

Covenant News

July & August 2022

FROM THE PASTOR

Freeing Ourselves, Freeing Jesus

As millions have discovered in these many months, Jesus was not confined to a building. Jesus was around our tables at home, with us on walks and hikes, present in music, art, and books, and visible in faces via Zoom... Jesus is with us. Here. (Diana Butler Bass)

At the beginning of the pandemic, when it was still something of a societal novelty which we thought would end *before too long*, as a Congregation we took a task upon ourselves to record our experiences and ruminations about the time we were forced to spend apart. We learned about each other's pastimes and interests, diversions and distractions.

Surviving Covid became a spiritual experiment. We could be together in a new format of worship – on Zoom and able to see faces, and join one another for “virtual coffee fellowship.”

There is still a hint of this disconnectedness even as we have begun to meet together in person again. When we cannot be in worship onsite, we'll observe worship as it streams live on YouTube, or we'll view it later, once it's had a chance to be edited and refined. Commonly, fifty or so people will be in the pews while another dozen or so observe from afar. Often, thirty or more will watch the edited version. This has jiggered and reconfigured our perspective on what it means to be “church” and how newcomers are introduced to us.

Some seem concerned that we will shake loose from our moorings. Others are of the opinion that those moorings were losing their solidity anyway, and it was time to try new things. Covid just forced us to try those new things, earlier than we'd planned or imagined. It feels like liberation, in all the intimidating and energizing meanings that the term can carry.

The progressive Christian historian Diana Butler Bass has taken the matter quite personally. Her new book, *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*, relates her personal stories of being shaken loose from the evangelical moorings of her youth. As you read in the introduction to this article, she considers Covid to have forced us who are in love with “church” to reimagine what church looks like. This has happened in ways quite parallel to her personal spiritual shift.

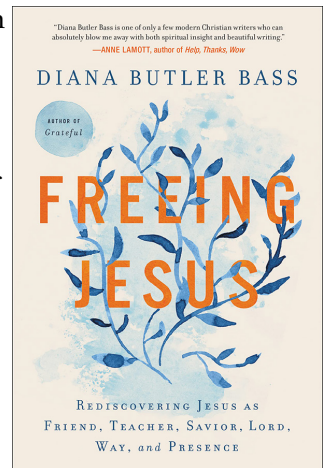
In reading the book myself recently, I must say that, although my experience of spiritual awakening was barely similar to her own, my own understandings of faith, spirituality, and the person and presence of God in Christ, through Christ, as Christ, and attended by the Church, have necessarily been shifting.

I would love the opportunity to talk with you about this. On July 31, Pastoral Assistant Halley Kim will introduce a new series that will carry us through August and much of September. I'm calling the series, *Freeing Ourselves, Freeing Jesus*, and it will be based on Prof. Butler Bass's book, available from bookstores or the church office. On the Sundays from August 6 through September 18, I will invite you to join me in reflecting about the book, the Message of the Day, and your own stories.

Please, join me.

Peace

Pastor Dave Deacon



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WORSHIP NOTES FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2022

This schedule is subject to change, as need may arise.

All worship services noted below will be offered in person and live streamed at bit.ly/FCCWG-YT at 10:00am on Sundays.

- JULY 3 — Fourth Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday before Independence Day; All Ages Worship; Sacrament of Christ's Table. (Galatians 6:1-6) **This Sunday's worship will be offered in Memorial Hall.** We will gather there around tables, reflect together about the meaning and practice of Christian community, and then perform the most significant act of community a church can do – share bread and cup among us. Music that reminds us of our wider, national community will be featured throughout.
- JULY 10 — Fifth Sunday after Pentecost; New Members Received. (Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37) Amid strains of Paul's thankfulness for the church at Colossae, rebuilding again after another earthquake, and Jesus' reply to a Torah scholar about loving one's neighbor meaning demonstrating compassion for one's enemy (The Good Samaritan), Pastor Dave Denoon considers a question underlying billboard messages he read across the South on his recent vacation: Can America be saved? "Yes," he responds, "but we may not be happy with the solution." **Message of the Day: "A Case Against Christian Nationalism"**
As scheduled at this time, Pastor Dave Denoon will be away for medical leave, July 14-31.
- JULY 17 – Rev. Sue Leary preaches.
- JULY 24 – Rev. Cliff Aerie preaches, and the Oikos Jazz Ensemble provides our worship music. **Message of the Day: "Encounters with Jesus on the Road"** (Ephesians 2:17-22; Luke 11:5-10)
- JULY 31 – Pastoral Assistant Halley Kim preaches, beginning our eight-week series based on Diana Butler Bass's *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence* (New York: HarperOne, 2021).
- AUGUST 7 – **"Jesus as Friend – Yours and Mine and Ours"**: Jesus Loves Me, In the Garden, What a Friend We Have in Jesus. All these familiar songs come to light again, as we consider our childhood thoughts about the Nazarene carpenter. But the Church has often put the gentle, friendly understanding of Jesus out of our reach as we have matured. On an All Ages Worship and Communion Sunday, we'll consider how we can recognize Jesus as our friend who calls us friends, too (John 15:12-17). For post-worship discussion, please have read *Freeing Jesus*, pp. xiii – 25.
- AUGUST 14 – **"Jesus the Teacher"**: Jesus' original followers called him Rabbi, "Teacher," and the disciples certainly considered themselves to be his students. Some may wonder, *What was he a teacher of?* Marcus Borg replies that Jesus "was a teacher of a way or path, specifically of a way of transformation." And we are his students (John 13:13-15). For post-worship discussion, please have read *Freeing Jesus*, pp. 26 - 64.
- AUGUST 21 – **"Jesus Saves"**: Diana Butler Bass points out that there are only two times in the gospels when Jesus is referred to as Savior – when the angel announces to the shepherds in Luke that he has been born (Luke 2:10-11) and when the residents of her town tell the woman at the well that he "is truly the Savior of the world" (John 4:42). All other references arise out of the epistles, often with reference to Jesus' death on the cross – an atoning sacrifice, yes, but Paul identifies at least five other ways in which Jesus' death spells salvation for the rest of us. What does this mean for our understanding of salvation and of Jesus, whose very name means God saves? For post-worship discussion, please have read *Freeing Jesus*, pp. 65 - 113.
- AUGUST 28 – **"A Troubling Anachronism: Lord Jesus"**: In a democratic society, the idea of lordship is problematic. Since the fall of modern colonialism, we have had to imagine "the kingdom of God" in new ways, because there are no more kingdoms or empires. This week, we explore deeply the historically radical nature of Christians' practice of calling Jesus "Lord," especially the trouble it got the original Christians into, and why. But we consider also some equally radical practices – some of them new, many not so new. (Philippians 2:9-11; Luke 6:46-47) For post-worship discussion, please have read *Freeing Jesus*, pp. 115 - 160.
- COMING IN SEPTEMBER
- 6 – **"Jesus the Way"** (*Freeing Jesus*, pp. 161 – 215)
 - 13 – **"The Quotidian Christ"** (*Freeing Jesus*, pp. 217 – 256)
 - 20 – **"A Universal Jesus"** (*Freeing Jesus*, pp. 257 – 268)

MODERATOR'S CORNER

Image of: "Make new friends, keep the old; one is silver the other gold."

First Church is again embarking on a Summer of Conversations. A member of the team of listeners will contact members and friends of First Congregational Church to renew, deepen or establish friendships. The intent is to listen and to share stories. There is no particular agenda, but we are interested in what "church" means to you and what our church means to you. We want to hear you, be good listeners. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor and theologian instructs us that, "The first service that one owes to others in the fellowship consists in listening to them ..." Please share your story, what is important to you, your hopes and dreams. Let us together mine the silver and gold within our reach, within our church relationships.

There are other conversations that I would encourage us to have. As the membership committee reflected on the demographics of our congregation, we observed that somehow we "lost out" on attracting many of the children and grandchildren of our current members. Some were members of the highly acclaimed youth group of our past. Some still live in the area and participate in events such as the Vehicle Fair or the Christmas Eve Family service. But how and why did their relationship with "church" change? The past informs the present and provides direction for the future. What can we learn and share from conversations about church with our children and grandchildren that can help us as we plan for our future?

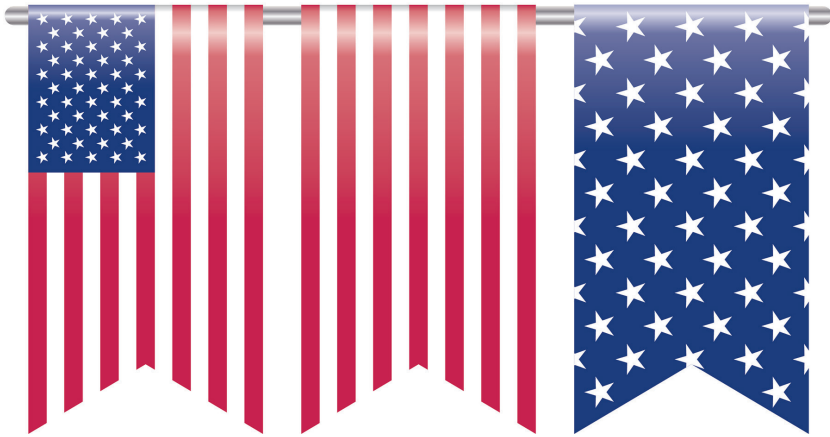
Is there a connection between declining church membership and the dysfunction and polarization in America today? As Jill Lapore informed us in a piece she wrote for the New Yorker, "In 1985, seventy-one per cent of Americans belonged to a house of worship, which is about what that percentage had been since the nineteen-forties; in 2020, only forty-seven per cent of Americans belonged to an institution of faith." As participation in faith communities decreased pressure was brought to bear on schools to teach "character education." The lack of success of this approach might be seen in the nightly news videos of bullying, disrespect for property and at the extreme, disrespect for life. Are we paying a high price for the lack of influence of faith communities on our young?

Another question I would like to ask is how can we best communicate with our members and friends? This is an ongoing struggle for most organizations and has only gotten more complicated with the advent of a variety of digital formats through which to communicate. As you have noticed the Covenant News has gone to a two-months-at-a-time format. This decision was based on the observation by staff that very few people "click" on and thus open the Covenant News when it is sent out at the beginning of each month. Print copies are available to be picked up in the Narthex, but often are not. Print copies are mailed to a small group of members who request that service. How would you like the information in the Covenant News provided to you? Is the weekly E-News an effective way to communicate with you? Do you read it? all of it? part of it? Would you prefer some other way to learn about the activities of the church? These are crucial questions. If you read this please let me know! As you have noticed, I'm all questions, no answers. But I truly believe there is value in stimulating robust discussions. Please join and share in multiple summer conversations.

Joan Musbach - Moderator

FROM THE PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Independence Day Parade



We're heading into 4th of July weekend, which of course means it's almost time for the Webster Groves Community Days Parade! Have you noticed the chairs already lining Lockwood? People are getting ready! We hope you will join us on Monday morning, the 4th of July, at 10:00 am along our Lockwood perimeter. We will have a tent with a table and chairs set up near the street so you can get some cover from the sun. We will also have water bottles for attendees as well as for the public. Bring your kids and grandkids; it's always great fun!

OUR 2ND ANNUAL CARING PARADE HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 28TH!

This event was a big hit last year — for the parade participants as well as parade recipients! This is a great opportunity for intergenerational church fun and community building! If you missed the merriment last year, here's the deal: it's a very slow jaunt around Webster and Kirkwood in our decorated cars to spread joy to our isolated and homebound church members (and to give them cookies!). The grownups drive, the kids hoot and holler, and everyone has a good time!

In order to create a true parade and not just a caravan, we need a dozen drivers — please sign up here (<https://tinyurl.com/caring-parade>). If you cannot drive but would like to help out in a different way, please contact Amy Byrne to sign up to be a “buddy” for a homebound church member during the parade. Parade buddies keep our homebound members company during the parade. Some members will need help getting outside to watch the parade, and then getting back inside afterwards. Buddies will also intercept the cookies from a parade car to give to the intended recipient (if you think you're going to sneak cookies, you should be a driver, not a buddy! ;)).



Thank you in advance for making the 2022 Caring Parade another success!

Halley Kim,
Pastoral Assistant

FROM THE ORGANIST'S BENCH



Hello all! As we slide into our summer routines my thoughts turn to preparing for next season. Here at church, I will be doing what I call “housekeeping.” I also will be attending a conference in Ann Arbor in July to sing through likely candidates for anthems and play through bell music I will consider for next season.

Here, I am studying for several projects outside of church as well. Learning an opera role, preparing for the SLSO to be ready, if needed, for increased responsibility as they search for a new chorus director, and conducting two concerts with the Gateway Festival Orchestra in July. In case you don't know, the Gateway Festival Orchestra is a professional orchestra that gives free concerts on

Sunday evenings in July in the Quadrangle on the Washington University campus. I am excited to be presenting two concerts on July 10 and 17: the first celebrates young talents and the need we all have for reinvention and the second is called “A River Runs Through It” as every concert selection is connected with a different river. These concerts are meant to be popular entertainment for the family. Please come to these free concerts if you can.

Here at church for summer I am trying to put together special music with different people to keep the music spiced up during the summer doldrums. Please join Oikos for a special service on July 24 and another edition of Jazz for the Journey on August 7. We want to keep you jazzed up!

Stay cool, be well, and stay safe!

Leon Burke, Music Director

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON JULY 18

Home Sweet Home will come by the church to pick up the Room at the Inn bedding and mattresses on Monday, July 18, between 1-4 pm. The items need to be placed outside near the Jubilee Garden. Please come to the church at 9:30 to help bring items outside.

Home Sweet Home is a 501(c)(3) organization connecting nonprofit partners in the St. Louis region with donated furniture and household items. We help clients from partner organizations transition to their new living situations with much-needed furnishings and basics, providing a sense of ownership and a source of stability at this crucial time.

The mission of Home Sweet Home is to give under-served families a sense of pride and to improve the quality of their lives by providing basic household furnishings.

Contact Bob Borutta with any questions or more information. 314-757-4845

TREASURER'S REPORT

Below are the church operating results for May 2022:

Statement of Financial Activities				
	2022	2021	Full Year Budget	Change to Prior Year
Income				Higher/ (Lower)
Pledges and Gifts	\$ 156,976	\$ 178,234	\$ 315,000	\$ (21,258)
Transfer from Endowment	70,000	50,000	299,000	20,000
Benevolence	21,976	23,527	15,000	(1,551)
Use of Space and Miscellaneous	30,139	15,331	47,115	14,808
Interest Income	8,544	8,811	11,000	(267)
Total Revenue	287,635	275,904	687,115	11,731
Expenses				(Higher)/ Lower
Human Resources Expense	\$ 188,597	\$ 173,902	\$ 458,354	(14,695)
Facilities and Finance Expense	\$ 68,392	\$ 51,662	\$ 163,375	(16,730)
Benevolence Expense	\$ 27,550	\$ 8,715	\$ 32,000	(18,835)
Christian Education Ministry Expense	\$ 669	\$ 190	\$ 4,100	(479)
Parish Life Ministry Expense	\$ 5,737	\$ 2,971	\$ 11,400	(2,766)
Executive Ministry Expense	\$ 1,190	\$ 686	\$ 17,200	(504)
Total Expenses	292,135	238,126	686,429	(54,009)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ (4,500)	\$ 37,778	\$ 686	\$ (42,278)

Statement of Financial Position			
	2022	2021	Variance
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 167,961	\$ 167,399	\$ 562
Pledges receivable	185,698	158,597	27,100
Property and equipment	27,741	29,331	(1,590)
Minister housing long term receivable	60,000	60,000	-
Total Assets	\$ 441,400	\$ 415,327	\$ 26,072
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 1,200	\$ -	\$ 1,200
Unrestricted Designated Funds	43,207	36,926	6,280
Restricted funds for:			
Funds in Endowment Trust	51,334	45,815	5,519
Churchyard	36,506	36,007	499
Kishlar/Dickens Room Maintenance	49,046	58,096	(9,050)
Temporarily restricted funds for pledges	185,698	158,597	27,100
Memorial Funds	53,966	39,019	14,948
Long term liabilities	60,000	60,000	-
Unrestricted Net Assets	(39,556)	(19,132)	(20,424)
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 441,400	\$ 415,327	\$ 26,072

If you have any other questions or want further detail, please let me know.

Thanks

Jennifer Jones

Treasurer

JAZZ AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, July 24 worship

The Oikos Ensemble will preform at Sunday morning worship blending traditional and contemporary music into a joyful gospel celebration. Cliff will also be preaching—considering “Jesus on the Road.” We will also sing the new hymn he has written for our congregation: “Now is the Time.”

Jazz for the Journey

Sunday, August 7 at 5:00 pm in Memorial Hall

Our second chapter of *Jazz for the Journey* will once again be held in a coffee house setting. *Jazz for the Journey* is an interfaith meditative experience exploring the adventurous landscape of the soul through the transformative spirit of jazz, storytelling, and the arts. All are welcome to this unique meditative opportunity to experience the artistry of musicians as they soulfully share their deepest connections through their music.

Last month we had great jazz, creative storytelling, poetic reflection by the Logos Readers, evocative visual images, an enthusiastic audience, savory coffee, and delicious desserts. Feel free to pack a picnic dinner and, if you wish, BYOB.

This is a perfect opportunity to invite friends and family to an innovative program encouraging each person's spiritual journey. A free-will offering will be received to further the ministry of MICA.

Rev. Cliff Aerie, Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts



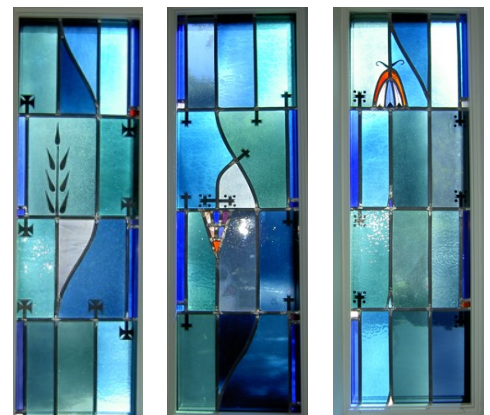
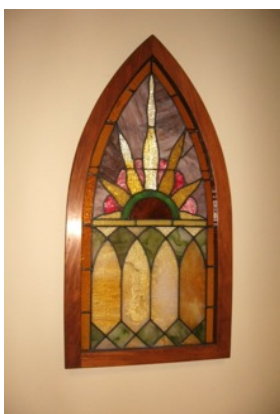
Photos by Phil Shoulberg.

THE STORY OF OUR OF OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

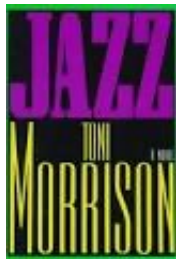


Even the 1870 old stone church building had stained glass windows. One of those windows was rescued during demolition preparing for the building of the 1993-4 sanctuary. It was refurbished, framed and now hangs on the west wall of the present sanctuary. Pledges made for building the 1892-3 sanctuary were not enough to proceed with construction. However, with persistence and prayer the necessary money was pledged including \$500 for glass in a window as a memorial for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Studley, two of our founding members. In 1922 when the Narthex was added and sanctuary renovated, a beautiful stained glass memorial window was installed replacing the glass in the east window. Symbolically it represented Jesus giving the Sermon on the Mount. This Jesus window was in memory of Edward Studley Hart, a community leader, the third mayor of Webster Groves, and a member of our church from his youth. He held nearly every church office over time. He once pledged five years of service as church custodian. Early records indicate that at times he even slept in the pews at night, perhaps so he could have the church warm and ready for services on cold winter Sundays. This window was restored in 1993-4 by his descendants and forms the upper part of the window on the south wall of our present sanctuary.

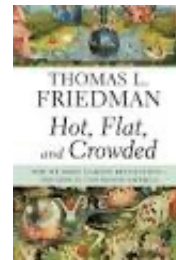
Robert Frei of Kirkwood designed for our present sanctuary the lower section of the Jesus window, the two rose windows and the lancet windows in our present sanctuary. The rose windows feature the cross, the most basic of Christian symbols. The Celtic cross, on the north, has a circle surrounding the intersection and a White star in the center representing the star of Bethlehem. It was given in honor of Paul Davis. The east window, given in memory of Rev. and Ira Fales, contains two crosses, one inside the other, encircled with rays of the golden sun. Both windows contain images of fish, which is historically linked with the miracle of the loaves and fishes. The fifteen lancet windows in the sanctuary arranged in sets of three depict wheat and grapes symbolizing communion, the shells and water symbolize baptism, the beginning of a new life as a Christian. The five lancet window in the narthex are clear, gray glass in a variety of textures, meant to reveal and refract the reflections of the clouds, flowers and trees outside.



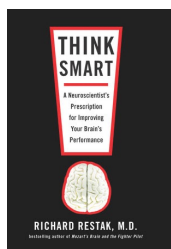
NEW TO OUR LIBRARY — CHECK THESE OUT!



Jazz by Toni Morrison is a 1992 historical novel by Pulitzer and Nobel Prize-winning American author Toni Morrison. The majority of the narrative takes place in Harlem during the 1920s.



Hot, Flat and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution by Thomas Friedman speaks to America's urgent need for national renewal and explains how a green revolution can bring about both a sustainable environment and a sustainable America.



Think Smart by Richard Restak, a leading neuroscientist, distills the research on the brain and serves up practical, surprising, and illuminating recommendations for warding off neurological decline, cognitive function, and encouraging smarter thinking day to day.

SUMMER VACATION SCHEDULES

Darrell Lakies — June 26 - July 5

Chip Isringhaus — July 5 - July 8

Rev. Denoon — July 14 - August 1 (Medical Leave)

Debbie Tolstoi — August 8 - August 12

Halley Kim — August 14 - August 22

MEAL-A-MONTH JULY SHOPPING LIST

Canned Beef or Chicken

Canned Green Vegetable (low or no salt) • Canned Fruit in own juices

Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk

Whole Wheat Flour • Cold Cereal (no sugar)

Plain Oatmeal (no sugar) • Sugar free juices in plastic bottles

MEAL-A-MONTH AUGUST SHOPPING LIST

Canned Chicken • Brown Rice

Canned Soup (low or no salt) • Canned Corn (low or no salt)

Canned Fruit in own juices

Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk

Diapers • Diaper Wipes • Formula with Iron

GREAT NEWS ABOUT ROOM AT THE INN

Throughout Covid, all churches had to suspend their housing of homeless clients. First Church has continued to support RATI with an average of \$100/mo. This support helped pay for staff to spend the night at the Bridgeton facility. That support has recently doubled.

Changing the Bridgeton facility from daytime housing to 24/7 overnight was a big challenge. However, the staff and Board of Directors met that challenge amazingly well. Several Board members are owners of construction companies who received PPE funds and used them to begin to adapt the Bridgeton building. The city of Bridgeton has been very supportive of RATI's request for a zoning change to allow them to house clients 24/7. Very soon, they expect to have permanent approval of this zoning change.

Although Covid was a huge disruption for all of us, the lessons learned at RATI were something of a blessing for clients. Before Covid, clients would return to Bridgeton from the previous night's church around 7:30 or 8 am. And they had to be back in Bridgeton by 4:00 pm to be picked up again. The clients don't have cars and rely on public transportation. This pre Covid schedule prevented clients from working full time.

Now that clients are staying at the Bridgeton facility, they have more opportunities to become employed. In addition, there was an added stress on clients to pack up their belongings and sleep in a different place every night. These 2 improvements in the clients needs taught everyone the lesson that staying in one place is the best future choice.

However, the Bridgeton building needs further adaptation to house clients indefinitely. On the evening of June 16th, I attended a volunteer update dinner and learned that architectural plans are drawn to create 9 bedrooms (130 sq ft each) to house 9 families. Grants and matching funds are being requested to make this dream come true. AND THE BOARD IS VERY DETERMINED!

In closing, I was flabbergasted to receive a beautiful, engraved glass obelisk award on behalf of the First Church as a thank you for our 28 years of support for RATI. This award belongs to every church member who said "yes, I will help" to Mr. Clipboard (me), Julie McHugh, B. J. Kaul, Diane McLean, Lilly Calder, and Wim Blees. The award was recently placed in the glass display in our hallway by Joan Musbach.

WHAT DO WE DO NOW? After much thought and some discussion with former volunteers, I suggest that we start our new volunteering project with simply fixing a dinner and bringing it to the Bridgeton facility. A few volunteers could do the food preparation and 1 or 2 of us could carpool to bring the dinner there on a date arranged in advance. If you would like to help with this effort, please contact me. I will coordinate with the administrators at RATI.

Glad to help!

Mark Cereghino

314-623-2777

Cereghinomark@gmail.com

REFUGEE UPDATE FOR COVENANT NEWS

Our group of seven continues work with our refugee family and we are seeing them become more independent—our goal. We have received news that the mother will begin part-time work and has completed bus training with Laura's help. She is entitled to bus passes. Since she was a beautician in Eritrea we are working with her to gradually return to some of that work. She is completing an online course that will allow her earn money for hair braiding and her Eritrean community is helping with building her clientele. She is also trained to decorate hands and arms with henna. Look for a demonstration at our church later this summer.

The twins just turned 7 years old and most of our group was able to attend their birthday party at their apartment and learn more of their home customs. The twins have appointments for major dental work in July. Each of our interactions is an opportunity to practice English.

We recently asked members to let us know if they have or know of someone with a patio table and chairs they can donate to the family. They have a small backyard and are working with us to clean and plant and make it usable. We look forward to sharing this story as it continues to unfold.



Connie Kitchen – July 2
Kara Hoganson – July 6
Loryl Breitenbach – July 10
Katy Ver Hagen – July 11
Barbara Krewson – July 12
Marilyn Davis – July 13
Jeanene Harris – July 13
John Shoulberg – July 19
Emma von Weise – July 29
Alice McHugh – July 31



Makayla Edwards – August 4
Lucie Herrick – August 4
Celia Rudolph – August 8
Sue Stepleton – August 10
Luke Ferguson – August 13
John Paci – August 13
Gwen Denoon – August 14
Edward Hoganson – August 18
Julie McHugh – August 20
Sharon Beal – August 23

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE NEXT MEETING – AUGUST 2

The Pastoral Relations Committee is composed of church members given the responsibility of fostering a healthy relationship between the pastor and members of the church. The committee meets bi-monthly and seeks to maintain open communication between pastor, staff, and congregants; it is not a personnel or policy making committee. The discussions of the committee are confidential, thus allowing members the freedom to express varying views.

Current members include Liu Lin Thio, Kedra Tolson, Patrick Byrne, Jane Porchey, Doug Barton, Pat Doyle-Grace, and ex officio member, Moderator Joan Musbach.

We encourage all congregants to feel free to discuss with committee members their concerns and views, both positive and negative, about what is going on in the life of the church and bring to light any issues that ought to be discussed.

FIRST SATURDAY DRIVE THRU COLLECTIONS BOOK DRIVE FOR READY READERS AND MISSOURI PRISON BOOKS, JULY 2



We will host a community drive on their east parking lot every first Saturday of the month for a different charity. On July 2nd from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm we are collecting new and gently used books for Ready Readers and Missouri Prison Books. Ready Readers develops literacy for young kids in low-income St. Louis communities, and Missouri Prison Books provides books to incarcerated Missouri citizens “in the belief that access to quality books is a right for all.” Please generously donate new and gently used books for all ages! Do not donate water-damaged books, heavily marked up books, activity books, coloring books, holiday books, or religious books.

This will be a drive-thru style event. We encourage donors to turn right from Lockwood into the church parking lot, drop off their items to church volunteers, and then exit by turning right on to Elm Ave.

AUGUST 6 – SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR WEBSTER ROCK HILL MINISTRIES AND A BLOOD DRIVE FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS



**American
Red Cross**

For additional information about either of these events please contact Pastoral Assistant Halley Kim at First Church by calling (314) 962-0475 ex 12 or by emailing halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>July 2022</h1>					1	2 10:00am - 12:00pm "First Saturday" Collection Event (Books)
3 Sacrament of Christ's Table 9:00am Brown Baggers 9:45am Nursery Care Available 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship 11:20am Inquirers in Person	4 Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED	5 10:30am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Communications Team - Church Office 7:00pm Liturgist Convocation	6 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room 7:00pm Inquirers (Virtual)	7	8	9
10 9:45am Nursery Care Available 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship 11:20am - 12:20pm Henna Demonstration - Memorial Hall	11 7:00pm Three Ministries (Zoom)	12 10:30am Staff Meeting	13 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	14	15	16
17 9:45am - Nursery Care Available 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship	18 4:00pm Executive Ministry (Zoom)	19 10:30am Staff Meeting	20 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	21	22	23
24 9:45am - Nursery Care Available 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship	25 7:00pm Peace and Justice Coalescence - Zoom	26 10:30am Staff Meeting	27 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	28	29	30
31 9:45am - Nursery Care Available 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 2022	1	2 10:30am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Communications Team - Church Office 6:30pm Pastoral Relations Committee	3 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	4	5	6 10:00am - 12:00pm "First Saturday" Collection Event (School Supplies - WRHM & Blood Drive -Red Cross)
	7 Sacrament of Christ's Table 9:00am Brown Baggers 9:45am Nursery Care 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship 5:00pm Jazz for the Journey	8 7:00pm - Three Ministries (Zoom)	9 10:30am Staff Meeting	10 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	11	12
	14 9:45am - Nursery Care 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship	15 4:00pm Executive Ministry (Zoom) 7:00pm - 8:00pm Scout Troops 301B & G - Dickens Room	16 10:30am Staff Meeting	17 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	18	19
	21 9:45am - Nursery Care 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship	22 7:00pm Peace and Justice Coalescence - Zoom 7:00pm - 8:00pm Scout Troops 301B & G - Dickens Room	23 10:30am Staff Meeting	24 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room	25	26
	28 9:45am Nursery Care 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Church 11:05am Coffee Fellowship	29 8:00pm Scout Troop 301B & G - Dickens Room	30 10:30am Staff Meeting	31 9:30am Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room 6:00pm Bridge Club - Inglis Room		



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Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

MISSING SOMEONE?

Have you been missing someone for a while from worship and other church events? Please, let Pastor Dave Denoon or Mary Edwards, know. Either will be happy to follow up for you.

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