

Our mission is to create disciples for Jesus Christ and to practice His teachings by loving and serving God and one another.



AUGUST 2022

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN TIMES

## Letter from the Pastor

Friends,

A practice I've found particularly helpful over the years in reading and contemplating the Scriptures is called *lectio divina* (divine reading). It is actually a very traditional practice that first took root in western Christian monastic communities as a way to encounter the Scriptures as a "living" word rather than simply a text to be studied.

As August unfolds, and with it a return to familiar routines in home, at work, and at school, I offer below a modified form of *lectio divina* for you as you consider the Scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary complementary track (where Old Testament and Gospel lections complement one another in theme/subject matter) in August. Encounter the Living Word of God, and give thanks!

Peace,  
Pastor Jason

## Lectionary Passages for Each Sunday in August

**August 7** | Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

**August 14** | Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

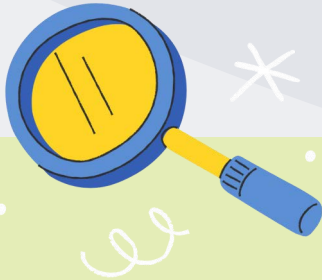
**August 21** | Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

**August 28** | Proverbs 25:6-7; psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

*Continued on following page...*

This modified form of *lectio divina* is four simple steps. Before you begin, find a quiet space. Begin with prayer. Ask God to be present with you. Pick a short passage (perhaps 10 verses long – such as a short narrative, a psalm, or part of a letter/epistle no longer than 1-2 paragraphs), and proceed.

1. **Lectio (reading):** Slowly read the passage and try to experience the passage as if you were there. What do you see, hear, taste, smell, and feel? Read through the passage a second time. As you read, look for a word or phrase that stands out to you. What shines for you in the passage?
2. **Meditatio (meditation):** Focus on that word/phrase. Repeat it to yourself. Let your imagination run with it! What images does this phrase call forth?
3. **Oratio (prayer):** Read through the passage a third time. Ask yourself, what is God's invitation to me? What is God saying to me? How does this passage connect with my life? Spend a few minutes in prayer. Allow this passage to shape your prayers.
4. **Contemplatio (contemplation):** Read the passage a fourth and final time. Let it sink in deeply. Take some time to simply be quiet and rest in the presence of God.



## STEWARDSHIP SIGHTING

### *Our Community Breakfast Volunteers*

Every Wednesday morning beginning at 6:30 am, in our Presby Place Kitchen, you will find a volunteer team made up of both church and community members preparing to serve a wonderful breakfast to around 25 people beginning at 7:30 am. There are 5 volunteer teams with about 12 people per team to prepare, cook, serve, and clean up for each breakfast. Our Community Breakfast attendees are made up of singles, couples, and families with children. In addition, these same volunteers also prepare a carry-out lunch bag for those who request one. For more information on this community service program, you can contact church members John & Peggy Lyons.

**Pictured left to right:** Church members Michael Donnelly & Jackie Macdonald and Community members Megan Plattner and Jo Marti



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Upcoming Events, Classes, & Save the Date's

### Summer Brunch | August 7th

Fisher Hall | After 10:30 a.m. service

Gather in gratitude for bountiful blessings! Please bring a dish to pass and your desire for fellowship! Table service and beverages are provided.

### Soccer Camp | August 13th

Grades K-5th | 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Kids will learn ball techniques, teamwork strategy, play fun games, and have a Christ-centered lesson! This is for any child of any skill level. Registration is FREE!

RSVP at: [susana@firstpresmanhattan](mailto:susana@firstpresmanhattan) or call the church office at (785) 537-0518.

### Parent's Night Out | August 26th

Walking age to 11 years | 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Our next Parent's Night Out is Friday, August 26th from 6 to 8 pm! The children will be learning about the building blocks of faith with a theme related activity, crafts, bible lesson, and snacks!

### PraiseFest 2022 | September 23rd-25th

First Presbyterian Church is serving as a major sponsor for their Global Impact Event that will take place on Sept 23. PraiseFest is partnering with Feed My Starving Children—MOBILEPACK to prepare 100,084 meals for starving children across the globe.

Volunteers are needed for this mission event, and we would love to see a great FPC volunteer effort. The event will have 2 hour shifts packing these meals. Make it a family event, bring your neighbors and friends. Registration/sign-up is ongoing.

For more information go to [www.praisefest.org/global-impact-event](http://www.praisefest.org/global-impact-event)

### Kentucky Mission Team Trip | October 2nd-8th

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Hopkins County Emergency Management Agency in partnership with Madisonville's First Presbyterian Church will host a Mission Team from the Presbytery of Northern Kansas. For questions, contact Pam Beardsley at [pambear34@gmail.com](mailto:pambear34@gmail.com)

### PNK Fall Youth Retreat | October 1st-2nd

Grades 7-12th | Rock Springs Ranch

During our time together, we will have Fun (Ziplining! Hiking! Gaga Ball!), Fellowship (lunch, dinner, smores and breakfast together!), and grow in our Faith. Youth cost is \$85 which includes all meals, lodging and activities. All you need to bring is yourself, your bedding and towels and clothes for the weekend...and prepare to have a good time! Register online by September 12, 2022 at [www.pnks.org/upcoming-events](http://www.pnks.org/upcoming-events)



# PRESBY KIDS SOCCER CAMP

AUGUST  
13TH

9 AM-  
NOON

K-5TH  
GRADE



- ✓ Ball technique
- ✓ Teamwork strategy
- ✓ Fun games
- ✓ Christ Centered Lesson

**Come for Faith, Fun and  
Team Building!**

Registration  
**FREE**

**First Presbyterian Church**

801 Leavenworth St  
Manhattan, KS

Register at:  
[firstpresmanhattan.com](http://firstpresmanhattan.com)

More Information

785.537.0518 | [susana@firstpresmanhattan.com](mailto:susana@firstpresmanhattan.com)

# FPC FOOD PANTRY

Making an Impact on Food Insecurities!



The numbers of community members served by First Presby's food pantry has substantially increased since reopening last fall. From January - June, 290 households (totaling 432 adults/seniors and 147 children) obtained food and non-food items from our food pantry on Fridays from 9:00-11:30 a.m. The items distributed are obtained primarily from the Flint Hills Breadbasket and through donations and purchases made with church funds and contributions from the Zeandale Community Church.

Special recognition is given to the many Friday volunteers who help greet, check-in, and sack groceries during Friday pantry hours: Pam Beardsley, Sherry Borck, Eloise Brown, Chris Butler, Garalyn Connery, Pam Crawford, Donna Davis, Paul Dittmar, Jan Gibbs, Kate Gillum, Lynne Haines, Terry and Mark Healy, Peg Janssen, Leicha Kennedy, Jackie MacDonald, Shelley Manges, Mike Meisenheimer, Mary Mertz, Evelyn Neill, Nancy Parker, Katie Philp, Mary Alice Schlesener, Ross Snyder, Mary Lou Steinkruger, Mary Vander Pol, Mary Vestweber, and Cinda Vogel, and Mylo Wattenford (purchasing assistant). Josh Medicinebird, volunteer coordinator, does a terrific job of coordinating Friday work schedules.

Volunteering at the pantry is a great way to serve this important church mission and our community! Please contact one of the pantry co-coordinators Barbara Gatewood, Emily Mark, and Stacey Montgomery, if you are interested in joining our pantry team or donating items.

*(Pictured above: volunteers Pam Crawford, Paul Dittmar, and Chris Butler)*

## Harvesters REPORT



The First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry was open every Friday in the month of June and served 74 households!

# PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26  
6PM - 8PM



## BUILDING FAITH

Kids will learn how to identify ways they can put their faith into action, what shapes and materials help build the strongest structures, and ways they can build a strong foundation for their faith!



## FREE TO ALL!

BRING A FRIEND

WALKING AGE TO 11 YEARS

SNACKS

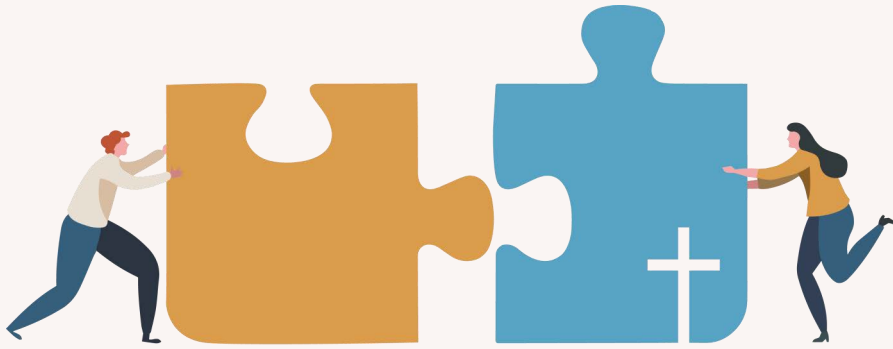
CRAFTS & GAMES

BIBLE LESSON

**SIGN UP TODAY AT:**

[susana@firstpresmanhattan.com](mailto:susana@firstpresmanhattan.com)

785-537-0518



## PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER FAITH IN ACTION

As August comes to an end and we kick off the Fall season, your church leadership has started its early planning for the 2023 year.

Beginning this month, you will see a new theme around our church.... **Putting It All Together: Faith In Action.** You will want to attend church on August 28th when we will demonstrate to you how we are going to be "Putting It All Together".

During the weeks ahead we will be looking in entirety at the gifts we have and can offer to our church—time, talent and financial resources. These are holy gifts! All these gifts are symbols of love and signs of grace that are offered out of joy and devotion. These gifts we offer to God are symbols of our covenant and love of Jesus Christ.

Two years ago, you started to see in our church newsletter, 'Stewardship Sightings', pictures of members and friends of our church who volunteer their time and talent to the service of God. This idea was conceived by the Stewardship Committee to demonstrate that Stewardship is an ongoing, year-round commitment and not just a once-a-year financial campaign.

This Fall, we will be communicating to you via email, mail, and in person, asking you to pray and consider how you can expand or start sharing your time, talent and financial resources to the continued ministry of our church to love and serve God and one another.

# Backpack PROGRAM



Thank you to all who supported our 2022 Backpack Program; it was a huge success!



# AUGUST CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Worship Committee 5:15pm Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm	2 Faith Formation Meeting 5:15pm Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	3 Community Breakfast 7am Staff Meeting 9am	4	5 Food Pantry 9am	6
7 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am  Sunday Brunch 11:30am  9th Sunday after Pentecost	8 Mission Committee Meeting 5:15pm Membership Committee 5:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm	9 Stewardship Committee 1:30pm Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	10 Community Breakfast 7am Newsletter Deadline	11 Business Affairs Meeting 5pm	12 Food Pantry 9am	13 Soccer Camp 9am
14 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am  10th Sunday after Pentecost	15 Men's Luncheon 12pm Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm	16 Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	17 Community Breakfast 7am Staff Meeting 9am Personnel Meeting 1pm	18	19 Food Pantry 9am	20
21 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am  Communion Sunday  11th Sunday after Pentecost	22 Deacon's Meeting 5:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm	23 Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm	24 Community Breakfast 7am	25	26 Food Pantry 9am Parents' Night Out 6pm	27
28 Parkside Worship 8:30am Nursery 9am-noon Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am  12th Sunday after Pentecost	29 Boy Scouts Troop 74 6:30pm	30 Community Showers 5pm Community Meals 6pm Session Meeting 6:30pm	31 Community Breakfast 7am Staff Meeting 9am			





# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

08/03 Tony Tiroch

08/04 Jim Weaver

08/05 James Poulter

08/05 Sue David

08/07 Norm Schlesener

08/07 Tom Dunn

08/07 Shirley Moherman

08/11 Sterling Edgar

08/13 Nancy Parker

08/16 Mary VanderPol

08/20 Wayne Mountford

08/23 Jerry Vestweber

08/23 Carolyn Knostman-Bowers

08/24 Doug Thompson

08/25 Travis Shilling

08/25 Eleanor Cox

08/26 Susan Maxwell

08/27 Evelyn Neill

08/27 Marcia Hauck

08/27 Amy Matthews

08/28 Dena Huff

08/29 Sharla Meisenheimer

08/30 Mark Healy

## REG PITTMAN'S *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* CELEBRATION

Dear Church Members,

Thank you for celebrating my 25th year anniversary as choir director. I appreciate the many cards, gifts and kind words. A special thank you to Sue and Tom Dunn for preparing the meal, and Joan Nelson for the cake.

Sincerely,  
Reg



Thank you to everyone who came out to assist in the church yard clean-up!



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# FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Instagram: @firstpremanhattan

YouTube: @firstpresmanhattan

Website: [www.firstpresmanhattan.com](http://www.firstpresmanhattan.com)



## ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

Our ice cream social will be held in conjunction with  
Sunday Brunch, August 7th!