NEWSLETTER OF FPC:ENDICOTT

FIRST PRES PRESS

UNITED SERVICE JUNE 18, 10:00AM

CELEBRATING GRADS, FATHERS, AND SMALL GROUP SERVICE

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A Note

rom the Pastors

There is something so real about the Psalms. Nothing is off limits. It's almost as if the psalmist stepped into our minds and then wrote 150 songs of prayer and praise to reflect what he had seen.

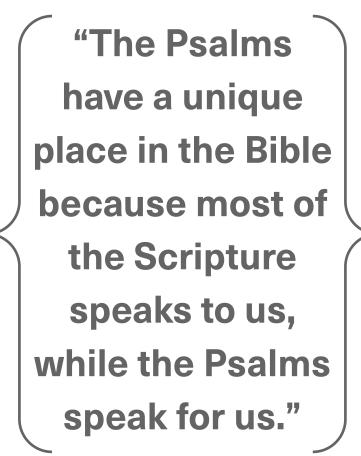
> Joy and Lament Righteous Indignation and Repentance Revenge and Compassion Fear and Trust Doubt and Worship

Athanasius, a 4th century bishop of Alexandria, explained it like this: "The Psalms have a unique place in the Bible because most of the Scripture speaks to us, while the Psalms speak for us."

The psalmist was not perfect. He sinned in thought and action, just like all of us. But he was "a man after God's own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14, Acts 13:22). He was a man who truly yearned to live a godly, faithful life. And because of that, he refused to wear a mask before God. He knew there was no point in trying to hide from God. And he also knew that God is big enough to handle anything we might throw at Him.

On June 24, as we transition to our summer worship format, we will begin a new series on "The Psalms," that will carry us through Labor Day Weekend. Each week we will get a taste of different psalms- thanksgiving, community lament, individual lament, wisdom, songs of trust, salvation history, etc. We will also provide a reading schedule with a challenge to read the whole book of Psalms this summer.

The beauty of studying the Psalms in the summer is that you won't fall behind if you are away on a given weekend! While it is a series, each Sunday stands alone. And, as always, you have two ways to catch up- either watch the service from wherever you are via Livestream, or watch it later on our website at <u>fpcendicott.org/sermons</u>.



Let us learn how to live, worship, and pray using these timeless words written thousands of years ago!

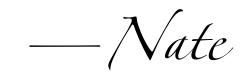
My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Psalm 84:2

Jan &'Lim

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

We are rushing headlong into summer and though the thought of warmer weather and vacation is exciting, it also means our church family will be more disparate. Community is an integral part of the Christian life, so I would encourage you to stay connected in whatever ways you can throughout the summer months: small groups, micro-group studies, Sunday worship, prayer for our church and community, and if you can't be here on Sundays, then think about tuning into our livestream so you can still hear the week's message and worship with us. You can find our livestream by going to livestream.com/ accounts/10538499 and creating an account to follow us.

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. –Heb. 10:24-25



Helen Jephson has been struggling with several health issues | Janet Weber was able to return to Good Shepherd Village following rehab from a fall | Josh and Jodie Gannon are grieving the death of Josh's mother | Thanksgiving and joy that Faith and

Jimmy, folks the men helped on the fall and spring mission weekends, have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior! | Aaren Luce, spent some time in the hospital for a respiratory illness | Christy Williams arrived safely in Monterrey, Mexico. Continued prayers for her mission work to the orphans this upcoming year | Alyssa Baumann spent time in NYC so her doctors could regulate her seizure medication | Deb Eiche's 20 year-old cousin, Nathan, has been in the ICU for more than a month, gravely ill with leukemia | Jim, Carole Cockrell's brother-in-law, has been working through some health issues | Vivian Tallman and her daughter, Patty, who are dealing with the tragic death of Patty's friend | Danielle and Steve Heidrich, who are grieving the loss of their baby daughter 22 weeks into their pregnancy | Mike Reibson had shoulder surgery | Marion Cianciosi has moved to ST. Louise Manor following a fall and rehab | Bev Jones spent several days in Wilson Hospital | Bev Conklin asked for prayers for her family—her son Dan, her son David (with possible heart problems), and the entire family as they grieve the death of her cousin, Richard Squier | Linda Willets had emergency surgery in mid-May | Jane Kamper's newborn nephew, Judson was in the NICU for breathing problems | Rev. Brown Naik is struggling in his battle against cancer | Rita Martinek was hospitalized in mid-May | Connie Stanton and Sheila Beblavy's father spent some time in the hospital | Taylor Mansfield graduated from medical school | The family of Rick Benson, son of former members Jack and Ellie Benson, are grieving his unexpected death | Steve Kamper's nephew, Adam, entered rehab for a heroin addiction | Eric and Meaghan Cady are grieving the death of Eric's grandmother, Peg Cady | Tina Mitchell's mother has been diagnosed with multiple tumors at the base of her brain stem | Adele Everett's mother was readmitted to the hospital for additional surgery following unexpected complications after surgery the previous week | Paul Everett is taking treatment for a malignancy in the area of his back injury | There was a small group outreach to Samaritan Supper guests on 5/23 | Praise God for the joy of working together with Endicott Proud on a community-wide cleanup day | Teri Pasquale was in the hospital overnight for testing

MEN'S MISSION TRIP

ON APRIL 20-22, SIXTEEN MEN FROM FPC:E TRAVELED TO HONESDALE, PA TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY THERE AND TO BUILD RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER AND OUR SISTER CHURCH. THIS IS WHAT SOME OF THE MEN HAD TO SAY:

JD PAFF This was my second time going on the trip to Honesdale. It was really neat that we were able to interact with some of the same people again -- both during the meal served at the Abraham house and at the project site (since we were back serving the same family again). It was amazing to hear about how Faith and Jimmy had recently accepted Christ and to see the life change going on. I was honored and humbled that God used us to be some small part of that.

KULLEN

WILLIAM JENKINS One thing that stuck out to me was the remarkable teamwork I saw on the trip. It was inspiring how God had worked in people's hearts to make them put aside their own agendas and serve each other.

STEVE MCKEOWN

I was working in another area after the bedroom ceiling was done. I was blessed by how great the bedroom looked with the new carpet, bed, and paint.

BRYAN EARLY There were several ways that I saw God working over the nearly 3 days we spent together but the one that impressed on me the most was the fellowship with the team that went. There were several instances of caring for each other and our devotional time in the book of James we wrestled with the challenges presented sections we studies. Having this connection is a real challenge for men in today's society so even if short time together it was great to God's plan for how we should be supporting each other.

KEVIN SHOLETT I saw God working in several ways: 1) working with me deeply to first of all even be a part of this trip with a great group of men! 2) Helped me see past the world I live in and join hands in helping less fortunate people in a time of need. 3) God helped me start relationships with people I had met but didn't know on a more personal level that share the same beliefs that I do.

DEREK WASHBURN Anytime I have the opportunity to be a part of helping others in the way that we did, it is most often me that is helped in process as well. God uses moments like this to humble you, make you thankful, and to remind you that we are made to love others in a way so much bigger than we often think is possible."



JUNE 4

FAMILY DAY

Wrap-up Celebration! Join us as we celebrate the conclusion of our 2016-2017 season and all the kids have learned! We will be putting our hand prints on banners to decorate a church in Kenya during FPC:E's upcoming mission trip. There will be games, crafts, and lots of fun as we thank God for His provision this past season.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES!

JUNE 23-25

MINI-CAMP @ ROCK MOUNTAIN

It's geared for 6 to 10-year-olds attending with a guardian to get a taste of camp!

If you haven't registered your kids, please do!

To register and get more information, go to <u>rockmountainbiblecamp.org</u>

JULY 10-13

CEF 4-DAY CLUB @ FPC:E PLAYGROUND

10:00AM-12:00PM

It's geared for elementary aged kids and will include crazy water games, snacks, Bible story time, and fun competition. To register and get more information, see Alisha Finn.



JULY 16-21 JULY 23-28

JR. CAMP @ ROCK MOUNTAIN

It's a great week geared for 8-12 year olds. Alisha will be there both weeks leading chapel, but many FPC:E kids are going the week of July 23-28. If you haven't registered your kids, please do! To register and get more information, go to rockmountainbiblecamp.org

JUNE 4 THE KERR'S COTTAGE FOREST LAKE! 3:00pm - Carpool @ FPC:E 6:00pm - Pick-Up @ FPC:E

Bring bathing suits, fishing gear, sneakers, Bible, a snack to share, and a friend!







A WORD TO MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS

School is almost over. Nobody else will have oversight of your teens during the day. No more sports to occupy them in the afternoon. No homework to complete in the evening. For the next 2 ½ months, your teenage children are going to have lots of extra time on their hands and less interaction with the Body of Christ.

It will be an important time for you to consciously nurture your children's faith development!

Focus on the Family offers this as one suggestion:

Put God's Word into the context of your teen's everyday life. Walk in his shoes. Look closely at her world. Consider the effect of video games he plays. Listen to the messages she gets every day from friends, television, and social media that challenge a biblical world view.

Have comfortable, yet purposeful, conversations with your children to help them gain a biblical perspective on these messages. Ask questions like these:

What are the promises you saw or heard on TV today? Do you think they are true? What message does that video game convey?

God's Word says that we have the opportunity each day to do things that will have an eternal impact. What do you think we could do today/this week that would last?

JUNE 25 YEAR-END FINALE

JUNE 4 LAST SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

MISSION FOCUS



On Monday, June 26, our Kenya Team will be starting out on their two-week mission trip. Much of the time will be spent working with Christians there to finish building a church and a children's home for boys.

How can the congregation support this mission work?

GIVE FINANCIALLY

You can contribute financially toward the cost of the church and boys home we will be building. The Kenyan congregation is responsible for purchasing the land and paying for the foundation of the church and/ or boys home. The U.S. congregation pays for the frame, corrugated steel sides, and the furniture. Our share of the cost is \$7,500 for each building.





SCHOOL SUPPLIES

You can donate school supplies for the school.

Needed items include:

- Pens
- Pencils
- Hand-held pencil sharpeners
- Loose-leaf lined paper and notebooks
- Soccer balls
- Hand pumps
- Frisbees

DONATE BOOKS

S ||

You can donate children's Bibles, easy-to-read classics (e.g. Treasure Island, Huck Finn), or adventure books (e.g. Nancy Drew, Hardy Boys, Box Car Children) to the Linda Ross Memorial Library. (There will be a limit of how many books we can take because of weight restrictions.)





CREATE BANNERS

You can help create banners to be hung in the church we are building. We have patterns that have been used other years, but need fabric cutters and sewers to put the banners together! Please contact Pam Davis if you are willing to help. Our students celebrated the special ladies in their lives with goodies, gifts, and giggles!

As we break for summer, nursery school registration information and tours will be available by contacting Ronne Sisico, Director of Education, at 607-748-1744.

<u>The 2017-2018 school year will</u> <u>kick off on</u> <u>Thursday, September 7!</u>

> Welcoming Summer!

FPC:E COMMUNITY

Look here for opportunities to serve the Kingdom and grow in your faith through the missions and ministries of FPC:E

Students who plan to pursue a career in ministry, religious education, or church-related activities are eligible to benefit from the Grell Scholarship Fund established by William M. and Dorothy L. Grell. Preference is given (but not limited) to candidates who have a current or past relationship with FPC:E. Applications are available in the church office and must be submitted by July 1. Questions may be directed to Adele Everett (adele.j.everett@gmail.com) or

727-6117.

• This summer, we have the gift of being able to experience **weekly fellowship** after our 10:00am services in the chapel and sanctuary. To make this happen, we need people to volunteer

Night of Worship

Sat. June 3, 7:00pm

@ First Baptist Endicott

to set up and clean up the refreshments each week. This is a simple process (directions

provided) that can be done by a couple, a family, or 2-3 friends working together. If you would be willing to serve in this capacity one week this summer, please contact Deb Eiche, 765-4044. know of someone who is graduating, please call or email the office (748-1544) or office@fpcendicott.org with their information: Name, School, Degree.

Each year we recognize our high school and college

graduates in June. If you

and Future Plans.

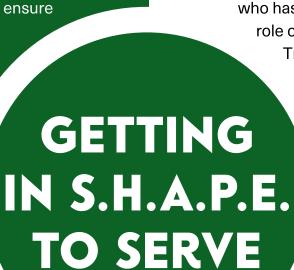
 Plans to begin the Southern Tier Christian Com-

munity Choir begin with a community sing held at FPC:E on June 16 at 7:30pm. Come sing some songs and learn about plans to launch the choir!



The Financial Secretary of FPC:E works quietly behind the scenes to ensure the accurate accounting of tithes, gifts, and other sources of income. The **Financial Secretary also** records the pledges made each year to support the ministry and mission of **FPC:E**, produces monthly financial reports for the Session, and sends mid-year and year-end financial statements to each donor. This is an area of serving that requires confidentiality and sensitivity, as well an aptitude for numbers.

When Charlene Gebler was ordained as a ruling elder, she took on this specific role as her particular area of service. We are grateful for the faithful and gracious way Charlene served for the six years she was on Session.

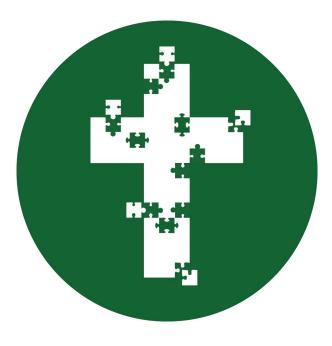




We are also grateful to Tracy Adams, who has now transitioned into the role of Financial Secretary. When Tracy joined the church, she filled out a mini Spiritual Gift Survey, where she indicated that working with numbers is one of her strengths. How good it is to serve in ways that recognize our <u>S</u>piritual Gifts, <u>H</u>eart (passion), <u>A</u>bilities, <u>P</u>ersonality, and Experience!

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. —1 Corinthians 12:7

FINDING YOUR S.H.A.P.E.



BRENDA REIBSON

Do you know your SHAPE?

No, not what physical shape you are in, but your S.H.A.P.E. - the unique way God has designed and prepared you to do your indispensable part in building up the body of Christ.

"Who, me?" you might ask. "I'm not sure I'm ready for all that!

Ephesians 2:10 says this is true of every believer:

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Verse 9 explains that we are not saved <u>by</u> works, but in verse 10 we see that we are saved <u>for</u> good works. It is God's purpose for us to fulfill the specific role he has for each of us in advancing his kingdom. Like a puzzle that is missing pieces, kingdom work is not complete without all of us doing the good work we are designed to do. S.H.A.P.E. is a tool we can use in order to determine what part we are to play. We are S.H.A.P.E.'d by our **S**piritual Gifts, <u>H</u>eart (Passion), <u>A</u>bilities, <u>P</u>ersonality, and <u>E</u>xperiences.

If you would like the opportunity to discover or more fully explore your S.H.A.P.E., please join me for an hour on Sunday morning, June 25, at 8:45am, or Tuesday evening, June 27 at 6:45pm. We will meet both times in the church library. You can sign up by emailing me at bsreibson@gmail.com or by calling the church office at (607) 748-1544.



Brenda is our pastoral intern from April to early fall. In addition to gaining skills and experience for pastoral leadership, Brenda will be helping us discover and implement our spiritual gifts and build our ministry and mission teams.

MISSION

he congregation was encouraged to participate in the "Endicott Proud" Community Clean-up Day on May 20, 9:00am.

The Session heard plans from Alisha Finn to host a Child Evangelism Fellowship Club for the neighborhood children again this summer (July 10-14) and provided \$500 from the Outreach Budget.

LINDA WILLETS CLERK OF SESSION

Each month, Linda provides an overview of the work of our Session. Keep an eye out on this page to see what God is doing through the work of our leadership.



BUSINESS



ouse Committee has been working on some major projects this spring: rebuilding the retaining wall at the manse, dealing with water in the basement of the McKinley house, and getting estimates for a new roof needed for the McKinley house.

MINISTRY

en small groups participated in the church-wide Lenten Series, *Words from the Cross*, and one new group was formed for women on Sunday eve-

nings.

The implementation of small group Service Projects should be completed by mid-June. Small Groups will share about their outreach projects during a United Celebration Sunday on June 18.

The Servant-Making Ministry is being revitalized with the help of Brenda Reibson and Chris Galli.

There are already 18 students and 4 parents who have signed up for summer camps at Rock Mountain Bible Camp this summer.

SESSION TRAINING

n April, Session completed our study of many of the Confessions that are currently part of ECO's constitution and sent responses to the Presbytery's Theological Task Force. From there, presbyteries will make recommendations to ECO about what

Confessions to include as we move forward as a denomination.

At the May meeting, Brenda Reibson introduced Session #1 of our current training/equipping series -*Becoming a Flourishing Church*. After a time of reflecting and sharing, Session committed to complete the process with the following expectations: be present for all sessions; be open to the moving of the Holy Spirit in new ways; listen well and respectfully to one another; come prepared to each session with your homework assignments completed.

29

7:00pm AA Meeting

JUNE

06

12:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Deacons 7:00pm New Member Class

07

01

03

7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Chancel Choir

5:30pm Ice Cream Social

Endicott

Endicott

Pentecost

Ministry Family

9:00am Worship

05

10:30am Children's

Day 10:45am Worship

7:30pm AA Meeting

(ATOB) 3:00pm FPC:Youth

@ First Baptist

@ First Baptist

6:00am Men's Group 7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:00pm Session 7:30pm AA Meeting

08 7:00pm Night of Worship

7:00pm AA Meeting

11 <u>Communion</u> No FPC:Youth 9:00am Worship 10:45am Worship

12 7:30pm AA Meeting

13 12:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting

14

6:00am Men's Group 7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:30pm AA Meeting

15 7:00pm AA Meeting

7:30pm Community Sing

18 Celebration Sundav 10:00am United Service 5:00pm FPC:Youth

19

16

4:00pm Endicott Proud 6:00pm NS Board Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting

20 12:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting

21

6:00am Men's Group 1:00pm Women's Circle 7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:30pm AA Meeting

22 7:00pm AA Meeting

25 **Commission** Kenya Team 10:00am Worship (Two Services) 5:00pm FPC:Youth

26 Kenya Mission **Trip Begins** 7:30pm AA Meeting

27 12:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting

28

6:00am Men's Group 7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:30pm AA Meeting

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