

THE BURNING BUSH

From the Pastor's desk...

“Raise up a child in the right way, and when old they will not stray. (Prov.22:6)” Hear, my child, and be wise and direct your mind in the way.” (Prov. 22:19)

Some of you may be reading this after VBS and some during. VBS has been on my mind, especially the wonderful work that is being done for the children and in them. They will not be the same after leaving this place because they have learned about Jesus their “Hero.” Each step they take in the learning process teaches them that life is about a daily walk with Jesus, which is essential in all our lives. I ran across something I wanted to share with you that lets us glimpse into the mind of a child as they begin to learn. I hope you enjoy it.

I find it astonishing what happens in Bible stories when, retold by young scholars...

God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called “Joan of Arc”. Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, and a ball of fire by night.

Samson was a strong man, who was led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah. Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the apostles.

Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread made without ingredients. The Egyptians, were all drowned in the desert. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Amendments. The First Commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple. The Fifth Commandment is to humor thy father and mother. The Seventh Commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.

Moses died before he ever reached Canada then Joshua led the Hebrews in the Battle of Geritol. The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

David was a Hebrew king skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Finklesteins, a race of people who lived in biblical times. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

Jesus enunciated the Golden Rule, which says to do one to the other before they do one to you. The people who followed the Lord were call the Twelve Decibels. The epistles were the wives of the apostles. One of the opossums was Matthew who was by profession a taxi man.

Paul cavorted to Christianity. He preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage. A Christian should have only one wife. This, is called monotony.

Hope you had a few chuckles. These things probably don't get straightened out until Confirmatory!

Pastor Linda

AUGUST 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 VBS	2 VBS Finale	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Ice Cream Social, Methodist Church 3-4pm	13	14 Session 7pm	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SESSION SNIPPETS
BY PAT WELKER

Notes from the July 10 Session Meeting-- **MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS:**

CHRISTIAN ED: Crystal, Jodi & Tammy-- 1) Promotion Bibles are still being investigated to get one age appropriate. There are 5 students entering 3rd grade and each will receive a Bible. 2) VBS Team met in June and things are going well. Finances are in great shape with donations (thanks to Tammy Duley for getting such good response from local businesses). Decorating to begin at 2pm on July 22 and continue nightly until done. 3) Crystal is looking into a safety plan in case there is an emergency and a need to evacuate the building. Thanks to her for all the extra work she is doing. Crystal is also going to take care of policing the restrooms each night.

FELLOWSHIP/MISSION: Tammy, Jodi & Liz --1) Fellowship sign-up is going very well at this time as well as better donations coming in. 2) Fellowship Team will be looking into a 3rd quarter Mission Meal.

NOMINATING: Tammy Duley as Elder Rep & Marianne Taylor from Deacons. At-Large members are Pat Welker, Michelle Lane and Linda Riley. - Nothing to report at this time.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE/MEMORIAL & PERSONNEL: Kathy & Crystal -- 1) July 4 Cookout was reported as down from years past. Part of that is attributed to the extreme heat we had that week. Only 160 hamburgers were cook and not all of them sold. Last year all 250 were cooked and sold, but even with all that, \$800+ profit was realized. Thanks to Kathy for all her work organizing this project. 2) Personnel Team is going to meet with an employee to make sure all is well. There is some word that they are not happy, so Team will investigate and try to resolve any problems.

WORSHIP: Tony, Lyndsey & Kathy --1) Elders to serve Communion on Sunday, August 5 will be Crystal, Tony for sure. Will check with the Elders missing from meeting to see if they could do this.

EVANGELISM: Jodi, Liz & Tammy--1) No update on the Methodist Wellness Mobile visit. 2) No update on the Spoon River Drive. 3) Kathy suggested that we plan a "Pack the Church" one Sunday this fall and try to get most of our congregation in the Church at the same time. This is being looked into.

TECHNOLOGY: Lyndsey & Tony--1) Lyndsey reported that Media Shout is now working. Brady worked diligently to get it going. 2) Pat will again ask Tadd what he found out about whether we need a CCLI license to copy music on video or if the Media Shout license covers it. 3) Crystal reported that Tadd had the VBS online registration form working.

MEMBERSHIP REVIEW: Pat-- Nothing at this time

DEACONS' REPORT: No meeting since last report

TRUSTEE REPORT: Tim and Kent will install pavers on either/both sides of the Church sign so no one will have to stand in mud or water.

Trustees met June 24 at 10:30am with Ben, Randy, Dale, Darren and Kent present. Tony Rolando was also present.

The bids for the Church steps were discussed. Kent informed all that Greg Foose would not lower his bid. Dale proposed to the Trustees that another section of the front sidewalk was badly cracked and needed to be added to the scope of work for Tri County. All agreed it was a good time to do it.

Randy informed all that there was again sweeper trouble as reported by Barb Brown. He and Tim will look into it and get it repaired or replaced. Randy will check furnace filters. Kent reported on the downspout at the Manse that Pat Welker alerted him to and said he would check the other ones. Crystal Gomes requested a couple of things be done for Bible School.

Denise Lane again requested that flooring be replaced in the CE Building so, Kent will get two bids for replacement flooring.

PASTOR'S REPORT: June was a busy month by the looks of my calendar. It all began with a colonoscopy! Whew, wasn't that fun? That's it, there won't be any more of those. I believe I have satisfied all my doctors now and I have been released on good behavior. I saw my eye doc as it was determined that I might have lost some vision in the right eye due to the concussion. They were right. At least I don't have to keep taking my readers off and on. The new specs allow me to keep them on with the power increased on the top. I continue to go to the gym at least once a week, trying to get my muscles back. It's amazing how much I lost. Anyhow, I feel much better and am able to last longer than before. Had a carpenter build new steps outside my back door since I have fallen three times---into the house. There was quite a step up into the house. Now, I have "Old Lady" steps with a railing! Hoping this is the last health report.

On June 10th I met with Jeannine Arduini and her fiance Joe Gober to discuss their wedding plans for October 20th in our sanctuary. They both made the trip early to spend time in Farmington and meet Jeannine's old friends. Everyone extended a warm welcome when they worshiped with us on June 10. She lives in Leesburg, VA and he lives in Oderton, Mass. They commute 55 miles to see each other. I look forward to that happy occasion.

June 14 I served Farmington Country Manor with as message about horses and took Communion to 23 residents and staff members. The Stephan's were there as my backup music.

Three hospital visits made, one a death call for a woman who is mother to a friend of mine. I will be doing the funeral on July 3.

I have been searching for appropriate study material as requested by the Session. I will be talking to some of the young families to find out what their interests are. At least I am getting some ideas as to what is out there as far as study programs. I also have some of my own that might fit in nicely depending on what the people desire.

108 hours worked, several correspondences, phone visits and 3 hospital calls were made. 123 medical miles traveled.

GENERAL ITEMS:

The Trustees are having the front steps replaced because of the bad condition of existing steps.

The Trustees are putting in pavers around the Church sign to make it easier on the person changing the wording, during a rainstorm.

Sam reported that the Plexiglas on the Church sign is scratched and weathered. The Trustees, will be asked to have it replaced.

Don't miss out on the Council of Churches Ice Cream Social, August 12, 3-4pm at the Baptist Church. We have three of our own college bound students who will receive a scholarship that day and one from the Methodist Church. Come, and show support to these young people and celebrate their accomplishments! They are: Alyssa Ulm, Abbie Phillips, Evan Otto and Jack Fletcher

Your Pastor is seeking to compile a program that will meet your needs. I am interested in what you would like to learn, how you want to learn and what your questions might be. While the children are in Sunday school you could be too! You would not have to feel you will miss anything because I plan to not, work from chapter to chapter or beginning to end. With your help, I can put together a plan that will be digestible to everyone. (For example: the young adults may have questions about the direction they are headed spiritually and may want to develop a better study and prayer life; young parents may have marital, child-raising, or family questions; older adults may have ideas about strength, health concerns, loneliness, and or family crisis situations.) Our clas, will be focused on helping one another by sharing insights and support. We will agree to confidentiality. Your pastor will address scripturally what the Bible says about what you are or are not experiencing. I will always be open to new ideas, I feel God is about to do a new thing with us! Lets get excited to find out what He has in mind for each of us as a group and individually. If you would rather speak to me one on one, we can do that as well. I am eager to begin the journey with you. Please help me by filling out the form attached.

Pastor Linda

Other Announcements:

Wood Sign Paint Party!

Where: First Presbyterian Church

When: Saturday, September 29th

Time: 12:00-3:00pm

12X12 sign \$35 OR 12X24 sign \$45

Message:

StellaBellas@m.me/StellaBellasCutomSigns

**This is a fundraiser for our church!*



BLANCHE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY BASH

Blanche Wilson's family hosted a 100th Birthday celebrations for her at the Elmwood Maple Lane Country Club on Saturday, July 7. There was a big crowd to wish Blanche birthday wishes. There was a display of pictures throughout Blanche's life. There was a picture of something or someone relevant to that decade. It was, wonderfully done. I even saw some special T-shirts with Blanche's picture. The wording said, "I want to be like Blanche". Pretty neat. A great party, and I'm sure a great time had by all who attended.

Thank you

PAULINE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

On Sunday, July 8, Pauline Sprowls family was able to pull off a surprise luncheon/party for Pauline's 90th Birthday. Not sure how they kept it from Pauline but, she was genuinely surprised when she walked through the CE Building doors to a group signing Happy Birthday to her. How great was that. Again, there was a great display of pictures from Pauline's life. Great reminiscing with her. There were even cupcakes with Pauline's picture on them. Great job by her Granddaughter.

We as a Church are so fortunate to have these two ladies in our congregation. They are definitely an inspiration for us all. We wouldn't mind getting that old if we could be in half as good as shape as they are. Keep up the good work girls and we'll see you at your Birthday's in 5, 10 or 25 years.

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Prayers: Todd Guidi; Jeff Sturch; Chris's friend, cancer-stage 4; Ed Goggin; Deb Benton; Kevin Martin; Angie; Sally (Grebe) Seaman; Joseph Christiansen; Andy Swanson; Rusty, pancreatic cancer; Kay Wenzel; Leigh Ann's nephew, John; Melissa's aunt has lupus; Beth's friend Donna SMA; Isabell Haggard (needs kidney); Brandi Hayes, cancer; Terry Schreiter; Elisha DeCoursey; Hannah Stancil; Bruce Fisher; Angie Porter; Lisa Adler; Melissa's Grandpa; Diana, friend of Tony and Diana; Beth's brother in law; Darrin Berry; Jim, Jay's co-worker; Melody; Beth's sister, Lynda; Tom Platt; Darwin Swanson; Lyndsey Johnson; Meghan, MS; Michelle, Jane's daughter-in-law; Dorothy Johnson, broken hip (Scott's grandmother); Louie Radcliffe, broken hip; Diana Rolando's mother; Patty Benson; Keith Quin; Mike, Marcy Thompson's son-in-law, CA.

At Home: Amber Lercher, 24 HR care at home; Katy; Doug St. Clair, Darrin Wright (lungs)

Hospital: Alex Hanan, relative of the Fryman's, Andrew Googin (has received a liver).

Hospice: Terry David (breathing issues)

Bereavement: Paula Monari's family at the loss of her mother, Josephine Beaird.

Those in Assisted Living: Kenny Holmstrom, Barbara Frank, Velma Petty and Keith Quin at Courtyard Estates in Farmington; Dianna Threw at Farmington Country Manor; Hazel Morby at Courtyard Estates in Canton; Leigh Ann Taylor at Heartland in Canton.

Please let the office or Pastor Linda know of those who can be taken off the prayer list. Thank you!

Please let us know of any additions or corrections. Our prayer chain: If you have an urgent prayer request, contact Pat Welker at 309-338-4575. She will then pass the prayer request along.



4 Kay Fairburn 5 Kathleen Kowal, Pat Threw 7 Sue Lane, Ralph Welker, Sherry Higgs 12 Bob Thompson 13
Diana Threw 18 Deb O'Donnel, Beth Martin 23 Bonnie Suydam, Jack Franks-24 Maddox Vermillion
30 Lynsey Vermillion

The Burning Bush
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
83 North Cone Street
Farmington IL 61531-1248

Blessings on:



**COME WORSHIP WITH US
SUNDAY'S**

Sunday School 9:30AM

Fellowship Time 10:30AM

Worship Service 11:00AM

Join us for a great message and God's
word! Enjoy wonderful music and
fellowship

**"In the
Beginning
was the
Word, and
the Word
was with
God, and
the Word
was God."
(John 1:1)**

