



First Press

Worship and Wisdom

First Presbyterian Church

March 7, 2021

Our Transitional Pastor

Rev. Barry Williams

Our Mission

We are a community of disciples who celebrate God's inclusive love by ministering to one another and the world.

Church Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm
Monday through Friday

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- Andrew "Mike" Neuner died February 19 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. No services are planned at this time. He is survived by his wife, Donna.
- Pete Peterson is at LMH for a non-COVID related issue.
- Phil Rankin is back at LMH as he continues to heal and strengthen his body.
- Alison and Thomas Hill are grateful for thawing and that her parents are beginning to recover from their time with COVID-19
- Joe Dolezal, brother of Loren, who is very ill with COVID-19. He lives in Hays, KS
- Robin Goulter is COVID positive and appreciates our prayers as she recovers.
- Earl Huyser continues his recovery at the Manor.
- Shannon Ruiz, great-niece of Eva Alley is doing much better. While not 100% she is making good progress and grateful for our prayers.
- Our frontline caregivers – Erin Tuttle, Margie Koeppe, Kelly Jones, and all those working in our hospitals and care facilities, those in places necessary to all of us who put themselves at risk for our sake.
- Kristi McAlister, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.

Birthdays in the Congregation

March 10

Steve Koger

March 12

Debby Ziegler

Conner Morrison

March 13

Sarah Freese

Claire Lindemyer

Calendar

March 7

9:00 am

Children's Sunday School

9:00 am

RoundTable Class

9:00 am

Seekers Class

10:30 am

Worship – Live Stream

March 8

6:00 pm

Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

March 10

6:00 pm

Lent Study

March 11

10:00 am

Mark Study

7:00 pm

PNC Meeting

March 13

1:00 pm

Cub Scout Bridging Ceremony

March 14

9:00 am

Children's Sunday School

9:00 am

RoundTable Class

9:00 am

Seekers Class

10:30 am

Worship – Live Stream

11:30 am

Old Testament Class Filming

Welcome

As we continue our virtual worship and our thoughtful self-distancing care for one another, we need to be imagining how in the coming days we can be more intentional in our inviting and welcoming of others. Be sure to share our Facebook and Website locations via your social media and email friends. Invite them to view our worship online with you virtually. Remember you can attend worship anytime via YouTube!

Youth Sunday

Worship on March 14 will be led by our Youth! Be sure to tune in at 10:30 am to hear what they have to share with us!

Education

This Sunday

- **The Old Testament Study** led by Dr. Earl Huyser can be accessed on the following Wednesday on our YouTube channel. Search for "First Pres Lawrence" and then hit the subscribe button to be notified when we have something new. You can also use this link:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCEfMfsIn_sXSz2fEYWRsBw.
If you would like to attend in person contact Carl Locke for an assignment at lockecarle@gmail.com.
- **The RoundTable Class** will continue their study of a book by Walter Brueggemann, *A Way Other than Our Own*, a devotion for Lent. Class continues at 9:00 am via Zoom.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89809456226?pwd=UTRwMTVSaCtLUHJjRk9NNi9XUjBqUT09>
Meeting ID: 898 0945 6226
Passcode: 790097
- **The Seekers Class** - *The Way to Shalom: A Lenten Journey to Peace and Wholeness* - The PCUSA has made this Lent study available to congregations free of charge. It is in the same format as the Advent Study that was in our FPC newsletter each week of Advent. For more information about connecting with a study group on Wednesday evenings or Sunday mornings please contact Heather Soper at sopers1973@gmail.com. You can also call or text Heather at 785-424-3054.
- **Children's Sunday School** is meeting via Zoom at 9:00 am. If you would like your child to attend and need the Zoom link, please contact us in the church office.
- **The Youth** resume meeting on-line today at noon. Contact Ryan King at ryan@firstpreslawrence for links, times and more information. This group is open to students in 6th grade through 12th grade.
- **First 5 Years program is selling EMCH Butter Braid breads and pastries** for their annual fundraiser supporting their scholarship program. You may place an order and pay on the website,
<https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/f41168a7-3a91-4d4f-bdb2-a3c792db5fe0>
or email your order to the First 5 Years officer at jennifer@firstpreslawrence.org and

pay by check (made out to FPC First 5 Years) or cash. You may place an order March 1 – March 15. You may pick up the products from the church on March 30th or later. Jennifer Jones, the First 5 Years director, would also be happy to make deliveries to those who live in Lawrence if you aren't able to make it to the church. Just email or call her (785-842-8291) to let her know.

Butter Braid Breads (full loaves – must thaw) \$14.00 each

Apple, Bavarian Cream (with chocolate icing), Blueberry & Cream, Cherry, Cinnamon, Strawberry & Cream Cheese, and Four Cheese & Herb.

Pastry Puffins (break-apart squares, no thawing) \$14.00 each

Apple, Cinnamon, Cream Cheese, Strawberry Cream and Pepperoni

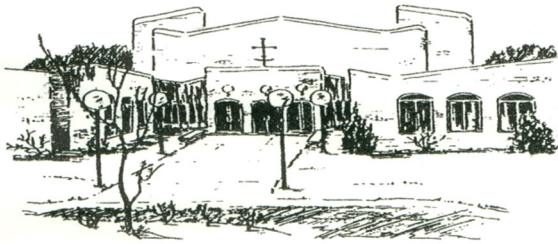
Wood Spoon Cookie Dough (frozen) \$16 ea.
Classic Chocolate chip, Cranberry Oatmeal medley, and Peanut Butter Perfection

Worship

The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days — like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Nineveh to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. (The Sundays in Lent are not counted in this reckoning of the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, as every Lord's Day is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.) During this season some choose to "give up" something in an effort to "die to Christ" and move toward the Resurrection. Perhaps this year, when we have given up so much in our lives, you might consider something that you can "add" to your life that enriches your faith journey during these 40 days.

- We have sent out a Lenten Devotional packet for your personal use or to join a class to study together. See information above.
- The EcoTeam offers the [Tread Lightly for Lent](#) calendar for your consideration. If you get this newsletter in the mail and would like a copy of the calendar, please contact the church office.

Plans for Holy Week – While we don't anticipate that we will be able to meet together safely this Easter and Holy Week we do have plans to share about ways that we can observe these important



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Lent

Rev. Barry Williams
Henry Johns, *liturgist*

March 7, 2021

Prelude

Nanette Kraus, guest pianist

Special Music

Give Me Jesus
FERNANDO ORTEGA, arr.

Kara Smith, soloist

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Mission

Pastor Nominating Committee

Call to Worship

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God.
The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**All: We celebrate the steadfast love of God, our Creator.
Surely God is faithful to all who live in covenant.**

One: From the sun's rising to its setting, the creation speaks.
Day and night, earth's creatures announce God's works.

**All: The commandments of God are clear, enlightening the eyes.
God's law is perfect, calling forth our best.**

One: God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.
God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**All: The ordinances of God are true and righteous.
In following them, we gain wisdom and strength.**

Opening Prayer

Hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

***Hymnal* #416**

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

O Christ who chased the money changers from the temple,
chase the greed from our lives and our hearts.

As you overturned the tables, O Lord,
overturn the systems in our world that contribute to cycles of poverty and oppression.

Forgive us, O God, of the ways we contribute to the world's brokenness.

Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy.

Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture

Psalm 19

Henry Johns, liturgist

Special Music

Laudate dominum
W.A. MOZART

Kara Smith, soloist

Scripture

John 2:13-22

Sermon

"House Cleaning"

Rev. Barry Williams

Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Hymnal #84

Call for the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and "The Lord's Prayer"

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Hymn

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

Hymnal #145

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

dates in the life of the church and in our spiritual lives. We hope you will join us and encourage your friends, family, and neighbors to join us on all of these dates:

- **Worship on Palm Sunday**, March 28, via YouTube. We will have palms available in the church office if you would like to pick up one or two to wave with us!
- **A Maundy Thursday / Good Friday worship** via YouTube that will be available by Wednesday, March 31.
- **A "Stations of the Cross" musical offering** from many of our musicians. This will be a "do not miss" musical opportunity. It will also be available on YouTube on March 31.

Fellowship

Presbyterian Women to host Retreat on October 29 and 30, 2021 at Heartland Center in Parkville, MO. There will be time for creativity, nature and more. **Judith Galas** will be our leader. She has taught an array of students from middle-schoolers to KU undergrads, from business professionals seeking to be stronger writers to adult learners seeking knowledge in small workshops or refreshment in a retreat setting. She recently authored two books; *Living the Ancient Psalms: Messages for Modern Life and Sexuality* and *Our Faith: A Companion to Our Whole Lives for Older Adults*. She lives in Lawrence, Kansas. Save your space today with a \$50 deposit made out to FPC. **Interested but need more information? Contact Julie Simon at 304-654-3992.**

Mission

Our Matthew 25 Team is working on a page on our website, so watch for that coming soon. Being a Matthew 25 church means that we are actively involved in three aspects of discipleship:

- Building congregational vitality
- Dismantling structural racism
- Eradicating systemic poverty

More information can be found on the Presbyterian Mission Agency website:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/matt-25-resources/>

The Just Food barrels are out at the south entrance for your gifts of non-perishable items for those in need of assistance with food. Please think of nourishing foods that can be used in a variety of ways and appeal to a variety of ages and tastebuds. Thank you for your support in filling the barrels.

News from the EcoTeam – Members of FPC have invested in providing for the Monarch butterflies by supporting the garden on the southeast corner of the building and planting milkweed in home gardens. This gorgeous pollinator is at risk for extinction. Here is a link to learn more about the wonder of ecology and the intricate processes that maintain sustainability of all earthly creatures.

<https://www.earthconsciouslife.org/post/pursuing-the-monarchs-free-film>

Also, if you are interested in purchasing milkweed locally, they will be available from Monarch Watch at

<https://www.monarchwatch.org/subscribe>



Care

The Deacon Love Fund is an opportunity to help provide shelter, services, food, and medicine to those who are struggling during this time to provide the basics for themselves and family. Working with social services in the Douglas County area we use the funds to pay rent, buy medicine, pay utilities, help with food and other essential items so that people can stay in safe places with their families. If you can help us with this endeavor, please go to our “online giving” button on our website to give to the Deacon Love Fund. You can send a check with the Love Fund notation on the memo line or bring your donation to the church during business hours. Thank you for helping us help others.

- Please consider your neighbors and friends who live alone and be sure to check in with them during this bitter cold snap in our weather. Don't hesitate to reach out to your Deacon or the church if you or someone you know needs assistance.
- If you need help signing up for the COVID-19 Vaccine, please let us know. Some of the Deacons and office staff are willing to help you get your name on the list!
- Take care, be safe, stay warm, wear your mask, and wash your hands!

Support

We are thankful for all of you who are pledging your support for FPC in 2021. If you would like to make a pledge you still can by going to our website and clicking on the “Online Giving” button. Check it out at www.firstpreslawrence.org.

Many of our groups and committees are looking for people to join them in their work and support of the many projects and tasks of the church. There are “one-time” options as well as weekly and monthly opportunities. We will have more coming up as we begin to open the church. We will need help on Sunday mornings with greeting and moving people safely through the building, we are looking for folks to join our Mission Committee in their work supporting community organizations, the Matthew 25 team can use some folks who can support the ways we work in the congregation and in the community, and in the late summer or early fall we will be looking for folks to help with our next photo directory!. If you are curious about where your gifts and talents might best be used, call the church office and we can help get you to the right group. Or send an email to linda@firstpreslawrence.org for more information.

In the Community

For Black History Month, **Evergy** wanted to acknowledge the company's Black history, especially given that some of our Black pioneers are still living. The Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Silas Dulan, talks with **George Crump (FPC member)**, a man of many firsts in Evergy's history, about his time served and legacy with the company. Here is a link to the video:

<https://twitter.com/evergypower/status/1365663076159279106?s=20> Many thanks to George for his sharing his gifts and talents!

Sunflower Baroque, a chamber group that includes Paul and Joy Laird, will present a concert on Monday, March 8, at 7:30 pm at Swarthout Recital Hall. The concert will also feature soprano Victoria Botero and harpsichordist Elizabeth Berghout. KU is not encouraging in-person attendance to concerts, but it will be available on the School of Music Livestream for free: <https://www.youtube.com/c/KUSchoolofMusic>. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Laird at kuvillancico@gmail.com.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Douglas County will offer the Family-to-Family Education Program free of charge to participants. The classes will be held via Zoom on four consecutive Saturdays, April 3 through April 24, 2021. Classes will meet from 9:30 am to noon, and 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Anyone who is living with or caring for a loved one with a mental illness is encouraged to attend. For more information or to register please contact Bill Wood at 785-840-5889 or bdwood1956@gmail.com by March 25.



FPC Session Leadership

Worship: Terry Smith, b-f mcdonald, and Paul Laird
Welcome: Margie Dyck, Terry Smith, and b-f mcdonald
Fellowship: John Hughes and Carol Kyner
Education: Linda Watts, Henry Johns, Carol Kyner, and Heather Soper
Mission: Heather Soper, Ted Waiss, and Margie Dyck
Care: Deacons and Parish Nurses

Support:
Finance: Marilyn Harp, Ted Waiss,
Property: Mark Shiflett, John Hughes,
Personnel: Marilyn Harp, Paul Laird, and Linda Watts

Elders on Church Nominating Committee: Heather Soper and Carol Kyner
Elders on Pastor Nominating Committee: Mark Shiflett and Henry Johns