



Jesus said, . . . “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, Whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.” John 14:15-17.

Underestimating the Holy Spirit, we do it all the time. The Holy Spirit is the most under-appreciated, misunderstood Person of the Godhead. With the Father and the Son from eternity, the Spirit hovered over the waters in creation, participating fully in the making. We hear often of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament, appearing as pillar and fire or coming upon someone for some task, but then being lifted up again. Yet Old Testament prophecies promise a future when God will be always with His people, and His Holy Spirit will be poured out on all flesh.

When Christ came to earth, it was the Holy Spirit Who overshadowed Mary to implant in her the Baby Jesus. Years later it was the Holy Spirit Who came upon Him at baptism, Who approved Him and His mission, descending on Him as a dove. The Holy Spirit also drove Jesus into the wilderness for forty days of prayer and fasting and temptation (ministry boot camp!) and then ministered to Jesus. The Lord Jesus acknowledged the Holy Spirit when He quoted, “The Spirit of the LORD is up on me to preach good news. . .” For Christ, the indwelling Holy Spirit connected Him to the Father every minute of the Incarnation, the Holy Spirit was the Sender for His mission, and the Holy Spirit gave Jesus strength when He was tired, weak, or full of sorrow. All this shows us what a Holy Spirit connection can do for a human being.

With Pentecost, the Holy Spirit comes upon the whole church. Once our hearts have been cleansed from sin by Christ, they are a fitting residence for the Holy Spirit. Then the power of God is unleashed from within, within the heart of every believer and within the Church. The Holy Spirit sanctifies us, transforms us into

the image of Jesus, teaches us, guides us, and gifts us. Connected to the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to be strong, at peace, full of joy, and obedient. The indwelling Holy Spirit guarantees our inheritance of eternal life. And like Jesus, we are called by the Holy Spirit into ministry, equipped spiritually for the missions He has for us.

Don’t underestimate the Holy Spirit and His power in your life. Connect with the Spirit, and pray for His infilling and anointing in your faith walk and mission.

Saw a t-shirt that said, “Underestimate me, that’ll be fun.” We as Christians should have that attitude about the Holy Spirit: “Underestimate the Holy Spirit; that’ll be fun.” Because if there is one group that underestimates the Spirit more than we do, it’s the world. That’s our advantage; connected to God through His indwelling Presence, the world cannot defeat us. They don’t even see us coming. We have the internal Guide, our Holy Spirit.

With you in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

Pastor Beth Stone

**Church news:** Thanks to **Jane Berry** for the beautiful flowers that grace our sanctuary each week!

**To mask or not to mask:** session recommends that each person/family follow their own requirements. Masks and sanitizer will continue to be available to all who want them.

**Recruiting and Reactivating!** Our organizers need your help! We are looking for acolytes and for liturgists. If you want to help, let us know!

**Prayer list:** We are restarting our prayer list, so be sure to fill out a card in the pews for anyone you want to add to the prayer list, or to keep them on for continuing prayer support.



**2021 Graduates:** We have two graduates for our congregation, one from high school and another from nursing school. Pray for their continued education and service in God’s world.

**Summer Sessions:** Come out and connect with your church family with Bible lessons, songs, games, crafts, and of course: food! Watch the bulletin for details!

**Mission Trip:** We are planning a trip to Pikeville in Pike County on July 25-30 with SCORE. This is a great

opportunity for old hands at mission trips, or a perfect way for newbies to get their feet wet!

**Tailgate Worship July 18th!** Back by popular demand, we are having another tailgate worship! This will start with a pot luck picnic at noon, and be followed by worship on our glorious parking lot.

**Barley Basket cook-out** will be on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Wedding belles!** Five young ladies connected to our church family are engaged! Please remember these young people as they covenant before God to create new families in His sight.



**Camp Burnamwood** is scheduling two weeks of camp for children and youth. For more information, visit the presbytery website: [www.transypby.org](http://www.transypby.org)

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*Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.*

*Worship on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.*

**Website:** [www.stanfordpresbyterian.org](http://www.stanfordpresbyterian.org)

Find us on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/stanfordpresbyterianchurch/](http://www.facebook.com/stanfordpresbyterianchurch/)

**Reverend Elizabeth Stone, pastor**

## **Summer Calendar 2021**

**Tuesdays:** AA

**Wednesdays:** Choir – 7 p.m.

### **May**

23 – Pentecost – Wear Red!

Session meets

Barley Basket

26 – Final youth meeting until fall

27 – Martha Circle

31 – Memorial Day

### **June**

1 – Mary Circle

5 – Sam Rochester funeral

6 – Food Pantry offering

Christian Ed meeting

10 – Martha Circle

12 – Open House at Pastor Stone's

13 – Graduate celebration

Deacons meet

20 – Father's Day

27 – Barley Basket cook out!

Session meets

### **July**

4 – Independence Day

FLCM Food Pantry offering

11 – Deacons meet

14 – Martha Circle

15 – Blood drive

18 – Tailgate Worship at noon

Barley Basket

25 – Session meets

25-30 Pikeville Mission trip with SCORE

### **August**

1 – FLCM Food Pantry offering

5-8 PCUSA National Women's Gathering

8 – Deacons meet

12 – Martha Circle

17 – Presbytery meeting

22 – PROMOTION SUNDAY

Barley Basket

29 – session meets