



SteepleTalk

June 2009

From the Pastor...

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**Member Care
Volunteer**

Judy Leonard

**Deacon of Month/
Visiting Deacons**

Linda Bramhall
Judy Denney

**Steepletalk
Deadline**

June 26th

Circle Meeting

Meetings will resume in
September

Mission Co-workers

Roger & Gloria Marriott
Ted & Sue Wright

June is the beginning of summer vacations, picnics, pool parties, cookouts, sports, and many other wonderful outdoor activities. I also like to do a lot of reading during the evenings of these relaxing days of summer. I especially enjoy reading mystery novels by David Baldacci, John Grisham, James Patterson, Michael Crichton, John Sandford, and many others.

I also like mystery and action movies. I went to see "Angels & Demons," which stars Tom Hanks and Ewan McGregor. The story centers on a plot by the Illuminati, a secret society of intellectuals, who are intent on gaining revenge for a brutal massacre of their predecessors by the Church centuries ago. Although the society once existed, there is no historical evidence that its members were butchered by Catholics.

I found the movie intriguing, exciting, suspenseful, an edge-of-the seat thriller. The mystery holds your attention till the very end. However, there has been some criticism of the movie as to its portrayal of the Roman Catholic Church. I did not find it offensive at all. One must remember, whether reading a fiction novel or watching a fiction movie, it is all about entertainment. It's a story!

The movie did not offend my faith in Christ or cause me to think less of the Roman Catholic Church. If someone finds this offensive to their faith, then their faith must be very weak. I try to look at the positive side of this type of entertainment. At least it causes people to think about God, the church, and hopefully their personal relationship with God. That's a good thing!

I hope you enjoy your summer time with family and friends, and remember we still worship at First Presbyterian Church at 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. every Sunday. Please join us!

Blessings,
Dr. Cheetham

Always

God will always forgive us,
No matter how often we ask.
God will always empower us
With strength for whatever the task.
God will never forsake us,
If we stumble or lose our way.
God always is loving us dearly,
In a glorious and wonderful way!

Knitting for Orphans in South Africa

The Knit Wits at FPC started a new project this spring to help provide blankets for orphans in South Africa. The group is making 8" knit squares for the Knit-A-Square organization. This organization began in October 2008 with the purpose of providing blankets for children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic and extreme poverty. The organization works with Hotel Hope, which provides food, shelter and love to children infected with or affected with or affected by HIV/AIDS. Knit-A-Square receives hand-knit and crocheted squares from around the world and turns them over to the Soweto Comfort Club to sew the blankets together. Although the squares can be made from synthetic or blended yarns, 100% wool squares are required for children who live in conditions where an open flame is the heat or light source. Wool singes when exposed to flame, but it does not melt and cause severe burns as the synthetic yarns would.

After sending 30 squares off in May, the Knit Wits have exhausted their supply of 100% wool yarn. If you have wool yarn languishing in the closet and would like to see it used for a good cause, please bring it by the church office. Anyone who would like to participate in the project can contact a member of Knit Wits for a basic pattern and more information, or join the group in the church library any Tuesday between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Monroe Harding

On Father's Day, Sunday June 21st, most will celebrate the impact that fathers have had in our lives. Unfortunately, not everyone in our community can rejoice in the positive light a father brings to one's life. Monroe Harding is that positive influence to many at-risk-youth. You are asked to remember those in the community who need you to provide the unconditional love that has been lacking in so many of their lives. We will collect a special offering for Monroe Harding on Sunday, June 21st.

Publicity

Betty Clay has volunteered to write some articles for the newspapers about our church activities. It would be helpful if you would send information to her about the activities you are helping with. You can hand her information or send it to her at her e-mail address which is bcseek@juno.com. Your help will be appreciated.

Volunteer to Host an AFS Student

The Mississippi Tennessee Kentucky Area of the American Field Service (AFS) would like for you to consider hosting an international high school exchange student for the 2009-2010 school year. New AFS students will arrive the first week in August.

For more information, contact Jenny Myers, host coordinator, at jmyers@watkins.edu or 615-385-9644. To begin the application process on line, go to www.afs.org/usa and fill out the Form A and click on "hosting."

Volunteers are also needed to work with the students and the host families throughout the year. You may register on the local website <http://misstennky.org> or contact Becky Heywood, volunteer coordinator, at AFSBecky@comcast.net.

Full biographies are available on the AFS students placed in our community but still needing host families. Contact Becky Heywood or Jenny Myers for this information.

Please share this request with others who might be willing to host an international student.

Jenny Myers
MissTennKy Area AFS
Volunteer Leadership Team
Hosting Coordinator



**Giving Small,
Making a
BIG
Difference**

At the February Presbytery meeting, it was announced that First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon ranked second in the Presbytery in the amount given in 2008 to the 4 Cents/ 5 Cents-a-Meal program of the Presbytery. Thank you for your continued support to help feed the hungry here in Middle Tennessee. Last year, 13 agencies were awarded hunger grants for a total of \$22,000.

Prayer Breakfast June 20th

The monthly prayer breakfast will be on Saturday, June 20th at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to join as we gather to have breakfast with one another and a time of devotion and prayer. The church will provide coffee and donuts; feel free to bring any additional breakfast foods with you.

Congratulations to our graduates

Amy Adams from Pope John Paul II
Sara Hay from Friendship Christian Academy
Lauren Hay from Tennessee Tech University
Nicholas White from Tennessee Tech University



Vacation Bible School June 14-18

Crocodile Dock will have your kids romping in a swamp full of fun! Take a romp through

the swamp! This bayou Vacation Bible School is a ragin' celebration! So hop on a flat-bottom boat and drift on lazy, hazy waters under tall cypress trees--until the big adventure begins. Please contact the church office to sign up or sign up in the upcoming bulletin.

Sounds Game Sunday, June 28th

"Take me out to the ball game, take me out to the crowd..." You know that you want to join us in singing this song together at the Nashville Sounds game on Sunday, June 28th. It's "Faith Night," so come and join us for a concert before the game at 4:30 p.m., and then watch the Sounds take on the Oklahoma City Redhawks at 6:00 p.m. Our plan is to get group tickets, so please let Kristy know if you would like to join us by Thursday, June 11th. The cost is \$10 which includes your ticket to the concert, the game, a hot dog, and a drink. What a deal! It also is \$1 Ice Cream Sundae night, mmmmm! So, please come and join us for this great night out to cheer on the Sounds!!

From the Associate Pastor...

I want you to take a trip down memory lane with me. I want you to think back to when you were a kid or maybe when your children were kids. There was always that one week of the summer that was devoted to something so fun and so faith filled. There were stories, there were games, and there was lots fun! That's right your remembering Vacation Bible School!! Like me, I bet you can close your eyes and remember the people who were at VBS and what you did. I remember making a bunch of crafts that I was never good at, learning tons of songs (if you ask I could still sing them because I remember them to this day), having fun with my friends, and being taught by some adults that I actually still confide in. Vacation Bible School is an important time for children to learn about the Bible and what it means to a Christian. It is a very important time in the life of the church because it is a time for all of us to explore our faith with our friends and fellow neighbors no matter how old we are!

This year's Vacation Bible School will be this summer during the week of *June 14th to 18th* during the evenings. Our theme is... (drum roll please) **Crocodile Dock!!** We will have Bible stories, games, crafts, music, and so much more. But all we need know is kids to participate and adults to help nurture, guide, teach our children. So if you have kids or know kids that would want to come, please mark this date down in your calendar and tell them about it. If you are an adult, sign up to help our children explore their faith, and enjoy your presence and company. Vacation Bible School is not something that functions on its own, it needs the whole church to work. Please call the office and tell Kristy that you want to be on a list of volunteers for VBS. So do not forget to mark down June 14th to 18th for **Crocodile Dock**. Come volunteer to change someone's life and become a part of memory that they can look back on one day!

Grace and Peace,
Nick

May Session Highlights

- Stuart and Sarah Miller were welcomed into membership at First Presbyterian Lebanon. Sarah will be baptized on May 31, 2009.
- Sheleah Gardner was welcomed into membership at First Presbyterian Lebanon. She will make her profession of faith on May 24, 2009.
- The Treasurer reported that April offerings were \$20,043.00.
- The bank balance as of April 30, 2009 was \$42,655.22.
- Approval was given to install a new HVAC system in the current A/C room near the courtyard, and to use any necessary courtyard space, due to the City of Lebanon codes requirements that we stay within the footprint of our building. This would eliminate the need for a boiler in the basement.
- The sanctuary cross will remain on brackets and will be raised ten inches on the wall.
- The Worship committee reported that the May 31st service will be a combined Pentecost service at 10:00 with a pot luck lunch to follow.
- The Deacons raised over \$1,100 for youth programs at the yard sale.
- First Presbyterian Lebanon plans to send 11 youth to the Middle School Conference July 22 – July 26th.
- Elders Bill Hamby and Dot Jenkins attended the May 7th Presbytery meeting. The Presbytery voted against the Amendment B change which would have deleted the chastity language from the ordination requirements.
- Terry McDonald will chair the committee for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of our church building, which will be in 2010. A baptismal font will be placed in fellowship hall for the early service.

FPC Lunch Break

Come and join Nick and other members of the church as they gather for Lunch Break at Crave Café and Bookstore, two Thursdays this month, June 11th and June 15th. Feel free to drop in anytime between 11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. for a time of lunch, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

Lectionary Readings

June 7	Isaiah 6: 1-8 Romans 8: 12-17 John 3: 1-17
June 14	1 Samuel 15: 34—16: 13 2 Corinthians 5: 6-17 Mark 4: 26-34
June 21	1 Samuel 17: 1a, 4-11, 19-23 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41
June 28	2 Samuel 1: 1, 17-27 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15 Mark 5: 21-43

Cedar Forest Ministry

This year we are sharing the responsibility of the Cedar Forest Ministry with other churches in Lebanon. Our church is responsible for the first two Sundays (May 24 and 31) and the last two Sundays (August 30 and September 6.) Please sign up on the board in the hall outside the library if you would like to be involved in this ministry of fellowship and outreach. If you have any questions, please contact Richard Hartwell.

New Members

We welcome our newest members:

Sheleah Gardner who joined our congregation by reaffirmation of faith on May 24th

Stuart and Sarah Miller on May 31st. Stuart joined by profession of faith and Sarah joined by baptism and profession of faith.

Internet Ministry

Do you want to be involved with the church but don't want to go to all the meetings with all the committees? Do you like to communicate on the computer via E-mail?

Then you might be something that the church is looking for to communicate with the church via E-mail or though the church's web site. The different happenings in the church, like special events in the church, group activities, prayer requests, birthdays, anniversaries and anything else going on in our church family. We are just looking for volunteers that might want to start this up.

If interested contact Mark Sanders or Richard Hartwell.

June 2009

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<u>Sunday</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:45 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 am Church School	9:30 am Morning Sewing Group 5:30 Building Com 6:00 Christian Ed. 6:00 Member Care 7:00 Outreach	3:30 pm Knitting	5:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir	6:30 pm Contemp		12:00 noon Abbotoy/ Spinney Wedding
7 Communion	8 9:30 am Morning Sewing Group 6:30 pm Southern Starrs	9 3:30 pm Knitting	10 5:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir	11 6:30 pm Contemp	12	13
14 3:00 pm Session Meeting	15 9:30 am Morning Sewing Group	16 3:30 pm Knitting	17 5:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir	18 6:30 pm Contemp	19	20 8:30 am Prayer Breakfast
Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm—8:30 pm						
21 5:00 pm Deacon's Meeting	22 9:30 am Morning Sewing Group	23 3:30 pm Knitting	24 5:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir Gary on Vacation	25 6:30 pm Contemp	26 Steepletalk Deadline	27
28 4 Cents a Meal Gary on Vacation	29 9:30 am Morning Sewing Group	30 3:30 pm Knitting				