

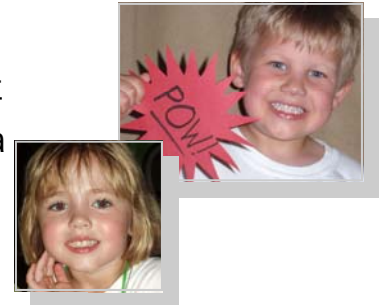
## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### **PANDAMANIA A "WILD SUCCESS"**

Over 150 children and adults met during the hottest week of the summer to enjoy a week of



with dinner followed by a visit from Panda Pete (Pastor Daren) and



friends who introduced the theme for the night. Following the gathering the kids were off to recreation, Bible study, movie time, snacks, and crafts. The week culminated with a wonderful

program and family feast. VBS would not be possible without the help and support of the



members and friends of FFC--men and women who helped in the kitchen each night and who superbly staffed all of the activities.

*Pandamania*, the 2011 Vacation Bible School program. Four out of every 10 child participants came from outside our church family. This is in keeping with the recently approved goal to grow our Christian Education program by 50% over the next ten years. Each evening began



## Thank You !

## CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTION

### BLESSED ADDITIONS

- Kencie Kate Snarr was born June 25th to parents Sara & Ward Snarr
- Charlie & Henry Hoschek, twin sons, of Jeff & Becky Hoschek, were born July 7th.

### BAPTISMS

- Friday, June 25th - Tyler Presley & Jack Turnbull, sons of Scott & Lindsey Turnbull
- Sunday, June 26th - Owen Hasty, son of Sarah & Aaron Hasty, and great-grandson of Barb Benedetto.
- Sunday, July 10th - James Robertson, son of Nicholas & Jaclyn Robertson

### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Dean & Betty Miller
- Ben Miller
- Betty Christopher
- Marion & Tom Thompson
- Leah Whitaker
- Chris Dallmeyer
- Judy Cain
- Joan Pollitz

### COMPLETED THIS PART OF LIFE

- Our prayers are with Karen & John Calder and family as they mourn the death of Karl Erickson, Karen's father.

### FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES OF THE O'BRIEN FAMILY IN JAPAN

- Amy O'Brien, our Director of Youth Ministries, has been telling the fascinating adventures of her family in Japan on in her blog - follow along! <http://obriensmakinglemonade.blogspot.com>

## FOND FAREWELL

### THANK YOU FFC - A MESSAGE FROM SULLY CURTIN

Dear First Federated Family,  
Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your church family this summer. The amount of experience I have obtained is priceless. I felt very loved and accepted here. My hope is that you will continue to reach out to young people like myself and welcome them in as you have welcomed me. I will continue to pray that God would use FFC to do great things in the Peoria area.



Grace and Peace,  
Sully Curtin

## FFC GROUP CONNECTIONS

◆ **OLD BUDDIES BREAKFAST:** The "Old Buddies" meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8 am at Bob Evans on Allen Road. No reservations needed.

◆ **BOOK CLUB @ APPLES' BAKERY:** Saturday, August 27th at 9 am will be the next meeting of the book club. The book for August will be A Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick. In September the book will be So Big by Edna Ferber.

◆ **MOSAIC SUMMER OUTING - AUGUST 27TH, 2011 @ 6 pm** Space is limited so please reserve your spot early (first come, first served!). A table on the deck is reserved so we can all bring a dish to pass and enjoy dinner together. Then, at 7pm, the band JAMMSAMMICH will play. You may purchase drinks at the Vineyard. Cost is \$10/person (\$5 to me for the table reservation and \$5 cover charge to be paid at the gate). Please contact Jennifer VandeWiele at [vandewiele97@comcast.net](mailto:vandewiele97@comcast.net) to reserve your spot.

◆ **FFC WOMEN'S CLUB:** (Formerly *Mother's Club*) It is with great pleasure that we welcome the following new members to our group: Kathy Allin, Karen Lightbody, and Carol Peterson. We invite all ages of women to join us for light lunch and a wonderful program in our beautiful Commons monthly for a mere \$20 annual dues. Think faith, fellowship, and fun when we resume meeting on Sept. 28th, 2011, as Joy Rennich shares her recent travel to Turkey with us. Call Susan Kirschbaum for information.

◆ **COMING IN SEPTEMBER:** "*Spiritual Exercises Offering Moments of Grace*," a class led by Dr. Jackie White, will begin Thursday, September 8th at 9:30 am. Learn to sense and appreciate moments of grace in everyday life by. These approximately 90-minute sessions, will continue Thursday mornings through October 6th.

### IS YOUR CHURCH COMMITTEE MEETING OR GROUP EVENT ON OUR CHURCH CALENDAR?

Contact the church - [cwalter@ffcpeoria.com](mailto:cwalter@ffcpeoria.com) or 309-685-5258, ext. 10.

WATCH FOR MORE FALL GROUP & CLUB NEWS IN OUR SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF LIFE TOGETHER. THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE WILL BE AUGUST 15TH.

## LEADERSHIP CONNECTION



*Please Meet*  
**Jerry Kirschbaum**

Jerry is Chair of the Building & Grounds Committee. You can often find Jerry here at the church. He has been instrumental in the Garth repair and reconstruction project.

## MISSION CONNECTION

◆ **READING BUDDIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE:** There's nothing more important to success than knowing how to read. Once again this fall, First Federated Church is sponsoring the Reading Buddy program at Thomas Jefferson School. Additional volunteers are needed to provide Kindergarten and 2nd grade children special individualized reading time for just one hour a week. Help give these children a boost in their reading skills at this very critical stage in their lives. You can make a difference! Questions or more information? Contact Karen Calder at [kcalder127@gmail.com](mailto:kcalder127@gmail.com). Sign up sheets are located in the hallway.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

When the calendar says August, the preschool says "Let's get ready!" We will begin our 2011-2012 preschool year after Labor Day, but teachers are already cleaning rooms, planning curriculum and getting ready for our young students. We have openings currently in Bo-Peep Preschool for 3 year olds. Parents may choose between 2 or 3 mornings per week from 9:00-11:30 a.m. Classes are full for Jack and Jill Preschool for 4 year olds. After care is also available. We will begin registering for our popular Mother's Day Out soon. This program is just one day per week for children ages 15 months to 3 years old. First Federated Church members are allowed early registration beginning Monday, August 15 at 9:00 a.m.

If you or a friend have a preschool age child, don't miss this opportunity to enroll in a quality early childhood program. Contact Debbie Allen, Preschool Director, at 685-5258, ext. 18 or [dallen@ffcpeoria.com](mailto:dallen@ffcpeoria.com) for more information.

## THANK YOU & FAREWELL

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH**  
**FELLOWSHIP HOUR IN THE COMMONS**

Visit with Donna Haerr and Sully Curtin to thank them for their role in the life of our church. Donna is preparing for her move to St. Louis to be closer to her family, and Sully will head to college and pursue his goal of attending seminary.



Donna Haerr

## YOUTH CONNECTION

◆ **Amy O'Brien** will be returning to the States this month. She will be in the office beginning **August 18th**. We look forward to her returning to our ministry.



Amy O'Brien

◆ **Senior High Mission Opportunity- Feeding the Hungry, Making a Difference:** The Senior Highs will make *Tender Mercies* meal pouches at the Midwest Foodbank on Thursday evening **August 4th from 5 to 7 pm**. They will then go out for a bite to eat.

◆ **Senior High Senior Appreciation and Bon Voyage Night:** Say good-bye to our outgoing Seniors who will be off to college and moving on to "life after high school" with a swim party and cookout at the Coleman's house, **August 7th from 5 to 7 pm**. Be sure to watch your mail and the FFC Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Federated-Church/190015227697580>) for details.

◆ **BACK PACK BLESSING SUNDAY: Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** All teachers and students are invited to bring your back pack to worship for a special blessing service as we prepare to go back to school.



◆ **SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THOMAS JEFFERSON:** School supplies are being collected for Thomas Jefferson Primary School now through Sunday, August 21st. They are especially in need of pencils, 2-pocket folders, spiral notebooks, Kleenex, crayons, and washable markers.

◆ **BAPTISM CELEBRATION PARTY: Saturday, August 20th, at 11:00 am** This event commemorates the first milestone in a child's faith journey and will be held annually. Special invitations were sent to those families who've had a child baptized in recent years. Be sure to send in your reply card!

Glimpse Of Grace . . . by Frosty

I am not a gardener. It is not that I do not want to be, it's just something that I find to be more of a drudgery than a joy. I have tried, though some would say not very hard. Having said all of that there is one thing that I do enjoy in gardening. Deadheading. My wife introduced me to this part of gardening and I do it almost every day! For the uninformed, deadheading is simply snapping the withered blooms off of a plant. You don't do it to make the plants look cleaner, though they do. You do it in order to help the plant direct its energy toward current and future blooms. It's a form of pruning a plant to make it more productive. To get to my car every morning I walk by a very healthy crop of day lilies. I pop off a half dozen or so withered blooms. It is quite invigorating! One morning I got to thinking about how Jesus told a parable about pruning a vineyard. He said that just as a vine-dresser carefully prunes his grapes, so God

I am forced to ask myself, "Are there some things that I continue to do even though it is no longer productive?"

prunes the workers in the Kingdom. The unproductive are cut away in order to make room for the productive. I extended his parable and my experience to my life. I am forced to ask myself, "Are there some things that I continue to do even though it is no longer productive?" Could my energy be better used in new or different endeavors? And what about here at church? Are there sometimes things that we do simply because we have always done it? Are there better ways that we can use our resources to do the work of the Kingdom—to make disciples, to live toward our vision? These are things that we need to consider in the coming months both personally and as a congregation. Being attuned to doing what God calls us to do is a glimpse of grace. Take care, say your prayers and never tire of doing good.

Frosty



First Federated Church of Peoria

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PROGRAM & SUPPORT STAFF

- Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Forrest Krummel
Associate Pastor: Rev. Daren Hofmann
Director of Youth Ministries: Amy O'Brien
Director of Children's Ministries: Kim Snarr
Director of Music: Dr. Brian Russell
Organist: Stephen Sieger
Director of Children's Music: Michael Schneider
Preschool Director: Debbie Allen
Administrative Assistant: Lisa Hoepker
Building Manager: Tony Beal
Operations Manager: Robert Disharoon
Secretary: Cecelia Walter

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SUNDAY SCHEDULE 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Worship
Nursery Available
Children & Youth Sunday School
(after Children's Message)