

Rolling River Rampage - VBS 2018



Bring your kids, grandkids, and friends to

Rolling River Rampage!

Vacation Bible School

JULY 9-13 9:00 am – Noon

WHO CAN COME? All children ages 4 though 5th grade welcome!

TO REGISTER: Registration Forms may be picked up at the church during regular hours. Pre-registration is recommended but not required.

TO VOLUNTEER: Contact Stephanie Dube at cdofpc@gmail.com. We can use all kinds of help before, during, and after, so let her know if you can lend a hand!

First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

First Presbyterian Church
1328 Griffith Avenue
Owensboro, KY 42301



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Quote of the Month

*Behind you,
all your memories
Before you,
all your dreams
Around you,
all who love you
Within you,
all you need.*



"People of Grace"

A monthly newsletter for First Presbyterian Church

June 2018



No matter how I might try, I can't seem to separate summer from memories of my childhood. Long days of bike rides and unsupervised adventures. Running in sprinklers, swimming until the dark came, giggling at everything that came my way. Summer for me has a scent and a feeling to it. It tastes like Kool-Aid and it sounds like cicadas chirping in the trees. Even now—even as the years separate me from that wild-eyed young girl—even still, summer reminds me of her and brings her back to me. Though life no longer revolves around a school calendar, summer still beckons to me, as perhaps it does to you. It invites me, each year, to enter a season that is different. That is unique. That is sacred.

In *Happiness and Contemplation*, Joseph Pieper writes, "Repose, leisure, peace, belong among the elements of happiness. If we have not escaped from harried rush, from mad pursuit, from unrest, from the necessity of care, we are not happy." Summer clears a space for holy leisure—for children and adults. It is more than a break or a holiday. It is a sacred season, a Sabbath season—a season for reclaiming what is most important and bringing that into focus.

This past month, our Spiritual Formation group explored a study written by Walter Brueggemann entitled *Sabbath as Resistance*. In it, he laid out how the institution of the Sabbath was not merely a God-given order to rest from work. More than that, Brueggemann argued that Sabbath was about clearly prioritizing one's life by declaring with one's hands and feet who was truly in charge. Sabbath was about taking Pharaoh and Pharaoh's economy off the throne and rightly putting God and God's economy back on top. By doing so, God invited the Hebrew people into an "awareness that life does not consist of frantic production and consumption." It is about so much more.

Brueggemann argued that, when production and consumption guide our lives, the people around us are viewed as competitors. As rivals in the anxious frenzy of commerce. But when we set that perspective aside and let Sabbath guide us, if only for a day at a time, something incredible can happen. Anxiety yields to trust and competitors are transformed into neighbors. We set aside our need to be "best", and remember, instead, that we are all made in the image of God.

Sabbath, it turns out, is about more than blue laws and not mowing your lawn on Sundays. By intentionally making space for Sabbath, we remind ourselves and the world that life is about more than what we have or what we do. In observing Sabbath, we preserve the sanctity of community and connection and commitment to God and to one another.

This summer, let's find ways to orient our lives toward Sabbath. Let's find ways to put our priorities in check, intentionally setting aside the frenzy in favor of community. For some of us, it may look like an hour or two carved out for meals shared with friends. For others, a whole day where phones are set aside and screens are turned off. Or maybe, for you, it could mean a summer of sprinkler runs and sunscreen-smearing arms, lemonade and porch sitting and reacquainting yourself to the child within. Whatever it is, consider how you can pause each week and reorient your life away from the hustle and bustle and toward connection with God and those around you.

Christine





June Birthdays
Birthdays Flower:
 Rose & Honeysuckle

Birthdays

- 3 Graham Duncan
- 3 Everett Taylor
- 5 Aleesha King
- 9 Deanna Wehrung
- 9 Becky Moorman
- 11 Chris Bowers
- 12 Marie Norris
- 12 Brody Brubaker
- 14 Kendall Black
- 18 Samuel Tandy
- 18 Tamara Brubaker
- 19 Evan Holcomb
- 19 Marilyn Van Winkle
- 20 George Triplett, IV
- 21 Kim Lashbrook
- 22 Emma North
- 24 Jane Smith
- 26 Bill Helwig
- 28 Pat Hale
- 29 Virginia Clancy
- 29 Tony Gossett

Anniversaries

- 5 Pat & Lorraine Corkran
- 5 Tamara & Duke Brubaker
- 7 Charlotte & Paul Puckett
- 8 Creda & Dayton Heffelfinger
- 9 Marna & John Loucks
- 9 Caroline & Tom Payne
- 13 Jessica & Evan Emery
- 13 Dinah & Larry Yates
- 16 Pat & Larry Hale
- 19 Frances & Mark Malony
- 23 Mary & David Searles
- 24 Nancy & Chuck Schmeal
- 24 Julie & Bryan Smith



Session Highlights - May 2018

Session met on Monday May 14, 2018

- Confirmands Grace Gossett, Brennen Hutchinson, Emma North, Ben Robinson, and Sam Smith were presented to Session and approved for membership
- New Bank and check signers approved
- Baptisms of Ben Robinson, Sam Smith, Elizabeth Murphy and Madison Mahoney were approved

Meeting Highlights - May 2018

Christian Education

- “Highlands” House Fundraiser to be rescheduled
- Rolling River Rampage is VBS theme July 9—13

Congregational Care

- Susan Hicks and Marsha Nash to moderate this committee

Congregational Life

- Hosting Confirmand/Graduate Reception May 20th

Finance

- The committee will serve as the Stewardship Committee
- 2018 Audit to be done by Diane Bowers, Marilyn VanWinkle and Bob Smith

Mission

- Pentecost Offering will be May 20th
- Pintino Meal served April 29th

Outreach & Evangelism

- Church will do a new picture directory in September
- New website work continues

Personnel

- No report

Property

- Security camera installation is complete
- Wi-fi has been upgraded
- Replaced air conditioners are in and running

Worship & Music

- Dates for special Sundays set: Music Ministry Sunday June 3; Southern Gospel Sunday June 24
- Attendance April: 1-242; 8-112; 15-126; 22-120; 29-135

Deacon’s Report

- No Report

Pastor’s Report

- Officiated Lucy Dawson funeral
- Held Healing & Wholeness service April 28th
- Completed confirmation sessions
- Worked w/ PW on Gifts of Women Sunday
- Organized May Church Night Out
- Led B90 Group
- Led Pastor’s Book Group
- Led Spiritual Formation

Church Work Day

Our next Church Work Day will be **Saturday June 21st** from **8:30 am to noon**. Work will focus on the outside during these early spring months. Please consider helping out. As always, there will be food and beverages. If you have questions, contact Chris Gramelspacher: 270-316-8519. cegspacher@gmail.com.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Candy Month 	Rose Month 	Every Sunday 9:00 Spanish Worship & Nursery Available 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Music for all ages 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 			1 National Doughnut Day 	2
3 Music Ministry Sunday 11:30 Christian Ed Mtg	4 9:00 Staff Mtg 12:00 Congregational Life Mtg	5	6 9:00 Weekday School Board 10:00 Book Grp 3:00 Coffee Cup 4:00 Prayer Grp 4:30 Deacon’s Mtg	7	8	9
10 Gifts of the Creative Spirit Display 5:00 Youth Group	11 9:00 Staff Mtg 6:00 Session	12 Red Rose Day 6:00 SpiritLifters	13 10:00 Book Grp 3:00 Coffee Cup 4:00 Prayer Grp	14 FLAG DAY	15	16 8:30 Church Work Day Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly begins
17 Father’s Day 11:30 Extended Table Lunch	18 9:00 Staff Mtg	19 10:30 PrimeTimers	20 10:00 Book Grp 3:00 Coffee Cup 4:00 Prayer Grp	21 10:00 Pastor’s Book Study	22 6:00 Church Night Out	23 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly ends
Youth Group Mission Trip to Little Rock, AK						
24 Southern Gospel Sunday 11:30 Christian Education Mtg 11:30 Mission No Youth Group	25 9:00 Staff Mtg	26 10:00 Outreach & Evangelism Mtg 4:00 Property Mtg Forgiveness Day 	27 10:00 Book Grp 3:00 Coffee Cup 4:00 Prayer Grp	28 4:00 Finance Mtg	29	30

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School (preschool - 5th grade class)

Begins at 9:30 in the first floor Kindergarten Room.



Youth Sunday School Class

Meets at 9:30 in the Youth Room to study *Echo the Story* curriculum.

The Adult Sunday School Class

Meets at 9:30 in the Gardenside Parlor to look at various topics related to the church, Bible, current events and social topics.

The Men's Bible Class

Meets at 9:30 downstairs and uses *The Present Word* literature.

Spanish Language Worship Group

Meets at 9:00 in the Chapel. All are invited whether or not you speak/understand Spanish.

Fellowship

SpiritLifters

Tuesday June 12th 6:00 pm

Restaurant: TBA
RSVP to Pat Hale 270-314-1881
halres@bellsouth.net



PrimeTimers

Tuesday June 19th 10:30 am

Program:
Lunch will follow (\$5.00)
RSVP to Charlotte Puckett
charlotte214050@yahoo.com
270-926-2532

Church Night Out

Next meeting will be in July!

New Church Group *The Extended Table*

New!

The people who went out to lunch as a church group in April enjoyed it so much it was decided to make it a regular outing under the name *The Extended Table*. All are invited to extend the communion table by sharing lunch together after worship on the third Sunday of each month. Our next outing will be **Sunday, June 17th**.

Group Study

Spiritual Formation

On break for the summer.



Lydia Circle

Meets First Tuesdays at 10:30, Sept—June

Date: Sept 4, 2018

Will Be Reading: *God's Promise: I Am With You*

PW Coordinating Team

Meets quarterly on the 3rd Thursday at 10:30

Date: July 19, 10:00 am

Wednesday Book Group

On break following final meeting June 6.

Dates: June 6 (will complete book this day)

Reading: *Days of Awe and Wonder* by Marcus Borg

Coffee Cup Theology

Meets on Wednesday at 3:00 pm

Dates: **June 6, 13, 20, 27**

Discussion: Sunday Lectionary

Pastor's Study Group

On break for the summer, but look out for a group outing to see *Won't You Be My Neighbor*, the documentary about Fred Rogers, which comes out this month. Check PresbyNotes for more information!

*All study groups meet in the Gardenside Parlor.

Weekly Prayer Meeting



As a community of love and care, we want to know how we can be in prayer for one another. Because of this, we meet on **Wednesdays at 4:00** in the Gardenside Parlor. Just come if

you would like to pray with us on:

June 6, 13, 20, 27

If you have a prayer request, email Christine and your person or request will be included.

Flower Arrangements

We have been so blessed to have beautiful flowers in worship! We could use some volunteers who will help us take these arrangements and put them into small bouquets to share with our homebound members each week. If you could lend a few minutes to help with this from time to time, let Brad Smith or a member of the Worship Committee know.

Opportunities this Summer

Summer is a season for getting in touch with your roots, and that doesn't end at the church doors. Below are some special offerings for this summer that will help us remember our Presbyterian roots.

Why do we do that?

Do you ever wonder why we do what we do in our worship services each week? Why we confess our sins or say the Apostles' Creed? Why do we remember our baptism or lower our heads for the benediction? This summer, our worship bulletin will be formatted to answer some of those questions right alongside the usual liturgy, and each week we will respond to questions that *you* provide. Tell us what questions cross your mind as we gather each week. You can either email your questions to Christine at ccofohr@gmail.com or place your questions in the offering plate during Sunday worship. Our first Sunday will be on June 17th.

Church Camp Sing-Along

Beginning June 17th, join Christine before Sunday School each week for a time of learning and singing classic church camp songs, like *Peace Like a River*; *I'm Gonna Sing, Sing, Sing*; *Do You Remember Me* and more! This is not just for children, but for all church members. We'll meet at 9:25. Let Christine know if you have any requests!

What Do We Believe About...

The Afterlife? Evil? What do we believe about that, anyway? Be on the lookout for some special Sunday afternoon and evening classes on these topics and more! This month: predestination & election!

Multicultural Festival



Our 20th Annual Multicultural Festival is on the horizon and planning has begun. It will be on Saturday, August 18th from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm on our front lawn.

A Little History. Back in 1996, Winny Lin, one of our Chinese American members, came to a session meeting to ask permission to hold a Multicultural Festival on the church grounds. Its purpose would be to offer people the opportunity to discover and learn about the many heritages that make up the people of Owensboro. Hopefully, this would also enable us to spread more peace and understanding in our little part of the world.

The session approved her request and the rest is history. She formed a committee to plan it, recruited people to set up booths, found people to perform songs and dances from their countries and to prepare and sell their country's food. She went to teachers and asked them to encourage their students to come to the festival. Many did, and some of those kids now bring their own children. Over the years we have had many countries represented through booths, entertainment and food.

Our 20th Anniversary. We are looking for ways to make this 20th anniversary year extra special. If you have ideas we welcome them! You are invited to attend our meetings, which will be announced in the Sunday bulletin. The next meeting will be Monday, June 4th at 10:00 am. If you can't make a meeting feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with Debbie McCoy. What ideas do YOU have that you think can make this year one to remember!

Help us Plan. The planning committee hopes that every member of the church will be involved this year in some way. If you would like to host a booth about your heritage, please do. Or if you know of someone who could host a booth, have them get in touch with Debbie or the church office. The same goes for entertainers and food vendors. We are hoping to have as many countries represented as possible. Everyone's family came from somewhere whether it was recently or a couple hundred years ago. Where did you come from? Where did your friends come from? Think about it!

Volunteer Opportunities. In July's *People of Grace* newsletter, we will let you know specifically our needs for producing this wonderful festival. Many hands makes little work! Stay tuned and circle the date August 18th!

Don't Let Your Giving Go on Summer Break



It's beginning to look and feel like summer. The weather is hot, the grass is growing, school is out and vacations are starting. Many of us are planning our summer break. However, let's not let our stewardship take a summer break!

Our church doesn't just function from September to June—it functions all year round. It is our pledges that pay for everything we do. It is our pledges that enables us to regularly pay our wonderful staff. It covers the expenses of worship and music, Christian education, youth programs and of course our utilities, property maintenance and benevolences.

But stewardship is more than contributing to the daily, weekly and monthly expenses of our church. Stewardship also includes giving our time and talents and there are many opportunities for both. We have our monthly church work days, Vacation Bible School, and the Multicultural Festival. We also have nine committees that would welcome additional volunteers.

There is a time and season for everything. The Finance Committee, which coordinates stewardship, thanks each of you for all that you do.

Music Ministry Sunday June 3rd

On Sunday, June 3rd we will have our annual Music Ministry Celebration. Our service will feature the music ensemble of our:

- * Children's Choir
- * Handbell Choir
- * Church Choir
- * Wesleyan Scholars



In addition we will hear the music of our organist and our congregation. Come be part of this special musical day and express gratitude to these members of our church who are dedicated to serve through the ministry of music.

Southern Gospel Sunday June 24th



On June 24th, we will have our Third Annual Southern Gospel Sunday which will feature:

- a gospel quartet
- our church choir
- congregational singing

We will sing old familiar hymns, so plan to come and sing along. This is always a particularly enjoyable service as we remember our Southern Gospel tradition.

Creative Spirit Celebration June 10th



Our God is a god who creates and, as we are made in His image, we also create. To again share all the gifts of creation found among our members, our Second Annual Celebration of the Creative Spirit display will be **Sunday June 10th** after worship. Come see the great variety of wonderful works created by FPC family members in Fellowship Hall.

To sign up to share your creations, contact Sasha Greene in the church office. If you have questions or would like more information, contact Brad Smith.

Children's Church this Summer



Worship and Wonder will take a break this summer, beginning June 3rd. For the summer months, children ages 4-8 are invited to attend children's time in the Kindergarten Room during the worship service.

Children will have a brief lesson, followed by fun and enrichment during the worship service. Children will be invited to leave following the children's time and will return to the sanctuary before communion.

May @ FPC

PrimeTimers



Gifts of Women Sunday



Pentecost Sunday



Baptisms



Confirmands & Graduates



B90 Participants



Youth at SkyZone



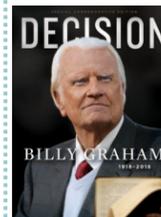
Children's Day Out

M is for May and Mother's Day! We celebrated all of our wonderful mothers and caretakers with Mother's Day Tea and Program. We also honored our Pre-K Graduates.



Upcoming Dates:
June 25-28 Summer Camp Session I
July 23-26 Summer Camp Session II

Library Corner



Our library has acquired several issues of Decision magazine, the official publication of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. The most recent is a special commemorative edition devoted to the life and work of Billy Graham, who recently died just short of his 100th birthday.

The magazines were donated by Evelyn Triplett and are located in a magazine container on the desk.

Our Youth

May was a busy month for our Youth! We celebrated the end of the school year by having a fun day at Sky Zone in Evansville, followed by dinner at Cici's pizza!

The Youth also co-hosted the Senior Banquet along with Christian Education Committee. A huge THANK YOU to Mary Dixon and Gene Baker, Allison Bates, Rayma Bramschreiber, Creda Heffelfinger, Susan and Otis Hicks, Debbie Hutchinson, Kim Lashbrook, and Ellen Sweet for their help.

Congratulations to our 2018 Graduates:
Rachel Coomes- grad DCHS, attending WKU
Matt Robinson- grad DCHS, attending U of L
Speed School of Engineering
Ben Shelton- grad OHS, attending WKU
George Triplett V- grad DCHS, attending WKU

Congratulations to Confirmands:
Grace Gossett
Brennen Hutchinson
Emma North
Ben Robinson
Sam Smith

