

FEBRUARY 2012

First Presbyterian Church

10 Charleston Ave

Mattoon, IL 61938

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THE FIRST ALERT

The Pastor's Perspective

As we launch out into a new year, let me share with you what I would like to see us accomplish in 2012.

- Hire a part-time Youth Director. The young people in our church have a problem – they're growing up! Actually, this isn't *their* problem as much as it is *our* problem. Many of those who were active in the youth group in past years are now away in college. We are looking for a person who could actively recruit a youth group from scratch. That's a tall order, and that person will no doubt need our prayers, but "with God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26)
- Integrate contemporary worship into our regular services. As we survey the church scene, we see that growing churches tend to use a contemporary style of worship that is appealing to young families. If we want to add young families to our church, we need to incorporate this approach into our worship on Sunday mornings.
- Conduct an organ fund drive. As much as we need to start some contemporary worship, we also need to maintain the traditional worship we already have. A lot of research has gone into how to address the needs of our organ. We will conduct a campaign this year to raise funds for the most important instrument used in traditional worship.

All of these steps will assist us to reach out to those outside the Christian community, but none of them is sufficient in itself to do the job. The most powerful tools for approaching non-believers are still word of mouth and prayer. Nothing can replace a personal invitation...and nobody can extend that invitation better than you. Let's pray for God to show us how our church as a whole and how each of us as individuals can make an impression for Christ.

Sunday Worship

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Childcare provided

Children's Church
10:30 a.m.

Sunday school
9:30 a.m.

Kids' Club
Wednesdays
5:30 p.m.

Pastor
Rev. Art Woolverton

Secretary
Cherry Wishard

Treasurer
John Swick

Interim CE Director
Nancy Page

CE Asst. Director
Sharon Barta

Choir Director
Dick Barta

Organist
Kevin Chunko

Sexton
Tammy Latch



Calendar of Events

Wednesday, Feb. 1st

Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 2nd

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.

Ruth Circle 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, Feb 5th

Service 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Second Service 10:30 a.m.

SMS 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 7th

Membership 10:00 a.m.

Worship 6:00 p.m.

Delta Theta 6:30 p.m.

Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 8th

Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 9th

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.

Mystery Book Club 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 11th

Boy Scout Mtg

Sunday, Feb. 12th

Service 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Second Service 10:30 a.m.

Pre-pack Food Center 1:00 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 13th

Alzheimer's Support 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 14th

Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

Priscilla Circle 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 15th

Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 16th

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.

Low Vision Support 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 19th

Service 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Second Service 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 20th

OFFICE CLOSED

Christian Ed Mtg 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 21st

PEO meeting 9:00 a.m.

Book Club 1:30 p.m.

Building & Grounds 5:00 p.m.

Mission Comm. 6:00 p.m.

Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22nd

Ash Wed. Breakfast 6:50 a.m.

Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

Communion service 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 23rd

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.

PEO meeting 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, Feb 26th

Service 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Second Service 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 27th

Alzheimer's Support 1:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. Deacons mtg

Tuesday, Feb. 28th

Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 29th

Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

Bible Study The Thursday morning group is studying the Gospel of John. Anyone is welcome to study with the group from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings.

On February 2nd, we will begin studying the Parables at the Thursday morning Bible study. The book is entitled The Parables of Jesus will be a basic text as well as any version of the Bible and any other book about Jesus' parables.

The following outline will be followed for the first few sessions:

1. Introduction
2. The Sower and the Seed (Luke 8:4-8, Matt. 13:1-9, Mark 4:1-9)
3. The Kingdom of God as referenced in the Old Testament (Isaiah 2:2, 60:12 and other references)
4. The Kingdom of God in the New Testament (Mark 4:26-29 and other references)
5. Wheat and Tares (Matt. 13:24-30)
6. Parable of Seine Net (Matt. 13:47-50)
7. Mustard Seed

We'll meet in the parlor from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. No previous knowledge or experience is necessary to join in the discussion. Come join us!



Prayer Requests
Continued prayers for
our shut-ins:

Dorothy Irwin
Gladys Woolverton.

For those having
treatments for medical
conditions:

Virginia Campbell
Penny Gordy
Quina Helton
Stephanie Johnson
Susan Riggert
Yvonne Schroeder
Jean Wedel
Leroy Wetzel

For all those who are
serving in Armed Forces,
including:

Tony Gross
Kyle Martin
Scott Millsap
Edmund Parker
Tim Williams.

February Birthdays

Feb. 3rd
Steve Ball

Feb. 4th
Jerry Parker
Kelsey Smitley

Feb. 5th
Lindsey Thompson
Michelle Glenn

Feb. 7th
Karen Huffmaster

Feb 9th
Barclay Mills

Feb 11th
Carol Batterham

Feb 12th
Barbara Druin

Feb. 13th
Roberta McRoberts
Jillian Hawkins

Feb 17th
Tom Oakley

Feb. 25th
Debra Grierson

Feb. 26th
Anne McCoy

Feb.27th
Sharon Keller



Bible 101 enjoying fellowship together after their last class.

Walking with God

The essence of the Christian life is knowing God and walking with him. It's about sticking with him when the sky is blue and also when it's filled with clouds or choked with smoke. It's about walking with the Lord through thick and thin, and pressing on through every heartache and trial that happens to come our way.

—Greg Laurie



Snow Alert. Winter Weather Hotline... If you happen to find a winter wonderland on Sunday morning and are concerned or wondering if there will be church services.... Our contact person is **Paul Daily** ... or tune in to **WMCI 101.3** on the radio. Paul will be in contact with Rev. Art and a determination will be made regarding the weather and services. Paul's number is: 258-8941



Feb. 5th Charlie Keller
 Feb. 12th Bob Plummer
 Feb. 19th John Jeisy
 Feb. 26th Bill Saunders

First Alert News



**Woman's Association
 First Presbyterian Church
 Mattoon, IL
 Jan. 3, 2012**

Members present: Connie Buescher, Florence Beck, Elsie Carter, Nancy Plummer, Bobbie McRoberts, Carol Idlemen, Dorothy Phillips, and Alice Jeisy

Moderator Connie Buescher called the Jan 3, 2012 meeting to order with seven members present. Dorothy Phillips read devotions "Open apologies to non-Christians" and then opened with prayer

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Kemmerer report: Two tables full of gifts for the students Christmas were donated by the congregation.

Presbytery report: The Presbytery of IL is dividing into four districts, each having their own meetings. Than once a year they will have a combined meeting

Correspondence:

1. A request from Marion Medical Mission for a donation was read.
2. Thank you notes were read from Art, Sharon & Cherry for their Christmas gift.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Barber shoppers' reception went well.
2. Had a wonderful afternoon cantata and open house on Dec. 18
3. The caroling and live nativity at Peterson Park were a big success

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The next after church luncheon will be on Jan. 29, 2012 in conjunction with the annual congregational meeting
 - a. Serving – favorite casserole (10), salads (10), dessert (10)
 - b. Florence will be in charge of the kitchen
 - c. Nancy & Elsie will get the food sign-up sheets ready and filled in
 - i. Set up will be Sat. Jan. 28, 2012 at 9:00am
2. Nancy & Connie will begin looking at new chairs for the parlor table.
3. Kids Club: Esther circle will help on Jan 18, Priscilla on Jan. 25, 2012. Check with Florence on menu and grocery
4. The spring SPA day is scheduled for April 14. There will be a \$5 donation at the door.
5. The Presbyterian women's Church wide Gathering is scheduled for July 18-22 in Orlando, Florida. All women of the church are invited to attend.

CIRCLE REPORT:

Next meeting: March 6, 2012
 Meeting closed with the Mizpah benediction
 Respectfully submitted
 Alice Jeisy, Secretary

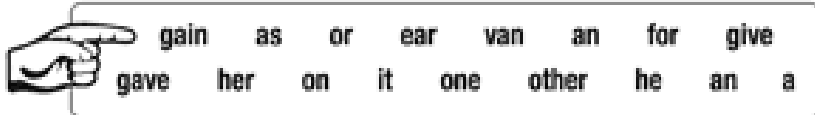


FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

•••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



B _____ w _____ h each
 ot _____ d _____ give
 _____ e an _____ if _____ y
 of you h _____ grie _____ ce
 a _____ st some _____ .
 For _____ as t _____ L _____ d
 for _____ you." COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13, NIV

FORGIVENESS Game

Try this twist on musical chairs.

What you need:

- 28 large index cards
- Black marker
- Two teams of people
- Radio or CD player

What you do:

1. On index cards, write out *forgiveness*, one letter per card. Make two sets (two F's, two O's, etc.).
2. Mix up the cards and form them face up in a circle on the floor. (You'll have six blanks mixed in.)
3. Have teams mix themselves up and stand in a circle around the cards. Ask an extra person to turn the music on and off.
4. As the music plays, teams walk around the circle. When the music stops, players each pick up the card nearest them.
5. Team members take their cards to a designated area and try to spell forgiveness. Any double letters or blanks go back to the "music person," who reorganizes remaining cards, spacing them evenly into a fresh circle.
6. Play continues until one team spells *forgiveness*.



Ash Wednesday, February All Church Breakfast join us in the Fellowship hall for a full breakfast at 6:50 a.m. followed by a short Ash Wednesday service. We will have you on your way by 7:30 a.m. Donations of \$2.00 per person.

Presbytery Report

The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois stated meeting for Thursday, December 1, 2011 was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Carbondale, IL. Moderator Robert Phillips opened the meeting with the Constituting Prayer. A welcome was given by host Janice West.

Recommendations by the General Council were as follows: that the Presbytery authorize the Celebration of the Lord's Supper at all Presbytery meetings (including Regional Cluster Meetings); at Camp Carew during the 2012 summer camp season; at the Presbyterian Women's Meetings and at the General Council retreats and the Committee on Ministry retreat.

It was recommended that Presbytery be divided into six regional clusters and that previously approved Presbytery meetings for 2012 be changed to regional Presbytery meetings to be held during the seasons around May and November. Mattoon is in the Charleston cluster.

Ruler elder Carolee Lawder of Murphysboro was installed as Moderator and teaching elder Ann Schwartz of Hoopeston was installed as Vice Moderator for 2012.

Following the worship service, the meeting was adjourned with benediction.

The next stated meeting will be Thursday, February 16, 2012 at the First Presbyterian church in Effingham, IL.

Submitted by, Elsie M. Carter, Commissioned Elder

The **Priscilla Circle** will meet **Tuesday, February 14th** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jan Cornell, 1601 Stinson Ave. Hostess is Sue Armstrong, devotions with Alice Jeisy and program with Laura Martin. Please read Chapter 4 in your study book. If you have any questions please call Alice Jeisy at 644-2625 or Elsie Carter at 235-6589. New members are always welcome.

The Mission Committee has some new sewing projects. Hope House in Charleston needs 10 burp cloths and 20 pillowcases. Tender Loving Care Ministries, Inc. serves the needs of children in the Appalachian area of Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. They are requesting Easter dresses for little girls, pants and short sleeved shirts for boys. These need to be shipped by March 9, 2012. Girls' dresses are to be short sleeved and slips for the dresses also in sizes 4-8.

Carol Franceski of Potomac, Maryland is the Founder/Director of this mission.

Please contact Elsie Carter if you are interested in sewing any of these items. If you have patterns, the Mission Committee would welcome them.

Kemmerer Village

No special news – just keep saving the Campbell Soup labels and Box Tops for Education labels. There is a box on the table in the Fellowship Hall to place them in. Thanks ro all who continue to support the Village.



Just a reminder any time school is cancelled due to weather on Wednesday, Kids' Club will also be cancelled that evening. You may check www.illinoishomepage.net for cancellations, as we will post them there. You can contact the church for more information at 234-6722.

WHAT IS PER CAPITA..??

Many of you have been asking about per-capita because of the envelopes that are in your yearly envelope boxes. Per-capita is an amount of money determined by the Presbytery on a yearly basis to cover the administrative expenses of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. This year they are proposing \$38.04 per member. If you have comments or questions please contact the office or a session member.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

RECOGNITION OF BOARD MEMBERS WHO COMPLETED THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE IN 2011

Deacons

Roy Druin
Nancy Page
Don Smitley

Elders

Florence Beck
Laura Martin
John Smitley

LEADERSHIP TEAMS

Deacons

2012

John Jeisy
Rick Mercer
Sharon Mercer
Molly Ravetto
Greg Thompson

2013

Sherrie Beck
Barb Daily
Ellie Haskett
Charles Keller
Bob Plummer

2014

Pill Fisher
Susan Millsap
Jodi Sparks
Vicki Williams
Linda Wilson

Elders

2012

Joe Buescher
John Dye
Carl Furry
Barclay Mills
Harry Sidenstricker
Jo Swick

2013

Michael Fleming
Karen Huffmaster
Alice Jeisy
Jonathan McKenzie
Tom Oakley
Susan Riggert

2014

Sara Carter
Karen Clausing
Bob Handshy

MUSICAL MISSIONS

The Coles County Barbershop Chorus has been singing for more than 40 years. They've always had a community outreach focus, so as to encourage worthwhile ventures in area. They sing in a dozen church worship services each year and raise thousands of dollars by performing benefit concerts.

Would you please consider supporting them in these two upcoming ventures.

Singing Valentines On February 14th, quartets will disperse in the area to surprise spouses, family and other friends in their homes or at work. They receive two songs, a box of candy, a card and a photo and the fees (\$35) are distributed to area school vocal music programs.

Contact Les Heath (549-8715) to schedule a surprise visit.

Lenten Benefit Concert On Sunday, March 4th, at 4 PM, the chorus and quartets will present a free, one hour, all-sacred music concert at the Wesley United Methodist Church (South 4th Street – Charleston). A free will offering is collected. Last year, the chorus donated over \$4,000 to area food pantries and homeless shelter program.

*Angel, must I give again, I ask in dismay.
And must I keep giving and giving
and giving it away?
Oh no, said the angel, his glance
pierced me through.
Just keep giving 'til the Lord stops
giving to you.*

Flowers for 2012

Would you like to provide flowers one Sunday for the sanctuary during the year 2012?

Name _____

Phone _____

Special Date _____

Second choice/special date _____

In Honor of / In Memory of (circle one) _____

Do you want the church to order the flowers and charge to you? Yes _____ No _____

Would you like the flowers delivered to shut-ins following worship? Yes _____ No _____

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

10 Charleston Ave.
Mattoon, IL 61938



Return Service Requested

