

First Presbyterian Church

Tower Tidings

July 2015



Pastor Paul's Post



We are living in interesting times. There is the opportunity to participate in activities our ancestors could only dream about like convenient world travel, instant information, news, entertainment and other advanced technology. There is also continuing violence and difficulties that have not gone away with these new possibilities. I write this soon after the tragic events in South Carolina. While I could go on about activities we are getting excited about in the life of the church here, we also consider what has happened in our country to our brothers and sisters in Christ. We live with a faith that gives us hope and a future—something for both now and the time to come—that has to involve this world and its condition. Tough stories cause us to stop, to mourn, to reflect on what is going on in the world and what to do about it. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who lost loved ones at that prayer meeting at the Emanuel AME Church on June 17. May we seek to be intentional with our neighbors nearby, as well as with those whom we will not meet this side of heaven, who are nonetheless dear to us.

Vote and help Kemmerer Village win a horse!



Kemmerer Village has entered a Facebook contest held by LexLin Ranch in which LexLin Ranch will donate a 2-3 year old Gypsy Vanner horse (\$15,000-20,000 value) to the 10 different Path International Premiere Accredited Centers that have the most total votes. The contest runs through August 31. Kemmerer Village is one of 47 centers eligible and is currently in 4th place! We ask that you vote for Kemmerer Village and help them win a young therapy horse for their program. People are able to vote once every 24 hours, so please vote and share this with family and friends! Follow this link to vote for Kemmerer Village and make this unique opportunity a reality:

<http://gypsygift.pgtb.me/jsGLMS>

John Calvin Quote of the Month

“Seeing that a Pilot steers the ship in which we sail, who will never allow us to perish even in the midst of shipwrecks, there is no reason why our minds should be overwhelmed with fear and overcome with weariness.”



The Clown Report

By Butterfly the Clown



The clown troupe is looking forward to our church's Vacation Bible School and Thursday, July 30, at 7:00 pm. Once again, the "Jesters" have been invited to participate in the final night of VBS; and we are delighted! We will meet this month to plan and rehearse for this event.

Until next time... "Butterfly" (the clown)

P.S. We are all looking forward to Allene Vezina's ("Patches") return to our troupe! We plan to give her a "proper clown welcome."

Jr. High Mission Trip Update from Julie Clodfelter

The Jr. High Mission Trip is fast approaching. On Sunday afternoon, July 19th, there will be a caravan of vehicles heading to 4th Presbyterian Church on Michigan Avenue in Chicago! This is where they will be located for their sleep, meals, etc...Urban Youth Mission will be their guide through the days working on several projects for people in need. Some of the projects they might be working on include—helping out at Chicagoland Senior Services, or creating sleeping mats for the homeless made out of plastic grocery bags and yarn, or painting, sorting clothes, or working in the food pantry. The mission trip will conclude on Wednesday, July 22, and they will return to Monticello around supper time.



(Bill Abbotts, Inc. has graciously offered two drivers and two vans to haul everyone up to Chicago. They also drove the Belize Mission Trip people to and from the O'Hare Airport this last March.)



Mission Monticello VBS – July 27-30

Volunteers and donations are needed to support our week of mission activity in Monticello. Building on and learning from last year, we have evening sessions planned that will give the children of our church and community an opportunity to act in gratitude and give back. Sign up sheets available in the back of the church for volunteers and needed donations. Please support these efforts by joining us in mission work, donating funds and needed items, and in prayer for a successful week.

Sunday, July 26: Training for Middle School Leaders (Pizza)

Monday, July 27: Caring for Animals (Hot Dogs)

Tuesday, July 28: Caring for Homeless (Tacos)

Wednesday, July 29: Caring for other children and appreciating Teachers (Spaghetti)

Thursday, July 30: Sharing talents, lessons learned (Ice cream social then potluck at pool)

Items needed in large quantities—used plastic grocery bags, purple and gold ribbon, purple and gold notebooks

Register for Mission Monticello VBS today!

To download a registration form in a PDF or Word format, please visit: http://montpres.org/Summer_activities_at_FPC.html

Registration forms are also available to pick up in the back of the church.

Please send all registration forms to the church office—you can e-mail the forms, mail them, or drop them off in person.



A Small Hand School Supplies Drive!

We are accepting school supplies for A Small Hand Baby Pantry's school supplies drive. Please bring school supplies that you would like to donate to the church.

The Mission Report

The Mission Committee met on June 11th with an open invitation to all members of the congregation interested in planning our next mission trip. Good suggestions were made and each person was asked to research possibilities for our next trip. We plan to meet again this summer. Suggestions and interest are welcome!

The congregation is encouraged to check out the items left from cleaning out the Kairos rooms and closets. There are tables in the high school room in the basement with free items. Anything left over by mid-July will be recycled or thrown away. Please do not take anything from any of the other rooms. Thank you and happy browsing!

Sheila Lanker
Mission Chair

In Loving Memory

Our church has received two new candle lighters. These lighters use a liquid wick instead of wax, which we were using previously. They will be easier to use and stay cleaner for a long time.

The new lighters were donated by Dick and Jane Bonham in memory of Dallas Niles, their great-grandson, who died in an accident at the age of 3 years old. We thank the Bonham's for this great gift.

26th Annual Kendall Gill Golf Benefit

Presented by Kiwanis Club of Champaign County and Rotary Club of Savoy for the Cunningham Children's Home.

When: Monday, July 13—Shotgun Start @ 1 pm with a 5:30 pm Steak Dinner and Award Ceremony

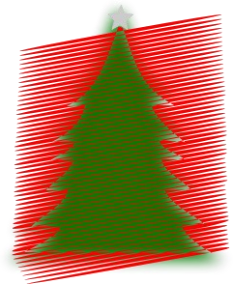
Where: University of Illinois Orange Course, Savoy

For more information contact:
clarimore@cunninghamhome.org



Christmas in July 2015

Samaritan's Purse will be holding an informational event for this year's upcoming Operation Christmas Child season. The "Christmas in July 2015" event will be held July 20 from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Meadowbrook Community Church (1902 South Duncan Road, Champaign, IL). All interested parties are welcome to attend!



The Beef House Dinner Theatre

Saturday, July 25th, there are 17 of us heading over to The Beef House Dinner Theatre in Covington, IN, for an evening of food and fun. We will be seeing Dolly Parton's, "9 to 5: The Musical." 3:30 pm is the meeting time at the church so that we can carpool. Sounds like a fun evening!

A Few Facts about Tanzania and Malawi

Paul and Amelia Adams will spend 7 weeks in Malawi and Tanzania, Africa, this September and October to work with the Marion Medical Mission and their shallow well project. In honor of the work they are preparing to do, here is some information about these two unique countries. Please note that all information and pictures are taken from the CIA World Factbook website (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>).

Tanzania

Location: Tanzania borders the Indian Ocean between Kenya and Mozambique.
How big is Tanzania? Tanzania is slightly larger than twice the size of California.
What are the main languages? Kiswahili/Swahili, English, Arabic, and local languages.

What is the population? 49,639,138 people

Total population with access to improved drinking water: 53.2%

Total population with access to unimproved drinking water: 46.8% (2012 estimate)

Bonus Fact: Tanzania is the location of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest point in Africa.

For more information on Tanzania please visit:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tz.html>



Malawi

Location: Malawi is located east of Zambia and west and north of Mozambique.

How big is Malawi? Malawi is slightly smaller than Pennsylvania.

What are the main languages? English and Chichewa

What is the population: 17,377,468 people

Total population with access to improved drinking water: 85%

Total population with access to unimproved drinking water: 15% (2012 est.)

Bonus Fact: Malawi's Lake Nyasa contains more fish species than any other lake on earth.

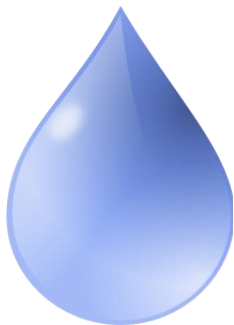
For more information on Malawi please visit:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mi.html>



Important Information from Paul Adams...

- ⇒ The average person makes less than 41 cents a day—that is why they need our help.
- ⇒ UNICEF reports that 4,000 children worldwide die each day because of unsafe water.
- ⇒ Over 14 million people in the rural areas of Malawi and Tanzania do not have access to safe drinking water.
- ⇒ The largest source of disease in Africa is unsafe drinking water.
- ⇒ The average woman walks 4 miles to collect water each day.
- ⇒ **Without any other medical intervention, providing safe drinking water could save 2 million lives a year.**



Are you interested in what Paul and Amelia Adams will be doing with the Marion Medical Mission? If so, head over to mmmwater.org and see what the Marion Medical Mission is all about!



July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7 pm Worship Mtg. 7 pm E&F Mtg.	2 9 am Women's Breakfast at Red Wheel 8 pm TN Group	3	4 Independence Day 
5 Communion 10 am Worship w/ Old Fashioned Hymn Sing 	6 6:30 pm TOPS	7	8 7 pm CE Mtg.	9 9 am Women's Breakfast at Red Wheel 8 pm TN Group	10	11
12 10 am Worship 11:30 am—3 pm Lamb/Ayers Family Reunion	13 6:30 pm TOPS 7 pm Mary-Martha Circle	14 6 pm Friendship Circle	15 7 pm Session Mtg.	16 9 am Women's Breakfast at Red Wheel 8 pm TN Group	17	18 7 am Men's Meeting at the Red Wheel 11:30 am—3:30 pm Elson Family Reunion
19 10 am Worship Middle School Youth leave for Chicago Mission Trip (7/19-7/22)	20 6:30 pm TOPS August TT articles and calendar events due 	21 7:00 pm Stephen Ministers Mtg.	22 Middle School Youth return from Chicago Mission Trip	23 9 am Women's Breakfast at Red Wheel 8 pm TN Group August TT Mailed 	24	25
26 10 am Worship 5:30-8 pm Mission Monticello VBS: Leadership Meeting	27 5:30-8 pm Mission Monticello VBS 6:30 pm TOPS	28 5:30-8 pm Mission Monticello VBS	29 5:30-8 pm Mission Monticello VBS	30 9 am Women's Breakfast at Red Wheel 5:30-8 pm Mission Monticello VBS: Pool Party until 9 pm 8 pm TN Group	31	