

The VOICE

Pastor's Corner

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www.firstpresbyteriansullivan.org

November 2023

What an amazing God we serve! Greetings.

We've been experiencing a movement and awakening in our worshiping family. It's been exciting to see what God can do and how He loves us so much.

This month, I want to share with you something some of us have been talking about when we meet together. We've been talking about John 14:15-17.

These are the words Jesus shared with his disciples the night before his arrest. ***"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."***

What does this reading mean to you? How have you seen it play out in your life?

Jesus did start a revolution during his ministry and after his death. He changed the world.

Jesus has not deserted us or abandoned us. He has done all the work for us. Then he left us in the holy hands of the Spirit to teach and guide us, to empower and move us to rise and build.

This Spirit of truth is what every believer must cling to. **The Spirit brings life to our faith.**

The Spirit moves us into action. This movement might not necessarily be an emotional feeling or a bright light, but it will move us and change us.

It's not an easy thing to understand. Unfortunately, our world has to touch or see or feel something before they believe it. Yet, when we believe that Jesus came, died, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, we are filled with the Holy Spirit.

Seek the Holy Spirit to fill your heart in your daily lives and feel the presence of Jesus all around you. You will experience a revolution of the love of Jesus. Allow your heart and mind to be revived.

Don't doubt, but believe.

Pastor Kathi Kraus

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Visit our Website at
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Meet Our Staff here at FPCS

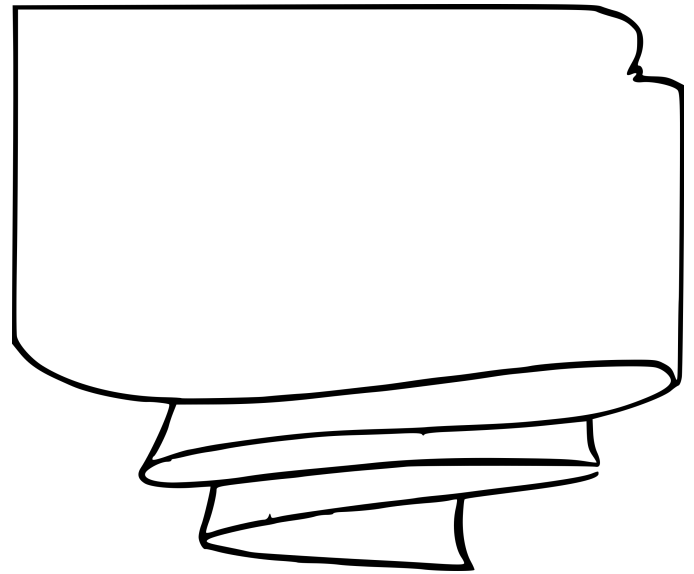
Pastor: Kathi Kraus
Pastor Assistant/Treasurer:
Valeta Betz
Clerk of Session: Tonette Barnes

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



November

5 Cake for New Members
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

November 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.

Jesus Revolution Bible Study Sundays Nov. 5, 12 & 19 @ 2 PM. Wednesdays Nov. 1, 8, & 15 @ 6 PM.

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!

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

November 5th - Reaffirmation and Baptisms

November 5th - Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 12th - Annual Meeting

November 26th - Soup Potluck
Hanging of the greens



November Birthdays & Anniversaries

1...Theresa Weakley

14...Rosco Walka

17...Sharon Blanton

26...Ellie Schmidt

Anniversaries

None

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

11...Marilyn McWhorter

19...Kathy Gallop

Anniversaries

None

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

11...Kathryn McGill

19...Cali Koppelman-Blue

25...Remmi Koppelman-Blue

26...Pete Kraus

26...Pat Andrae

Anniversaries

None

Greeters

November

5 Royce Scott

12 Jack & Sharon Blanton

19 Kathryn McGill

26 Charlie & Valeta Betz

December

3 Greg & Patti Myers

10 Royce Scott

17 Tim & Nettie Peterson

24 Dave Law

31 Royce Scott

Liturgist for November

Greg Myers

Elder on Call for November

Tonette Barnes

A Favorite Bible Verse

Royce Scott

(Solomon's general observations: A Time for Everything)

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

For everything there is a season,
And a time for every activity under heaven.
A time to be born, and a time to die.
A time to plant, and a time to harvest.
A time to kill, and a time to heal.
A time to tear down, and a time to build up.
A Time to cry, and a time to laugh.
A time to grieve, and a time to dance.
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather
stones.
A time to embrace, and a time to turn away.
A time to search, and a time to quit searching.
A time to keep, and a time to throw away.
A time to tear, and a time to mend.
A time to be quiet, and a time to speak.
A time to love, and a time to hate.
A time for war, and a time for peace.

What do people really get for all their hard work? I have seen the burden God has placed on us all. Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God. And I know that whatever God does is final. Nothing can be added to it or taken from it. God's purpose is that people should fear him. What is happening now has happened before, and what will happen in the future has happened before, because God makes the same things happen over and over again.

"This is my favorite Bible verse because it describes what life is all about. It is the story of existence. You can't exist in the world and not experience all of these things."

~Scotty~

CELEBRATION!!!

Our church experienced a very special weekend October 6-8. What began as a Sunday Celebration of 25 Years in our new sanctuary expanded to include the Mt. Helicon Art Fair on Friday and Saturday. The Art Fair idea originated with Josh Medling of Solarium Productions. Josh has assisted our church

with tech assistance. He mentioned the Art Fair to Pastor Kathi and inquired if our church would provide space for the event. Session approved and it turned out to be perfect timing for the first Mt. Helicon Art Fair!

It was truly a blessing to witness all of the guests who came through the door to talk with artists and view their displays. They came at a steady pace both days as soon as the door opened. It was estimated that approximately 150 attended.

Many contributed to the success of the Fair. Thanks to Sally Jo and Terri who arranged a colorful display of projects created by the Knitwit ladies who meet on Tuesday mornings. They welcomed guests as they knitted/crocheted behind their display. Terri organized food as well as a crew of servers who handled the free lunch that was offered by donation only. A total of \$316 was donated with proceeds going toward the restoration of the Jacob Clark Cemetery.

There is so much that happened in conjunction with the Art Fair. Several members of the Franklin County Cemetery Society showed up Saturday morning to begin the cleanup of the cemetery. Michelle and Roscoe assisted them for several hours and then brought them over to our church for lunch! Two men (one of whom was an artist with his work on display) requested a tour of our church. Pastor Kathi took them into the sanctuary and proudly explained the messages behind our beautiful stained glass windows which are works of art in themselves.

Sunday entered around the Rededication Service which was very special. Four church members who served on the original new sanctuary building committee were present. Sharon Blanton, Tonette Barnes, Greg Myers and Royce Scott. Pastor Kathi provided a brief history of our church from the time it originated in 1854 on Mt. Helicon before it became Sullivan. She read excerpts from records in the church archives that had been used during services held in the past. The church vision of "Arise and Build" was repeated at each new stage of church growth. This vision has now become the building of a new spiritual ministry as we seek God's will in our future plans.

It was a weekend of total celebration and thanksgiving ending with a pot-luck luncheon! Those who were able to attend these events were truly blessed. (More to follow on the cemetery restoration project.) *Submitted by Marilyn McWhorter*