

**First
Presbyterian
Church**

**Church
Happenings**

**The church
will not be
open for
worship
services
through July**

**Church
on the
Web!**

**Service
Sunday
mornings
starting
at 9 a.m.**

Website:
www.fpcgburg.org

Facebook:
[@First
Presbyterian
Gburg](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianGburg)

**Monday and
Wednesday
Online Chats
at 9 a.m.**

**Online
Conversations
Thursdays
at 4 p.m.**



The Call

July Newsletter



www.fpcgburg.org

Wally Words

Friends,

I want to take this opportunity to share life from Anderson. Our big news is Kay's new knee. Last Monday, June 22, she had surgery to install a new knee, and the result is very good. Very little pain, good movement, and I'm grateful that she can help cook again! Thanks for your prayers and cards!

I thought we'd give you a behind-the-scenes look at how things happen during the pandemic. Some of you have asked about the process of producing the weekly video service. This has been a real challenge, since the timeline had to be moved up to have a sermon and liturgy ready earlier than usual. Prior to the pandemic, the sermon would be in rough form on Monday or Tuesday, and throughout the week additional thoughts and refinements would work their way in. Then on Friday or Saturday, I'd often realize something was seriously missing, and do a major re-write. Normally there are 3 or 4 rewrites for every sermon.

During the pandemic, however, that time line gets moved up because there are two people involved in the technical production. I use a phone camera and various contraptions to video my parts of the service, recording the several segments as individual videos. These videos are in my photos app. Then the photos are shared to the iPad. Using the iPad's i-Movie app, I call up the appropriate videos to make a movie of them. Each segment gets edited and labeled, then the program produces one smooth video. Then this video gets saved back in Photos. I upload the photo for Jeff to receive and combine with other elements of the service. Jeff adds the words to the hymns so that the words go with the verses. Carolyn records an audio-only file of herself playing the piano and sends it to Jeff who produces the final product and assigns it to the church's website and facebook page so you can watch the service. Things get more complex on communion Sundays as we try to coordinate a team to share in the liturgy. I email the full liturgy to the participants in advance, and Jeff records a Zoom meeting with all of us, and works that into the larger service. So now you know how we do it. Yes, as you may imagine, it's more work than just showing up to lead the service. Yet it's very rewarding, because more people who really want the worship service are able to access it. All this would not have been possible without the help of Jeff Lincourt. Thank you, Jeff, for your expertise, your generous gifts of time, and your patience.

Jeff is also busy helping us upgrade our electronics at the church for post-pandemic ministry. Thanks to grants from the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley and the Center for Congregations (independent coalition), we have been able to purchase around \$5,000.00 of equipment to help the church reach out to the wider community. No, there won't be TVs in the sanctuary because the grants were specific in scope.

Continued on Page 4



Presbyterian Women and Friendship & Talent

**Our luncheon has been cancelled for July.
We hope to resume in September. Stay tuned...**

In the Church Library- Mike Gommel

Even after we finally return to the church for services, it may be awhile before we return completely to normal. As long as we are encouraging social distancing, we probably will not be able to hold a pitch-in, alas. And that is a shame because we have some good cooks in our congregation.

Thinking about this reminded me that in our church archives is a small book entitled *Holiday Recipes and Musings* that was compiled by Friendship & Talent about fifteen years ago.

I am a little disappointed in the book because some dishes I remember are not there, like Willa Ford's *Ham Loaves*, and Pat Rooker's *Individual Meat Loaves* (if you are sensing a theme here, yes, I'm a meat and potatoes kind of guy), or Joyce Konzelman's *Chex Mix* (Joyce used horseradish, which gave the mix a zing that made munching a pleasure). Still, there are some good recipes here.

Marge Hunter submitted a recipe for *Cranberry Meatballs* that sounds really good. Marge said that you can insert a toothpick in the meatballs and serve them as an appetizer, or eat them over rice. Over noodles might be good, too.

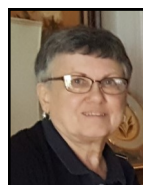


Marilyn Woods' *Party Chicken* makes my mouth water. It's the strip of bacon that you wrap around the chicken that makes a difference. Bacon always makes things taste better. Susan Wilson's *Beef Stroganoff* is a big plate of comfort food!

I was delighted to see Joyce Konzelman's recipe for *Barbeque Green Beans*. The only thing wrong with this recipe is that it says to bake 5-6 hours at 250°! I've been told that you should never change a recipe, but would it really make that much difference if I raised the heat and shortened the baking time? Well, there's probably a reason, whatever it is.

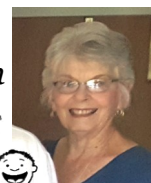


Breads are present in this book as well. Polly Matlock's *Broccoli Cornbread* is an intriguing combination, and Susan Wilson's *Mayonnaise Rolls* are an old friend. When arthritis in her hands made it difficult, Mom asked me to make a batch of Susan's rolls. Break a couple in pieces, spoon chicken gravy over the top, add a side of coleslaw, and you have one of Mom's favorite meals.



I don't eat a lot of sweet stuff, but Kathy Denny's recipe for *Shaker Lemon Pie* sounds really good. Looking that over, yes, I could probably manage that.

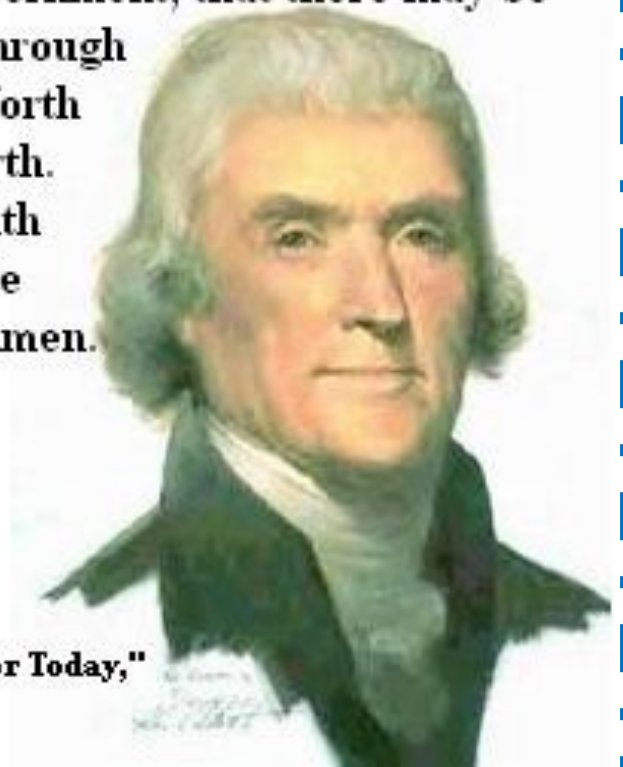
With apologies to Marilyn Woods, I won't be making her *Swedish Tea Ring*. I'm sure it tastes great, and the description sounds festive, but mercy, Maud, is it labor intensive! Well, whenever we start having pitch-ins, Marilyn can bake a couple for us. All those in favor, raise your hand...



Prayer Focus for July

Prayer for the Nation

Almighty God, You have given us this good land for our heritage. We humbly ask You that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Your favor and glad to do Your will. Bless our land with honorable endeavor, sound learning and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties and fashion into one united people the multitude brought here out of many nations and tongues. Endow with the Spirit of wisdom those to whom in Your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Your law we may show forth Your praise among the nations on earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble do not allow our trust in You to fail. Amen.



~ by Thomas Jefferson, taken from "Prayers for Today," published by Leaflet Missal Co.

Doreen Wilkison, Care of Parish Team

Session News

Session met in a virtual meeting on Wednesday, June 17. Members of session unanimously decided to postpone in-person services through July to give time to fully prepare for a safe opening. We will keep you updated. Session is considering:

- ◇ The overall age of our congregation
- ◇ The need for sanitizing supplies that are on back-order
- ◇ How to keep the elevator sanitized
- ◇ A needed plan for reopening

We will keep the congregation informed of our progress.

We will continue our online services, and you are encouraged to stay in touch with us and each other. For questions, you may call Diana at the church number during regular summer office hours which are Monday thru Thursday from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Other News:

- Our Pentecost offerings have totaled \$265. 60% (\$159) will go to Mission, and our 40% (\$106) will go the YMCA to benefit the children.
- AA, Alanon, and Scouts have resumed their meetings at the church. They have been following our guidelines for safety and sanitation. These guidelines have been posted and distributed.



Wally Words continued from Page 1

But we will have a professional quality camera to record the services and process the audio-visual and make it available online. The church office will get an upgraded computer, and the Memorial Room will have the capability for online meetings. This way, people who live away but are part of the church can participate in meetings. Members who cannot get to church or who are simply being cautious can enjoy the services from the sanctuary and see their friends, as can members who spend part of the year away. It's all about holding the Body together. Just thought you'd like to know. Again, thanks to Jeff for putting the equipment list together for the Session and for the grant proposals.

This has been an experience with a huge learning curve. Technology has been a saving grace, especially Zoom and movie editing software and YouTube. The folks at Zoom have responded well to security needs and convenience of use for online meetings. Our Session has met on Zoom for 4 months. By using this technology, available to anyone with a computer or smart phone, some of our members have been able to stay connected, first through a midweek study on Zoom. That group meets Thursdays at 4 pm. I think the most important need during the pandemic is keeping people connected with each other

and with me. To that end, we have informal gatherings on Zoom every Monday and Wednesday morning at 9:00. I really appreciate the opportunity to get to know the folks who gather for the online meetings. How well we've gotten to know one another during these gatherings! Even though we cannot gather in person, a hidden blessing is that the relationships have gone deeper thanks to these online meetings. This is great, and I want to encourage more of you to join us on Monday and Wednesday mornings. You can find the **Meeting ID and Password** needed to join **on page 6** in the newsletter. I'm telling you, our times together are most rewarding. Give it a try!

The Church has never been "closed." The doors are locked for people's safety, and I pray each of you continues to exercise caution and keep healthy. Yet we're not closed, for locked doors cannot hold back the power of God's Spirit of love and compassion. With you, I look forward to the day we can re-open for worship, and do so safely.

Wishing You All God's Peace,

Pastor Wally

revwwilson@gmail.com
765-278-3749

Members of Session 2020

Polly Matlock
 David Schlemmer
 David Narwold
 Mary Stradley
 Judy Rust
 Mike Gommel
 Terri Pleak
 Pastor– Rev. Wally Wilson
 Clerk– Darleen Fox

Session Committees

Trustees & Finance
 Care of Parish & Christian
 Education
 Worship & Music
 Mission, Outreach, & Marketing
 Personnel



★ The Star Spangled Banner ★

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last
 gleaming?
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the
 perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly
 streaming?
 And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in
 air,
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still
 there.
 Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

The Star Spangled Banner is our National Anthem and one of my favorite patriotic tunes to sing. According to the internet, there is also a lot of conflict on topics like: why it was written; where it was written; what its purpose was. Also, when did it actually become our national anthem; was it written as a song or a poem; how many verses were actually written; and other questions. There is much we don't know and you can find varying answers online. Everyone seems to have opinions on this. All we do

know is that the anthem's history began the morning of September 14, 1814, when an attorney and amateur poet named Francis Scott Key watched U.S. soldiers—who were under bombardment from British naval forces during the War of 1812—raise a large American flag over Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland. (Do we even know this for sure?) There is a lot of interesting reading to be found. Check it out!

Diana Blanford, Office



First Presbyterian Church

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Our Mission Statement

**We are a welcoming family of faith,
Celebrating Christ's presence
Worshiping God with joy,
Nurturing the life of each individual,
Carrying Christ's message to all the world, and**

Per Capita 2020

\$41.39 per person

**Church Service is
on the Web!
www.fpcgburg.org**

Church services can be found on
Sunday mornings on our **facebook**
page and on our **website**.

FACEBOOK—
@FirstPresbyterianGburg

To Join a Meeting:

Go to [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us) - choose "Join a Meeting" and enter the
Meeting ID and password as requested.

Monday & Wednesday 9:00 AM Chat

ID: 872 3475 1758

Password:

Thursday 4:00 PM Class

ID: 880 2019 5609

Password:

For passwords, call Pastor Wally 765-278-3749



**Sending
Healing
Prayers**



**Pray for our country and our world
during these trying times!**

