

THE COURIER NEWSLETTER

Seeking to be a living testimony to God's love, grace, and mercy.

The SFPC Session met on March 17, 2024, and Elders Beth Avent, Carol Banks, Alice Delambre, Mary Elizabeth Stivers, Lindsey Kimbleton, Bill Kirkland, Rob Moore, Joseph Schmidt, and George Seay were in attendance. Rev. Terry Lester was the Moderator of the meeting.

After the Opening Prayer and declaration of a Quorum, the Minutes of the Sessions February 18, 2024 stated meeting were approved. Correspondence from Chenault & Hoge reported an increase in the annual premium and deductible for SFPC's insurance policy. The increase in the deductible was due to the insurance company's payment of claims resulting from substantial wind damage due to storms in 2022 and 2023.

Sadly, Noel Jones was removed from SFPC's active membership rolls. Noel passed away on February 23, 2024, and he will certainly be missed.

Committee reports were presented, including the following: Budget & Stewardship-George Seay reported that the Stewardship Campaign was concluded, and, importantly, the committee's recommendation of a final budget of \$248,520 was unanimously approved by the Session. Outreach, Evangelism & Communication - the committee's recommendation to approve the following special denominational offerings in 2024 was unanimously approved: One Great Hour of Sharing at Easter; the Pentecost offering in May; Peace & Global Witness in the fall and the Joy Gift Offering at Christmas. With respect to the live-streaming of the Sunday Service, training to improve the live-streaming was provided by Video Solutions. SFPC will be participating in Earth Day (April) and Unity in the Community (June) events. The committee will be requesting a number of charities to provide information concerning needs for funding so that it can make decisions on benevolences.

Marty Schmidt and Rob Moore attended the Presbytery of Mid-Ky meeting held on February 24, 2024 as SFPC's Commissioners, and provided a report of the meeting. One very interesting item concerned grants of up to \$100,000 that are available to churches in the Presbytery for projects or programs that are designed to generate long-lasting growth in membership. The purpose of the grants are to encourage the development of ideas that once-proven can be self-funded thereafter by the grant recipient and replicated in other churches with a higher level of confidence of success. For example, the First Presbyterian Church of Glasgow has started the Glasgow Presbyterian String Academy to enhance the lives of its youth through music. SFPC will review the possibility of applying for a grant.

The next scheduled Session meeting-Sunday, April 21, 2024. "God shall be my hope, my stay, my guide, and lantern to my feet." William Shakespeare Rob Moore, Clerk of Session

First Presbyterian is doing a Lenten Study that will meet each Tuesday evening at 6:00 PM between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week.

Rev. Silence has chosen to select topics from the book, BEYOND DOUBT; Questions Christians Ask, written by Dr. Cornelius Plantingia. Participants do not need to purchase a book



Everyone has been invited to join them. A light supper will be provided.





Palm Sunday Hosanna to the Highest!



These Days are here for April-June. They are on the table in the foyer near the Third Street entrance and on the tables in the Sanctuary.







An Invitation from the Sunshine Center,

our neighbor at 208 Steele Street. Next Saturday, March 30, the Sunshine Center, a nonprofit organization, will have a **Spring Fling** <u>from 12 noon until 6p.m.</u> outside at the Center.

They plan an afternoon filled with fun activities, including the Easter Bunny, a Build-a-Basket activity, food, local vendors and organizations.

Come join their fun and help show our support this worthy nonprofit organization. A strong turn-out will encourage the Center to have another event next year for the joy of the neighborhood children! *Alice Delambre*



SFPC Easter Activities

Please join us on **Good Friday** (3/29) at Cove Springs at 5 pm to commemorate the crucifixion and celebrate the resurrection. The church will be serving pizza. If you desire, bring a salad, dessert or something to share. Sign up & RSVP here detailing the food item and your plans to attend: <u>https:forms.gle/8z1aiD8eiWo7qGkn7</u>

After dinner we will be going on a hike and gathering items to build fairy and gnome houses. Together, children and adults will enjoy building a tiny village out of the gathered natural materials. Everyone will take home their very own handmade cross to remember this day. We hope you will join us in fellowship, food and fun.

On **Easter Sunday** (3/31), the children's Sunday school classes will engage in a scavenger Easter egg hunt during their Sunday school class. If you want to contribute to this activity, please prepare 10 filled Easter eggs and place them in the Fellowship Hall by Saturday (3/30). *Lindsey Kimbleton*

Memorial Donations In Memory of Noel Jones The Shaw Family Dorothy Buchanan Bill and Kay Kirkland Ann Disney Dr. and Mrs. Charles Bradshaw In Memory of Vivian Lester The Shaw Family In Memory of Hannah Hayes The Shaw Family

March 3 Robert Bryan March 3 Peter Croswell March 5 Dorothy Herzel March 9 Chase Sweger March 9 Jonathan Philpot-II March 11 Sarah Tharpe March 12 Fred Bebe March 17 Ann Croswell March 17 Colleen Pomper	Happy March Birthdays
March 17 Colleen Pomper	
March 17 Diana Andrews March 18 Mary Cheek	
March 18 George Perry	
March 19 Robert Walker Hall	
March 19 Rev. Terry Lester	
March 21 Brenda Duvall	
March 26 Kendall Brown	
March 26 Hannah Metzger	
March 29 Jonathan Philpot	

THINK WASHCLOTHS

Mid-Ky Presbytery has taken on the task of filling 1,000 Personal Hygiene Kits to be used by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for those in need. SFPC's role in this project is to supply 300 washcloths for the kits.

There will be a box in Fellowship Hall where you can place your washcloths. (Big Lots has a nice 9 pack for \$4.99.)

This would be a great project for Sunday School classes or the Youth Group! In addition if anyone would like to volunteer to take the washcloths to Beulah Presbyterian Church in Louisville or would like to help assemble the kits there Saturday, April 13, please let Marty Schmidt know.



Thank you, *The Outreach Committee*