



First Press

Worship and Wisdom

First Presbyterian Church

May 15, 2022

Our Guest Pastor

Rev. David Dutcher

Our Mission

We are a community of disciples who celebrate God's inclusive love by ministering to one another and the world.

Church Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm
Monday through Friday

Care

Deacon Family Groups

A,W-Z	Peggy Southard	L-Ma	Linda Upstill
B	Grace Nganga	Mb-Ne	Nancy Rumsey
C-De	Cherie Hoover	Nf-R	Sandy Groene
Df-F	Diana Schoneweis	Sa-So	Kathy Stover
G-Hi	Julie Simon	Sp-V	Annette Camlin
Hj-K	Charles Tuttle		

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Larry Schlosser** is home following back surgery.
- **Eric Fischer** is home following a surgery with a long recovery expected. Words of encouragement are most welcome!
- **Karen Johns** had out-patient surgery last week. She is home and recovering.
- **Thomas Lushington and Lawrence High School** Thomas was a semi-finalist in Lincoln Douglas and LHS took 5th Place overall in the Kansas State Speech and Drama Championship.
- **Yvonne Davidson** had out-patient surgery on May 10. Prayers are welcome.
- **Jeanine Tiemann** had out-patient surgery in April. She would appreciate calls and visits!
- **George Crump** is being treated for some health issues and is grateful for our prayers.
- **Gerry and Marcia McPhail** as they continue to navigate changes in life's circumstances.
- **Sharon and Phil Rankin** who are learning to manage again at home.

- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.
- **For all who are dealing with COVID** - Lord hear our prayers.

Birthdays in the Congregation

May 16	John Stewart, Jr.	May 21	Stan Roth
May 18	Paxton Christenson		Jan Tedrow
May 19	Rich Givens	May 22	Martha Kessler
	Henry Johns		Carol Smith
	Bob Longino		
	Tricia Judd		

Calendar

May 15	8:45 am	Sunday Child Care
	9:15 am	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 am	Worship – Rev. David Dutcher
May 16	5:30 pm	Cub Scout Pack 3059 Meeting
	6:00 pm	Westminster Bell Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	First 5 Years Board Meeting
May 17	2:00 pm	Parkinson's Support Group
	6:00 pm	Deacon Meeting
	7:00 pm	PW Leah Circle
May 18	1:30 pm	PW Martha Circle
	6:00 pm	Webelos – Pack 3059
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59
		Chancel Choir Rehearsal
May 19	4:00 pm	Family Ministry Meeting
May 22	8:45 am	Sunday Morning Child Care
	9:15 am	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 am	Worship – Pastor Helen Hutchison
	11:30 am	Welcome Pastor Helen Celebration

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Charles and Jennifer Tuttle and Pat McAlister
Greeters: Sandy Groene and Linda Burton
Securing the Offering: Henry Johns and Heather Soper
Mugger: Dede Dresser

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone, whether you are joining us virtually or in-person, as a long-time member or a first-time guest, we are happy to have you with us.

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” – Hebrews 13:2

Guests delight us. Our goal is simple: make all people feel welcomed, not overwhelmed. We were all visitors once and remember how it feels to try a new place of worship. Attend as often as you want. Visitors are welcome at all FPC events, classes, and small groups as well as in worship. We will always be glad to see you!

Our Pictorial Directories have arrived and will be distributed on Sunday, May 22, following worship and before our dinner. If your picture is in the directory, we have a copy for you! Look for the table outside on your way to dinner!

Session and Church policy

This Sunday we are in a RED – HIGH! Masks are mandatory. Thank you!

Mask update – At their meeting on May 10, the Session determined that we will continue to follow the guidelines of the Lawrence Douglas County Health Department regarding masking at church. Their report to the public on Tuesday will determine what level we will use on Sunday. LDCHD uses a “Green, Yellow, Red”, but are moving to a “Low, Medium, High” metric system to show the level of community transmission. Until we are back in the Green / Low area, we will not have Fellowship inside. It will be up to the Fellowship Committee to serve coffee outside on any given Sunday. If you can help them serve, contact Chris Heider (v.c.heider25@gmail.com) or John Hughes (785-842-1036).

Education

This Sunday – Adult Classes begin at 9:15 am

- **Roundtable / Seekers Class – Understanding Addiction: The Spirituality of Recovery** – Led by Rev. Paul Romine, this class will explore the basics of chemical dependency as a treatable disease. Paul has experience as a chaplain and case manager in hospital-based alcohol and drug treatment programs. There will be opportunities for sharing and mutual support.
- **Dr. Huyser’s Old Testament Class** is meeting in the Chapel at 9:15 am. His past lectures and slides are available on [YouTube](#).

Education Offerings Coming Soon!

LGBTQ – what does that acronym really mean?
If we add LGBTQ^{2A2I}, then we really shake our heads. What’s all this about? Is it a fad? Join sexuality educator Judith Galas to decode the acronym, learn more about those within the LGBTQ communities, and share why their fight for justice matters. The class will meet at 9:15 am on May 22nd in Fellowship Hall.

Parables – Stories for Life in God’s World

Last day to order a book! This will be an 8-week Kerygma study beginning June 9 (a Thursday) at 4:00 pm. **Please note that this is a new time!** Rod Nitz will lead the study of the timeless stories that speak to our faith and influence the decisions we make while discovering what makes a parable unique. Appreciate how Jesus used these seemingly simple stories to express the heart of the good news he brought. After an introduction we will study Parables of Growth, Parables of Reversal, Parables of Preparation, and Parables of Decision.

Register and order a book (\$10) with Linda Watts before May 15. lindajoywatts@gmail.com Books are required. Adult Education is underwriting the balance of the cost of the book.

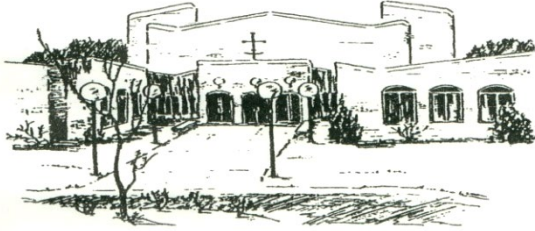
Sunday Nursery – We have not been able to hire or recruit workers for our nursery on Sunday mornings, so beginning May 29th and through the Summer, the nursery will not be staffed. **Parents are welcome to use the nursery to stay with their children.** This decision has been regrettably made after an ongoing search for childcare workers since late November of 2021. We plan to resume childcare when the fall schedule resumes, if workers are available. Our apologies for the inconvenience to parents.

Support

Personnel – We are hiring!

Christian Education Coordinator and Youth Director – We are also looking for a Christian Education Coordinator and Youth Director.

Position requires personal faith development, solid interpersonal skills, Office 365 competency, familiarity with database applications (or will train), and ability to work a flexible 30 – 40 hour week including hours on Sunday. Interested applicants should send resume and cover letter to: linda@firstpreslawrence.org. Applications will be processed as received until the position is filled. Job description available on request.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Rev. David Dutcher, Guest Pastor
Henry Johns, liturgist

May 15, 2022

David Pérez,
organist

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
CHARLES WESLEY
MARK MILLER, arr.

Chancel Choir
Angela Loganbill, director
David Pérez, piano

Call to Worship

One: In resurrection joy, we gather to worship the Holy One, the God of our ancestors.

All: We gather in the name of Jesus, who invites us to Life in all its abundance.

One: In response to holy invitation and as invocation, let us call upon the One who gives us life.

Invocation

Based on words by Carolyn McDade

Henry Johns

O Holy One, Spirit of Life, come unto us, come unto me.

Sing in our hearts all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold us close; wings set us free;

Spirit of Life, resurrect in our lives deep joy grounded in thee.

O Holy One, Spirit of Love, come unto us, come unto me.

Sing in my soul all the mystery of creation.

Teach us to care, peace let there be;

Lead us to truth, showing forth the paths of wisdom.

Roots hold us close, wings set us free,

Spirit of Love, come unto us, come unto me.

Opening Hymn

The Day of Resurrection!
LANCASHIRE

Glory to God #233

Call to Confession

Henry Johns

Because we are loved, we are called to turn to God in humility. We fall short of who God calls us to be, but we are never forsaken. In faith and with confidence as beloved children, let us make our confession to God.

Prayer of Confession

Henry Johns

Holy One, your instruction is that we love one another, yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace. You call us to care for all of creation, yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature through carelessness. You invite us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way.

Forgive us, O God. Guide us as we work toward a new heaven here on earth. Lead us to reconciliation and a vision for your Beloved Community, as we share your love with people everywhere.

(A time of silence for personal confession)

Pouring the Water (Our connection to the source of all life)

David Dutcher

Declaration of Forgiveness

Henry Johns

Hear the good news: As far as the east is from the west, so the love of God, the compassion of God, the forgiveness of God stretches to hold us.

Congregational Sung Response

based on Charles Wesley's final verse from *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*- AZMON hymn tune

***In Christ, our head, we then shall know, shall feel our sins forgiven;
Anticipate God's heaven below, and own that love is heaven.***

One: Thanks be to God.

All: Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Henry Johns

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Children's Moment

David Dutcher

Handbell Anthem

Toccata for a Joyous Day
PAUL A. McKLVEEN

Westminster Ringers
Carol Fleeger, director

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, open our hearts and minds, that, as the scriptures are read and your message of peace and hope proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you have to say to us today. Amen.

Responsive Psalm

Henry Johns

Chancel Choir: The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

One: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

All: The Lord makes me to lie down in green pastures,

One: The Lord leads me beside still waters, restores my life;

All: Leads me in right paths for the sake of the Lord's name.

One: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

All: For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Chancel Choir: The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

One: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

All: You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

One: Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

All: And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Chancel Choir: The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

The Lesson from Scripture

Acts 11:1-18

Pastor David Dutcher

Hymn Response to Scripture

Spirit of the Living God
LIVING GOD

Glory to God #288

Sermon

"That's the Way It Has Always Been"

Pastor David Dutcher

Hymn

Help Us Accept Each Other

(See attachment)

Call for Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Henry Johns

Ever-present Holy One, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to render to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips only, but with our whole lives, turning the duties, the sorrows, and the joys of all our days into a living offering to you. Amen.

Offering plates are located in the Narthex at the end of the "sign-in" tables.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

David Dutcher

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe; The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world; Your heavenly will be done by all created beings; Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustains our hope and comes on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, Now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

This Is My Song
FINLANDIA

Glory to God #340

Dismissal

Henry Johns

One: Go out with joy in the Spirit; go out with God.

All: Alleluia! We go out with joy!

One: Alleluia! Amen.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

Blessing

David Dutcher

Postlude

David Pérez, organist

Faith ∞ Family ∞ Focus

Sunday School Schedule

This week in Sunday School, meeting at 9:15 am, we will be wrapping up the school year and planning a party for May 22. We hope to meet Pastor Helen on that day as well. See you in Sunday School!

Faith Practice of the Week

Prayer is sometimes understood as a default for trying to get our way with God. Instead, let's look at prayer as a way to express thanks to God for all we have before us to enjoy living. Prayers is a way we talk to our understanding of who God is or it might be a way we talk to each other as in God's presence. Mealtime prayers offer a consistent ritual for sharing prayers in our families. During the next several weeks, suggested practices of prayer will be offered. There are so many ways to pray, so find a practice that fits for you and your family. Here is one such way:

Repeated Prayer – The leader says the phrases one at a time and everyone responds – “for food in a world where many walk in hunger // for faith in a world where many walk in fear // for friends in a world where many walk alone // we give you thanks O Lord // Amen.

Mission - Matthew 25

HCR5003 proposes an amendment to the Kansas Constitution for consideration at a special election called on August 2, 2022, to be held in conjunction with the primary election held on that date. That amendment, if approved by a majority of Kansas voters, would create a new section in the Kansas Bill of Rights concerning the regulation of abortion. The resolution states the amendment may be cited as the Value Them Both Amendment.

The new section would state the Kansas Constitution does not require government funding of abortion and does not create or secure a right to abortion. Further, the language would state, to the extent permitted by the U.S. Constitution, the people of Kansas, through their elected state representatives and senators, may pass laws regarding abortion, including, but not limited to, laws that account for circumstances of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest, or circumstances of necessity when necessary to save the life of the mother.

Those opposed to abortion are using the catch phrase Value them Both to persuade Kansans to vote YES August 2nd on HRC 5003-to amend the state constitution to regulate abortion. This phrase projects a life affirming stance that the actual amendment seeks to undermine by devaluing the right of women to make this personal decision in prayer and consultation with their minister and family.

The [Kansas Reflector](#) posted an interesting and timely opinion this week outlining the issues. Regardless of your stance on the issue, make your vote count in August.

Justice Matters – At the Action Assembly **Elder Care** was added to their areas for research and Margie Dyck is part of the leadership. They found that nearly every Elder Care provider in the Lawrence area is having difficulty recruiting and retaining qualified staff to provide care. This results in extremely long waiting list times – months. One provider stated that they would need to hire 45 new caregivers to serve all the folks on their waiting list. County Commissioner Patrick Kelly committed to working with the team to find solutions to this concern.

Restorative Practices in USD497 had been unable to get responses to a request for quarterly meetings between Justice Matters and the district leaders for the restorative practices rollout. School Board member Andrew Nussbaum agreed to ask the Equity Advisory Council for such meetings.

Jail Alternatives group wants to see reforms that lower failure-to-appear bookings into Douglas County Jail which are not productive to the individual or the community. Justice Matters is suggesting 1. Failure-to-appear rescheduling rather than arresting them and booking them into jail, and 2. Strong city-and-release policies, compelling officers to issue citations instead of arresting people for low-level, nonviolent crimes. Sheriff Jay Armbrister agreed to initiate a collaborative effort with municipal and district court judges to establish these or similar solutions.

Ending Homelessness is looking at creating a comprehensive plan to end chronic homelessness using Built-for-Zero framework. Several steps are currently in place to address this option and Shannon Reid, Douglas County Commission Chair agreed to follow up with this commitment.

Thank you for your commitment to Justice Matters though the work of the FPC Mission Committee.

Kansas InterFaith Action announces that their Annual Event Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Randal Maurice Jelks, KU Professor, Pastor and Author of *Letters to Martin: Meditations on Democracy in Black America*. You can attend the event on Tuesday, June 7th in person or on Zoom. Purchase tickets at:

<https://kansasinterfaithaction.org/events/2022-dinner>

The Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary offers "Good Trouble Colloquy Conversation" with Dr. Charlene Sinclair and Dr. Kerry Mitchell-Brown. Insights, understanding, and action into the "Race to Democracy." Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3yp2i3B>

EcoTeam - A family outing - for all ages - Today! Courtney Masterson will lead the trek this afternoon, Sunday, May 15th at 4:00 pm. She was the Earth Care Forum presenter for "Restoring Kansas Landscapes Through Community Engagement" and one of the consultants in FPC's planning for the future of un-mowed area of lawn. We will visit one of the few historic prairies left in Douglas County. The prairie is the Matt Dehaermers prairie and is located at 1923 N. 800 Rd., Baldwin City, KS 66006. Persons who wish to carpool should meet at the south side of FPC in the parking lot at 3:30 p.m. Bring a picnic supper for your family, and we will gather after the tour at Schmidt's residence. They have a very large lawn for kids to explore. All are invited to attend. Floyd and Sue will be in charge of the trek and picnic.



Family Promise



Family Promise Memorial Day 5K Home Run - An FPC team is being formed to run/walk for the Family Promise Home Run!! We will be doing it virtually again this year since some of the participants will be out of town on Memorial Day. Please see our FPC representative in the Narthex of the church on May 15th to sign up to become part of the team or as an FPC member to give a donation to support our team!!! The 15th is your last chance to sign up! Our goal is to contribute \$1000 to Family Promise from FPC this year!!! We NEED your help!!! So far our team has 7 participants: Linda

Watts, Margie Dyck, Eva Alley, Lois Dutcher, Jerry Chandler, Larry Flottman, and John Rowe. Come join us!!!! GO FPC TEAM!!!!!! Lois Dutcher, coordinator

In the Community



The Lawrence Community Handbell Choir directed by Carol Fleegeer announces their 2022 Spring Concert Schedule.

Saturday, May 21 at 7:00 pm at Leavenworth First United Methodist Church

Sunday, May 22nd at 4:00 pm at Central United Methodist Church

Everyone is welcome to these concerts!

Welcome Celebration for Helen Hutchison

We are excited to welcome Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison to First Presbyterian Church!



Let's party! We have a new pastor coming and that is a good reason to get together and celebrate. We also need to celebrate that we can get together!



We have rented a tent so we can have a meal together and be outside and safe. So please pray for great weather on May 22! Biggs BBQ is catering our meal, so come hungry!

As we welcome Pastor Helen, we have some suggestions for you.

- **Pray for Pastor Helen at noon every day in May.** Set an alarm on your phone or watch to remind you so we can all be praying together for her smooth transition, safe arrival, and a great start to a new ministry together!
- **A Card Shower!** Bring a card of welcome and greeting on May 22. In it share with her your favorite - Place to eat - Place to shop - Favorite activity or place to visit
- **Give a gift to the "Gift Card Fund".** Please drop a couple of dollars in the baskets on the Welcome Tables in the Narthex. The PNC will purchase cards to several places around town for her to try or to purchase things for her new home.
- **Wear your name tag!**
- **Helpers needed!** You can help on Sunday, May 22, with our celebration, please contact the church office. Thank you!

*Be part of the excitement and welcome
Pastor Helen to Kansas!*

