



## Connect Newsletter

The Rev. Stephanie Knopf is on vacation. Her pastor's message will return in September. As summer fades, we invite you to enjoy the colors of August and recall the words of a well-known hymn.

*For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies;*

*Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.*





# Garden Angels Harvest Multiple Crops at PCW



Despite a blazing hot and dry June, and some near-flooding conditions in mid-July, our Mission Garden is yielding abundant crops . Once picked, cleaned, and bagged, the produce is donated to Loving Hearts food pantry in Washington. Pictured above, from left, are Steve Sebastian, David Brunworth and Kevin Carpenter on July 16, 2024.



Cleaning and bagging green beans are David Brunworth, Katie Collins, and Linda Booher. On the same day, they also harvested carrots, banana peppers, cucumbers, and tomatoes. Our garden needs and welcomes more workers. Contact the church office to be added to the Garden Angels email list.

## Outreach Committee Drives Our Desire To Inform the World About Our Church

Dr. Tom Farrell, a physician who first attended our church as a child and is now a grandfather, gets paid to diagnose health problems in his patients. He then recommends treatments or solutions. Tom uses some of those same skills in his volunteer position as the chairman of the PCW Outreach Committee.

Years before the Outreach Committee was founded, he had expressed the same concern to several church members. “We have a problem,” he said. “The Presbyterian Church of Washington is one of the best-kept secrets in Franklin County. We need to change that!”

Three years ago, with the enthusiastic support of Pastor Patrick Gruber, our Session authorized that an Outreach Committee be established, and its first meeting was held on July 27, 2021. Charter members were Tom as chairman, Ed Bonney, Denise Brauer, Aneeta Brown, Katie Farrell, Ian McCracken, and Jolene Patterson. The new committee—which replaced the Social Media Task Force Committee—immediately agreed that Outreach should be a combination of marketing, evangelism, and promotion of activities and events in our church. “Through the power of technology, we want to welcome people to our church regardless of whether they ever enter our building or not,” explained Tom during that first meeting.

Since then, the committee’s chief goal has not changed, just expanded. One of its first accomplishments was the most complicated: live streaming our worship service via the Internet so that anyone with a computer could “attend” on Sundays. This benefit to our church has required highly skilled people to run the equipment in our sound booth. And while announcements from the pulpit are standard fare before every worship service, Outreach knows that our church newsletters are necessary to convey detailed information. The “What’s Up” weekly email newsletter and “Connect” monthly newsletter have both been refreshed in recent months, and help keep the congregation informed. Both newsletters were also renamed through a congregational survey conducted by the Outreach Committee.



When the Church Life Committee hosted a spring brunch in March, Vivian Marshall, Sarah Spear, Linda Booher and other committee members wore their PCW shirts to identify themselves as hostesses. See page 5 for more information about the shirt project.

*Continued on page 4.*



“From the beginning, our committee has focused on doing a few things well rather than taking on many things,” commented Tom. “For example, there are literally hundreds of social media platforms. We have chosen to use Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram as our main platforms, knowing we can change in the future if necessary.” Committee member Katie Farrell has expertise in all three platforms and is the administrator for Instagram, her favorite. Instagram, nationally launched in 2010, can be either a public or private account and is primarily used for postings of photos and videos. Persons without an Instagram account can see a portion of our site by typing *Presbyterian Church Washington Mo Instagram* in Google. Katie welcomes photos from church members for possible use on Instagram. For security and privacy reasons, she is the only member allowed to post photos. Account users can respond to photos. “I find honest and positive responses to be satisfying,” added Katie.

The church doesn’t know how many people read a paper version of the Connect newsletter, but if the newsletter is opened via our church website, our website administrator can view the metrics to see how many people opened the newsletter link. Such information can be useful to the Outreach Committee. “Many examples come to mind,” commented Tom. “I can tell you that Facebook absolutely loves photos of David Brunworth and work he does in our church. One month last summer we had over 6,000 Facebook visitors. For one worship service this past May, the metrics revealed that 34 individual computers (with an average of 1.5 persons watching from the same computer) were tuned in. That means that 51 persons from all over the U.S. and abroad were watching us.”



In November 2021, the Outreach Committee hosted a B.Y.O.D. (Bring your Own Device) event. Following the worship service, the group enjoyed a free lunch and then attended a 2-hour workshop where they received personal instructions on how to access our church website, Facebook, and Instagram on their own devices. Standing from left are Katie Farrell, Pastor Pat Gruber, Tom Farrell, and Andrew Brehe.

*Continued on page 5.*

Managing our church's website is the committee's largest single media project, and everyone who's touched the keyboard agrees that the website is always a work in progress. One of the largest blocks of new material has been added by Steve Sebastian, co-chairman of the Cemetery Board. "Maintaining up-to-date information on the sale of cemetery plots and the rental fees for Fellowship Hall is a crucial tool for our members and non-members who need that information," noted Tom.

Non-tech committee projects have also broadened our church's presence. "For years, I heard comments about the awful yellow color of the knit shirts that had our old logo on them," recalled member Ian McCracken. "Replacing them took some time to find the right vendor and color, but we finally did it and sold several dozen to our members. Everyone seems to like the light blue shirts with our new logo. They make us visible in the community, especially when we attend an event and sit together as we did at the ECC POPS concert this year."

The Outreach Committee actively supports many church events that are organized by other Session committees, such as the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Community Book Sale, Vacation Bible School, and Chili Cook-Off. Members are also adept at asking for help to achieve one of Outreach's own goals. For the first two years of its existence, members dreamed about the possibility of building a church float for the annual Town and County Fair Parade. The Fair begins on the first Wednesday in August, with the parade preceding it on Sunday. But no member had the construction expertise for such a major project. The committee broadcast an SOS. Can anyone help us? John Bugele and David Brunworth answered the call, with Aaron Bounds, Steve Sebastian, and Marsha Stonerook also contributing. Our 2023 float was so well built, popular, and properly saved in storage that it's being used again this August 4<sup>th</sup> for

the parade.

Chairman Tom credits Outreach's "brilliant committee members for their insight, creative ideas, and willingness to continually improve communication throughout the PCW ministry." They are Aaron Bounds, Alicia Brehe, Katie Farrell, Heather Miller, Ian McCracken, and Nancy Sebastian.

"Outreach member Heather Miller drew our float design and played a big role behind the scenes in organizing and keeping things on track during the construction process. You can see Heather's talents AGAIN this year when the float will be in the parade on August 4."

Tom Farrell





## ***August Birthdays***

4 Wilma Luker  
4 Jamie Glamann  
12 Gary Brehe  
14 Fred Taubel  
18 Vivian Marshall  
18 Mauri Truesdell  
21 Matthew Becker  
21 Jared Thater  
23 Kathryn Putnam  
27 Kenzlie Barnhart  
30 Janet Thayer

## ***Help Us Empty Our Church's Recycled Items***

Do you like to recycle anything you get your hands onto? Then we need your help! There are two recycling bins in our Fellowship Hall kitchen and we would like to set up a yearly schedule of picking up those items and either getting them to the town recycling center or putting them in your recycling bins if you live in the Washington, MO, city limits. We are looking for people to take one month of Recycle Duty and empty those bins when needed during that time. Please consider getting a friend or two to join and share your recycling team for a month. Call Gretchen Farrell to sign up for a month. Thank you!



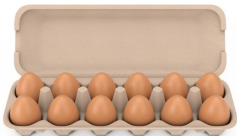


## Mission Committee To Distribute Special Calendars For Heifer International “Fill the Ark” Project

The Mission committee is planning a new, exciting and fun Heifer project for the month of September. This easy and inexpensive project is also family-friendly. Beginning Sunday, September 1, we will distribute the Heifer Project “Fill the Ark” daily giving calendar, along with a jar for your collection. Here are some examples of the daily opportunities shown on the calendar.

**CHICKENS.** *Chickens are easy to care for and come with plenty of perks. Families raise flocks for protein-packed eggs and meat. When sold at the market, the chickens and their eggs can also boost incomes.*

**What is in your fridge? Add 5 cents for every egg in your refrigerator, or 50 cents for every dozen.**



**DISASTER REHABILITATION.** *When a devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti in 2010, it killed more than 200,000 people and displaced more than two million people. We coordinated with other relief organizations to deliver humanitarian aid.*

**Light's out! Have you experienced an electrical outage due to weather? If yes, give 25 cents.**

**If not, give 50 cents.**



Illustration courtesy of Freepik

You and your family may choose from among a variety of groups, such as the bees, the chickens, the cows, and so on. The collection jars will be decorated to correspond with the individual groups. These represent some of the many areas that Heifer International provides world-wide.

On Sunday, September 29, the final collection and celebration  
will be held during the Fellowship Table time  
with Heifer Project inspired treats.

Join us to support and celebrate this amazing global ministry!



# Clerk's Corner

*By Nancy Sebastian*

## Session News

The Fair Parade is quickly approaching and will take place on Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. The Outreach Committee would love to have our church family walking along. We will be giving out popcorn with stickers inviting folks to worship as we walk.

Gerry Urban updated the group on the pastoral search process. It is a slow and cumbersome process as described by Gerry. Let's keep the faith and keep this process in our daily prayers.

Session has been working to update policies as per Presbytery guidelines. The Clerk's review will take place in August. Presbyterian Church of Washington will host a Clerk's review Saturday, August 17. Many thanks to our Church Life Committee for their assistance in providing some food for the clerks visiting our church.

Mauri Truesdell will be the August Elder in charge of Communion and locking the church after our service.

Blessings in Christ,

*Nancy*



## **We Are Looking For Volunteers For Our Harvest Table On Saturday, August 24 at St. Peter's UCC in Washington**

Our next two Harvest Table event dates for this 2024 year are August 24 and November 9. Our August date is coming up soon and a volunteer sign-up sheet is posted. Please consider helping out at this wonderful community event that is extremely organized and so much fun to do! We only need about 12 volunteers to help out at St. Peter's UCC from 4:30pm – 6:30pm. It is all light work: plating the food and serving it to our guests, along with drinks and dessert. We also have clean-up time in the kitchen with washing dishes (there is a sanitizer and dishwashing machine!) then finally putting all away in cabinets. It truly is an amazing experience! Any questions? Please see Gretchen Farrell.



## **Scrip Purchases Help Support Our Mission Programs**

Our next three Scrip order dates are August 4, September 8 (Labor Day is September 2), and October 6.

We place our entire church group order on the first Sunday of each month, unless there is a holiday that weekend (like Labor Day!), then we will place the order on the following Sunday. We have our Scrip order forms in a white basket in the narthex and they are very easy to understand and fill out. Please check out the many local merchants and the nationwide merchants that you can purchase gift cards from. All the percentages you see next to the merchants' names means that amount comes to our church immediately! We deposit all of our Scrip checks from all our orders into our Scrip checking account then a smaller amount goes to the Scrip RaiseRight company for the cards we purchase that month. Our church retains the profit amount in our account and that really adds up each month.

Did you know our Scrip Program has already made a profit of \$1,500 in the first half of this 2024 year?! YES, every purchase counts and makes our non-profit church organization money. People use Scrip cards for every day purchases and gifts, it is fantastic what Scrip cards can do! We could have so many people, members, friends, family, purchase the gift cards and we could make so much more money for our church to use towards mission work. Please check it out as our Scrip Program is one of the two active fundraisers for our church and the only one that is done year round. Thank you! Your PCW Scrip Program Coordinators, Gretchen Farrell, Kathy Froning, and Becky Vogt. **Turn to page 13 for the Scrip order form.**

**We appreciate any member who can pay the per capita fee, which is mandatory for all congregations in the Presbytery. For more information, please read below. The fee can be paid at any time during the year. Please make check(s) payable to Presbyterian Church of Washington. Unpaid fees will be charged to the church budget.**

**\$36**

The commitment to sharing the cost of the connectional church is but one of the ways in which our gathering together makes Christ's church possible. Our generous support of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the form of per capita gifts, are part of our call to be one church, one community. Through our gifts we support the work of our congregation, our presbytery, our synod, our national church, and beyond.

Per Capita is the primary funding source for Giddings-Lovejoy, the Synod of Mid-America and the General Assembly. With it the GLPBY staff and leaders resource and equips its congregations and supports its minister members.

Pending approval at today's Presbytery Gathering, the 2024 Per Capita will be set at \$36 per member. Every member congregation is asked to fulfill its Per Capita commitment and to give generously, connecting our offerings with those across the PC(USA) who have committed themselves to the work of this church.



2024 Per Capita





Splashes of color from crepe myrtle bushes added beauty to our church cemetery in late July. [Click here to see more photos and information about our cemetery.](#)



The photo at the left was taken in April 2023, shortly after our Cemetery Board and other volunteers planted evergreens to help provide privacy from the major construction site along Highway 100 (looking east). The photo at the right, taken in late July of this year, shows healthy growth in the new trees as well as the established ones.



The ***Connect Newsletter*** is published monthly by the Presbyterian Church of Washington (PCUSA). Articles are due the 20th day of each month. Please deliver to the church office or email to:

Aneeta Brown, Interim Editor  
[missouriwriter@yahoo.com](mailto:missouriwriter@yahoo.com)

**Editorial Review Board:** Gretchen Farrell,  
 Nancy Sebastian, and Mauri Truesdell.

## 2024 PCW Committee Members

### Christian Ed. Committee

**Kathy Rogers, Co-Chair\***

**Gerry Urban, Co-Chair\***

Beth Brehe

Micki Brehe

Craig Matzes

Ian McCracken

Heather Miller

Jolene Patterson\*

### Outreach Committee

**Tom Farrell, Chair\***

Aaron Bounds

Alicia Brehe

Katie Farrell

Ian McCracken

Heather Miller

Nancy Sebastian\*

### Worship Committee

**Tom Ellenberger, Chair\***

Mike Becker

John Bugele

Katie Collins

Tom Kempf

Vivian Marshall

Jolene Patterson\*

### Church Life Committee

**Linda Booher, Co-Chair\***

**Sarah Spear, Co-Chair\***

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Shirley Coulter

Barb Hagen

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Karen Ladd

Vivian Marshall

Barbara Mullins\*

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Sharon Wiese

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Gretchen Farrell

Joe Hagan

Nancy Sebastian\*

Elda Seener\*

Tim Urban

### Property Committee

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John Bugele

Bob Eade

Mary Ellenberger

Jim Glamann

Joe Hagan

Mike Mullins

Barbara Schofield

Steve Sebastian

### \*Session Members

**Nancy Sebastian, Clerk**

Linda Booher

David Brunworth

Tom Ellenberger

Tom Farrell

Jolene Patterson

Kathy Rogers

Elda Seener

Sarah Spear

Mauri Truesdell

Gerry Urban

### Finance Committee

**Tom Farrell, Chair\***

**Linda Booher, Treasurer\***

Gary Brehe

Karen Ladd

Phyllis McElhinney

Elda Seener\*

Bruce Wiese

### Mission Committee

**Barbara Mullins, Chair**

Debbie Bandy

Christy Eckert

Gretchen Farrell

Lois Kempf

Kathy Rogers\*

Sarah Spear\*

### MEETING TIMES:

**Christian Ed. 2nd Sunday 11:30 AM**

**Church Life 2nd Tuesday 9:30 AM**

**Finance 2nd Monday 12:00 PM**

**Mission 1st Tuesday 10:00 AM**

**Outreach 2nd Wednesday 6:30 PM**

**Personnel 2nd Tuesday 6:00 PM**

**Property 2nd Sunday 11:30 AM**

**Session 4th Thursday 6:30 PM**

**Worship 2nd Thursday 7:00 PM**

Updated 7/28/2024



# PRESBY SCRIP PROGRAM ORDER FORM

**Customer NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email (if new customer only):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Customer PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\*\*\*All Sales are Final \*\* No Returns \*\* No Refunds**

Merchant terms and conditions as well as additional forms are available at The Presbyterian Church of Washington.

Vendor	%	QTY	\$ Total
<b>AUTOMOTIVE</b>			
• BP \$50, \$100, (\$250, 2.5%)	1.5		
Fischer's Phillips66 \$25, \$50, \$100	2		
• Casey's General Store and Gas \$25	3		
<b>CLOTHING/DEPT.STORES</b>			
• JCPenny \$25, \$100	5		
• Kohl's \$25, \$100	4		
• Marshall's \$25, \$100	7		
• Macy's \$25, \$100	10		
• Maurice's \$20	7		
• Ross Dress for Less \$25	8		
• Sam's Club \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	2.5		
• Shoe Carnival \$25	5		
• Target \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	2.5		
• Walmart \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	2.5		
<b>DRUG STORES</b>			
Schroeder Drug \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50	5		
• Walgreens \$25, \$100	5		
<b>GROCERY STORES</b>			
Williams Bros.Meat Mkt. \$25	5		
• Honey-Baked Ham \$25	12		
<b>HOME IMPROVEMENTS</b>			
• Ace Hardware \$25, \$100	4		
• Lowe's \$20, \$25, \$100, \$500, \$1000	4		
<b>MAIL ORDER-ONLINE</b>			
• Amazon \$25, \$100	1.7		
• Apple/iTunes \$15, \$25, \$100,\$500	5		
• Barnes & Noble \$10, \$25, \$100	8		
• Lands End \$25, \$100	15		
• Overstock.com \$25	8		
• LLBean \$25, \$100	16		
<b>SPECIALTY STORES</b>			
• Bass Pro Shop \$25, \$100	10		
• Bath & Body Works \$10, \$25	12		
• Big Lots \$25, \$100	4		
• Cabela's \$25, \$100	10		
Cinema One Plus \$20	5		
Designer Threads \$25	15		
• Dicks Sporting Goods \$25, \$100	8		
• Five Below \$25	2.5		
Fricke Photography \$20	5		
Great 8 Cine \$10	10		
Hillermann Nursery \$25, \$50	5		
I.B.Nuts & Fruit Too \$20	10		
• Jo-Ann Fabric \$25	6		
• Michael's \$25, \$100	4		
• Ulta Beauty \$25	7		
Wolf Hollow \$20	5		

Vendor	%	QTY	\$ Total
<b>RESTAURANTS</b>			
Aldo's \$10, \$20	5		
• Applebee's \$25	8		
• Arby's \$10	8		
Big Boy's Subs & Wings \$10	5		
• Bob Evans \$10, \$25	10		
• Burger King \$10, \$25	6		
Café Mosaic \$10	10		
Colton's \$25	5		
Cowan's \$25	5		
Dairy Delight \$10, \$20	5		
• Dairy Queen \$10	3		
• Domino's \$10, \$25	8		
• Fazoli's \$25	9		
• Hardees \$10	5		
Hawthorne Restaurant \$25	5		
Imo's Pizza \$20	10		
• Jack in the Box \$10	4		
Joe's Bakery & Deli \$10	5		
Johnny's-Union \$10	15		
Lion's Choice \$10	10		
Los Cabos \$20	10		
Marquart's Landing \$10	10		
• McDonald's \$10, \$25	2		
Millers Grill \$10	10		
Orange Leaf \$5, \$10	10		
• Panda Express \$25	8		
• Panera Bread \$10, \$25, \$50	8		
• Papa John's \$10	8		
• Papa Murphy's \$10	8		
Pasta House \$25	10		
• Pizza Hut \$10	8		
Saucy's Pizzeria \$10, \$20	10		
• Starbucks \$10, \$25, \$50	4.5		
• Steak'n Shake \$10	8		
• Subway \$10, \$50	4.5		
Sugarfire BBQ \$25	10		
• Taco Bell \$10, \$25	5		
The Creek Grill & Bar \$25	10		
<b>ADD-ON ORDERS</b>			

## PAYMENT METHOD

**If Cash, Amount**

**If Check, Amount**

**If Check, check number**

**Make checks payable to *The Presbyterian Church***

## TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT = \$

• (This DOT indicates a National Brand, no DOT indicates a Local Mer

Sign when Receiving Order: \_\_\_\_\_ 13

Filled by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_