



OPEN DOOR

Volume XXXIV, No. 7, July 5, 2017

From the Pastor

We Presbyterians celebrate two sacraments: baptism and the Lord's Supper. Each disciple experiences baptism once in their lives, and the Lord's Supper many times. In baptism, we are welcomed into the Household of Faith, the Body of Christ. In the Lord's Supper, we receive "food" for the journey of faith, our manna in the wilderness.



Both are holy, sacred, experiences. As our Study Catechism puts it; "A sacrament is a special act of Christian worship, instituted by Christ, which uses a visible sign to proclaim the promise of the gospel for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life." Or as John Calvin put it, the sacraments "present Christ to us." He described them as "messengers of glad tidings."



Because the sacraments are sacred and rich in meaning, disciples can be testy about the ways the sacraments are celebrated. Take communion, for example. Just as many of us like to sit in the same spot each Sunday, many of us like to celebrate communion the same way each month. For some of us, our seating location can become "holy," and for some of us the method of distribution of communion can become holy, or the only way we feel it should be distributed.

Despite our experience or preferences, we do well to remember that there has never been only one, holy way to celebrate communion. In the beginning of the Reformation project, in Calvin's Geneva, for example, they used an actual table, not a symbolic table, which was placed on the main floor of the sanctuary. The minister would stand at the table, and after the Words of Institution and the prayers were offered, groups of eight to twelve people would be welcomed to come and sit at the table to receive the bread and the wine (yes, they used wine, not grape juice. But we'll save that discussion for another time).



In some churches, at different times, women have been served separately from the men. Some churches use wafers, while others prefer real bread, where everyone takes a piece from the loaf. Some, such as different Orthodox churches, place the bread in the cup, and then spoon it out to each one receiving communion. And in some churches, during communion everyone stands in a circle on the inside of the sanctuary and passes first the bread, and then the cup around the circle. Some churches, even Presbyterian ones, have an altar rail, and invite the faithful to come forward, and kneel to receive the bread and the cup.

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From the Pastor *(continued from page 1)*



Is one method of distribution more holy than another? History tells us that there has been great variety in the ways communion has been celebrated. What we profess is that Christ, the presence of Christ, makes communion holy, regardless of the method of distribution. Ultimately, the method of distribution is

a practical concern. We have the Bread and the Cup and those gathered around the Table, made sacred by the presence of Christ. On some occasions, say during Lent, we can take the extra time and effort required for distribution in the pews, which allows many of us to contemplate the meaning of the sacrament in a special way. Other times, say during Eastertide, we will want to be more festive and process to the front to receive the bread and cup by intinction. This method also offers the advantage of being simpler to prepare and takes less time to distribute.

The Worship Committee has been talking about methods of distribution for a few months now, and they are thankful that history, as well as a variety of traditions, encourage us to use different methods at different times. We believe that we will grow to appreciate the wisdom of this in the months and the years ahead.

— Pastor David

Indoor Church Picnic

Sunday, July 9, 2017

Following worship, about 11:00 a.m.



Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided (including a vegetarian option). Please bring your own place setting and a side dish or dessert to share. Food can be dropped off in the kitchen before the service, if you wish.

October Deadline for 2018 Malawi Trip



We are planning to send a delegation to Domasi, Malawi the summer of 2018 to visit our sister church, the Jeanes Church. We have received new guidelines, with an earlier deadline, for submitting a travel request from the Shelbyville Keilman Trust Committee. The earlier deadline means that anyone interested in traveling next summer will need to make a commitment by October 2017. The Mission Committee will remind everyone in early fall, but please give next year's trip your prayerful consideration and make your interest known as early as possible. Also, see page 3.

Help Teach Sunday School



Children and Youth Ministries is seeking volunteers to help teach Sunday School on Sunday mornings for our youth. We use a rotational model so this can be a short-term commitment of only a few weeks, and we will train and support all teachers. And it's fun! Please contact Cindy Ottemann at cjottabb@yahoo.com or call the church office.

Adult Bible Study

Sundays at **8:15 a.m.** in Meeting Room B which is next to the church office on the main floor. We are currently studying the book of First Peter.



Food & More Program Request for July:

OATMEAL



Malawi Church Trips

Did you know there have been more than nine trips to Malawi by church members and over 50 people have represented our church in Malawi?

Trips and participants are listed below.

1998 – Don and Donna Mason

2001 –

John and Beth Chato

Joan Freestone

Steve Hankel

Judy Hartley

The Holloways

Morris Kessler

Jim and Chris Locher

Don and Donna Mason

Darryl Silver

Bea Strozak

2002 –

Steve Hankel

Jim and Chris Locher

Nadine Neucks

Julia Strehlow



2004 –

Jon and Joan Brenizer

Chris and Jim Locher

Richard and Beverly Martin

Don and Donna Mason

2007 –

Carl Altstetter

Jim and Irene Brown

Cindy Fraser

Michael Frerichs

Steve Hankel

Judy Hartley

Don and Donna Mason

Dennis Roberts

2011 –

Stephen Badger

John Dimit

Steve Hankel (joined for part)

Katherine Kusssmaul

Eric and Jamie Peterson

Susan and Kyle Silver

2013 –

Katie Cawley

John Dimit III

Shari and Emma Hall

Katherine Kusssmaul

Eric and Matt Peterson

Margaret Ross

Will Smith

2015 –

Steve Hankel and Barb Man

(separate trip)

John Dimit

Deborah Owen

Jamie, Eric, and Nora Peterson

Will Smith

2016 –

John Dimit

Mindy and Autumn Ellis

Deborah Owen

Derek Peterson

Matthew McCarthy

Marilyn Querry

Darryl, Susan, and Kyle Silver

Lauren and Will Smith

**How about you
next time? Talk
with anyone who
has gone.**

*See "October Deadline . . ." on page 2 for
important information about the next trip.*

Church Family



In the Church Family

Let us remember in our prayers:

- Jo Cochran (home)
- Dave Sherwood (home)

A Note from Harold: Guither “I would like to thank everyone who came to my 90th birthday reception Saturday [June 10], and to thank you for your many cards and personal greetings. All were very much appreciated!!”

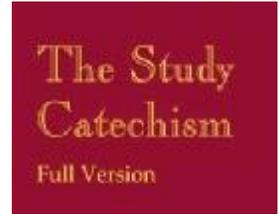
With sadness we share the news that long-time member **Virginia Bradford** passed away Friday, June 16. A memorial service was held Saturday, June 24 in our church sanctuary, with the Rev. Connie Bandy officiating. Please keep Virginia’s family, including her three nieces, in your prayers.



Congratulations! Jordan Dimit and Brianne Schrage were united in marriage in our sanctuary on **June 10**, with Rev. John Powell officiating. We celebrate this joyous occasion with Jordan’s parents John and Angie Dimit and all church members who helped raise Jordan and wish the couple well as they make their new home in Indianapolis.

Are You Curious . . . ?

Are you curious about *The Study Catechism*, from which we have been repeating selected sections as Affirmations of Faith during worship? This catechism, subtitled *Full Version*, along with two others, one for children and one for confirmation, were approved by the PC(USA) in 1998. The Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms were already included in the *Book of Confessions*.



The Study Catechism: Full Version consists of 134 questions and answers. The introduction points out that “Catechisms are not intended to be the final word but the opening exchanges in a dialogue of faith that carries the conversation broader and deeper.”

A copy of *The Study Catechism* is available for checkout on the new book shelf in the church library, if you are even more curious.

—Ann Ricker, Librarian

Sunday Assisting Schedule

	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30	August 6
Worship Leader	Don Uchtmann	Nancy Morse	Wayne Badger	Lauren Smith	TBD
Head Usher	Harold Guither	Andy Harden	Don Wendel	Jason Harris	TBD
Ushers	Fran Welch David Kay Marilyn Kay	Rob Gorham Laurie Gorham Liz Greeley Don Greeley	Jamie Ellis Autumn Ellis Isaac Ellis	Camille Caldwell Carl Caldwell Ann Ricker	TBD
Greeter	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Steward	Warren Hapke	TBD	Chris Todd	Marty Lampman	Marty Lampman
Coffee Maker	Karen Mortensen	TBD	Beth Chato	Cindy Strehlow	TBD
Cup Washer	Karen Mortensen	TBD	Beth Chato	Cindy Strehlow	TBD
Communion Table	<i>Flower Dedication available</i>	<i>Flower Dedication available</i>	<i>Flower Dedication available</i>	<i>Flower Dedication available</i>	Communion

Spiritual Retreats

Know Your PCUSA National Conference Centers

The PCUSA has three national conference centers in addition to many local camps and conference centers, such as our own Camp Carew in southern Illinois. The national conference centers offer a wide variety of programming in distinct locales.



Stony Point, New York

This is a smaller conference center in New York State. I don't have any personal experience with it. The PCUSA website notes that it has recently had strong leadership aimed at increasing the variety of its conference offerings. Its website is: stonypointcenter.org



Ghost Ranch, Abuquiu, New Mexico

This place was a favorite of former pastor Don and Donna Mason. It is in a beautiful desert setting. There are a wide variety of courses and conferences throughout the year for people of all ages. Some members of our congregation have attended courses there and may wish to share experiences via a future Open Door submission. Its website is: ghostranch.org



Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, North Carolina

I have a lot of experience with this one. It is located in the low mountains of western North Carolina. I have helped with summer youth conferences there annually for the past 15-20 years. Our own youth go for a week every other summer. These youth conferences bring together 600-1200 high school youth for a week of worship, study, small group reflections, and fun. Keynote, worship, music, recreation, and leadership are always inspiring. My role has usually been as a Small Group Leader, meeting with 30 youth for about 13 hours throughout the week. I can't wait to go back every summer. In addition to the six summer youth weeks, there is a wide variety of conferences on other topics held throughout the year. I am told that the lake and campus are particularly beautiful in the winter. Its website is: montreat.org



— Don Greeley



Eclipse Event at Camp Carew

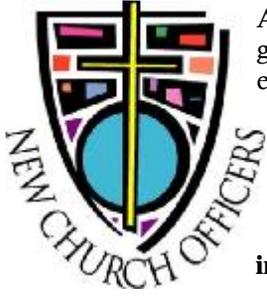
There is still space available to stay at Camp Carew to observe the Solar Eclipse on August 21. To make reservations call: 618-457-5596 or 1-800-456-7734.

Event Volunteers Needed

Camp Carew is seeking volunteers to staff the camp during the Eclipse Event. There are different shifts to suit the schedules for volunteers. So, whether you're a morning person or a night owl, we will gladly put you to work. Sheri Moberley is coordinating volunteers: SheriMo1@aol.com. Please contact her by August 1. See campcarew.org.



Prayers and Gratitude



At our Annual Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, June 11, new elders, deacons, and nominating committee members were elected and we recognized Class of 2017 elders, deacons, and nominating committee members. **Please keep in your prayers these leaders who are serving our church:**

Session

Moderator: Rev. David Oliver-Holder

Class of 2018

Continuing Elders

Jamie Ellis	Barb Mann	Chris Todd
Marty Lampman	Cindy Strehlow	Nancy Uchtmann

Class of 2018

New Elders – One Year Term

Malia Baker (youth elder) Lauren Smith

Class of 2019

New Elders – Two Year Term

Don Greeley	Cindy Ottemann	Don Uchtmann
David Mies	Eric Peterson	
Karen Mortensen	Joan Sheppard	

The next Session meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 3.

Deacons

Class of 2018

Continuing Deacons

Jo Cochran	Liz Greeley	Ann Ricker
Cindy Fraser	Don Murphy	Bob Sheward

Class of 2019

New Deacons – Two Year Term

Jason Harris	Iris Marcum	Susan Silver
Gary Jackson	Sandy Nieman	Barbara Wright

The Deacons will meet July 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

2018 Nominating Committee

Jamie Ellis, chair	Cindy Fraser
Isaac Ellis (youth)	Jamie Peterson

Three slots are open and they will be filled in time for work to begin next year. Contact Jamie if you are interested.



Thank You Class of 2017 Elders for your service!

Don Greeley	David Mies	Eric Peterson
Shari Hall	Karen Mortensen	
Steven Hall	Cindy Ottemann	

Thank You Class of 2017 Deacons for your service!

Donna Barkley	Sandra Nieman	Barbara Wright
Jason Harris	Eva Steger	

Thank You to Our 2017 Nominating Committee

John Dimit	Don Greeley	Fran Welch
Jamie Ellis, chair	Jamie Peterson	Don Wendel
Autumn Ellis (youth)	Ann Ricker (Deacons)	

Coming Soon: New Church Directories

Please contact the church office if your address, phone, or email address has changed. Of course, we would like to also be kept updated throughout the year, as well.



Church Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff – Rev. Dr. David Oliver-Holder
david@FirstPresUrbana.org

Financial Administrator – Rachel Gladden
rachel@FirstPresUrbana.org

Office Manager – Tracy Weddle
office@FirstPresUrbana.org

Sexton – Steve Johnson, sjohnson@FirstPresUrbana.org

Director of Music – position open

Organist – Ted Turner

Media Support Specialist – Nani Baker
nbaker@firstpresurbana.org

Children’s Choir & Junior Handbell Choir Director –
Jennifer Immke, jenykate14@hotmail.com

Guitarist – position open

High School Youth Fellowship Leader – Brian Summers

Toddler/Preschool Caregiver – position open

Nursery Caregiver – Skylar Matteson

AV Technician Coordinator – Ed King

Tenor Section Leader – Alphonse Kiu

OUR KEY MESSAGES

Welcome to our church family!

God is doing *exciting* things here!

Choose a path: **Have an impact & feed your soul!**

Thanks to Lois Guither and Shirley J. Walker for preparing this Open Door for mailing.

Open Door Deadline: For inclusion in the next Open Door, items should be submitted by **Thursday, August 3** to office@firstpresurbana.org. The Open Door will be mailed on **Wednesday, August 9, 2017**.

First Presbyterian Church of Urbana

602 W Green St, Urbana, IL 61801

(217) 367-8357

www.FirstPresUrbana.org

Find Us on Facebook

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Address Service Requested

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