

#### Embracing a Life of Gratitude: A Pathway to Spiritual Fulfillment

In a world often consumed by hustle and bustle, it can be easy to lose sight of the blessings that surround us each day. Yet, as followers of Christ, we are called to live lives overflowing with gratitude. Gratitude is not just a fleeting emotion; it is a powerful force that can transform our hearts, minds, and souls.

Living with gratitude means recognizing and appreciating the abundant blessings that God has bestowed upon us, both big and small. It involves cultivating a mindset of thankfulness and acknowledging the goodness in our lives, even amidst challenges and trials. As the apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

But how do we cultivate a spirit of gratitude in our daily lives? Here are some practical steps we can take:

- **Count Your Blessings**: Take time each day to reflect on the things you are grateful for. Keep a gratitude journal where you can write down three things you are thankful for each day. This simple practice can help shift your focus from what is lacking to what is abundant in your life.
- **Practice Mindfulness**: Be present in the moment and pay attention to the beauty and wonder around you. Whether it's the warmth of the sun on your face, the laughter of loved ones, or the beauty of nature, savor these moments and give thanks for them.
- **Serve Others**: One of the most powerful ways to cultivate gratitude is by serving others. When we reach out a helping hand to those in need, we gain a deeper appreciation for our own blessings. Jesus himself modeled this when he washed the feet of his disciples, teaching us the importance of humility and service.
- **Express Gratitude**: Don't keep your gratitude bottled up inside. Take the time to express your appreciation to God and to those around you. A simple "thank you" can go a long way in brightening someone's day and fostering deeper connections.
- **Choose Joy**: Gratitude and joy go hand in hand. Make a conscious choice each day to focus on the positives rather than dwelling on the negatives. Choose joy in every circumstance, knowing that God is always with us, guiding and sustaining us.

As we strive to live lives filled with gratitude, let us remember the words of Psalm 100:4, "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." May we be a community that radiates gratitude, spreading God's love and light to all those around us.

With grace and peace, -Rev. Andrew

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#### **Prayer Team**

The Prayer Team meets on Tuesday mornings at 10am. Join us and help pray for our congregation and world. If you have a prayer request, please fill out a request form and place in the collection plate.

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone..."

1 Timothy 2:1

#### SUMMARY OF THE APRIL SESSION MEETING

- Session was reminded that the June issue of The View will encompass any information available for June and July, since Session will not meet in July.
- A new members class will be scheduled in the near future as there are several people interested in joining the Chapel Hill family.
- A joint event with the Community Services League and representatives from Evergy and Spire was recently held at the church. Approximately eighty people from the local area attended to meet with utility company reps and learn information on billing, how to avoid shut off of services, and other helpful subjects. It was a successful event for all who attended.
- Building & Grounds reported meeting with several contractors on the foundation issues in the building's structure.
   Lynn Beatty and Howard LaRue will look at options and costs, and make a recommendation to the Session on next steps.
- Christian Nurture is preparing for elementary school kids to receive their own Bibles on Sunday May 5, Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Sunday on May 19, and taking the youth to the annual Heartland Picnic on June 2.

Respectfully submitted Carol S. Coe, Clerk of Session



May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters
Betsey & Curt Congdon	AJ Florio	Joyce & Gary Dickerson	Morrison Family
Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
Jen Baer & Colette Laukner	Elly & John Welchert	Eva I. & John D.	Joyce & Gary Dickerson
Kaitlyn Salamone & Carrie Gautsche	Kristina & Ryan Anson	Tim & Sarah Deveney	Gordon Dryer & Tony Isgrig
Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes
Clara G. & Finlee G.	Evelyn & Norie A.	Matthew F. & Remy A.	Calvin B. & Dani G.
Word with Children	Word with Children	Word with Children	Word with Children
Kristina Anson	Natalie Morrison	Erin Gill	Tim Deveney
Liturgist	Liturgist	Liturgist	Liturgist
AJ Florio	Mike Dryer	Sue Meinders	Kay Isgrig

#### **Choral Corner**

March was a busy month, preparing for Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday and Easter! All of the services were wonderful, heartfelt and special for all who attended.

Chapel Hill was fortunate to have special music to enhance the Easter service. This year, Erin Wood blessed us with her talent on the harp. It was wonderful!

The Adult Choir sang a moving piece for Maundy Thursday that helped to create the somber mood for the evening service. The Easter Introit and Anthem was also a joyous part of the service. The Youth Choir loved processing with the palms for Palm Sunday and for the first time, they performed a song for Easter.

The entire service for Easter was wonderful, from the music to the beautiful sermon. It was quite a celebration, topped with

"Every Morning is Easter Morning from Now On"! Thirty-eight lilies were ordered to share for

the Easter service.

This month is the last month for the Adult Choir and Youth Choir to share their talents before breaking for the summer months.

And speaking of summer, if you have a talent and would like to share, please see Jon Gill to sign up for your Sunday.

Phyllis Whitney



# Presbyterian Women will meet May 16th 12:30 pm in the kitchen

Hard to believe this will be our last meeting before we break for the summer. We will meet in the kitchen Thursday, May 16th at 12:30 PM. The topic is "People Encounter Jesus through the Work of the Disciples". Becky Carle will be leading the lesson and also providing refreshments. Vicki's Pantry has requested we change our donations to breakfast items. Gluten-free cereal (hot or cold), Pop Tarts, and breakfast bars are a few suggestions.

Here's a teaser of what our study will be this fall: "Let Justice Roll Down-God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation" by Patricia K. Tull. Hope to see you May 16th for Study, Fellowship and of course food.

Presbyterian Women

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Thanks - Leanna

# Our next meeting is June 2 at 8:50am in the kitchen. Please join us.

Elly Welchert 816-522-0052 or J.R. Meinders 913-909-0109



May - the month of Mothers and Flowers. Hope you are enjoying the longer days and warmer temperatures. Our designated recipient of donations for this month is Hope House.

Hope House's mission is to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing safe refuge and supportive services that educate and empower those impacted by domestic violence.

Some of our programs are emergency shelter, transitional and permanent Housing, family court advocacy and our

client assistance fund, among others. Our approach is to advocate, educate and empower the journey to a life free of abuse.

Monetary support is the greatest way to make an impact in the lives of those affected by domestic violence. Visit out Urgent Needs List on Amazon Registry to donate items to survivors. For information on donation items, access our website at hopehouse.net or call 816-461-4188.

Give your time to Hope House by volunteering! Hope house has a variety of opportunities for you to get involved throughout the year. Let's join forces and work together.

If you or a loved one is in need of assistance, please reach out to Hope House 24/7 Hotline at 816-461-HOPE. Together we can build a brighter future.

hopehouse.net – 816-451-4188 – 24/7 Hotline 816-4461-4673

Please call Caren Owsley with questions.

#### **Needs for this month are:**

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Size 5 and 6 Diapers
Infant Tylenol
Orajel for teething babies
Baby Bottle Brushes
Adult Day/Night time Cold and Flu

Adult Tennis Shoes (New size 7-9) QT, Walmart, Target gift cards Amazon and Uber gift cards There is also an Amazon wish list Contact lens solution Diaper wipes Ethnic hair products



## May 4th, 5-8pm

Sign up your children for a fun evening and dinner with us here at Chapel Hill. Register in the Chapel Hill app!

# **Chapel Hill Family Day**

Heartland Camp is hosting its Annual Picnic, June 2, 2-6pm Join families from Chapel Hill as we meet in Parkville for fun, fellowship, and dinner. The cost is free, but please RSVP at <a href="https://www.heartlandcamps.org/annual-picnic">https://www.heartlandcamps.org/annual-picnic</a> so that they have an accurate count for the 5:30pm dinner.

#### What to expect:

Rock wall
Continuous Belay
Swimming
Archery
Slingshots
Horse Shoes
Disc Golf
Hammocks
Corn Hole
Gaga Ball
9-Square
Coloring
Face Paint

Volleyball Hiking trails



Zip line on a Challenge Course (must be 10+ and have completed fourth grade and must wear closed toe & heel shoes)

Lead Horse Rides (closed toe & heel shoes required) NEW Inflatable Slip N Slide!

Come have fun with us!



#### YOU'RE INVITED to SUMMER CAMP!

This year we have many youth from Chapel Hill attending Overnight Camp at Heartland Camp in Parkville, MO (16965 NW 45 Hwy). Overnight Camp is offered for campers who have completed Grade 2-12. We would LOVE for you to join in this experience with us!

WHAT: At Heartland Summer Camp, campers will be immersed in scripture, song, and Christian community. If that faith experience involves zip lines, rock walls, horses, archery, creek walks, and swimming, all the better! To build close camp friendships, all campers are placed in "family groups" of two counselors and 12-14 campers. This group does everything together from morning Bible study to activities, like swimming, horseback riding, and nightly worship. In these small groups, campers are able to talk with their counselors and fellow campers deeply about faith, personal life, and exactly what superhero would be best at delivering pizza.

**WHEN**: Camps begin on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 and end on Friday at 5:00 (campers who have completed 2-3 grades have shorter camps). Overnight camps begin the week of June 9th and end the week of August 4th. Check for availability and specific camp dates on the Heartland website!

**SCHOLARSHIPS**: Scholarships are available! Heartland Camp and Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church both have scholarships available. Contact Youth Director Erin Gill at <a href="mailto:erin.chpc@gmail.com">erin.chpc@gmail.com</a>

For additional questions, check out <u>www.heartlandcamps.org</u>, email or call Heartland Camps at program1@HeartlandCenter.org, (816) 891-1078.

## **Building & Grounds**

## **Mowing Volunteers Needed**

The grass is already growing and we need your help mowing this spring and summer. Use our QR code to sign up for 2024's mowing schedule. With a new and improved lawn mower we just need some wheel people that aren't afraid to cruise around the church grounds for 2-3 hours. Come see for yourself how the new mower rides. Sign up to the right or sign up in the hallway across from the office in church.



Next quarterly Buildings & Grounds meeting will be May 19th at 8:30am in the Library

# **Youth and Kids**

#### **Grade School Bibles**

May 5, during Sunday morning worship

It's a tradition at Chapel Hill to present each kid with their own brand new Bible, typically around 2nd grade. Our young friends will receive their new Bibles during Sunday worship on May 5. Families with 2nd graders, make sure to attend worship on May 5!



## **Teacher Appreciation**

May 19, during Sunday morning worship

We love our Sunday School teachers! We will take a moment during worship on May 19 to thank those that have served as Sunday school teachers this year. After worship, join us in Stone Hall for a light reception and fellowship.

## Easter Egg Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who donated egg stuffers and helped stuff eggs for the egg hunt this year. It took almost no time at all to stuff 1200 eggs! The CHPC Kids had a wonderful time on Easter morning. We had enough candy left over to re-stuff 500 eggs, and the youth group had their own outdoor egg hunt. Our kids know that the adults of the church made this possible for them, and they feel loved. Thank you!





## **AMEN St Louis Mission Trip**

Our mission trip is coming up *next month*! All of our participants have completed the service hours (or are very close). This month we'll be making plans for meals, writing out packing lists, and more. AMEN St Louis has started signing us up with mission partners in the St Louis area; a few of these will require each participant to sign up directly with the mission site. Watch your email for these registration links!

## Kingdom Kids End of Year FUN

May 19, afternoon, details coming soon

Our Kingdom Kids have enjoyed a fun year together, learning and growing together as friends. We have also been collecting Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House, and we have a lot! On May 19 our Kingdom Kids will travel to Ronald McDonald House to donate this year's collection of pop tabs, a privilege that has belonged especially to our Kingdom Kids for years! We're still working out the details of this year's field trip, but mark your calendars for the afternoon of May 19 and stay tuned for info.

#### Don't forget!

Save your pop tabs, and bring them to the church to donate to RMHC











# **CHPC Day Camp Updates**

Summer is coming up fast, and we're in full planning mode for Day Camp on July 10-14!

We still have volunteer needs, and there are still camper spots open. Please help us recruit for both, so we can have a full and fun week of camp this summer, and add us to your prayer list for a fun and successful summer!



#### Volunteer Updates:

<u>Counseling Volunteers:</u> We have a partial slate of volunteer counselors, and we need a few more. Join us for one half-day slot to support the Heartland Staff counselors and experience the joy happening at our church. Sign up in the Narthex.

<u>Junior Counselors:</u> Youth can volunteer to work alongside our Heartland staff to support the camper groups and make sure kids have a great week. Apply in the Chapel Hill app.

<u>Program Support:</u> PS Volunteers work behind the scenes setting up activities, keeping supplies stocked, and running the Hub (the kitchen- its the center of the action all week!) Sign up in the Narthex.

<u>The Muscle:</u> We're looking for a few strong volunteers to help unload the Heartland trailer at the start of the week, and to help pack up again at the end. We don't have exact times yet, but if you *might* be available for this, sign up to be contacted when the time comes.

<u>Hospitality:</u> We provide meals for our visiting Heartland staff. Sign up to help with this on the board in the Narthex. We need volunteers to provide breakfast items, deliver daily lunches, and provide or host dinners.

#### Camper Updates:

**Spots Available:** We have about 1/3 of our camp spots still available. If you know a camp-aged friend, relative, or neighbor who would love to spend the week with us, encourage them to sign up at heartlandcamps.org/chpc. Its fun to bring a friend to camp!

<u>Already registered:</u> You should have received an email with directions on filling out your camper's health form, plus a link to pay your registration fee online. Check this off your list today! (Or, please, no later than June 15). If you did NOT receive this email, check with Erin.



- 2 Youth Group, 7pm Chapel Hill Garden, 7pm
- 4 New Members Class, 9:30am Parents' Night Out, 5:30pm
- 5 Christian Nurture Meeting, 8:30am
- 6 Worship & Music, 7pm

- 9 Youth Group, 7pm Chapel Hill Garden, 7pm
- 11 Uplift, 9:30am
- 14 Session, 7pm
- Uplift Frozen in Kitchen, 6:30pm
- 16 Presbyterian Women, 12:30pm Youth Group, 7pm Chapel Hill Garden, 7pm
- 19 Teacher Appreciation Sunday Kingdom Kids, 6:30pm
- 25 Youth Group, 7pm Chapel Hill Garden, 7pm
- 30 Youth Group, 7pm Chapel Hill Garden, 7pm

The *Pentecost Offering is scheduled through May19th* and provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. Below are some facts relating to this special offering:

- 40% stays here to support of children locally
- 25% supports Young Adult Volunteer opportunities
- 25% supports the General Assembly's ministries with youth and adults
- 10% supports children at risk

**General Fund Summary** (Excludes Prepaid Pledge and All Designated Funds)

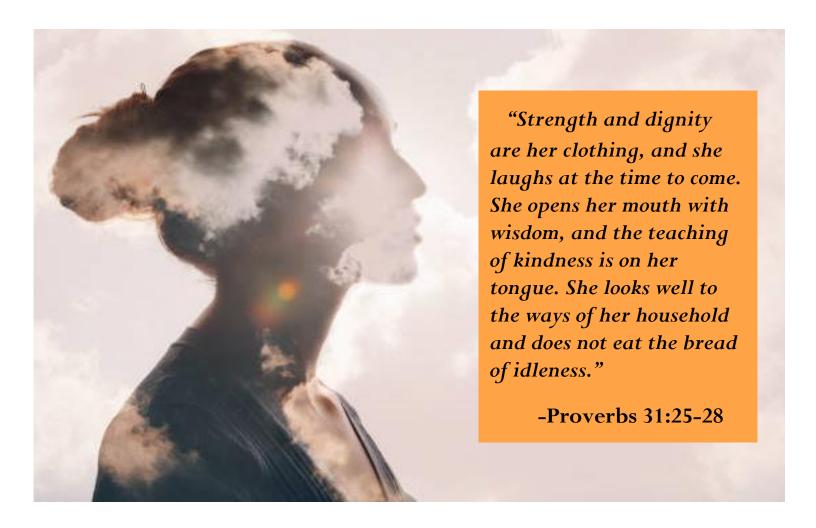
	March 2024-Year to Date			
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	
Jan. 1-Beginning Cash Bal.	\$212,284	\$212,284	<b>\$</b> O	
Income	\$112,688	\$115,245	(\$2,557)	
Expenses	(\$72,967)	(\$78,790)	\$5,823	
March 31-Ending Balance	\$252,004	\$248,739	\$3,266	



#### Online Giving for Chapel Hill Offerings Now Available

Give your pledge, general offering, special offerings, memorial or to other funds directly from your phone. Scan the QR Code at left to link to the Chapel Hill Giving Page, follow the prompts and use the dropdown menus to make your selections. Once completed, the system will immediately send you a receipt. If you choose to cover ACH bank transfer or credit card fees, those amounts will be included on your quarterly giving statement. (Note: ACH bank transfer fees cost less.) And, of course, checks are certainly still accepted. *Thank-you!* 





May 2024 – The View from Chapel Hill

The View from Chapel Hill Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church 3108 Westbound 40 Highway Blue Springs, MO 64015

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WORSHIP WITH US ON SUNDAYS 9:30 AM Service Contact office to be added to virtual service list

www.chpresby.org