

April Newsletter



First Presbyterian Church

400 Lakeview Road, Mexico, Missouri

Phone: 573-581-5689

office@mexicofpc.com

Volume 33, Issue 04

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March 22, 2024

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

Student Ministries

Director

Micah McNeal

Organist & Handbells

Barbara Green

Choir Director

Josh Yancey

Administrative

Assistant

Sandy Weber

Financial Secretary

Lori Ray

Custodian

Ryan Totten

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service

9:00 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:15 a.m.

High School Youth

7:30 p.m. Sundays

(First Presbyterian Church)

6th—12th Youth

6:00 p.m. Wednesdays

(First Christian Church)

Email:

office@mexicofpc.com

Web page:

www.mexicofpc.com

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/
mexicoFPC](https://www.facebook.com/mexicoFPC)

Wifi: MexicoFPC-Guest

Password: #liv2srv

Visioning Committee

“A community that serves God and others through worship, love, and faith.”

Over the last year or so, you’ve heard about a Visioning Committee that had convened to study the future of our church. The group is glad to announce that their work is complete! The committee was comprised of nine members, Pastor Susan Presley and Student Ministries Director Micah McNeal. The group studied nine different areas of the church.

Visioning Committee Members

Katie Thomas Worship & Music	Kyle Louder Education	Stephanie Robinett Fellowship
Bill Woods Property & Maintenance	Logan Ray Finances	Michelle Doolittle Outreach
Nancy Baker Mission	Lucita Gleeson Children & Youth	Elaine Mensching Caring Ministries

The group’s goal was to look at the past and present of the church, and to formulate recommendations for one, five, ten and fifteen years from now. Week after week the committee met, studied, discussed and pondered, and kept returning to a familiar refrain: This is a strong church that’s doing good things for God in the world! We’d like to keep that momentum going as we look to the future. How blessed we are!

In February, Kyle Louder led Session in a presentation and discussion of the Committee’s findings and recommendations. Session recommended a few clarifying changes on the group’s recommendations, then voted unanimously to accept the proposals and begin putting recommendations into place, including adoption of the church’s new mission statement: ***“A community that serves God and others through worship, love, and faith.”***

On the evening of March 24, 2024, the findings of the committee and proposals were presented to the congregation. Packets containing the individual reports, findings, and recommendations were distributed at that meeting. If you’d like either a digital or paper copy of that report, please contact the church office – we’d be glad to get you one!

Many, many thanks to the nine who served tirelessly on the committee. They researched church history, talked to many in church leadership and within the congregation, and did work in the community in order to come to their conclusions. They are appreciated greatly. If you’re able, be sure to read their reports. You’ll be encouraged by our past, excited by our present, and emboldened to look joyfully to the future of our church!

Blessings,
Pastor Susan



APRIL WORSHIP
9:00 a.m.

April 7
Scripture—Luke 24:36b-48
Sermon—Holy Humor Sunday
Preaching—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

April 14
Preaching—Rob Dalton

April 21
Scripture— Acts 4:5-12
Sermon— By What Power?
Preaching—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

April 28
Scripture—Acts 8:26-40
Sermon— Look, Here is Water!
Preaching—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley



APRIL SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship 10:00—10:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pre K—1st Grade Room 105
2nd—5th Grade Room 104
Sr. and Mid High Youth Room 300
Young Moms Westminster Room
Wired Word Room 200
Mere Christianity Room 305
Sermon Discussion Room 201
Knit Wits Room 204



March Memorials

Bill Rentschler
Renae Thomas

Columbarium
Ann Decker



- Family of Robert Adams (Scott Matich's uncle)
- Vickie Moore
- Barbara Ray (Freddie Crews' sister)
- Kysar Williams
- Shayla Huber
- Stan Beard Jr (Becky Fischer's brother)
- Nancy Fischer (Scott Fischer's sister in law)
- PK Karrenbrock (friend of Tori Webber's)
- Tom Biesemeyer (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Cathy Potts (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Lydia A. Neill (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Cole Nettles (Sandy Weber's nephew)
- Barbara Neumann
- Anna Rentschler
- Carl Smarr
- Rona Wilson
- Bonnie Kimbel
- Katherine Staley
- Betty Coari
- Dick Schmidtke
- Jane Cooper (Jody Fetterhoff's sister-in-law)
- Don Munford (Robby & Cara Miller's brother in law)
- Bob Kimes (Pam Miller's father)
- Dan Kriwiel (Peggie's husband)
- Larry LaRue (Barb Brandt's brother)
- Connie Robley
- Quinlan Gillette (The Gillette's grandson)
- Debra Kreyling
- Linda Baker (Lana Parmenter's sister-in-law)
- Stu Miller (deployment to Kuwait)
- Lucas Coari
- Michael Schuessler (friend of the Rays)
- Luke Pickett
- Judy Lowery (Jody Fetterhoff's sister)
- Bob Wilburn (Strode's son-in-law)
- Cathy Scholz (Betty Coari's friend)



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 2nd
12:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Day Trip to Battlefield Lavender Farm and the Amish

The Adult Fellowship Committee is organizing a day trip on Thursday, April 18th and we want you to join the fun! The group will start off by heading to the Amish to see what vegetables, flowers, hanging baskets, and baked goods they have to offer. We will enjoy lunch in Centralia, location to be determined. The trip will conclude with a visit to Battlefield Lavender in Centralia! The church bus will leave the church parking lot at 9:00am. Please call or sign up in the office with Sandy by Sunday, April 14th. There is no cost for the trip beyond paying for your own meal and goodies you may purchase.

We look forward to a day of fellowship, flowers, and fun with you all!



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH 18, 2024

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Mexico, Missouri met on Monday, February 18, 2024. Elders shared joys and concerns and the moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

The consent agenda was accepted into the record, including prior minutes, financial reports, and the meeting agenda.

Adult Fellowship: Whitney reported that the committee is working on scheduling a trip to Amish Country.

Adult Education: Mike Briggs shared some pamphlets with Session that he would like to make available to our church members.

Children's Ministry: Whitney reported that Summer Sunday School will again combine pre-K through 5th grade classes. Bible Buddy presentations will occur on April 28. Whitney and Charleigh Lewis will give a Minute for Mission about youth camp during an April worship service.

Fellowship: Sheryl reported attendance during Lenten lunches ranged from 22 to 32. Fellowship time on Easter will be after the egg hunt. The committee is also working on updating their mission statement.

Local Mission: Elaine reported on things learned by the committee members that attended the Bright Futures Council meeting.

Music and Worship: Combined bell choir will play on March 17. The committee voted to donate \$50 to Our Daily Bread for the devotional booklets we receive from them.

National and Global Mission: Steve Haag is working with former committee chairs to arrange visits from missionaries we support. He is also looking at traditional mission projects as well as new ideas.

Pastoral Care: At the advice of the chair of this committee, Session voted to dissolve the committee as it is redundant with the work done by Deacons and other committees.

Presbyterian Women: Lori Ray will be the PW representative on the Nominating Committee this year.

Stewardship & Finance: Robby reported that the committee will be adding two new members.

Stephen Ministers: Mike is asking for referrals. The committee would like some younger people to be Stephen Leaders.

Technology: Jay Chastain continues to help with tech issues in multiple ways, for which we are grateful.

Youth and Young Adult: Micah reported that there is a retreat next week. Also, Senior Sunday is scheduled for May 5.

New Business: Session voted to approve the baptism of Jan Harlow.

Clerk's Report: Dianne reported that Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was served in worship and at the Kings Daughters Home and at Pin Oaks in March by Pastor Susan. The Clerk also shared a ministry engagement and support letter from General Assembly, and gave a required annual report on the insurance held by the church.

The meeting closed with a devotion and prayer from Ron Ray and the meeting was adjourned.





FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Thank you to all of the ladies who prepared our delicious Lenten Lunches! Throughout the season of Lent we were treated to soup, sandwiches and dessert featuring a fruit each Wednesday. Pastor Susan led us on a meditation on the Fruit of the Spirit. On the final day we did a craft using our materials that represented love, joy peace, patience kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. The Lenten lunches provided a wonderful mid week opportunity for the building of fellowship and faith.



MEXICO MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE PRESENTS

Mexico Follies



Come perform! come watch!
COME HAVE FUN!

SIGN UP: 573-581-5689 OR
573-581-4628

April 7, 2024 - 6 PM
First Presbyterian Church
400 Lakview Road, Mexico, MO

Do you like to laugh? On Sunday, April 7 – the evening of Holy Humor Sunday – First Presbyterian and First Christian will come together for a lighthearted evening of fun. Do you have a talent or a few jokes you could share? Maybe you once wrote a fun poem or a silly song that others would enjoy. Let the office or Pastor Susan know! Or, just come be a part of joyful, laid-back evening.

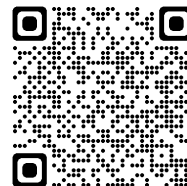
STREAM SUNDAY WORSHIP ON LINE @ YOU TUBE

If anyone is needing assistance in learning how to stream live services on Sundays, please reach out to Michelle Doolittle with the Outreach Committee. We are offering to come to homes, nursing homes, etc., if needed to assist in learning how to do this. Our church services are now being streamed live on **You Tube**.

Just go to: www.youtube.com
and search for: **Mexico First Presbyterian Church**.
(We are also on Facebook.)



Scan this QR code with your phone's camera to go directly to site.



NEED A RIDE TO/FROM CHURCH?

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SHARE-A-RIDE MINISTRY
Call our dispatcher:
573-936-6625



The property committee hosted a “globe cleaning” event on February 29th. They removed each globe from the chandeliers, washed them and carefully put them back in their place. Dazzling!



Bible Buddies



On March 20th, Kids for Christ decorated Easter eggs during craft time.



An egg to match the outfit! KFC



KFC Guest Speakers Taking Care of Our Teeth



Family Buddies

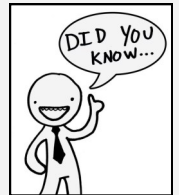
Dorris Breneman 01	Amy Auwarter 09	Stacy Enslin 22
Janice Erdel 01	Katherine Schremp 09	Karagen Matich 22
Miriam Gleeson 01	Glenn Wheeler 09	Mark DeJaynes 23
Karen Baker 02	Fran Robley 10	Nancy Baker 24
Kellen Ekern 02	Kristin Brown 11	Michael Moore 24
Christine Alexander 04	Beth Shields 13	Nicole Albin 25
Charleigh Lewis 04	Myles Yancey 13	Carolyn McCue 25
Teresa Rentschler 04	Laraine Lamb 18	Jane Shire 25
Lucita Gleeson 05	Nate Robertson 18	Shelby Toalson 25
Rona Wilson 05	Benson Colley 19	Bryce Robinett 26
Lois Curtis 06	Dene Myers 19	Debbie Krueger 27
Chris Doolittle 06	Jessica Yeager 19	Joyce Lind 27
Anna Rentschler 07	Roslyn Dial 20	
Jane Collins 08	Declan Gleeson 20	
Janice Douglas 08	Jerry Shields 20	
Kristen Fritschie 08	Dustin Benne 21	
Walter Staley 08	Susan Allen 22	

**HAPPY APRIL
BIRTHDAYS!**



**Dedication of
The First Presbyterian Church of Mexico
To The Glory of God**

Robert R. Collins, Minister, Lynn T. Johnson, Assistant Minister
April 28, 1968



THE SESSION OF ELDERS

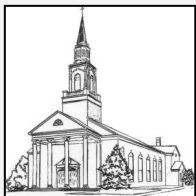
Robert Ahsens	Walter Kiburz	Frank Sutton
Richard Bridgford	A.A. Mitchell	Peter Todsen
Howard Copeland	Charles C. Morley	Glenn Torreyson
J.B. Doolittle	Walter G. Staley	Wallace Witche
Roy R. Haerer	Charles R. Stribling III	Charles J. Yaeger

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Mrs. Jewell Bybee	Derrill Kuhlman	James E. Moss
Botts Cauthorn	Woodrow Lee	Charles Donald Smith
Gene Davis	Ralph Lierheimer	Mrs. Charles Vanlandingham
Marvin Dishman	Wesley Lueking	Harold W. Wilson
Peter Ekern	William McCallum	John C. Young
Glenn E. Hatfield	David McCumber	Edward C. Hodge

TRUSTEES

Arthur D. Bond	James W. Gallaher
Wilbert F. Wegener	Lon J. Levvis
Charles Donald Smith	



Our nursery is now open on Sunday mornings! Infants and children are welcome to come and play during worship and/or Sunday school.

Our caregivers are Piper & Margaret.



Wednesday Youth Group

6th grade & up
6:00-7:30 p.m.

First Christian Church

Sunday Night Youth Group

9th grade & up 7:30-9:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church



Help Center

Please bring your plastic grocery bags and egg cartons to the barrel by the office or drop at the Help Center.



Stephen Ministers are trained to be CONFIDENTIAL and compassionate listeners to persons experiencing special needs:

- Loss of Loved One
- Separation or Divorce
- Terminal Illness
- Job Crisis
- Financial Stress
- Loneliness or Depression
- Hospitalization
- Being Homebound Spiritual Crisis
- ... And many more!



If you or someone you know could use the care of a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Susan or send your name and phone number to the church in care of **"Stephen Ministry, Confidential," 400 Lakeview Rd., Mexico, MO 65265.**

A friend is one who comes in when the rest of the world has gone out. **If you don't call, we can't Help!**



MARCH LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch met at Mi Casa in March (shown above).

On April 17th the group will meet at Dagwoods.

Come join us for lunch!

**BUDGET REPORT
As of 3.18.2024**

INCOME	Actual \$	Budget for Year \$	Actual vs Budget %
Pledged Giving	\$76,396.38	\$325,000	23.51%
Non pledged	\$19,622.18	\$87,250	22.49%
Other Income	\$2,985.43	\$12,750	23.42%
Total all income	\$99,003.99	\$425,000	23.30%
EXPENSES			
Administration	\$1,107.65	\$6,050	18.31%
Adult Ministries	\$105.24	\$850	12.38%
Children's Ministry	\$220.51	\$4,000	5.51%
Local Mission	\$1,733.12	\$13,000	13.33%
National & Global Mission	\$8,820	\$42,280	20.86%
Other programs	\$565.31	\$3,500	16.15%
Outreach	\$375.48	\$2,200	17.07%
Property	\$23,274.59	\$66,810	34.84%
Personnel	\$80,335.84	\$318,548	25.22%
Technology	\$2,086.80	\$8,000	26.09%
Worship	\$1,119.12	\$4,500	24.87%
Youth & Young Adult Ministries	\$76.92	\$6,000	1.28%
Total all expenses	\$119,820.58	\$475,738	25.19%



MAY 12, 2024

BABY BUNDLE SUNDAY

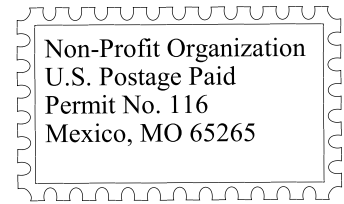
THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who donated Easter Candy for our Easter egg hunt. This year, Micah and the youth filled over 1000 plastic Easter eggs with candy! The Easter Sunday egg hunt has become a wonderful tradition for the church.


First Presbyterian Church

400 Lakeview
Mexico, MO 65265



Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

2024	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Liturgist	Elaine Mensching	Jason Lamb	Liz Schutte	Jim Scott
Children's Message	Joanne Nelson	Steve Haag	Lana Parmenter	Micah McNeal
Flowers	Betty Coari	Lana Parmenter		
Ushers	Jim Dye Judy Dye Mary Creason Karen Linnemeyer Danielle Louder Koven Louder	Bruce Oliver Nancy Oliver Bill Woods Linda Woods Megan Schutte Clara Schutte	Kim Sydenstricker Ron Ray Stuart Miller Pam Miller Clarissa Cauthorn Emmett Cauthorn	Paul Parmenter Lana Parmenter Mark DeJaynes Jerry Ahillen Molly Hanley Lauren Hanley
	Session Devotional Mike Briggs	Communion Preparer Tori Webber		Deacon of the Month Ginger Huddleston