16





Margaret: mferrell1950@yahoo.com

Brenda: brendak75@hotmail.com

From the Pastor's Study

Dear First Presbyterian Members and Friends,

Maybe you share the feeling with me that Christmas seems like it just happened and yet here we were ready to begin another sacred journey through the season of Lent. This forty-day journey will take us to the cross and will end in the glorious light of the first day of the week as we discover the empty tomb and the Risen Jesus. Lent in the history of the Church was a time of preparation for those seeking baptism on Easter. It was a time of learning about the faith they were going to claim for themselves. This year as we begin our Lenten journey, I am encouraging all of us to take time for spiritual growth and learning. I'm challenging us to grow in knowledge so we might grow in faithful action and response to Jesus Christ who we follow to cross and resurrection.

The first way is to join us for worship on Sunday mornings. During our Sunday worship we will be looking at the seven last words Jesus speaks to us from the cross. Really, they are seven last phrases. Some of these phrases occur in more than one Gospel, and others are recorded only once. The seven last words of Christ are as follows:

- · "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."
- "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
- · "Woman, here is your son . . . Here is your mother."
- · "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- "I am thirsty."
- · "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."
- · "It is finished."

Each week we will be exploring what each of these phrases has to say to us in our Lenten sermon series, Seven: The Last Words of Jesus. As we know worshipping for only an hour a week is not enough for spiritual growth, so I will also be leading a book study over Final Words from the Cross by Adam Hamilton. There will be two offerings, one on Tuesdays as a brownbag lunch from noon-1pm in Fellowship Hall. The second will be via Zoom, which is an online meeting platform. Instructions for the Zoom meeting will be included in this newsletter. I believe these sorts of education events area vital to our spiritual growth, but I also know schedules are busy. Hopefully these two offerings will fit with your schedule. I hope you will join us both on Sundays and during the week as we seek to grow deeper in what it means to follow our crucified Lord.

One final note as we begin this sacred journey together. You may be wondering why we are spending so much time on the death of Jesus this year. As Adam Hamilton says in the book we will be reading together, it was incredibly difficult for the victims of crucifixion to speak, given the way their bodies hung on the cross. The fact that Jesus still speaks to us given its tremendous difficulty make these some of the most important words he says. They have the potential to reveal a greater depth of who he is, what he accomplished, and who we are because of him. I pray that for all of us this Lenten journey would be a time of growth and transformation as we journey to cross and resurrection. Peace,

Pastor Anders







Pizza Night at Take Root

This was a night of good food, fun and gathering family and friends to raise money for Take Root. Thank you to Session for funding the ingredients needed and to the Outreach Committee members for supplying the labor. While we don't know the final numbers, we made and served 57 pizzas that brought in an estimated \$500 for the two hour event! Presbyterians and community members came out in good numbers and it was a fun evening spent together.





Jazz Sunday started our Lenten journey off with some tapping toes and a lot of smiles.

Session members will continue the discussion on this book at our March 10 meeting.



February Food of the Month: Dry Beans "A hungry man is not a free man." Adlai E. Stevenson

Two options for our Lenten Study

In coordination with our Sunday morning worship series we will be reading "Final Words from the Cross" by Adam Hamilton. You can sign up for your choice of times in Fellowship Hall .

You can meet with us on Tuesdays, beginning March 3, with a brownbag lunch from noon-1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Or, on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 pm beginning March 4, you can join us from your comfy chair at home via Zoom, which is an online meeting platform. To join the online meeting, follow the instructions given below:

Go to zoom.us

at the top of the page is a link: "Join a Meeting" Enter this code: 675 787 286 Password is: 201SHS





Missouri Union Presbytery Prayer Calendar

Mar 1 Benton City Presbyterian Church

Mar 8 First Presbyterian Church, Boonville & Bunceton Federated Church

Mar 15 Antioch Presbyterian Church & First Presbyterian Church, Bowling Green

Mar 22 First Presbyterian Church, Brookfield & Macon Presbyterian Church

Mar 29 Validated Ministries of Minister Members of MUP



sends out a huge. huge "Thank you" for the 189 cans of soup for Souper Bowl Sunday! As the pantry continues to serve over 400 families a month, it is truly appreciated!

The fun-raiser on February 28 was a lot of fun. Thank you to everyone who helped in anyway, or just came to enjoy!



Join us each Sunday immediately following worship for fellowship time. Meet our hosts:

1st Sunday-First Feast (everyone carryin brunch)

2nd Sunday-Session members

3rd Sunday-Deacons

4th Sunday-Sunday School families

5th Sunday-everyone bring a snack

Presbyterian Women:

Presbyterian Women will meet March 25th at 7 pm at the home of Margaret Ferrell. The Seventh Word reminds us that life-long commitments matter, not just to us but to the whole community.



March Justice and Peace Calendar

Women's History Month 6--World Day of Prayer 8--Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday 8--International Women's Day 8-14--Presbyterian Women Together in Action for Women's Empowerment 9-20--64th Commission on the Status of Women 15--Self-Development of People Sunday 22--World Water Day 24-30--National Farmworker Awareness Week 25--Orange Day

March is also Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women. The Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women was born in 1922 when Hallie Paxson Winsborough challenged each member of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States to give a penny for each year of her life as a "birthday gift" for Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Japan. Since then, Presbyterian Women, through the Birthday Offering have contributed more than \$36 million to help improve the lives at home and around the world. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women's commitment to caring for others has not.

This year's Birthday Offering recipients are:

Center for Social Assistance to the Disabled, Family, and Children--**PREOBRAZHENIYE** Assisted Living Facility Davydova, Russia

GAP Ministries of Augusta, Georgia Expand Access and Service Space Northeast Georgia Presbytery

Community Presbyterian Child Learning Center in Payson, Arizona Childcare and Pres-kindergarten Facility Presbytery of the Grand Canyon

Liberty Community Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota Northside Healing Space Expansion Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

Youth Dates to remember

Operation JOY will go Roller Skating on March 8 from 2:00-4:00.

Grades 6th - 12th can attend the Spring Retreat at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Columbia, MO: Mission Possible 2. We will leave after school on Friday, March 13 and return Saturday, March 14 around 7:00 pm.

A big thank you Jocelyn Prendergast and all of

the youth for their work and performance of A Not So Terrible Parable.

Swimming at LaPlata was a hit!





WE NEED YOUR HELP! COME AND DINE TABLE SET-UP FOOD PREP DESSERT BAKERS FOOD SERVERS DRINK SERVER DISHWASHER Contact Susan Dublin to sign up 773-719-7218



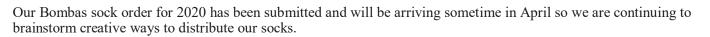
Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Volunteers are needed for: Sorting: Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons Open hours: Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings

Let Lisa know if you can help, ask for the Google doc link, sign up in Fellowship Hall, or check out the church face book page.



With February's colder temperatures many cold weather items went out the door at Clothes Closet, but hopefully the warmer temperatures are not too far away. At the end of March the Clothes Closet will be switching over to spring and summer clothing and many hands will make the process go quickly and smoothly. There's no need to sign up, just show up to help. Below are the days and times we are scheduled to work:

Sunday, March 29: 2:00 pm-6:00 pm

Monday, March 30: 9:00 am-11:30 am and again 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Tuesday, March 31: 1:00 pm-3:30 pm (not open to the public) and again 5:15 pm-7:30 pm

Wednesday, April 1: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Thursday, April 2: 1:30 pm-4:00 pm and again 5:15 pm-7:30 pm

Friday, April 3: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Thank you in advance for your time!



Check out The Clothes Closet face book page for more pictures, updates on events and needs. www.facebook.com/theclothescloset.kirksville

