

The VOICE

pastor's Corner

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www.firstpresbyteriansullivan.org

Greetings in Jesus Christ our Savior!

October 2023

We've just finished the sermon series *Creatures of Habit*. It has been an enlightening series and has shown us a lot about habits that bring us promise and habits that are a poison.

I chose the reading from Philippians 2:1-4. ***“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”***

Let's dig into this reading a little bit. Keep in mind, this letter was written by the Apostle Paul to the Philippians. He is strongly encouraging them to remain united in the love of Christ Jesus. Being Christlike brings the reality that those who are united in the love of Jesus, are sharing in the reality of the same Spirit. Hence, by living united, it will bring about the fruits of the spirit. Although we are all very different, **when we love Jesus first in our lives, we can be confident that the qualities of tenderness and compassion come from being one with Christ.**

Diversity is a good thing. We were all created in the likeness of God but also as individuals. We have differing backgrounds and differing lifestyles, but that should make us **stronger together NOT divide us**. The important part is sharing the same spirit, tenderness and compassion. Verse 4 stands out here. **“Not looking to your own interests but the interests of others.”**

Like the old saying, *“you are known by the company you keep,”* following Jesus as our Savior is certainly good company to keep. **It's the best company to keep!** Just like we've been talking about, the habits we keep must be chosen to reflect the habit of promise.

Verse 3 comes in as a perfect reminder. ***“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves.”*** **Now that's a perfect habit to live by!**

Let's pray together for unity in Christ to fill our world!

Happy Harvest,

Pastor Kathi Kraus

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Meet Our Staff here at FPCS

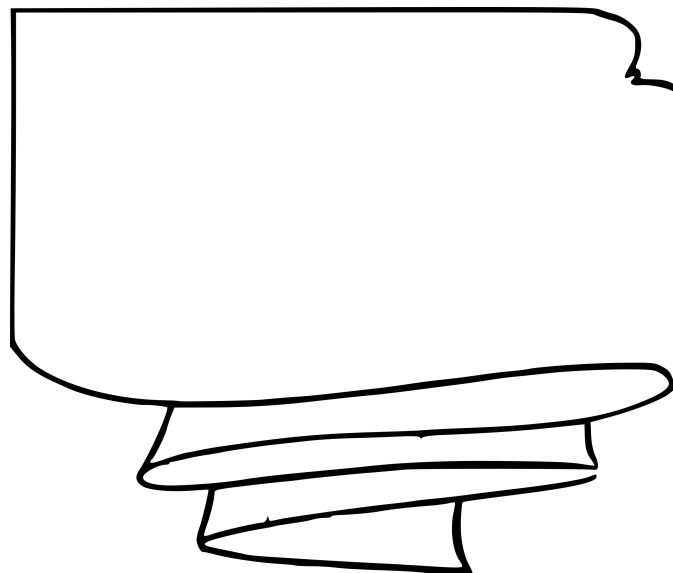
Pastor: Kathi Kraus
Pastor Assistant/Treasurer:
Valeta Betz
Clerk of Session: Tonette Barnes

We are NOW Live Streaming our Worship

You are welcome to join us each Sunday morning from wherever you are through live stream. Please follow us on FaceBook or go to our website to join us in worship. Your gifts may be submitted by email or PayPal donation link on our website: www.firstpresbyteriansullivan.org or using the email address: donate@firstpresbyteriansullivan.org. Join us in the pew every chance you get!

Join us for worship service every Sunday at
10:30am.

Fellowship immediately follows with cookies, juice and coffee!



Life Team Members are as follows:

Team A - Patti & Greg Myers
Pete & Kathi Kraus

Team B - Michelle Walka & Dave Law
Tim & Nettie Peterson

C o o k i e s

October

- 1 Carol Kroenung
- 8 Royce and Suzanne Scott
- 15 Jack & Sharon Blanton
- 22 Dan & Marilyn McWhorter
- 29 Terri Sappington

November

- 5 Connie Delcour & Tonette Barnes
- 12 Charlie & Valeta Betz
- 19 Zenas & Sally Jo Blevins
- 26 Tim & Nettie Peterson

December

- 3 Carol Kroenung
- 10 Royce & Suzanne Scott
- 17 Jack & Sharon Blanton
- 24 Marilyn & Dan McWhorter
- 31 Terri Sappington



October 2023 Happenings

Sunday Worship services Starting 10:30 AM (1st & 3rd Sundays Celebrate communion and all special services)

Disciple Time included in each worship service.

Fellowship immediately follows our worship service in the Fellowship hall for Cookies, juice and coffee.

Knitters Every Tuesday at 10:00 AM

Adult Bible Study 2nd through the 4th Thursday of each month at 3:30 PM in the library at the church.

Praying with Flair meets 1st Thursday monthly via zoom 7:00 PM. Please submit your email address to join the group.

Believers meet the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

Session 3rd Wednesday monthly 1:00 PM.

Movie Matinee the last Wednesday of the month at 1:00 PM. Free for all & all are welcome

TOPS meets Thursdays 5:00 PM

AA meets Mondays & Thursdays 7:00 PM

NA meets Tuesdays 6:00 PM, Fridays 9:00 PM and Saturdays 4:00 PM

Upcoming dates - mark your calendars!

October 6th & 7th - 10am-4pm

Mt. Helicon Art Festival hosted by us

October 8th - noon, **25th Anniversary dedication** of our sanctuary with Potluck

October 21st - Believers perform at Women's Gathering @ Faith Des Peres Presbyterian Church with puppets

October 22nd - Luncheon hosted by the Walka Family

November 4th Saturday - **Trivia/silent auction Fundraiser** for Turning Point Women's & Children Shelter 6-9 PM

November 5th - Reaffirmation and Baptisms



News Flash!!!

Beginning this month Marilyn McWhorter will be submitting "A Favorite Bible Verse" from our congregation to the Voice. Get yours ready. She will be asking for one, and give the reason it's your favorite!! One will be featured each month.

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

5...Royce Scott

7...Bob Sappington

21...Dan McWhorter

21...Steve Gallop

24...Greg Myers

26...Butch Walka

Anniversaries

20...Ted & Joyce Walker

27...Peter III & Ashley Kraus

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

1...Theresa Weakley

14...Rosco Walka

17...Sharon Blanton

26...Ellie Schmidt

Anniversaries

None

Greeters

October

1 Charlie & Valeta Betz

8 Royce Scott

15 Royce Scott

22 Tim & Nettie Peterson

29 Dave Law

November

5 Royce Scott

12 Jack & Sharon Blanton

19 Kathryn McGill

26 Charlie & Valeta Betz

Liturgist for October

Steve Gallop

Elder on Call for October

Charlie Betz

The Saga of Charlie & the Chairs

Many years ago during a brainstorming session of ways to grow our church, a member suggested that we offer the use of our Fellowship Hall to Franklin County as a voting space. It was large enough to accommodate many voters, plenty of parking available, and handicap accessible. Good Idea! The Franklin County Election Board agreed and quickly accepted the offer.

Enter Complication: Sounds easy but, in fact, there was another side to the story! Before voting booths could be set up, tables and chairs had to be moved and temporarily stored. Then after voting was completed, tables and chairs had to be moved back to their original places.

Enter Charlie: For at least 10 years, Charlie has done all of this. Now, have you ever tried to move these tables? Heavy! And the chairs presented an additional problem: they were heavy and awkward. But Charlie managed all of this without complaint (or no complaints that we heard).

Enter Funding: With a brighter financial outlook for our church, this past spring Session decided to help Charlie out and order new chairs. These chairs were stackable and much easier to manage. And they matched the Fellowship Hall carpet perfectly!

Enter Problem: A home for the old chairs now had to be found. Well, Charlie quickly figured this out!

Enter Solution: With Valeta's help they posted pictures of the blue chairs on Facebook and social media. A buyer for 5 chairs came forward. Now only 95 chairs left to sell!

Enter Conclusion: A church in Salem, MO noticed the Facebook post and gave Charlie a call. They agreed on a price and a 16 ft. trailer was backed up to the door of the Fellowship Hall and soon the blue chairs were on their way to their new home.

Enter Thanksgiving: Thank you Charlie and Valeta for your time and effort in this endeavor. We very much appreciate you and we also appreciate our new brown chairs!

END OF SAGA

Respectfully submitted by:

Marilyn McWhorter

A Favorite Bible Verse

When asked if she would share a favorite Bible verse with us, Jean Krebs was happy to respond. "Of course, I have many favorite passages in the Bible. But perhaps one that I hold most dear is this.

Psalm 23:1

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

I find that more than ever in my life, I am listening to God all day long as He is guiding me. I feel His presence with me each and every hour. Philippians 4:11 has taught me to be content in every situation. With these verses I try to encourage my friends here at Victorian Place." Thank you, Jean, for your testimony. And thank you for offering to be the first in our new monthly feature of favorite Bible verses.

September 20, 2023 Session Highlights

- Peter Louis Kraus IV and Hannah Jo Kraus were Baptized on 9/3/23.
- Approved hosting our first Mt. Helicon Art Festival on October 6 & 7, 2023, organized by Solarium Productions.
- We hosted our first Annual Church Picnic on 9/17 with good attendance, food and activities.
- Our Trivia Night event will be the icing on the cake for the Turning Point goal.
- A Special Service with a Rededication is being planned for the October 8th 25-year Celebration of the opening of the Sanctuary.
- Served communion to approximately 44 on 9/3/23 and 34 on 9/17/23 with home communion to 5.
- Greg Myers is working on a Bible Study program to be presented starting in October.
- The Believers are working on a puppet program to be presented in October.
- Nominations were approved to be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting.
- Will check the lighting in the Adult Classroom to see if we can get brighter lighting in that room.
- Our budget billing for natural gas increased \$330/month.
- The Budget for 2024 was approved.