expenses were **\$6,988 less** than budgeted. Our Investments **lost** \$5,969 but are still **\$6,665 more** than at the beginning of the year. Checking Balance was \$47,595.34 with Outstanding Liabilities of \$7,742.93 leaving \$39,852.41 available in checking.

Session continued to review and update our Policies and Procedures. Five more were approved. Three remain in review and hope to be approved at the April 25 session meeting.

- Building, Grounds & Safety: **MOTION to request session approval of Transporting Members & Others and Trip Request Policy & Form. Motion approved.**
- Finance Action Team (AT): **MOTION to request session approval of the Financial Policy. Motion Approved**
- Personnel Committee: **MOTION to request session approval of Personnel and Parental Leave Policies. Motion approved.**

Three other Motions were reviewed and acted on during the meeting.

- Fellowship-Outreach AT: **MOTION add a comment on electronic sign inviting public to use our playground and post permanent sign(s) near playground saying "Public is Welcome at Your Own Risk - No Supervision Provided". Motion approved.**
- Finance AT: **MOTION to approve purchase of 2 Octaves of Hand Chimes up to \$6,723.44, the amount of donated funds available. The latest cost estimate is \$6,141.50. Motion Approved**
MOTION to accept the American Church Group Insurance renewal after changing our deductible from \$2,500 to \$15,000 which will save \$2,563 and result in an annual premium of \$20,758. Motion approved.

Rev. Bonnie Grabowski Moderated. She reviewed and discussed our options for pastor support, explained the relatively new contract called a "Bridge Pastor Covenant", and provided a copy of the contract format. This is a contract between the session and the pastor for a 3-month period. Duties of the pastor are agreed to between the pastor and session and can range from just preaching on Sunday's and moderating session meetings to full time weekly support. The other option is Pulpit supply on a week to week basis. Session is looking at both options and will be contacting pastors to determine our best path forward until we hire a permanent pastor.

Have You Paid Your Annual Per Capita?

As you may or may not know, each Presbyterian church is responsible to pay Per Capita for every church member every year. In 2022, we had to pay \$7,901 out of our operating budget to cover our church members who did not pay their Per Capita. It would be a tremendous help to our church if each member would pay this small amount of \$43.94 per member. Think of the extra projects we could do if we didn't have to take approximately \$8,000 out of our operating budget each year to pay these membership fees.

Special thanks to those who have paid, we are so thankful for your support. If you haven't paid, we would greatly appreciate your payment of \$43.94 for each family church member for 2023. Be sure to note "Per Capita" in the memo line on your check.

Stay Up-To-Date...

ELIZABETH WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets on Friday mornings at the church from 9:30 to 11:00 am. This month they continue to discuss Joshua, Judges, and Ruth: Finally in the Land (MacArthur Bible Studies) by John MacArthur. We welcome all women! For more information, call or email Carol Phillips, 816-769-3189 or cjcpil@gmail.com.

QUILTERS...meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30 in the Center Room at the church. All are welcome!

WEDNESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY...11:00 am with Dennis Haines and/or Cliff Horton studying the book of Joshua. All are welcome! Zoom login is 921 410 9507 pw 1857

THE MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP...will meet on Saturday, April 8th at 7:45 am at the church. All men of the church are welcome to join them for breakfast and fellowship! The group is then staying to help with Spring Cleaning!

ALL-CHURCH WORK DAY...is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, beginning at 9:00 am. If you would like to join them, please just show up and you will be put to work! All are welcome!

THE WOMEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP...will not meet in April. They will resume on the second Saturday in May at 9:30 am at the church. Please bring your own breakfast and join them for great conversation! All women of the church are welcome!

COME JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP/OUTREACH ACTION TEAM! We'll meet again on Tuesday, April 11 at 6:00 pm at the church. We plan fun, all-church events and organize Sunday morning hospitality. The Outreach side reaches out to members, attenders and visitors, maintains the website, and social media. For more information, please contact Bonnie Klingensmith and Emily Wegner.

PAX COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC...will be open at the church on the third Sunday of the month, April 16. You can learn more on their Facebook page at PAX Community Health! Contact Mary Stilley for more information.

SESSION...will meet on Tuesday, April 25 at 6:30 pm at the church.

NAMI — NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL HEALTH...meets on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of the month at 7:00 pm at the church in the library. If you would like to join the group or need more information, please contact Marty Sexton at (816) 738-3066.

Our **WE CARE** team meets the last Tuesday of the Month at 1:30 pm in the Lounge. We Care makes calls and visits to shut-ins. If you would like to join this group, please contact Sharon Pyburn.

ONE GOOD MEAL...we will collect cookies in individual packages on Sunday, April 23rd. You may bring your pre-packaged cookies to church during the **week before**. Someone will be at the church Monday through Thursday. Contact person: Barbara Stone at (816) 509-8681.

CARING MINISTRIES...Here at First Pres., we are all family and we are here for each other! Through volunteer efforts we offer many "Caring Ministries:" **H.O.W.** is our Hospitality on Wheels. We offer a few meals for those in need from surgeries, illnesses, bereavement, and more. If you are interested in preparing meals for someone, or if you have a need for a few meals yourself, contact Sharon Pyburn at the church, (816) 524-3933, or email Jspyrn@aol.com. The **We Care** team meets once a month. Members of this team reach out to our shut-ins. Contact Sharon Pyburn if you feel you have time to visit with any of our members who can't make it out to church. During difficult times, people often feel very alone. They may have no one to talk to who will really listen. **Stephen Ministries** give a listening ear—someone to talk with about things you wouldn't discuss with anyone else. **Stephen Ministry** is our "one to one" compassionate care team. Stephen Leaders go through extensive training and they meet weekly with those who have concerns. If you have questions about the program, please contact Pastor Kate, John Fields or Sharon Pyburn.

Mission Action Team

MISSION PROJECT FOR APRIL: HOPE HOUSE

Hope House is a safe place for women and families facing domestic abuse. Every April we collect diapers and feminine products to provide support for people who have left their homes with few possessions. We will be collecting these items on the mission table in the narthex. We will also collect our Noisy Offering on Sunday, April 30th in support of this mission.



TEACHER GIFT CARDS

We continue to collect candy, gift cards, and other items for the staff at Pleasant Lea Middle School. Gifts may be left in the basket under the Mission table.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



During Lent, we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus' resurrection, and connects us with "those who have least." One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability.

Special Offering to support One Great Hour of Sharing will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 9, during both services.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

On September 23, 2023, we will volunteer at Red Bridge United Methodist Church. This is a very well coordinated event that will need many volunteers. More information will be available soon!

Fellowship Action Team

Young Family Gathering Cinco de Mayo



Our young families are growing! We would love for you to connect with each other. The Fellowship/Outreach team is inviting young families with children to our first event. Come celebrate Cinco de Mayo on Friday, May 5th and enjoy time on our Playground and hangout around the fire pit. Let's gather at 5:30 pm and food will be provided for the event. Please bring your own blankets and chairs. Please contact Emily Wegner at (816) 809-3581 and let her know you are coming. If you have any questions, please contact Emily or Bonnie Klingensmith at (816) 805-5534.

Keenagers

In May, we will have a change of the date of our program. It will be Thursday, May 18. The program will be the Black and Gold Choir from Pleasant Lee Middle School. They are under the direction of Courtney Williams. This choir was selected to sing at Tan Tara this year. We are excited to have them. Time TBA.

Ways to Give

There are several way to give at First Presbyterian. Did you know you can donate to First Church online from your phone?

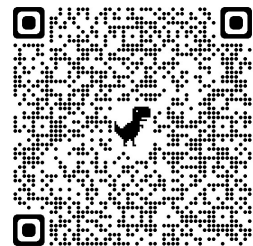
1

We have online giving set up through our website at www.firstchurchls.org. If you would like to your phone, simply scan the QR code to the right and in a few easy steps you can set up a one-time donation or reoccurring payments.



2

We also have online giving through Vanco, a service set up for us through the Presbyterian Foundation. Again using your phone, this QR code will take you directly to Vanco where you can set up an account. If you'd like to sign-up from your laptop or desktop computer, you may also access Vanco on the website at www.firstchurchls.org.



Either of these ways of giving are simple and can be done from your phone (or home computer). Now you don't need to have cash or check when the plates are passed!

3

You may also set up your offering to be paid directly to the church from your bank. It will be delivered to us in the form of a check. All your bank needs to do this online is the church address: 1625 NW O'Brien Road, Lee's Summit, MO 64081. After you have set this up you just add the dollar amount and the date you would like to have it sent. You can do it manually every week, month, etc. or as an automatic payment.

4

In person giving by cash or check is always appreciated! Please place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday morning, drop it by or mail it to the church at the above address.

Celebrating Birthdays in April

4/ 1 Ada Bell-Meyer	4/ 9 Mary Hilton	4/21 Elfriede Marley
4/ 1 Judi Gehrke	4/ 9 Russ Varner	4/22 Dick Kneip
4/ 1 Kelly Voigt	4/11 Kimble Akard	4/22 Patricia Lehman
4/ 2 Nadine Markle	4/11 Brent Carlson	4/24 David Pittman
4/ 2 Lester Ng	4/11 Richard Martin	4/25 Collin Bell
4/ 3 Bill Clark	4/13 Brooke Bellamy	4/26 Annie Williams
4/ 4 Kathy Hofmann	4/13 Dan Gehrke	4/28 Kaelyn Carlson
4/ 4 Duane Muckey	4/13 Alan Voigt	4/28 Ronan Lehman-Hawes
4/ 4 Jerry Outlaw	4/17 Grace Anna	4/28 Ruairi Lehman-Hawes
4/ 6 Joye Moore	4/18 Suzy Haas	4/28 Merle Oleson
4/ 7 Hugo Dwyer	4/19 Camron Haas	4/29 Allyssa Roumas
4/ 8 Collene Akard	4/19 Taylor Moore	4/30 John Fields
4/ 9 Madison Bellamy	4/20 Scott Dempsey	



Youth News

Now that **SPRING** has arrived in full its only fitting that **April** will be filled with Youth events and activities from the 2nd to the 29th day.

Palm Sunday is always a highlight for the younger kids and this year was no exception. They get great joy waving, smiling and parading around the room and that joy is contagious as those watching smile back.

Smiles are aplenty the following Sunday as our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** gets under way. As you see below, those eggs don't fill themselves.

During Spring Break five of our older Youth took advantage of the time off to challenge their detective skills at **THE EXIT ROOM**. Nora, Lila, Owen, Isabell and Bella collectively got out of the **Surgery** successfully.

But the big event of April is the Youth Fund Raiser/Auction/Talent Show/Dinner or as it's known this year: **THE NEXT BIG THING**. Doors will open at 4:30 with a buffet dinner shortly afterwards and entertainment and auction to follow. If you haven't purchased your tickets, do so quickly; this event historically sells out.

Stay tuned for May events: All Church Brunch and Graduate Sunday on the 7th, Mother's Day on the 14th, All City High School Graduation on the 21st and Pentecost on the 28th.

