



Stirling Stuff

Volume 61, No. 6

June 2017

Pastor's Letter



The weather has been crazy lately, with lots of rain, wind, and cold temperatures...and now mid-summer temperatures! I hope we can see some sun and consistently mild temperatures during the month of June. I'm reminded of a wonderful song from the musical *Carousel*:

*June is bustin' out all over
All over the meadow and the hill!
Buds 're bustin' outa bushes
And the rompin' river pushes
Ev'ry little wheel that wheels beside the mill!
June is bustin' out all over
The feelin' is gettin' so intense,
That the young Virginia creepers
Hev been huggin' the bejeepers
Outa all the mornin' glories on the fence!
Because it's June.*

I feel that way about our church as well because June is going to be bustin' out in the life of our faith community. **On Saturday, June 3rd, we will be hosting our 4th Annual Argyle Fish and Chips Dinner.** Weather permitting, the community will once again gather on our front lawn to enjoy food, fellowship, and bagpipe music. The next day, we will gather in worship with our brothers and sisters from Meyersville to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, and it will be C.E. Recognition Sunday. There will be a church picnic at our church hosted by the MPC, since we all will be too tired after working all day the day before. Sunday, June 18th, is Father's Day, and the last Sunday of June, the 25th, is our Music Sunday, when we will celebrate church music from the 50's and 60's. The Travnicek Memorial Ringers will be playing on the 4th and the 25th.

As you can see, there is something happening every week during June. June is bustin' out in our church. I hope you will be a part of the life, celebration, and ministry of our church, and I hope you will invite others to join us. I've said it a number of times, "we have something others are looking for – a place where they can be themselves, be accepted, and know they are loved, a place where ALL are welcomed!"

See you in church!

Tom

The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling
Feeding Those Who Hunger

Worship Services and Scripture Passages for June

**June 4, 2017 Meyersville Presbyterian Church
worshipping with us**

- Day of Pentecost
- Sacrament of Holy Communion
- Non-Perishable Food Collection
- CE Recognition
- Church Picnic
Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39
What Language Speaks To You?

June 11, 2017

- Trinity Sunday
Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20
The Trinity Calls Us To Communion

*Child Care is provided in the Nursery.
Children join their families in church and then leave for
Christian Education classes after the Children's Talk.*

*Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings,
followed by Fellowship Hour in Pollard Hall.*



June 18, 2017

- Second Sunday after Pentecost
- Father's Day
Genesis 18:1-15; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19;
Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8
The Blessing of Laughter

June 25, 2017

- Third Sunday after Pentecost
- Music Sunday
Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17;
Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39
Hymns and Songs of the 50's and 60's

**Scriptures that are listed after the first Gospel
reading are non-lectionary passages
that will be used in the sermon.
All the scriptures are provided here for
any weekly Bible reading you may do.**

Rev. Peters' sermons and the scripture readings
are posted on the church website.
Visit: www.fpcstirling.org, click on:
"Sermon Archive," then select the sermon
and/or scripture reading date you would like.



Pastor's Coffee Klatch

The monthly Coffee Klatch will be on **Sat., June 3rd, 9:00 a.m.**, at the Stirling House Diner. We talk about whatever is on your mind. Join us and join in the fellowship and conversation.



Annual Fish & Chips Dinner

- Rev. Peters

Our Fourth Annual Argyle Fish & Chips Fundraising Dinner, Sat., June 3rd

The big day is almost upon us. Please sell your tickets. If you have not signed up to work, please talk to Ed Chang to let him know what you can do. Many thanks to Ed for heading up this year's dinner steering committee.



Garage Sale Proceeds**- Rev. Peters**

Ed and Sue Gerecht, with the help of some members of our church, held a garage sale for their neighbor who had a lot to get rid of, and she let them decide what to do with the money that came in. The day of the sale they sold \$800 worth of stuff, which was split between our church and Boy Scout Troop 59 (the troop we sponsor). We will receive a check for \$400! Thanks Ed and Sue and those who helped them!

Travnicek Memorial Ringers

The Travnicek Memorial Ringers will be playing during worship on **Pentecost Sunday, June 4th** and **Music Sunday, June 25th**.

**Remember Your Offerings Summer Offering**

As we enter late spring and early summer, please remember that we still have bills to pay at the church. If you are going away and will miss some Sundays, please keep your offering up-to-date by donating for those Sundays ahead of time or promptly when you return. Our finances are very tight, and summer is traditionally a difficult time for the church financially.

Christian Education Committee**- Lore Pateman****Adult Bible Study****- Rev. Peters**

Our study of the Gospel of Luke is continuing and will continue throughout the summer except when Rev. Peters is away. Come join us, even if you don't have the book. We meet from **10:30 a.m. to noon on Thursdays** in the church meeting room.

Fall Book Study**- Rev. Peters**

On the 22nd and 29th, Rev. Peters will be leading a book study on the book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, by Dr. James H. Cone. Dr. Cone is a Professor at Union Theological Seminary in NYC. He is one of the most respected theologians in the world today. This study will take place following the coffee hour on these two Sunday mornings. Include the book in your summer reading, and then come join us in October.

Fourth Sunday Focus, June 18th**- Tom Parziale**

Fourth Sundays give us an opportunity to connect with other members of our church family in a relaxed atmosphere: a pot of tea, a Box o'Joe, Munchkins . . . and conversation. Since the Handbell Choir will be playing on the fourth Sunday in June (and several of our regular attendees will be rehearsing), our next "Fourth Sunday Focus" gathering will be on **June 18th** in the meeting room. We start around **8:45 a.m.** and end by about 9:45 a.m., but join us whenever you can. **If you have a topic you'd like to discuss, contact Tom Parziale.**





Brunch Discussion

- Debra Sprague

THANK YOU to **Brooke Kupferman** for leading our session on *LGBTQ?* at our Brunch Discussion on April 30th – and for answering so many questions, some of which we didn't know we had. Attendees all learned something!

Summer CE

- Debra Sprague

We plan to again hold a Summer Series on Wednesday evenings at 7:30, in our air-conditioned meeting room. **We have tentatively scheduled the series for 6 Wednesdays, from July 12 through August 16.** We are trying to line up session leaders, and we would love to have some non-clergy people lead sessions. If YOU would like to lead one, please contact a member of the Christian Education Committee. Topics are up to you - what are you passionate about, or what do you want to learn more about? You don't have to do it alone, either - a partner is a great idea! Dates open are July 19, July 26, August 2 and August 9. And even if you're not able to lead a session - please plan to come!! Open to all, HS age and above.

Worship Committee

- Janet Parziale

Liturgists for June:

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|---------|---------------|
| June 4 | Madeline Hahl | June 18 | Tom Parziale |
| June 11 | Israel Sierra, Jr. | June 25 | Madeline Hahl |



If you would like to serve as Liturgist during worship, sign up on the sheet in Pollard Hall or speak to Jan Somers.

Non-Perishable Food Collection, June 4^h

On the first Sunday of each month, we collect donations of non-perishable food during the worship service. While we are receiving the Lord's Supper, we also want to provide for others. The food is delivered to the township food pantry at St. Vincent Church. We continue to collect non-perishable food in the baskets located in the church entry-ways during the rest of the month.



Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, **June 4th**, is also the **Day of Pentecost**, when we celebrate the beginning of the Christian Church. The Worship Committee has been planning special decorations for the sanctuary and treats for the picnic. **Please remember to wear something red.**

Deacons Corner

– Katherine Ihringer

Fellowship Hour

Welcome to summer everyone! Since the weather is getting much warmer, coffee hour can be much simpler. Instead of serving hot coffee and tea, coffee hour can consist of iced tea and lemonade. Please consider either hosting coffee hour or donating money to one of the Deacon's, and we will be more than happy to host coffee hour for you!

**Annual Church Picnic**

On **June 4th**, we have our annual church picnic right after church. This year, Meyersville will be hosting our picnic (it will still take place at our church). However, feel free to donate a dish to the picnic. After all, the more the merrier! Please come to the picnic. We always have so much fun, especially doing the egg toss.

Mission of the Month

The Deacon's *Mission of the Month* is **Bridges Outreach Lunch Program**. Bridges is a program that provides meals to the homeless and poor. Our church has helped make the lunch bags for years, and it is such a great cause. Please consider donating any amount of money to the program. There are envelopes in the pew racks that can be used for this offering.

Church Flowers

Please sign up on the Flower Chart in Pollard Hall if you would like to place flowers on the chancel for Sunday morning worship in honor or memory of someone. Allow enough lead time to have them ordered for the date you would like. The cost is \$30, and cash or checks (made payable to: Flowers on the Ridge) should be given to Israel Sierra.



When you sign up on the flower chart, please be specific, i.e. *in memory/honor, given by*, and print clearly.

Deacons' Fund

Please use the green Deacons' Fund envelopes for donations to help the Deacons with their Mission work. They are available in the pew racks or in the church office and may be placed in the offering plate. **Remember to put your name on the envelope so you can receive credit for your donation.** Thank you!

Water Available During Worship

There is a pitcher of water and cups available in the Church narthex in case you need a drink during worship. Please feel free to help yourself or signal an Usher to bring it to you.



Mission Programs

Bridges Outreach Lunch Program

- Jean Hoffman, Coordinator



Our next commitment date for preparing 40 lunches is: **Friday, June 9th, 9:30 a.m.**, in Pollard Hall. We are always in need of small bottles of water and cartons of juice; snacks of cookies, nuts, Goldfish, pretzels, etc.; and plastic spoons. Cash donations are also appreciated to help with the purchase of bread and lunch meat. You can drop items off in Pollard Hall on Sunday mornings, or give cash donations to Madeline or Jean.

Upcoming Dates: July 14, August 4, September 1

Community Food Bank, May 20th

- Kai Ihringer



Our first 2017 trip to the Community Food Bank in Hillside was on Sat., May 20th. We had a group of 9 volunteers who worked hard to help fulfill our church's mission of "Feeding Those Who Hunger," while also enjoying the company of our fellow volunteers.

Pictured here are:

- Janet & Tom Parziale
- Brooke Kupferman
- Daria Jankura
- Katherine Ihringer
- Rev. Peters
- Kai & Lucas Ihringer
- Ian Blakeslee



Please mark your calendars for the next food bank trip, **Sat., October 21st.**

Class of 2017

Congratulations to Katherine Ihringer on her graduation from the College of Saint Elizabeth with a degree in Psychology.



Congratulations to Megan Gallagan on earning her Masters from Kean University.

Church Archives

Please remember to forward news clippings, bulletins, programs, pictures, or other memorabilia regarding any member of our church family to the church office so our archives can be kept up-to-date. There is a **Church Archives** mailbox outside the church offices for this purpose.



If you are interested in helping to keep the archives current, please speak to Rev. Peters or Jan Somers.

Church Website

Our Church website, www.fpcstirling.org, is your source for church news, the Church calendar, Stirling Stuff, upcoming events/programs, Pastor's sermons, Scripture readings, Church history, and more. Please make it a point to log on regularly and keep up-to-date with what's happening.

Free Gentle Yoga Class - Meyersville Presbyterian Church

Roseanne McGraw, a certified yoga teacher for 15 years, is teaching a free gentle yoga class in the parlor at Meyersville Presbyterian Church on **Tuesdays from 9:00-10:00 a.m.** The class is on-going, so you can join at any time.



You will not be sitting or lying on the floor, so just bring yourself in comfortable clothes, and invite friends along. This class will be appropriate for all, the flexible as well as the tight. Injuries will be accommodated. Yoga is relaxing, as well as good for general health; so, come give it a try.

Call or e-mail Rosanne with any questions or concerns: 908-508-1435,
rosanne.mcgraw@gmail.com.



These Days

"These Days has been the concrete expression of the church's witness to the love of Jesus Christ to the world for more than three decades."

Our Church has a subscription for multiple copies of this devotional booklet; they are available on the table in the Church narthex.



Labels/Box Tops for Education; Pop-Top Can Tabs **- Jan Somers**



Please continue to save Labels for Education, Box Tops for Education, and pop-top can tabs. The labels are used by parent organizations in schools to earn educational and recreational items for students.

The can tabs are sold by weight to recycling centers, and the proceeds are donated to Ronald MacDonald House to help fund their programs for hospitalized children and their families.

There is a collection canister in the church office. Thank you.

Ongoing Mission Programs

Road to Bridges

Change (and more) is collected during Fellowship Hour and supports Bridges Program, providing 40 lunches per month to NJ/NY homeless.

Township Food Pantry

Non-perishable items can be left in baskets labeled "Food Pantry Donations" in the Church narthex and outside Pollard Hall.

Items collected for various causes; may be placed on the pew in Pollard Hall:

- ✓ Full-sized and "courtesy" sized bars of soap, shampoo, conditioner, shower caps
- ✓ Cell phones, eyeglasses, sunglasses
- ✓ Fabric: about 1/2 yard minimum, used to make small bears for children, totes for wheelchair patients, etc. Yarn: used to make lap robes for wounded veterans, afghans for battered women, and hats for newborns in hospitals

Ongoing Fundraisers

ShopRite Gift Cards

- ✓ No additional cost to you to use
 - ✓ Purchase cards at face value
 - ✓ Church earns 5%
 - ✓ Denominations available are:
\$20, \$50, \$100
- Gift Cards are available each week during Fellowship Hour or by contacting Madeline Hahl.

iGive

- ✓ No cost to you
- ✓ Log on / sign up / find out more at:
<http://www.igive.com/FirstPresbyterianChurch-StirlingNJ>
- ✓ E-mail this information to your friends

Please e-mail submissions for the Summer issue of Stirling Stuff to:
jsomers17@hotmail.com
by June 22nd. Thank you!

Stirling Stuff is the newsletter of
Why not invite a friend to church?

The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling

158 Central Avenue
Stirling, NJ 07980
Editor: Jan Somers



The Rev. Dr. Thomas T. Peters, Pastor
pastor@fpcstirling.org
Paulette Irlander, Office Manager
Secretary@fpcstirling.org
Church Office: 908-647-1033
Website: www.fpcstirling.org



Our Mission

Jesus said, "Feed My Sheep." This welcoming and caring family, empowered by the love of Christ, shares the grace and peace of God's blessings by serving those who are hungry in body or spirit.