

MISSION COMMITTEE SUGGESTIONS – AUGUST, 2022

Starting Balance July.....	\$80,000.00
Gibson City Recycling Program.....	\$ 500.00
Telecare.....	\$ 1,000.00
Janice Swanson/Back to School Appreciation.....	\$ 100.00
Stacy Johnson/Back to School Appreciation.....	\$ 100.00
Joyce Dewey – grandson Myelz Davis car accident.....	\$ 1,500.00
Millie Fields Fundraiser 6 year old child with Cancer	\$ 2,000.00
Hotel/Food Loretta Holmes.....	\$ 850.00
Kristen Bryant – Young mother needing help	\$ 500.00
Meladee Ferguson to help with laser eye surgery costs.....	\$ 1,000.00
City of Gibson for Flagpole Banners.....	\$ 1,000.00
First Presbyterian Church Hazard, Kentucky.....	\$ 5,000.00
Year to Date August Total.....	\$93,550.00



SCARECROW
CONTEST



Session has approved the sponsoring of a Fall Scarecrow Contest at the Railside Golf Course. Five Prizes will be awarded for \$200 each and a Trophy and Five Prizes will be awarded for \$100 each and a Certificate of Achievement. Registration forms will be accepted from October 1 to October 8, 2022. More information to follow.

It is always awesome seeing Georgie Johnson when she comes to church with her family. On Sunday, August 22nd she was joined by her daughters Sharon and Mary and great niece Melissa from Arizona. Georgie turns 98 on September 18th. Let’s all make sure and send her a card.



SESSION HAS APPROVED THE VIP SPONSORSHIP AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE GAH FOUNDATION GLO BINGO FUNDRAISER THAT WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 22ND AT THE KRUSE CENTER. THE VIP SPONSORSHIP ENTITLES US TO 8 ENTRIES, A RESERVED TABLE IN AN EXCLUSIVE AREA, BUTLER SERVICE, AND A CHARCUTERIE BOARD. PLEASE LET MARY CLOW KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING.

PRESBYTIDINGS
September 2022
Pastor Ray Lantz

Worship: 10:30 a.m.
This Newsletter is a publication of First Presbyterian Church of Gibson City IL.
Website: www.firstpresbygibson.org
Meladee Ferguson: Administrative Assistant
Mary Clow: Ministry Coordinator



Presbyterians show their support as impact of flooding is felt by Darla Carter | Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE — Days and weeks after summer flooding ravaged various presbyteries this summer, the extent of the damage continues to be assessed. But the known effects have been significant, from displacing school children and pastors to damaging church basements and parishioners’ homes. At least six churches in the St. Louis area have been affected to varying degrees by what’s been called a 100-year flood, said the Rev. Liz Rolf Kanerva, Associate Presbytery leader in the [Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy](#). “It’s really been a mixed bag of destruction,” she said. The Rev. Doug King, senior pastor of [Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church](#), describes the scramble to make new space for 3- and 4-year-old children displaced by school flooding. “We have \$100,000 worth of damage in the portion of our building where we have our school,” King said. “It’s a huge financial challenge to consider where that money will come from when it’s not built into the budget. And the second thing is that any repairs that need to happen will not be completed in time for the school to open, so we’re going to need to move where the classrooms traditionally are.” The church is fortunate enough to have Sunday school rooms to accommodate the kids, “but it will mean moving all of the equipment and sort of repurposing

those rooms” and figuring out how to share them, he said. “It will be a lot of effort for our teachers to figure all that out.”

Missouri is one of three areas in which Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been in contact with church leaders to offer support recently because of destructive and sometimes deadly flooding. The others are eastern Kentucky and western Virginia.

“Because of the generous support of the denomination, PDA has been able to consider grants in all three presbyteries and deploy national response team members to two of them,” said the Rev. Jim Kirk, Associate for National Disaster Response for PDA.

The Rev. Philip Lotspeich, general presbyter in the [Presbytery of Transylvania](#), spoke of Presbyterian generosity in the wake of historic flooding in eastern Kentucky.

“I’m getting calls from presbyteries and churches and people from around the country wanting to help, wanting to express their concern and their prayers, and so it’s been really wonderful to see the larger church get involved and show how much they care about their brothers and sisters in eastern Kentucky,” Lotspeich said. “We’re trying to make sure they know how much people care about them, so when we go down there, we’re carrying all



An airman from the Kentucky Air National Guard’s 123rd Special Tactics Squadron searches for flood victims in eastern Kentucky. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Clayton Wear)

those connections and concerns and prayers with us.”

Session approved a donation of \$5,000 that was sent to the First Presbyterian Church in Hazard, KY as they have been designated as a Red Cross shelter and are housing evacuees from flooding and land slides.

In eastern Kentucky, where a PDA team will deploy this weekend, [Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church](#) in Whitesburg and [Buckhorn Lake Area Presbyterian Church](#) have sustained damage, Lotspeich said. “We were fortunate that the flooding was mostly confined to the basement of those buildings,” he said.

September 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 <i>RECYCLE</i> <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holly Brook</i>
4 <i>10:30 a.m. Worship</i> <i>Communion</i> <i>Luke 14:25-33</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10 <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holly Brook</i>
11 <i>10:30 a.m. Worship</i> <i>Luke 15:1-10</i>	12	13 <i>American Red Cross Blood Drive 12—5:30 p.m.</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holly Brook</i> <i>RECYCLE</i>
18 <i>10:30 a.m. Worship</i> <i>Luke 16:1-13</i>	19	20	21	22 <i>5:30 Session</i>	23	24 <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holly Brook</i>
25 <i>10:30 a.m. Worship</i> <i>Luke 16:19-31</i>	26 .	27	28	29	30	

Pastor Ray will be preaching on the scripture listed in bold on each Sunday.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH . . .

Please note: The previous week’s sermon will broadcast at 7:45 a.m. every Sunday morning on WGCY. **Please note:** Online Sunday Services will be available on our Facebook Page noted below:

First Presbyterian Church of Gibson City

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=142499619134911&ref=br_rs

Meladee’s working hours: Meladee will be in the church office from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Email Addresses: As part of the hardware and software upgrade for our church’s technology, email addresses as noted below:

Pastor Ray:
Ray@firstpresbygibson.org
Meladee
Office@firstpresbygibson.org.

THE NEW FLOWER CHART IS up on the bulletin board outside of the secretary’s office.

Next Session meeting will be held on Thursday, September 22nd at 5:30.

1. September’s name is really quite inaccurate these days. It was originally the seventh month of the ancient Roman calendar, and as such it was named Septem, which translates into “the seventh month.” It was not until 451 BC that the months of January and February were added to the calendar, making September the ninth month.
2. **September 1, 1939, was a dark day for the world. It was on this day that Hitler invaded Poland, consequentially beginning World War II.**
3. **September 11, 2001, changed the shape of the world forever. It was on this fateful day that the worst terrorist attack on US soil happened when four commercial airliners were hijacked. Two of the planes were flown straight into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, and another was crashed into the Pentagon. The fourth plane crash-landed into a field in Pennsylvania after the passengers of the flight attempted to regain control of the plane from the terrorists.**
4. **September has some pretty interesting holidays spread throughout the month! Firstly, in the US, September is National Happy Cat Month! We also have Kids Take Over the Kitchen Day (US) on September 13th, International Talk Like a Pirate Day on September 19th, as well as National Punctuation day (US) on September 24th.**
5. **September is graced with having two different birth flowers. The two flowers are the vibrant aster and the beautiful yet resilient morning glory. The significance of both flowers is actually very similar, with the aster being said to represent love, while the morning glory represents affection.**

BIRTHDAYS
AND
ANNIVERSARIES

September

06: Allen Neubauer
17: Gene Roth
17: Danny Heustis
18: Georgie Johnson
18: Jean Jardine
21: John Kirkpatrick
26: Val Hunt
26: Ted Swanson

October

02: Phyllis Brickman
08: Cheryl Schultz
09: Aizza Kerchenfaut
15: Barb Williams
17: Larry Ladd
22: Jeanette Hensley
24: Michael Mott
26: Harry Groom
28: FPC of Gibson City (1871)

K. P. Duty

Sept: Ron & Mary Clow
Oct: Janice Swanson

Second Sunday Offering

Sept: Gibson Area Music Foundation
Oct: Random acts of Kindness


Ushers

Sept: Janice Swanson and Jeanette Hensley
Oct: Trudy Lantz & Val Hunt

Communion Servers

Sept 4: Rick Kerchenfaut & Tim Swanson
Oct 10: Trudy Lantz and Tim Swanson

September heralds the beginning of Fall in the northern hemisphere, with it officially commencing on the September equinox, which is usually between the 21st and the 23rd of the month. In the southern hemisphere, it’s the opposite of course, with spring starting on the September equinox.

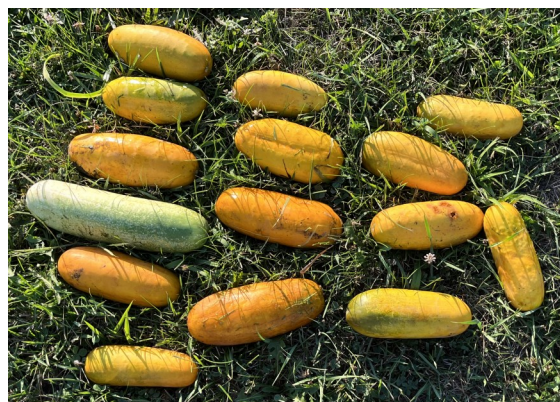


COMMUNITY GARDEN

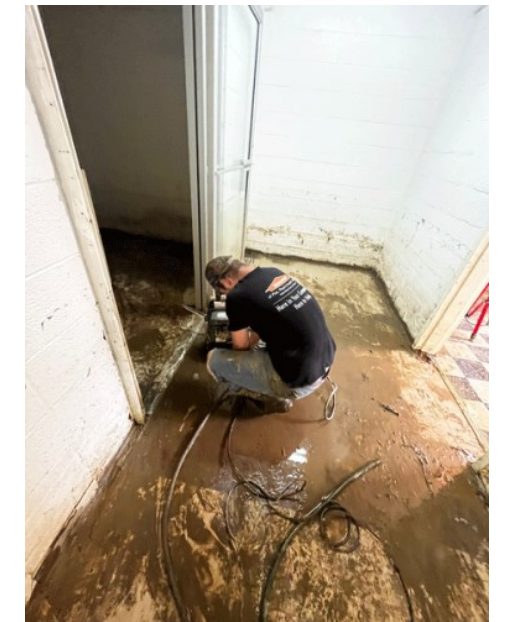
The Community Garden is full of healthy produce. There are even beautiful sunflowers to add beauty to the garden.



In an effort to be good stewards of the Railside Golf Course land they let us use for the Community Garden, Ron and Mary Clow cut down and cleaned up the vacant plots that were not being used. They were surprised to find 15 cucumbers in various stages of ripening underneath all the brush.



KENTUCKY FLOODING ARTICLE CONTINUED



Buckhorn's "sanctuary sits up fairly high," but there's an outbuilding that's used for multiple purposes, including a kitchen and fellowship hall, and "we're going to have to work on that."

Buchanan First Presbyterian Church in Grundy, Virginia, was damaged by flooding last month. (Photo courtesy of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)

Additional concerns may arise. "Part of the challenge is we're not even really into the assessment phase yet," Lotspeich said. Residents and volunteers are still "trying to clean up and figure out what's wrong. At Buckhorn, as of earlier this week, "they didn't have electricity, so we don't know what's working (or) what kind of electrical damage there's been," Lotspeich said.

Another issue is that the manse is not livable right now, so co-pastors Tom and Gayle Burns will be moved to a location with electricity, air-conditioning and Wi-Fi, Lotspeich said.

In the Whitesburg church, there were offices and other things, such as classrooms, in the basement, so they had to discard a lot of things because "the water was pretty nasty," he said.

Also, a number of parishioners have been impacted and a couple of houses destroyed, and "we're still trying to figure out exactly who all was impacted and help them take care of their parishioners as well," he said.

Members of PDA's National Response Team visited Virginia about 10 days ago to get a feel for flood damage there and provide support. [Buchanan First Presbyterian Church](#) in Gundy, which is located near a creek, sustained damage.

"They had about four feet of water and mud and muck and debris in their basement and then all throughout their parking lot as well," said the Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks, presbytery leader and stated clerk in [Abingdon Presbytery](#). But "they do believe as a whole the church is salvageable. ... They are doing pretty well, all things considered."

Dear Congregation, Thank you for your prayers and your donation to help us minister to our neighbors who were impacted by the flash floods on July 24, 2022. This will be a long journey of restoration. We will be here for this long journey. This flood was a major catastrophe for our area with 39 lives lost. Approximately 1,500 homes were destroyed and that number will rise now that temporary bridges have been made. There were 4,000 homes damaged, many vehicles ruined and families searching for things to salvage. Please keep us in your prayers. Thank you for your generosity. Sincerely, The Session of First Presbyterian Church in Hazard Kentucky.

NEWS FROM THE SCHULTZ FAMILY



Dear Presbyterian Church Family: I want to thank you all so much for the check for college. It will be put to good use as I will be living off campus. It will help me pay rent until I get myself a job.



Charlie & Cheryl Schultz had an awesome family vacation recently at Panama City Beach in Florida. What a beautiful family and the beach was a great setting for pictures.



Ron and Mary Clow represented our church on the closing of the sale of the Manse on August 17th at the Ford County Abstract Company in Paxton. After negotiations, the house was sold for \$99,000 as is with no warranty to cash buyer Brandon Lutttell Investments. Mary is pictured below with Brandon.



McCormick Tutoring Program: Sharla Williams was approved again to be the McCormick Tutoring Program Liaison for the 2022-2023 school year. She has been in touch with GCMS and the program will start on September 19th. Thank you, Sharla!

Danny Heustis presents Gabriel Anderson of Saybrook his scholarship check.



Dear First Presbyterian Church, The Gibson City Food Pantry (GAFF) gratefully acknowledges your recent gift of \$805 to support the distribution of food for those in need in the Gibson City Area and throughout Ford County. Currently all financial donations go for the purchase of food. The GAFF is by far the largest food pantry in Ford County. In 2021 it served families in 11 different counties with 87% of the food going to residents in Ford County. Due to the local economic downturn related to covid, our local needs have increased. We continue to serve many new users as our pantry becomes a lifeline to their families. Your generous donation will help us to continue to support that increased need.

Dear Friends, "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16. Your generosity speaks volumes about your commitment to the children of Kemmerer Village. Thank you for making this mission possible. Your recent gift of \$1,000 on July 29, 2022 ensures our ability to care for children and families now and for many years to come. Sincerely, Alice Christenberry, Associate Director of Financial Development at Kemmerer Village

National Diaper Need AWARENESS WEEK

*** 09.24.22-10.02.22

The Gibson Area Food Pantry will be organizing a Diaper Drive around these dates. Mary Clow will provide additional information once details are worked out.

Ron and Mary Clow took Loretta Holmes to the bus station in Champaign on August 22nd so she could catch a bus to go back home to Florida. The church's Mission Fund helped Loretta with living expenses after she was robbed in Champaign a few weeks ago. Loretta is grateful for all our church did for her and would like to say thank you from the bottom of her heart and God Bless!



Dear Members of the First Presbyterian Church Congregation: Thank you so much for choosing me to be a recipient of this award. I am humbled by your generous and thoughtful gift. You have no idea what this means to me. This gift now allows me to purchase much needed books, materials and tuition for my first semester at college. I am in awe of your kindhearted gesture. Thanks again, Gabriel (See article at top of middle column on this page.)

A BIG THANK YOU to Phil Noellsch, Ron Clow, Pastor Lantz and Mary Clow for cleaning out all the Head Start cardboard boxes and old shelving units, chairs and mats in the Fellowship Hall so they are ready for the start of the school year.



Val Hunt, pictured at left, is the winner of our Word Search Puzzle for the month of August. There were seven (7) correct entries this month. Anyone receiving this newsletter is eligible to win a \$20 gift card to County Market. We really would like to be inundated with entries for the month of September. Please see the yellow card sheet in the center of this newsletter to play. Turn it in to the church office by September 25th!

IN CELEBRATION OF THE CHURCH'S 151ST BIRTHDAY, SESSION IS PLANNING A MEMBER GROUP LUNCHEON PAID FOR BY THE CHURCH AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT AFTER SERVICES ON SUNDAY, **OCTOBER 30th**. STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!



Dear Friends of Presbyterian Church and Mary: Thank you so much for the use of the kitchen for the August 20th Band Concert. Mary, you go above and beyond. You are a special friend. God Bless! Sharon Heavilin, Gibson City Restoration Association

It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved **JERALD WISSMILLER** of Gibson City, Illinois, born in Paxton, Illinois, who passed away at the age of 81, on August 17, 2022. He was predeceased by : his parents, Louis W. Wissmiller and Gertrude Speedie Wissmiller; his siblings, William, Donald, Robert and Kathryn; and his siblings-in-law, Ruth, Jan, Richard "Dick" Swope and Charlie Rhoda. He is survived by : his sisters, Jeanette Hensley of Gibson City and Mary Rhoda of Chenoa; and his sister-in-law Theresa Jean of Iowa. Visitation was held on Friday, August 26th 2022 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the First Presbyterian Church and the funeral service was held on Friday, August 26th 2022 at 11:00 AM at the same location. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to The First Presbyterian Church or to the Gibson City Lions Club.



Thank you Danny and Vonna Heustis, Sharla Williams, Tim Swanson, Trudy Lantz, Mary Jane Roth and Ron and Mary Clow for helping with the funeral luncheon.

Flowers sent by the church for the funeral of Jerry "Tud" Wissmiller,

Molly and Kayla have the Head Start classroom ready for the students with classes starting August 29th. See pictures below.

