

July Newsletter



First Presbyterian Church

400 Lakeview Road, Mexico, Missouri

Phone: 573-581-5689

office@mexicofpc.com

Volume 33, Issue 07

Published Monthly

June 21, 2024

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

Student Ministries Director

Micah McNeal

Organist & Handbells

Barbara Green

Choir Director

Josh Yancey

Administrative

Assistant

Sandy Weber

Financial Secretary

Lori Ray

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service

9:00 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:15 a.m.

High School Youth

7:30 p.m. Sundays

(First Presbyterian Church)

6th—12th Youth

6:00 p.m. Wednesdays

(First Christian Church)

Email:

office@mexicofpc.com

Web page:

www.mexicofpc.com

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/
mexicoFPC](https://www.facebook.com/mexicoFPC)

Wifi: MexicoFPC-Guest

Password: #liv2srv

Guest Writer Rick Presley

From Susan: My oldest brother, Rick, lives in Marengo, Ohio. He's a chemist, former pastor, and guest author for this month's newsletter article.

When Pastor Susan asked me to write a guest piece for the newsletter, she didn't assign a topic. I suggested chlorophyll. She said, "I'm sure you can write 250 words on chlorophyll, but can you make it interesting?"

Challenge accepted.

We are surrounded by chlorophyll and rarely notice it. Even though it is essential for life on this planet – it allows plants to manufacture oxygen from carbon dioxide after all—we take it completely for granted until it starts to disappear. Even then, we never remark on the absence of chlorophyll until Fall, when we notice the brilliant red and orange leaves of the maples, the fiery yellow of the birches, and the burnished gold of the oaks. These colors are present now and all summer long, but we only see them after the daylight shortens and the chlorophyll breaks down at the end of the season.

How is it that we can be surrounded on all sides by something so essential, yet we rarely reflect on it until it's gone? However, if we were to make a list of all the essential things we take for granted, we would soon run out of paper. How often do we notice fresh water, clean air, and sunshine? We rarely think about electricity until it goes out. And then there are the intangible essentials like a mother's love, a child's delight, and a friend's regard that we only stop to ponder after they are gone. The human condition seems hardwired to take the important for granted and pay attention only to the transitory and momentary.

As we enjoy this summer, let us pause a moment to consider these gifts God gives us that tend to escape our notice and thank him for them.

--Rick Presley



JULY WORSHIP
9:00 a.m.

July 7
Scripture—Mark 6:1-13
Sermon—Shake It Off
Preaching—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley



July 14
Scripture—Ephesians 1:3-14
Sermon—We Are Family
Preaching—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

July 21
Scripture—Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
Sermon—Come Away With Me
Preaching—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

July 28
Scripture—John 6:1-15
Sermon—I Ran
Preaching—Rev Dr. Susan Presley

****Session will not meet in July****
FPC offices closed July 4th



JULY SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship 10:00—10:15 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pre K—5th Grade Room 105

Sr. and Mid High Youth Room 300

Theocademy—Fellowship Hall



NEED A RIDE TO/FROM CHURCH?

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SHARE-A-RIDE MINISTRY
Call our dispatcher: 573-936-6625

STREAM SUNDAY WORSHIP ON LINE @ YOU TUBE

If anyone is needing assistance in learning how to stream live services on Sundays, please reach out to Michelle Doolittle with the Outreach Committee. We are offering to come to homes, nursing homes, etc., if needed to assist in learning how to do this.

Our church services are now being streamed live on **You Tube**.

Just go to: www.youtube.com

and search for: **Mexico First Presbyterian Church**.

(We are also on Facebook.)



Scan this QR code with your phone's camera to go directly to site.



KNITWITS PRAYER SHAWLS

The Knit Wits have lovingly crafted prayer shawls for people going through hardships such as times of stress, bereavement, illness and or recovery. Giving a prayer shawl is a thoughtful physical reminder of God's love and prayers being said for a person. There is a supply of shawls in the Board Room.

In Loving Memory

June Memorials

Dick Schmidtke
Bill Rentschler

(These monetary memorials were received since the June newsletter.)

LONG TERM REQUESTS

- Clark Slagle (Bruce & Cheryl Slagle's grandson)
- Jessica Jolly
- Kyler Green (deployment)
- Betty Coari
- Barbara Neumann
- Anna Rentschler
- Carl Smarr
- Rona Wilson
- Bonnie Kimbel
- Katherine Staley
- Bob Kimes (Pam Miller's father)
- Judy Wagner
- Connie Robley
- Jane Cooper (Jody Fetterhoff's sister-in-law)
- Barbara Ray (Freddie Crews' sister)
- Denzil McNeal (Micah's uncle)
- Cole Nettles (Sandy Weber's nephew)
- Linda Baker (Lana Parmenter's sister-in-law)
- Stan Beard Jr (Becky Fischer's brother)
- Nancy Fischer (Scott Fischer's sister in law)
- PK Karrenbrock (Tori Webber's friend)
- Tom Biesemeyer (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Lydia A. Neill (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Don Munford (Robby & Cara Miller's brother in law)
- Dan Kriwiel (Peggie's husband)
- Debra Kreyling
- Lucas Coari
- Luke Pickett
- Judy Lowery (Jody Fetterhoff's sister)
- Bob Wilburn (Janis Strode's son-in-law)
- Cathy Scholz (Betty Coari's friend)





The Green's will be hosting Fellowship on **Sunday, July 14th** to celebrate **Margaret Willows' 98th birthday!!**
Please Join Us!

Blessing Box

July—granola bars, protein bars
August—canned meat (tuna, chicken) and vegetables
September—cereal, oatmeal, crackers
October—soup
November—Pasta, sauce

All donations
Welcome
anytime!



WE
Still
DO.

Scott and Becky Fischer invite you to attend their 50th Anniversary celebration where they will renew their wedding vows.
Saturday, August 3rd
Sanctuary
First Presbyterian Church
No gifts please. Your presence is presents enough.

The Local Missions

Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the **Baby Bundle Offering**. Because of your generosity we were able to give \$803 to local agencies. The money was divided between ACCIS and the Help Center.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 17, 2024

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Mexico, Missouri met on Monday, June 17, 2024. We welcomed Elder Julie Leverenz from First Presbyterian in Bowling Green as a visitor. Elders shared joys and concerns and the moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

The consent agenda was accepted into the record, including prior minutes, financial reports, and the meeting agenda.

Adult Fellowship: Upcoming activities include a trip to the Runge Nature Center on July 18 (see info elsewhere in newsletter for details) and the all church BBQ on August 4.

Adult Education: The summer adult Sunday School class is going well. After it concludes, other classes will resume.

Children's Ministry: Whitney reported that Tri-It camp was very successful. Blessing of the Backpacks and Sunday Sundae will be August 18. Sunday School teacher training will be August 25. The committee needs volunteers for VBS.

Fellowship: On July 14, we will celebrate Marg Willows' 98th birthday at Fellowship Time (hosted by Barb and Bucky Green).

Local Mission: Elaine reported that we are working with Rush Hill on a mission project in which we will provide cookies for 220 mission workers on July 24. The committee is looking for people to donate cookies and help package them for the event.

National and Global Mission: Later in the summer there will be an all-church event where we will assemble disaster kits.

Outreach: Our church will host a tent at the Soybean Festival on August 23 and 24.

Property: The copper work continues. Work on an accessible ramp to the office entrance will begin soon.

Staff & Administration: The search for our next custodian continues.

Youth and Young Adult: Ten students attended the recent mission trip to Moberly. They worked with four different organizations over four days, which was very rewarding for all involved.

New Business: Andrew Cauthorn was elected commissioner to the August Presbytery meeting at Trinity Presbyterian in Columbia, MO. Session will not meet in July.

Clerk's Report: The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was served on June 2, 2024 in worship and at the Kings Daughters Home. Carter Sue Cauthorn was baptized on June 2, 2024. The clerk shared a letter of thanks for financial support from PCUSA: Ministry Engagement and Support.

The meeting closed with a devotion and prayer from Micah McNeal and the meeting was adjourned.





Mission to Mexico

Our church has been asked by the Rush Hill Community to provide snacks for one evening to volunteers who are doing "Mission in Mexico" the week of July 21-26. There are over 200 people coming here to do home repairs and other mission projects. Local Missions and Outreach committees are providing cookies (with your help) on **Wednesday, July 24th**. Any help will be appreciated. Homemade or store bought will be fine. We also need sandwich bags to package them. Contact Elaine Mensching with questions. Please bring the cookies to the office by 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 23rd. Thank you!!!

Editorial—Tender Moments

All of us have tender moments in our lives. They come in almost an infinite variety of ways; thus, they are difficult to define, but you know them when you experience them. Recently I saw a young woman suffering from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) who was interviewed at a Royals baseball game along with her family. In a wheelchair with her head propped up by a brace, she wore a tee shirt that said, "fight like a girl". Her smile brought tears to my eyes.

A couple of Biblical tender moments might be Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well and "The Last Supper".

Often these moments seem to just land on us out of nowhere and at other times we might foster them a little bit. Examples would be giving someone a helping hand during their time of need or congratulations at a time of their success. In all these moments a sense of gratitude to God seems right. Sometimes we are not mindful of the simple and yet profound holy spirit type of moments.

Let's wake up and cherish them.



Mike Briggs

Creeds and Confessions

During our summer Sunday school class, we had a session in which we learned about the PC(USA)'s creeds and confessions. Some 25 years ago, women of our church made beautiful, intricate banners to represent each creed and confession. Those will remain hanging up in Fellowship Hall until our summer adult class ends. It was suggested that each month, we feature one of these banners and an explanation of the symbolism portrayed on them.

The **Nicene Creed** was approved in the 4th century.

The banner shows the cross, which is also a sword. This is a symbol for the Emperor Constantine, and his successors, because he called the ecumenical council which began the process of thinking which resulted in this creed, because he was the first Christian emperor and because he began the tradition of imperial Christianity. The cross is central here because the doctrine of Christ is central in the Creed.

The blue triangle and the three symbols with it symbolize the doctrine of the Trinity, which was formalized in the Nicene Creed.

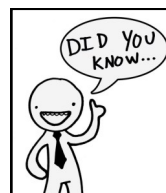
The hand reaching down represents God, the Father.

The Chi Rho monogram represents Christ: The first two letters of the Greek word for Christ, used by Constantine on the shields and helmets of his army.

The dove represents the Holy Spirit.

The crowns represent the rule and glory of God.

The August Newsletter will feature "The Apostles Creed" banner.





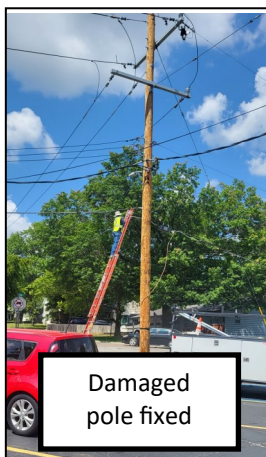
Youth Mission Trip
Community Service Project



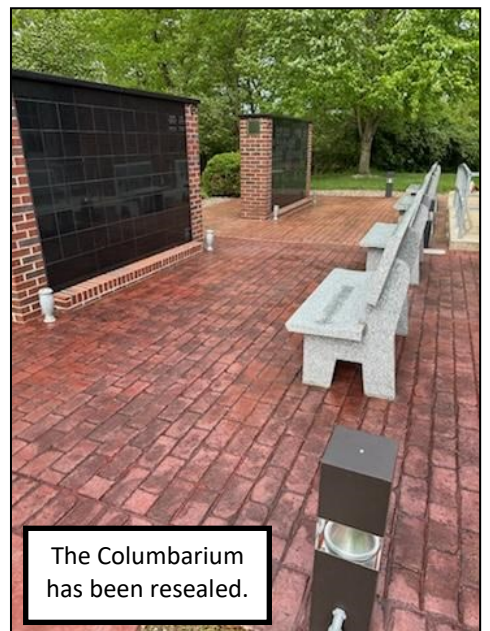
MO Union Presbytery Try It Camp took place from June 7-9, at Camp Jo Ota in Clarence, Missouri. Ask these campers about the fun!



Day 1
Roofers



Damaged
pole fixed



The Columbarium
has been resealed.



Very
noisy week!



There has been so much activity lately at FPC. The Columbarium has been resealed and looks like new. The summer plants are in their pots. The new roof has been installed. The damaged utility pole has been replaced. The sheet metal workers are finishing up on the new gutters and roof flashings. **Look at us go!!!**

Ginger Huddleston	1	Judy Borgia	17
Mac Haag	2	Jody Fetterhoff	22
David Wilkinson	5	Fran Harrison	22
Yvonne Mitchell	6	Zachary Groves	23
Kyler Green	7	Shirley Skinner	23
Taytum Louder	7	Barb Atkinson	26
Jethro McNeal	7	Andy Ekern	26
Linda Huffman	9	Owen Lewis	26
Larry Kimbel	9	Cameron Baumgartner	27
Annette Hatfield	10	Quinton Baumgartner	27
Susan Rothermich	10	Hannah Albin	29
Madison Rice	12	Lawrence Dubbert	29
Everett Toellner	12	Glenn Hatfield	29
Bruce Slagle	13	Linda Charles	30
John Lowry	14	Al Moreau	31
Julie Huffman	15		
Dwight Linnemeyer	16		



Sunday Morning Nursery
 Infants and children are welcome to come and play during worship and/or Sunday school.

Our caregivers are Piper & Margaret.

ELEMENTARY SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Elementary Sunday school will be combined into one class for the summer. We are inviting students that will be in preschool this fall to try out their Sunday school class this summer during the months of June and July. Class will meet in room 105. We will not have elementary Sunday school in August. Instead, we will have teacher training, VBS and our Back to School Kick-off!



Bring your backpacks to church on August 18th, to receive a blessing for the new school year during the Children's Moment! Then,,,

,,,join us during Fellowship time for ice cream because it is Sundaes Sunday!!



**Mexico United Methodist Church
 August 11, 12, 13**



Contact Micah, Whitney or Stephanie if you are interested in volunteering at this years spectacular VBS. Sign up at Mexicofpc.com or this QR



Kids for Christ Art
Your Circle Matters
 Fellowship Hall



LUNCH BUNCH

The June Lunch Bunch met at The Oaks (left). Join us in July at: **DAGWOOD JR**



**Wednesday
July 17th, 2024
Join us!**

Stephen Ministers are trained to be CONFIDENTIAL and compassionate listeners to persons experiencing special needs.

If you or someone you know could use the care of a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Susan or send your name and phone number to the church in care of "Stephen Ministry, Confidential," 400 Lakeview Rd., Mexico, MO 65265.



RUNGE NATURE CENTER EXCURSION



The Adult Fellowship Committee is hosting a trip to **Runge Nature Center** on Thursday, July 18th at 4:30 p.m. Call the office to sign up.

BUDGET REPORT As of 6.17.2024

INCOME	Actual \$	Budget for Year \$	Actual vs Budget %
Pledged Giving	\$138,874.19	\$325,000	42.73%
Non pledged	\$46,370.46	\$87,250	53.15%
Other Income	\$9,607.88	\$12,750	75.36%
Total all income	\$194,852.53	\$425,000	45.85%
EXPENSES			
Administration	\$1,682.37	\$6,050	27.81%
Adult Ministries	\$331.89	\$850	39.05%
Children's Ministry	\$584.34	\$4,000	14.61%
Local Mission	\$3,486.68	\$13,000	26.82%
National & Global Mission	\$17,640.00	\$42,280	41.72%
Other programs	\$1,549.37	\$3,500	44.27%
Outreach	\$586.20	\$2,200	26.65%
Property	\$31,453.13	\$66,810	47.08%
Personnel	\$141,834.01	\$318,548	44.53%
Technology	\$4,621.89	\$8,000	57.77%
Worship	\$1,817.20	\$4,500	40.38%
Youth & Young Adult Ministries	\$950.74	\$6,000	15.85%
Total all expenses	\$206,537.82	\$475,738	43.41%

ALL CHURCH BAR-B-Q

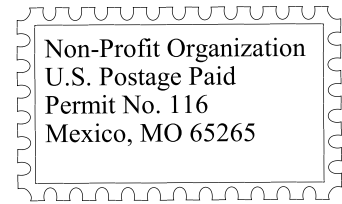


**Sunday
August 4th
@
10:30 a.m.**

No Sunday School


First Presbyterian Church

400 Lakeview
Mexico, MO 65265



Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

2024	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Liturgist	Lana Parmenter	Bucky Green	Scott Fischer	Larry Webber
Children's Message	Steve Haag	Lana Parmenter	Micah McNeal	Deb Haag
Flowers	Stuart & Pam Miller	Atkins Olivers	Jody Fetterhoff	Don & Nancy Decker
Ushers	Jason Lamb Vanessa Lamb Whitney Lewis Charleigh Lewis	Bruce Oliver Nancy Oliver Bill Woods Linda Woods Kyle Louder Koven Louder	Mark Schnake Kim Sydenstricker Ashleigh Rice Madison Rice	Mark Schnake Paul Parmenter Lana Parmenter Donna Haerer Stephanie Robinett Raigan Robinett
	Communion Servers Robby Miller Whitney Lewis Stephanie Robinett Mike Briggs Jim Bruner	Communion Preparer Tori Webber	July Deacon Of the Month Elliot Rice	