

First Presbyterian Church of Fulton

Through These Waters... God's People Build!

Vol. 5, #11: March 24 through March 30, 2023



MATTHEW 25

Building ...Our Faith!



This Week Pastor Aaron asks: "What might we learn about caring for others through the various ways that Jesus responds to those who learn about the death of Lazarus?"

Greetings, Friends!

On this final Sunday before we enter into Holy Week, we will be devoting all of our attention to reading a lengthy passage from the Gospel of John. In this account, Jesus offers his seventh and

greatest sign before his crucifixion, raising Lazarus of Bethany from the dead. Throughout the narrative, Jesus confidently speaks of Lazarus' death as necessary, so that in his resurrection, God might reveal the glory of the "Son of God" who is sent to "awaken him." But despite his own trust in the plan for salvation, Jesus is still filled with compassion, when he sees Mary weeping over the loss of her brother Lazarus.

Like Jesus, we too might place our full trust in God's work of salvation, including Christ's assurance that all who believe in him shall not perish, but shall be raised from death to eternal life. And yet, as our Lord shows us, our confidence in God does not mean that we will not still suffer from the pain of loss, nor does it mean that we should be dismissive of the pain of others.

Throughout our lifetime, we will encounter a world filled with hurting people. And while we are called to point God's children toward the signs of the resurrection, we will often need to first weep with them as we all suffer together in our moments of great loss.

Prior to sharing in worship this week, you may benefit from spending time reading and reflecting upon this passage. We will be reading from the Gospel According to John, chapter eleven, verses one through fifty-three. Given the length of this reading, you may find it helpful to divide it into sections and to pause between each portion before continuing to the next. After reading these texts, please consider your responses to these questions:

- What might we learn about caring for others through the various ways that Jesus responds to those who learn about the death of Lazarus?
- How might Jesus also be offering us a lesson in self-care, even as we are seeking to minister to others in the midst of their own grieving?

As we draw ever closer to the cross, let us also draw close to one another in worship. I hope that you'll be able to join us on Sunday morning. We gather in-person at 10:30 a.m. here in the sanctuary at 718 Court Street in Fulton. You're welcome to join us here, or to share in worship "virtually" by viewing the simultaneous livestream of our worship gathering, which is available on the congregation's YouTube channel. Should you need to experience worship at another time of your choosing, please look for the videos of our gatherings, which are archived on the church's YouTube channel, once worship has concluded.

Friends, let us go with Jesus and his disciples, so that we might be made witnesses to the miraculous signs that he offers to the world. And as we see his works and believe in his word, let us share what has been made known to us, so that others might feel welcome to come and join with us in our worship and our ministry!

May grace and peace be yours in abundance!

Hear the Word: Looking Ahead Toward Sunday, March 26, 2023

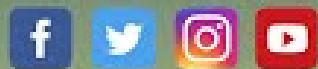
SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH | 10:30 A.M. | 718 COURT ST.

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE:

**THE COMPASSION
TO CRY**

WORSHIP WITH US IN-PERSON
OR ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

@FPCFULTON



Worship & Reflection This Week!

Sunday, March 26, 2023 -The Fifth Sunday in Lent (Year A)

Livestream on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@FPCFulton>

Liturgical Color: Purple

Usher Captain: Vince Logan

Greeter: Helen Logan

Acolyte: Jonah and William Russell

Gospel Lesson: [John 11:1-53](#)

Sermon by Rev. Aaron White

The Compassion to Cry



While the focus of this week's Gospel Lesson tends to be upon the glorious sign of Lazarus' resurrection from the dead, the writer devotes much of this story to exploring the ways in which Jesus responds to those who learn of the death of their friend and brother. When his sisters send a message to Jesus, alerting him to the illness of their brother, Jesus assures the disciples that this sickness will be the means for God to reveal Jesus' glory to the world. And when Martha comes to meet Jesus on his way to Bethany, he assures her that, "those who believe in me, even though they die, will live." (John 11:25).

But when Jesus meets Mary, she kneels at his feet and weeps for the loss of her brother. Despite knowing that Lazarus would soon be raised and returned to his sisters, Jesus still has compassion for her in her grief. And he weeps with her. Our Lord's own expression of emotion, is a reminder for each person of faith that even while we maintain our hope for the fulfillment of God's glory through the resurrection, in this moment, God's people are hurting in the world. And as the body of Christ, we should grieve with all of who suffer from loss.

Additional readings from the Revised Common Lectionary:

[Ezekiel 37:1-14](#); [Psalm 130](#); [Romans 8:6-11](#)

Hymns this Week!

Hymn of Praise: #366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hymn of Reflection: #793 O Christ, the Healer*

Hymn of Dedication: #797 We Cannot Measure How You Heal

Kyrie Eleison: #555 O Lamb of God

Gloria: #581 Glory Be to the Father

Children's Moment: #71 Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me

Congregational Blessing: #695 Change My Heart, O God

A Reminder: Please see below for current COVID-19 Safety Protocol.

We're Growing in God's Love...

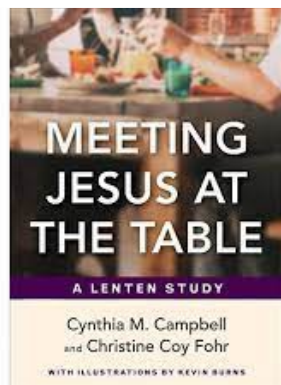
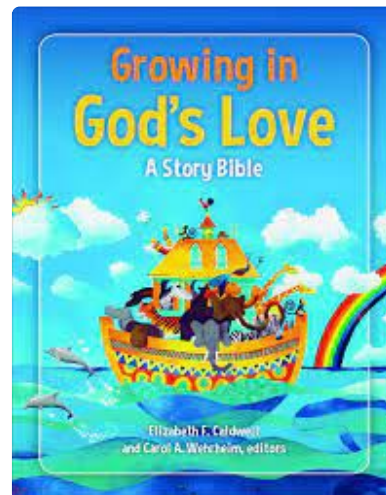
We're "Growing in God's Love" This Sunday!

Children 5th Grade & Younger

9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

Our study of "The Last Things" concludes this week with a story from Luke 23:1-49. As we read about how "Jesus Dies," our goal is to connect this story to our own experiences of grief. While we might want to rush past this story to get to the celebration of Easter morning, taking time to talk about the death of Jesus can help us to also think about how we handle other experiences of loss in our own lives. And when we learn to grieve for the death of God's son, we also learn that God

shares our pain when we lose those whom we love. While we're talking together this week, we'll explore some ways that we can support people we care about when they are hurting.



Meeting Jesus at the Table - Week Three!

Meeting Jesus at the Table

A Lenten Study

Cynthia M. Campbell & Christine Coy Fohr

The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus sharing meals with disciples, friends, even tax collectors and Pharisees. Whether multiplying bread to feed a whole crowd, relaxing with his inner circle, or telling curious elites stories about even greater banquets, Jesus imparts wisdom as he shares the wine and grants

forgiveness as he distributes the fish. Illustrations by artist Kevin Burns invite further meditation on the Gospel story. Each chapter includes questions for small-group discussion or personal reflection. A guide for church leaders offers suggestions for preaching this book as a sermon series and incorporating food-related outreach and hospitality efforts.

**Elders Angela Grogan and Lori Covey facilitate this
Lenten Book Study each Sunday through Easter!**

9:30 am in the FPC Library

COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCHES

*Join together with people of faith throughout the Lenten season
for lunch , fellowship, and a talk.*

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN MARCH AT 12:00 PM
HELD AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
6 E. 7TH ST. FULTON, MO 65251

Gathering over the lunch hour, we'll eat and hear from
different faith leaders from around the community.

We will be reading *The Lord's Prayer: A Guide to Praying
to Our Father* by Wesley Hill

All are Welcome to Worship With Us!

Holy Week & Easter Sunday Service Schedule

Palm Sunday- April 2, 2022

10:30 am

Join us for a Procession of the Palms.



Maundy Thursday - April 6, 2022

6:30 pm

*Commemoration of The Last Supper:
Holy Communion Observed*



Good Friday - April 7, 2022

6:30 pm

*This is a Tenebrae Service: A service of shadows
celebrated in scripture & song.*



Easter Sunday - April 9, 2022

10:30 am

*The Lord's Table restored.
Hosanna in the Highest!
Holy Communion observed.*

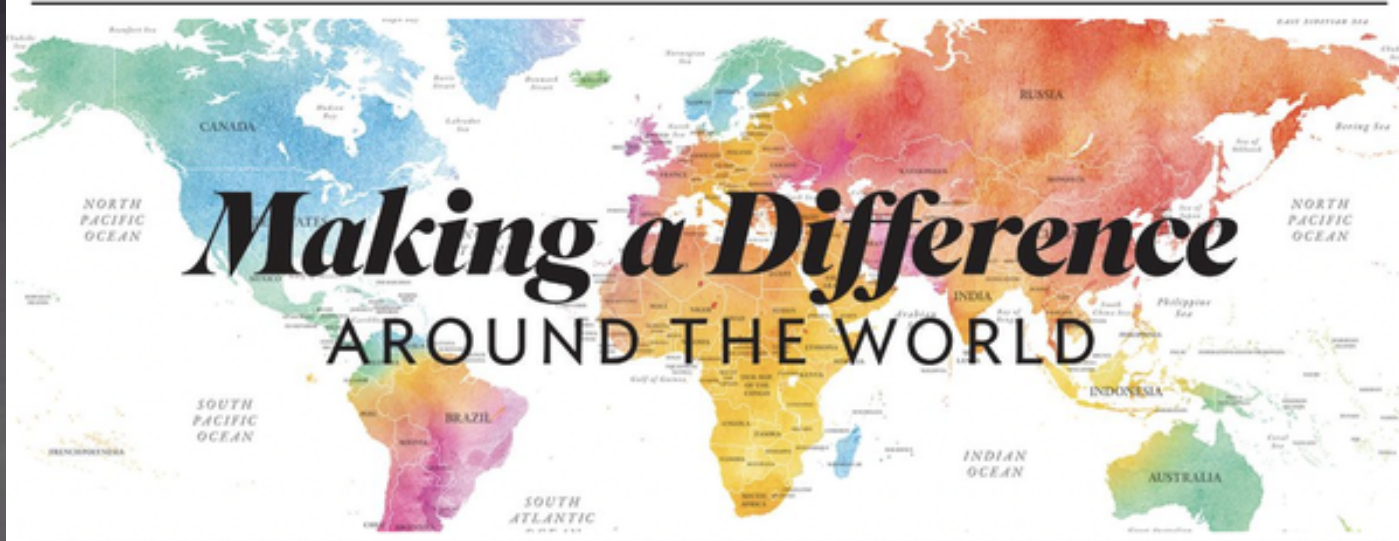


MATTHEW 25

Building ...Response to Need!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



For more than 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has connected us in God's healing, tending and growing to create a world where all needs are met.

One Great Hour of Sharing: If We All Do a Little, It Adds Up to a Lot!

February 22-April 9, 2023 Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Your gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** are shared with the ministries of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in more than 100 countries. Visit pcusa.org/oghsmap for locations and ministries.

Each day at or after a meal time, consider these reflections and questions for the week ahead.

Place a coin or a "gift" in your fish coin bank or a jar, and end by saying the prayer of the week or one of your own.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023, FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading [Ezekiel 37:1-14](#)

Psalms [130](#)

Second Reading [Romans 8:6-11](#)

Gospel [John 11:1-45](#)

SUNDAY PRAYER

Loving God, in a world that sometimes doesn't make sense to us, open our hearts to receive your care and your joy.

Download a Printable Daily Calendar: Click Below for the Entire Season of Lent!

Daily Sharing Calendar

WEEK 6 – MARCH 26 – APRIL 1, 2023

Monday

Where rain is scarce, special collection systems are built to catch the water so that it can be used for growing plants all year. Give a gift for each plant in your house.

Tuesday

Using the online map, locate a ministry in a country far away from you. What need is being addressed there? Say a prayer for the people involved in that ministry.

Wednesday

Learn about the Indigenous people who inhabited the land where you live. Learn the name they used for the land and what that name means. Give a gift to honor them.

Thursday

In Papaye, Haiti, hope is seen in the leaves of the moringa tree, a superfood that helps hungry people in many different ways. Give a gift for every tree around your home.

Friday

The vulnerable are often the most impacted in emergency situations. Discuss who in your community are considered the most vulnerable and say a prayer for them.

Find daily activities for the entire Season of Lent here:

pcusa.org/sharingcalendar

Young Disciples Continue the Little Red Wagon...

Please bring shelf-stable canned and boxed food contributions to church with you each Sunday. Our Young Disciples will collect your donations in the Little Red Wagon for delivery to the SERVE Food Pantry. If you forget to bring an item, feel free to select one from the lobby or the Narthex as you enter the Sanctuary.



DOWNLOAD YOUR COPY OF OUR HOUSE TOP NEEDS LIST HERE!

How Can YOU Help?



Our House: Caring for Callaway's Homeless is in need of a continual and ongoing supply of the following items.

30 Gallon Trash Bags (or larger)

Dish Soap/Laundry Pods

Disinfectant Spray/Cleaning Sprays

Paper Products

Personal Hygiene Seasonal Items months.

Baby Care Items

Medical Items

Back Packs

"Lunch Bag" Items

Feminine Hygiene/Incontinence Products

Clothing/Household Items

These are items that help keep our shelter clean, organized and maintained, as well as make our guests feel like they are worthy. This is NOT an all- inclusive list so feel free to add items if you see something while shopping!!

These items can be purchased from anywhere, we do however have an online list registered with Amazon and Walmart to make it easy to see and purchase from.

Our House always welcomes monetary donations - you can donate on our website at www.ourhousecallaway.org or drop a check off in our secure mailbox (Payable to Our House). You can also drop a check with ***Our House*** listed in the memo line into the offering plate on Sunday, or contribute through the VANCO Online Giving app by selecting ***Our House*** from the dropdown list.

You may also bring your contribution to church on Sunday!

To download a printable copy of the full list with more detail, click the logo or go to:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tbl81t4SKGiMBQVkJMrg7ygtoexdOD9Eo/view?usp=sharing>



Love in Action

There are Many Ways to Serve! Can You Help With One of These?

- **Would you like to learn how to livestream worship services?** *If you would like to learn how to operate the recording equipment and are willing to help with this Sunday morning duty, please contact Shaun Speers or Rev. White for more information.* We are now able to livestream services on our YouTube channel. If you would like to participate in Sunday worship, but cannot attend in person, you can now open any web browser and go to:

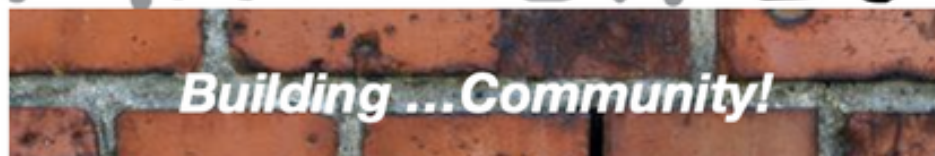
<https://bit.ly/fpcfultonyoutube> at 10:30 am to participate in real time, or any time you choose to view the recorded version.

- **Join an Open Table Serving Team!** Open Table seeks to provide nourishing meals and a place for fellowship to persons in our community each Monday and Thursday from 5-6 pm in the John C. Harris Community Center on Sycamore St. in Fulton. To find out more about opportunities to participate, contact Shirley Dixon or Rev. Aaron White.
- **NAACP Meetings are Held 6:30 pm on the 2nd Monday of Each Month** at the Guiding Light Baptist Church located at 1023 Westminster Ave, Fulton, Missouri. Can you attend to find out more about how our church can live into our Matthew 25 initiatives?

- **Save Egg Cartons & Plastic Grocery Bags for SERVE, Inc.** There is a continual need for plastic bags and egg cartons at the SERVE, Inc Food Pantry. We invite you to save and donate these items. Not only does this help our environment through recycling, it helps fill a need for the food pantry as larger food packages are broken down for distribution to various-sized families.
 - **The Coffee & Donut Bar is a Church Favorite. Can You Help?** We need someone to pick up the church donuts at Jamolee's each Saturday morning and take them to church and put them in the church kitchen. The donuts will already be paid for. If you are willing to do this, please contact Ramona Dobson at clerk@fultonpresbyterian.org or call her cell: 573-310-1048.
 - **Have you thought of joining the FPC Choir?** Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. To find out more about joining this unique group, or to share you musical talent, please contact Choir Director Maddie Jenkins at maddiejenks12@gmail.com
 - **Spread the Word to All of the Middle & High School Students in Your Life: The Rock is a great place to meet friends and explore a life in faith.** *We welcome all middle and high school students to join us at The Rock each Sunday evening at 6:00 pm. 715 Nichols Street, Fulton, Missouri.*
 - **Would you like to join the Usher Team?** Volunteers are needed to help carry out our Hospitality Mission. If you are interested in being a regular or fill-in usher, please contact Shirley Dixon to find out more!
 - **Would Your Child Like to be an Acolyte?** This is a wonderful way for our young disciples to participate. To find out more about the role acolytes play in our regular Sunday morning worship services, contact Debbie Calder or Rev. White.
 - **Church Lock-Up Volunteers are Needed!** Volunteers are needed to lockup the Church after Sunday service. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the lobby. Those that can support, please sign up for desired dates. If you have any questions on what it entails, please ask Mark Covey at 573-327-0297, or another Property Committee member.
 - **Convert your Moser's Grocery Store Receipts and Best Choice Labels to Building Funds.** All funds raised through the redemption of Moser's Discount Food store register receipts and Best Choice product labels from either Moser's or C&R Market are being donated to the FPC Building Fund. They can be placed in the offering plates on Sunday mornings, left in the church office, or turned in directly to Nola Garner, who organizes this effort.
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MATTHEW 25



CELEBRATING UNIQUELY BOLD PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

FPC Women's Tour Group Meeting THIS WEEK AFTER WORSHIP!

We will hold a brief meeting in the lobby after church on Sunday, March 26 to talk about our purpose and plan for which adventure to take first. We look forward to seeing many "Uniquely Bold Presbyterian Women" from the First Presbyterian Church of Fulton there!

If you are interested in taking day trip with FPC women friends this Spring, please send an email indicating your interest to: FPC Women's Tour Group at communications@fpcfulton.org, or contact Helen Logan or Mary Van Orden.

Suggested Trip Destinations so far include:

The Chihuly in the Gardens Event at the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis

Read more about it at: <https://chihuly.missouribotanicalgarden.org/>

and

A Visit to Prairie Garden Trust in New Bloomfield

Read more about it at: <https://prairiegardentrust.org/>

Click Here to Read the Spring PW of MUP Newsletter!



Fulton Preschool Association

Seeking Part-Time Teacher

Fulton Preschool has been serving the families of Callaway County for over 60 years and holds a respected reputation in the community. We are dedicated to providing a quality school experience for 3-5 year-olds by offering an educationally sound program that emphasizes both academic and social development. FPA philosophy is and has always been, "learning through play." The FPA values play as a framework for learning, helping every child succeed. Our preschoolers are gently introduced to and prepared for the structure and the areas of learning they will master in kindergarten.

Job Opportunity for Part-Time Teacher beginning 2023-2024 School Year

Position Description

- Teach a morning preschool class on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30am - 11:30am with on the jobsite hours from 8:00am - noon.
- Teach a morning preschool class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am - 11:30am with on the jobsite hours from 8:30am - noon
- Coordinate and undertake managerial tasks as needed
- MWF Class Size limited to 16 four and five year old children
- TTH Class Size limited to 14 three and four year old children
- An experienced teacher aide works with the teacher
- Teacher mentor available for the 2023-2024 school year
- Framework for set curriculum, previous lesson plans available

Applicants should have one of the following

- Experience working with children in a school setting
- An Associate in Child Development (CDA)
- An Associate degree in Early Childhood Education
- Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or an Elementary Education Degree

Job application may be found on our website www.fultonpreschool.org

Mail completed application, resume, and cover letter to:

Fulton Preschool Association

P.O. Box 123

Fulton, MO 65251

Attn: Teacher Search Committee

or

Email completed application, resume, and cover letter to:

fultonpreschoolhospitality@gmail.com

For additional information contact the preschool classroom at 573-590-1899

Easter Breakfast

Easter Sunday is Coming: Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt Before Worship!

On Easter Sunday April 9th, bring your favorite Easter breakfast dish and join us the Fellowship Hall for celebration and fellowship.

Breakfast at 9:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt on the Lawn at 10:00 am.

Worship at 10:30 am

If you can help serve or plan to bring a dish, please contact Karen Dungan at 573-310-9171.

Mark Your Calendar for These Great FPC Church Dinner Events!

Church Dinners – After Worship

2023-2024

COME ONE, COME ALL and MAKE CHURCH FUN: We cannot build our church brick by brick if we don't have fellowship activities to bring us together as church members. We hope you will not



these dates on your calendar, so you can join us for a monthly luncheon after the Sunday Worship service. We always need people to help set out food prior to the lunch and to help clean up afterward. If you can help with these tasks, please let Ramona Dobson know.

To download a printable copy of the yearlong calendar of FPC Church Dinners go to:

<http://bit.ly/3TrvmzK>

or use the QR code above!

Fulton Caregiver Support Group Meets on the Third Tuesday of Each Month!

The Fulton Caregiver Support Group meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month from 11:00 am to Noon at the First Presbyterian Church, 718 Court Street.

Caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias are welcome to share concerns with each other, learn about the disease and support one another. Find comfort and reassurance about feeling of guilt, frustration, and fear. Learn more about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and make new friends. You are not alone in the journey.



Join us for the next 1-hour meeting:

Tuesday, April 18

11am-12pm

Find us on Facebook!

<https://bit.ly/3WayLUK>



What's Next: A Glance Ahead at FPC!

APRIL, 2023

- Weekly on Sundays - Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Weekly on Sundays - Adult Bible Study, 9:30 am in the Library
- Weekly on Sundays - Worship Service, 10:30 am
- Weekly on Sundays - The Rock for Middle & High School Students 6pm
- Weekly on Wednesdays - FPC Chancel Choir Practice, 7 pm in the Choir Room
- Weekly on Wednesdays - Lunch Bunch, Noon in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday Service, 10:30 am
- Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 pm
- Friday, April 7 - Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 6:30 pm
- Sunday, April 9 - EASTER SUNDAY Worship Service, 10:30 am
- Sunday, April 9 - Easter Breakfast and Egg Roll beginning at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, April 23 - Easter Cantata followed by "Our Favorite Tunes" Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

- Sunday, April 30 - Initial Meeting for Earth Care Congregation Planning, After Worship in the Fellowship Hall

About Our Congregation....

First Presbyterian Church of Fulton, Missouri is a PC(USA) congregation and a member of the Missouri Union Presbytery.

We are a **Matthew 25 Church** invested in Eradicating Systemic Poverty, Dismantling Structural Racism, and Building Congregational Vitality.

As an **Earth Care Congregation**, our worship and discipleship celebrates God's grace and glory in creation. Through education, we encourage and support each other in keeping and healing the creation. Our facilities are managed, maintained, and upgraded to respect and cherish all creation. Through outreach we encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth.

The congregation of FPC Fulton is an active participant in the community through our support in word and deed of the following local organizations:

- **Our House: Caring for Callaway's Homeless** through shelter, education, & advocacy.
- **SERVE, Inc.:** providing dynamic services for Callaway County residents including financial assistance, volunteer opportunities for all ages, door-to-door public transportation, a thrift store, food pantry, supplemental school supplies, and Christmas gifts for families in need.
- **Open Table:** Setting the table to provide nourishing meals and a place for fellowship to persons in our community.

We are a **Four for Four Congregation** participating in these special offerings throughout the year: **One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Joy, Pentecost, and Peace & Global Witness.** We declare a connection with the ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and join in the efforts of Presbyterians around the corner and around the world to share God's grace and endless love.



Follow Us on Social Media!



Office Hours, Giving & Contact Information!

How to Contact Rev. Aaron White During Regular Times!

Rev. Aaron White is holding virtual office hours at this time. Please call him on his cell phone, (573) 590-3136 or contact him by email pastor@fultonpresbyterian.org.



COVID-19 Safety Protocols by the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Fulton.

Effective November 28, the wearing of masks when entering the church building is optional. All other COVID-19 Safety Protocols remain in place. This includes the observance of social distance, using disposable Communion elements, and no contact collection of the offering. Our church COVID-19 Safety Protocols extend to all church activities.

How Can I Give?

Checks for pledges and offerings, and documents are normally hand-delivered on Sunday mornings by dropping them in the collection plate located at each door of the Sanctuary. Otherwise, if you are unavailable to attend church, any of these items can be mailed to:

**First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 6037, Fulton, MO 65251**

If you prefer online giving, use our new GIVE+ Online giving system through the website or the GIVE+ Mobile app.

How to Contact Our Committees!

Our committees Gmail accounts that can be used to email them suggestions, concerns, and thanks. The addresses are:

- Session Clerk, "clerk@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Administration Committee, "administration@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Christian Education Committee, "education@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Fellowship Committee, "fellowship@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Mission Committee, "mission@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Congregational Care Committee, "pastoralcare@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Property Committee, "property@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Worship Committee, "worship@fultonpresbyterian.org"
- Communications, "communications@fultonpresbyterian.org"



Welcome to Our Church!

First Presbyterian Church is located at 718 Court Street in historic downtown Fulton, Missouri. Worship services, under the direction of Rev. Aaron White, are held each Sunday morning. For more information, go to: www.fultonpresbyterian.org or find us on Facebook or on Twitter @FPCFulton.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel:

<https://bit.ly/fpcfultonyoutube>

Email: communications@fultonpresbyterian.org

Website: fultonpresbyterian.org

Location: [718 Court Street, Fulton, MO, USA](#)

Phone: [573-642-5541](tel:573-642-5541)

Facebook: facebook.com/fultonpresbyterian

Twitter: [@FPCFulton](https://twitter.com/FPCFulton)



Mary Van Orden

Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters