



First Press

Worship and Wisdom

First Presbyterian Church

September 12, 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

- **Wyatt Leslie Williams** born September 7, 2021 to Shelby and Stephen Williams. Grandparents are Barry and Brenda Williams. Congratulations!
- **Lori Shiflett** is home following surgery this week and doing well.
- Please note name! **Walter (Wally) John Michael Hill** born Sept. 2, 2021 to Thomas and Alison Hill. Congratulations!
- **Hazel Isabel Dreweis** born Sept. 1, 2021, to Paul and Jayme Dreweis. Mark and Diana Schoneweis are grandparents. Congratulations!
- **Bev North** suffered a fall and broke her hip. She is in rehab at LMH. Prayers please.
- **Jim Buckley** had a pacemaker installed this week.
- **Phil Rankin** continues his recovery process in Lincoln, NE.
- **William and Julia Wallace**, parents of Nora Wallace, grandparents of Thomas Lushington, are doing better and are back together! Still some challenges, but good progress.
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.
- **Prayers for those working at LMH** as they find themselves once again overloaded with people needing help. May they find the strength and resilience to continue their work during this challenging time.

Birthdays in the Congregation

September 13	September 16
Beth Easter	Bob Bates
September 14	Peg Livingood
Ed Manda	September 17
John Hofer	David Dutcher
September 15	Marc Quillen
John Hughes	Dorcas Gavi
Nancy Rumsey	September 19
	Arlois McLay
	Marilyn Harp

Calendar

September 12	
8:45 am	Child Care Opens
9:15 am	Sunday School for Everyone
10:30 am	Worship
11:30 am	Youth Group
11:45 am	FPC Nominating Committee
1:00 pm	Music Auditions
September 13	
1:30 pm	Staff Meeting
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal
6:00 pm	Wolf Den Meeting
7:00 pm	First 5 Years Staff Meeting
7:00 pm	PW Eve Circle
September 14	
1:00 pm	Small World
September 15	
1:00 pm	PW Martha Circle
5:45 pm	Doodle Days
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59
September 16	
1:00 pm	Small World
September 19	
8:45 am	Child Care Opens
9:15 am	Sunday School for Everyone
10:30 am	Worship
11:30 am	Youth Group

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Ed Manda, Larry Schlosser, and Dorothy Devlin

Greeters: Heather Soper, Robert Mugridge, and Martha Rose
Securing the Offering: bf mcdonald and Paul Laird
Mugger: Dede Dresser

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone, whether you are joining us virtually or in-person, we are happy to have you with us.

A reminder for in-person worship: The Session is requiring that all persons, age two and over, wear a mask over their nose and mouth while in the building. As Christians we strive to care for one another, and this is how to best do that. Thank you for your help.

Care

The Deacon Love Fund is one way that we can help provide support to folks in our congregation and our community when they need it most. With the changes in support and assistance changing at the state and federal levels we anticipate there will be needs in our community as well. We appreciate any gifts you can make to this fund. Your caring heart can combine with others and make a real difference for people in need. Thank you!

Deacon Family Groups

A-Bo	Alison Hill	Lj-Me	Linda Upstill
Bp-Ch	Carol Smith	Mf-N	Nancy Rumsey
Ci-Dr	Kathryn Roblee	O-Re	Sandy Groene
Ds-F	Deborah Norwood	Rf-Sh	Kathy Stover
G-He	Julie Simon	Si-Sz	Cherie Hoover
Hf-Ke	Sara Quick	T-Wa	Annette Camlin
Kf-Li	Charles Tuttle	Wb-Z	Peggy Southard

Education

This Sunday – Classes begin at 9:15 am

- **Children's Sunday School**
 - Age 0 – 2 in the Nursery (Rm 1)
 - Age 3 to Kindergarten – Room 9
 - 1st and 2nd Grade – Room 12
 - 3rd to 7th Grade – Room 14
- **The Percussion Ensemble** (the name for Children's Choir during COVID) will be led by Kara Smith while Laura King is on maternity leave. Kara will visit each class during the morning.
- **The RoundTable Class** is reading and discussing the book, *Lakota Ways* by Joseph Marshall. Facilitation is shared among participants. Newcomers are always welcome!
- **The Seekers Class** is learning about the new hymnal, *Glory to God*, led by Dr. Paul Laird, KU Professor of Musicology.

- **Nurturing Faith at Home (now being offered in-person and by Zoom)** is a new class being offered this fall to discuss how to incorporate faith into your home in a way that will stick with your kids. Contact Linda at lindajoywatts@gmail.com for the Zoom link.
- **Youth Group meets** at 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Youth in 6th grade through 12th grade can plan to attend. Friends are always welcome at FPC – sometimes that makes it more fun to attend! Wear your favorite mask and come have a great time.

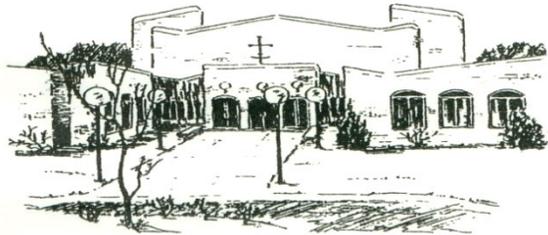
Additional Educational Options

The next Doodle Day is September 15. Kids and families, we would love to see you there! This is a gently structured **Zoom** social hour to keep our community connected whether you are ready for in person gathering or not. We will start each meeting with a guided and bible-story based drawing, then participants can draw and craft what they would like while chatting with each other. Kids are welcome to attend alone or with the whole family. The idea is to build connection without needing a full hour of attentive investment in your screen. **Doodle days will meet the first and third Wednesday of every month at 5:45 pm.** You are welcome to come late or leave early as well. [Click here](#) for the link to Zoom or contact Leah@firstpreslawrence.org with questions.

Old Testament Studies led by Dr. Earl Huyser, will begin Sunday, September 12. He will host a lecture on Jeremiah, using secular history and archaeology to develop biblical understandings. The class will meet in the Chapel at 9:15 am.

Coming up in October - An evening opportunity beginning Wednesday, October 6, 2021, "Embracing God's Love through Awakening to Racism". This will be a six-week class meeting from 6:30 to 7:45 pm on Zoom. Linda Watts and Heather Soper are the facilitators. Class content is from the PC(USA) course that is part of the Matthew 25 training. Stay tuned for more information or contact Heather at sopers1973@yahoo.com or Linda at lindajoywatts@gmail.com.

Coming up next in the Seekers Class – "Reflecting on a Pandemic: What Did We Lose? What Did We Learn? Where Do We Go From Here?" with Rev. Paul Romine. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences during the pandemic and share their stories and insights. Session One



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Barry Williams, preaching
Henry Johns, liturgist

September 12, 2021

Prelude *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* David Pérez, organist
RICK PARKS

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Mission Angela Loganbill

Call to Worship

One: Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you. Happy are those who find delight in God's law.

All: God is always nearer than our next breath. We gather to become more aware of that presence.

One: Knowledge of God is a delight to the righteous. They seek to grow in wisdom and understanding.

All: There is always more to discover than we know. God is our teacher and helper and judge.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn *The Church of Christ in Every Age* **Glory to God #320**
WAREHAM

Large print hymnals (black covers) are available on the table at the back of the Sanctuary on the north side.

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, God, for our complacent attitudes and self-serving comforts. We do not relish the thought of sacrificing for some larger good we cannot see, for people with whom we find it difficult to identify. We compare ourselves favorably against many who seem less attuned to your purposes than we, forgetting that our true standard is Christ Jesus. We ask you to take from us all the bitterness, envy, and anger that stands in the way of your reign. May all we ask of you be for the common good of all your children.

Personal confession continues in silence

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Scripture James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8 Henry Johns, liturgist

Children's Moment Leah Towle

Scripture Mark 9:30-37

Sermon "Seeing Things" Rev. Barry Williams

Special Music *Be Thou My vision* Angela Loganbill and Kara Smith
CATHY STAMEGNA, arr.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

Call for Offering and Prayer of Dedication

We thank you for the wealth you shower on us daily, O Lord, and we witness the marvelous goodness that comes from you. Transform these gifts into signs of welcome for all who are touched by their use. Transform us into people who bless others throughout each day, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Offering plates are located in the Narthex at the end of the "sign-in" tables.

Hymn

Christ Be Beside Me
BUNESSAN

Glory to God #702

Blessing and Charge

One: You are graced with the abundant love of God, the enriching example of Christ, the engaging power of the Spirit.

All: Rejoice in these things and leave this place giving thanks that we are free to serve God with gladness.

One: Amen.

All: Amen.

Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
DIANE BISH

David Pérez, organist

FPC Session Leadership

Worship: b-f mcdonald and Paul Laird

Welcome: Margie Dyck 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



Chancel Choir Notes



Hello all! We have all been waiting many, many months for the return to singing and the sounds of the choir in our worship service. I am happy to announce that your wait is drawing to a close as we make plans to bring the choir back in October! We are currently working to hire section leaders for the choir and will have this small ensemble of singers lead the hymns and share a special anthem each week throughout mid-September and October. The FULL choir will resume choir rehearsals with a "Choir Retreat" on Saturday, September 25th from 10 am to noon in the Sanctuary; then regularly on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:15 pm beginning September 29th. The full choir will resume singing in Sunday services on October 31st (Reformation Sunday). We look forward to all of our past choir members returning and hope that many of you will consider joining us in singing this year! Even if you have never thought of yourself as a 'singer', we invite you to join us! We will continue to sing with our masks on and distanced in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at akloganbill@gmail.com. Angela Loganbill, Music Director

will deal with anxiety and stress; Session Two will explore loss and grief; Session Three will look at what we have learned and what we gained during the pandemic; Session Four will explore changes we want to make in our lives as a result of the pandemic. Format will be primarily discussion.

Small Group Opportunities

Writers Group – We are interested in organizing a small monthly writing group to focus on personal experiences and memories. We are wanting to pass on to our children and grandchildren some of our memories and experiences that we have not had a chance to share with them in person. Perhaps you would like to as well. If this – or other – writing ideas appeal to you, please contact Carol Kyner (785-856-1683) or Dianne Sisk (785-749-4601) and let us know you are interested. We are open to meeting times, frequency, and place.

Worship

The new *Glory to God* hymnals are in the pews! We hope you find them easy to use and full of good music! There is still time to “sponsor” one of the hymnals and make a dedication in honor or in memory of someone you love and admire. This hymnal was developed between 2008 and 2012 and was presented to the 220th General Assembly (2012), which commended it for use in the church. Your gift of \$18.00 will cover the cost of one hymnal. Forms for your dedication are on the tables in the Narthex.

Mission

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

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is on the ground in Louisiana providing help to those who have been affected by Hurricane Ida. The initial assessment of the damage is staggering. The needs of those impacted is changing daily because of lack of access to power, refrigeration, water, and housing. This will be a long-term commitment to the people impacted by this catastrophic destruction. They continue to provide assistance to those facing the results of the earthquake in Haiti as well. Your prayers and gifts are welcome and needed as we help those unable to help themselves through these situations. Thank you.

The EcoTeam is having their next meeting on September 11 at 6:00 pm. They will be planning for the January Earth Care Forum, Eco-Treks, cleaning up the butterfly garden and more. You are invited! Contact Thad Holcomb for meeting location. tjholcomb@gmail.com

PC(USA) Celebrates the Season of Peace Sept. 5 - Oct. 3 ending with the Peace and Global Witness Offering: *“For me, peace is the impossible dream that is worth chasing and worth fighting for nonviolently. It’s that time and place when we are no longer violent toward one another and it’s that time and place where social justice will reign supreme. Given those two characteristics, I’m not quite so sure we will ever get there ... but I also believe the evidence in our families and our communities, and our nations does give us evidence that we can establish peace.” Michael G. Long*

What do you think of Mike’s understanding of peace? Do you think peace is achievable? Where do you see evidence in your own life that peace is achievable?

Call to action: Pick one of your favorite books and consider how it explores the themes of peace. Research the author and see how peace and collaboration are reflected in their writing process. Special Offerings “enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.”

Justice Matters September is House Meeting time. Please join in a discussion about justice at one of our in-person meetings:

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|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sunday, September 12: | 2 pm, 1120 Wagon Wheel Rd. |
| Thursday, September 16: | 6 pm, 1120 Wagon Wheel Rd. |
| Thursday, September 30: | 6 pm, by Zoom |

One of our FPC team members will be calling to personally invite you to the justice process at FPC!

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.

Finance and Stewardship Update:

	Budget	Actual
Membership Gifts – August	\$41,625.00	\$46,698.00
Membership Gifts – 2021 - YTD	\$376,900.00	\$352,295.00

Nominating Committee – It is time for nominations for our Church Officers for the Class of 2024! Please consider nominating a Deacon or Elder for a three-year term beginning January 2022 through 2024. Self-nominations are welcome as are nominations of those who are members in our church family you would like to have serve as a Deacon or Elder. Please contact Heather Soper at sopers1973@yahoo.com, Carol Kyner at chaseroo.cat44@gmail.com, or the church office at 785-843-4171 as soon as possible. The nominating committee begins meeting soon! This is a wonderful time to be a leader at FPC!

In the Community

Heartland Camp invites you to a benefit concert – “A Night Under the Stars” – on Thursday, September 9 at 6:00 pm. The concert will be held outside with food, drinks, and a silent auction. Barnaby Bright begins the concert at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$60 in advance and \$70 at the door. Plan to be wowed by the music of Barnaby Bright! You might remember Becky Bliss who sang here for us at FPC while a student at KU several years ago. She and her husband, Nathan Bliss are Barnaby Bright! Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the music at Heartland Center (the lawn of Genesis) at 16965 NW 45 Highway, Parkville, MO. Everyone is welcome!

Family Promise is preparing for their big fund raiser a part of which is a Silent Auction. We, from FPC, have provided a basket of gift cards the last two years and I would like to do the same this year. If you are able and would like to help provide a fantastic gift card basket; please send me either a gift card with amount or send me money and I will purchase gift cards for our basket. Thank you so much for helping to provide for this important ministry of FPC. I need to have your contributions / gift cards by September 12th. Please send cards or money to: Lois Dutcher, 544 Arrowhead Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049. Thanks in advance for your generous gifts! God bless, Lois Dutcher, Family Promise coordinator.

Bert Nash Center – September is **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** and our community has not been immune to student athletes suffering from real mental health conditions. Please join us for a panel discussion focused on athletes and their experiences with mental health. The event will be on Monday, September 20 at 7:00 pm at the Lawrence Arts Center, or virtually from the comfort of your home. Panelists will include:

- Tony Sands, KU Football Alumni and Mental Health Author
- Darrell Stuckey II, KU Director of football Operations
- Samantha Van Hoecke, KU Pole Vaulter
- Daniel Hishaw, KU Football player
- Dr. Mary Fry, KU School of Sports Psychology Professor
- Audrey Trowbridge, Lawrence High School Track Coach, Lawrence Free State Social Worker
- Katie Coldham, Bert Nash Center WRAP Therapist

Masks will be required during the entirety of the event. Registration for this event is highly encouraged at 785-830-1739.

Presbyterian Women announce that **the Fall Rummage Sale has been canceled!** Please know that this was done with the safety of those helping to make the sale happen as well as the shoppers coming to the church taken into consideration. We hope that you will find other worthy places to donate your items.

