



# THE FIRST WORD

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Office Hours 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Thursday



Volume XXXV, Number 5

May 2018

## 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION BY PASTOR JAY HODGE

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1893, the building at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Main Street was dedicated to the use of the Presbyterian Church for the glory of God. One and one-half years earlier, on Sunday morning, December 27, 1891, the former building was totally devastated by fire. Everything in the building was lost. However, during the interim time, the church maintained its vibrancy. By the Sunday of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, they were ready to celebrate.

We, too, will be celebrating on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this Church's being in this building. We will begin with a special worship and luncheon that morning and begin a silent auction that will last throughout the day. Then, that evening, we will gather again in the Fellowship Hall for a BIRTHDAY PARTY!!!! Ice cream and cake will be served, songs sung, playful presentations presented, auction items will be awarded, and whatever else we may come up with that brings our joy to the surface!

There are four (4) points to this event that need as much help as they can get: 1) planning and executing the worship service; 2) providing and setting up for the food; 3) setting up a history display of this church's past; and, finally, 4) planning and executing the evening's birthday party/program. As of now, there are 10 folks who are committed to seeing this event through to fruition. If you wish to help out, the more the merrier and better the outcome. AND ABOVE ALL, PLEASE, please make sure you come and join the festivities that Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> starting with morning worship. More information will follow as we get closer to the event.



### *Science-Theology Chat*

Science-Theology Chat is on respite for revamping. Come next September, it will return as a gathering that will allow those who are present to explore their own theology. We will look at various ways of looking at God with the end-point of helping folks to become better at articulating their own understanding of God and their own faith development.

Look for the start date later on in the year.

**MAY 2018  
REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY  
FOR SUNDAYS & FESTIVALS**

**We are encouraged and invited to read and reflect on these scripture passages as a part of our preparation for each worship service.**

**6th Sunday of Easter—May 6**

Acts 10:44–48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1–6  
John 15:9–17

**Ascension of the Lord—May 10**

Acts 1:1–11  
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93  
Ephesians 1:15–23  
Luke 24:44–53

**7th Sunday of Easter—May 13**

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9–13  
John 17:6–19

**Day of Pentecost—May 20**

Acts 2:1–21 or Ezekiel 37:1–14  
Psalm 104:24–34, 35b  
Romans 8:22–27 or Acts 2:1–21  
John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

**Trinity Sunday—May 27**

Isaiah 6:1–8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12–17  
John 3:1–17

**MAY NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

May 6—Mary Steinhilber  
May 13—Linda Shepard  
May 20—Beth Herrinton-Hodge  
May 27—Sally Zaring

**MAY GREETERS & USHERS**

May 6—Martha Flood, Meme Lafferty  
May 13—Mary Ann Soergel, Meme Lafferty,  
Judy Schostkewitz  
May 20—Janet Kalmey, Joyce Kalmey,  
Ruth & Doug Welch  
May 27—Mary Steinhilber, Duke Owens,  
Diane Palmer

**MAY LITURGIST**

Sally Zaring

**MORNING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN'S  
BIBLE STUDY**




**Wednesday, May 9  
10:00 a.m.**



**MEET AND GREET TIME**

If you like having a social time prior to worship, please know that it takes volunteers to make it happen. On top of that, it will take more folks than we have volunteering to set it up than we currently have volunteering. If you would like to help set up, please talk with Brooke Caudill, Lucy or Charles Long, Joyce Dotson, or anyone else you see setting up on any given Sunday morning. There is no committee for this activity. It runs because folks volunteer to make it happen. It will keep on running if we have everyone trying to help out to keep it going. Take the time to find out how and when you can help keep this fellowship time going on in the future.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Children's Fifth Sunday Outing Uspiritus Fifth Sunday Offering <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School for All Ages <b>10:15 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship <b>12:15 PM</b> "Good Grief" <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Emerging Artists <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Food Distribution at Serenity Center	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>5</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Knit-Wits <b>12:00 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting <b>4:00 PM</b> Confirmation Community Program <b>4:00 PM</b> Confirmation Community Program
<b>6</b> HOLY COMMUNION <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School for All Ages <b>10:15 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship <b>12:15 PM</b> "Good Grief" <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Emerging Artists <b>6:00 PM</b> Session Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> PW Morning Bible Study	<b>10</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> FPC serves lunch at God's Kitchen	<b>11</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>12</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Community Program
<b>13</b> LOVE SUNDAY Mother's Day <b>9:00 AM</b> Outreach Ministry Meeting <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School for All Ages <b>10:15 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship <b>12:15 PM</b> "Good Grief" <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Newsletter articles due <b>3:30 PM</b> Emerging Artists <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>16</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Congregational Care	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>19</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Community Program
<b>20</b>  Pentecost Offering <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School for All Ages <b>10:15 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship <b>12:15 PM</b> "Good Grief" <b>4:00 PM</b> Hebdon Fundraiser <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Emerging Artists <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>26</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Community Program
<b>27</b> TRINITY SUNDAY <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School for All Ages <b>10:15 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship <b>12:15 PM</b> "Good Grief" <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>28</b> Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	<b>29</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Emerging Artists <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Knit-Wits <b>12:00 PM</b> NA/AA 12-Step Group Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Community Program

Go out and preach the Gospel, using words if you have to.



5/01 Doug Welch  
 5/03 Doug Rempé  
 5/04 Courtney Rupert  
 5/06 Adrienne Gaytos  
 5/06 Betty Motts  
 5/07 Lynne Chenault  
 5/08 Carlen Pippin  
 5/12 Becky Mohn  
 5/14 Margaret Garner  
 5/15 Sarah Fouts  
 5/19 Kameran Farris  
 5/21 Gus Thomas  
 5/24 Lauren Denniston  
 5/26 Bill Logan, Jr.  
 5/27 Duke Owens  
 5/28 Edwin White  
 5/29 Jean Nash  
 5/30 Amy Wakeman  
 5/31 Phyllis Steck

5/01 Jay Hodge & Beth Herrinton-Hodge  
 5/12 Ann & Henry Greenwell  
 5/12 Dottie Gail & Dan Verwest  
 5/20 Jeff & Leslie McCarthy  
 5/23 Tom & Emily Gimm  
 5/24 Clint & Sacha Gill  
 5/28 Tandy & Cecie Chenault  
 5/31 Zach & Meredith Pippin

If you know of someone whose birthday or anniversary aren't included, please contact the church office so we can add their information to our records.



Knit-wits will meet on Saturday, May 5 at 10:00 a.m. at church. Knit-wits is open to all who want to creatively come together to make a difference or simply enjoy each other's company.



Love one another.

### Updated Church Directories Now Available

If you'd like the latest copy of the church directory, please contact Donna Wilson in the church office (502-633-2693 or 1pchurch@bellsouth.net) and let her know which format you would like (electronic or printed).

Please update your directory with the following:

**Ann Greenwell - pedoann@aol.com**

Please review your information in the latest edition of the directory and let us know of any corrections or additions that need to be made.

# Outreach



# Ministries

JOIN US ON  
Wednesday, MAY 2  
Anytime between  
12:00 noon & 4:00 p.m.  
At the Serenity Center,  
98 7th Street

Help distribute food to Shelby  
County residents.



Serenity Center  
Food Bank



**HELPING OUR  
NEIGHBORS  
IN NEED**

**MAY 13  
Remember  
Love Sunday**

Funds collected on Love Sunday are used to help individuals in our community needing assistance with utilities, prescriptions, school supplies, and more. Payments are made directly to the vendors, and cash is never given to an individual. Individuals may request assistance once in a 12-month period with a \$ limit per request. Make your checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and mark it for LOVE SUNDAY.

Meals  
for the  
Hungry



VOLUNTEER TO SERVE  
LUNCH AT  
GOD'S KITCHEN  
715 Main Street  
Downtown Shelbyville

**THURSDAY, MAY 10  
10:30 A.M.**

INTERESTED? Talk to Boyd  
or Susie Phillips about how  
you can help. Desserts are  
always needed.

**CONTINUE SAVING  
PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS  
FOR THE PARK**

**Carlen Pippin is collecting  
plastic bottle tops to recycle  
into a bench for Shelby  
County Parks. Just like you  
did for Painted Stone  
Elementary, collect and save  
all those plastic tops and lids.  
Give them to Carlen or leave  
in the Fellowship Hall.**

## THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT FROM APRIL 2018

Two families were helped with electricity this month.

Eggs are available from the adopted family.

### **A Place to Sleep**

-1516 children have received beds with 90 on the waiting list.

-The Piece Quilters from Simpsonville Baptist Church donated quilts.

- A table was set up providing information at Touched Twice on March 17 where several applications were received.

- Beds will be delivered on Sunday, April 22.

- Twin sheets are needed.

### **Serenity Center**

This church is volunteering at the Serenity Center on 7<sup>th</sup> Street the first Wednesday of each month. Carlen Pippin has been sharing extra food with God's Kitchen, Colonial Hall, and the Women's Renaissance Center.

### **Musical Instrument Ministry**

101 instruments have been donated and placed in the schools. Gary Steinhilber has placed a notice on the Community page of the Sentinel News.

### **God's Kitchen**

Our turn serving lunch at God's Kitchen was April 12. Meme Lafferty provided potato soup, Boyd Phillips made the bean soup; Berry and Elaine Harrison Lane brought cornbread; Mary Steinhilber brought egg salad; Frances Hall brought cheesecake cupcakes; Susie Phillips provided a cake, brownies, and applesauce; and Lucy Long provided chocolate chip cake. Leftovers were taken to Colonial Hall. The next day for us to serve at God's Kitchen will be May 10. Anyone with desserts should bring them to the church by 10:00 a.m., and those wishing to help serve should be at Victory Baptist by 10:30 a.m.

### **Bibles for Graduating Seniors**

The Bibles have arrived and are waiting for the Phillips to emboss them. Donations of \$5.00 per Bible are still being accepted.

Coupons are being collected for the military.

Flip tops are collected for Ronald McDonald House.

Donations for the Backpack Project and BooBoo Buddies are being collected.

Maree Collins can use toilet paper rolls and cardboard such as cereal boxes.

Cancelled stamps are being collected for the American Indians.

Shoes are being collected for the water project.

Magazines are collected for A Second Time Around.

Plastic caps are being collected by Carlen Pippin for a bench for the Park.

The next meeting will be May 13.

### **Kentucky Refugee Ministries Co-Sponsorship**

*Submitted by Ruth Welch*

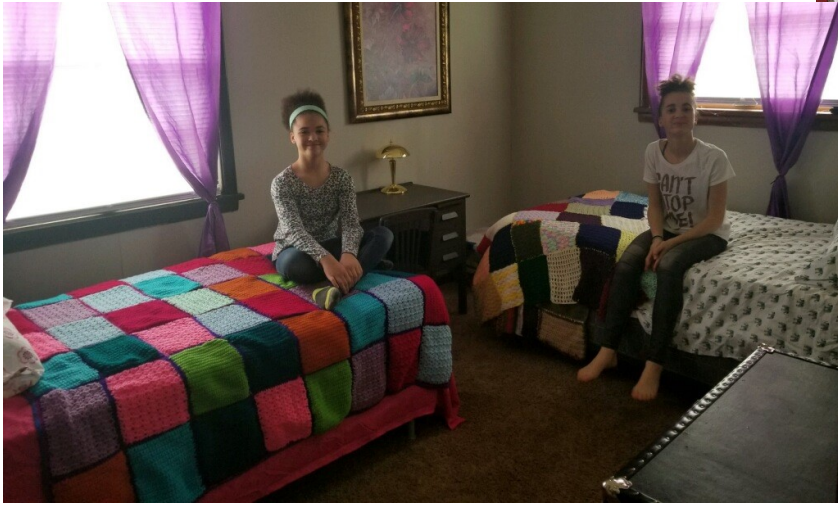
As I think about the continued war in Syria, I think we can feel privileged to have been able to help one family, the Mehe Aldeen family, who experienced torture at the hands of their own president. They have been able to start their lives over again in a place of peace. Rana just had a baby boy last week. They named the baby Hadi, which means calm and quiet; what they have experienced here since coming to the United States.

Are you ready to sponsor another refugee family? Will you join us? Will you welcome another stranger? Christ calls us to welcome the stranger. First Christian Church is excited to co-sponsor a family with us and Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church in Louisville. We are in the initial meeting stages of finding the financial resources, collecting furniture and housing supplies, and organizing ourselves. If you are interested, please contact Ruth Welch [ruth@blues-end.com](mailto:ruth@blues-end.com).

**“Jesus washed dirty feet, gave fives to kids with grubby hands, and ate with sinners”...Blake Lawyer, Pastor, Christ Community Church. Thank you, Christ Community Church, for delivering beds to 21 children on Sunday, April 22, and for all the beautiful sheets. God also blessed 14 additional children whose families were able to pick up their beds that morning. We now need \$\$\$ to purchase beds for May deliveries and more twin sheets. The cost for beds on April 22 was approximately \$5,400.00.**

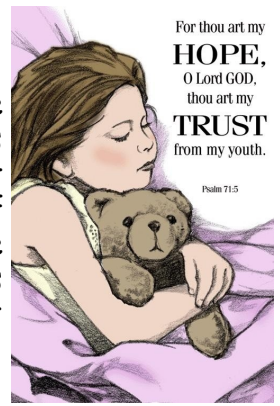


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## FROM THE HEART OF SOUTHSIDE TIGERS

During the months of January and February, 1st grade students at Southside Elementary School in Shelbyville researched a variety of charities. Students voted on one charity that their grade level wanted to support and created a heart themed piece of art that they sold at their schoolwide art show, "For the Love of ART." 100% of the proceeds earned from the sale of the art work went to the charity of the students' choice. A Place to Sleep was the recipient of the funds raised by these students' hard work and generosity. Thank you, Southside First Grade Tigers, for raising \$489.00 to selflessly help other children!



### THANKS, APCE!!!



Huge THANK YOU to everyone who attending the Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators annual conference in Louisville. A special offering was collected in the amount of \$1595.06 and donated to A Place to Sleep. Thank you, Christian Educators!!!



### OH THE TIMES, THEY ARE A CHANGING

*Submitted by Lynn Whittaker, First Word Reporter, Editor & Publisher*

With an ever tightening budget in the church and time constraints for myself, I have proposed the following change in the First Word production and distribution that would start with the July 2018 issue:

Anyone for whom we have an email address will have the option of receiving the First Word via email. You would need a PDF document reader program such as Adobe Acrobat that you can download free. Watch for a confirmation email over the next two months. If you do not receive one, that means we do not have your current email address. Please let Donna Wilson in the church office know.

We will post the First Word to the church's website and a link on the church's Facebook page for you to access it there.

For those in assisted living and shut-ins without internet/email access, we ask for members of the congregation to help the Congregational Care committee in hand carrying hard copies of the First Word to them.

We will continue to have a few hard copies available for pickup in the Mulberry Room.

And, for those members of our church family who live out of town and who do not have internet capabilities to access the newsletter any other way, we can mail via USPS (approx. \$1.00 each depending on weight.)

I appreciate your continued support by submitting information for the First Word and know how much you rely on it to keep up with friends and happenings in the church. For some of our church family and friends, this is their only connection with the church, and we don't want to lose that.



# THANKS FOR SHARING THE MUSIC

*Gary Steinhilber, Outreach Ministry*

I am writing on behalf of the First Presbyterian Church, members of the music departments of Shelby County Schools, and all of their students who have received musical instruments through our Musical Instrument Program to express our sincere appreciation for the support the Sentinel News has provided for the program over the years. We began this program in 2003, and on December 12, 2017, we experienced an event which I believe is worth noting, the donation of the 100th instrument. I also would like to note that we could not have reached this point without your help. Practically all of the individuals who made donations indicated that they had become aware of the program by seeing it listed in the Sentinel. Thank you!!!

The latest instrument is a beautiful violin in near perfect condition along with a bow, carrying case and a music stand thanks to the kindness and generosity of Shelby County residents, Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Lawrence. The violin was formerly owned and used by their son until he became interested in playing the guitar and no longer used it. A big thanks to the Lawrence Family for their donations and in helping us to achieve this milestone in our program.

And also a big thanks to all those kind and generous members of our community for their contributions of number one through ninety nine.

(NOTE: Instruments are donated to the church, and the donor receives a tax receipt. They are placed in one of our local schools where it is used by a student who otherwise would be unable to participate in the instrumental music program. The Musical Instrument Program is one of our many amazing Outreach Ministries.)



Norma Beasey, self-proclaimed "Bag Lady", is still collecting:

- Plastic bags** (Kroger, Walmart, etc.)
- Box tops** for Education for local schools
- Coupons** current or expired for military personnel
- Old cell phones** for military personnel
- Ink cartridges from ink jet printers**
- Pull tabs** from cans (soda, soup, etc.)
- Postage stamps** cancelled
- Shoes** any condition for Water Step
- Magazines** for Second Time Around
- Eye glasses**, cases, etc.





***Since our last issue, we lift up the following in our prayers:***

Bob & Nancy Pearce	Earlene Reed
Boyd Phillips	Janet Greyer
Brenda Yount	Lisa Herrinton
Diana Butler	Valerie

***We give thanks to God for:***

All those celebrating birthdays, including: Kennedy Collins, Vic Schostkewitz, Lincoln Weible, Allie Blair, Chris Dew, Charles Long, Beth Herrinton Hodge & Linda Shepard  
 Katie Hodge getting a car  
 Kelsey Hodge, Addie Pippin, Bethany Blair & Lawson Zaring advancing to World Competition of Odyssey of the Mind  
 Teachers

***We continue to lift up:***

Alaine Shepard & Family  
 Anne Armstrong & Family  
 Becky Bura  
 Bob & Jacquie Lier  
 Carolyn Chesher  
 Carolyn Clayton  
 Cliff Bramblett  
 Dan & Charlene Herrinton  
 David Hines & Family  
 Dottie Segretto  
 Jeff Quire  
 Jerry Simpson  
 Jewel Davis and daughter, Brenda  
 Jim & Jan Bonner  
 Joyce Dotson  
 Kenneth Terrell  
 Libby Nethery  
 Linda Casey  
 Linda RoBards  
 Lisa Beasey  
 Lynne Chenault  
 Mary & Gary Steinhilber  
 Marie Ridgeway  
 Rodman Brown  
 The Garbat-Welch Family  
 The Jasper Family

***We pray for our military family & friends:***

Alaine Shepard, medic US Army, wife of Steve Shepard, daughter-in-law of Linda Shepard, deployed to Iraq  
 Brandon Pettyjohn  
 Brandon Brouillet, father of Tyler Brouillet  
 Carmen Aragon Corum, sister of our childcare workers  
 Daniel Ehrichs, nephew of Joanne Burke  
 David Luebke  
 Frank Renner, US Navy, Leslee Bottorff's son  
 Gabriel Romeo, US Army, brother of our childcare workers  
 Hannah Riddle, US Air Force, granddaughter of Carlen & Jenny Pippin  
 Hunter Moore, US Marine Corps, Tom & Brenda Seacat's nephew  
 Jack Walters  
 Jared Bentley, US Marine Corps, Tom & Brenda Seacat's nephew  
 Jonathan Bowman  
 Lt. Col. Marshall MacClellan, US Air Force chaplain, currently stationed in GA, nephew of Nancy Sears  
 Matthew Harper, Alaine Shepard's son, US Army  
 Ryan Donaldson, grandson of Joanne Burke  
 Seth LeMaster, US Marines, family of Lynn & Mark Whittaker  
 Spencer Goetzinger, US Army, husband of Bobbie Renner Goetzinger, son-in-law of Leslee Bottorff  
 Todd Dillon, US Army, friend of the Whittakers



*(If you have additional information regarding any of the folks listed above or have someone else to add to the list, please contact Lynn Whittaker or leave with the church office.)*

## FINANCE REPORT MARCH 2018

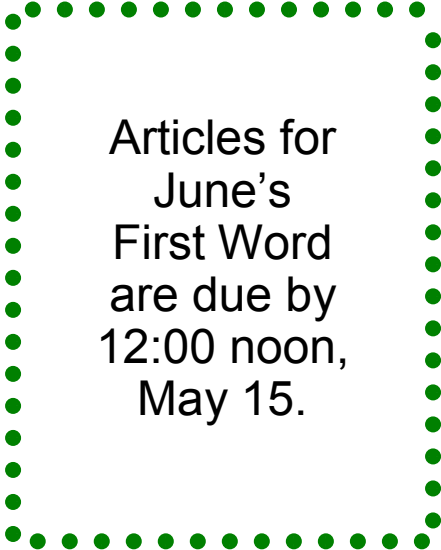
In March, we collected \$15,252.00. On the expense side, we spent \$15,352.91. We spent \$100.91 more than we collected. Questions? Please call Fred Waits (502) 321-5128.

FPC Shelbyville Budget Summary as of March 2018			
	Last Month	Year to Date	
Pledges Received	\$10,865.00	\$33,096.42	
Kroger Gift Card	\$0.00	\$368.44	
From Savings	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other Income	\$4,387.00	\$5,049.36	
Designated Funds	\$25.00	\$85.00	
Total Income	\$15,277.00	\$38,599.22	
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$15,252.00</b>	<b>\$38,514.22</b>	
Personnel Expense	\$13,352.00	\$42,962.00	
Utilities	\$1,336.02	\$4,970.31	
Building Maintenance	\$244.51	\$3,844.62	
Youth & Education	\$49.50	\$128.64	
Music	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Office	\$707.35	\$1,593.84	
Shared Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Per Capita	\$0.00	\$3,834.54	
Other	-\$336.47	\$147.83	
Designated Expenses	\$453.36	\$453.36	
Total Expenses	\$15,806.27	\$57,935.14	
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,352.91</b>	<b>\$57,481.78</b>	
Summary 2018	Income	Expense	Difference
December			
November			
October			
September			
August			
July			
June			
May			
April			
March	\$15,252.00	\$15,352.91	-\$100.91
February	\$13,603.53	\$23,506.21	-\$9,902.68
January	\$3,149.80	\$19,821.82	-\$16,672.02

First Presbyterian Church  
629 Main Street  
Shelbyville, KY 40065

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*THE FIRST WORD*



Articles for  
June's  
First Word  
are due by  
12:00 noon,  
May 15.

### ***Hepatitis A & What We Should Know***

Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver. When the liver is inflamed or damaged, its function can be affected. Heavy alcohol use, toxins, some medications, and certain medical conditions can cause hepatitis, but a virus is often the cause. In the United States, the most common hepatitis viruses are hepatitis A virus, hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus.

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious liver infection caused by the hepatitis A virus. It can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a severe illness lasting several months. Most people who get hepatitis A feel sick for several weeks, but they usually recover completely and do not have lasting liver damage. In rare cases, hepatitis A can cause liver failure and death; this is more common in people older than 50 and in people with other liver diseases. Hepatitis A usually spreads when a person unknowingly ingests the virus from objects, food, or drinks contaminated by small, undetected amounts of stool from an infected person. Hepatitis A can also spread from close personal contact with an infected person such as through sex or caring for someone who is ill.

Contamination of food (this includes frozen and undercooked food) by hepatitis A can happen at any point: growing, harvesting, processing, handling, and even after cooking. Contamination of food or water is more likely to occur in countries where hepatitis A is common and in areas where there are poor sanitary conditions or poor personal hygiene.

Although anyone can get hepatitis A, in the United States, certain groups of people are at higher risk, such as;

- \*People in direct contact with someone who has hepatitis A
- \*Travelers to countries where hepatitis A is common
- \*Men who have sexual contact with men
- \*People who use drugs, both injection and non-injection drugs
- \*Household members or caregivers of a recent adoptee from countries where hepatitis A is common
- \*People with clotting factor disorders, such as hemophilia
- \*People working with nonhuman primates

The best method to avoid contracting the hepatitis A virus is to receive the hepatitis A vaccine (a series of 2 shots, 6 months apart) which can be obtained from your medical professional or your local health department. **THE USE OF HAND SANITIZER IS NOT EFFECTIVE AT KILLING HEPATITIS A VIRUS. Make sure to wash your hands with warm soapy water after using the restroom, changing diapers, and before preparing or eating food.** For more information, please contact North Central District Health Department for any questions at (502) 633-1243.