



Presbeat



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SUMMER IS FINALLY OVER – THANK GOD



When I was a kid, I loved summer time. I loved getting a break from school and being on vacation. My family would take a trip to Lake Tahoe. My boy scout troop would go to summer camp for a week. My church would have Vacation Bible School. The youth leaders would take us backpacking in the Sierras for a week. And our church youth choir would go on tour for a couple of weeks. But this summer, we haven't had much of a break at all.

We've had to deal with COVID, fires, bad air quality, riots, and the elections. Every day. Yet, in the midst of the chaos of this summer, God has still been in charge of the Universe. Thankfully, the Lord does not take a summer vacation. And the Lord will still be in charge of the Universe this fall.

As we approach the fall season, things will begin to change for the better. God will bring the rains that end the fire season. The air will get better. There will be good news about a COVID vaccine. The elections will be over. And by the grace of God, the rioters and the police will be at peace.

When the Israelites were taken into exile in Babylon, they wondered how they were ever going to get through their captivity. It would be seventy years before they would be allowed to go back to their homes and their land. Most of them would never live to see Israel again. In the midst of all of that, the Lord told the Prophet Jeremiah to write:

*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
 his mercies never come to an end;
 they are new every morning;
 great is your faithfulness. ~ Lamentations 3:23-24*



There is hope, even when we're going through times of suffering. God did not abandon His people when they were living in exile. God did not abandon us this summer. And God will still be with us in the fall.

In Christ,

Pastor David



Dear FPCU Family,

It is with sadness that I offer my resignation from the position of Director of Youth and Family Ministries at First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah. I have given a lot of thought and prayer to this decision and feel it is time for me to leave and pursue other interests.

I have loved working at FPCU the past two years. Everyone I have met here has meant so much to me which is why it has been so difficult for me to decide to leave. My reasons are pretty simple: I am still figuring out which career path I want to dedicate my life to, and after 4+ years of working with youth, I have realized there are some other things I want to try doing in life. I also want to experience living in other places besides Ukiah, so I can figure out where I want to put down roots. (Who knows, maybe it will be Ukiah someday!). There is a lot to life I still want to experience and try before I settle on these important things.

The past two years working and worshipping with the wonderful people of FPCU have been a huge blessing to me. I have grown and learned so much while I have been here, and am so thankful for the experience. I will miss FPCU with my whole heart and will always treasure my time here as I look forward to other adventures.

I will especially miss all of our kids and teenagers, who I got to know so well throughout my time here. "My Little Rascals", as I like to call them, have brought so much joy to my life. I am praying that they will be delivered a wonderful new Youth Leader to take my place who will provide them with brand new perspectives on faith.

I plan for my last day at FPCU to be sometime in late August, at the end of the summer but before the new school year begins. I hope that this will give the church some time to find someone new to take on my position. After speaking further with church leadership, I expect we can come to a definitive end date for my position as Director of Youth and Family Ministries.

Thank you so much for all the support and love I have received while working here! I could never have done it without the faithful members of this congregation. I have been very blessed.

With Much Love in Christ,

Alexis Moore

Editor's Note: Alexis, you had a faithful ministry here for 2 years. I think I speak for our congregation when I say "Thank You!" and "we will miss you too!". God bless you as you faithfully search for God's plan in your life, and when we DO have that potluck, you WILL come back and break bread with us! God bless you, Alexis!





Song Story... *“The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases”*

Amy Bessire was born in Abilene, Texas, the daughter of Aileen and Dr. Milton Bessire. Amy had two brothers and a sister. Her mother was a charter member of the Highland Church of Christ in Abilene. The family also worked with the church for seven years in Madison, Wis.

After she graduated from ACU, Amy had a varied career. She was a caseworker in St. Louis, a campus minister at Michigan State University and finally, a dental hygienist. She went back to St. Louis to train as a vocational missionary with 13 others who moved as a team to plant a church in Middleton, Conn.

Sensing the need to be closer to her aging mother, Amy moved to Dallas in 1992 and worked as a dental hygienist. She attended Lake Highlands Church for 16 years. Though Amy never married, she didn't plan it that way. In fact, that was a disappointment for her. But she nevertheless believed the life God gave her was unbelievably rich in relationships.

Singing was always a significant part of her self-expression. Amy was captivated by Jesus, and participated in many Bible studies. She took careful notes; she wasn't satisfied with simply jotting down the words.

To help her remember key concepts, Amy would combine the phrases with a melody. The principles she gleaned from her notes became a part of her as she sang them repeatedly in her mind while cleaning a patient's teeth.

While in St. Louis, Amy was working as a church secretary and attending a Bible class on Lamentations. Amy related to a friend that she was feeling pretty down. But as she read Lamentations 3:22-24, God gave her a song – immediately. When she read that portion of scripture, she noticed the syncopation, rhythm and flow, and envisioned it as a song with an echo. She even heard it in her mind, accompanied by an enormous brass section in surround sound.

“Wow!” Amy said. “God must want this song. It just came out!”

She recorded it on her tape recorder. When she played it for her Bible class teacher, she sang an echo part along with it. He encouraged her to share it with the class. It spread quickly and over time, Amy had it published. Since then, it has been sung worldwide in Churches of Christ and other traditions.

On June 10, 2008, while at a friend's house, Amy suffered a brain aneurism. Despite a surgical procedure that gave family and friends hope for her recovery, she died 10 days later from a second brain hemorrhage. Amy was only 58 years old.

June 22, 2008, Amy experienced new mercies of God's great faithfulness. One can only imagine that as she entered God's presence, she heard angels singing “The Steadfast Love” with the harmonic blast of other angels playing trumpets and French horns, just as she originally heard in her head.

~Randy Huffman, Missions Elder



Here's an update from your Missions team, Just like you we too have had to change and evolve with our communications. With the church shutdown for the most part we too have resorted to what seems to be everyone's best friend... Zoom. Every month we meet after church to discuss opportunities to reach out.

We have a wonderful congregation: Thanks for your continued support.

While we cancelled our last fund raiser, we have begun to plan for one on Oct 23rd, so please share that with your friends and family and come out and support fundraising for our next Missions trip. Remember if you have a heart for kids and teaching is high on your skills and or desires. Please contact someone on our missions team as we will be looking for those who would want to be a part of our next trip.



We want to again THANK YOU for the continued support financially for our programs, like the Orphanage in Djibouti, with some of the gifts. With these we continue to send care packages that consist of vitamins & beans. While you are helping to take care of the ones who need it most, I know is blessing you too.

Uganda: News from Pastor John,

We recently received word from Pastor John in Uganda about the property next to his house. His mother has sold her property and has given him 7 million Ugandan shillings (1,882 US dollars). Pastor John needs an additional 13 million Ugandan shillings (3,495 US dollars) to buy the land next to his home. This is a real opportunity for his mission, as he will use this land to raise crops to help feed his family and the orphans he is caring for. Our missions team prayerfully considered this.

Praise the Lord, we are pleased to report that we partnered with another group and was able to meet the amount needed to purchase the property. Pastor John is extremely happy and has taped a video message to share with the church, thanking us for supporting him in this much needed purchase.

Zambia: A word from Brad, Kelli, Paul,

We are all doing very well, Paul included! Here in Zambia Coronavirus is nowhere near as restrictive as it is in the U.S. We have really only been asked to keep meetings less than 50 people and we wear face masks if we are in the big cities as those are the only places the rules are being enforced. We have a local team of people who go out at least two at a time to go out and pray and share the Good News of Jesus with different villages and have been very encouraged by the testimonies. It's beautiful for us in several ways.

First, that our friends that we have been pouring into for almost 2 years are becoming very confident that God has equipped them to minister in their villages. Secondly, that more people are being reached than just we could reach on our own! Our house is well under way to being built. Which is an exciting change from living in a tent. Hoping to have it move in ready by early September! We also have been in discussions with the local community about getting a secondary school in the nearest village (Grades 10-12). Children from this area have to travel more than 12 miles to get secondary education which makes it an impossible daily walk.

This is almost impossible as well considering that for most people the average yearly income in our area is around \$100. Yes, \$100 per year. We aren't promising to pay to build the school but are empowering the locals to come together and build it as a community.

Most times it's just good leadership in action that makes the difference. After they get so much built on their own then the Government would come and provide the final touches and employ teachers at the school. So far the program has been received with GREAT excitement. If all goes according to plan, this will become an example for many areas of Zambia to follow.

Which is awesome! Finally, one of the biggest impacts physically we have been able to make has been with Job production. We currently employ around 20 people every day for building the mission base. We rotate through a workforce of about 50 people even though only around 20 work on any given day. Most of these people are getting almost their entire yearly earnings from before, in one month with the wages we pay them. As an example, last month we paid \$2500 in wages, which doesn't sound like much in an American economic context, however here that covers annual profits for around 25 people in just one month! This has caused more small shops to open in our area and other trades to increase since funds are being introduced into their local economy. Also, school fees can now be paid for primary school, people can now sleep on small mattresses instead of bamboo shoot beds. It's made a big impact on the local village economy. We have other projects we want to do in the future that will also boost the local economy as well as their diet in the future. However, we can only do so much at one time and are still waiting for the funds needed to initiate those projects.

I hope this gives some insight into what's happening here! Any questions, just ask, If you want to follow us check out our Facebook Page- www.facebook.com/russzambia/

Thanks for your support, as we support the work of our Lord and Saviour.

Pedal 4 Protein riders from past years,



We need your help. You hopefully have heard that we chose to put this year's ride on a sabbath rest. But the reality is that hunger and the need for food assistance has only increased due to the worldwide pandemic.

We are hoping that you will create a 30-90 second selfie video explaining why you support P4P efforts to provide more and better protein options for food banks and pantries throughout the region.

You can use your smartphone with the selfie video camera to shoot with. Briefly introduce yourself, share your story and conclude asking for support. If you have up to 5 pictures or 1 short, great video from an earlier ride, send those too.

Please title the videos and pictures with First initial and first four letters of your last name followed by increasing numerals for each item. For example, my file will be dmoon1.mp4 and the first picture will be dmoon2.jpg.

A dropbox link for you to upload your video is

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7tpbm5z8p2mqm5k/AAAnFT2R8MWelhy-o6Ll2a74a?dl=0>

Thank you from all of us and keep on pedaling!

David Moon-Wainwright



Cents-Ability Reminder

Please don't forget we are having communion every 1st Sunday of the month and while a different way until we can be together again, you can send your Cents-Ability offering to the Church office. Remember all your money is used to help feed the hungry in our area. Thank you for helping with your prayers and donations



Join with Franklin Graham

The Washington Prayer March 2020 event is a dedicated prayer march that is focused solely on asking God to heal our land. It is not a protest or political event, and we are asking participants to not bring signs in support of any candidate or party.

While America is in the midst of unprecedented crisis. 1st with the virus and just as damaging is the rage within our culture, we're in a battle for the very soul of our nation—but God has given you the most powerful weapon for this struggle. You have access to the throne of God through prayer.

On September 26th many will assemble at the Lincoln memorial on the way marching to the capital. On this march the crowd will stop at various historic sights and pray that God will heal the division of our nation, guide our leaders, protect our religious freedoms, and pour his spirit out on our land. God is faithful and he promises if he call on him he will hear our voices.

2nd Chronicles 7:14

if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

While many can't go to this event you can support it in prayer. Take time throughout that day to say your own prayer. This is a mission we all can undertake.

If you want to learn more about the event go to <https://prayermarch2020.com/about/>

Smokey Days Are Depressing

Roe Sandelin, Elder Christian Education

This article will be short and to the point. I shared with Kitty (my wife) that I was concerned for one of our daughters. She said, matter-of-factly, “Why don’t you call her”. How often does someone come to mind, we think “I should call and check in”, but don’t? Yikes, guilty!

Please consider when such thoughts come to mind it may be a prompt from God to reach out. It might be that the person you call needs the support. How many times does our call bring comfort to us as well?

A call from those in our church family can have a profound effect on all concerned. Are you listening?

Back to my daughter. I did call and learned the smoke was having bad effects on her, physically and mentally. Yesterday, she drove to the coast with her dog for relief. They had a great day! She was pleased that I cared enough to call and check in. A “feel good” for both of us.

Some Musings on Perspective During Trying Times – Are we over COVID-19 yet?

Lenord Swope, Elder Congregational Care/Fellowship

Over the years as a child & as a teen, I remember reading select parts of the *Desiderata*. Its first line particularly resonated with me: “Go placidly amid the noise and haste.” The *Desiderata* was taped inside the left door of Mom’s desk (it is still there). My mother embodied that spirit – always a graceful classy lady. I am certain that part of her equanimity is attributable to the *Desiderata*.

These times beckon a gentle admonition to keep perspective. Part of perspective that we might bear in mind is the phenomena that as we age time seems to fly by. I added my take on this concept walking with one of my fellow graduate students at the University of Minnesota – “The reason time flies as we age is that each year that goes by represents a higher proportion of the time that we have remaining.” My fellow graduate student’s reaction was “I don’t want to hear it!” (the graduate student was 29 at that time).

A friend provided me with the corollary to my observation about aging and time perspective. My friend pointed out for a child 10 years old asking in July for that child to wait for six months till Christmas is asking the child to be patient for 5% of his entire life. So, when we are confined to barracks so to speak with our young charges, try to see time not through the eyes of an adult but through the eyes of a youngster; it may help you go placidly amid the noise and haste.

Editor’s note: “Desiderata” (Latin: “things desired”) is an early 1920s prose poem by the American writer Max Ehrmann. Although he copyrighted it in 1927, he distributed copies of it without a required copyright notice during 1933 and c. 1942, thereby forfeiting his US copyright. Largely unknown in the author’s lifetime, its use in devotional and spoken word recordings in 1960 and 1971 called it to the attention of the world.

Dear FPCU Family, I appreciate very much the get well wishes, cards, and prayers. I'm feeling much better now, but still recovering.

Thank you! Patti Longstreth

Thank you, Dear Church Family, for all the cards, calls and remembering's of Barry at this time of his passing. I appreciate you all so much!

With Love, Donna Squires



Nominating Committee ~ Wilma Pribyl, Elder

The Nominating Committee is continuing their work filling 13 vacancies: 5 in the Elders (classes of 2021 & 2023), 5 in the Deacons (Classes 2020 & 2023) and 3 for the Nominating committee (Class of 2021). When contacted by the committee, please prayerfully consider where the Lord is calling you to serve.

RECYCLING REVELATIONS

Roe Sandelin, Christian Education Elder



Don't throw it away, use it twice!

For a long time now, we have grown accustomed to using a container and then throwing it away. Plastic bottles and jugs, glass bottles and jars, boxes, plastic bags and so much more often can be used again (and again) BEFORE GOING TO TRASH/RECYCLE. We simply have to give a little thought to the idea that "using it twice" is a good thing to do.

Kitty and I have made it a practice to look at packaging in a new way. "How can we use it a second time before it goes OUT"?

Our latest idea is re-using the brown glass bottles of a beverage Kitty likes to drink as water bottles. The bottles are thick walled and have a strong plastic screw cap. We peel off the labels, fill the bottles with tap water and place them on a shelf in the refrigerator for cooling. Now, we have a cold bottle of water ready to go. The thick glass keeps the water cooler longer, the strong cap is durable, and we have re-used them many times. They are quite handy during these hot summer days.

This is just one example we have used. In fact, we challenge each other to be creative in re-use. A good idea is always rewarded with a high five, a kind word or a shout out. All-Star ideas get a kiss...SO CORNY!

Seriously, landfills, the roadside, our rivers and oceans are getting "trashed". Truly, our Earth cannot keep taking these wasteful hits. Every little bit helps, so look for ways to re-use.

Here is my challenge to each of you: Give me a great, original, idea for ways to re-use and I will give Pastor David a \$5.00 gift card to Schats Bakery. I will share your ideas in my next Presbeat article. (Go ahead, I dare you, send me to the poor house with great ideas!)

Finance Update

- There were 4 Sundays in July
- We budgeted **income** of **\$19,481** and received **\$21,972**
- We budgeted total **expenses** of **\$31,988** and incurred **\$29,192**
- Our income year-to-date is **\$144,635** which is within \$1,300 of what we had budgeted – amazing!
 - Year-to-date we are behind income → expenses by **\$16,593**.
 - Our budget had us behind income → expenses by **\$35,483**.

Overall, our finances are in good shape! Thank you, Church Family, for your continued giving during these challenging times.

| As of July 31st, 2020 | | Total \$\$ |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| Income | \$ | 144,635 |
| Expenses | \$ | 161,229 |
| Difference | \$ | (16,594) |
| Balance in Checking Account | | Total \$\$ |
| Non-Designated Funds | \$ | 87,331 |
| Designated Funds (detail below) | \$ | 95,710 |
| Total Balance in Checking | \$ | 183,041 |
| Balance in Savings | | Total \$\$ |
| CD's | \$ | 44,509 |
| Mutual Funds | \$ | 29,535 |
| Other Savings | \$ | 57,986 |
| Total Balance in Savings | \$ | 132,029 |
| Detail of Designated Funds in Checking Account | | |
| Missions | \$ | 936 |
| Missions Fundraiser | \$ | 6,001 |
| Centsability | \$ | 169 |
| One Great Hour of Sharing | \$ | - |
| Shoes 4 You | \$ | - |
| Pedals 4 Protein | \$ | - |
| Pass-Through | \$ | - |
| Per Capita | \$ | 31 |
| Deacons | \$ | 1,006 |
| Flowers | \$ | - |
| Ramos Trust | \$ | 52,185 |
| General Memorial | \$ | 30,025 |
| Buildings & Grounds | \$ | 248 |
| Compassionate Ministries | \$ | 2,484 |
| Pastor Appreciation | \$ | - |
| Adult Ministries | \$ | 3 |
| Singalong | \$ | 6 |
| Fellowship Meals | \$ | - |
| Youth Activities | \$ | - |
| Children's Activities | \$ | 166 |
| Children's Playground | \$ | 2,389 |
| Camperships | \$ | 60 |
| Total | \$ | 95,710 |

Deacon Update:



The Deacons have developed a new ministry for Compassion Care and Support as an outreach within our local communities. To support this ministry, you may now donate directly to the Compassionate Ministries Fund, understanding that your donations will support ways to help those who have a short-term, specific need, such as food, gas, hotel/motel/campsite lodging, and other temporary needs of this kind.

Recently, this fund has supported shelter for fire evacuation victims, personal care items, and food.

In order to make a request to this fund, simply contact the Church Office, 468-9235, or Pastor David, 391-3888.

Helpful Resources:

| | |
|--|---|
|  | Mendocino County COVID-19 Information/Resource page |
|  | Senior Resource Directory for Lake and Mendocino Counties: (707) 468.5132. Provides information such as Preparing for Health Emergencies, Active Living, Caregiving, End-of-Life Resources, Grandparenting, much more http://www.seniorresourcedirectory.org/Directory/Index.htm |
|  | Food and Nutrition Resources: (707) 468.5132. Provides information on Food Stamps, Congregate/Social Dining Sites (including Plowshares and other locations), Food Banks, Grocery Delivery, and Home-Delivered Meals. http://www.seniorresourcedirectory.org/Directory/Food.html |
|  | Alzheimer's Association: (800) 272.3900 https://www.alz.org/norcal |
|  | Medicare Help Line: (800) 917-6367 They can help find home care, meal delivery, all sorts of things covered by Medicare |
|  | Senior Guidance on Assisted Living: (888) 595.9101 Includes a directory on all our local Assisted Living and Residential Care Homes. https://www.seniorguidance.org/assisted-living/california/ukiah.html |
|  | Adult Services (Mendocino County): Provides information on Adult Protective Services (APS), General Assistance, In-Home Support Services, Veteran's Services, Care for the Homeless, and more. APS 24-hour emergency line: (877) 327.1799 |

Did we miss your birthday???

Please contact the church office or email Denise, denise@fpcukiah.org so that we can celebrate with you!




Happy Birthday!

9/2 Jack Sweeley
 9/9 Marie Pera
 Tom Desroches
 9/11 Alice Oakley
 Kim Huffman
 9/12 Warren Pribyl

9/12 Sammie Benjamin-Davies
 9/13 Kitty Sandelin
 9/15 Myra Drury
 9/16 Don Pera
 Donna Squires
 9/18 Dean Vickers

9/19 Mark Smith
 9/22 Caroline Crowley
 9/25 Shirley Lewis
 9/27 Terri Grass
 9/29 McKaylie Young

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|---|--------|----------|
| | | 1 Office hours 9am to 1pm 7am Men's Bible Study (Zoom) | 2 Office hours 9am to 1pm 1:30pm PW Bible Study (Zoom) 3pm Youth Group 6pm Worship Team 6pm Special Session meeting | 3 Office hours 9am to 1pm 8:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) | 4 | 5 |
| 6 10am Worship Communion http://fpcukiah.org/event/2020-03-29-sunday-worship-service-streaming-online/ | 7 Labor Day Office is closed  | 8 Office hours 9am to 1pm 7am Men's Bible Study (Zoom) | 9 Office hours 9am to 1pm 1:30pm PW Bible Study (via Zoom) 3pm Youth Group 6pm Worship Team | 10 Office hours 9am to 1pm 8:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) | 11 | 12 |
| 13 10am Worship http://fpcukiah.org/event/2020-03-29-sunday-worship-service-streaming-online/ 11am Missions Committee | 14 Office hours 9am to 1pm | 15 Office hours 9am to 1pm 7am Men's Bible Study (Zoom) | 16 Office hours 9am to 1pm 1:30pm PW Bible Study (Zoom) 3pm Youth Group 6pm Worship Team | 17 Office hours 9am to 1pm 8:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) 6:00pm Session | 18 | 19 |
| 20 10am Worship http://fpcukiah.org/event/2020-03-29-sunday-worship-service-streaming-online/ | 21 Office hours 9am to 1pm | 22 Office hours 9am to 1pm 7am Men's Bible Study (Zoom) | 23 Office hours 9am to 1pm 1:30pm PW Bible Study (Zoom) 3pm Youth Group 6pm Worship Team | 24 Office hours 9am to 1pm 8:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) 5:30pm Deacons | 25 | 26 |
| 27 10am Worship http://fpcukiah.org/event/2020-03-29-sunday-worship-service-streaming-online/ | 28 Office hours 9am to 1pm | 29 Office hours 9am to 1pm 7am Men's Bible Study (Zoom) | 30 Office hours 9am to 1pm 1:30pm PW Bible Study (Zoom) 3pm Youth Group 6pm Worship Team | | | |

Our Calendar is also available online @ fpcukiah.org/resources/events-and-calendar/calendar/