
The Burning Bush

October 2021

Greetings Colleagues in Ministry!

You may have noticed, I am using some different graphics for the Burning Bush this month. I wish I could say that it was a strike of creativity, but it was out of necessity. Apparently my computer quit liking the old graphics and I couldn't print the Burning Bush anymore with them. So, I'm trying something different. I hope you like the changes. You shouldn't notice a ton of changes to the content, just some changes to the formatting.

You might also notice, while reading this newsletter, that there is much going on in the life of our congregation, and I love it! We recently started Sunday school, and it's great seeing the young people in our congregation. We are also getting geared up for the Spoon River Drive Event, held the first two weekends in October. We will be selling walking tacos in Reed's Park both weekends. We will also have our annual rummage sale in the CE building.

I am also excited about our upcoming Halloween events for the congregation. On Saturday, October 23 we will have two Halloween events in the evening. We will have a Trunk or Treat in our church parking lot. People are invited to park their cars and decorate the trunks. Kids will come by in their costumes and collect candy. Following the Trunk or Treat, at 7pm, we will show the movie "The Addams Family" in Reed Park. This is the 2019 animated version. It is free and open to the public, though donations are accepted.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment and lift up how grateful I am for all the wonderful volunteers and staff who make this congregation run so smoothly. I am so appreciative of all that you do. We would not be the congregation we are today without your generosity and stewardship. Please know that you are appreciated and loved. You are also being prayed for regularly.

I hope that you all have a great week. We look forward to having you back in Sunday school and worship soon. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything. God bless you all,

Pastor Andy

Snippets By Pat

Snippets from September 14 Session Meeting:

DEVOTION: No devotion this month. (Next Month's Devotee will be Pat.)

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

- **Worship Team – Liz & Tammy (co-chairs) & Tony**
 - Worship – Dean Warner will fill pulpit on September 26 to cover Pastor Andy's vacation.
 - Will check with the Choir to see if they could record some music to use during worship since the choir will not sing during Covid mitigations.
- **Christian Education Team – Beth (chair) & Tammy**
 - Sunday School – 1) Starting classes on September 12th. In lieu of a Kick-off Breakfast, donuts and juice will be provided "to go". 2) All supplies have arrived and distributed. All teachers from last year have remained in their positions: Preschool & K – Bonnie Suydam; Grades 1-3 – Jane Rutledge; Grades 4-5 – Beth Martin; and Jr/Sr High – Melissa Herron. 3). The kids will not be singing at the beginning of Sunday School due to Covid mitigations. Team looking at options (handbells). 4) The Session voted to approve that the Sunday School offering be used to purchase from the Giving Catalog. The kids will determine what they will work toward purchasing. 5) The Session voted to approve having "Trunk or Treat" on October 23rd. This will be prior to the Council of Churches Movie in the Park which is going to show "The Addams Family" animated film from 2019.
- **Stewardship/Finance/Memorial/Personnel Team – Steffanie (chair) & Michelle**
 - Personnel - We met with Pastor Andy on Tuesday, August 24th for a follow-up review from May. We have requested Barb clean weekly due to Sunday School beginning September 12th. We did an email vote, and it was approved by Session.
- **Evangelism Team – Liz & Tammy (co-chairs) & Brady**
 - Spoon River Drive: Tammy has taken care of costs to have the booth in park. She will take care of the Health Department forms and get them sent in. She also reported that 4 cases of Fritos have been purchased.
 - Pastor Andy is going to offer a Prayer Booth in the front yard of Church. He will be available for anyone wishing to speak with or pray with a Pastor.
- **Technology Team – Brady (chair) & Michelle**
 - The Session voted to approve adding a \$100 fee in the Manual of Operations for use of Technology employee during a Wedding.
- **Deacon's Report:** Meeting on 8-28-2021

- Attending- Lissy Holder, Andy Sonneborn, Marianne Taylor, Chris Evans, Melissa Herron, Sue Lane
- Treasurers Report- Same as before
 - Cards sent- Marianne- 2; Lissy- 4; Chris- 2
- Communion starting on October 3rd will be going back to baggies for bread per the recent mandate.
- Session is getting ready for Spoon River Drive.
- Sunday School Kickoff is Sept 12. With doughnuts and milk.
- **Trustee's Report:**
 - Meeting September 5, 2021 **Attendees:** Joe Herron, Clark Evans, Tim Ulm

Completed Items:

- Water Heater replaced in C.E. Building and safety rails added by Tim Ulm
- Carpet Cleaned
- Gutter Guard installed on Manse
- Weeds sprayed at Manse and around Church
- Manse Sink drain fixed and cabinet fastened to wall

- Manse
 - Request to have outlet installed on front porch Pending
 - Garage Door In-Process
- CE Building
 - Exterior
 - Need 7 doors replaced (includes Breezeway). Pending
 - They are rusty, bad seals, hard to open. Will need both 48" and 36" wide doors. Two north doors of building need have handicap push button opener. This job will have to be done in phases because of cost.
 - The quote for the doors came from S&S Builders, Peoria, IL. Finish painting is not included in costs.
 - Item 1 is to replace the north doors of CE Building. They will be handicap accessible with an actuator to open one side for entry. Price includes removal of old doors and installation of new doors. Does not include post for door actuator. Price plus tax = \$12,438.55
 - Item 2 is to replace the CE Building south hallway door. Price plus tax = \$4,016.00
 - Item 3 is to replace the CE Building kitchen door. Price plus tax = \$3,570.00
 - Item 4 is to replace the CE Building east door. Price plus tax = \$3,871.00
 - Item 5 is to replace the Breezeway (between CE Building and Sanctuary) north hallway door. Price plus tax = \$3,591.00

- Item 2 is to replace the Breezeway south hallway door. Price plus tax = \$3,337.66
 - Facia/Gutter on west side. Getting Quote
- Sanctuary and Main Church Building
 - Main Floor
 - Request for emergency motion activated lights installed over each entrance to the triggered only at night. Pending
 - Water damage near roof pitch west side interior needs repainted. Need quote
 - Exterior
 - Salt supply for winter needs replenished Pending
 - Bell Tower
 - Concerns about bees/wasps. Not sure where they are coming in.
 - Walls of Tower stairway have plaster falling off. Need Quote
 - **Pastor's Report**
 - Worship
 - We continue to worship in person and online.
 - I led Communion online and in person on September 5, 2021.
 - I continue to lead the devotional on Wednesday at 1pm.
 - Pastoral Care
 - I continue to call/text several members throughout the week to check in on them.
 - I had a couple pastoral care conversations on Facebook messenger.
 - I visited with Diana Threw and another resident of FCM.
 - Presbytery
 - I attended the September 7, 2021, Committee on Ministry meeting via Zoom.
 - The Greenview AC is now dissolved!!
 - I attended the August 2021 Presbytery meeting with Kathy Welch on Zoom.
 - I attended subcommittee meetings for COM on Zoom.
 - Administrative
 - I attended the Deacons meeting in August.
 - I developed the September Burning Bush.
 - I attended the Trustees meeting in September and plan to continue meeting with them in the future.
 - I continue to send out weekly announcements.
 - I am working on updating the addresses and birthdays.
 - Community

- We will have the movies in the park on September 11 and September 18.
- I continue to attend the city council meetings when available.
- I continue to attend meetings with the Masons.
- I delivered the donated food for the food pantry to the Newcomb's

OLD BUSINESS: (identified as ongoing issues that need to be addressed)

- Manual of Operations: Pastor Andy and Pat Welker are working on updates. When 1st draft done, it will be given to Elders for review. Getting the first draft of the Manual ready for Elders to look at.
- Hymnals – The Session voted to approve Pastor Andy ordering 30 Hymnals (\$532 donated to this cost), a Projector Version with lyrics/music for \$499 and 3 copies of the Accompaniment Version at \$255 each. The total price is \$1796 with \$532 donated and balance coming from Sara Hirz Memorial Fund.

NEW BUSINESS: (items that need to be addressed.)

- The Session voted to approve that the Trustees continue with the replacement of the north doors in the CE Building. The bid of \$12,438.55 includes door that will be handicap accessible. There may be concrete work needed and that will be addresses when/if identified.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

If you were at the worship service on September 26, you know that Pastor Andy was on vacation and Dean Warner again filled the pulpit for us. He always gives us a good sermon and something to think about. Remember, you have to let Jesus in your boat. Thanks to Dean for giving us a good sermon in Pastor Andy's absence.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women were able to meet on September 10 in the CE Building. This was our first meeting since March, 2020. Read that carefully as our last meeting was in 2020, not 2021. There were 9 ladies in attendance and we enjoyed a potluck lunch and great fellowship. We then had a meeting to discuss our future. It seems that the local PW group from Presbytery had to disband because of lack of members. We used to send them \$700 in mission money each year that they used for their work. Since they have disbanded, we decided that our collection would be distributed to charities of our choice. We usually decide this at the Cookie Exchange/Luncheon. We will decide the date of the Cookie Exchange at our next meeting. We also save pennies during the year which is called the 'Least Coin'. We have decided that that collection will be dedicated to a local charity. It was sure fun to get together with everyone again. I missed being with this special group. Our next meeting will be on October 8 at 1pm in the CE Building.

Mission Giving **Food Pantry**

Thank you for your on-going support of the Farmington Area Food Pantry. In the month of September, our congregation donated 75 items, weighing 46.04lbs to the pantry. We also donate \$30.00. Our running totals for 2021 are: 930 items, weighing 709.75lbs; and \$650.00. If we keep up our trend, we will be close to donating 1,000lbs and \$750 by December 31, which I think are good goals for us to set this year. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Please note our collection day for non-perishable items is the last Sunday of the month. Our next collection day is October 31, though you can always donate food ahead of time. Please place your items in the grocery cart in the fellowship hall near the entrance.

Movie in the Park

By the time that you are reading this newsletter, the Council of Churches has already shown three movies in Reed's Park. We have one more movie to show you all this season. On October 23, we will be showing the movie "The Addams Family". This is the animated version from 2019. We want to serve our community by offering an opportunity for family fun. The great thing is that all the movies we will be showing are free to the public. We are also selling snacks and drinks.

Sunday school Offering

Each week, before Sunday school classes begin, the kids give a small offering that goes into the regular Sunday morning offering for the congregation. This year, they will be raising money to go towards purchasing an animal through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog, similar to Heifer International. We are going to have the kids pick which animal they would like to purchase and the money we collect throughout the year will go towards that purchase. If we have any extra money at the end of the year, the kids will be able to pick something else from the catalog.

Church Officers 2021

Elders: Tammy Duley, Liz Johnson, Brady Johnson, Tony Rolando, Steffanie Ulm, Beth Martin, Michelle Lane

Deacons: Alissa Holder, Lynsey Vermillion, Melissa Herron, Sue Lane, Christ Evans, Marianne Taylor

Trustees: Jay Ulm, Ben Vermillion, Tim Ulm, Clark Evans, Kevin Phillips, Joe Herron

October 2021

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
					1	2 Spoon River
3 Spoon River SS 9:15AM Church 10:30AM Communion	4 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	5 Committee on Ministry 10AM	6 Office Hours 1pm-5pm	7 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	8	9 Spoon River
10 Spoon River SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30AM	11 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	12 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm Session 7pm	13 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	14 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	15	16 Pastor Andy Vacation
17 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30AM Dean Warner	18 Pastor Andy Vacation	19 Pastor Andy Vacation	20 Pastor Andy Vacation	21 Pastor Andy Vacation	22	23 Trunk or Treat The Addams Family
24/31 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30AM Reformation Sun (31)	25 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	26 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	27 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	28 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	29	30

November 2021

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
	1 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	2 Committee on Ministry 10AM	3 Office Hours 1pm-5pm	4 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	5	6
7 SS 9:15AM Church 10:30AM Communion	8 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	9 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm Session 7pm	10 Office Hours 1pm-5pm	11 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	12	13
14 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30AM	15 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	16 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	17 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	18 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	19	20
21 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30AM Hanging of the Greens	22 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	23 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	24 Office Hours 1PM-5pm	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30AM	29 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm	30 Office Hours 9:30AM-12pm				

Joys & Concerns

October Birthdays: 8 Dale Bensen 10 Haven McMaster 11 Lori Danley 12 Morgun Daniels 14 Adela Herron 23 Kurt Daniels 25 Brielle Herron 29 Ben Vermillion 31 Gary Hoover, Wilma Brentz

November Birthdays: 7 Trevor Martin; Gayle Lucas 8 Brady Johnson; Delano Ohaver; Tate Ulm; 11 Karen Goggin-Wilson 13 Aniston McMaster 14 Cozy Hoover 15 Pat Welker; Tony Rolando 16 Larry Roberson

October Anniversaries: 20 Liz & Steve Johnson 25 Ryan & Heather McMaster 27 Gayle Lucas & Paul Watters 30 Darren & Kari Berry

November Anniversaries: 10 Mike & Paula Monari; 22 Craig & Tammy Duley; 26 Randy & Kathy Welch; 30 Gary & Cozy Hoover

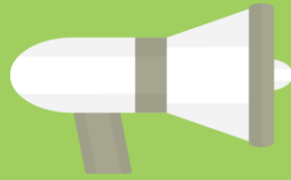
† Prayer Request †

Joys: For the wedding of Jayme and Luke Dunn, Liz and Steve Johnson's daughter and son-in-law; the joy of PW starting up again; the joy of seeing kids back in church; the joy of having Sunday school again; Tammy Duley lifted up the joy of the softball teams; Kathy Welch lifted up the joy of seeing family; Missy Herron lifted up the joy of her daughter Brielle doing well in Cross Country; the joy of Stephanie Franks and her new baby William Patrick doing well; the joy of Wanda and Delano's 68th wedding anniversary; the joy of so many birthdays; Sue Lane's great niece is home with her baby after premature birth...everyone is ok. The baby now weighs over 4lbs 6oz

Concerns: Dave Waggoner is struggling with side effects from a cancerous tumor and the aggressive treatment; Mike Daniels recovering from a stroke; Ethan Evans, who broke his collarbone during the homecoming football game; Jaden Rutledge, Jane and Sam's grandson, who brok two teeth during a football game; Corbin Rutledge, Jane and Sam's grandson, who is still struggling with seizures; Missy Herron's grandmother is back in the hospital; Mary Ulm's granddaughter Tori was diagnosed with gestational diabetes; Tony Rolando broke his ankle;

Bereavement: Cozy Hoover lifted up the family of Rhonda Hagen, who passed away

Those in Assisted Living: Dianna Threw, Sue Utsinger at Farmington Country Manor; Wilma Brentz at Courtyard Estates; Leigh Ann Taylor, The Loft; Eileen (Diana's mom) Red Oak Estates, Canton.



UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Meetings

Pastor Andy: Committee on
Ministry October 5 online
Trustees: October 3 before worship
Session: October 12 at 7pm

If you would like to add something
to next month's Burning Bush, please
submit it to the office by the 4th Monday of
the month. For November's BB, that
would be October 25. We prefer receiving it
by email at
firstpresfarmington@gmail.com or by
dropping it off in the office.

We thank you for sending in your tithes and
offerings, especially during this time of crisis.
You may either bring your tithes and
offerings to worship or you may send your
tithes and offerings directly to Mickie Ulm,
our financial secretary. Her address is 516
Idlewhile Ct. Farmington, IL 61531.

October Youth Events

On October 23, we will have a Trunk or Treat
event. You provide your own candy to pass
out. Movie in the park to follow. We will be
watching "The Addams Family" animated
movie from 2019.

Sermon topics & Scripture for October:

October 3: "United Together" Genesis 2:18-24
October 10: "Abundant life and Abundant generosity"
Mark 10:17-31
October 17: Dean Warner to preach
October 24: "Be Encouraged" Mark 10:46-52
October 31: "Reformed and Always Being Reformed"
Mark 12:28-34

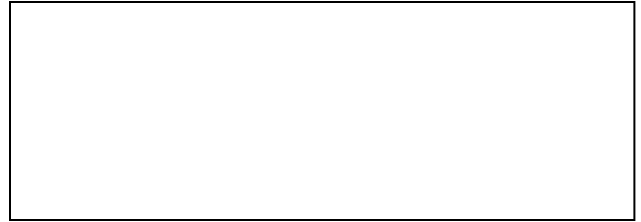
The Farmington Food Pantry is open on the 3rd
Wednesday of each month (October 13) from 12:30pm-
1:30pm. The Food Pantry is located at New Hope
Fellowship Church 1102 N State Route 78, Farmington IL
61531. You don't even have to get out of your car. It is
open to anyone in the Farmington school district or who
lives in Elmwood. There is no income requirement. If
you cannot make it during that time, other
arrangements can be made by calling Pastor Andy.

Pastor Andy's Contact Information

Cell Phone: (217) 994-8588 (preferred)
Office Phone: (309) 245-2914
Email: revandysonneborn@gmail.com (preferred)
Office Email: firstpresfarmington@gmail.com
Home Address: 68: N. Gold St. Farmington, IL 61531
Office Address: 83 N. Cone St. Farmington, IL 61531

Pastor Andy will be away from the office on
vacation from October 16-22. Dean Warner will be in
the pulpit on October 17

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



COME WORSHIP WITH US:
First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, IL
Worship Service is at 10:30AM, Sunday mornings, on Facebook Live and in person

Video of worship service will be posted on:
YouTube: First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, IL
&
On the website: www.firstpresfarmington.com

