

Sunday Summer Worship Hours - It's that time of year again!

- Every Sunday **between** Memorial Day (5/27) and Labor Day (9/2) weekend: TWO services at 8:30 am (Great Hall) and 10 am (Sanctuary)
- September 2 (Labor Day weekend): ONE service only at 10 am (Sanctuary)
- September 9 and Sundays following: TWO services at 8:30 am (Great Hall) and 11 am (Sanctuary)

In addition, our Sudanese service will be at its regular time Sundays at 12:30 pm in Great Hall, every Sunday except the first Sundays of the month.

Summer Choir & Bells

Starting in June we will have summer choir and handbells. Both are for not only those who have sung or played before, but also for those who have never sung or rung bells but would like to give it a try.

The only rehearsals will be on the Sunday morning before we play. We will meet at 9:10 a.m. and take part in the 10:00 a.m. service (for the bell Sunday please be there 9:00 am to get setup).

No choir robes or bell black dress. The music will be easy to learn in the short rehearsal time before church. This would be a great way for new people to give it a try!

It would be helpful for both groups, but especially for the bell Sunday if you would let Brian Pfofner know in advance if you plan to come.

Schedule

June 3	Choir
June 10	Choir
June 17	Choir
June 24	Choir
July 1	Bells

Sue's Musing – General Assembly

In just a couple weeks the 223rd General Assembly meeting of the PCUSA will meet in St. Louis.

Every two years we gather as one church, to discuss, decide, and study issues of importance in the world, and in the church.

Every presbytery, based on size, sends commissioners to General Assembly and they are the ones who make the decisions on behalf of the larger church.



Our Presbytery sends one pastor, one elder and one Youth Adult Advisory Delegate to participate.

At our best, these General Assemblies represent our efforts to put meat on our faith in ways that matter. Sometimes these meetings are contentious, for, as you can imagine, we do not all think alike on any given issue.

Sometimes these meetings are inspiring, as we show the world that in spite of our differences, we have something to say about the responsibilities our faith calls us to.

This year we once again are tackling some big topics that will challenge us to listen to each other in new ways:

1. Several overtures (business coming before the assembly) address issues related to environmental stewardship. The most controversial is the one calling the denomination to divest from fossil fuel companies.

(As a denomination, we already have committed to not purchasing stocks in companies that sell tobacco, operate for-profit prisons, or some companies that are involved in human rights violations or military-related production.)

This is our attempt as a denomination to, in essence, put our money where our mouth is.

2. Other items coming before the assembly this month are:

- a. The continued conflict in Israel & Palestine
- b. the crisis in Syria
- c. gun violence
- d. paid family leave
- e. pastoral leadership for immigrant congregations
- f. immigration.

3. The one that will hit closest to home for most Presbyterians is a proposed increase in the General Assembly per capita rate (The per capita we pay per member is divided up among the presbytery (by far the largest share), synod and General Assembly).

Per capita for General Assembly covers the administrative life of the denomination and the availability of resources, which undergirds the mission of the church.

After many years of minor increases, we've reached the limit of what we can do without increasing the per capita a bit more than usual. The commissioners to General Assembly will be looking closely at that.

Please keep all of the General Assembly commissioners in your prayers as they meet June 16-23.

Pastor Sue

~ Rooted in God ~ Open to Grace ~ Filled with Joy ~



Session Notes

Here are the highlights from our May meeting:

Christian Education

Rousseau class is using curriculum “Embracing Emergence Christianity” by Phyllis Tickle - the last spring semester of classes will end May 20th with a party in Fellowship Hall - May 13th is Music Sunday - May 20th is Graduate recognition - June 4-8 joint VBS with Eastridge Presbyterian - June 10-16 is the youth mission trip - An all church summer Saltdogs event will be held July 22nd.

Member Fellowship and Evangelism

Root beer floats are planned on Sunday, May 27, Memorial Day Weekend - Prayer Chain sign-up sheets are on the ministry opportunities table in the Narthex.

Stewardship & Finance

We are at 50% of the capital campaign goal - Monies have been determined for changing the green glass doors in the sanctuary to clear - The following schedule for special offerings: one great hour of sharing at Easter; Pentecost offering at Pentecost; birthday offering in February, near Valentine’s Day; Thank Offering in August, before stewardship campaign; peacemaking offering in early October; and Christmas offering at Christmas.

Property

Fellowship Hall painting will be completed the first week in May - Painting to start soon in the Gym and 2nd floor hallway - Bushes have been trimmed in the West parking lot.

Media

Installing a flat screen TV in the comfort room to feed in the worship service in, for parents in there with kids during worship - installing a projection screen in Fellowship Hall - AV upgrades to start this summer.

Spaces and Places

The new pastor pictures for the historical section are up - the finance closet, basement kitchenette and Susie's old office/supply room are all painted and cleaned up - the junior high room has new curtains thanks to Sharon Peterson and Irene Colburn sewing old drapes to fit, it also has a new seating area (Thanks to all who are working so hard to complete other projects around the church!) We continue to get many compliments as we spruce up and re-purpose our resources.

Session Notes continued...

150th Anniversary Task Force

Many plans are in the works for celebrating the church's 150th anniversary in 2019, one event that has been approved is an all church dinner to be held March 31st, 2019, many more plans will be revealed soon.

Worship & Sacrament

Sunday worship services will be 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. beginning June 3 through August 26, One worship service at 10 a.m. Memorial Day weekend (May 27) and Labor Day weekend (September 2), World Communion Day is October 7.

Mission and Social Justice

Several attended the Mayor's Interfaith Breakfast May 3rd - Splash was held Thursday, May 10 at McPhee.

FPC at the Lincoln Salt Dogs Game Sunday, July 22 | 1:05 pm | Haymarket Park

FPC is going to a baseball game at Haymarket Park to cheer on the Salt Dogs!

After worship on 7/22, we will head over to Haymarket Park for some tailgating fun followed by the game at 1:05pm. We can get a group rate of **\$10 per ticket** for the game, which includes a voucher for 1 hotdog and 1 soda per ticket. **Deadline to sign up is July 4.**

You can get tickets online, in the church office, or by contacting Kris Brammer (dce@fpclincoln.org).

Join us for a day at the ballpark!



McPhee SPLASH

On Thursday 5/10 FPC members helped organize and run SPLASH at McPhee Elementary. SPLASH stands for Super Plans and Learning Activities for Summer Happenings and is an annual event planned and carried out by FPC members. We set up booths that promote summer learning with math, reading, and science and also encourage healthy summer eating. The McPhee families and staff were super appreciative and we can't wait to do it again next year!



Capital Campaign for Parking & Community Gardens

The Stewardship and Finance Committee reminds all church members that pledges of financial support for the capital campaign will be accepted through June 30. The campaign will provide funding for:

1. A new parking lot, conveniently located directly east of the church across 18th street

and
2. The community gardens, which are moving across 17th street to the south and west of the church.

Through Monday, May 21, we've received commitments totaling approximately \$70,000. That is great progress, but leaves us short of our goal of \$100,000. Remember, your commitments made prior to June 30 will be eligible for a 3-to-1 match from the First Presbyterian Church Foundation.

Contribution cards are available at the church or by calling and/or emailing Carrie (churchadmin@fpclincoln.org) to make your pledge.

It's Summer time! During the summer months, FPC Christian Education programs take a break from their regular, weekly Sunday programs such as Children's Sunday School and Youth Group.

But that doesn't mean things come to a halt. There is still a lot going on this summer until the CE programs resume in the fall (Sept. 9th).

Until then don't forget to check out what's going on the summer. Oh, and if you need your bible study fix, The Adult Bible Discovery Class meets throughout the summer at 9:30 am in room 207.

*Pray and Play,
Kris "Bubba" Brammer*

On behalf of myself and the other teachers, I would like to thank all of the parents who bring their children to Sunday School. If not for you, we teachers would have no students. Also, thank you for the teacher Breakfasts. It is so kind for you to provide breakfast once a month.

- LeAnn Hammar

What's Happening this Summer!

- Adult Bible Discovery Sunday School Class at 9:30 am on Sunday mornings.
- June 5th – FPC Youth at The Gathering Place. The FPC youth are volunteering at the The Gathering Place on June 5th. Please be onsite (1448 E Street) by 4:30 p.m. Following our service time, we will go eat ice cream at Ivanna Cone.
- June 10-15th – FPC Youth Mission trip to Memphis, TN. Through the mission organization Memphis Youth Mission, we will engage in some urban ministries, visit the National Civil Rights Museum, and practice the ministry of hospitality with the homeless.
- July 22nd – FPC day at the Ballpark. FPC is hosting a day at Haymarket Park for a baseball game on July 22nd. The cost is \$10 per ticket. Sign up in the church office, or by email at dce@fpclincoln.org
- July 27-28 – Overnight canoe trip on the Elkhorn River. We will stay the night at camp Calvin Crest on Friday, canoe the Elkhorn River on Saturday and return to FPC on Saturday night. More details to come.
- Sept. 9th – CE Programs (Sunday School and Youth Group) resume a regular schedule for the 2018-2019 school year.

Arts for the Soul

On, Friday April 27th, the Crossroads Project gave a wonderful concert at FPC for the Arts for the Soul series. With physicist Dr. Robert Davies and the Fry Street String Quartet, the Crossroads Project presented a multi-disciplinary performance that combined artistic and scientific voices in response to society's greatest challenges - global sustainability and climate change.



Dr. Davies and the Fry Street String Quartet performing at FPC

Dr. Davies and the Fry Street String Quartet engaging with the audience



Both Dr. Davies and the Fry Street String Quartet made visits to various groups around Lincoln. Thanks so much to the members of the Crossroads Project for their wonderful performance and their generous outreach to members of our community!



Dr. Davies speaking with UNL AG students

Fry Street String Quartet giving a workshop and performance to the orchestra students of North Star High School

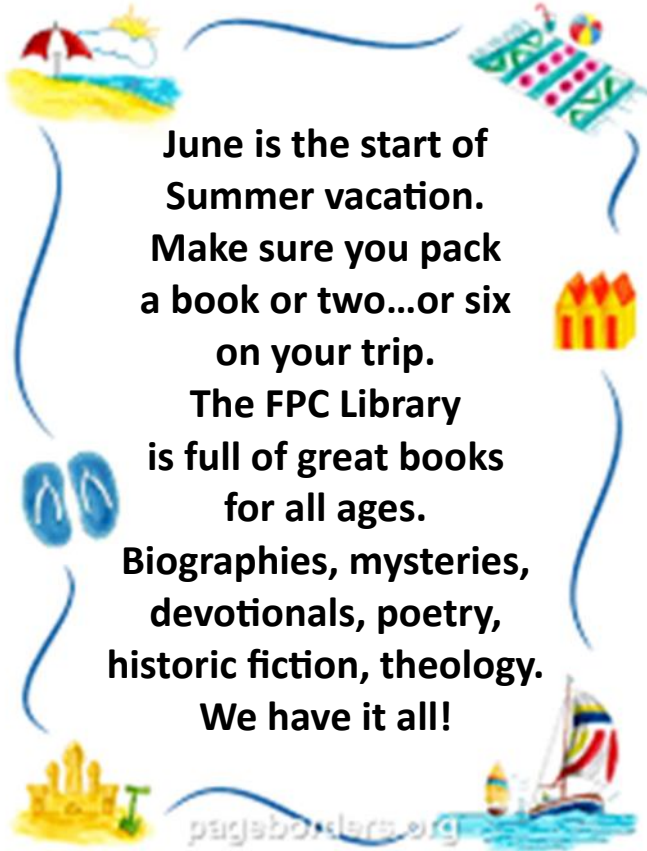


Music Sunday & Mothers Day May 13

We had a wonderful time at our annual Music Sunday celebration on May 13 featuring the chancel choir & bells, children's choir, the Youth Instrumental Ensemble, brass & percussion and organ. Thank you to all who participated and collaborated to make this another great celebration of church music!



Library Notes



June is the start of Summer vacation. Make sure you pack a book or two...or six on your trip.

The FPC Library is full of great books for all ages. Biographies, mysteries, devotionals, poetry, historic fiction, theology. We have it all!

Kids – are you looking for a great book series? We have several books by Judy Blume & Lemony Snicketts, Laura Ingalls Wilder & Magic Tree House Books. Start with one and read them all!

Browse our selection of books in support of LGBT Pride Month.

NEW! NEW! NEW!

We also have a number of new books, for adults and children, across all areas of interest. Drop in and take a look!

The FPC Library is looking volunteers to write book reviews for First Report. If interested, please contact Julie Van Meter.

Thank you to **A Novel Idea Bookstore** in downtown Lincoln for donating the book *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. They also gave FPC a discount on books purchased for the Library, which helped stretch our library budget. Thank You!

CHECK THEM OUT!!!



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Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit 408
Lincoln, NE

Please notify the church office of any name,
address, email, and/or telephone changes.

First Presbyterian Church

Where faith is nurtured, curiosity is encouraged, diversity is welcomed, and all are loved.

For after-hour calls to the church office, 402-477-6037, the staff voicemail extensions and e-mail addresses follow:

Pastor/Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Sue Collier
x 103 scoller@fpclincoln.org

Parish Associate for Sudanese Ministry:
Rev. Jock Tut Paleak
x 114 jtutpaleak@gmail.com

Music Director: Dr. Brian Pfofner
x 121 musicdir@fpclincoln.org

Organist: Dr. Charles W. Ore
charles.w.ore@gmail.com

Director of Christian Education: Kris Brammer
x 106 dce@fpclincoln.org

Church Administrator: Carrie Cross
x 102 churchadmin@fpclincoln.org

Office Assistant: David Kamran
x 101 officeassist@fpclincoln.org

Custodian/Maintenance: Jeff Kephart
maintenance@fpclincoln.org

Outside Classes and Programs @ FPC:

ESL SCC - Monday-Thursday

Men's AA - Mondays

Women's AA - Tuesdays

LGBT AA - Wednesdays

Big Book Club AA - Tuesdays and Thursdays

Lincoln Lit - Tuesdays & Wednesdays

OLLI Book Club - 3rd Friday of the month

Here at FPC, we warmly welcome any sort of group or organization that provides needed services for members of our community.