

St. Charles Presbyterian Church *Summer Newsletter*

June | July | August 2026

Gathered in Hope,
Nurtured in Faith,
Sent as Christ's Servants

Summer Dates to Remember

Baptism, Communion | June 14
VBS | Pride St. Charles | June 20
Father's Day, VBS "Spotlight" |
June 21
Independence Day | July 4
Communion | July 12
Festival of the Little Hills | August
21-23
Founder's Day, Communion |
August 23

If you are traveling on vacation
this summer, you can worship
with us through our YouTube
channel.

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What are you doing with your wild and wonderful summer?

There are several ways that you can share your time with our church:

- VBS, one day only, **June 20, 9-3**; see Jess McMaken for details on how you can help whether front and center or behind the scenes. There are many ways that you can serve.
- Festival of the Little Hills, **Aug. 21-23**—our biggest fundraiser that requires many hands! More details on pg. 4.
- Spiritual Formation classes—consider leading or substituting for the regular class leader during the year, September–May. More details on page 9.
- Help out in the Church Office—there are several small, light jobs such as shredding old papers, cleaning/purging and organizing cabinets, and preparing bulletins and other materials for Sunday worship. Talk to Kenda Carey for more details.
- Outside work: if you love gardening, you can help maintain our flower beds and other areas of our grounds; see Jerry Lyon for details for how you can help.

*Don't forget about our local St. Charles area libraries: there are a multitude of activities for children–adults, including crafts, games, educational, and book discussion groups, or simply make your summer goal to read more. Your library can help!

Don't miss out on activities right here in our own backyard:

- Festivals: as big as Riverfest in July and Festival of the Little Hills in August or as small as the one day themed festivals at the St. Charles Market on Saturdays. The Market has moved to 370 Lakeside Park and is open from 8-1. More information about festivals can be found at: discoverstcharles.com/events/festivals or the events page of the St. Charles City Government website.
- If you love music, check out the Hot Summer Nights, Music on Main, or Beale Street and New Town concert series.
- Food Trucks, Live music, and other outdoor activities at local St. Charles parks.

“Summertime is always the best of what might be.”

Charles Bowden



Get ready for a VBS that is
Out of this World!

GALAXY

Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love

VBS kids will orbit around in small groups experiencing these adventures:

- Opening with Music & More
- Out-of-this-World Bible Adventures
- Project-with-a-Purpose
- Have-a-Blast Games
- Closing with a Send-Off Mission

Thank you to all of the volunteers who are helping to make VBS a great experience for all! Even if you have not volunteered you can help by praying for the leaders, volunteers, and the kids.

Galaxy VBS Day
June 20, 9-3



Festival of the Little Hills

St. Charles
Presbyterian Church

**ICE CREAM
SANDWICHES**



Friday, August 21

Saturday August 22

Sunday, August 23

The St. Charles Presbyterian Church Ice Cream Sandwich Booth will be at the Festival of the Little Hills once again and we need your help! There are many ways that you can serve to help make it a success. You will have fun participating in the preparation of the ice cream sandwiches, setting up the booth, tearing down the booth, and most importantly, working a shift (or two!) during the festival. You can also volunteer your time to attend the monthly board meetings. Not only is this a tradition for our church and the St. Charles community, it is an important fundraiser supporting our mission and ministries. Look for more details in upcoming weekly announcements and sign-up sheets in the Narthex. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the church office or Scott Carey, 314 220-0045.

Summer Events for Adults

Dinner & Discussion Group looks a little different during the summer months. Their goal is to meet at least once a month, enjoy a potluck meal together, and read and discuss a book that can be completed during the summer months. Their book for this summer is *The Road Back to You* by Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile. They met on May 27 for their summer kickoff and have discussed Ch. 1-2. Their next meeting is June 24th and you can join them from 6-8 at Marcus & Ruth Smith's house, 3108 Bowman Ridge Dr. The beauty of this laid-back group is that you can join anytime, read the book or not, and bring whatever food you may have to share or not. If you are looking for a group that is low-commitment but also desire deeper connections to adults in our church this is the group for you! For more information about the book they are reading, go to <https://www.lifeinthetrinityministry.com/store/p/rbty> or talk to Kenda Carey.

Book Club Summer Selections & Meeting Dates

June 2: *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Piccoult

A book that examines what it means to be a good parent, a good sister, a good person. Is it morally correct to do whatever it takes to save a child's life even if that means infringing upon the rights of another? Should you follow your own heart or let others lead you?

July 7: *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict

The unbelievable story of Hedy Lamarr, known as a glamorous actress, but unknown and underestimated as a scientist with ideas to help fight the Nazis. This book celebrates women in history that science has overlooked.

August 4: *Life, A Love Story* by Elizabeth Berg

This is a warm, intimate novel that reminds us of the richness that can be found all throughout our lives. Reading it will renew your spirit as you notice and appreciate the things and people that make up a life.

Lunch Bunch

Summer Dates and Locations

June 17 Magpie's Cafe, 903 S. Main St.

July 15 The Wine Cafe, 703 S. Main St.

August 19 Tubby's Pub & Grub,
506 Droste Rd.
Plaza Lanes Bowling Center

Lunch Bunch meets at 11:30
on the 3rd Wednesday of
every month. You can join
them at any time.

SUMMER CALENDAR

June

June 2, 1 pm | Book Club, Java with Jesus area
June 7, 1st Sunday after worship Fellowship, all day | MOD Pizza fundraiser
June 14, 10:30 am | Baptism of Bennett Luley, Communion
June 14, following worship | VBS Volunteer meeting
June 17, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch
June 18, 7 pm | Session
June 20, 9-3 | VBS
June 21 | Father's Day | Men's Choir Anthem | VBS "Spotlight"
June 22-29 | Pastor Marilyn on study leave
June 24, 6-8 pm | Dinner & Discussion Group, home of Marcus & Ruth Smith

July

July 4 | Independence Day
July 5 | 1st Sunday after worship Fellowship
July 6-13 | Pastor Marilyn on vacation
July 7, 1 pm | Book Club, Java with Jesus area
July 15, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch
July 16, 7 pm | Session
July 19 | Spiritual Formation Committee after worship
July 20-27 | Pastor Marilyn on vacation
July 22, 6-8 pm | Dinner & Discussion Group, home of Marcus & Ruth Smith

August

August 2 | 1st Sunday after worship Fellowship
August 4, 1 pm | Book Club, Java with Jesus area
August 12, 6-8 pm | Dinner & Discussion Group,
home of Marcus & Ruth Smith
August 19, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch
August 20, 7 pm | Session
August 21-23 | Festival of the Little Hills Ice Cream Sandwich Booth
August 23 | Founder's Day, Communion
August 28-September 14 | Pastor Marilyn on vacation

Welcome New Members

Susan & Hans Knape



A heartfelt congratulations to our beloved church members!



Masoma Litumbe who received the President's Excellence Award from DuBray Middle School.

Caleb Scott who received several awards from Francis Howell North. He graduates in June and will attend Missouri S & T in the fall.



Recent college graduates: Zack Southard* from Missouri State & Jacob York from the University of Missouri-Columbia



*Zack is renting our garage space for his new business, Skin & Bones Sculpture Studio. Check it out!

Update on Giving

St. Charles Presbyterian Church has a rich tradition of generosity, and recent offerings continue to reflect this commitment—

March 1	Bake Sale to benefit a church member	\$352
March 22	Prokhodov Family	\$728
April 5	One Great Hour of Sharing	\$75
April 19	Success Campus Field Day	\$266



Looking Ahead to Giving Opportunities— Deacons Monthly Mission Offerings

June 7—Project with a Purpose

Deacons are partnering with the VBS kids to collect and assemble ingredients for “Birthday Bags.” The bags contain all of the items needed for a birthday celebration: cake mix, frosting, pan, plates, birthday candles, balloons, party favors and more. Your monetary donations will help to purchase these items. The Birthday Bags will be donated to FISH.

The July special offering will be for the Presbyterian Children’s Home & Services. PCHAS serves over 4,500 families and children in three states every year. Their mission is to empower children, young adults, and families by nurturing their strengths, resilience, and faith. They are guided by Christ’s love is this mission.

In August, the special offering will be for the Giddings–Lovejoy General Mission. These gifts help us to engage in ministry as part of the connectional system of being Presbyterian through which we are professing our faith in action and giving, knowing that we can accomplish far more together than we could do alone.



Looking Forward to Fall

Summer flies by, and fall will be here before we know it! Here and on the following page is what's coming up this fall—ways to serve, grow our connections with God, each other and our community, and engage in the life of our church.

Another season of **Prime Time** will start this fall. They will meet on the following Wednesdays:

September 9
October 14
November 11
December 9

Prime Time is for youth K-6th grade and older youth are welcome to come and help, stay for dinner and their own Bible study. Look forward to another season of having fun, good food, and learning more about God's love for you!


Spiritual Formation classes will begin on Sunday, September 13 for all ages. Come and be a part of a group of disciples of all ages and places in their faith journey, seeking to know God in deeper and more meaningful ways as they encourage one another along the way.

The Adult class will be studying the Psalms this fall and all adults are welcome to join this class. If you desire more information, please see Kenda Carey.

The Spiritual Formation Committee is seeking new members, teachers, helpers, and subs for all classes, and Prime Time leaders and helpers for K-6 Bible Study. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please see Hilary Kelly, Jess McMaken or Mary Kay Lyon for more information.



Looking Forward to Fall



The **Women's Fellowship Group** will meet again in the fall on the first Thursday of the month from 7-8:30 pm in the Java with Jesus area. Women of all ages are invited to this casual and uplifting time of Bible study and fellowship. Their first meeting will be Thursday, September 3. Please see Jess McMaken for more information.

Our church will host a **Welcome Neighbor STL Supper Club** on Sunday, September 27 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$40/person and we must pay for a minimum of 15 meals. The menu will be Afghan and you can see it here: <https://welcomeneighborstl.org/supper-clubs/menus/>

What is Welcome Neighbor STL and their Supper Clubs? They provide services to St. Louis and St. Charles County residents that include housing, food, literacy, transportation, and job development programs. Their mission is to foster a community where people who are refugees and immigrants are respected and flourish as our friends and neighbors. An example of a family support match in St. Charles was with a student at Lindenwood University. Welcome Neighbor STL currently serves approximately 100 immigrant and refugee families living in St. Charles County.

For more information about their **Supper Clubs** please visit:

<https://welcomeneighborstl.org/supper-clubs/>

The meal will be buffet style and their chefs will deliver the food 30 minutes prior to the serving time we've selected and a representative from Welcome Neighbor STL will be with us to give a presentation and share about their various programs.

For more information about Welcome Neighbor STL please visit:

<https://welcomeneighborstl.org/>

There are ways to volunteer with refugee families here in St. Charles County including family partnership, rides to doctors' appointments, hosting a speaking or supper club event, tutoring, or even grocery delivery. Look for more details about this special event towards the end of summer.

