

FIRST MERIDIAN HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FROM PASTOR BOB



Discerning God's Will Together

From June 16 to June 23 the General assembly of the PCUSA met in St. Louis. The General Assembly is the largest governing body of our denomination. The Session of the local church is the local governing body. The Presbytery is a geographical region of

churches and the next bigger governing body. We are a part of Whitewater Valley Presbytery. The Synod is a group of presbyteries. We are a part of the Synod of Lincoln Trails that includes churches in Indiana and Illinois. The General Assembly is a gathering of Ruling Elders and Teaching elders (Pastors) from all the presbyteries.

The General Assembly is composed of commissioners — equal numbers of ministers and ruling elders — elected by their presbyteries. Sometimes people say about General Assembly or Presbytery “they did this” and “they said that.” Who are “they”? They are Elders and Ministers just like you and me. And so “they” are in fact “us.”

These ministers and ruling elders are called “commissioners,” not “delegates” because their commitment is to “reflect the mind of Christ ... and the transforming love of God, enabling us to discern God’s will together.” (This is also true for Elders on Session.) Commissioners do not represent their presbytery in the sense of voting the way they think their presbytery would. They participate in the process of careful discernment of what God through Jesus Christ is saying to the church today. That’s

why prayer and worship are so central to the life of the General Assembly.

A report of the actions of the General Assembly will be available in July. Business comes to the General Assembly in basically one of three ways:

1. Reports — Agencies, special committees and commissions of the General Assembly report on the work they have done since the previous General Assembly, to which they are all accountable.

2. Overtures — Overtures are resolutions on various topics that have been submitted to the General Assembly by presbyteries or synods seeking action by the whole church. Every overture must receive concurrence by another presbytery or synod to be considered by the Assembly.

3. Commissioners’ resolutions — These are submitted by any two commissioners to the General Assembly on matters that are of great interest to those commissioners and which they believe have not been addressed in reports or by overtures.

Most of the 500-plus business items that come to each General Assembly bubble up from within the church; they are not part of a top-down agenda by church bureaucrats. And relatively few items at each General Assembly generate any controversy at all.

Sometimes people say, “The General Assembly doesn’t speak for me.” This is true in a way they probably do not intend.

(continued on page 3)



Where kids grow up and adults don't have to.

Join us for Messy Church

Second Wednesday every month

5:30 - 7 PM



FIRST MERIDIAN HEIGHTS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
47th & Central Ave.

Connect/RSVP with us
@FMHPC

FMHPC.org/Messy-Church

Our next Messy Church is event is Wednesday, July 11, at 5:30 p.m. We hope you'll come and invite friends for activities, food, fun, and Christ's love! This month we're having a belated Independence Day celebration with a Messy Freedom theme!

Adults and kids will have the chance to...

- Hear a brief story about Christ's freedom
- Participate in Messy Freedom crafts:
 - Paint American Flag Crosses
 - Create Rainbow Dancing Rings
 - Color Patriotic Bible Verse Coloring Sheets
- Explore freedom through Christian dance fitness (dress in comfortable clothes for dancing)
- Light sparklers - we'll close the evening with this activity and sparkler shields will be provided to protect little ones' hands. This portion of the event will be outside, so please dress accordingly.

Messy Church dinner is free and will include the freedom of choice between hot dogs, veggie dogs and brats on the grill!

If you have questions, please contact [Ginger Lippert](#) (or at 317-439-6868). We look forward to getting messy with you at FMHPC!

Northwood Food Pantry

Needs for July/August are chunk white chicken in water (5 oz cans) and diapers (newborn through size 6)

Click [here](#) for a list of all food pantry need.

Do you have a free Saturday morning? First Meridian Heights serves the Northwood Food Pantry on the second, fourth, and fifth (if there is one) Saturday of each month. If you're able to volunteer, contact the church office at (317) 283-1305. THANK YOU!

Community Garden

Throughout the summer we'll need help tending to the garden that will provide food for the Northwood Christian Church food pantry. If you can assist with garden maintenance this season, please contact [Katie Marlowe](#).

Are you able to collect offering, serve as a greeter, or assist with communion? If yes, we have dates for you! Please click on one of the links below to sign up. At this time, most of June (in all areas) still needs to be filled.

Thank you for serving!

Offering:

signupgenius.com/go/30e084da5ae2da64-collecting1

Greeter:

signupgenius.com/go/20f0d48a4a628a4fe3-fmhgreeters

Communion:

signupgenius.com/go/30e084da5ae2da64-communion1

Pastor Bob Out of the Office

Pastor Bob will be out of the office from **July 2 to July 14**. In his absence, Pastor Steve Ebling (317-727-4144) will be available for pastoral support from **July 2 to July 7**, and Pastor Dave Jackson (317-560-0221) will be available from **July 8 to July 14**. Pastor Bob will be available again starting **July 15**.

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Communion Worship Service, 10am •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	2 •Pastor Bob Out of Office until July 17 •Mission Outreach Team Mtg., 6:30pm, Parlor	3	4 •Independence Day, Office Closed	5	6 •The Algebra Project, noon to 5 pm, Community Room	7
8 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am •Deacons Mtg., 11am, Parlor •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	9 •Communications/Marketing Team Mtg., 5:30pm, Parlor •Buildings & Grounds Mtg., 6:30pm, Library •Finance Mtg., 7pm, Parlor	10	11 •Messy Church, 5:30 to 7pm, Community Room	12	13 •The Algebra Project, noon to 5 pm, Community Room	14 •Food Pantry, 8:45am
15 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	16 •Pastor Bob Back in Office •Session Mtg., 7 to 9pm, Library	17	18 •Women of Grace, 7 to 8:30pm, Parlor	19	20 •The Algebra Project, noon to 5 pm, Community Room	21
22 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am; •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	23 •Content Due for August Newsletter	24	25	26	27 •The Algebra Project, noon to 5 pm, Community Room	28 •Food Pantry, 8:45am
29 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	30	31				

First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church

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 Rev. Bob McAulay (317) 513-5148
 Custodian: Ron Elliott (765) 524-3516
 Assistant Custodian: Natasha Nix, (317) 960-2619
 Music Coordinator: Art Cantrell, theartofmusic@hotmail.com
 Business Administrator: Alexis Gonzales, alexis@fmhpc.org
 Administrative Assistant: Trish Hawkins, fmhpc@live.com

Our Mission Statement:

To serve, love and grow in the ever-widening circle of Christ's grace.

Submission deadline for August newsletter is Monday, July 23. Please submit content to the church office at fmhpc@live.com.



fmhpc.org



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instagram.com/fmhpcchurch (FirstMeridianHeightsPC)