

Life Together

Summer At FFC . .

Faith & Family Night at the Ballpark





Vacation Bible School





Backpack Blessing

FFC Rummage Sale

. Come Join Us!





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The Preschools at FFC

Life Together

is published by:

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

Glimpse of Grace

In a few weeks we will mark Father's Day. As I reflect upon what the day means to me, I also am reminded of a teenage girl who was in a senior high Sunday School class that I taught in 1976. I had not yet gone to seminary. I no longer remember the girl's name. Her face is now shrouded in the passage of time. But her story remains hauntingly etched upon my mind.

We were studying the Lord's Prayer. She became unusually quiet as we talked about "Our Father, who are in heaven..." After class she haltingly approached me. I learned her story of abuse and neglect. She walked to Sunday School from a nearby group home. The first years of her young life was a series of abusive live-in-proxy-fathers and foster homes. By accident or Providence (the latter being more in line with our theology) she made her way to the Sunday School class that I taught. As I learned her story of never experiencing a positive caring male figure, my heartache was tempered by her pain and confusion.

Every now and then I think of that now faceless child of God. And I realize that she is not "faceless" at all. She wears a million faces and goes by a thousand different names. She is the child without a father, the child whose father was abusive or who walked away from fatherly responsibility.

The late pediatrician and lecturer T. Berry Brazelton once told Bill Moyers that an absent or uninvolved father makes life very difficult for a child. He has had fatherless 3 and 4 year-old children climb upon his lap, fawn and feel his face "as it they just couldn't get enough of what a man is like." He quoted studies that indicate that if a father is absent in the first year of a child's life, by the time that child turns 7 his or her IQ will be lower, be less successful in school, and have a poorer sense of humor.

Years ago my daughters gave me a little wooden plaque that read, "Any man can be a father; it takes someone special to be a daddy." Father's Day is not about biology. It is about something far greater. It is about love, showing up, and

caring. Father's Day isn't just for "fathers." It is about any man who takes the time to invest in others.

Rev. Dr. Frosty Krummel, Jr.

Senior Minister



First Federated

is our

Church family.

Active Advocates

Reflections shared at a recent worship service.

About 25 years ago our family was looking for a church with a strong youth program for our son. We found that at First Federated.

Since then, Nancy and I have volunteered with LOGOS and Vacation Bible School. We have witnessed the interactions of Kathie, Russel, the teachers and others with the children of our FFC Preschool.

We've delivered Snack Packs to Whittier Grade School and heard the gratitude expressed by teachers and staff.

We have supported Passport for Hope.

These examples coupled with the spiritual guidance from Frosty and Zach show us we are at the right place.

First Federated is our Church family.

As such, we have included FFC as part of our estate planning. The Endowment Fund of First Federated has been designated as beneficiary for one of our life

insurance policies.

First Federated Church depends on all of us. Please join Nancy and I in supporting First Federated with your time, your talents and

your treasures.

Thank You!

Jeff Shelton, First Federated Church Treasurer



Reflections shared Sunday May 27, 2018

Hello. My name is Bridget Mattson and I have been a member of First Federated Church (FFC) for a little over 5 years. I joined FFC because of the strong community of faith that we have as a church. I was drawn in not only by the Christian Education programs but also the opportunities available to us on a daily and weekly basis which allows us to give of our time and talents. I have volunteered in many different capacities since joining FFC such as greeting, ushering, VBS, etc. and now am serving on the Executive Board. This new opportunity is allowing me to see FFC from a different light.

All the programs and needs of FFC are so very vital and important to our survival as a church community. We need to support them with not only our time and talents but also our tithes and offerings. Without our financial support and contributions, FFC may not be able to sustain all the wonderful things that drew me to FFC.

I encourage each of you to "Count Your Blessings" for what you receive and give to FFC and think of how FFC has impacted your life.

Grace and Peace to each of you!

Bridget Mattson, Executive Board, Class of 2020



A Matter of Record

Births



Sunday, May 6th - Finley Scott Richardson. Finley was 7 pounds, 1 ounce, and 20 - 1/2 inches long. He is the son of Jamie and Shane Richardson and baby brother of Sophie.

Sunday, May 20th - Lennon Grey Humphres. Lennon was 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and 18 3/4 inches long. She is the daughter of Ashley and Derrick Humphres.



Baptisms

June 3rd - Emmelynn Rae Degenhart, daughter of Sara and Justin Degenhart.

August 5th - Noah Bradley Snyder, son of Lindsey (Mabee) and Shane Snyder. Grandson of Pam and Dave Mabee and great-grandson of Florence Mabee.



April 21st - Ashton Long married Cassie Rohe in Columbia, MO. Parents are Carol and Dave Long, and brother is Matt.



Completed This Part Of Life

May 15th - Betty Anne Clayton May 15th - John A. Dystrup

May 15th - Patsy Hurst, wife of Robert Hurst

New Members

May 13th - Ashley Rogy and John Beyer joined our church family. (Not pictured.)

May 20th - Brad and Mary Gordon and their daughter Brooke joined our church family.

Please make them welcome!



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.

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 Judy Thompson through the church at 309-685-5258.

EVENT: Faith and Family Night at the Ballpark, 6:00 pm, Dozer Field.

OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS GROUP •

This group is comprised of anyone who enjoys the outdoors. All are welcome. For more information about the group or events, please contact the church office at 309-685-5258 or check the Home Edition or our e-newsletter, 1stNews.

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.

KNITTING / CROCHETING MINISTRY

This group is now on summer hiatus. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Alice Racine through the church at 309-685-5258.

OLD BUDDIES BREAKFAST •

The "Old Buddies," is a men's fellowship group that meets for breakfast and fellowship monthly. They meet Tuesdays at 8:30 am in the Private Dining Room of Lutheran Hillside Village. Their summer meetings will be held on June 19th, July 17th, and August 21st. All gentleman of the church are welcome.

FIRST FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUB .

The Women's Club is now on summer hiatus. Membership is open to all women of First Federated Church. For more information you may contact Women's Club President, Barb Hein through the church at 309-685-5258.

THE FFC BOOK CLUB •

The book club meets on the last Saturday of the month at 10:00 am at the North Branch of Peoria Public Library (3001 W. Grand Parkway, Peoria, Illinois 61615).

The book for the June will be:
The Sleep Revolution
by Arianna Huffington



The book for the July will be:
The Other Einstein
by Marie Benedict



The book for the August will be: **The Wedding Shop** by Rachel Hauck



Additional events for some of the above groups may be added during the summer months.

These events will be publicized in the Home Edition, our Sunday news insert which you will find in your Sunday bulletin each week, and in our E-newsletter, the 1stNews, which is emailed to subscribers each Friday afternoon. You may subscribe to the 1stNews on our website: ffcpeoria.com/newsletter/ or by contacting the church office at 309-685-5258, X-100 or cwalter@ffcpeoria.com.



FFC Rummage Sale

- We will be having our Rummage Sale on Friday, August 17th & Saturday, August 18th 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.
- Collection begins Friday, June 1st.
- Fridays, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm / Sundays, 8:45 to 9:45 am, LTC Central Room door.
- Please no televisions, computers, printers, encyclopedias or magazines!
- Plenty of help will be needed as well, so mark your calendars. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available soon.
- Questions about volunteering, donating specific items, or if you need home pick-up, please contact Susi Butler at 309-696-5558 or ibutler895@aol.com.

Passport To Hope

Missions Committee Fall Fundraiser

Saturday, September 29th In our Life Together Center

- Event Committee volunteers are welcome.
- Silent Auction donations are welcome.
- Event program advertising is welcome.
- Please contact El Higus at elholisky@gmail.com or call the church office at 309-685-5258.



Snack Pack Continues

Packing weekend snacks for children at Common Place will continue over the summer.

• Exact dates are not available at this printing. Watch the Home Edition and 1stNews for further information.

Thomas Jefferson "Study Buddies"

Look for information Mid-August

- Watch the Home Edition and 1stNews for further information.
- Will need to have valid photo ID, (copy can be made in office) to accompany the form.
- Stop by the office in mid-August to complete the form or call 309-685-5258 or email cwalter@ffcpeoria.com to have a form sent to you.

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.



Sunday, June 3rd

Communion at both the 8:00 and 10:00 am services

Confirmation Sunday

- Confirmation Breakfast, 8:30 am in the Bride's Lounge, 2nd floor
- Confirmation 10:00 am worship service.



2017-2018 Confirmation Candidates Neil Kolmer, Lauren Braun, Maggie Hobson, Samantha Cenek



Sunday, June 17th

Father's Day

- Jazz worship service
- 10:00 am worship service.

Sunday, July 1st

Communion at both the 8:00 and 10:00 am services

Sunday, August 5th

Communion at both the 8:00 and 10:00 am services

Sunday, August 12th

Back Pack Blessing

- Join us 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!



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 that 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 worshiping as a family, fits a body of Christ, and First Federated Church well. I am looking forward to worshipping with all of you!

her. Bach

FFC Softball



Come cheer our FFC Softball Team on to Victory! Games are played Sunday evenings and are listed on our website calendar (*ffcpeoria.com/calendar*), in our *Home Edition*, included in each week's service bulletin, and in the *1stNews*, *our* E-Newsletter, .

All games are played at Peoria Stadium, 315 E War Memorial Drive, Peoria

Sunday, June 3rd:	5:00 pm	Field S-3	VS. Grilling Crew
	-		
Sunday, June 10th:	5:00 pm	Field S-3	VS. The Regulators
Sunday, June 17th:	4:00 pm	Field S-3	VS. I'd Hit That
Sunday, June 24th:	4:00 pm	Field S-3	VS. The Regulators
Sunday, July 1st:	Will be use	d for make-up	games, if needed
Sunday, July 8th:	5:00 pm	Field S-3	VS. Modern Marvels

Sunday, July 15th: FFC is off

Sunday, July 22nd: 5:00 pm Field S-4 VS. Pour House

Sunday, July 29th: 5:00 pm Field S-4 VS. The Royal Publishing Sunday, August 5th: 4:00 pm Field S-3 VS. Around the Horn

Music Ministry

Hymns

As we continue our study of the role of music in our worship here at FFC, we move to a component we all participate with: hymns. Singing has been a part of the worship vernacular for centuries, though not firstly as a part of Christian worship. The singing of psalms was the first example of public worship singing. In terms of Christian worship, hymns almost did not make the cut. Many of the early popes feared public singing, in that handing the responsibility of worship over to the masses was an atypical motive. The Lutheran Church was the first to place liturgical text to common melodies, which was completely contrapuntal to the more complex music of the mass. The Church of England did not approve of public service hymn singing until 1820. The more modern take of hymn serves both as vocal, corporate worship, as well as a difference of energy level within the flow of a service. The common start to our services usually involves a more upbeat, high energy hymn to start, a more subtle middle hymn, or anthem, and then a more common hymn to finish. The function of hymns are always are purpose driven. "Songs and hymns refresh the body. Hymns invoke the spirit to rise to its maker for strength. When we live in a day without a hymn or a song, we disregard the essence of the day." Ernest Agyemang Yeboah

The theologian J.J. Fux said "Church music should serve to arouse the worshiper to devotion." This lesson applies to anthems, offertories, and any form of special music. So, sing, be full of passion and faith, and know that there is a place for your contribution to the celebration of worship in any church, but especially here at First Federated Church.

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.

Russel Boulton

Director, Worship and Music





This letter was originally shared in a congregational email on May 14th and has been published twice, May 13th and 20th, in our weekly worship bulletins.

As our Vision in Action Campaign (VIA) closes out, we are pleased to report that the campaign was a financial success.

Pledges, to be paid over the five years of the campaign, from the congregation were **\$1,790,900**. Because of the generosity and commitment of the congregation a total of **\$1,798,209 - 100.4%** of the original pledged amount - has been received as of the end of April 2018.

Additionally, contributions of \$112,391 have been received to support specific projects undertaken as part of the VIA activities.

Pledges received totaling \$86,720 were earmarked for increasing our Endowment. In addition, \$560,000 in bequests were received as part of the campaign for the Endowment.

Additional information on the specific improvements and projects accomplished through VIA will be forth coming in the next month.

Again, thank you for support and commitment to First Federated Church.

Blessings,

Jeff Shelton, Treasurer, First Federated Church of Peoria

This letter was originally shared in a congregational email on May 28th and has been published once, May 27th, in our weekly worship bulletins.

This summer we will undertake two major maintenance projects at First Federated Church funded by generous contributions to our Vision in Action Campaign.

In late May or early June our parking lot will have two sealcoats applied and then be restriped. The project will occur in two steps. The filling of existing pavement cracks has already been completed. The coats of sealer will be applied in two phases with half of the parking lot being sealed on each of two consecutive days. The final step will be the striping. We will send out additional information as dates are finalized. All work requires cooperation of the weather!

Our second project funded through Vision in Action contributions is needed maintenance and repair work on the organ piping and equipment in the church organ loft. Beginning the week of June 25th, Buzard Pipe Organs will remove the organ pipes and other equipment in the loft and will take them to their facility in Champaign. The work will take approximately 6 to 8 weeks with reinstallation in mid-August.

Once again we thank you for your prayers and support in our life together.

Blessings,

Kent Kowalske, Vice Moderator

Prayer Ministry ~ Pastoral Care



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 Rev. Krummel, Rev. Lysdahl, or Rev. Barch to come to your home.

Rev. Stephen BarchMinister of Pastoral Care



Children's Ministry

Coming Up In Sunday School

Kindergarten ~ 5th Grade

Sunday, June 3rd:

Confirmation Sunday - all children remain in worship.

Sunday, June 10th:

VBS Music (preschool – 5th grade)

Sunday, June 17th:

VBS Music (preschool – 5th grade)

Sunday, July 1st:

VBS Music (preschool – 5th grade)

Sunday, July 8th:

VBS Music (preschool – 5th grade)

Sunday, July 15th:

VBS Music (preschool – 5th grade)

Sunday, July 22nd:

Veggie Tales & popcorn

Sunday, July 29th:

Veggie Tales & popcorn

Jessica Sheley

Director of Children's Ministries



Jessica Sheley ◆ ☎309-685-5258 X-105 � jsheley@ffcpeoria.com

Confirmation

2018 Confirmation



Sunday, June 3rd is Confirmation Sunday

8:30 am Confirmation Breakfast in the Bride's Lounge

on the 2nd floor.

10:00 am Confirmation Service in the Sanctuary.

VBS Packet Pick-Up

Sunday, June 17th following the 10 am worship service in the Commons.



Backpack Blessing

Sunday, August 12th during the 10 am worship service children should bring their backpacks to receive the annual Backpack Blessing.



Sunday School Teacher's Meeting

Sunday, August 19th, following the 10 am worship service in Creation Station (2nd floor.) Lunch will be provided.



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.

2018-2019 Program Year Kick-Off

Sunday, September 9th, 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!

Adult Christian Education

Off Campus Bible Studies

Each Thursday at:
Independence Village at 9:15 am
This Bible study will continue through July.
Led by Rev. Zach Lysdahl.



Rev. Zachary Lysdahl

Minister of Youth & Families



Make Your Own Masterpiece!

A Fundraiser to Support FFC Preschools

Friday, June 22nd • 6 PM

Limited Spots Available • Must Be 21 to Participate

Join us for an evening of Painting & Socializing at the Life Together Center

70.00 ALL INCLUSIVE Includes paint supplies & wine. (30.00 to create a 2nd piece.)

Our own Sheila Snarr will teach us how to create abstract masterpieces using alcohol ink. Examples of these unique one-of-a-kind pieces will be available in the Commons during coffee hour in June.

All proceeds will help fund improvements needed for the FFC Preschool. Additional donations accepted, and much appreciated.

Please RSVP to elizabethallen2001@yahoo.com or 309-258-0953.



THE PRESCHOOLS AT FFC REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2018 - 2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Current Programming: Part-Day & Full-Day options for ages 2 to 6. FFC Members and siblings receive a discount on Preschool tuition.

KIDS' SUMMER CAMPS AT FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH



June 4th - August 3rd, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, with before and after-care options available



36 Ages 2 to 10



Daily, Weekly or Whole-Summer Rates



Science, Art, Water-Play, Farm, Bugs, and Camping



Talk with Kathie at 309-685-5258, X-108 about registration.





Preschool Graduation & End Of Year Program

Friday, May 25th our Sanctuary held graduation ceremonies and the end-of-year program. It was standing room only as our preschool families completed the school year.

Kathie Harms

Director. The Preschools at FFC



First Federated Church of Peoria

www.ffcpeoria.com

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





2018 Vacation Bible School - Register Now!

- Sunday, July 15th Thursday, 19th, 5:30 to 8:00 pm
- Visit our website *ffcpeoria.com/children* to sign up and pay.
- VBS Packet Pick-Up, Sunday, June 17th, In the Commons following the 10 am worship service.

VBS Volunteers Needed!

We are once again looking for VBS volunteers! We are looking for volunteers in the following areas:

✓ Registration ✓ Station Leaders ✓ Crew Leaders ✓ Kitchen Crew ✓ Decorations

Please complete the volunteer registration form (reception area) or contact Jessica Sheley at jsheley@ffcpeoria.com if you are interested.

Plan NOW to become a part of our LIFE TOGETHER!



Welcome

LIFE TOGETHER (USPS 110-900) IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH, 3601 N SHERIDAN ROAD, PEORIA, IL 61604 PERIODICALS - POSTAGE PAID - PEORIA, ILLINOIS POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH, 3601 N SHERIDAN ROAD, PEORIA IL 61604

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