



First Associate Reformed PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Newsletter

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July 6, 2016

No. 24

From the Pastor:

Dear Congregation,

I hope that you have had an enjoyable holiday. It is good to reflect on our many blessings and holidays for observance and memory are helpful for doing so.

We are blessed to live in our nation. It certainly has its faults and imperfections. All that aside, we ought to be grateful that we can worship, live and act according to the Scriptures without fear of injury or death. So many around the world fear or experience persecution while others taste death for their faith and life in godliness.

In the midst of our striving to live as Christian pilgrims and exiles, our Savior taught us that there would be trouble. And so his gift to us to assist and bring us safely home is the ministry of the church, the voice of his Scriptures, the Holy Spirit's guidance and our common life together in fellowship and service.

We are not to be troubled, cast down and in despair when events or election cycles in this life don't seem to go our way. God is always at work!

God is always at work and he is building his kingdom, his church! He promised to his people that he would be a God to them and that his ultimate goal was to dwell with them in eternity. The apostle Paul well reminds us of this in Romans 8, encouraging us that we who are united to Christ will never be separated from him or his love!

As many of you may be aware, our heating and air conditioning systems in the education hallway and fellowship hall have provided inadequate cooling for some time. Our Deacons have been diligently studying the issue for the last many months, discerning whether or not to repair or replace the systems. Noting the age of the systems (over 22 years old) and the potential length of service from costly interim repairs, they have opted to replace both systems at a modest cost to the church.

The replacement of the systems will take a week to complete and since it is likely that the work will not be complete in time for our planned luncheon on Sunday, July 17, we will postpone the luncheon until the conditions and timing are favorable. Please be sure to thank your Deacons for their labors!

On Sunday, we will welcome our newest members to the church. Mike and Mary Peppo come to us from the Orthodox Presbyterian Church where they worshipped in their previous home state of Ohio. Mike was transferred to Burlington to work for Honda Aero and Mary is an assistant with a local realtor. Please welcome them officially to our congregation!

The Limons will be making their annual summer trip to Mexico to serve a music camp with Mission to the World and the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). As we end our service on Sunday, we will send them out with our prayers and blessings to serve. The church has supplied their financial needs for travel and ministry expenses. Let's now be sure to pray for them as each day they give of themselves to the people of God. And don't forget Kelly Limon is now a week in Honduras serving the church.

This Sunday's sermon will be from James 4:11-12. The half brother of Jesus and apostle of the church speaks much about how we use our tongues. We will consider how misuse of our tongues shows disregard for many important areas of the Christian life. In the evening, we will consider one of the great Psalms - Psalm 19. In it, David describes the two ways God speaks to us. He shows evidence of himself in creation and he most specifically shows evidence of his saving ways through his Holy Word.

Blessings to you and see you on Sunday!

MEN'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Men's Lunch will meet Monday, July 11 at Noon at Southbound Sandwich Works. Our discussion will be chapter 6 in *Masculine Mandate*.

Men's Gathering. Men's Thursday evening gathering will be Thursday, July 14 at 7 PM at Panera Bread. Our discussion will be chapter 3 in *Masculine Mandate*.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

The fifth First Presbyterian Women's Ministries Retreat will be held this fall at Bonclarken on November 4-5.

The theme for the retreat is God's Marvelous Grace. Barbara Duguid who has written the book *Extravagant Grace*, will share her story of God's amazing grace. The purpose of this retreat is to grow in our understanding of God's Word and to have fellowship with our sisters across the Presbytery. The annual meeting for the Presbyterian is part of the retreat this year and is to be held after lunch on Saturday.

Details regarding the retreat are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. We hope you will consider joining us again for a time of Bible study, renewal and fellowship.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Leadership Training is scheduled for July 11 at 7 PM at the church.

Women's *Extravagant Grace* book study will meet on July 12 at 7 PM at the church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FIRST ARP

July

- 11 Men's Lunch
- 11 Women's Ministry Leadership Training
- 12 Women's *Extravagant Grace* Book Study, 7 PM
- 14 Men's Evening Gathering
- 21 Stated Session Meeting
- 31 5th Sunday Hymn Sing and Social, 6 PM

August

- 2 Women's Ministry Leadership Training
- 7 Lord's Supper
- 8 Men's Lunch
- 9 Women's *Extravagant Grace* Book Study, 7 PM
- 11 Men's Evening Gathering
- 13 Women's Tea
- 18 Joint Officer & Stated Session Meeting
- 21 Ministry Fair

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Tom Childrey	7/2
Lynne Causey	7/5
Jamie Terry	7/8
Liam Hutelmyer	7/11
Owen Constable	7/13
Bryan Ickes	7/13
McKenna Constable	7/14
Chris Hutelmyer	7/14
Kathryn Richardson	7/15
Erik Ensley	7/16
Jondeen Terry	7/16
Ferald Mann	7/18
Patrick Crotts	7/24
Laurie Isley	7/30
Clay McPherson	7/30
Kevin Limon	7/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Tim & Betty Bessette (44)	7/1
Dick & Cyndy Wright (39)	7/2
George & Mary Lou McKinney	7/26
Donald & Sandy Childrey	7/29

Congratulations!

Kasey Kyaw Burwell and Weston Held became engaged on July 2. Kasey is the daughter of Jan Kyaw Burwell and niece of Steve Kyaw.

Mid-Year Contribution Statements

Please pick up your statement of contributions in the Fellowship Hall.

Nursery:

July 10:
July 17: Macon Baird & Vicki McPherson

Counter:

July 10: Ferald Mann
July 17: John Robinson

Deacon Duty:

July 10: Glenn Owens
July 17: Stephen Robinson

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