



Life Together

First Federated Church of Peoria

Vol.82 • No. 8 • August 2017

August is:



FFC RUMMAGE SALE

This year's Rummage Sale will be held Friday, August 18th and Saturday, August 19th, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days. All proceeds will benefit the Missions of FFC.

See page 3 for more details.



FFC 2017 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Be included! Capture memories for a lifetime!

Each participant will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a copy of the new FFC directory.

Photo sessions begin Wednesday, August 2nd and sessions are still available! You may register online at our website: ffcpeoria.com or call the church office at 309-685-5258.

Not in town for our scheduled sessions? No problem, call the church office and we will get you scheduled at a sitting in your area.

Don't be left out! Get scheduled today!



FFC PRESCHOOL

Registration for the 2017 - 2018 school year is still available. We have a few openings in both part and full-day in all classrooms. Classes begin Monday, August 14th. FFC families receive a tuition discount.

See page 6 for more details.

BACKPACK BLESSING

Join us Sunday, August 20th at our 10 o'clock worship service. A special prayer will be offered asking that our children and youth will be blessed for the upcoming school year. All are welcome!

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Life Together

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FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH

3601 N Sheridan Road
Peoria, Illinois 61604

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Email your article to the church by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

CONTACT US

Main Church: 309-685-5258
Email: info@ffcpeoria.com
Fax: 309-685-5451

OFFICE HOURS

8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Monday - Friday

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 am Chapel Service
10:00 am Sanctuary Service

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

ffcpeoria.com



Frosty

My wife is a master gardener. Over the course of years she turns ordinary yards into beautiful places. She finds it relaxing. I suspect that it draws her closer to God. You do remember, don't you, that God, too, is a Master Gardener?

My father was a master gardener. I have a paper weight from the University of Illinois Extension given to him posthumously stating as much.

Vegetables rather than flowers, though. Sue's father had a green thumb, too. A large vegetable garden that he spent Saturdays working at the family farmstead. He also grew roses. Beautiful roses. He was good at both. My mother had a green thumb. I don't.

I am not a master gardener. My feeble efforts at gardening are just that, feeble. I believe that gardening is the one ring that Dante forgot to include when he wrote The Inferno.

However, I love to "deadhead" plants, especially day lilies. And Sue tells me that it is valuable work. I learned how to

"deadhead" from her. One day I asked her why we deadhead. She told me that it was so that the plant would not waste any energy on dead blossoms. It made sense. And it got me to thinking.

Jesus once said that God cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. (John 15:2). Every now and then we need to review what we are doing and consider whether or not it has served its purpose. This is particularly true of individuals, churches and organizations. For everything there is a season, the wisdom literature of the Old Testament says, and a time for every matter under the heaven.

In the dog days of summer maybe it is time to look at what needs to be pruned.

Take care, say your prayers and never tire of doing good. See you in church.

August Is Family Worship Month

August, the last month of summer break. As a boy I was not fond of August because it meant school would start up soon. Transitioning to the new school year meant I would be taken shopping for school supplies, clothing, and if there was a silver lining in going back to school it was I got new shoes. There were so many types, styles, and sizes picking the right one took time. Once I found the shoe I wanted the salesperson would measure my foot and then get the appropriate size. In those new shoes life changed. I could dodge better, jump higher, and run faster or so I thought.

This August we will transition to a practice we did last year - Family Worship Month. We are going to have Family Worship Month because there are all different types and styles of worship. During the month of August all school age children are invited to stay in the Lord's Day Worship Service. There are a variety of reasons for this, but the main one is the body of Christ is made of many

parts. Each part of Christ's body is integral to the church. Together we are the body of Christ and as Christ's body we, one and all, are called to worship together. This month is a great opportunity for children of all ages to learn what it means to be part of a worship service.

This change in worship for the month of August is kind of like getting a new pair of shoes. It might take a little getting comfortable with, but just like a new shoe, however worshipping together, children and adults alike, is just the right size. I believe this style of worshipping as a family fits, a body of Christ, First Federated Church well. I am looking forward to worshipping with all of you!

Peace be with you,



Zach

FFC RUMMAGE SALE

- We will be having our Rummage Sale **Friday, August 18th & Saturday, August 19th** to benefit the Missions of FFC.
- We welcome your contributions of women's, men's & children's clothing, housewares, toys, books, tools, holiday items, furniture, linens, sports equipment, all music items, and artworks.
- **NEW THIS YEAR!** We'll be having an "Antique Corner!" Bring in those antiques and we will feature them in a special area of the sale!
- **COLLECTIONS:** Collection hours will be Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to noon and Sundays, 9:00 to 10:00 am.
- **Please no televisions, computers, printers, encyclopedias or magazines!**
- **Plenty of help will be needed for set-up as well as for the sale. Set-up volunteers - stop by the Life Together Center during collection hours. Sale volunteers - a sign-up sheet will be available soon in the Reception area of the church.**
- Questions? Please contact the church office for further information.



ONGOING FFC MISSIONS

- **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**
 - The collection box is across from the reception desk. The Box Tops are delivered to Thomas Jefferson School.
- **FRIENDSHIP HOUSE FOOD PANTRY**
 - Canned goods and personal care items are always needed; see the list by the North door.
 - Collection bins are by the North door of the church & in the Narthex.
- **THE CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF ABUSE**
 - Personal care items, snack items, etc. Please see the list by the North door.
 - Collection bins are by the North door of the church & in the Narthex.
- **OUR SNACK PROGRAM FOR WHITTIER PRIMARY SCHOOL**
 - District 150 School year begins mid-August. We will be gearing up soon after - watch for further information.

Our Mission

FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH: WHY I GIVE

July 9th, Executive Board Member, Rebecca Frankel-Clifton answered that question at our 10 o'clock worship service.

In her words - -

When I joined First Federated - back in '08 - I was totally unaware of the many opportunities "to help make a difference" associated with being an active member of this congregation. Well, that's not entirely accurate. I was aware of the Offertory on Sunday mornings. I could write a check for whatever amount my budget would bear that week and stick it in the plate as it was passed. Bah-da-bing . . . bah da boom. There. Cash in the plate. Pass it on. I made a difference. I didn't think about it.

It wasn't until I served on the Missions Committee that I even became aware of our "finances" if you will. I watched Sally Stone carefully craft "Passport to Hope." I listened to Mike VerKuijen give updates on a house being built for Habitat for Humanity. And so many other great projects being carefully shepherded from humble beginning to successful end. Every dollar realized was a dollar that really was sorely needed. Needed. And in such a congregation! ***I began to think about it.***

It was not until Jeff Shelton presented in great and careful detail our various budgets to the Executive Board in January that I finally fully grasped just what our dollars and cents mean. Our dollars and cents mean that we can exist. And it's a precious existence. It's 24/7/365. Not just on Sundays. ***I had to think about it.***

It's hard talking about money. One isn't supposed to, you know. But as we conduct the Offertory today, I want to ask you to do something . . . think about it. Think about just what **your gift today** is doing. Then, think about what you're giving in the future - in 2018 - and what it can do. ***Will do.*** Think about it . . . won't you?



MATTER OF RECORD

BIRTHS

- ❖ June 29th, Louis Easton Malerich, son of Emily and Thomas, little brother of Thomas.

COMPLETED THIS PART OF LIFE

- ❖ July 1st, Jeannine Triebel



Do you have a birth, wedding or bereavement you would like to share with your church family?
Please contact the church office at 309-685-5258 or info@ffcpeoria.com.

Church Fellowship Groups

FIRST FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUB

Dues of \$20 for the 2017 - 2018 year are now due. Please send checks, made payable to FFC Women's Club, to Jan Chapman. (Refer to the membership list in the back of the Women's Club directory for the address or mail them to the church - Attention: FFC Women's Club, 3601 N. Sheridan Road, Peoria, Il 61604.) Membership is open to all women of First Federated Church. For more information you may contact the church office at 309-685-5258.

FFC SOFTBALL - THE FEDS!

Games will be played at Peoria Stadium, 315 E War Memorial Drive. Come out and cheer us on!

August Softball Schedule: Sunday, August 6th - 5:00 pm: Diamond 5 - 4

Playoffs will begin the week of August 8th for the top 3 teams.

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

Saturday Night Live is primarily a social group that meets roughly once a month for dinner (at restaurants or members' homes) and is made up of those over 50. If you're interested and would like more information, contact the church office at 309-685-5258 Look for our next event in September!

YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

Adults between the ages of 25 and 45, single, married, or with a family. This group gathers monthly to enjoy great community events and engage in mission opportunities. All are welcome and have a place in helping us create this community. For more information about the group or events, please contact Rev. Zach Lysdahl at 309-685-5258, X-12 or zlysdahl@ffcpeoria.com.

Event: Root Beer Floats at Lou's Drive Inn. Thursday, August 17th, 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Bring the family and joins us, floats are on FFC! Rain back-up plan: Root beer floats and games in Fellowship Hall. Hope To See You There!

KNITTING / CROCHETING MINISTRY

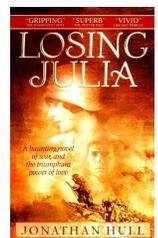
The group is on Summer hiatus and will next meet on **Tuesday, September 5th, at 9:00 am in the Memorial Lounge.** If you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office at 309-685-5258.

OLD BUDDIES BREAKFAST

The next gathering of the "Old Buddies," a men's fellowship group that meets for breakfast and fellowship, will be **Tuesday, August 15th, 8:30 am Lutheran Hillside Village, private dining room.**

THE FFC BOOK CLUB

They will meet **Saturday, August 26th, at 10:00 am at the North Branch of Peoria Public Library (3001 W. Grand Parkway, Peoria, Illinois 61615).** The book for August is July is Losing Julia By Jonathan Hull. At the Saturday, September 23rd meeting the club will choose the 2017 - 2018 book list.



Tuesday, August 1st

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
4:30 pm Missions Committee Meeting, Boardroom

Wednesday, August 2nd

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
1:00 pm Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons

Thursday, August 3rd

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
1:00 pm Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons

Friday, August 4th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
1:00 pm Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons

Saturday, August 5th

9:30 am Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons

Sunday, August 6th

8:00 am Worship, Chapel or Garth
9:00 am Passport To Hope | Organizational Meeting, Bride's Lounge, 2nd floor
9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 am Fellowship, Commons
5:00 pm FFC Softball, Peoria Stadium, S-4

Monday, August 7th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
12:45 pm "Believe" Bible Study, Lifetree Room

Tuesday, August 8th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance

Wednesday, August 9th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance

Thursday, August 10th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance

Friday, August 11th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
5:30 pm Preschool Open House, Classrooms and Commons

Saturday, August 12th**Sunday, August 13th**

8:00 am Worship, Chapel or Garth
9:00 am Rummage Sale Collection, LTC, Central Room Entrance
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 am Fellowship, Commons

Monday, August 14th**1st Day of the 2017 - 2018 FFC Preschool School Year!**

9:00 am Rummage Sale Set-up, LTC, Central Room Entrance
12:45 pm "Believe" Bible Study, Lifetree Room
6:00 pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting, Boardroom

Tuesday, August 15th

8:30 am Old Buddies Breakfast, LHV, Private Dining room
9:00 am Rummage Sale Set-up, LTC, Central Room Entrance
1:00 pm Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons

Wednesday, August 16th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Set-up, LTC, Central Room Entrance
10:00 am Full Staff Meeting, TBD
1:00 pm Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons
6:30 pm FFC Executive Board Meeting, Boardroom
7:00 pm FFC Board of Deacon's Meeting, Trinity Room

Thursday, August 17th

9:00 am Rummage Sale Set-up, LTC, Central Room Entrance
1:00 pm Lifetouch Photo Session, Commons

Friday, August 18th

9:00 am Rummage Sale, Life Together Center

Saturday, August 19th

9:00 am Rummage Sale, Life Together Center

Sunday, August 20th - Backpack Blessing!

Rummage Sale Clean-Up
8:00 am Worship, Chapel or Garth
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
Backpack Blessing
11:00 am FFC Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
To Follow Fellowship, Commons

Monday, August 21st

Rummage Sale Clean-Up
12:45 pm "Believe" Bible Study, Lifetree Room

Tuesday, August 22nd**Wednesday, August 23rd****Thursday, August 24th****Friday, August 25th****Saturday, August 26th**

10:00 am The FFC Book Club, Peoria Public Library North Branch

Sunday, August 27th

8:00 am Worship, Chapel or Garth
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 am Fellowship, Commons

Monday, August 28th

12:45 pm "Believe" Bible Study, Lifetree Room

Tuesday, August 29th**Wednesday, August 30th****Thursday, August 31st**

**Labor Day, Monday, September 4th
FFC Office and Preschool will be closed**

COMING UP IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

August is Family Worship Month

We invite families to stay in worship together during the month of August. There will be no Sunday school for any age this month! The Nursery will remain open and available.

September 10th is Kick-Off Sunday

Sunday, September 10th we will begin our new church program year. Look for Sunday school, Confirmation, Junior and Senior High program information in upcoming publications and mailings! We are looking forward to a great year!

BACKPACK BLESSING

- Sunday, August 20th
- 10:00 am worship
- Children should bring their backpacks to receive the annual "Backpack Blessing."



SUNDAY SCHOOL - TEACHER'S MEETING

- Sunday, August 20th, Creation Station, 2nd floor
- Following 11:00 am Congregational Meeting.
- Lunch will be provided.



The Preschools at FFC

Director, Kathie Harms ☎309-685-5258, x.18 ✉kharms@ffcpeoria.com



REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2017 - 2018 SCHOOL YEAR



*Current Programming:
Part Day & Full Day options for ages 2 to 5.
FFC Members receive a discount on Preschool tuition.*



Kathie Harms



Registration form, school calendar and price list available at our website. Use this link.

IMPORTANT AUGUST DATES:

- Monday July 31st - Friday, August 11th
Preschool closed to prepare for upcoming school year.
- Friday, August 11th
5:30 pm Preschool Open House, *Classrooms and Commons*
- Monday, August 14th
1st Day of the 2017 - 2018 FFC Preschool School Year!
- Sunday, August 20th
Backpack Blessing Sunday - All Are Welcome!
10:00 am Worship Service, *FFC Sanctuary*
- Monday, September 4th
Labor Day, Preschool Closed

"BELIEVE" - A BIBLE STUDY

- Mondays, 12:45 to 2:00 pm
- Lifetree Room at FFC's Life Together Center

MEDITATION GROUP

- Currently on Summer hiatus until September.
- Questions? Contact the church office at 309-685-5258.

"OFF CAMPUS" BIBLE STUDIES

- Independence Village Bible Study
- Lutheran Hillside Village Bible Study

Currently on Summer Hiatus - will resume Thursday, September 7th.

*Volunteering Time and Talent***SIGN-UP FOR SUNDAY VOLUNTEER POSITIONS**

Would you consider serving?
Greeters, Ushers, Fellowship Hour Host
Or Fellowship Hour Sponsor
Questions? Call the church office at
309-685-5258.



Use this QR code with your smart phone! All are welcome.
At the website simply scroll down the list of dates, sign up for 1 or many, we love having your involvement!

*Pastoral Care ~ Prayer Ministry***PRAYERS,
PASTORAL CALLS,
HOSPITAL VISITS OR
HOME COMMUNION**

Give the office a call at 685-5258

If you or others you know are in need of pastoral care or support, please contact the church office.

If you are admitted to an area hospital don't forget to mention to admitting that you are with First Federated Church.

Communion served at your home? Please call the church and we will arrange for either Rev. Krummel, Rev. Lysdahl or Rev. Barch to come to your home.

Worship & Music Director, Russel Boulton ☎ 309-685-5258, x.14 📧 rboulton@ffceoria.com

*Music Ministry***NEW PROGRAM YEAR**

- **Come and join the Chancel Choir and express your faith through song!**
 - The program year is just around the corner, which means the Chancel Bells and Chancel Choir will be back as a regular part of our worship. I have the privilege of hearing the congregation raise the strain whether we are in session or not and I can factually state that there are many fine voices that would fit in well with our Chancel Choir. Please, if interested, contact a choir member or me.
- **Join our Sound Team**
 - We have an additional goal that is open to those who doubt their music skills but would like to help at our 10:00 am worship service. Our sound system team has room to grow. If interested, please contact me or Andy Braun.



Mr. Russ

Mr. Russ

Thank You!

Dear FFC Family:

Emma (my wife! 🥰🥰) and I thank you so very much for your outpouring of fun and support at our open house. July 9th was a beautiful day that surrounded us with love and happiness. Our trip to Spain was magical and we will happily share our stories and pictures. It truly is special to be a participant in this wonderful congregation.

From both us, thank you,
Russel and Emma Boulton





**First Federated
Church** of Peoria
www.ffcpeoria.com

A Federated Church of
Presbyterian Church (USA) and
United Church of Christ.



3601 North Sheridan Road, Peoria, Illinois 61604 ♦ P 309-685-5258 ♦ F 309-685-5451 ♦ info@ffcpeoria.com

SAVE THE DATES . . .

PASSPORT TO HOPE

Missions Committee Fall Fundraiser
Friday, October 20th
FFC's Life Together Center

PLANNING MEETING

Sunday, August 6th, 9:00 am
Bride's Lounge, 2nd floor
Anyone interested in volunteering is
welcome to attend!



Plan **NOW** to become a part of our *LIFE TOGETHER!*



**First Federated
Church** of Peoria

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

Welcome

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