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## Pastor's Page

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Church Family and Friends,

Summer has arrived and, with it, graduations and picnics. Let's all take advantage to get outside and enjoy the sunshine! May God's face smile down upon you!

I hope you have continued to think about the gift of prayer and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Used together the impossible becomes possible. Used together we will find our way into the future, answering our calling, and bringing glory to God. Prayer transforms us and transforms our church.

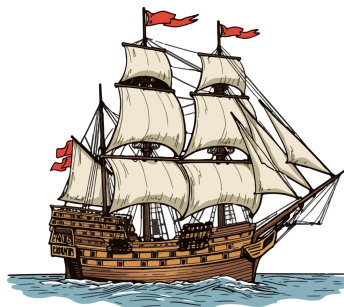
This month your session continues in their study of the Sailboat Church with the chapter on "From Rowboat to Sailboat: Raising the Sails." Prayer is a must if our church is going to change from rowing to sailing. Prayer strengthens our relationship with God and increases our desire to serve the mission that Jesus has for our church. We cannot make the wind blow, but we can be obedient and partner with God and let him take control of our sails. This requires time to intentionally and prayerfully discern God's voice in "Scripture, circumstances, and community" (p. 54). We must be willing to give up control and work through our discomfort to fully accept the direction in which God is leading us.

Having just celebrated Pentecost, it is timely that we recognize that it takes the Holy Spirit to put wind in our sails. Without the Spirit, we are limited to our own power. Have you ever thought about the fact that the Holy Spirit is just as strong and is blowing just as much today as it did "when the first believers sailed" (p. 63)?

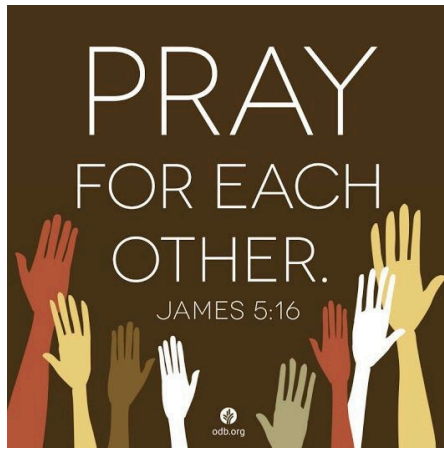
Just as this is still a good month to a fly kite, this is a great month to notice and take advantage of the blowing of the Spirit. God has everything we need to sail this church. We recognize His power every week as we share the joys He has brought into our lives. And, we show our faith in that power as we share our concerns and prayer requests. May that same Spirit that moves us individually, move our church according to God's will.

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."  
(Mark 10:27)

By grace together,  
Laurie Walker, Covenant Pastor



### Online Giving



### Gift of Prayer

Remember your Prayer Warrior for Father's Day!

You are blessed to pray for one person throughout the year without them knowing who is praying. You can also leave a card or small thoughtful gift on the table in Fellowship hall.

*Evangelism and Outreach Committee*



### Abigail's Baby Bottle Fundraiser Mothers day to Father's Day

Collect spare change From May 10<sup>th</sup> to June 21. This will help support the ministries of Abigail's Women's Clinic. **Please return bottles June 21.**



### Join us for Vacation Bible School 2026

First United Methodist, Zion United Methodist, St John's Lutheran, and First Presbyterian invite you to



Where: First United Methodist  
100 E 6th St, Mendota

When: Opening Day Picnic July 19th  
5:30-6:30  
Bible School July 20-23rd 5:30-7:15

Who: Any child preschool-6th grade

What: Lesson, Crafts, Games, Music, and Snack

Register Here



**Marion Medical Mission began working in Africa in 1985, primarily working with hospitals and medical personnel. Since 1990, our focus has shifted to providing clean water to the extreme poor in remote areas of Malawi, Zambia, Tanzania, and Mozambique. However, we are still involved in several other education and medical projects in Malawi.**

### Mission Focus for June and July Will begin after Father's Day. Marion Medical Mission!

Marion Medical Mission seeks to share the love of Christ with the extreme poor in Africa by providing all in need with a sustainable source of clean, safe drinking water.

**100% of donations go to building wells.**



## Micropantry

**The Micropantry can use the following:**

We are so fortunate to have a busy, very utilized Micropantry. God continues to provide food and paper goods for our recipients. One of the ways He provides is through your generosity, both in donations and in time and energy maintaining the pantry. One area where we are currently seeing an increased need is for protein sources. Some suggestions for donation:

- |               |                   |               |                 |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| canned tuna   | canned chicken    | Spam          | Vienna sausages |
| canned pork   | canned roast beef | canned salmon | tuna pouches    |
| peanut butter |                   |               |                 |

We also have a temperature controlled cooler by the micropantry, so refrigerated or frozen meat can be donated.

Thank you for helping us feed His children!

Cans with pull tabs to open will be helpful to those who don't have can openers. Basic hygiene items are always needed: Shampoo, deodorant, soaps, shaving cream, razors, hand creams.



## Hands of Hope (Joliet Pick-up)

**Pick up Date June 19 Only**

If you can help pick-up, unload or stock the food items at 3 PM please sign-up.

### Facebook Live Presenters

Please prayerfully consider taking the opportunity to spread the word via Facebook Live.

- 07 Peggy Etheridge
- 14 Joni Bratney
- 21 Peggy Etheridge
- 28 Joni Bratney



**Produce Sorting  
June 16 12:30 PM**

If you are able to help sort fresh produce. **Please sign-up.**



**Facebook Live**

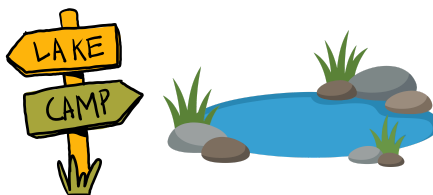
If you are unable to attend worship in person, you can watch worship live on Facebook.

[www.facebook.com/fpcmendota](http://www.facebook.com/fpcmendota)



### Second Sunday Breakfast

**June 14, Second Sunday Breakfast 9:30 AM Please bring a goodie or dish to pass.** We will provide drinks and table service. If you have questions, please contact Joni Bratney.



### Coffee Hour

- 07
- 14 Second Sunday Breakfast
- 21
- 28

**ARE WE DIETING?  
PLEASE SIGN UP!**



## Weekly Coffee Hour

Please consider hosting coffee hour at 9:45 AM. Bring a simple dessert, make coffee, pour juice. Cheese and crackers are supplied by the Fellowship Committee. **The sign-up is on the wall outside the kitchen.**

## Session Highlights

### May 19, 2026

Session met May 19 at the church. Pastor Laurie led us in a devotion based on chapter 7 of Sailboat Church, then opened our meeting with prayer.

Communion will be served June 7.

**PNC Report:** nothing new to report. The PNC appreciates continued prayers.

**Presbytery Report:** 1) The New Lenox Church is closing, so a ceremony of closure was held. 2) The program on A.I. was interesting, but raised questions about how it is being used. 3) The worship was awesome. 4) Presbytery took an offering to help fund Stronghold Camp scholarships. 5) The mission volunteers traveling to South Dakota were commissioned. 6) A vote was taken on the new Presbytery logo. 7) The Kenyan mission travelers were commissioned.

**Clerk's Report:** The by-laws Session approved last month were distributed in edited form to the Elders. The members of the congregation will need to approve them at our next congregational meeting. (A meeting has been tentatively set for **August 16** following worship, in conjunction with a **"Family Picnic"** lunch in Fellowship Hall. Watch for more details.) The clerk will distribute hard copies and pdf copies to the members for their review.

**Financial Report:** 1) Our income was slightly ahead of our expenses for the month. Year-to-date we also show income ahead of expenses. 2) Two Certificates of Deposit are expiring. Peggy is working to find us the best return before reinvesting.

**Pastor's Report:** 1) Pastor Laurie was not able to attend the recent VBS prep meeting, but will be available for the week of **VBS July 20-23**. 2) Regarding church scholarships, criteria for receiving a scholarship includes church membership. 3) Talked with two members. They both appreciate our prayers and both are doing a bit better. Pastor will be doing more visits soon. 4) Three Elders will be participating in a shared reading for this Sunday's Pentecost Sunday worship. 5) Pastor Laurie encourages anyone who is interested in reading scripture, leading a responsive prayer, offering a musical selection, or participating in worship in any manner to reach out to her. She is happy to have others involved in leading worship. 6) Efforts are being made to search out a replacement organ for the sanctuary.

**Maintenance and Property:** 1) Required backflow testing will take place May 26. 2) The boiler has been shut off until Fall. 3) Air Conditioning maintenance is scheduled. 4) Gary had an opportunity to give a church tour and visit with a couple who were interested in seeing our lovely church.

**Christian Education:** Andra is looking for topics of interest and resources for our next Bible Study.

**Mission Outreach:** 1) We were awarded our 6 for 6 certificate for 2025 special offerings. Thank you to everyone for their continued generous giving. 2) We are currently collecting funds in the Baby Bottles for Change. 3) After Father's Day, we will begin receiving offerings for the Marion Medical Mission shallow wells project.

**Finance and Stewardship:** Peggy reported that she has followed through on the Boy Scout representative position she will be assuming for the church. She has registered as a volunteer leader, undergone a background check, done a 90-minute training and been tested on her knowledge of the youth safety and resources available to representatives. She has yet to do the charter representative training. Session thanks Peggy for her willingness to serve. We also thank Dr. Steve Dullard for his willingness to serve in this capacity for the church in previous years.

**Fellowship and Parish Life:** 1) Laura Sutton's piano students will present a piano recital on June 7 in the sanctuary. 2) On August 16, there will be a "Family Picnic" lunch at the church following worship. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Our next meeting will be June 16 at 4:30 PM at the church.

Following a motion to adjourn, Kim led us in a closing prayer.





## June Lectionary Readings

**07~Genesis** 12:1-9, Psalm 33:1-12, Hosea 5:15-6:6, Psalm 50:7-15, Romans 4:13-25, Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

**14~Genesis** 18:1-15(21-:1-7), Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, Exodus 19:2-8a, Psalm 100, Romans 5:1-8, Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)

**21~Genesis** 21:8-21, Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17, Jeremiah 20:7-13, Psalm 69:7-10(11-15) 16-18, Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

**28~Genesis** 22:1-14, Psalm 13;; Jeremiah 28:5-9, Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18, Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 1-0:40-42



# FATHER'S DAY

## Word Search



BARBECUE

DINNER

HONOR

PRESENTS

BEER

FAMILY

JUNE

RESPECT

BRAVE

FOOTBALL

LOVING

SPECIAL

CELEBRATE

GIFTS

MEMORIES

SUNDAY

CHILDREN

GREETING CARD

MENTOR

SUPPORT

DEVOTED

HANDSOME

NECKTIE

TOGETHER



# 2026



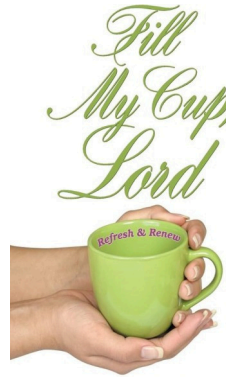
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10a "Fill My Cup" 6:30p Webelos	<b>5</b> Office Closed No HOH this week!	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:45 a Fellowship 10:30a Worship Communion  1 p Piano Recital	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10a "Fill My Cup" 6:30p Webelos	<b>12</b> Office Closed	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:30a Second Sunday Breakfast 10:30 Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 4:30p Session	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10a "Fill My Cup" 6:30p Webelos	<b>19</b> Office Closed 12:30p HOH Pick-up 3:00p Unload and stock HOH foods	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:45a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 	<b>22</b> 6 p VBS Meeting  Newsletter Deadline	<b>23</b> July/August Newsletter Deadline  	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10a "Fill My Cup" 6:30p Webelos	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:45a Fellowship 10:30a Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				



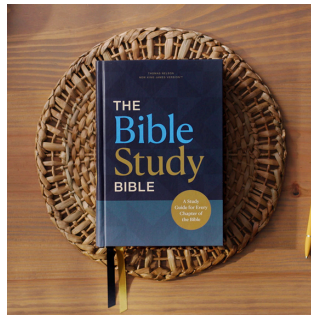
- 08 Paula Presley
- 10 Judy Holland
- 23 Jessica Cox

## Happy Anniversary

- 04 Gary & Deb Stevens
- 18 Chuck & Betty Baumann
- 21 Stephen & Debra Dullard



Every Thursday  
at 10 AM  
Come and gather with  
us for tea,  
coffee, hot chocolate  
and conversation.  
**All are welcome.**



The search is on.  
A Bible study will be starting in the  
near future.  
Please look for details.

### Ushers

- 07 Kay Christen, Carol Erwin
- 14 Faye Smith, Sandy Rebholz
- 21 Tess Heckert
- 28 Ron & Melissa Blum



### Pianists

- 07 Peggy Etheridge
- 14 Peggy Etheridge
- 21 Jake Schmitt
- 28 Jake Schmitt

### Continued Daily Prayers

Art Beck  
Julius Hagan—Belgian Missionary  
Kenyan Partners Angie (Faye Smith)  
Diane Moore Dixie Tonozzi (Ray  
Smith) Finn (Pastor Laurie grandson)  
Jason

Joe (Cindy's boyfriend)  
John Pohl  
Kelly (Gary & Debbie's friend)  
Margina & Larry (Kay Christen)  
Laura (Diane T's Neice)  
Mike Boyle  
Pam Schmidt

Pat Schmidt  
Ray Smith  
Sarah Arter  
Sandy & Donald Schultz  
Cheri DeLong (Kay Christen)  
Tim recent cancer diagnosis (Tess)  
Tim Sondgeroth

#### Income and Expenses at First Presbyterian April 2026

	MTD	YTD
Budget	\$8,023	\$32,093
Income	\$6,475	\$32,782
Expenses	\$5,889	\$29,140
Reserves		\$-

#### 2026 Per Capita \$45 per person

Presbytery	Synod	General Assembly
\$30.11	\$3.81	\$11.08



First Presbyterian Church  
 1003 5th Street  
 Mendota, IL 61342-1911  
 Website: [www.fpcmendota.com](http://www.fpcmendota.com)  
**(815) 538-5603**  
**Pastor: Laurie Walker (815) 274-3444**



Label

In-Person and [www.facebook.com/fpcmendota](http://www.facebook.com/fpcmendota)  
 Check out the Facebook page: [facebook.com/MendotaMicroPantry](https://www.facebook.com/MendotaMicroPantry)  
**Fellowship will be at 9:45 AM**  
**Worship will be at 10:30 AM**  
**Second Sunday Breakfast 9:30 AM**

