

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



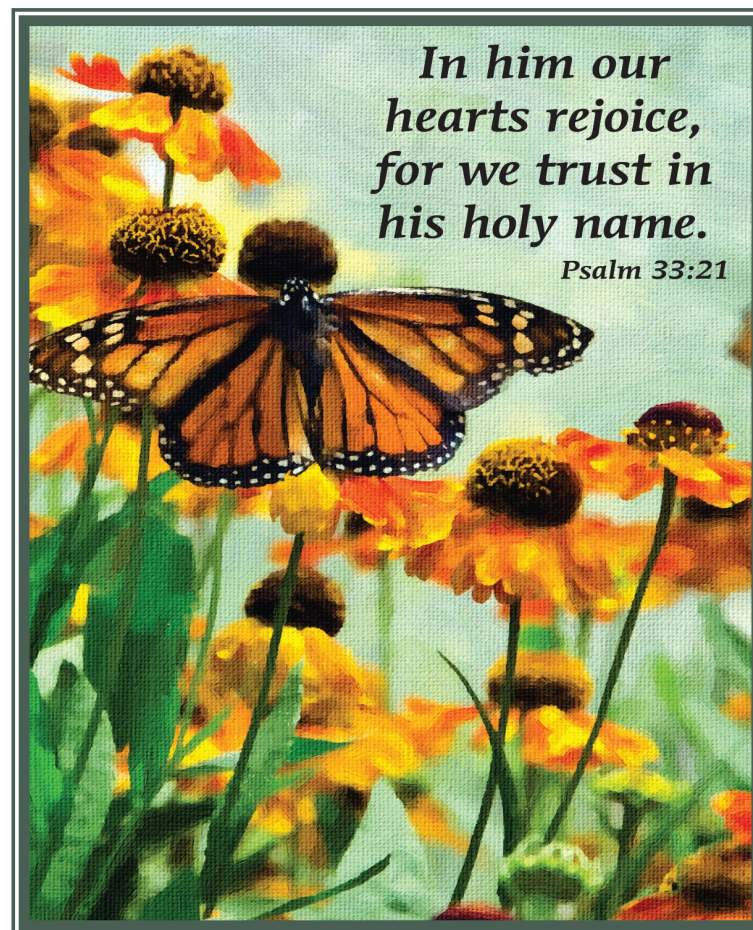
If you would like to be added to either our email or postal mailing list, please contact the church office to leave your name and preferred contact information.  
(962-5011 or [leroypresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:leroypresbyterian@gmail.com) )

LE ROY FIRST UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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Vol. XXV No. 8

# Salt Creek Savorings

## August, 2022



# Pastor's Page

July 2022



## Time Is Strange

Where did the time go? Much to my surprise, when I blinked up the calendar no longer says May but has moved on to August. As Ferris Bueller said in 1986, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." In the midst of all the activity, I am thankful that we continue to gather as a community of believers for weekly worship and fellowship. That even as we are busy with many things, both inside and outside of church, we spend time together worshipping God and exploring how we can faithfully care for all of God's children.

As the end of summer nears, I remember hearing that the days are long and the weeks are short. Meaning that individual days might be tiring and long, but at the same time weeks and months seemed to leap off the calendar. This duality of time has continued this summer, with days full of energy and excitement as we have gathered for VBS and cookouts, celebrated young people participating in mission trips and camp experiences, as well as exploring our shared history and norms as a congregation.

In these final weeks of summer, we cannot magically make time slow down or cause our calendars to become instantly clear, but we can stop and look around. We can see the wonder and beauty in God's creation and acknowledge the miracle that is each one of us as a beloved child of God. We can celebrate and share the gifts of grace and love that God has given us. We can love one another as Jesus has loved us!

Grace and Peace  
Pastor Bill

*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.  
Psalm 90:12*

## SECOND ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE!



Our church is once again hosting a school supply drive. All collected school supplies will be donated to LeRoy Elementary and Jr./Sr. High Schools where they will be distributed to students in need.

To participate, bring donated school supplies to the church by or before Tuesday, Aug. 14th (they will be delivered on Aug. 16th) during regular office hours or on Sunday mornings. Lists of priority supplies needed can be picked up at the church or a link is available on our weekly email.

## Presbyterian Praise Band Concert



**Kiwanis Park  
Bandstand  
August 28<sup>th</sup> - 6 p.m.**

**Public is Invited  
Pass the Word!**

**Praise  
Band  
On  
The  
Move!**



The LeRoy Presbyterian Church Praise Team was well represented as they took their show on the road! On Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, the praise team performed a worship music concert at the Texas Church, shepherded by pastor Tom Marsh. Thanks to all who participated, helped with set up, and attended! What a great turn out by both the Texas Church and the Presbyterian Church!

Our next mission trip to Midwest Food Bank is planned for August 18th from 6 - 8 p.m.

We'll need 20 - 25 volunteers. A sign up sheet is located in the church hallway or contact the church office.





## Birthdays & Anniversaries

8/01 Sarah Hill

8/02 Josie Hill

8/03 Lynsey Gaffney

8/05 Bobbi Murfin

8/07 Jennifer Toohill

8/11 John Murfin

8/11 Scott Graves

8/11 Thomas Toohill

8/17 Renae Hardesty

8/19 Joan Miller

8/19 Vonette Miller

8/23 Jenny Mennenga

8/27 Anna Rayburn

8/29 Ashley Sigler

8/30 Steve Myers

8/31 Gary Brent

8/31 Logan Stengel

8/05 Amanda & Brett Hill

8/08 Judy & Dennis McCormick



8/11 Mary & Randy Sigler

8/11 Vonette & Dana Miller



**Charlotte Elaine** was born July 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:40 p.m., weighing 6 lbs. 12 oz and 19 inches long.

She is welcomed by her parents Brittany and Jake Zook as well as her grandparents, Bobbi & John Murfin, and the late Mike Ready. Beverly and Jack Burcham are great-grandparents.

Bob Marsh will be bringing us the message on Sunday, Aug. 7th, while Pastor Bill is on vacation.

While he is here Bob will update us on the Ukraine relief effort and a special offering will be taken.

All are encouraged to come and worship with us this, and every Sunday!



## Welcome!

Please welcome Robin Woolsey as the newest addition to our church staff! Robin will be training this month to take over the reins of church administrative assistant (aka secretary!) I know you will make her feel welcome and encourage her as you have always supported me over the past 15 years.

Robin was most recently employed by Carle/BroMenn Medical Center and she and her husband now reside in Farmer City. Stop in and say "hello" ... putting a face with a name can really help in learning to recognize everyone!

I have really enjoyed working at FUPC and will so miss everyone whom I've come to know over the years. You've all made me feel like I was part of your "church family" and I've always appreciated that.

*Rita*



## August Library Corner

By Marty Dean



**Hearts of Fire:** Eight Women in the Underground Church and their Stories of Costly Faith - a collaborative work by the Voice of Martyrs.

The book's title and the mission of the coauthors--an international organization dedicated to aid the persecuted church worldwide--sums up the very essence of this work. The early church faced persecution from all sides. The threat of life and limb for Christians continues worldwide, against seemingly insurmountable odds.

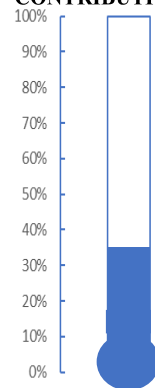
Tara, a 16 year old Pakistani and daughter to a Muslim leader, was locked down in her own room with no food or medical attention. Her offense--Tara was caught with a Bible.

The book's foreword offers a part we can all play in the face of evil--pray. (Gracia Burnham, alongside her husband, were held captive for a year by terrorists in a Philippine jungle.)

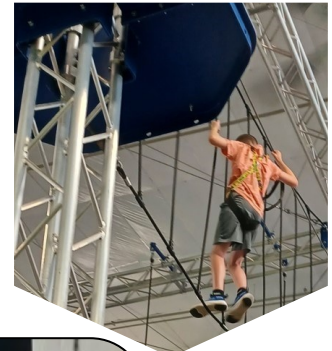
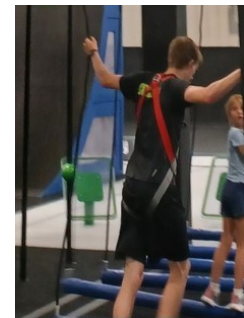
On Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, LOOP and LEAP made a combined trip to **Iron Coyote**, the ninja warrior training facility, in Bloomington. If you like high ropes courses, wall climbing, zip line riding, and other assorted daredevil activities, you should give it a try! (Even Mr. Dana got in on the action, trying to scale the 14 foot warped wall!) It definitely got the seal of approval from the 18 youth in attendance!

**WHO'S UP FOR MORE LOOP AND LEAP FUN IN THE NEAR FUTURE?**

### BUILDING FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

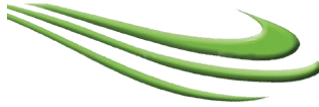


We have received **\$97,863** since our renovation project was approved. Our thanks to all who are helping to achieve our goal!



# reflections

Dana Miller,  
Director of Student Ministries



Fenny

Over the last several days, there has been more drama than usual at our house, and it all revolves around the family dog, Fenny. I don't know if it's an allergic reaction or something else, but he has been aggressively gnawing on his back leg, to the point of rubbing the fur out and scratching himself raw. As a result, Vonette and I have had to resort to the "cone of shame" around his neck so that he can't reach the leg, giving it a chance to heal. Unfortunately, this has led to dog drama in

the house. What should be simple tasks, like drinking water, eating out of his bowl, and peering out of his favorite window by the front door are now much more challenging with the cone. He can't walk along the hallway without face planting himself by hitting the side of the cone on hallway corners, and he can't patrol the back yard looking for bunnies because his cone keeps getting stuck between the slats of the fence. You'd think he'd learn and adapt to his new lifestyle, but he is stuck in his old ways. As a result, life is much harder for him than it needs to be.

If we're honest with ourselves, many of us are in a similar predicament as Fenny. We may not be wearing "cones of shame," but we are slow to react to God's great mercies toward us and respond accordingly. Romans 8:1 tells us, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." If this is true, then why do so many of us (myself included) struggle with living more worthy of Jesus? Paul spent much of the previous chapter of Romans, chapter 7, lamenting about how he still wrestles with sin and doing wrong, even though he knows he should be striving for holiness. Ultimately, we all still fight those sinful impulses, even though we too are called to be holy examples of Christ. And when we fail, we end up in our own "cone of shame" instead of adapting to our lives with the Holy Spirit leading the way. The good news is that we don't have to be slaves to our old selves. Paul continues in Romans 8:15, "For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, 'Abba! Father!'" That's the great news for us! We can put our sinful selves in the past, and keep our eyes on Jesus as we go forward in our lives. We don't have to keep looking over our shoulders. As for how we do this, Jesus reminds us in Luke 9:23 that we are to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him. (Isn't it amazing how He foreshadowed what would happen to him later?)

Our walk with Jesus is ongoing and a daily struggle, yet when we keep our eyes fixed on our Savior, we can be a living example of Jesus to the world

around us, not a slave to the fear that we can (and do) mess up now and then. When those days of failure come, we can confess our sins to Jesus, turn away from those behaviors, and move forward in the confidence that we are forgiven. No more "cone of shame!"

As you can see from the pictures, we had an AWESOME time at the Great Escape Camp in Green Lake, Wisconsin. Camp took place from July 11-July 16, and we brought 8 middle schoolers and two chaperones. There were crazy wet games, super cool night games, insane bumper games, over the top shaving cream games—you get the idea! But it was also an AMAZING time to worship our God and learn more about the wonderful things He has done for us! Scripture was memorized, ice cream was eaten, banana boats were ridden, sand volleyball and gagaball was played, and a GREAT time was had by everyone! Only 11 months to go before we do this again in 2023.

**Are you ready!?!**



## Worship Schedule - August 2022

| 9:00 a.m.<br>Sunday<br>WORSHIP | August<br>7                       | August<br>14                      | August<br>21                    | August<br>28                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACCOMPANISTS                   | Londa Holoch                      | Londa Holoch                      | Londa Holoch                    | Londa Holoch                       |
| LAY<br>READER                  | Naomi<br>Chaplin                  | Sarah<br>Hill                     | Naomi<br>Chaplin                | Marty<br>Dean                      |
| USHER/<br>GREETERS             | Dennis &<br>Judy<br>McCormick     | Dennis &<br>Mary Ella<br>Mennenga | Bobbi & John<br>Murfin          | Beverly & Jack<br>Burcham          |
| COMMUNION<br>SERVERS           | No<br>Communion                   |                                   |                                 |                                    |
| TECH<br>BOOTH                  | Steve<br>Sinnott;<br>Isaac Holoch | Steve<br>Sinnott;<br>Tate Sigler  | Steve<br>Sinnott;<br>Jordan Cox | Steve<br>Sinnott;<br>Tracey Holoch |

Thank you very much for your generous graduation gift.

I am thrilled to have heard from the church and I am so thankful that you guys thought of me.

Sincerely,  
Gavin Melton

**Class  
of  
2022**



Thank you for your generosity and compassion for our youth. The donation of \$300 will be used to purchase school supplies for families in need. Also, it was great meeting Pastor McLean a few weeks ago! My Best,  
Mrs. Erin Conn,  
LeRoy Elementary School

### July ATTENDANCE

| <i>Sunday Dates</i>       | <i>Sunday Attendance</i> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| July 3                    | 39                       |
| July 10                   | 33                       |
| July 17                   | 41                       |
| July 24                   | 38                       |
| July 31                   | Unknown                  |
| <b>AVERAGE ATTENDANCE</b> | <b>38</b>                |

## 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, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 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<br>(217) 979-7672          |
| Dana Miller, Director of Student Ministries | dmillbhawk@gmail.com<br>(309) 660-6907        |
| Rita Vollmer, Treasurer                     | rmhvollmer@gmail.com<br>(309) 826-0401        |
| Robin Woolsey, Admin. Assistant             | leroypresbyterian@gmail.com<br>(309) 962-5011 |

# August

*Deacon of the  
Month  
Amanda Hill*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                       |                                                                                     |                                                                                   |                                                                                              |                                                       |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>31</b><br>9:00am Worship Service (Communion)<br>9:15am K-5th Sunday School Class                                                             | <b>1</b><br>9:00am Monday Morning Bible Study                         | <b>2</b><br>Robin's first day                                                       | <b>3</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation<br><br><b>6:00pm WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC Meeting</b> | <b>4</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation<br><br>7:00 pm Serenity Circle (AA)                         | <b>5</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation<br><br>OFFICE CLOSED | <b>6</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation |
| <b>7</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation<br><br>9:00am Worship Service (No Communion) (Bob Marsh will give message)<br>9:15am K-5th Sunday School Class | <b>8</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation<br>9:00am Monday Morning Bible Study | <b>9</b> Pastor Bill on Vacation                                                    | <b>10</b><br><br><b>6:00pm SESSION</b>                                            | <b>11</b> Dana on Vacation<br><br>7:00 pm Serenity Circle (AA)                               | <b>12</b> Dana on Vacation<br><br>OFFICE CLOSED       | <b>13</b> Dana on Vacation       |
| <b>14</b> <b>CAMP SUNDAY</b><br>9:00am Worship Service<br>9:15am K-5th Sunday School Class                                                      | <b>15</b><br>9:00am Monday Morning Bible Study                        | <b>16</b>                                                                           | <b>17</b><br>LeRoy Schools Start                                                  | <b>18</b><br><br><b>6:00pm Mission Trip to Food Bank</b><br><br>7:00 pm Serenity Circle (AA) | <b>19</b> OFFICE CLOSED                               | <b>20</b>                        |
| <b>21</b><br>9:00am Worship Service<br>9:15am K-5th Sunday School Class                                                                         | <b>22</b><br>9:00am Monday Morning Bible Study                        | <b>23</b><br>LeRoy Fall Festival begins<br><br><b>6:00pm ADMINISTRATION Meeting</b> | <b>24</b>                                                                         | <b>25</b><br><br>7:00 pm Serenity Circle (AA)                                                | <b>26</b> OFFICE CLOSED                               | <b>27</b>                        |
| <b>28</b><br>9:00am Worship Service<br>9:15am K-5th Sunday School Class<br><br>6:00 pm <b>Praise Band Concert at Kiwanis Park</b>               | <b>29</b><br>9:00am Monday Morning Bible Study                        | <b>30</b>                                                                           | <b>31</b><br>Rita's last day                                                      | <b>1</b><br><br>7:00 pm Serenity Circle (AA)                                                 | <b>2</b>                                              | <b>3</b>                         |