

The Church & You August 2018

First Presbyterian Church Oklahoma City



Hello. As I sit to put pen to paper and recall the events of the summer so far, I am humbled and amazed at the Holy Spirit's activity within the life of our church and the lives of our members.

This summer began with a fond farewell to **Sean Smith**, our youth intern, as he uses his gifts at Dwight mission this summer. We look forward to his return to us at the end of the summer. A huge thank you to **Megan Francis** for volunteering to lead the Children's Church time in his absence. Megan, we thank you so much for your dedication, leadership, and love that you so freely share with our young disciples.

Five of our young people including my daughter began this summer by participating in a two-week Leadership In Training program at **Dwight Mission**. Several other children and youth have spent weeks there this summer. It was **Aidan's** first time at Dwight, and it was a joy to see her experience the *Dwight Mission Magic* that has been such an important part of the faith development of so many of our members. Kudos to members **Lexi Hurley, Jack Sergent**, and Sean Smith for serving on camp staff this season.

We also kicked off the summer joining with **Westminster** Presbyterian for Vacation Bible School. Hero Central was a huge success. In addition to our own children we were able to include the **SPARK** Camp kids in the program. Thank you to all those who supported us with your participation and to those who helped provide leadership.

Then it was off to Denver for a week-long mission trip with 11 of our youth and **Wes and Lacey Howard**. It was a very challenging and highly rewarding experience. We all took away a clearer understanding of the issues surrounding homelessness and urban poverty. In addition to the physical labor done at some sites, there were also powerful opportunities to meet homeless people of all ages and to hear their stories. We all came home with special memories of people like Katherine the Great and unexpected conversations with them. Thank you so much to Wes and Lacey for making this experience possible for our youth.

As we look forward towards summer's end and the routine of the school year beginning, I am extremely excited to welcome the **EL Sistema** program to First Presbyterian Church. What an incredible opportunity and blessing to be able to use this facility so fully in the development of children and youth. EL Sistema in addition to our SPARK program and school will allow the church building to support programs that intersect in the lives of children in three very different, unique, and life-changing ways. Many people have worked very hard to bring about this opportunity. Thank you to all involved, especially **Janet Eselin, Ron Grace, Jack Lancaster, Dan MacLemore**, and **Richard Riggs**.

The fall certainly looks busy and bright for **First Presbyterian Church!** Thanks be to God for opportunities put before us, wisdom to recognize them, and faith to be and do all that God intends for us as individual disciples and as a church. Peace in Christ,

Pastor John

Kemp Concert Series 2018-2019 Season

The coming season of performances on the Kemp Concert Series features diverse, exciting performances: multiple Grammy-winning, internationally renowned ensemble Chanticleer, as well as the 4x4 concert, Tactus, Westminster Choir from Westminster Choir College, and Handel's Messiah!

For details about the full season of performances on the Kemp Concert Series, visit www.kempconcerts.org.

Sing Handel's Messiah

Join singers from across OKC for this exciting performance by the Kemp Concert Choir! Interested singers affiliated with FPC do not need to audition—just email puffer@fpcokc.org. For information—including the full schedule of rehearsals—visit www.kempconcerts.org/concert-choir.html



Choirs and Handbells

All FPC choirs resume rehearsals in August – no auditions necessary! All skill levels are welcome to share in the fellowship of music!

Sanctuary Singers (adult choir)
rehearse Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.
beginning August 15th.

Sanctuary Ringers (handbells)
rehearse Thursdays 5:30-6:15 p.m.
beginning August 23rd.

Youth Chorale (6th-12th grade)
rehearses Sundays 12:15-1:00 p.m.
beginning August 19th.

Treble Choir (Kindergarten-5th grade)
rehearses as part of the Sunday
School time (9:40-10:45 a.m.)
beginning August 26th.

Contact Puffer (puffer@fpcokc.org or 605-4458) with any questions.

Prayer Ministry

Greetings from the Deacons. This is Jamie Slade. The Deacons, in collaboration with Pastor John, developed and adopted a new Ministry of Care plan for the diaconate. A vital part of the ministry of care is our prayer ministry. There are two opportunities available to all church members who wish to be a part of this important ministry. Please consider joining our prayer chain and/or receiving the prayer list.

The **Prayer Chain** is a weekly email update of those with acute prayer needs or request for the coming week. Prayer Chain recipients agree to pray daily for the concerns listed for that week.

The **Prayer List** is a monthly update of those with continuing prayer needs or requests. It is available in print or by email to the congregation. Those receiving the Prayer List are asked to remember those listed in your regular prayer life and to pray for each person listed individually by name at least weekly.

I am excited to be the prayer ministry coordinator. Please contact me by e-mail, jme14@sbcglobal.net to volunteer to receive the prayer chain and/or the prayer list. Also, please contact me by email or phone **(405) 751-3772** if you have a request for either list.

The Message translation of Philippians 4:6 states it well. *Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.* -Jamie Slade



SPARK Now Enrolling for Before-School and After-School Care!

We still have space available for children in grades Pre-K–8th! SPARK can pick up or drop off at 15 different schools in our area. Here at SPARK children will have the opportunity to experience the Arts, be engaged through Science experiments, get help with homework, gain knowledge by working with a tutor, make great friends while having fun and playing games, and get time to just be a kid!

If you or someone you know is looking for a great program to get their child plugged into after school we would love to talk to you!

To get more information, to schedule a tour, or to enroll your child, please send us an email at tish@fpcokc.org give us a call at (405) 525-0018.

Schools SPARK can drop off or pick up from:

- Bishop John Carroll School
- Classen SAS
- Cleveland Elementary
- Dove Science Academy
- Edgemere Elementary (David R. Lopez Community School)
- Eugene Field Elementary
- Gatewood Elementary
- Horace Mann Elementary
- John Rex Charter School
- Putnam Heights Elementary
- Sequoyah Elementary (a.m. only)
- Trinity School
- Wilson Elementary



For Women of All Ages

Presbyterian Women (PW) at First Presbyterian Church is an amazing and diverse group of women coming together in a spirit of service and fellowship.

This year we are expanding and venturing out with some new events, while continuing to honor traditions that have made PW so rewarding and memorable.

We hope you will come to our kick-off lunch on Sunday, August 26th after church to learn about the fabulous year we have planned, as well as hear from Madelaine and Sarah about their experiences at the PW National Gathering this summer.

A babysitter will be provided! If you need a ride home after lunch don't worry we will get you home.



Blessing of the Animals

-save the date-

Sunday, October 7th

2 p.m.

FPC Courtyard



We extend Christian sympathy to the family of Nancy Wienecke.

FREE



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Disney · PIXAR
MONSTERS UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 10TH

8:00 P.M.

COURTYARD

Popcorn & drinks provided!

KirkNight

Wednesday night August 29th at 5:30 p.m. starts our fall Wednesday KirkNight season.

Please come and join the fun and games and catered dinner! We are hoping to appeal to everyone, so give it a try. We are starting out with a Family Trivia Game Fun. It is intergenerational and NOT limited to families! So whether your 'family' is ten, or just yourself, you will have a great time. We will pair singles and couples with others so each 'family' team will have a range of ages. While one team member may know who the Trans Siberian Orchestra is, another may not know who built the pyramids (spoiler— it was the aliens), while only a child may know who Vampirina is (I'm not telling). There will be prizes!

Jenn from Junebug Catering is preparing an all-age special meal for opening night; salad, pasta and sauce, meatballs, and a grand finale dessert— MAKE YOUR OWN SUNDAE! Price is still \$7 per adult, \$4 per child-under 12, with a maximum of \$20 per family. You cannot get a better meal at a restaurant or make it for less at home. So mark your calendar and be there or be square.

Call church to RSVP for dinner or just the game, (405) 525-6584.

First Presbyterian Church of Oklahoma City
1001 NW 25th Street at Western Avenue www.fpcokc.org

-Walter W. Stumpf Jr., KirkNight Coordinator

Fun Volunteering Together

Our August Reserve the 3rd Saturday mission opportunity will take us to Urban Mission, 3737 N. Portland, Oklahoma City. We'll meet in the warehouse at 9:00 am Saturday, August 18, 2018 and complete tasks as assigned! Whether it's filling the pantry shelves, bagging bottled water or packaging bulk rice, the volunteers always have a good time working together. This is a great opportunity to see where our "Fill a Bag, Feed a Family" food donations are distributed and witness your mission dollars being used. If you have questions, contact Roane Pittman, johnpittmanmd@pnfmc.com

First Presbyterian Church

1001 NW 25th Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

405.525.6584
www.fpcokc.org

Pastor—The Rev. John McKinnon
Director of Music & Arts—Dr. Warren Puffer Jones
Organist—John L. Edwards
Communications Director—Kathy P. Rangel
Business Administrator—Becki Walden
Facilities Coordinator—Jack Lancaster

Non-Profit Org.
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Sunday Worship Hours

8:30 a.m. Chapel

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

El Sistema Comes to First Pres!



El Sistema, an ensemble-based music program for 220 children, will be in session here at First Presbyterian five days a week during the Oklahoma City Public School year.

We will start seeing activity in early August, with the full program up and running on

August 13th. The children will be dropped off by public school busses and will be in the building from about 3:00 to 6:00 Monday through Friday. They will be fed a large “snack,” spend time studying and receiving tutoring, until about 4:30 at which time they will divide up into 20+ practice and music education spaces in our building. There will be some rooms dedicated to El Sistema’s use but most of the spaces will be converted on a daily basis by El Sistema staff to their needs and then back to ours between 6:00 and 6:30.

We are excited to host this program. It will have its challenges but those of us who have worked with El Sistema over the last month are very impressed with their level of commitment and professionalism. So...if you are in the hall at 5:00 one afternoon and hear oboes in one room, violins in another, and clarinets in a third, this is why. No longer will we lament that this magnificent building is under-utilized during the week! Their website is www.elsistemaok.org

-Dan MacLemore, Nurture Committee Chair



Sunday School Rally Day ADVENTURE Sunday, August 19th

Paul the Apostle had a quest. A quest to spread the news about Jesus around the world. Are you ready to begin a quest of your own? Meet us in Watchorn Hall at 9:30 for a free and delicious breakfast (catered breakfast for all ages).

Your adventure will begin immediately following. Children who attend will be given the necessary equipment for a special adventure geared for them. Mark your calendars, synchronize your watches, pack your compass and join us Sunday the 19th. -Cyndi Stumpf