



first edition

First Presbyterian Church Saint Joseph, Missouri, 64501
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HOLDING FORTH THE WORD OF LIFE

Welcome the Rev. David Stark

At the Congregational Meeting following worship on June 20, 2021, the members present voted unanimously to call the Rev. David Stark to be our next pastor.

Worship News

We are resuming weekly in-person worship in July. **Worship 10:30 a.m.**

Sunday, July 4, the **Rev. Alex Wales**, Guest Preacher
Sunday, July 11, the **Rev. David Stark**

In April, anticipating return to worship, Session passed the following motion:
"Covid precautions will be observed. Masks and social distancing will be required. There will be no communion, passing the peace, congregational singing, passing the offering plate, or fellowship hour."

Because Covid cases and hospitalizations are increasing in Saint Joseph, Session reaffirmed that motion at their June meeting.

Congratulations to our New Officers

At the Congregational Meeting we also elected our new officers who will serve from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. The full boards are as follows:

Elders

Class of 2022: Dave Lichliter, Dan Trifan, Natalie Ward
Class of 2023: Becky Hampton, Michael Jasper, Jan Storts
Class of 2024: Karen Parham, Jerry Reeves, Diane Watson

Deacons

Class of 2022: Susie Burmont, Pat Harding, Sue Lichliter
Class of 2023: Martha Chesney, George Fountain, Leslie Graves
Class of 2024: Ruth Fountain, Cheryl Rasmussen, Jan Theilen

Congrats!





What a wonderful weekend it was for me to come to FPC, and meet many of you for the first time. I am grateful to be called to join you, as the designated pastor, for the next season of ministry in St. Joseph. As I prepare to join you on the weekend of July 11th, I am hopeful about the future of our joint work of ministry and service together, building on all the work and labor of

love that has happened before this moment in time at FPC. I have been praying consistently for that future ever since I left to come tie up strings in Minneapolis, and journey down to St. Joseph to the community which we will jointly be a part of, going forward. In my time of prayer, I took time to look over the lectionary texts for this coming week of July 4th. One of them summarized what my hope is as this new adventure together begins. In 2 Samuel 5, a new point of unity happens between the tribes of Judah and the tribes of Israel. David has just led the people around him in Hebron in mourning the loss of the king of Israel, and

his most important right-hand person, Abner. At that point, as an act of the leadership of Israel, they joined with the leadership of Judah to unite at one nation again. Together they made a covenant (a commitment) to build the nation into a great one, all together as one.

It is my hope that we, all together, will rebuild and build a thriving church at F.P.C. Doing that will accomplish many great things. Psalm 48, a Psalm in our lectionary, mentions a few of the wonderful benefits of a great church:

In the church, we meditate on the unfailing love of God

In the church, we can tell the next generations about the love, acceptance, and mercy of God

In the church, we can be guided every day of our lives, until the end of time

There is so much more to say about the incredible great force of a thriving church, which, by God's grace, we will work together to see unfold again, before our eyes.

See all of you soon,

David

Thank You from the Worship & Mission Teams

Thanks to those who have been continuing to keep the ministry of First Presbyterian going at the Food Kitchen, Faith in Action, Meals on Wheels, and bringing food to the church for sharing in the Little Free Pantry!

Thanks to persons who have participated in supporting the worship services by helping with open/close, sound system, liturgist, greeter/usher, flowers, setting up the sanctuary, and for our very gifted cantors!! Thanks to those who prepared and set up the bulletin and contacted support people!

We also are grateful that the Rev. Alex Wales has led our First Sunday services and that Tom Wilcoxson is serving as guest organist.

Additionally, many thanks for prayers, time and financial support for continued work and mission of First Presbyterian, including our four special offerings which so significantly provide the hands and feet of the work of Jesus Christ in the world.

Special thanks to the Board of Deacons for all their work setting up meals for families who had memorial services for family members during the past several weeks. And for arranging the reception for the Rev. David Stark on Saturday before he preached.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 John Seymour
Judy Long
- 3 Mary Jo Hornaday
- 11 Betty Moles Specker
- 12 Colton Davis
- 16 Nancy Duggins
- 18 Leslie Speiser
- 19 Mike Perry
- 23 Richard Ward
- 25 Thea Ide

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Gary and Sue Patterson
- 16 Dick and Lana Gibson
- 28 Lee and Alice Osborne
- 29 Jim and Terry Wallerstedt

NOTE FROM NANCY DUGGINS

“Just wanted to give an update that Tom is now recovering at home. We want to thank everyone for their prayers.”



NOTE FROM JANICE & DAVE NEUMANN

First Presbyterian Church,
 Dan, Terresa, and many others
 I am writing to thank you
 for your support when my
 father, James Rockwood,
 passed away.
 Your team was so kind
 in providing lunch for
 our family, the lovely
 bulletin, and the amazing
 music during Dad's
 funeral.

It brought me great
 comfort that both my
 parents were able to
 have their funerals at
 First Presbyterian.
 After their retirement,
 they embraced First
 Presbyterian when they
 moved to St Joseph.
 Thank you for everything
 Gratefully, Janice & Dave
 Neumann

