

Session Snapshots from the May 21, 2018 Session Meeting
Nancy Roberts, Clerk of Session

The Session was pleased to welcome the following 12 new members to the church: Tabitha Algren, Ava Buell, Emma Flora, Alistair Greenlee, Duncan Greenlee, Morgan Hard, Kailee Hard, Alec Hard, Carmine Lantz, Graci Murphy, Ryleigh. Schafer, and Brynach Simpson. Welcome new Confirmands!

The Session also noted the following baptisms: Adleigh Kensler (daughter of Jenna Rittenhouse and Austin Kensler), Aurora and Aleigha Figueroa (nieces of Richard and Lisa Ebert), Emma Flora (daughter of Krista Baumgardner and John Flora) and Ryleigh Schafer (daughter of Larry and Jennifer Schafer). Congratulations all!

Pastor Beau will be leading a new Sunday School class starting after Labor Day entitled “The Thoughtful Christian.” This will be a topic-based class dealing with issues that young adults (no age cutoff) are experiencing. His summer sermon series (beginning after Memorial Day) will be about the apostle Paul’s *Words of Encouragement*.

The Session discussed a new Building Use Policy. Don Flowers and Larry Forsbach have been working on this policy and it should aid in avoiding any confusion when opening our church to outside groups, church members, community organizations, etc. as well as knowing “when” the church will be available and to which group.

We discussed the possibility of a Fall Stewardship Campaign as well as a Capital Improvement Campaign. (It was noted that several capital improvements will be needed in the near future – a new boiler for the sanctuary, more needed roof repair, and handicap accessibility). We discussed the need to find ways to increase giving to pledges AND to giving to Capital Improvements while always being transparent and always encouraging the congregation to want to be involved in meeting the needs of our church.

In conclusion, the Session discussed the concept of a *small-group ministry*. Following this concept small groups of people (perhaps around 10 persons) would meet in member’s homes for Bible study (using scripture) and fellowship. This concept might help with our youth involvement in addition to our “young and older” adult involvement!

Vacation Bible School will be held in June and a Youth Mission Trip to Louisville, KY is being planned for July. Stops will include a visit to the PCUSA offices, lunch at Rocky’s Pizza, Louisville Caverns, a tram ride, dinner and then back to Urbana!

Exciting things are happening at The First Presbyterian Church – feel free to join us. . .

