

The Call

**First Presbyterian
Church**

JULY Newsletter

www.fpcgburg.org



Church Services

In Person:

**Sunday
Mornings
10:30 a.m.**

**Followed by
Fellowship**

**Services are
recorded
to be shared
on our website
and facebook
page**

**www.fpcgburg.org
&
@FirstPresbyterian
Gburg**

**Sunday
Conversations
Class**



A Little Something from Garrett:

Strangest story I'll probably ever share. Last week, from the moment I wrote this, I went to get a haircut for the first time in six months. What a glorious moment!

Not that it was the best haircut I've ever had. Rather, it was the epiphany I had afterwards about haircuts.

The epiphany was that hair is a part of us, yes, *even those like me that are balding and or receding*. This said, a good haircut makes one feel lighter and not as weighed down, it makes one feel new again and more ready to face what's before us. Though our hair was a part of us, cutting it off and parting ways with some of it has its benefits.

If you're wondering right now, "This guy is strange, what have we gotten ourselves into?" I say good for you. I am strange and I seriously question your judgment hiring the likes of me.

Regardless, the wisdom that comes from this epiphany, though not anything new, is valuable. We need to let go of things at times, even those things that have been a part of us.

During our six months here Marena and I have heard you and others in the community use words like these to describe us: old, dying, minister pit-stop,

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN – FRIENDSHIP & TALENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◇ Save the date for Ice Cream! We'll join Kingston and Springhill at Kingston (rain or shine) July 25th at 2! They're making the ice cream and we'll take some cookies. Yum!
- ◇ July 11th, immediately following church, is the called congregational meeting to consider the bylaws as revised by session. Copies of the bylaws have been sent by internet and hard copies are available. Please call the office if you do not have a copy.
- ◇ Susan will prepare the lunch for PW and friends July 14 and Marilyn will bring the dessert. Devotions will be offered by Doreen.
- ◇ Session meetings are open for anyone to attend unless stated otherwise. The next meeting is scheduled for July 21st at 10 in the Memorial Room.



- ◇ Get your hot dog July 28 at the next Wiener Wednesday event.

Ron and Marilyn Woods are hosting.

³Pastors' article- Continued from Page 1

visionless, frozen, strict, unenergized, stuck-up, power grabbers, and more. Not the most flattering list is it?

The good news is we see more and we know you do too, or you would have never crafted the purpose statement that you did! We see a generous people who desire to do good in this world, an encouraging people that are ready for a new thing, a loving people that want to work in partnership with one another and the community, a vibrant people that want to follow Christ with energy and a joyful spirit.

So let's get a haircut. Let's cut away those things that don't align with who we are and who we want to be. Let's use uplifting words when we describe ourselves. When someone wants to uphold our reputation from the past...simply say, "Come and see...we have a new hair cut now. None of that old stuff is going to weigh us down!"

First Pres., it's time! Let's get the best haircut we've ever had, together!

PRAYER FOCUS FOR JULY

The summer is a time for patriotic occasions. July 4 celebrates the birthday of our country. We already continue to recognize loved ones on Memorial Day in May. The familiar hymn , AMERICA, begins with the words ,

"My country tis of thee . . ."

We remember the first verse. Now consider the remaining verses as a meditation for prayer:

**My native country, thee, land of the noble free, Thy name I love:
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills like that above.**

**Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet
freedom's song:**

**Let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.**

**Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.**

God, heal our land. Amen

Polly Matlock, Care of Parish

We have compiled all of your ideas from our first 6 months with you and divided them into different categories. Every month, the session is focusing on a particular category to see how God guides us in forming relevant and meaningful ministries. Dennis Shepherd graciously prepared prayers to focus our discernment. Each month, we will share the prayer in the newsletter, along with the ideas the session is discerning in that particular month. We hope everyone will join us in this time of prayer and discernment. If you have questions, please ask. We welcome new ideas any time! Blessings,

Pastor Marena

IDEAS FROM FPC for CHILDREN/ YOUTH MINISTRIES

- ⇒ Toddler play place—indoor playground
- ⇒ Music and Movement
- ⇒ Free Piano with Mentors who provide money for piano books and occasional snacks/ community recital
- ⇒ Little Mr/Miss Etiquette Classes
- ⇒ Virtual VBS in the summer
- ⇒ Support Center for LGBTQ Youth, especially now that all specific groups have been closed at the school.
- ⇒ Fellowship Hall as safe gathering place for youth—music, games, food
- ⇒ Friday night youth outreach, free food, games, music



PRAYER FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH **MINISTRIES**

by Dennis Shepherd

Our God of the Innocent:

The development of children and adolescents are important years. Help the mature in our congregation to inspire, teach, motivate, and be role models to our young people. Help us be examples in conduct so our children and youth will truly desire to choose wisely and with integrity. Help our church in giving instruction in creative, fun ways that the young can relate to and grow in Christian truths and knowledge.

Help every adult to be available and sensitive to the many challenges the young are dealing with in society and their peer groups. Help our church to invest in their lives with meaningful events and activities and teachings. May our church be a safe haven and a welcoming place to gather and find Your grace, love, and abiding presence of glory.



Story Sharing? A Good Read? Brittany's Finds? ... (Help me with a title!) I will try and find a little something to share with you guys every month for our newsletter! Hopefully you enjoyed the Fathers Day article I placed in June's. The story I wanted to share with everyone this month is called "Faith Like Fireworks!"

-Brittany

Faith Like Fireworks.

By Rachell Woho

If you've ever watched fireworks, then you know how mesmerizing the view can be. Each tiny light makes its way into the darkness, and two perfectly-timed fuses within a shell perform their duty to create an illuminous masterpiece. If the shell sits in a covered box, protected from anything that might ignite it, then the beauty it contains is never seen. The incredible vision of light it provides is, sadly, never displayed.

We should have faith like fireworks, but sometimes expressing faith in Christ is challenging. I've had times when I've struggled with how to be a witness for Christ, and I'm guessing you have too. Putting our faith first can rub someone the wrong way or explaining a differing opinion can be taken from the opposite view we intended.

Yet, God's Word reveals that we are called to be a light in the world. Matthew 5:14-16 CSB reminds us:

"You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

While it's tempting to keep our "shells in the box" and avoid revealing the light of Christ inside our hearts, living our faith out loud isn't an option if we truly love the Lord. As Christians, we must not be afraid to shine God's light into the night sky, revealing the beauty of the Gospel to a dark world.

So how can we do this? Just like the perfectly-timed fuses contained within the shells of fireworks, the Holy Spirit within us can show us the way to spread the Light of the world.

This July 4th, we invite you to be brave and share your faith like fireworks !

Members of Session

Darleen Fox
 Polly Matlock
 David Narwold
 Terri Pleak
 Judy Rust
 Mary Stradley
 Pastors– Revs. Garrett & Marena
 Vittorio-Schindler
 Clerk– Darleen Fox

Revs. Garrett and Marena Vittorio-Schindler

pastorsfpcgburg@gmail.com
 Pastor Garrett: 1-765-350-6264
 Pastor Marena: 1-765-350-0074

Church News

Christian Ed Meeting
 June 27th, in the memorial room @ 9:30
 am

Our Mask Mandate has been lifted for all
 who have had their covid-19 shots.



Session Committees

Trustees, Finance, & Stewardship

Chair: Mary Stradley
 Members: Jerry Fox, Roy Simpson,
 Terri Pleak, David Schlemmer, and
 Dennis and Susan Wilson

Care of Parish

Chair: Polly Matlock
 Members: Doreen Wilkison, Dennis
 Shepherd, and Mary Narwold

Worship & Music

Chair: Jeff Lincourt
 Members: Cathy Lincourt, Mike
 Gommel, and Greg and Judy Rust

Mission, Outreach, & Marketing

Chair: Judy Rust
 Members: Dennis Shepherd, Carrie
 Shumaker, Greg Rust, Jeff Lincourt,
 and Mike Gommel

Personnel

Chair: Terri Pleak
 Members: Greg Rust, Cathy Lincourt,
 and David Schlemmer

Christian Education

Chair: Marena Vittorio-Schindler
 Members: Carrie Shumaker, Laura
 Abrel, Linda Simpson, Doreen
 Wilkison, Darleen Fox, Cathy and Jeff
 Lincourt, Dena Vittorio, and Pastor
 Garrett

Anyone wishing to join or be taken
 off a committee please contact the
 committee chair.



First Presbyterian Church

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

FACEBOOK—
@FirstPresbyterianGburg

Or www.fpcgburg.org

Our Purpose

*To encourage expansive beliefs
so all experience a vibrant
welcome!*



**2021 Per Capita
\$41.42 per person**

Please Keep These People In Your Continued Prayers: Shut-ins

**Sending
Healing
Prayers**



Don McKinney
At Home
206 E. 5th Street
Greensburg, IN 47240

Thelma Corya
Aspen Place, Rm. 406
2320 Montgomery Rd.
Greensburg, IN 47240

Rose Ewald
Bridge Pointe Health Campus
1900 College Avenue
Vincennes, IN 47591

Mike Gommel
Morning Breeze
950 Lake View Dr., Rm. 19
Greensburg, IN 47240

Prayer Requests

Greg Rust
Jean Stutz
Betty Zillick
Carol Madden
Larry Starr
Pam Honeycult
Mike Gommel
Larry Adkins
Delbert Martin
Dan Scheidler
Robin Johnson
Barb Williams
Sharon Ellis

**Prayers for
Peace and Serenity
throughout the world!**