

Le Roy First United Presbyterian Church
101 East Pine Street
P. O. Box 88
Le Roy, Illinois 61752-0088

If you would like to be added to either our email or postal mailing list, please contact the church office to leave your name and preferred contact information.
(962-5011 or leroypresbyterian@gmail.com)

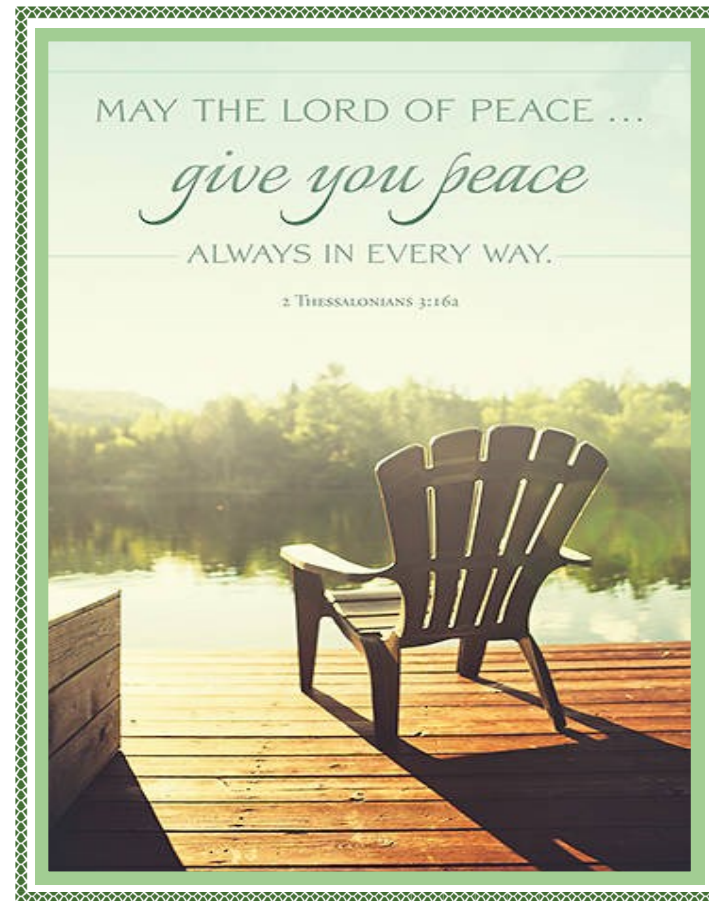


**LE ROY FIRST UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
309-962-5011
leroypresbyterian@gmail.com
Website: leroypresbyterian.info

Vol. XXV No. 6

Salt Creek Savorings

June, 2022



June 2022

Adapting Traditions



The tradition began on a bright sunny afternoon thirteen years ago. When our kids get home from school on the last day of school, Mom and I ambush them for a water battle. Kindergarten was a complete surprise for our oldest, but by first grade the bus was exited at a running start and the battle was on.

Then we were hit with the reality of a pandemic and AP exams. We no longer had a traditional last day of school or early dismissal for seniors. Yet, instead of giving up beloved traditions we adapted them to our new reality.

So last year when waiting on the bus to arrive was no longer an option, we ambushed the oldest after textbooks were returned to the high school. And this year, our youngest orchestrated ambushing Kate (who is a school librarian) this past Friday when she came home from her year-end checkout on the last day of school.

And something amazing happened. The world did not come to an end. Sure, things are different, but the laughter and soaking clothes were just as authentic as all the years before.

Since March 2020, we have all adapted and adjusted in ways we would never have imagined in February 2020. And much like our family water battle . . . the world did not come to an end. Traditions and customs were adapted (and sometimes even dropped entirely) so that we could care for each other.

It has been a joy to see all the ways that congregations and individuals have adapted to our rapidly changing environment. The resiliency and creativity of ministries is awe inspiring.

As we have transitioned back to more familiar formats for gathering and interacting, it is important that we do not forget the adaptability and skills we have developed during the pandemic. We are called to continue exploring and experimenting with how to include everyone in our worship and fellowship.

While things might be different, the joy, love, and grace we experience as we come together as the body of Christ in the world is just as authentic.

May the peace of Christ be with you today and every day.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bill



As part of the Mission Study Task Force's gathering of information, we invite everyone to enter into a discussion of "**Norms**" in our church.

"Norms" are the social standards that have become ingrained into our congregation's culture as to how we relate with each other in our various interactions.

Sunday, June 5th
10:00 A.M.

They can be looked at as both positive and negative. An easy example would be how many have a pew they sit in on Sundays and they will be and to not sit there. Regulars may be their usual spot. Another discussion point might be that. Do we address it head on in a meeting or do we do it in the parking lot debating it?

Other examples may be harder to think of and this illustrates why this meeting is so important. The “**norms**” of our congregation (and any social group) get so deep-rooted that they have become automatic, and we don’t even think about questioning what kind of impact they are having. It is important to bring them to light so we can consider what are the “**norms**” that are having a positive impact, to highlight and reinforce them, and which are having a negative impact, to address and potentially modify them to the betterment of our congregation and interaction with each other.

We urge you to join us for this important and enlightening discussion. A meal will be provided following the meeting.

Where is Pastor Bill and How Do We Contact Him?

Pastor Bill has onsite office hours at the church on most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am - 2pm. If you would like to contact him outside of office hours, he can be reached by phone call or text message at 217-979-7672 or by email at wsmclean@gmail.com



Pastor Bill is enjoying getting to know the members of our church family as he settles in as our interim pastor. If you (or a family member) would like a pastoral visit or to talk with Pastor Bill, please reach out to let him know.



The ***Monday Morning Bible Study*** has resumed after a long absence due to COVID. All are invited to join together at 9:00 a.m. each Monday.

The current study is "Journey Into Victorious Living (Life of Joseph)"
Hope to see you there!



6/6 Eric Mennenga	6/15 Mike Nichols	6/23 Bruce Walker
6/11 Mary Ella Mennenga	6/15 Emily Mennenga	6/26 Karen Hill
6/11 Holly Fannin	6/17 Ella Mennenga	6/27 Judy Busey
6/12 Nicole Houser	6/19 Diana Hill	6/27 Barb Monical
6/13 Kim Myers	6/22 Aliyah Grismore	6/28 Stephen Miller

6/09 Miranda & Bruce Walker
 6/16 Jan & Bruce Owens
 6/18 Barb & John Murfin
 6/20 Judy & John Busey



6/20 Kim & Steve Myers
 6/21 Janet & Gary Brent
 6/29 Jan & Rex Allen
 6/30 Pat & Francis Smith



Congratulations!

High School Graduates:

- ♦ Ben Cresap (Monticello High School)
- ♦ Kamryn & Kelsey Graves (LeRoy High School)
- ♦ Tanner Holoch (LeRoy High School)
- ♦ Carson Houser (LeRoy High School)
- ♦ Gavin Melton (LeRoy High School)
- ♦ Jillian Mohr (LeRoy High School)
- ♦ Thomas Toohill (LeRoy High School)

College Graduate:

- ♦ Tyler McCormick (Missouri Southern State University)



We're still looking for the right person for our administrative assistant position and invite you or someone you know who may be interested, to apply! The job consists of 24 - 30 hours per week (somewhat flexible) with negotiable salary (\$13-\$16) based on qualifications and experience. Holidays and paid vacation days are provided. Social, communication, and organizational skills are required as well as knowledge of Microsoft Office Word and Excel. Familiarity with Office Access and Publisher programs is a plus.

If you have questions or would like an application, please contact the church office at (309-962-5011) from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., M-Th.; or email leroypresbyterian@gmail.com

June Library Corner

By Marty Dean



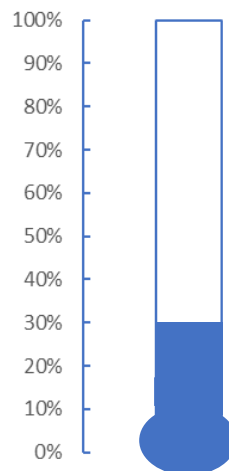
Focus on Devotionals

For the taking or sharing, a range of *Discovery Series Devotionals* are available on our church library table. These devotional booklets aim to offer deeper edification in applying scripture to everyday life. Titles include: "Humble Hearts - Open Hands", "Gospel Conversations", "What is Worship?" and more.

Also of inspiration, another gem from the devotional section of our library--*Sow the Word . . . Harvest Character: A Year of Devotions for the Growing Christian* by Kenton K. Smith. Presented as an almanac, the spiritual advice format involves: plow - prepare your heart for the Word; sow - identify/focus on a character trait; cultivate - identify distractors/weeds; water - nourish with easy-to-memorize nuggets from scripture. A measure of an excellent guide--highlighted text, side margin notes, and journal reflections by previous readers.

BUILDING RENOVATION PROGRESS UPDATES:

BUILDING FUND CONTRIBUTIONS



We have received **\$89,915** since our renovation project was approved. Our thanks to all who are helping to achieve our goal!

The most recent development has been a rather noisy, dusty one....removing blocks and bricks from the outer east wall to make way for a window in each of the three offices and also for the opening between the office area and the new commons area. (Luckily Pastor Bill was NOT in his office when this part was happening!)

Also, the new part of the fellowship hall ceiling was completed before the Memorial Day dinner.

As things always have to look worse before they look better, some of the ceiling in the Chapel had to be removed in order to connect the new HVAC in the renovated area with the established ductwork.

reflections

*Dana Miller,
Director of Student Ministries*



I have fond memories of my eighth grade graduation—sort of. You may recall I've told the story about how I graduated from Brugh School in rural Fremont, Nebraska. Brugh was a two room country school-house, with K-4th grade in one room, and 5th-8th grade in the other room. When I graduated from Brugh in May 1981, my graduating class was only two people—myself, and a girl named Suzie Steinbach. I remember at the time thinking it was so weird to make a big deal about 8th grade graduation—particularly since I had four more years of school to go, not counting college. To be honest, I really didn't place a whole lot of value on this experience. Had it not been for the great cloud of witnesses who came up to me and told me to treasure and remember this day, I probably wouldn't have. It would have been just another day growing up, one in a seemingly never ending litany of days to have to slug through until I could graduate from high school (now, THAT would be something, I thought....) But I'm glad I heeded the advice of those around me and not my younger self, and remembered the special nature of that day. Now knowing what a unique experience I went through as a child, that 8th grade graduation means far more to me now than it did when I was younger and less mature.

Those of us who have been Christ followers for a long time, if we don't guard our hearts, can be guilty of the same thing in our faith walk. I know I have. When we've been believers for a long time, it can be easy to take for granted the immense privilege we have. We are children of God! We are indwelt with the Holy Spirit! We can come to him with our praises, problems, and anything in between! What an incredible privilege this is! I don't know about you, but I have gone through seasons where I have had to fight the sense that all this is, well, not special. Sure, someday we'll be with Jesus in heaven, and THAT will be something, but today? Today is just another day in a long litany of days to slug through, waiting for that special day to meet my Savior.

I want to encourage you to not take these days, and the gifts we have been given now, for granted. Each day is special! We graduate from the previous day, hopefully a little wiser, a little closer to imitating Jesus than the day before, and we STILL have those treasures and privileges I mentioned earlier. When life seems like a giant slog of one day after

another, God reminds us that our time, and what we do with it, matters. Speaking about his chosen people in Isaiah 33:6, "He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure." Acknowledging what an awesome God we have, and how special and lavish the gifts He has given us are, we can be alert for opportunities to draw others closer to Christ by showing what He has done for our lives. The extraordinary gift of Jesus can transform our days from ordinary to extraordinary, too!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL June 20-24

Sign up now for VBS! This year our kids will grow in their faith as they understand how to make waves and share God's love with the people around them because it IS possible for kids to create a ripple effect that can impact the world around them in ways they will never forget. We're all designed to make positive change in the world and to **Make Waves!** Pick up a registration form at the church or contact Mr. Dana at 309-660-6907 or dmillbhawk@gmail.com



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TOO -- PLEASE LET DANA KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP!

Please pass along our appreciation to our church family and the Mission & Outreach committee for the financial donation to the Best Buddies Walk, supporting inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The smiles on the faces in the pictures say it all. :) Anna & Bella



Bella & Anna Rayburn



Our buddy Angie and Bella
(plus "Jake from State Farm"!)

Worship Schedule - June 2022

9:00 a.m. Sunday WORSHIP	June 5 (Communion)	June 12	June 19	June 26
ACCOMPANISTS	Londa Holoch Vonette Miller	Vonette Miller	Vonette Miller	Vonette Miller
LAY READER	Marty Dean	Naomi Chaplin	Marty Dean	Naomi Chaplin
USHER/ GREETERS	Judy & Dennis McCormick	Angie & Maddy Timm	Jack & Beverly Burcham	Dennis & Mary Ella Mennenga
COMMUNION SERVERS	Bobbi Murfin; Beverly & Jack Burcham			
TECH BOOTH	Steve Sinnott; Randy Sigler	Steve Sinnott; Tanner Holoch	Steve Sinnott; Sarah Hill	Steve Sinnott; Isaac Holoch



LEAP & LOOP will not regularly meet during the summer but there will still be a BIG activity each month for our Presbyterian youth. Look for updates in the weekly newsletter!

LEAP and LOOP will return to their normal weekly schedules in September!



May ATTENDANCE

Sunday Dates	Sunday Attendance
May 1	51
May 8	41
May 15	50
May 22	42
May 29	42
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	45

CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders:

Martha Dean
Tracey Holoch
Dennis McCormick
Mary Ella Mennenga
Anna Rayburn
Ashley Sigler
Randy Sigler
Steve Sinnott
Dixie Weinheimer

Committee

Adult Christian Development/Nominating
Administration/Nominating Committee
Adult Christian Development
Adult Christian Development/Worship & Music
Clerk of Session/Christian Education
Christian Education
Administration/Worship & Music
Worship & Music
Mission & Outreach

**Session is currently scheduled to next meet on
Wednesday, June 8th at 6 p.m.**

Minutes will be available, after approval, in the office.

Deacons:

Teresha Bossingham
Beverly Burcham
Jack Burcham
Scott Graves
Amanda Hill
Sarah Hill
Londa Holoch
Vonette Miller
Barb Monical
Bobbi Murfin

Deacon of the Month:

October
June
May
November
August
July
February
April
March
September



Church Phone: (309) 962-5011
Website: leroypresbyterian.info
E-Mail: leroypresbyterian@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Church: Monday thru Thursday 8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Pastor Bill: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 am- 2:00 pm

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Bill McLean wsmclean@gmail.com
(217) 979-7672
Dana Miller, Director of Student Ministries dmillbhawk@gmail.com
(309) 660-6907
Rita Vollmer, Secretary/Treasurer leroypresbyterian@gmail.com
rmhvollmer@gmail.com



June

Deacon of the
Month
Beverly Burcham



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM K-5th Sunday School Class 10:00 AM Jr./Sr. High Sunday School Class 6:00 PM Combined LOOP/LEAP Activity at Gaultney Park	30 OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY DINNER 11 am - 1 pm	31	1 6:00 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC	2 8:00 PM Serenity Circle (AA)	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 9:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM K-5th Sunday School Class 10:00 AM "Norms" Discussion followed by meal provided by Adult Christian Development Committee	6 9:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 AM Student Life Campers meet at church 7:15 AM Campers Depart	7 Student Life Camp	8 Student Life Camp 6:00 PM SESSION	9 Student Life Camp 8:00 PM Serenity Circle (AA)	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 Student Life Camp
12 9:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM K-5th Sunday School Class	13 9:00 AM Bible Study	14	15	16 8:00 PM Serenity Circle (AA)	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 9:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM K-5th Sunday School Class	20 9:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 - 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School	21 6:00 - 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School	22 6:00 - 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School	23 6:00 - 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School 8:00 PM Serenity Circle (AA)	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 6:00 - 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School
26 9:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM K-5th Sunday School Class	27 9:00 AM Bible Study	28 6:00 PM ADMINISTRATION	29	30 8:00 PM Serenity Circle (AA)	1 OFFICE CLOSED	