



# First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Newsletter

August 2020

## COVID-19 Task Force

Since the formation of the Task Force in early July, the only thing that has been constant is the change in the atmosphere surrounding the pandemic.

Local, state and national conditions have not improved and the Task Force has responded to several needs associated with FPCOKC.

The parent of two SPARK kids tested positive for coronavirus. The children were withdrawn from SPARK, and the Task Force reviewed the practices that SPARK was following and made suggestions for enhancement.

We reviewed and affirmed a letter and outline of proposed practices for FPS as they look to open in August.

We also continue to affirm the wisdom of limited in-person worship, remote Sunday School and safety practices by staff and visitors to the building for the foreseeable future.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me or any of the Task Force members.

Be healthy and be safe,

Dan MacLemore, Task Force Moderator

## Music Department

August is usually the month when singers and handbell ringers dust off their robes and bells (and voices!), resume rehearsing and bring choir and ensemble music to the FPC worship experience. But since music-making typically involves people in close proximity to one another, and since research suggests that singing in particular can increase risks of exposure to COVID-19, we are proceeding with great caution.

There is research currently underway, spearheaded by several music teaching organizations in collaboration with some university science departments, looking into how in-person music-making can be done safely. We are awaiting those results, and we look forward to the time when we can resume our usual practices.

We are very grateful to our staff of soloists who, though they can't replace the Sanctuary Singers, have been providing great music for FPC worship services this spring and summer: Cady Lewis, Cora Winstead, Andrew Keeler and Mitchell Gage.

Extra special thanks goes to Mickie Smith for her dedication to providing great audio and video for in-person and streaming worship!

-Dr. Warren Puffer Jones, Director of Music

## Kemp Concert Series

Planning for the 2020-2021 season of the Kemp Concert Series is still taking place, but we are waiting to announce any performances until it is clear that these events can take place safely. Stay tuned to the FPC newsletter and social media as well as [www.kempconcerts.org](http://www.kempconcerts.org) for more information as it becomes available.

## KirkNight To-go Begins Wednesday, August 12!

# Presbyterian Women (PW)

**Priscilla Circle - Tuesday, August 11 | 10:00 a.m.**

[Zoom Link](#) (no password)

Meeting ID: 841 2021 5474

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

## Endowment Fund

We all have dreams of a better tomorrow, and that's where the establishment of an endowment fund begins at FPC. The creation of these funds help to perpetuate the mission of the church for years to come. If you're interested or have any questions about endowment funds at FPC, please contact Ken Brown (405-206-6454) or Sam Dykeman (405-721-8552).

### August Birthdays

Happy birthday to all!

**01:** Mike Seagraves

**02:** Pat McClure

**03:** Lynne Bosse

**04:** Chilly Akers

**05:** Betsey Streuli,  
Liz Wright

**06:** JoAnn Holden

**07:** K. Alexandra Crawford

**09:** DiAnne Bryant,  
Angie Sholar

**10:** Jacqueline Johnson

**11:** Camac Carisoza,  
Steve Joosten

**12:** Jason Riggs

**14:** Leslie Denner,  
Bill Hancock,

Melissa Hancock,  
Randi Lancaster

**15:** Chester Cromwell

**16:** Paula Grace,  
Raymond Streuli,  
Barry Whittington

**17:** Jack Nelson

**20:** Vinnie Vincent

**21:** Dave Cochrane,  
Jordyn Hirschler,  
Callie Podsezertsev

**22:** Darci McKinnon,  
Lane Weaver

**24:** Don Glaspey  
Alexander Altdoerffer

**25:** Dee Dee Burkhart,  
Mark Nelson,  
Mickie Smith

**26:** Robert Keeton

**27:** Mary Oppegard

**28:** Linda Parsons

**29:** Michael Aguilar,  
James Herider

**30:** Sam Dykeman,  
Wendy Gabrielson,  
Greg Robertson

**31:** Bob Pitts

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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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## FPS Update

We spent our time off this summer planning, studying and praying about when and how to safely reopen our school. We are happy to announce an on-time start date of August 12! We have implemented tons of new safety and cleaning protocols and we're confident and excited to welcome our students back.

You may also notice some changes on our playground. Yes, over the past two years we saved and fund-raised money specifically designated for our playground renovation project. Phase one is underway. We are starting school with a brand-new, park-like surface on our north playground. Yay!

Please keep our school in your prayers as we begin the new school year. Thank you for your continued love and support.

-Lanie Denner, FPS Director