

# The Witness

Francis Street First United Methodist Church

Greg Ogdahl, Ad. Council Chairman

## Peace within your soul

The Ad Council is continuing to work towards what is best for our congregation and community. We sometimes have to sit back and also work on what is best for our soul. What do you do to improve your soul? When we take the time to invest in ourselves it makes it easier to invest and improve other souls.

Victory In Jesus is an old classic hymn that lifts my soul. The second verse in this hymn always brings chills to me. I hope it also speaks with you. *"I heard about His healing Of His cleansing power revealing How He made the lame to walk again And caused the blind to see And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit" And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory!"*

I pray for each and every one of you that you find peace within your soul. The road is not always easy, smooth or even fair but with the Lord Jesus Christ with us nothing is impossible to get through.

If there is anything that the Ad Council can do for you, please reach out to the church. We are here to serve you. Thank you for all your continued prayers and work in our church.

### 2023 Ministry Budget

Please meet with your ministry team and brainstorm the 2023 year. A form was emailed; however, a hard copy can be picked up in the office. The deadline is Sept 11, 2022.

Thank you, for all you do for God, our loving church, and community.



Picture taken by church member, Carol Perry, in the gardens of Francis Street First in June 2022

## Francis Street First

Welcome Home, YOU belong here

Have you ever felt as if you 'just don't belong', that you 'don't fit in'? Yeah, we have too! It is an uncomfortable feeling that weighs on your self-worth.

The Congregation at Francis Street First United Methodist Church would like you to know, YOU belong here! YOU are welcome! We want YOU, as YOU are.

No need to dress up. God doesn't care if YOU worship him in jeans and a t-shirt. We don't care either.

On the behalf of our congregation, welcome home! YOU belong here!

### COME JUST AS YOU ARE

*Come just as you are  
Hear the spirit call  
Come just as you are  
Come and see  
Come receive  
Come and live forever  
Come just as you are  
Hear the spirit call  
Come just as you are  
Come and see  
Come receive  
Come and live forever*

*Life everlasting  
Strength for today  
Taste the living water  
And never thirst again.*

Use this link to hear this song on YouTube.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsD2urNjIWQ>

### Aug Happenings

- HolyFit**  
Mondays & Thursdays @ 10:30 AM.
- Mini Weekday Message**  
Tuesdays online @ 12 PM.
- Coping With Sudden Life Changes**  
Tuesdays @ 5:30 PM.
- Focus Daily Prayer**  
Returns on Aug 22! 9:15 AM.
- Open-Door Food Kitchen**  
Aug 31 @ 9:30 AM



**Aug 5 – 7, 2022**  
**Missouri**



**Pray for Students, Staff, and  
Bus Drivers**

Alexzander and Avery Tanguay

## Summer Camp

Devoted; Acts 2:42

*Alexzander Tanguay, age 10.*

I went to the Midland Ministries Summer Camp from July 6 to the 9<sup>th</sup>. I returned home on my 10<sup>th</sup> birthday! This was my first overnight camp. Before going, I was most excited to meet new friends.

My camp days were a mix of prayer, bible quizzing, lessons in the Chapel, swimming, the blob, kayaking, games, discussions, breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks. During the quizzing, I was able to score a few points for my team!

My favorite part of camp was making new friends and swimming. My least favorite thing was a gross game I was picked to play. We had to eat what was said to be a gummy candy. I thought it was too hard to be gummy, it didn't smell good, and it tasted nasty. I was

unable to eat it like the girl was up against.

I look forward to going again next summer.

Thank you all, for giving me a full scholarship to camp!

*Avery Tanguay, age 12.*

I went to the Midland Ministries Summer Camp from June 22 to July 2.

My favorite message was titled "Breaking the Ice". It was about showing people the path of God.

The Camp staff performed a play too. It was the Crucifixion; Jesus was placed on the cross, put into a tomb, then rose.

I also enjoyed Bible Quizzing and

### Red Rally

Red Rally took place at Civic Center Park on Friday, July 29 (to welcome The Chiefs). The Tanguay boys, sold parking spots to attendees; \$5/spot. \$114 was raised for the Children's Closet (part of the Discovery Center for Children). The boys were told they were to split the \$40, as they earned it working.

learned the 10 Commandments.

My least favorite part of camp was that part of ziplining. Ziplining wasn't scary, but the last time I went on it, water shot up my nose and into my ears. It didn't feel good!

I look forward to returning next summer. Thank you, congregation for giving me a full scholarship to camp!



## Gardening

Love Grows here

Gardening might seem like an easy task. You dig a hole and plant a flower, simply, right?

Gardening requires so much more than that! Selecting the correct spot with the right sun to shade ration, which plants will look good and thrive with others, pest control, weeding, fertilizing, watering, and shaping/trimming.

Shirley, Candy, Bob, Don, and Wanda

have worked tirelessly on our beautiful gardens. Your talents, go noticed!

A small group came together to help our gardeners with the weeding and trimming process on July 9. Thank you, Mike, Carol, Bob, Steven, Jennifer, Avery, Alex, and Aaron.

In September's The Witness, there will be an article about our garden's history.

### Fall Gnome

Painting class

'ART - Your Way' means discovering your inner artist and painting things the way you see them. Paint on windows, wood, canvas, etc.

Mark your calendar and sign up in the office! Art Your Way will be at Francis Street First on Saturday, Oct 1, 2022, at 10 AM to do canvas paintings!

When you sign up, there will be options for canvas size; 16x20 \$35 or 12x14 \$25. Children under 10 years old paint for \$15.

Bring a friend!

The deadline to sign up is Sept 26! Fee is due the day of painting; given to the instructor.



Fall Gnome painting on Oct 1, 2022

## Hello Everyone

Glenn Gibson, Karen, Garth, Jamie Butner, James and Erica, all want to thank you for your prayers, cards flowers, prayer shawls and gift bag and inquiries when Glenn was recently hospitalized for a month at Mosaic. He has transferred to Living Community for Rehabilitation and hopes to graduate to home very quickly.

We especially want to thank the Daily Prayer Focus Online Prayer Ministry for faithfully keeping updated, relaying the progress and earnest prayers, which really work and are part of healing miracles. You all supported our family through the healing of Jamie Butner last Fall as she endured 2 months of surgeries and hospitalization and know that God grants miracles through prayer and faith. Once again, your devotion for our family has brought Glenn through a serious time in his life as well. This ministry at Francis Street First United Methodist Church is a treasure as are each and every member of that Prayer Focus Group. How does a grateful family thank each and every one at Francis Street First for your support other than say "Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts and God Bless you all as you travel through the daily journey of being God's People".

~Karen Gibson

## Big Fish

Congratulations to Erica Butner on her performance in Big Fish in July. It was a wonderful performance.

~Susan Gentry



## Time and Money

Humorous Stewardship Devotional

A man was taking it easy, lying on the grass and looking up at the clouds. He was identifying shapes when he decided to talk to God. "God", he said, "how long is a million years?"

God answered, "In my frame of reference, it's about a minute."

The man asked, "God, how much is a million dollars?"

God answered, "To Me, it's a penny."

The man then asked, "God, can I have a penny?"

God said, "In a minute."

<http://kingdompursuits.com/devotional-humor-and-inspiring-stories-archives-2/>

## Do Not Shy Away

We shy away from places and people outside our comfort zones. However, if Jesus is our model and if we want to minister beyond our church walls, then we should open ourselves to new experiences. Yes, this might not be familiar, but growing in Christ should cause discomfort. Look at Bud and Lynette Barr who started a new Men's Group out of their house. I am sure it is not comfortable to change usual Saturday morning routine and turn your home into a gathering space. But we are in the mission of discipling new people, and without expanding our hearts we can't make a difference in our church. George Mitchell posted on Facebook,

*"I want to recognize a friend that has helped me throughout my lifetime, who has made an impact on my life on several occasions. Almost one year ago he changed my life by knocking on my door and telling me about this church he had started attending, how he and his family was accepted into the church family and how it made him feel. So, I said yes, and I have done nothing but looked forward since, I grab onto the next rung of the ladder each day and pull myself up. Without this knock on my door, I honestly can't tell you where I would be today. God works in his own way. I wasn't supposed to be home when that knocked happened. I was supposed to be out with another friend in town, but I made up an excuse not to go. So, thank Jeff Murphy for your invitation and your friendship, as we are both now attending men's fellowship every other Saturday."*

Susan Wright got out of her comfort zone to lead HolyFit twice a week. Now, 21 people actively participate in this program and invite their friends to join. The group grew out of space and had to move to Sunshine Room.

Tom and Shirley Twombly invited their friend Bob Douglass three years ago. Bob was baptized in our church and became one of the prominent leaders.

The difference between dying ministries and ministries that are alive is that alive ministries shine and attract new people. Our Men's Fellowship group shines and serves as a beacon for Christ. Come and join this group. Tell your neighbors about this group and encourage them to join. Discipling serves as a vehicle to help people transit into a new life with Christ. Jeff Murphy attends Men's Fellowship meetings regularly. He also brought seven (!) new people to our church.

Our vision is to make Francis Street First a beacon to attract people to Christ. Our goal is to disciple others. Is this going to be easy? No. Does it scare you? Of course! Since I preach this summer on Broadway musicals, let hear what Sister Mary Clarence says about trying new things,

*"So, because it is something new, better run away? Let me remind you of something: if you wanna go somewhere and you wanna be somebody, you better wake up and pay attention. Because if every time something scary comes up you decide to run, y'all gonna be running for the rest of your lives."*

We will not run away. Instead, let's try this month to invite one person to come to church. Tell them about the men's group, about Discovery Center for kids, our music, and the new support group that meets on Tuesdays. Let our church shine!

-Pastor Lydia

Our worship service is a type of service that one cannot get anywhere else in Saint Joseph except at Francis Street. It is unique, inviting, open, and loving - many people long for a loving/accepting congregation. I have played for close to 30 churches (maybe more) and I've never experienced a loving and accepting congregation like we have at Francis Street. - Donovan Jones

**Generosity**

I would like to thank the HolyFit Exercise Class, whom I consider Family, for their generous gift. They will never truly understand how much it met to me. I am beyond blessed.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart!

~ Becky Hickok

**Outreach Committee**

The Action Boutique has just wrapped up two months of being open on Saturdays from 1-4. We have met new people and created a warm and inviting space for our community. Our numbers have ranged from 2-46 children and adults. One week we were able to give a shirtless child from the neighborhood 2 gently used shirts to take home after he stayed to explore. Another week we welcomed children from the Noyes Home. And who could forget the excitement created by Aaron and Alex's birthday party.

Mallory Gertner, our college student and Pat Miller have been our most dedicated volunteers. Jane Sachs, Karen Gibson, and Debbie Lazalere have volunteered along with Suzanne Allen, Robin and Greg Oghdal and Pastor Lydia. Our success has truly been a team effort.

The Action Boutique Discovery Center for Children will close after the August 6 session to rebrand ourselves. Along with receiving a new name, we will determine the new hours of operation, complete our party room and stock our children's clothes closet. We plan to reopen with our new name and new hours after Labor Day.

The Outreach Committee continues to collect medicine bottles for the Patee House. We are also collecting cereal, pasta, spaghetti, and sauce in plastic jars or cans throughout the month of August to deliver to InterServ.

Thank you for your support of these important ministries!

Candy Sheehan, Outreach Chairlady

**Evangelism**

“The greatest form of praise is the sound of consecrated feet seeking out the lost and helpless.” - Billy Graham

Spreading the gospel is called Evangelism. This act was and is important to Jesus. The Bible reminds us, Jesus came so that we may live. Jesus wants everyone to know this truth so they, too, can be part of God's holy kingdom.

Let's consider how we, here at Francis Street First, can establish a strong 2023 Evangelism Team.

**Vanco**

Francis Street First is now using a new online giving platform!

Used by churches all over the USA, Vanco has been in business for 20+ years.

At this time, Francis Street First is set up to do online giving and through a mobile app.

The online link is: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z6DQ>

It will soon be found on our website, fran1st.org under the give tab.

If you are interested in the mobile app, go to your play store and download Vanco (the image will be a V in a word bubble). It will ask for a code. Insert this code: DYQKG6

Please give it a chance this week and give us your feedback! It is our goal to make the giving process safe and easy.



QR Code

**Neighborhood Opportunity**

JOY community would like to share an invitation to you all for our JOY Community Market, which is the fourth Saturday of the month through November from 9 AM to 12 PM.

In July, the Community Market will be indoors.

Thanks for sharing! We appreciate you all!

~Joy Center

(The Joy Center sits on the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> & Felix, near Francis Street First)

**Volunteer Opportunities**

We are seeking a team of individuals to be our backup Sunday opener/closer and to run the streaming & sound system on days when Jennifer is unavailable for any given reason.

Please contact the office if you are interested. Training provided.

“If you had the cure to cancer, wouldn't you share it? ... You have the cure to death ... get out there and share it.”

- Kirk Cameron

*Loving God, we pray that you will comfort us in our suffering, lend skill to the hands of our healers, and bless the means used for our cures. Give us such confidence in the power of your grace, that even when we are afraid, we may put our whole trust in you, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?**

*Please pray for our Brothers and Sisters*

Roger Paul (illness), Aden Graves-Tanguay (continuing health issues), The Garrett Family (loss of beloved pet), Wanda Barr, Ronald Sachs (Jane's son), Lisa Olsen and her father, Glenn Gibson, Maggie Williams, Theresa Segress (daughter of Roger Paul), Marian Mead, Susie Brown, Margaret Pella (friend of Jane Sachs), Harley McDaniel, Harold Molloy, Charles Cloniger (friends of Kay Paul), Todd Roseberry, Kari Hagan, The future of Francis Street First, Our Community & Ministries, and for peace between Ukraine and Russia.