

First Presbyterian Church

OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Newsletter

June 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

The Session has approved congregational worship to resume June 7. We reopen our Sanctuary to a very different world than we closed it to following the benediction on March 15. The following temporary guidelines will be in place beginning June 7:

1. If a member, or someone in a member's circle, is or has been ill, please stay home.
2. Masks are required while in the building. Masks will be available for those who do not have one.
3. Service will continue to be livestreamed on our website and Facebook for those who are unable to attend.
4. Seating will be limited. Starting with front pews, every third pew will be open for seating. Six feet of distancing in pews is required between individuals or family groups.
5. Family groups living under the same roof are encouraged to sit together.
6. Ushers will help explain social distancing procedures by giving instruction to congregants as they enter the Sanctuary.
7. No food or drink served in the Reception Center on Sunday mornings.

8. During the summer:
 - a. the Passing of the Peace will be a responsive greeting
 - b. the offering will be collected as worshipers exit the Sanctuary
 - c. the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be suspended
9. During the summer, there will be no:
 - a. Choir
 - b. Nursery
 - c. Children's Church
10. There will be one Sunday service, in the Sanctuary, at 11:00 a.m.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we reopen responsibly. God bless you.

-Rev. John C. McKinnon

Summer Christian Education Plans

Because there are still a multitude of unknowns about how things will progress over the next several months, both from a guidance and a comfort-level perspective, the plans for this summer are:

- No in-person Sunday School until Rally Day (August 16).
- Adult classes may continue with Zoom or not—their choice.
- The policy does not preclude adult classes meeting in a venue that lends itself to social distancing.

The church will continue to facilitate adult Sunday School via Zoom.

The practicality of a late summer Vacation Bible School is being evaluated. Stay tuned for further news.

SPARK Summer Camp

Summer SPARK started June 1 and runs through July 31! We have procedures in place for staff, students and parents to minimize the health risk while providing a very valuable service to the community.

SPARK will limit enrollment to 36 students, divided into four “family groups,” supervised by the same teacher every day. Additional staff will help with breaks, recreation and other as-needed responsibilities. At this time, volunteers will not be used in order to help minimize the health risk to all.

SPARK shared in the SBA PPP money granted to the church and was able to keep staff employed during the past two months and those staff members will be working during the summer session.

I imagine I speak for you all in saying that we are thrilled that SPARK is back! We look forward to being able to support the program as volunteers and tutors when the fall session gets underway.

Best wishes for your summer—keep healthy!

Thanks always,
Elizabeth Hatcher

THERE’S STILL TIME TO ENROLL!

SPARK still has spots remaining if you or anyone you know is looking for child care. The SPARK program provides children with the opportunity to experience the arts, engage with science experiments and make great friends while having fun and playing games!

Call 405-525-0018 or email Tish (tish@fpcokc.org) for more information.

All-day Care: \$140 per week

Enrollment Fee: \$55 per child

Online Services

We are very blessed to have the ability to livestream worship services. We are also very grateful to Mickie and Sophia Smith. Mickie and Sophia have been behind the soundboard and camera for every service throughout our time of separation and continue to do so. They have done a truly amazing job making the most of our limited equipment. Thank you, Team Smith!

Livestreaming of our Sanctuary worship services will continue. We encourage you to worship with us remotely if you are not feeling well or are not comfortable being out in the community.

The easiest way to access our online service is by visiting our website (fpcokc.org) and clicking on the “Worship Live” button. Once there, click the play button on the video. On the same page, we also have the Sunday bulletin available to view or print; simply click the “Bulletin” button.

We are also airing our services on Facebook Live! Simply go to our [Facebook page](#) a few minutes before 11:00 a.m. on Sunday and our live video will be available.

Giving

Online: The first is through the Venmo app, which can be easily downloaded to any smartphone or tablet. You will need to set up an account and then it’s as simple as typing “fpcokc” into the search and clicking “Pay.”

Our second method is through our website. If you visit fpcokc.org and click the “Give” button on the home page, you will be taken to our online platform. If you haven’t given online before, click “Create Profile” and it will walk you through the process.

By mail: A check sent through the mail to 1001 NW 25th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73106. You can send it to the attention of Becki Walden.

Presbyterian Women (PW)

Upcoming Circle Meetings

Priscilla - Tuesday, June 9 | 10:00 a.m.

[Zoom Link](#) (no password)

Meeting ID: 844 6934 1379

Phoebe - Tuesday, June 9 | 2:30 p.m.

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 862 2398 8503

Password: Phoebe

Abigail - Tuesday, June 16 | 6:30 p.m. (tentatively)

[Zoom Link](#) (no password)

Meeting ID: 878 6072 5178



For more information about how to use Zoom or access the meeting, please contact your Circle leader or Blake Barrett (blake@fpcokc.org).

Children & Youth

Unraveled Study - Wednesday, June 10 | 4:00 p.m.

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 843 9977 7307

Password: 586876

High School Youth will begin this study together on Wednesday, June 10. This is in place of regular Sunday School for the summer.

We will start off meeting online by Zoom, but may move to meeting outside at a social distance later in the summer.

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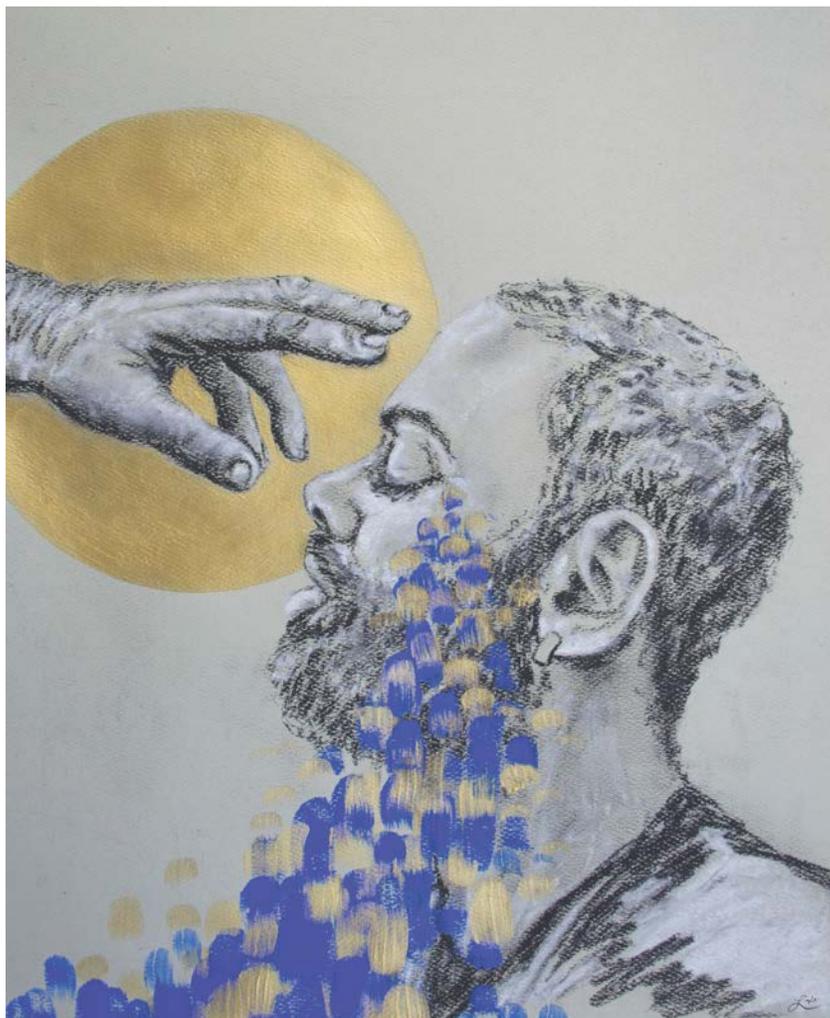
The study is filled with beautiful artwork that participants are encouraged to contemplate before reading the lesson.

Leigh will make copies of the study journal and provide them to participants. Let her know if you would like to participate.

While this is a Youth study, everyone is welcome to join us!

Kirk Kids Sunday School

Each week Leigh creates and sends out an online Sunday School lesson for parents and kids to do together.



Senior Recognition - Sunday, June 28 | 11:00 a.m.

Senior Recognition Sunday has been rescheduled for June 28. It is the tradition at FPCOKC to honor our graduates on Senior Recognition Sunday with a congregational luncheon following worship.

This year, we will not be able to have a congregational luncheon, so we want to give you an opportunity to send in a greeting for them to receive that day.

Our five seniors are Hannah Lusby, Aidan McKinnon, Caroline Rogers, Justine Rogers and Sophia Smith.

We invite members of the congregation to write notes of wisdom and encouragement, as well as some “remember whens” that we can put together and give to them on Senior Recognition Sunday. The Class of 2020 has had a year unlike any other. Let’s give them a celebration unlike any other too! They are really looking forward to hearing from their church family.

Please send all your cards and letters to the church office by June 15.

Address:

1001 NW 25th St.

OKC, OK 73106

For more information on any of the previously mentioned events, please email Leigh Miller (leigh@fpcokc.org) or let her know in the Youth GroupMe (search for “First Pres OKC Youth” in the GroupMe app).

Events are being added or adjusted to suit everyone’s needs so follow the [Youth page](#) (@fpcokcyouth) on Facebook to stay up to date!

Pentecost Banner

Check out our Pentecost banner!

Leigh delivered different sections of our banner to nine different families and the result was this colorful mosaic.

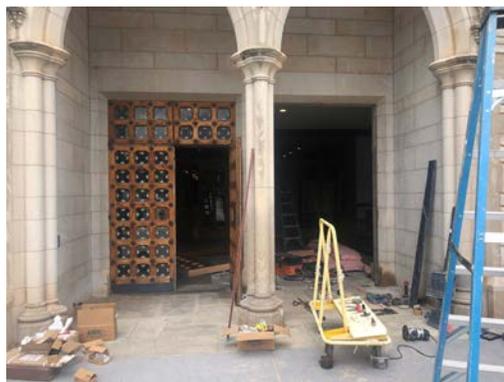
We are very grateful that we were able to color together, while apart.



Watchorn Hall Entrance Renovation



Step 1



Step 2

The Watchorn Hall entrance doors got some much needed love. We're so thankful for our beautiful building!



Step 3

Finding Peace in the Pandemic

Dan MacLemore

Peace in the time of pandemic...at the MacLemore house, there has not been as much unrest or change as there has been for many households. We have pretty much carried on as usual with certain cautions and intentional behaviors that are different.

I still do yard work, including tending to my plots in the Community Garden, and I have taken a couple classes from "Great Courses."

Carren is immersed in quilting. She has started and finished one and started another. She "lap quilts," but this really means that it is spread out over the dining table—a calming activity for her and nice to watch the progress for me.

We have enjoyed staying connected with Zoom Sunday School and livestreamed worship. We do try to keep our trips to the store to a minimum, wearing masks, and for Carren, gloves.

For me, these precautions are mostly for consciousness-raising. I try not to get upset with those in the store that are going the wrong way down aisles, not wearing masks and otherwise not behaving the way I think they should...the reopening of the municipal golf courses was a big event a couple of weeks ago!

Leigh Miller

When I was asked to reflect on the last two and a half months of pandemic lockdown, I pulled out my trusty journal to see what kind of things I had recorded. I bullet journal, so for those of you who don't know about bullet journaling; I log my daily to do's, my appointments, my Bible study and any other extraneous stuff in a small journal.

I admit that some days I am better about keeping up with this discipline than others. I logged entries about trying to figure out how to do my church work while not being able to see people face to face. There were lots of prayers on my prayer pages. Prayers for disappointed youth, confused and/or suffering friends, and doctors and medical workers.

Some days I recorded some pretty powerful words from my Daily Lectio:

- Wednesday 4-8-2020 – “The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.” – Isaiah 50:4a
- Thursday 4-9-2020 – “By this everyone will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” – John 13

I discovered that I like my family. I love being home with them. Mitch and I were like...do we have to go back into the world...really? There is stress that comes with the unknown and asking, “What are we going back to?”

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But as life begins to get back to whatever normal is now, my prayer for all of us is that we be very intentional about what that new normal will be. I pray that we don't forget what we learned while we were locked down, and just go back to business as usual. Business as usual was pretty broken and we were pretty tired.

I pray that we have been equipped for the work of the Gospel in what will be a very different world than the one we left (physically, not virtually) back in March.

Deacons' Back-to-School Lunch

Sunday, July 19

The Deacons will be hosting our traditional Back-to-School lunch and school supply drive benefitting The Urban Mission, but with a slightly different twist this year.

Because of COVID-19, we will not be able to gather in Watchorn Hall for a catered lunch. Instead, we will provide a delicious to-go boxed lunch prepared by Junebug Catering.

On Sunday, July 19, please bring your school supply donation with you to church, drop it off after service, and we will provide you and your family with a to-go lunch. If you're not comfortable attending church at that time, and have supplies or funds you'd like to donate to The Urban Mission, you can also contact the church office the week before and pick up your to-go lunch in a designated drive through area.

With COVID-19 affecting so many families in our community, our Back-to-School drive will be more important than ever. We look forward to your continued participation and support!

More details about a lunch sign-up and "wish-list" items of particular need will be provided in a few weeks, so keep an eye out for more details in the Weekly E-blast and next month's newsletter.

FPS Update

After much deliberation First Presbyterian School has made the difficult decision to cancel our Summer 2020 Camp program out of an abundance of caution for our clients and staff.

We will instead be using this time to re-examine some of our practices and put policy into place to best protect our population and the greater First Presbyterian Church community with whom we share many of our spaces.

We look forward to fully reopening our doors for the Fall 2020 semester on August 12. Until then, be well and thank you for your continued support!

For more information regarding Fall 2020 enrollment contact Lanie Denner, FPS Director (lanie@fpcokc.org).

June Birthdays

Happy birthday to all!

01: Ted Streuli

02: Kay Brown,
Judy Riggs

03: Bruce Barton,
Don Carter,
Danny Olvera,
Conner Broadhead,
Travis Ellis

04: Keith Vermilyea

05: Sheri Boughman

06: Rene Vassar,
Aaron Kabrick,
Virginia Aguilar

07: Albert Aguilar,
Stephanie Joosten

08: Cameron Hall

11: Braden Hall

12: Cyndi Adams

15: Trasen Akers

16: Sean Johnson,
Sean Smith,
Caroline Rogers,
Justine Rogers

17: Aidan McKinnon

18: Bud McLean

19: Lisa Rudolph,
Judy Glaspey,
Hans Fokum

21: Lisa Turner,
Cecilia Collins,
Sarah Gray

22: Bette Kinghorn

23: George Gibson,
Nicole Keesee

24: Viva Johnson,
Janet Neufeld

25: Kathy Etherton

26: Salli Denner,
Jamie Keith

27: Zachary Black,
Craig Wright

28: Beth Pemberton,
Jonathan Sergent

29: Jim Kunkel

30: Chloe Whittington

First Presbyterian Church
1001 NW 25th Street
Okalahoma City, Oklahoma 73106
405-525-6584
fpcokc.org



All are welcome! First Presbyterian Church is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

For more information, please contact the church office at 405-525-6584 or email office @fpcokc.org

Or Current Resident

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