

JUNE, 2011 Vol. 76 No. 6

## YOUTH CONNECTION

Garrick Predmore



Garrick is heading to ICC, with future plans to attend Southern Illinois University to study Zoology.

Christina Schlicksup



Christina will be heading to ICC, with future plans to attend Indiana University.

# Our Graduates

Alyssa Kowalske

Greta Shull

Ashton Long



Ashton will be attending the University of Missouri in Columbia in the fall and will be majoring in Mechanical Engineering.



Alyssa will attend Illinois State University in the fall. Her major will be Medical Laboratory Science. She would really like to work at St. Jude in the future.



Greta will attend St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, where she plans to study history, psychology, women's studies, or vocal performance.

Chase Snapp



Chase will be attending the University of Illinois in the fall. He will be working toward a major in Business Administration.

## MISSION CONNECTION

### PENTECOST

Each year as a part of our "Birthday Celebration" of the Church, we rejoice by wearing red on Pentecost Sunday, and through a special offering for local and national mission causes. This year the Mission Committee has designated the Crittenton Center Crisis Nursery, Family House and our denominational Disaster Relief efforts as recipients.

First Federated Church's relationship with the Crittenton Center dates back to 1902 when they spoke to the members of First Congregational Church about the ministry of "the Home of Blessings" which was founded a decade earlier to "care for the many girls and women being ruined by the 60 wine rooms and 300 saloons" in Peoria. Since that humble beginning the Center has grown into a multi-service Center meeting the needs of "children in crisis." One of the most valuable ministries that they provide is their crisis nursery which provides a safe place for children when their families are in crisis. Our children's Sunday School department recently sponsored a "diaper and baby needs" drive for this nursery. With funding tight, this is our opportunity to make a critical difference to children in crisis.

Family House serves out of town families with loved ones in one of Peoria's hospitals. As many of you know, having a loved one in the hospital is hard. Being away from home is even harder. Family House provides lodging, meals and other supportive services, in addition to comfort, hope, support and love. Guests of Family House enjoy quiet, private rooms and inviting communal kitchens and living areas.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Our Church's Wider Mission are the disaster relief arms of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and United Church of Christ (UCC). With the recent disaster in Joplin, Missouri, it is good to know that within 24 hours first responders from PDA and OCWM were on the ground helping meeting needs. Their work will continue long after the television camera crews and reporters leave. PDA recently supported communities in our area when the Mississippi River flooded western Illinois.

### PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE SUMMER

We will be having a series of volunteer work days this summer. Depending on weather, we will be working either inside or out. Scheduled work days will be the 2nd Saturday of each month; June 11, July 9th, August 13th, September 10th, and October 8th. Time: 8:30 to 12:30.

Rakes, branch loppers and other yard tools are welcome. A sign-up sheet will be available on the table across from the reception desk. Look forward to seeing you and thanks in advance for your help!



### CHURCH WORKDAYS

## FFC GROUP CONNECTIONS

### ON SUMMER HIATUS:

#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Watch for news about the fall class.

#### MOTHERS OF TEENS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Watch for news about the fall class.

#### PRAYER SHAWLS KNITTING GROUP

Will resume on Tuesday, September 13th.

**MOSAIC** Watch your e-mail and the newsletter for a summer couples outing; monthly events will start again in September.

- **MOTHER'S CLUB:** Mother's Club dues of \$20.00 are to be in by Friday, July 1st, to get your name in the new yearbook! Call Susan Kirschbaum for information, reservations or questions.
- **BOOK CLUB @ APPLES' BAKERY:** Saturday, June 25th, at 9 am will be the next meeting of the book club. The book for June will be Sarah's Key by Tatiana deRosney. In July the book will be Picking Cotton by Jennifer Thonpson-Cannino.
- **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.

★ **PRESBYTERY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK:** ★  
Friday, June 10th, 7 pm at O'Brien Field.  
Peoria Chiefs vs. South Bend Silver Hawks.

### 2012 PRESBYTERIAN MISSION YEARBOOK FOR PRAYER AND STUDY



The Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study is a daily devotional with 365 inspiring mission stories that come from next door and all across the globe. Each yearbook page bears witness to the abundant possibilities of the church because of the leadership of Christ. Start 2012 off right and order your copy today. Become a partner in mission and celebrate what God is doing! Presbyterian Distribution Services, (800) 542-2612

## CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTION

### BLESSED ADDITIONS

- Kylie Marie Guth was born Tuesday, May 12th to parents, Kate and Chris, big sister Bailey, grandparents, Steve & Julie Fanta, great-grandparents, George & Carmen Fanta. Congratulations!

### BAPTISMS

- Sunday, May 8th - Alivia Marie Ahearn, daughter of Laura and Nathan Ahearn.
- Sunday, May 15th - Amelia Jean Hofmann, daughter of Sarah and Daren Hofmann.
- Sunday, May 22nd - Sofia Skye Cervantes, daughter of Jane and Sergio Cervantes.
- Sunday, May 29th - Emmett Douglas Crawford, son of Christopher and Kristin Crawford.



# the Parent LINK

Children & Youth Ministry



## June 2011



First Federated Church of Peoria



## Feast on the Fruit of the Spirit

As summer gets into full swing, gardens and produce departments are filled with delicious, healthy fruit we've been craving all winter long. So it's a perfect time to share with children the "fruit" of our Christian faith.

In Matthew 7:20, Jesus said, "Just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions." God wants us to bear good fruit for him, specifically "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22).

Unfortunately, these fruits can be difficult to live out—especially in families consisting of imperfect, grumpy, and impatient people. But thankfully, God provides his Holy Spirit as our helper. The Holy Spirit leads us "in every part of our lives" (Galatians 5:25), helping us plant, cultivate, grow, and share those spiritual fruits.

Use these fun, practical ideas to feast on spiritual fruit with your family this summer.

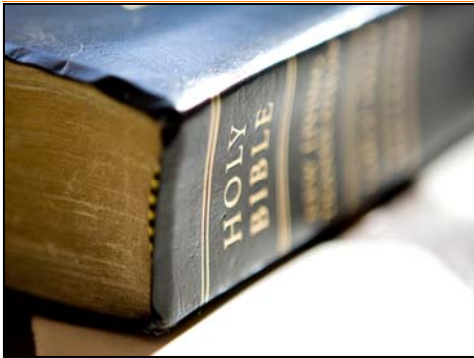
### POWERSOURCE

#### ASK GOD:

- To show you ways to express each fruit of the Spirit in your lives.
- To help you grow more and more good fruit in your life—and to share the bounty with others.
- To bless you with a "fruitful" summer of living for and glorifying God.

#### INSIGHTS

- Regarding faithfulness, John Westerhoff identified four stages of children's faith development: 1.) experienced faith, 2.) affiliative faith (belonging to a faith community), 3.) searching faith (embracing doubts), and 4.) owned faith. (*Will Our Children Have Faith?*)
- A child's self-control skills, including self-discipline and perseverance, can predict his or her health, wealth, and criminal history in later life, according to new research. (*world-science.net*)



“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!”  
(Galatians 5:22-23)

Galatians 5 contrasts the fruit of our sinful nature to the fruit of the Spirit. What a difference!

## Teachable Moments

**1. Fruit Fest**—Cut nine kinds of fruit into bite-sized pieces. Then assemble fruit kabobs by placing the pieces onto wooden skewers or craft sticks. Talk about the nine fruits of the Spirit from the Bible and find out what your child thinks they mean.

**2. Go Bananas!**—Create fun “candles” with your children. Place one half of a banana (pointed end up) inside a pineapple ring. Then attach a maraschino cherry “flame” to the top of the banana with a toothpick. While you enjoy the snack, talk about ways that showing the fruit of the Spirit helps us “shine” for God.

**3. Berry Special**—While you enjoy a fruit salad, affirm one another. Start with “You are berry special because....” Then list ways you see each person show the fruit of the Spirit in his or her daily life.



## Start a “peachy keen” conversation about the fruit of the Spirit with these discussion-starters:

1. How are these nine fruits of the Spirit like or unlike actual fruit?
2. Which fruits of the Spirit are easiest and hardest for you to consistently show, and why?
3. What conditions do fruit crops need to grow? What conditions do we need in our hearts to grow spiritual fruit?
4. What will help you live a more fruit-filled life for God?

## FAMILY EXPERIENCE

### Try these fun, fresh ideas about the fruit of the Spirit:

• **Bearing Fruit**—Give each family member a packet of seeds and a piece of construction paper. Read aloud Galatians 5:22-23. Talk about the fruit of the Spirit as you fold the papers in half to make cards. On the front, write, “You plant the seeds...” Inside, glue down a seed packet and write, “...that'll help me bear fruit for Jesus.” Add the fruit of the Spirit and sign the cards. Give them to people throughout the summer.

• **Apple of God's Eye**—With younger children, have them paint the flat sides of apple halves. Write “You're the Apple of God's Eye” on 10x14-inch pieces of craft foam. Then have children decorate the foam by firmly pressing down the painted apples. After the paint dries, cover the place mats with clear adhesive vinyl. Read aloud Psalm 17:8 (NIV). Talk about what it means to be the apple of someone's eye—and why we're each special to God.

• **Bountiful Harvest**—Teach older children how to use a Bible concordance or online Bible search tool. Together, look up each fruit of the Spirit and find Bible verses to see what God says about “growing” them. On 3x5 cards, write down what you learn about each fruit. Have family members share their discoveries with one another. Then place all your cards in a fruit bowl as a reminder to live out those qualities. Close by reading aloud Psalm 65:11 (“You crown the year with a bountiful harvest”) and praying that God will help you each reap a great harvest of fruit.





# VBS 2011

Sunday—Thursday, July 17– 21  
5:30—8:00 p.m.

**REGISTER & PAY:** online **before June 15<sup>th</sup>** by clicking on the homepage link at [www.ffcpeoria.com](http://www.ffcpeoria.com).  
**Fee is \$20 per child.**

**INCLUDES:** nightly dinners & snacks, music CD (1 per family), t-shirt, and Thursday Family Feast.

**ENROLLMENT:** open to all children 3 years old through entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Kim Snarr, Director of Children's Min. at 685-5258, ext. 20.

**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS** (incoming 6<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> graders): Please register online also to be part of your own completely separate programming. Details will be sent later.

*After June 15th, registration will be accepted only if space and materials are available.*

**VBS TRAINING:**  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15TH AT 6:30 PM.



## CULTURE & TRENDS

- Researchers say listening to music might help boost the immune system, so crank up some tunes this summer! ([msnbc.com](http://msnbc.com))
- More than half of summer camps now organize community-service projects that promote empathy and show children they can make a difference in other people's lives. (*American Camp Association*)



Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> will be Family Fun Day. There will be food, fellowship & lots of fun things to do. Watch for further details.

## **CHILDREN** (Birth—6th grade)

Contact: Kim Snarr

### **This Summer in SUNDAY SCHOOL**

This summer we'll mix it up a bit...we'll continue with brief lessons on core virtues but then maybe we'll go outside or another unusual spot; and we'll do some service projects around the church with our biggest project as VBS decorations. **Have kids wear clothes that can get dirty!**

#### **Chapel Offering**

*St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital*

Our children's offering will support children's cancer research at St. Jude's Hospital. Some of our own church members run in local satellite runs for this hospital in August.

*Let Kim Snarr know if you can help with supervision and activities. It will be a good opportunity to get to know the kids on a small-group basis!*

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL** (6<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Contact: Rev. Krummel

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

*Sunday-Thursday, June 17-21 5:30—8:00 pm*

Register online to be part of a great fellowship & service time just for middle schoolers!

#### **SUMMER INTERN**

Be sure to meet Sully Curtin, our summer intern, who will be helping with some fun fellowship opportunities this summer for middle schoolers. Stay tuned for more information!

## **CONFIRMATION** (7<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Contact: Rev. Krummel

### **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

*Sunday, June 5th*

8:30 a.m. Confirmation Breakfast and meet with Executive Board

## **SENIOR HIGH** (9<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Contact: Rev. Krummel

### **SENIOR HIGH LOCK-IN**

There will be a Senior High Lock-In at FFC starting at 8 pm the evening of Saturday, June 11th and concluding before worship on Sunday, June 12th.

### **MISSION TRIP 2011**

*Destination: Racine, WI*

*Dates: June 19—25*

*Contact: Rev. Hofmann*

During 8:00 am worship on **June 12**, we will commission all those going on the mission trip.

Trip participants will be leaving from the FFC parking lot at 8 am Sunday, June 19th and will be returning in the afternoon Saturday, June 25th.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Contact Kim Snarr if you'd like to help with this FUN event. We need small group leaders and station helpers!

Also plan to help out on Sundays during Sunday school as we make decorations for VBS.

### **YOUTH DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Amy O'Brien is on a leave of absence until mid-August.











Her family is living in Kobe, Japan, while her husband is teaching as a Fulbright Scholar.

### **SOFTBALL AT NORTHMINSTER**

Senior High's (16 and above) and adults are invited to join the softball league each Monday evening.

Check the calendar for exact times.

# JUNE 2011 AT FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30 am Clergy Lectionary Group  6 pm Guiding Coalition Group	2	3 9:30 am Mother's Club Exec. Board  5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal	4 2:30 pm Wedding
5 Worship 8 am & 10 am  8:30 am Confirmation Breakfast Presentation of Stoles  10:00 am Baptism: Hoschek  5 pm Senior Youth Fellowship	6 12:15 pm P.E.O. Program  6:15 pm Softball at Northminster Vs. Bethany Baptist West  7 pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting	7 4:30 pm Missions Meeting	8 8:30 am Clergy Lectionary Group  11:30 am HOI UCC Cluster Meeting  6 pm Guiding Coalition Group	9 9 am PEO, Chapter AH  6:30 pm Lifelink Information Session	10 7 pm Presbytery Night At The Ballpark  	11  8:30 am to 12:30 pm CHURCH WORKDAY  8 pm Senior High Lock-In  <b>SENIOR HIGH LOCK-IN</b>
12 Senior High Lock-In Concludes  Worship 8 am & 10 am  10 am Mission Trip Commissioned during worship  5 pm Senior Youth Fellowship	13 12:30 pm Preschool Committee Meeting  7:00 Softball at Northminster Vs. Bethany Baptist East	14 7 pm Finance Meeting	15 8:30 am Clergy Lectionary Group  6:30 pm VBS Training  <i>Deadline for VBS Sign-Up</i>  <i>Deadline for Life Together</i>	16 6 pm Membership Committee  7 pm Executive Board Meeting	17 5 pm Wedding Rehearsal	18 2:30 pm Wedding
19 Mission Trip Departs 8 am  Worship 8 am & 10 am  10 am Baptism: Hampton  	20 7:00 pm Softball at Northminster Vs. Northminster Presbyterian  	21 8 am Old Buddies Breakfast  	22 8:30 am Clergy Lectionary Group  	23   	24   	25 Mission Trip Returns  Book Club 9am Apples Bakery
26 Worship 8 am & 10 am  10 am Baptism: Turnbull Family Fun Day 	27 6:15 pm Softball at Northminster Vs. United Presbyterian	28	29 8:30 am Clergy Lectionary Group	30	For information about any of these events or if you have a committee meeting or church event you would like added to the calendar please call the church at 685-5258 or contact a member of the staff individually by e-mail. An e-mail list is located on the back cover. The deadline for next months LIFE TOGETHER is the 15th.	

LEADERSHIP CONNECTION



Please Meet Donna Bantis

Donna is Chair of the Worship Committee, she has been a member here at First Federated since 1986.

SUMMER INTERN

Please Meet Sully Curtin

Please welcome Sully, our ten week summer intern. He is exploring a call into ordained ministry and will be attending DePaul University in the fall. He will be working with Kim Snarr, our Director of Children Ministry. Be sure to introduce yourself to Sully and welcome him into our fellowship.



First Federated Church of Peoria

3601 N Sheridan Road Peoria, IL 61604 #309-685-5258 www.ffcpeoria.com

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