

*From under the Redbud Tree.....*



# The *Redbud*

***The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Mountain Home, Arkansas***

***July, 2020***

## **Inside this issue**

<b>The “Wow!” Factor</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Special Days in July</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Pastors Page</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Our Church Family</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Covid-19 Information</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Our Church at Work/ Committee Meetings</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>July Calendar</b>	<b>7</b>



## **The “WOW!” Factor**

After the final notes concluded at a recent Boston Symphony performance, the conductor hadn't yet lowered his baton when a child exclaimed, “Wow!” The break in protocol, magnified by excellent acoustics, didn't upset the participants or audience however. Instead, several people later said it brought them great joy.

The incident was especially meaningful because the child, a 9-year-old boy named Ronan, has autism and is generally non-verbal. The musicians arranged a special performance for Ronan so he could meet some of the musicians.

How often do you shout “Wow!” - in a good way— at what you see and hear? You may tend to do so when gazing at God's natural wonders, but what about during your day-to-day life? Think about the people you know and their talents— and your own. When have these sparked a “Wow!” of thanks to God?

**Every blessing, large or small, is a wow-moment;  
a gift from God that warrants our praise.**

# Special Days in July



**July 3 - Charlotte Cherry**  
**July 4 - Marty Hasty**  
**July 12 - Evalyn McGill**  
**July 14 - Carolyn Hannon**  
**July 23 - Gaines Hoff**  
**July 24 - Christopher Constantine**

## NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

### MORE REASONS TO CELEBRATE IN JULY

**July 1st– International Joke Day & Canada Day** 🤪🇨🇦  
**July 2nd– World UFO Day**  
**July 4th– INDEPENDENCE DAY!**  
**July 9th– National Sugar Cookie Day**  
**July 11th– National Free Slurpee Day**  
**July 13th– Amazon Prime Day**  
**July 14th– Cow Appreciation Day**  
**July 19th– National Ice Cream Day**  
**July 23rd– Gorgeous Grandma Day**

## The Second of July?

*“The second day of July 1776 will be the most memorable epic in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore.”* - Written by John Adams in a letter to his wife Abigail.

So what happened on the fourth? Well, not that much, actually. The Declaration of Independence was the formal announcement of independence and its text was approved on July 4th 1776. The fancy parchment version with all the pretty calligraphy wouldn't get drawn up until July 19th, and most members of the Congress signed the Declaration on August 2nd.

***Do you remember when...**  
**TV stations played the national anthem every night?***







How the world has changed in the twinkling of an eye! Would you believe our last in-house worship service was March 15, 2020- in the midst of Lent. Our first virtual worship service was filmed on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will be four months, the middle of July, that we have not been together in worship as we have so affectionately known it. I hear many people say: ***“I didn’t realize how important my church family was to me.”*** It reminds me of that old adage: *“Absence makes the heart grow fonder.”* Yes, we do miss being with each other at least once a week in worship and in fellowship following. One thing about it- we come to realize how important our church family is to us. If nothing else, this is a blessing!

Even though we are separated by this mysterious virus we are ALL part of the body of Christ. We continue to worship by virtual video. It is amazing the number of people who are worshipping with us through our website. One week in June we had over 100 visits to our website in the sermon section. We can thank God for the ability to do virtual worship. Electronics do have value!

As I reflect on this pandemic I believe many people are in grief. People are grieving over not being able to be with each other on Sundays. People are grieving on not being able to be together celebrating anniversaries, birthdays and other significant events in their life. We grieve.

We are not able to do the little things in life that we were once able to do without risking our health or endangering a loved one. Life has changed. Grief is about the process of rediscovering a new normal. The problem right now is we do not know what the new normal means and what it looks like. Seems like the “new normal” keeps shifting. We grieve.

It is in these times of grief that we can turn to Christ on the Cross. We can anticipate the resurrection of a new life in Christ, whatever it might mean. We can anticipate the empty tomb. We can celebrate the resurrection knowing full well that God is with us in and through his only Son Jesus Christ who gives us hope. We are a RESURRECTION people. It is in that resurrection that we are given the hope and promise that it will be better. WE can count on the love of God that the day will come when we are able to once again be with each other. Until then we continue to grieve. We continue to search for a new normal.

God loves you. Stay safe. Let Jesus Christ be your light and guide through this pandemic.

Pastor Clark



# Our Church Family

## NEW ADDRESSES

**Phyllis Gladson**  
4000 North Main Street  
East Peoria, Illinois 61611

**Ralph and Karen Gillespie**  
401 Butterfield Trail  
Mountain Home, AR 72653  
870-701-3554

**Jackie Hoff**  
417-712-4135

**If you have a new address or phone number, please let the church office know. It's important that we keep our records accurate and let others know. Thank you!**



**Vicky Buff** is in Houston, Texas, preparing to undergo a research treatment for her cancer. It is called CART-T Therapy. It was developed by Novartis. She begins the treatment July 7th for eight weeks. Please keep Vicky and Dave in prayer during this time.  
-Pastor Clark



## **Welcome Doug and Michele Wells!**

Doug and Michele became members of First Presbyterian Church on June 16, 2020. We are excited to add them to our family of faith. A more official welcome will be held when the church is open for worship.

## NEW CONTACT INFORMATION FOR GARY ADLER

Marion County Nursing Home  
Room #817  
620 North Panther  
Yellville, Arkansas 72687

**Please send a card or note!**



# Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

304817-8 May 13, 2020 11:00 AM



# Our Church at Work

## SESSION HOLDS REGULAR JUNE MEETING ON ZOOM

The Session met on June 16, 2020 regarding many church matters. The Session formed a committee consisting of Barb Sandberg, Kay Kunkel and Pastor Mike Clark to set guidelines regarding “in-person” worship at the church. The guidelines will be sent out at least 2 weeks before church re-opens. The complete minutes of the meeting will be posted on the bulletin board in the mail room.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee presented Pete Wells to the Session to serve out the remainder of Gale Newman’s term with the class of 2022. Pete was confirmed by the Session and will serve as moderator of the Finance Committee.

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Even with the Covid-19 pandemic and the church being closed to “in-person” worship, the **Missions Committee** has been doing wonderful work in our community! During the months of May and June the church donated **over 400 pounds** of food to the Mountain Home Food Basket, thanks to your generous giving. (There is still food that was just collected to be donated!)

The church was also able to collect **20 fans** to be given to needy families in our area! The fan ingathering lasts until the end of June.

During the month of July the Missions Committee will begin the annual cereal drive.



## DEACON’S REPORT

The Deacons also met online on June 16, 2020. They will resume their meetings in July with social distancing and masks in the fellowship hall. Janet Newman has agreed to be the new secretary for Cathy Roever. Thank you Janet!

## TREASURER’S REPORT MAY 2020

Contributions for May 2020 - \$9,365.00\*

Cleared Checks/Expenses - \$9,020.95

Outstanding checks from May - \$3,874.81

\*Memorial money in honor of Gale Newman (\$3,120.00) is part of this contribution amount.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR SESSION - MAY 2020

As of the end of May 2020, our church has \$37,886.43 in checking.

-Nancy Priest, church bookkeeper

# REDBUD CALENDAR JULY, 2020

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri	Sat
		<b>30 ( JUNE )</b> <b>Communion Sets</b> <b>drive-thru pickup</b> <b>9am-12pm at the church</b>	<b>1 ( JULY )</b> <b>Communion Sets</b> <b>drive-thru pickup</b> <b>9am-12pm at the church</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Communion Sets</b> <b>drive-thru pickup</b> <b>9am-12pm at the church</b>	<b>3</b>  <b>Will Be Closed:</b>	<b>4</b> 
<b>5</b> <b>10 am–</b> <b>Worship Ser-</b> <b>vice/ Holy</b> <b>Communion</b> <b>www.fpcmh.net</b>	<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>Will Be Closed:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>10 am–</b> <b>Worship Ser-</b> <b>vice</b> <b>www.fpcmh.net</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  <b>Will Be Closed:</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>10 am–</b> <b>Worship Ser-</b> <b>vice</b> <b>www.fpcmh.net</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>SESSION MEETING</b> <b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>22</b> <b>REDBUD</b> <b>ARTICLE</b> <b>DEADLINE</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>Will Be Closed:</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>10 am–</b> <b>Worship Ser-</b> <b>vice</b> <b>www.fpcmh.net</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>Will Be Closed:</b>	
<b>Do you</b> <b>remember</b> <b>this?</b>					<b>DEADLINES</b> <b>Redbud– July 22nd</b>	

Church Office Hours  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Church Mailing Address:  
1106 Spring Street  
Mountain Home, AR 72653  
870-425-3799

fpcmh@centurytel.net  
Website: [www.fpcmh.net](http://www.fpcmh.net)

Rev. Mike Clark,  
Transitional Pastor

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Coffee: 11:00 a.m.

Secretary: Kristi Nelson  
Bookkeeper: Nancy Priest



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**





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